

ENCORE

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Psi and Band Alumni Participate in the Band Alumni Reunion 2008

Jason Scapa, Alumni Relations Officer, ΒΑ

On Nov 8th, over 180 Band Alumni attended the biennial Band Alumni Reunion against Oregon State. Although the Bruins didn't win the game, many band alumni from all over the state, as well as some



UCLA Band and Alumni Perform Fire Dance at the Rose Bowl

from as far as Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York came to take part in the half time show.

Leading up to the event, many Brothers assisted in getting the word out to the alumni in order to get as many as possible to come and relive the experience of marching their instrument on the field, while participating with members of the current UCLA Marching Band. You may have remembered as early as the Winter 2008 edition of the Encore that announcements about the tentative date and time began and a flyer went out in the Spring edition telling Psi Alumni to Save the Date. Then this fall following band camp, Brothers went to the Band Office to help contact alumni who attended the

event in previous years. Led by Alex Bergman, Heather Dennis, and myself, hundreds of alumni were contacted and reminded about the event. This push by Brothers helped generate a successful attendance to Band Alumni Reunion.

Thanks to an afternoon call time, alumni began arriving around 11 a.m. and received Adidas apparel for their participation. Following the rehearsal, alumni sat and watched the game before assembling for the halftime show. This year the alumni and Marching Band played through the traditional Bruin Fanfare followed by the sweet Latin jazz masterpiece Fire Dance. "It was great to catch up with old friends, along with marching with members of my fraternity family who I never got a chance to be on the field at the same time with," said David Levy, a Psi Alumnus.

Overall it was a very successful day both in terms of the attendance of alumni and the actual half time show itself. It was fun to see the faces of the alumni who attended as they experienced again the feeling of being a part of the Solid Gold Sound. A special thanks for those who attended and we look forward to seeing more Psi Alumni as well as all Band Alumni at the reunion in 2010!

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BAND CAMP BBQ AND ACTIVITIES 2008

The Band began the incredible 2008-2009 Marching Band season with a welcome back BBQ on the day before band camp and activities after band camp practice on several nights. About 200 people attended the Band Camp BBQ, finding themselves amidst food, friends, and freshmen. As a positive change this year, the BBQ took place in the Court of Sciences, allowing for more space to delve off into our sections and begin early bond, and easy access for cars to unload and load BBQs and run to Ralph's for any forgotten supplies. Throughout the Court of Sciences, sections gathered in circles, introducing themselves or playing volleyball as an early bonding experience.

Band Camp also included an ice cream social, game night, movie night, and trip to Diddy Riese. All the events were a success! We also asked each of the section leaders to spend time with their sections on the first night of band camp. This new night of

section bonding started Band Camp off right with sections going out to dinner, watching movies, and getting to know their new members. Later during the week, new members got a chance to get to know people outside their sections, and returning members reconnected after the long summer. At the ice cream social, about 70 band members consumed almost 13

Sarah Diring, Social Chair, BK

gallons of ice cream, 3 cans of whipped cream, a Costco size jar of cherries, sprinkles, and more. Those who attended also played icebreaker games in order for members to get more comfortable with each other. By midnight I had to ask still talking and laughing band members to go home and get some sleep before the next day's practice. Game night hosted an impressive game and quite interesting game of Apples to Apples with 17 people, along with Scattergories, Twister, and Cranium.

Movie Night also allowed for bonding over the themes to one of our shows. In the Sproul Hall TV Lounge, members watched West Side Story in order to get familiar with the music that we would be performing for the upcoming season. With five football games, and four shows in our first six weeks, having



Brothers and Sisters host an Ice Cream Social for new and returning members of the UCLA Marching Band.



Having Fun at the Game Night.

successful BBQ and band camp events to get us bonding and enthused was more important than ever.. One of our five purposes is to "provide a pleasant and helpful social experience for all engaged in college band." The Band Camp BBQ and Activities are a great way to work toward our purposes and invite the new members of the band to join our Solid Gold family.

UCLA Starts It's Season Against Tennessee*Jeremy Whitt , BK*

On September 1, 2008, the band arrived at the Rose Bowl for Rick Neuheisel's UCLA coaching debut against Tennessee, a perennial Southeastern Conference powerhouse. The Bruins last played the Volunteers in 1997. Despite the great match up between Bruins quarterback Cade McNown and Volunteers quarterback Peyton Manning, the Bruins lost 30-24. However, the days of Manning were long gone, and the Bruins were ready to avenge their defeat. Before marching into the stadium, the band rehearsed a brand new stands tune, *Heart of a Champion*. About a hundred band members played at the game, which occurred well before band camp, and the band sported their brand new uniforms for the nationally televised game, which had a truly

incredible ending. Although the Bruins trailed 14-7 at the half, quarterback Kevin Craft was in top form in the second half, tying the game at 24 in the fourth quarter and sending the game into overtime. The Bruins were able to strike first in overtime with a 42-yard field goal. In dramatic fashion, the Volunteers failed to tie the game by missing a field goal during their overtime possession. After the game, Coach Neuheisel ecstatically spoke to the fans about the victory. Then fireworks towered over the stadium in the dark, concluding a most memorable Labor Day. The band plans on sending a band to Knoxville, Tennessee in 2009, with hopes of leading the Bruins to victory over Tennessee once more.

