Michigan Gamma - Tau Beta Pi - Volume 4, Issue 4 - Oct. 6, 2009

# Cornerstone



E/A One: Begin the begun By Michael Lee

E/A one, that meeting no one really knows why it's there. Sure, we give you free food and you get to hangout with your electee group, but really? It serves no purpose other than collecting your resumes and the character essays and indoctrinating you with our views.

One thing I've sort of been wondering about the electee groups is how unfair it may be that both the publicity chairs are part of one group. Where are our checks and balances? After all, we all know that Mike Abere and John Budorick are the best group leaders - no contest. Then again, this could just be an blatant abuse of power.

Well, back in 1013 Dow; isn't it

great to be in a classroom without actually having class? No, don't worry about the walls, they're aren't shrinking and trying to trap you for all of eternity (except you Grad Students, you're stuck).

In other news [September 28, 2009; BBC News], apparently subliminal messages work and do in fact change your perception of things. Not only is this exciting news, team 3 is also the best. From now on, don't for get to watermark your homework suggesting to the professors that you're great and be sure to keep them interested by flashing positive messages throughout the piece.

\*Words and messages in this piece do not necessarily express the views or ideas of any of the electee teams. This was purely written to try to get you support team 3\*

# **UPCOMING EVENTS!**

#### World Medical Relief

Oct. 10

8am-12:30pr



TG I

Oct. 12

7-9 pm

BDubs, mmmm



Oct. 13

6:30 pm

1013 Dow

### EAEAEAEA

# In case you haven't heard enough unsolicited comments from Edwin Yik

By Edwin Yik

One of the many things I wish I had done while president last term was to inadvertently spam all of Tau Beta Pi. More often than not, correspondence between the officers and the society occurred through the vice president, service chair, and publicity chairs. Of course, that's not to say I didn't address the society, but it amounted to some formal address that might have well have started with, "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your



ears." But, to my luck, on September 30, I achieved TBP goal #567: spam tbp.all (other notable accomplished TBP goals include #451: pull a chair out from under Katy during office hours and #135: be attacked with a wooden stick by Rob Rhein dressed as a wizard). Some of you may ask how I managed to recover from my voluntary self-humiliation. I sleep well at night knowing that it could've been worse. I could've replied to Rob G with:

- Hey Rob- I'm thinking of wearing my striped green/white polo at E/A I. Do you think you could coordinate your wardrobe such that you could wear that navy/beige sweater?
   [1]
- Rob—I disagree with you, unless something goes wrong, your underwear shouldn't be getting all that dirty, so it's low priority on the laundry list. [2]

So until next time, stay classy and watch out for that reply-to-all tab.

#### References:

1 Modeled after a hypothetical typical email conversation between Kevin Lance and Andy

2 "OMG HKN," Cornerstone Volume 3.14, Issue 4 (Second Actives W09). Feb 17, 2009.

### Electee Group Standings:

1st place (15 pts): Team 10 (Grad 3)

2nd place (10 pts): MJ's Dinosaurs (Team 5)

3rd place (5 pts): Team 4

# tRoell of the week

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CH,

So you hopefully have looked at your electee exam, and upon doing so you may have discovered that one of our officers is allergic to caffeine. Which leads us to a different guestion... how much caffeine would kill a normal person? This website calculates the serving size needed to kill "you" (specified by weight) for various beverages and foods, including Redbull, Monsters, Hershey's Chocolate and Haagen-Daaz Coffee Ice Cream.

www.energyfiend.com/death-by-caffeine/



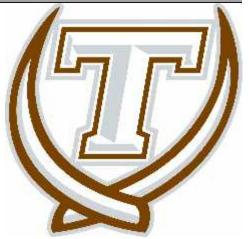
## In the News

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### Tufts University's New Roommate Policy

By Kristina Roe

Tufts University is a private research university, once a small liberal arts college, located in Medford/Somerville, Massachusetts. Tufts was also named the 7th (out of 20...) school in the U.S. where students are happiest. However, these tidbits are not why Tufts University has been making headlines across the country for the past week. No, it is an interesting and somewhat controversial policy that states, "You may not engage in sexual activity while your roommate is present in



the room." A spokeswoman for Tufts University says that the policy should merely serve as a catalyst for roommate communication about this issue, yet some of the students at Tufts have questioned whether or not this policy overreaches its authority in regulating student behavior.

