

I BELIEVE IN THETA CHI.

BORN OF STURDY MANHOOD NURTURED BY RESOLUTE MEN
ENNOBLED BY HIGH AND SACRED PURPOSE IT HAS TAKEN ITS PLACE
AMONG THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF AMERICA
AS A PROMOTER OF KNOWLEDGE, AN ADVANCER OF CULTURE,
AND A BUILDER OF CHARACTER.

THE PHI ARROW



FALL
2011



THETA CHI - PHI CHAPTER

1307 NORTH UNIVERSITY DRIVE

Letter from the Alumni Chapter President

Michael Ehresmann - Φ 1592

Greetings Brothers,

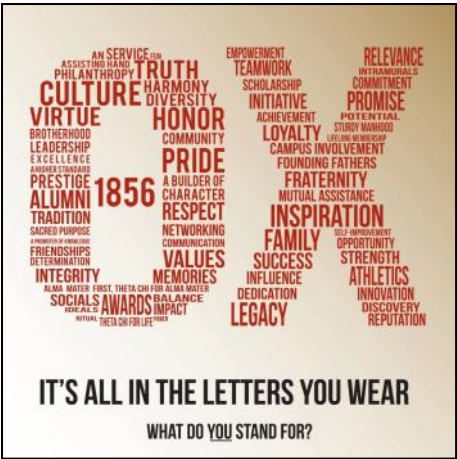
I have so far enjoyed serving as the alumni president. I am nearing graduation for the second time, and I'm glad that I could give something back to Theta Chi.

My impression of the current actives is that they are a fine group of young men, and campus complaints to me have been minimal. That is particularly impressive since the most recent campus advisor was the Kappa Alpha Theta alumna Sara (Tanke) Wald, who many of you remember from our days as actives. I will say no more.

The Bison are looking strong again this year as they handily beat Lafayette 42-6 in their first game.. In other football news, the Bison once again played the Minnesota Gophers this year. The game was held at TCF Stadium on the U of M campus on September 24th, 2011.. The Bison stepped up at the big stage to come away 37-24 over the Gophers. It was said that approximately 20,000 Bison fans were in attendance to support the yellow and the green.

The 2011 Pig Banquet was an all around success with 142 Theta Chi's and spouses/dates attending. Pig Banquet this year will be held on March 24th, 2012. As usual, the pig roast and alumni meeting will be at the chapter house, and this year the evening banquet will be held at the Holiday Inn. At the alumni meeting, we will be discussing the possibility of conducting a centennial fundraising campaign to raise money for capital projects and the scholarship fund. We would like as much input as possible for the consideration of a fundraising campaign, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Fraternally,
Michael Ehresmann,
Alumni President



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State of the Active Chapter

Joe Heruth - Φ 1794



Greetings to all from Phi Chapter!

Members of the active chapter are coming off yet another successful school year. In the Spring, the chapter initiated 9 new men into the active chapter. Phi Chapter was honored to receive their third consecutive Howard R. Alter, Jr. Award for Chapter Achievement this summer at the Initiative Academy in Bloomington, IN. The Alter Award is the highest award that can be bestowed upon a chapter of Theta Chi. Currently, Phi chapter holds 11, which is more than any other chapter. Additionally, Theta Chi received recruitment honors from the International Headquarters.

Theta Chi is one of the most involved fraternities on campus. The offices of Interfraternity Council (IFC) Vice President, IFC Recruitment chair, IFC Secretary/Treasurer, and Greek Programming Council (GPC) Scholarship chair are all held by Theta Chi members. This just begins to touch on the number of leadership positions our brothers hold on campus. Internally, we have also made some distinct improvements to the chapter. Over the course of the last semester, we

have continued to develop our fairly new committee system. With over 30 leadership positions available to our members, we are able to more evenly distribute the workload, as well as get more chapter involvement. The active chapter has also continued to be a recruitment powerhouse at NDSU. Currently we are at 67 members, making us the largest fraternity on campus. Over the course of the last academic year, Phi chapter initiated 25 new brothers.

Russ Handegard spent a very significant portion of his summer renovating the bathrooms on the second and third floors of the chapter house. Those of you who are familiar with Russ know that he does phenomenal work. These bathrooms are no exception. The renovation was certainly very much appreciated by the members of the active chapter. Thanks largely to these new renovations, we have increased from 27 to 31 members living in the chapter house.