Brothers Volunteer at Local High School Band Camp*Jason Barbato. Sergeant at Arms. BK*

This past summer, a handful of dedicated brothers volunteered at the band camp of Notre Dame High School, a local private high school located in the San Fernando Valley. This time-intensive service project, spanning eight long days, gave us the opportunity to instruct an established parade band in music and marching. It was hot and tiring, but overall, all of the brothers who participated in this service event had an excellent time. We extend our thanks to Mr. John Combes, the band director, and the rest of the band and Band Boosters at Notre Dame for allowing us to come and help.

Primarily, we were assigned to the Intro Band, the group of freshmen who, during their first year, learn a wind or percussion instrument. They are responsible for carrying the ID unit, or "banner," during parades and the massive school flags during football games. By the end of band camp, these 20 individuals were easily the best marchers thanks to the expert instruction of brothers like Drum Major Keith Kupper, who reflects about the whole experience: "This was a busy week, but finishing band camp at Notre Dame and seeing the transition from day one to the finished product was such an incredible reward. These students have a commendable

drive to learn, and at this rate, are in for an exceptional year. Overall, it was a pleasure to work with them, as it was not only a learning experience for the band members, but also gave us some insight on marching instruction." We also helped the whole band with occasional marching sectionals and played along during music rehearsals, giving pointers on certain technicalities. Using the different techniques I learned being in the UCLA Marching Band, I felt like I was really helping the euphonium and tuba sections, especially with familiar songs like "Ow!/Word Up," and "Fire."

At this high school, the brothers also established a strong, friendly relationship with recent Psi Alumnus John Jordan, member of Beta Delta. John, who was a member of the USAF for a few years, is now a science teacher at Notre Dame. In addition, John, the great Brother that he is, helps tremendously with the band program there. It is really inspirational that alums like John still continue to make music and band an active part of their daily lives. It influences me to continue to Strive for the Highest and uphold the art of music for the rest of my life. We all look forward to seeing John more often!

Four Shows in Five Weeks...No Problem!

Keith Kupper, Vice President, BK

As always the Solid Gold Sound plays songs that will get the crowd going as we showcase both our marching and musical ability, and this year is no exception. This year with 4 shows to learn and perform in a matter of 5 weeks, the pace of the marching season was more uptempo, requiring extra effort from every bandmember to get the 4 shows performance ready. 150 pages of drill were learned in a matter of one and a half weeks.

Because of the pace of band camp, for the first home game against Arizona, the band performed its traditional pregame show at half time. New members scrambled to learn the drill sets and music to "Strike Up the Band for UCLA" and the "UCLA Fight Song".

The following week, the UCLA Marching Band teamed up with the Fresno State Band to perform a Disco show. Prior to the game, Brothers and Sisters came down from Fresno State in order to learn the synchronizations to the show. It was very cool to hang out with them for the little time we had together. The 500-member combination band performed songs from the disco era, playing recognizable tunes like "The Hustle", "Saturday Night Fever", "Macho Man" and the crowd favorite, "YMCA" all while dancing and spelling out "DISCO" in script letters. Throughout the show, fans from both schools got into the music, boogieing in the stands and singing along.

In the week following in the game versus Washington State, the UCLA Marching Band got psychedelic, performing the much anticipated

60's Show. Dressed on the field in tie dye, the Bruin Marching Band played songs such as "White Rabbit" by Jefferson Airplane, a medley of Doors tunes (hey Jim Morrison came here after all), "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" by the Beatles, and "Age of Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In" from the rock opera, Hair. The band formed groovy shapes and got the crowd into the ending as the woodwinds and guard rushed into the sidelines clapping as the brass and percussion played on the field.

While these 3 shows were very fun, the toughest challenge was learning the "big show" which was music from West Side Story. The show started out with the forming of intricate patters as they marched the to the Latin style

music of "Mambo". The show then turned more crazy and wacky as the band performed "Gee, Officer Krupke", which culminated in a single company front of close to 200 bandmembers in the space of 60 yards. The show wrapped up with the more sneaky and ominous music of "Cool" which ended

in a shrilly note that the band held for close to 30 seconds before being resolved to conclude the show.

