Phi Kappa Psi has served as steward of the Irving Literary Society since 1888, a relationship forwarded into both our participation in the CURP ’66 and the Residential Housing initiative of the 1990s. “The Irving” is our homage to the importance of intellect in Cornell Life.

Attached find some recent doings of “the Irving.”

Brian Bendett ’12, Dean of the Irving

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Chapter GPA Moves Back Above 3.0!

WALL STREET, Nov. 1—Federal purchase of the American banking system has turned bears into bullies, leaving brothers in the finance industry looking for new “indicia.” What will lead the market into 2010?Phi Kappa Psi’s GPA! Last semester, we crossed the 3.0 mark from an abysmal low of 2.72, a depth not achieved since the class of 1924 left the Hill. Walking the dormer halls in search of hard work and toil this autumn, we found:

David Coon ’11, an ILR major and one of the top academic performers of the house, is both a writer for and board member of Visible Hand, the journal of the Cornell Economic Society. As writing manager, David coordinated authorship of the spring 2009 issue, featuring articles on the economics of print journalism, eminent domain, liquidity in the American banking sector, and other interesting subjects. His own work appeared in the fall 2008 issue, entitled “Irrational Enactments: An Analysis of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008,” which posited that, “[e]conomists thus far are divided on whether or not the act has indeed been effective in stimulating the economy. In a study by Christian Broda and Jonathan Parker, the two economists argue that the stimulus did in fact have a significant effect on consumer spending. However, other economists, such as Martin Feldstein, argue that the effects of the stimulus on economic growth are decidedly overstated. Overall, economic data from the months following the stimulus reveal that consumers did not spend enough of the tax rebates to justify the Act’s cost, a result that can be explained by economic theory.”

Other chapter standout’s in the intellectual arena include Andrew Tscherder ’12, an applied economics and management major and a top academic performer planning to study abroad next year at the London School of Economics; and varsity football team member Brian Carroll ’12, an engineering major skillfully juggling his drive for academic excellence with his rigorous schedule as a member of the varsity football team. Coon, Tscherder, and Carroll were all members of the pledge class of 2009 and are now living in the Gables.

The GPA initiative, in tandem with the Associate Dean for Fraternities and Sororities.

NYAlphan (97:1)(Fall 2009)
Editorial on fiscal crisis of AY 2008-2009

NYAlphan (97:1)(Fall 2009)

Bear Tracks

DAY HALL, Oct. 30—Where’s the Bear? It’s a question alumni leaders ask twice a year at the semi-Annual Meetings, Reunion and Homecoming. Since the late 1980s, we have been careful to teach our youngest brothers that “we are Cornell”. As the oldest student organization on the Hill (having founded, and been founded from, the Irving Literary Society), Phi Kappa Psi holds the honored position in campus discourse. It is a burden we do not carry lightly; regimes come and regimes go; the bonds are eternal.

So when Brian Bendett ’12 was installed this past autumn as the new dean, Irving Literary Society, we were given pause to consider recent events on the Hill. The deanship is Cornell’s oldest student-held position, created by Andrew Dickson White and Brother John Andrew Rea (Ohio Alpha 1868), the summer before Cornell opened its doors. So when the chapter voices concerns about “Day Hall,” “the university,” or “university administrators,” it is not levied against “Cornell”; to put it directly, it is not self-criticism. Joe Foraker (Ohio Alpha 1869) chose the eagle for New York Alpha’s mascot many years before Touchdown I-H-V served as Cornell’s icon. We simply keep an eagle’s eye on all interests working Cornell life for their own bureaucratic advantage, and hopefully for the advantage of Cornell as an institution as well.

The eagle has been watching for Bear tracks lately. The 27-percent drop in the university’s endowment caught many alumni by surprise; as soon as the smoke clears from the $90 million budget cuts Day Hall has to execute this fall, university administrators will unfold the more painful $45 million in cuts needed next spring to balance the Skorton administration’s budget. Our $12,000 kitchen budget deficit, accumulated since 2004, seemed more manageable once we saw these numbers. But unlike the chapter’s operating finances, President Skorton can turn to alumni largesse to balance his books. A hungry bear will emerge from his winter den, searching for fresh fish.
Alumni Show That Old Dogs Don’t Need to Learn New Tricks

MECKLENBERG, N.C., April 2—Not to be outdone, two more New York Alphans are competing for Beijing 2008 positions, south of the border in the United States. American time trials for both swimming and the triathlon are not schedule until June, but both brothers Mike Smit ’07 and Doug Friman ’97 have been training to make the American team.