Phi chapter of Theta Chi has an especially busy semester ahead.. We are very excited about the young men we have recruited thus far and are looking forward to the potential brothers we will recruit over the semester. Unique to this year's rush and recruitment events were a live band and a special night at a billiards hall with a catered meal. This semester we sponsored a large Fall Philanthropy event called "A Day of Champions: Special Olympics". Philanthropy chair Zach Lorsung

along with the active chapter organized and staffed an event for Special Olympics, ND. There were roughly 20 participants competing in the sporting events and about 60 men from the active chapter.

The men of Theta Chi had another strong showing at Homecoming 2011. This year we partnered with Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity. We participated in a number of events to promote NDSU school spirit, and helped celebrate brother Dean Derfus's election to homecoming court!

The reason that we have had such great success at Theta Chi is the quality of men in our brotherhood. In such a large chapter, we have a very diverse group of members. While we certainly have our disagreements from time to time, we are always able to get back to the essence of what being in a fraternity is all about: brotherhood. We are a remarkably close knit group of guys. I met all of my best friends through Theta Chi, and I can guarantee that just about every other member in our house would tell you the same. With that, I will close by saying that things are going great at your chapter!

Love & Respect,,

Joe Heruth, 1794

Active Chapter President



The Initiative Academy: A Leadership Experience

Brett Garske - Φ 1854



(left) Brothers Garske and Zach Sandberg (Φ 1839) receive the Alter Award on behalf of Phi chapter at the Initiative academy this past summer

Hello Brothers,

My name is Brett Garske, and I am a sophomore majoring in Computer Engineering. I am from Devils Lake, ND and I joined Theta Chi in the Spring of 2011. This summer, brother Zach Sandberg and I attended the Initiative Academy in Indianapolis, IN.

The Initiative Academy is a leadership convention sponsored by the International Headquarters for undergraduate members who want to step into a leadership position within our fraternity. It has replaced the Chapter Leadership Convention (CLC) as the primary leadership experience in Theta Chi. I decided to go so that I could see what type of leader I am, or whether I was a leader at all.

At the event, I realized that I am a leader because every Theta Chi is a leader in one way or another. You don't need a fancy title or years of experience to say that you are a leader. The best leaders don't have titles- they lead the group or

fraternity from within the group. I was pretty nervous about meeting other Theta Chis from across the nation because I didn't know how these brothers would act or what they would be like. The Brothers that were there turned out to be very respectable men and they were easy to get along with. I still keep in contact with some of them, and it's great to get to know them further. In establishing this network of brothers, there can also be many benefits for the fraternity. You get to learn how other chapters work, what works for them (and more importantly what doesn't work) in their chapter, and how they solved some difficult situations. If I ever had a problem I wouldn't hesitate to ask the brothers I met there for their advice.

I had a great experience at the Initiative Academy, and I wish that it was required for every new member to attend. I know that at this event a new member could discover their leadership potential and attain the courage required to become a leader back at their chapter. The faculty that helped out were great, and they

were inspirational for many of us in the group. All of the faculty who were in attendance were alumni from across the nation. They helped with the activities we participated in, and shared advice from their personal experience with the brothers in attendance. They not only inspired us, but tested us and challenged us to become better leaders and better brothers.

After I graduate, I would love to help out with this event and pass on inspiration and motivation to younger brothers to help keep Theta Chi in a place of excellence. I would recommend the Initiative Academy for every brother even if they don't think they want to be a leader. It is one of the most amazing experiences I have had in my life.

Fraternally,

Brett Garske
Active Member

Active Scholarship Update

Dan Geisen - Φ 1811

"Alma Mater first, and Theta Chi for Alma Mater"

Hello Brothers,

My name is Dan Giesen and I am the currently serving as the Scholarship chairman for the undergraduate chapter. I am a junior from Minnetonka, Minnesota and I am pursuing a major in Natural Resources Management and Zoology with a Fisheries and Wildlife emphasis. This will be my 5th semester in Theta Chi and joining this fraternity was easily the best decision I made in college.

As the Scholarship chairman, I can provide an update on the academic performance of the undergraduate chapter. During the previous 2 semesters, we posted cumulative G.P.A.s of 2.8 and 2.82 in the spring and fall of last year respectively. While both of these are a bit below our goal G.P.A. of 3.0, both averages stand above all the campus all-men's average and around the middle of the pack for fraternities at NDSU.