This year's schedule was tough, but learning all that drill at band camp set the Marching Band up for success during the season. The shows were a lot of fun to play and perform in, and we only hope next season is the same (although hopefully the schedule isn't too compacted like this year).



Members of the UCLA Band Perform the 60's Show in their Tie Dye "Uniforms"

Meet Your Brothers!

Nate Owen, BH

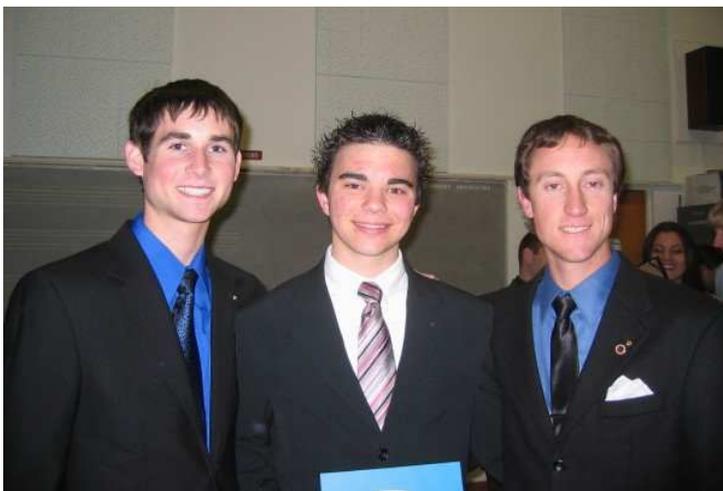
Hello Brothers! My life has been quite busy since graduating from UCLA in June of 2007. After finishing up my degree in Aerospace Engineering, I spent the summer in Sunnyvale working as an intern for Lockheed Martin Space Systems. I also enjoyed a trip to Orlando for national convention that summer. In September '07, I started graduate school in Mechanical Engineering at UC Santa Barbara. My concentration will be in 'dynamical systems, controls, and robotics' and the robotics part is certainly the most exciting. My lab works on developing control algorithms for cooperative robotic teams; what that really means is that I'm conducting my thesis research by trying to tell our robots to drive around the room and not run into anything! It's a work in progress, but I hope to have my thesis finished up and graduate with a Master's degree in June. In the

meantime, I've been busy taking engineering and technology management classes, working as a TA, and enjoying a change of scenery here in Santa Barbara. It's definitely not the same without any football program, but soccer games are amazing; the students here really get into it. Of course, I'm still close enough to get to most of the home UCLA football games, and a few basketball games here and there -- but being just another fan and not in the band took some getting used to. Back up here, I joined the local city college concert band and played in my first concert last May. It's a fun group of people from both schools and the general community and a great way to

keep playing. I definitely recommend it to any new or soon-to-be alums as a great way to stay in touch with your musical roots. After I finish up grad school this spring, I intend on going to work in the defense and aerospace industry—and I'm just starting to get into the interview process -- but I think I'll try to spend a good amount of time next summer traveling and perhaps volunteering abroad before returning to finally enter the 'real world.'

Ethan Mathews, BI

Hi Brothers! A lot has been happening during my final years of college. Last year, after deciding to apply to medical school I started the long journey of a premed and began volunteering at a hospital in the valley. It has been a really great experience and I've had the chance to work in several different departments. This year classes have been going well and it's strange to think



Ethan Mathews, Keith Kupper, and Nate Owen at Keith's Second Degree.

that I only need 5 more classes in order to graduate. College has flown by and I have so many great memories from these past years. During this year I plan to get more involved in research and continue staying involved with band and KKY. I don't have any definite plans for next year after I graduate and before med school, but I would like to travel for a couple weeks and after that I'll have to enter the real world and get a job to pay rent. Well, that's about all the news I have for now. Hope you enjoyed reading it.

Keith Kupper, BK

Hey everyone, my name is Keith Kupper and I am Ethan Mathew's little bro. (Continued on page 6)

To tell you a little about myself: I'm now a 3rd year, psychobiology major, and I love it thus far. It's pretty similar to my previous biochem, but more interesting in a few aspects. School in general is going well (alright... could be better but could be worse). Overall, life is good. Fall quarter is coming to a close, and as I sit back remembering my first two years, my third one is flying by. I'm loving hanging out with old friends, new friends, living in my new apartment, and the highlight of my experiences remains to be Kappa Kappa Psi!!! Its been the only group of people that I can trust with my life, and the feeling I get when I get to meeting, or any kind of project is irreplaceable. The bonds that I've made in the past 2 full years are ones that I couldn't find anywhere else on campus. To me, this brotherhood fosters so much more than service opportunities and connections: it provides



Keith and Marco having fun.