Mike has retreated to the peaceful calm of North Carolina to work on his game, while Doug has been holed up at the U.S. Olympic Training Facility in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Mike is currently ranked 81st in the men’s 200 fly, achieving a 2:02:94 at the 2007 IN Conoco Phillips Nationals, on July 31, 2007. The next time to qualify will be at Omaha, Nebraska, beginning June 29, 2008. The Beijing team will take the top six times in Olympic events at finals from World Championships, Pan AMs, World University Games and Nationals. In January, Doug was certified as eligible to compete in the U.S. Olympic Team Trials Triathlon scheduled for April 19, 2008, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

The chapter entered the Olympic arena with brother Jon Anderson’s (’72) membership on the U.S. Olympic Team at Munich in 1972 and continued the tradition with Dave Clark’s (’82) Los Angeles efforts in 1984. Doug Friman ’97 brought us back to the arena at Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004.

Ryan Adams ’09, dean of the Irving Literary Society and editor of the NYAlphan, is majoring in civil and environmental engineering and is planning a career in structural design. His fraternal line arises, interesting, from Rhode Island Alpha. Mike Halperin ’01 transferred to Cornell. His big brother was G.P. of that chapter, one Mike Spatz (Brown ’01).

NEWS FLASH AS WE GO TO PRESS...Tuscaloosa Olympic trials on April 19 kept Doug Friman ’97 in the running (and swimming). Shoemaker took the first U.S. men’s Olympic slot in Beijing last September; Reed punched the second U.S. men’s Olympic triathlon ticket, that leaves Potts and Kemper with triathlons version of a Texas death cage wrestling match this June 2008 at Des Moines. As each has a second and a third place in the three U.S. Olympic trials competition, it’s basically a winner-take-all match race for the third U.S. Olympic men’s triathlon slot, and that means our Friman is still in the race! Doug took fourth at Beijing and Brian Fleischmann took fourth at Tuscaloosa. They are poised to leap over Kemper and Potts by placing first—a long odds proposition, but New York Alpha has achieved against greater odds!

Irving update to membership,
NYAlphan (95:3)
(Spring 2008)
Join the Matrix

Four-hundred-thirty brothers, or 36 percent of our living order, recently swarmed to the LINKED IN professional networking website to form a web supporting each other's careers.

No extended chapter meeting here: a gaggle of Wall Street brothers have been using it to scout options; pre-meds are using it find residencies, another brother used it to find contacts in Detroit—our condolences, Pete Hornack ‘89 for that assignment—and a pledge even snuck on in search of contacts in the field of equine epidemiology, that’s “horse rashes” guys.

As brother Jonathan Baker ‘04 said, “I have been serving in the Peace Corps in Cape Verde (a sunny little island nation 400 miles off the coast of Senegal) for nearly two years as an English teacher, but now I am planning for life back in the U.S. LINKED IN has helped me get in touch with several brothers who have offered advice and insight as to my next move in the international development community.”

You need to join this network, regardless of whether you are working, retired, or independently wealthy and playing bocce. Go to: www.phikappapsi-cornell.org/public3.asp click on the LINKED IN hyperlink, search for “Dan Meyer,” general secretary of the Irving Literary Society, and ask to be let in!

No room at Cabo Alpha: Brothers (from left) Mada ‘08, Blessing ‘08, Lempa ‘08, and McGuire ‘08 enjoy spring break in Acapulco, Mexico.

Irving technology initiative,
NYAlphan (95:3)
(Spring 2008)

The Dean’s List

SARATOGA ROOM, GABLES, Nov. 1—The editor of the NYAlphan serves as ex officio dean of Cornell’s Irving Literary Society.

The Society was set-up by our founder Jack Rea 1869 as the conduit for rushing the first classes of Phi Kappa Psi.

It also was the genesis of our dark twin, the Chi Colony of Psi Upsilon. When Irving membership waned at the turn of the 20th century, the remaining Phi Psi brothers folded the Irving’s activities into their new publication called the New York Alphan, first pressed in 1913.

From time to time, the dean salutes great literary or artistic endeavors by the men of New York Alpha. We’ve had a run of success this past year:

- Hail to brother Andrew Weinberg ‘98, the first New York Alphan to take the prized Emmy Award for his work as a screenwriter for Late Night With Conan O’Brien;


- . . . and finally, hail to brother Eric Frick ‘94, author of Stock Returns and the Timing of Capital Investment (Sept. 12, 2007) and Mutual Fund Performance, Board Compensation, Board Fund Holdings and Manager Turnover (Jan. 17, 2006).

If you have news of other fraternal literati, mail it to us, and we’ll salute more hail brothers, well met.