Over the past few years, our chapter has implemented a few different methods to raise our grade standing to the top of all the fraternities at NDSU. Last year, we started a study-buddy system so that each member of Theta Chi is held accountable for one other brother besides themselves. During the first semester that study buddies were in effect our cumulative G.P.A. went from a 2.7 to a 2.963, which is just shy of our 3.0 goal.

In addition to the study buddies program, we also have a Theta Chi Tutors program that allows brothers with knowledge of specific classes or programs to help other brothers who are struggling. We are always looking for new ideas to help improve academic performance. If you have any ideas, tips, or resources that worked during your college years, feel free to email me at Daniel.Giesen@my.ndsu.edu.

A new Theta Chi Scholarship was formed last year creating 2 scholarships of \$500 per semester; last year's winners were Jordan Hogness, Joe Heruth, Cory Loveless, and Douglas Kostecki.

The member with the highest amount of grade points (highest G.P.A. for the most credits) each semester is awarded the coveted Slugger Award. The winner for Fall 2010 was Kyle Sebesta, and the winner from Spring 2011 is a tie between Jordan Hogness and Brian Larson with perfect 4.0 G.P.A.'s.

That's our academic year in a nutshell. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at Pig Banquet!

Dan Giesen,
Scholarship Chairman

Active Membership recognized on the Dean's list

(3.5 G.P.A. or above)

Fall '10 – 14 members

Dan Adameitz, Jordan Coplin, David Eisenbraun, Dan Giesen, Jarrett Hart, Kevin Helland, Matt Lobitz, Charlie Schutt, Kyle Sebesta, Alex Wald, Jon Evert, Jordan Hogness, Brian Larson, and Otto Velandar.

Spring '10 – 11 members

Eric Canillas, David Enyart, Matt Friesz, Dan Giesen, Kevin Helland, Jordan Hogness, Douglas Kostecki, Brian Larson, Ben Nicholas, Ian Sanders, and Kyle Sebesta

Congratulations, Brothers!



Active Members Otto Velandar and Joe Heruth studying in the Library of the chapter house

Alumni Council Treasurer Update

Jason Gates - Φ 1563

Hello fellow alumni,

This past summer the housing corporation has put your Theta Chi for Life donations to work again and remodeled the 2nd and 3rd floor heads in the chapter house. As you all know, this project would not be possible without your donations - thank you! So far this year donations to Theta Chi for Life total \$6790, if you have not made your donation yet this year you can make a donation via our chapter's website or by mailing a check to: PO Box 163, West Fargo, ND 58078.

At our last pig banquet meeting one of our brothers suggested that we find a way to complete Theta Chi for Life payments through automatic withdrawals. I am happy to report that we have a way to do this through our bank and we will begin offering this option to Theta Chi for Life contributors starting this spring.

Over this summer work has also begun on the upcoming centennial fundraising campaign. This is an exciting process and our newly formed fundraising committee will work hard this winter to have a plan ready for approval at next year's pig banquet. Make sure you attend pig banquet next spring so you can be apart of the planning that will impact our fraternity for its next 100 years!

Jason Gates
Alumni Council Treasurer

Capital Campaign Update: Design Phase

Kyle Blake - Φ 1258

At this year's alumni association meeting held during Pig Banquet, it was decided to develop a centennial project seeking to prepare Phi Chapter for our next century at NDSU.

Several initial meetings were held with members of the alumni council, culminating in a discussion of general campaign types possible at the council's June meeting. Options ranged from a basic campaign to focus on a small number of urgent projects to a forward-looking campaign that seeks to develop and fund a comprehensive rehabilitation of the Phi chapter house, celebrating our first century at NDSU with a renewed foundation for our next.

The alumni council unanimously voted to move forward with designing a campaign proposal centered on a forward-looking, comprehensive property rehabilitation. Phi chapter has the best location of any fraternal organization at NDSU, and we need to assure we have the safest, most livable home for the brotherhood, assuring we can com-

pete and win in today's new member recruitment atmosphere.

To that end, we are looking for Phi alumni that are willing to participate in a technical assessment of the property and structure and help develop top-level plans and cost estimates as we set campaign fundraising goals. Specifically, services along the general lines of an ASTM E-2018 property condition report are those needed now.