us with a family. I'm really looking forward to this year in terms of band, KKPsi, and being half way done with college. Well, I'm thinking about taking a victory lap, but at this point – I'm not sure about anything yet. In the future, I hope to have a career in the medical field, but not necessarily a doctor. Lately, I've been thinking that some sort of Public Health alternative might suit me more. I'm veering away from medical school, and looking into alternate possibilities. (Which brings me back to my "victory lap") I'm thinking that I might minor in Public Health and go from there – maybe School of Public Health, maybe something else. I guess right now, I'm just keeping my options open. Band is now transitioning into basketball season so that's been very exciting, and hopefully looking at

another trip to the final four (Knock on wood). I guess in general, aside from being busy every waking moment - I'm loving life more than I ever have before.

Marco De Leon, BL

Brothers! I have had quite the experience thus far at UCLA. I am in my second year of studies for my major of aerospace engineering. I am enjoying my classes (now that I am done with chemistry!) and doing my best to keep up with them. I would like to get an internship with an aerospace company sometime before I graduate, but in the meantime at school I am staying very involved with many things on campus. My top and most enjoyable priority is of course being a brother of KKPsi and doing what I can to improve the music community. I am a

Bruin Ambassador, which is the name of my job where I travel to high schools in the Los Angeles area and give presentations about UCLA and encourage students to be as involved as they can in their own high schools and communities, as well as giving tours of UCLA and giving presentations at college fairs. Being a part of the UCLA Solid Gold Sound is just as amazing as ever. I thoroughly enjoy the football and basketball games we go to, as well as just being part of such an amazing marching band. I am also keeping up with my music with a successful audition for The Santa Clara Vanguard, so I have a full summer ahead of me with that. I also plan to study abroad my third or fourth year of college in either Spain or Italy, so I'm pretty excited about that. Well that's everything in a nutshell! Go Bruins!

Sisterhood Spotlight: Brothers and Sisters Go to Bakersfield High School

Helen Durand, TBΣ, AM

The sisters of Epsilon Kappa combined with the Brothers from the Psi to go to Bakersfield and help the Bakersfield High School Marching Band. We arrived at a park near the high school around 9 AM on a hot August morning. We introduced ourselves and answered question from students in the band, such as how we were able to balance marching band and academics both in high school and at UCLA. This helped the high school bandmembers to understand college band better and not to be intimidated by the thought of it.

Next, we split up into the band and colorguard, which is what I helped with. We first went through basic flag skills, such as drop spins, and then we taught the colorguard our Pregame routine. They were such fast learners and we were very impressed.

The Bakersfield High School Band provided us with lunch, which was special because it was another chance for us to get to

talk with the high school students. Following lunch, we played a goal setting game and then went back to sectionals. We showed them our Pregame and half-time show from the previous year, and they showed us their old field show. Before everyone left, they filled out a survey about how well this one-day clinic had worked. The band members found it very helpful and inspiring, and we were proud that as members of Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi, we had helped accomplish our purpose of promoting music by showing a high school band that it is fun and important to continue in music in college. We had also promoted music to the public as well, because the Bakersfield High Band had told some local news stations that we were coming, and they came to film us as we were working. The band also sent us a newspaper clipping about us from a Bakersfield paper. We were pleased that we had been able to make an impact on their lives.

Hey Alumni,

This is Jason Scapa, the Psi Chapter Alumni Relations Officer for 2008-2009. I am a second year Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology major and play clarinet in the marching band.

I would first like to thank all of those who attended this year's Band Alumni Reunion. It was a lot of fun helping the band office to contact band alumni as well as the actual event seeing 180-plus alumni on the field at once. Because of the level of excitement from band alumni at the Reunion, we hope to channel this enthusiasm to Psi Alumni. This year we hope to get alumni more involved in our Chapter, especially for the 80th anniversary of the Mighty Psi. In an effort to modernize our ability to contact you, we will be making some changes to the way we get the word out to our alumni. For starters, in an effort to save paper and resources, you will have noticed that the Encore is now completely electronic. The Encore will also be available on our Chapter website, www.themightypsi.org, where you can also find cool stuff about happenings in our Chapter, as well as information about current Brothers. Also we are trying to update our emailing list so that all announcements can now be done electronically in order to get the word out faster about events that you as alumni can participate in with us. It is our hope that by updating our email list that more alumni will be able to get involved in our events such as Degrees, service project, and social hangouts.

It is my duty to provide you with details about the happenings with in the Chapter and I look forward to presenting the Encore every quarter so that you can stay up-to-date in what we are doing as well as all alumni activities. If you have any questions or comments, please send them my way at jscapa@ucla.edu.

AEA,

Jason Scapa, Alumni Relations Officer, Psi Chapter