Chapter Recovering From Alcohol-Related Incident

On the evening of February 9, 2006, the first Thursday of the new term, the undergraduates were entertaining guests at 526 Beacon St. The party had been registered with the institute, and the required procedures were being followed carefully (e.g., guest list, ID checks, and wrist-banding).

The number of guests reached the registered limit of 150, admission to the party was halted at the front door. This resulted in a small crowd of disappointed people on the sidewalk, which was noticed by Detectives McGill and Devaney of the Licensed Premise Unit of the City of Boston.

The detectives entered the house and started looking for violations. They couldn't find any liquor, and the supply of beer had already run out, but one underage drinker was spotted with a bottle of champagne that he had smuggled in. When the detectives discovered that the dormitory license was out of date, they shut down the party and cleared everyone out of the house.

With help from MIT, all the brothers found other places to spend the night. Negotiations with the city the next day allowed everyone to return on a temporary permit. Intense efforts over the following days resulted in renewal of the dormitory license.

The IFC reviewed the incident and ruled that DU must be dry until next fall. A hearing at the Licensing Board of the City of Boston confirmed the IFC ruling and did not revoke the dormitory license.

The undergraduate president, Phil Cassel '07, was cited as the person in charge and was ordered to appear before a magistrate in civil court for a hearing on a complaint submitted by McGill and Devaney. No criminal charges were filed as a result of that hearing.

MIT marshaled extensive resources to prepare for the licensing board hearing. In a series of meetings, we prepared letters from MIT, the alumni corporation (my letter is reproduced and enclosed with this newsletter), and the chapter. Testimony at the hearing was presented by David Friend '07 for the chapter, me for the alumni, and an assistant dean for MIT. The cost to MIT to provide this support was on the order of $100,000 in the value of the time of top personnel. The cost to DU in terms of time, energy, and legal costs was also very significant.

We survived this incident, but in effect, DU is on probation and under close scrutiny. We are counting on our undergraduates to avoid any situations that might risk the future of DU at MIT.

Sincerely,

David W. Latham
Alumni President
dlatham@cfa.harvard.edu

House Manager Reports On Needed Improvements

The metamorphosis of the house is continuing and is improving the quality of life for the active brothers. Since just last semester, we have tackled a myriad of projects that redefine the way we perceive and use the house on a daily basis. There have also been a number of cosmetic and structural changes that enhance the perception of our house to visitors who are not familiar with the strength of the bonds of our brotherhood.

The biggest and most noticeable change has been the removal of all the stages on the third and fourth floors and subsequent installation of new lofts and futons. Crafted of sturdy mahogany by a cabinet maker in the Boston area and assembled by the brothers, the rooms (continued on page four)
Brotherhood Support Rallies ‘Bandit Marathoners’ To Finish

Last Monday, I had the privilege of continuing Delta Upsilon’s proud tradition of supplying several bandit runners to the Boston Marathon. After enduring a grueling hot Boston Marathon two years ago with alumni Jonathan Jackson ’03, Cory McClean ’04, and Nick Nestle ’04, I was looking forward to a second try at it. I wouldn’t be alone this year either—running with me was pledge brother and fellow hockey player Walton Ward ’06.

As excited as we were about running the marathon, Walton and I had our reservations about the race. Both of us were battling injuries from over training and fatigue related to studying and other activities. Also, rumor had it that the Kenyans had been running particularly well, and it was going to require our best effort to beat them. Nevertheless, at 9:30 a.m. on race day, we assembled our things and piled into the car with Chris Child ’06 and Nick Cordella ’06 for the drive out to Hopkinton.

We arrived at the starting line two hours before the beginning of the race and tried our hardest to remain calm. Still, with over 25,000 excited runners preparing for a 26.2-mile race, it was difficult not to get caught up in the anticipate. We killed time by hydrating, stretching, dehydrating, and repeating.

Finally, at 12:40 p.m., after releasing the elite runners (somehow we missed our group) and the rest of the runners with numbers, we bandits were allowed to scamper into the back of the pack. Walton and I quickly distanced ourselves from the other MIT bandits, not seeing them again until the finish line. Walton and I debated our pace—he wanted to set a new world record while I kept having flashbacks of the nightmare race from two years before, until settling down at a comfortable 7:50 mile.

We continued this speed pleasantly and uneventfully for the first 12 miles. Around this time, Walton and I both began to feel our injuries, took a few ibuprofen, and slowed our pace. Thankfully, help was up ahead. We heard the yells from Wellesley college from half a mile away. At the front of a half-mile wall of screaming co-eds was a pack of brothers waiting for us with supplies and cheers. Nathan Douglass ’06, Doug Fraser ’06, and David Levenson ’06 were just a few of the DUs to jump the line and carry us through the next half mile of screaming ladies.