We solicited an outside bid for this service and it came back at over \$16,000. As always, we're looking for a way to best use donated funds. Please contact Mike Ehresmann or me if you are able to extend a helping hand to our brotherhood as we look toward the second century of Phi chapter at NDSU.

Fraternally,
Kyle Blake



Looking to get current Theta Chi news and reconnect with Phi chapter? Visit

www.phionline.org

For information on upcoming chapter events, to find contact information, or visit other interesting pages!

Theta Chi for Life



The Theta Chi For Life Fund is a fundraising project among Phi Chapter alumni to pay off the house's debt, finance its essential structural repairs, and enliven active involvement. After remodeling after the 1995 fire, there was a mortgage on the on the chapter house of over \$120,000. With the help of brothers from every era and all parts of the country, this mortgage has been paid off. However, there are also current structural deficiencies including crumbling brickwork, complications from resulting water leakage, a problematic sewer line, and other defects that we have to resolve.

The Theta Chi For Life program allows you to make periodic contributions through whatever means you want and works to reduce the efforts you have to make in doing so. It operates over a 5-year period and allows you to make consistent contributions over that time. Many fellow Phi Chapter Alumni have already committed themselves to the project and are donating \$200 annually over the next 5 years. These contributions will be handled exclusively by your alumni council. Your contributions are appreciated and we can be grateful to ourselves for making these contributions because they will help the organization that continues to help others.

Thank you to our 2011 Donors:

Dennis Agnew
Michael Anderson
Rod Bertsch
Rocky Bertsch
Ryan Boen
Nicholas Bullinger
Richard Buresh
Al Christianson
Stan Dardis
Bernie Dardis
Jon Dickson
Brian Fjosne

Bill Flaget
Peter Gates
Robert Grant
Bob Haines
Russ Handegard
James Hardwick
Brad Haugen
Troy Hedberg
William Kranzler
Craig Kubik
Mike Loughheed
David Miller

Patrick Miller
Glenn Mueller
John Nordgaard
John Reed
Gary Rosevold
Richard Ruud
Dan Skarsgard
Lee Sorenson
Robert Stein
Roger Steiner
Kyle Vig

To make a contribution to the Theta Chi For Life campaign:

1. Visit <http://phionline.org/ox-life/> and pay online through PayPal or by credit card.

OR

1. Complete the form at <http://phionline.org/thetachiforlifeform/>
2. Mail a check to :

Theta Chi Alumni
P.O. Box 163
West Fargo, ND 58078-0163

Thank You!



Chapter Service and Philanthropy Update

Phi chapter has continued its efforts in the community to extend the helping hand. On September 17th, the men of Phi chapter participated in an event named "A Day of Champions." The event, which is to become an annual tradition in the fall, was a partnership between Theta Chi and the Special Olympics of North Dakota. Active chapter members assisted with 4 different events throughout the day, and had enjoyed getting to know the athletes. About 25 athletes were present at the event, along with a majority of the active chapter.



Active chapter members seated with the participants at the Day of Champions event this fall.

The event was sponsored by many different members of the community including Arby's, Johnny Carino's, Pifer's Auction & Realty, Micron Metalworks, among others. The Spectrum featured a photo and short write-up of the event.

The chapter has also been busy with other service and philanthropy projects. Several active members participated in a Harlem Ambassador event that was sponsored by the Campus Club of Lion's International. The event, which involved a talented group of basketball players called the Harlem Ambassadors, was a basketball match to raise money for the Lion's Eye Bank of North Dakota. Many of the active chapter men are charter members of the Campus Lion's Club.



Brothers John Liekhus (left), Andrew Beck (center rear), and Kyle Sebesta with the Harlem Ambassadors

The chapter prioritizes service as one of its main goals, and we do all that we can to make sure we offer "an assisting hand".



Renovation Update

In the summer, Phi alumnus and Holding Company Secretary **Russ Handegard** (#980) completed the renovation of the second and third floor bathrooms. Friends and colleagues of brother Handegard, as well as some active chapter brothers, contributed many hours to help replace many of the fixtures, reconfigure the stalls, and remove the false ceiling. Brother Handegard himself contributed much of his knowledge, experience, and time to the project.

The active chapter has expressed what an incredible improvement this renovation is. "I've considered moving into the chapter house," said potential new member Christopher McGregor, "and the new bathrooms are a definite 'pro'."