#### Chill out TBPeople

By Kristina Roe

Midterms coming up, semester projects are beginning... again TBP, are you feeling stressed? Well, at least you aren't a koala. Cute, cuddly koalas are dying of a stress disease across the coast of Queensland. A "2008 survey by the Queensland government shows the population dropped 64 percent from...1999...[and] about 60 percent of the deaths [due to] disease," says Tanalee Smith of the Associated Press. This specific disease is a virus called chlamydiosis, which flares when koalas are stressed out. "50 to 90 percent" of koalas are breaking out with this disease, most often because they cannot find



eucalyptus trees for nutrition. Chlamydiosis can eventually lead to blindness, infertility and death. Varying government legislations have already begun to classify the animal as "vulnerable" or "endangered", but many locals are calling for more action. Sorry for the depressing note TBP, but at least you have a eucalyptus tree (er...) to come back to after you struggle through that midterm.

If I have to save a koala or a crocodile or a kangaroo or a snake, mate, I will save it.

-Steve Irwin

## Poet's Place

# **OMG HKN**

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I don't need no stinkin' Haiku Corner

#### MICHAEL LEE

Seriously guys, it's been too long, I've not seen a single poem or song; Not only is it easy To write a poem, cheesy But it'll help get your hours along.

A limerick, a quatrain, even Haiku I'll take any poem written by you; And if you really must, A relic from dust I may print poems past due.

And now we reach another end, To TBPcornerstone you must send; And tell me about Or just give out a shout A story or anecdote to rend.

Please submit poems to TBPcornerstone@umich.edu

MICHAEL LEE Ok, so I've heard complaints that I shouldn't be writing this column. Well you know what? Too bad, I've claimed it and I'll write it. Sure, it may have been a hard-hitting expose on the inner minds of HKN. But this ones for the kids - we're not in the business of scaring or otherwise destroying your sanity.

In this week's OMG HKN, we talk about a topic closes to my heart. Well, more zooming over my head and hopefully not actually ever touching me. That's right, it's Assassination. It's the time of year when HKN brings out their Nerf guns and turn North Campus into a war zone. There's espionage, there's intrigue, and people currently shooting me in the head.



#### Word

Gaucherie

#### How to say it

Goh-shuh-REE

#### **Definition**

A socially awkward or tactless act; awkwardness

#### Can I have that in a sentence?

The engineer's gaucherie during the interview was only partially counterbalanced by his/her technical skill.



But don't feel left out, you might even get the chance to see a shootout. It wouldn't be the first time some poor TBP member has been caught in the cross fire. In fact, you may remember the scene last year when Prakit Mohal was unceremoniously gunned down. We can only hope for a similar occurrence this year.

# Sudoku & YouTube

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### SuDOKU TIM3!!1!

3		1	<i>'</i>		5	6	3	1
3		1			5			
3		1						
			7		8			
			1			9		8
6	7	5						
8				7		2		
							9	6

Answer to last week's sudoku:

1	7	8	5	2	9	6	3	4
5	2	9	4	3	6	7	1	8
3	6	4	8	1	7	တ	5	2
7	5	1	9	8	2	3	4	6
9	8	6	3	5	4	1	2	7
4	3	2	7	6	1	5	8	9
8	1	7	2	9	5	4	6	3
2	4	5	6	7	3	8	9	1
6	9	3	1	4	8	2	7	5

### YouTube Video of the Week



Her Morning Elegance is a beautifully crafted artsy video shot all in stills; it's actually made up of 3225 still shots.

Original music backs up a series of scenes seamlessly tied together, an amazing feat for being filmed with live actors for only 2 days.