The adrenaline rush and lift in spirits from Wellesley carried us easily through the next seven miles—right to the base of Heartbreak Hill. Experienced runners say that the halfway point of a marathon is at mile 20, and they certainly don’t lie. However, Walton and I decided that since we hadn’t stopped to walk so far we weren’t going to start now, and we gritted through the hill while many others chose to rest.

The final five miles to the finish line were as much of a mental battle as a physical battle—with Walton and I urging each other not to quit and imploring our muscles not to cramp. We ground out these last miles and even found enough energy to kick up our pace for the last 1.2 miles, finishing with a time of 3:29:25. Our pace was just under 8:00 per mile, better than we had hoped to run.

I have never been more convinced of the power of brothers working together than I was on that day. Were it not for Walton’s encouragement and the rest of my brothers help at the halfway point, I wouldn’t have been able to overcome the challenges throughout the race nor run nearly as fast. It was a day to remember in the bonds of brotherhood.

Adam Was ’06

Semester Spent Abroad Expands Brother’s Perspective

Many students arrive at MIT with the realistic expectation that they will receive the best possible education in their respective field of study. With an eye on ambitious future plans, they tough it out through four years of difficult work at the institute to emerge as an exceptionally talented and well-trained applicant for employers and graduate schools alike.

This belief in the superiority of education available at MIT has always set our student body apart in many ways. It may also explain why the vast majority of MIT students have not, until recently, taken time during their years as undergraduates to study in a foreign country.

The Cambridge-MIT Undergraduate Exchange (CME)—brought about in 2000 as part of a greater strategic alliance between England’s renowned Cambridge University and MIT—has provided an excellent means by which MIT students can experience living in a foreign culture and studying at one of the few universities in the world with academic standards comparable to MIT.

In each of the past three years, one member of the junior class at DU has participated in the program—Matt Theis ’05 was the first one to try it out. His enthusiastic endorsement definitely encouraged my journey to Cambridge last year, and this year, Nick Walrath ’07 is our delegate. I believe I speak for us all when I say it is a truly rewarding experience. Not only did I receive a world-class education, but living in Cambridge for an entire year fostered a certain development of character that can only be achieved through such a cross-cultural experience.

Of course, the decision to effectively miss out on an entire year of the friendships I had formed at DU was not easy. As a sophomore, I had started to feel a true position of leadership within the house. Unlike freshman year, when I was settling in to the DU culture and traditions, I felt like more of a role model as a sophomore, and it was an exciting time. Deciding to leave DU—something in which I had invested so much of my energy and enjoyed so much—was definitely risky. How was I to know if the British students would offer the same warm welcome I experienced with DU at MIT?

Nonetheless, I had known of the prestigious Cambridge University even before I had heard of MIT, and an opportunity to get a taste of the nearly 800-year-old establishment was enticing. I discussed the program with many CME alumni, and their appreciation of their time at Cambridge was all too obvious. They couldn’t stop talking about the breathtaking scenery, the delightful Harry Potter-esque customs, and the friendly demeanor of the Cambridge students.

I was also interested in how my brothers at DU felt about my absence for an entire year. While many of them were initially sad that I might not be living with them and sharing in the enjoyment of junior year, they all seemed to understand that the opportunity to study at Cambridge meant a great deal to me. More over, I was reassured that I would be eagerly

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Chapter Celebrates Successful ‘Zeno-fest’
Brothers gather at Suffolk Downs to mark years of service by house chef

This year, Delta Upsilon celebrated Zeno Fest—a tribute to honorary brother Dave Zeno.

Tim Zue ’99 came up with the idea for a celebration of the club house, brothers of Delta Upsilon began trickling and then streaming in over the period of several hours. There was an entire buffet and plenty of laughs and stories to be had. For race eight, Dave gave out the prize trophy, and previous stewards of all ages took a picture with him in the winner’s circle. What Dave didn’t know is that he also had the winning ticket, worth $300. The brothers had put $75 on horse four for Dave, and he hit it!

Chairman Tim Zue raised interest from every single pledge class in the last 14 years. In some year groups, 100 percent of the pledge class donated towards an early retirement gift for Dave Zeno. When all donations were counted, the brothers of the Technology Chapter of Delta Upsilon had donated over $5,000. Later that night, at Crossroads, Dave was presented with the check of donated funds—which demonstrated the fraternal love that we all feel for Dave.

John H. Rogers ’06

Brother Reflects On Why He Rushed Delta Upsilon

Rush is a period that is confusing to most men who are interested in pledging a fraternity. They are bombarded with a plethora of decisions that define the remainder of their college experience.