State of the University

The maxim of Theta Chi Fraternity is "*Alma mater first, and Theta Chi for Alma Mater*". Among the founding ideas and purposes of our fraternity is that "the advancement of any measures at the institutions where (the fraternity) is established which shall be of importance to its members." Here are some updates from the University since last spring.

In the academic world, NDSU continues to remain a competitive value for the quality of education available. Last January, NDSU was reclassified to the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education's elite category of "very high research," making North Dakota State the first North Dakota university to be classified with the top research universities in the nation.

NDSU athletics continues to receive national attention, as the Bison Football team is currently undefeated, and golf team member Amy Anderson had a successful appearance at the U.S.



Women's Open. The Men's Basketball team are 5th in a preseason poll, and NDSU senior Whitney Carlson was named to the 2011 Capital One Women's Track and Field/Cross Country Academic All-America First Team June 23, by a vote of the College Sports Information Directors of America.

North Dakota State University was also recognized in an article in the Wall Street Journal for its impact on North Dakota. NDSU was cited for its value, the student-faculty ratio, and its research activity. The benefits that NDSU has on the state of North Dakota were covered in detail, and the article cast a very favorable light on our university.

North Dakota State University is continuing to see a massive amount of success and recognition on the national level. Theta Chi is a part of the rich history of North Dakota State, and we are excited to be part of it's great future.

Congratulations to new Initiates

Phi chapter would like to congratulate the following 9 men for completing the new member process and being initiated into Theta Fraternity on March 5th, 2011:

Derek Christenson
1853

Brett Garske
1854

Mike Strand
1855

Alex Baker
1856

Derek Anderson
1857

Ben Tang
1858

Colton Berens
1859

Patrick Schaefer
1860

Shane Kunde
1861



Flood Fight in Fargo

The Spring 2011 edition of the Rattle was focused on the service that the men of our fraternity do on a regular basis. There were features on many chapters who do a great deal to give back to the community, and Phi chapter earned a feature in this edition for their contribution to the flood fighting efforts of the last three years.

The article, which spreads over 3 pages, gives a comprehensive summary of the flooding that has occurred in Fargo in recent history. Phi chapter is recognized for their ability to respond quickly to the volunteer needs of the city, and other alumnus brothers are quoted in the article.

Along with this article, Phi chapter has continued to be recognized nationally for their success. The chapter has won the Howard R. Alter Award for chapter excellence for the past 3 years in a row, received several recruitment awards, piloted both a

membership development program and a ritual revision, as well as participate in special events.

We are proud to continue to strive to be the best chapter that we can be. Thank you for your continued support as an alumnus!



The full article can be found in the Spring 2011 Edition of the Rattle.

<http://www.rattlemagazine.com/spring2011/#>

Letter from the Editor

Cory Loveless - Φ 1767

Greetings, brothers!

I Hope this edition of the Arrow finds you well! It has been a whirlwind of a semester for me as I prepare to graduate, and taking up the Arrow in the stead of brother Friesz has been a challenge! He left me a pair of big shoes to fill, as I think we can all agree that he put together a wonderful edition last spring. It is my wish that you enjoy the pages within, and that they stir great memories of the fraternity in your mind.

In the past 4 years, I have been fortunate enough in my life to have had an incredible college experience. I have been blessed with the opportunities to serve others, to work with talented men and women at NDSU, and experience great success. However, my first great experience at NDSU was joining Theta Chi. To this day, there are few other events in my life that I can point to that have affected me in a positive way as much as Theta Chi has. I can only hope that other men

continue to have great experiences like I had, and that our history and traditions will live on.

If you are an alumnus reading this edition, I challenge you to think about some of the positive things that you experienced in Theta Chi, and reflect upon what part of your life that you gave (and maybe still give) to Theta Chi. We need the help of active alumnus brothers to help advise the undergraduate chapter and support the fraternity in some of its greatest needs. Consider stepping into involvement to remain Theta Chi for Life!