As many of these confused individuals, I was uncertain that a fraternity—moreover that any fraternity in particular—was the correct choice for me. With this in mind, I received several bids from different fraternities, but did not accept any of them because I was not convinced that any of them fit my personality.

While others in my graduation class enjoyed fraternity life, I developed close friendships with a large number of both affiliated and unaffiliated students. While others were living in a house with those they had a deep-rooted bond with, I had an isolated single in west campus. While I endured this time in silence—and generally unknown—desperation, it was because I thought that the institute had the same effect on everyone. I was just ignorant that a fraternal brotherhood can change one’s perspective so drastically.

I discovered my ignorance in the last months of my sophomore year. Through a friend, I made my first significant visit to Delta Upsilon. I was collaborating on a problem set with the group in first common and immediately noticed the profound difference between the manner in which a typical student and a brother in Delta Upsilon handles the difficulties of the school and in the way he conducts himself in general. He was dedicated, diligent, and most of all willing to help me, nearly a total stranger, understand the nuances of aero-dynamics. These personality traits were something that I noticed to be distinctively missing from my life so far at MIT. I have always held myself to the higher standard and resolved to explore what this fraternity represented.

I had, of course, heard the name Delta Upsilon, as it is one of the premier fraternities on campus, but had never made an attempt to get close to DU, not even during rush my freshman year. Under this impulse, I began to look at Delta Upsilon. Over the course of time, I made friends at the house and began spending ever-increasing amounts of time there. After a long internal debate, I decided to pledge during the typical fall rush.

With the rush period passing as uneventfully as possible, I moved into the house. As a junior moving into the house, I did have many apprehensions as to how I would be accepted by my graduation year’s pledge class. There were the unavoidable jokes and commentary on my ineptitude to make the right decision for me, yet the majority of the process was not only painless but enjoyable. I found that, by moving in, I was closer to my brothers than anyone else on campus, and the feeling has not subsided.

After almost a year since I really met my first brother of Delta Upsilon, I am myself a brother. I never imagined that I would be in a fraternity this time last year, yet here I am—a junior and a newly inducted brother. Now in my position I realize that the promotion of friendship is not just an empty phrase, but an actual embodiment that we—and all brothers in Delta Upsilon—must and do share.

Kevin Durand ’07
Co-Social Chair
**Our Alumni Send Their News**

**Semester Abroad**
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welcomed back when I returned.

My year in Cambridge lived up to and possibly exceeded my expectations. The first thing I arrived, I came upon the front gate to King's College and my jaw literally dropped. I thought I was at the gates of a medieval palace. From that point, to the very last night I spent in Cambridge, I never became bored of the pleasant novelty of absorbing old and new British cultural traditions. Whether it was my frightening 15 minutes of fame on the rugby pitch, punting on the River Cam after final exams, or cultural traditions. Whether it was my frighten-ant novelty of absorbing old and new British

**House Manager Reports**
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are taking on a different, code-acceptable personality.

The lofts are taking the place of the familiar “stage” configuration, built by individuals in past years to maximize usable space. The stages, however, were partially blocking the windows that were designated as fire exits and had to be removed to meet the fire code. In addition, the sprinkler system on the fifth floor was modified so that it now meets code. As a result of these efforts, we passed inspections by the Boston Fire Department and the Inspectional Services Division of the City of Boston in February.

Further, we have had crews at the house performing a number of tasks that the brothers are not equipped to manage without outside assistance. Brothers have been complaining bitterly about how terrible the wallpaper on the front stairs looked, and that has now been fixed. The old wallpaper was stripped off and the walls were painted and repaired. With new rugs, our front stairs now look monumental again.

Additionally, some long-existing problems have been repaired—including the sliding door separating the dinning room and first com-

mons, which had been a pain for quite some time. The ventilation in the laundry room has been improved to decrease drying time and increase dryer life—always a good thing for a fraternity house. The washers and dryers themselves are new, as the old ones had reached their time.

The last big news is a plan to replace the black rubber flooring in the back stairs. The old stuff has served the house valiantly, but it is fair to say that it needs to go. The new flooring should be roughly the same as the old stuff with one very important difference: The front edge of the new flooring will be rounded instead of square, which should keep it from getting broken off. I am personally very excited about this; those stairs get a lot of use and are pretty beat up currently.

As a final note, I would like to thank David Walton Ward '06 has also been invaluable in the process. David's ability to work with outside organizations is unparalleled, and nobody can bleed the air out of a radiator like Walton.

**Morgan Laidlaw '08**