Fraternally,
Cory Loveless



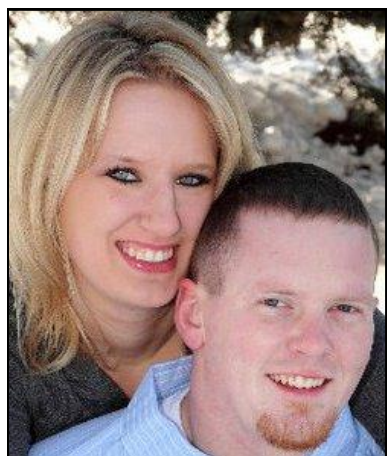
Celebrations and More

Phi chapter would like to extend their congratulations to the following couples on their marriage:

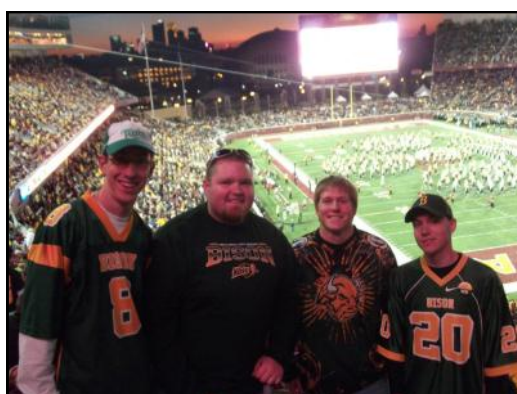
Trevor and Cassie Good

Jake and Cassi Chrzanowski

Joel and Kyra Gifford



Phi Chapter brother Dean Derfus poses with 2010 Dream Girl Kolby Schaeffer. Brother Derfus was elected to be on the 2011 Homecoming Court



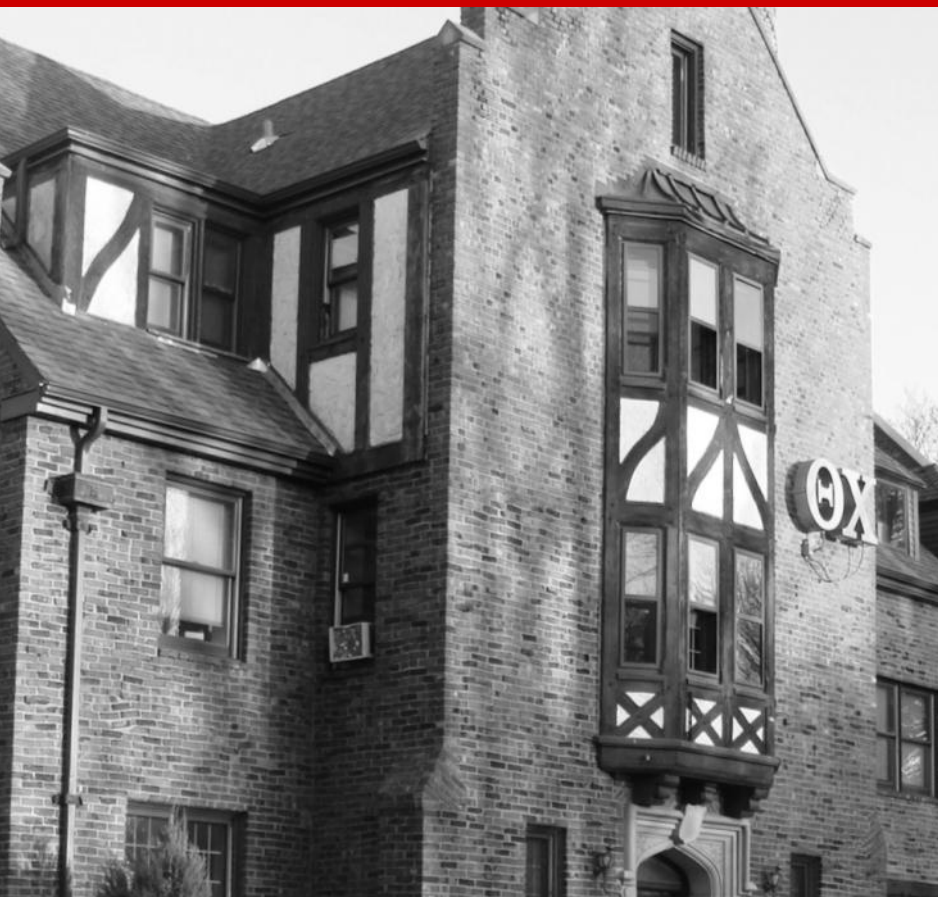
A group of brothers attending the NDSU / University of Minnesota football game this fall.



Vice President Kyle Sebesta awaits an icy fall into the water tank during a recruitment event.



(left) The Active chapter poses with the Dakota Marker trophy. The Dakota Marker trophy serves as the token for the NDSU/SDSU Rivalry. The Marker travels home with the winner of the football game.



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