Ryan Adams ‘09 is a major in the College of Engineering studying civil and environmental engineering. In addition to Ryan’s duties, he has served mightily on the Big Red varsity’s offensive line. Upon commencement, he intends to enter the workforce. Ryan’s fraternal line is documented through Doug Lempa ‘08 to Dan Myers ‘06.

Irving publications post,
NYAlphan (95:2)
(Winter 2007-2008)
Duncan Campbell ’93 Kicks Off Speaker Series

By Steve Miller ’07
G.P.

THE GABLES, Feb. 16—The actives welcomed Duncan Campbell ’93, former chief of staff to the secretary of Homeland Security, back to the Gables with an informal dinner prepared by Dave Duprix, house chef.

With all 70 brothers and pledges in attendance, the dining room was roaring with typical dinnertime discussions. A former G.P. of New York Alpha, Campbell quickly found himself feeling like “one of the guys again,” discussing everything from house matters to current Major League Baseball action. Duncan’s visit was one of two alumni speaker events planned and executed in the residence program for AY 2006-07. Look for details of Pat Mulcahy’s ’66 visit in the Fall NYAlphan.

Duncan spoke after dinner in the Robert W. Miller Great Hall. In addition to the actives, newly elected Chapter Adviser Jack Jacobs ’89, Barry Bernstein ’75, and John Totolis ’98 were also in attendance. With the Great Hall filled to capacity, Duncan recounted for 30 minutes on the relevance of the New York Alpha experience to his career.

Duncan comes from a long Phi Kappa Psi line; his grandfather served as the PKP national historian for many years. “He is an amazing person,” Campbell said, “someone whose dedication I will admire forever.” His father, Jim Campbell ’63, was one of our alumni presidents during the launch of the Gables Campaign. With these great role models to build upon, Duncan excelled at Cornell as both a varsity baseball player and the House G.P. Of greatest importance to his New York Alpha experience were the friendships he developed, he said.

After college, Duncan pursued a career in politics. In his first position with Governor Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania, he served as a campaign manager. After holding many positions, he eventually became one of Ridge’s closest advisers. When Ridge was appointed to secretary of Homeland Security, Campbell gladly followed. Drawing upon his leadership experience at Phi Psi, he signed on to the role of chief of staff. Even forced to miss most of

(continued on page two)
The Irving and Phi Kappa Psi lead the University’s CURP ’66 Priority Groups in the West Campus Residential Initiative
Gables Groundbreaking A Huge Success As Over 150 Phi Psis, Cornell Administrators, And Ithaca Luminaries Attend June Ceremony

After years of planning and the most successful fund-raising effort ever undertaken by any college fraternity, more than 200 alumni, their guests, undergraduate brothers, Cornell administrators, faculty, and local dignitaries joined together on the afternoon of June 7, 1997, for groundbreaking ceremonies for The Gables.

Passing showers greeted the alumni who had returned for Reunion Weekend but did nothing to dampen the excitement and satisfaction well expressed by participants. Serving as toastmaster of the event was Alumni President James D. Campbell Jr. '62. Past Alumni President Winfield Shiras III '48, one of the key early organizers of The Gables campaign, offered poignant glimpses back to the days at 312 Thurston Avenue and the early development of The Gables project.

Daniel P. Meyer '87 reflected on the fraternity's development at 525 Stewart Avenue and also on discussions with key alumni, including Robert W. Miller '55, whose vision and commitment were instrumental in raising our sights and expectations.

Vice President of Student and Academic Services Susan H. Murphy (Pi Beta Phi) extended the congratulations of the university and made it clear that Phi Psi's successes would play a pivotal role in moving other Cornell fraternities and sororities forward in addressing their needs to renovate and improve their respective facilities.

Mahad Ibrahim '97 spoke for the undergraduate brothers, expressing their gratitude to alumni whose support has made The Gables a reality. Mahad also reflected on how The Gables will better serve the needs of the chapter and aid in recruiting top-quality members. He expressed the deep appreciation of the undergraduate brothers for the outpouring of alumni support that made the project a reality.

Following his remarks, Mahad received the ceremonial gold shovel from project architect Roger F. Newill '68 and dug the first scoop of soil signifying the birth of The Gables. All attendees then raised a toast to New York (continued on page two)

Left: Chapter, national, and alumni association leaders pose for a picture. Left to right: Mahad Ibrahim '97; Terry Harper, executive director of Phi Kappa Psi; Jim Campbell '62, alumni president; long-time local alumnus Fred Beck '58; and Greg Knapp, national fraternity president.

Above: A toast to a job well done. Vice President for Student and Academic Services Susan Murphy, project architect Roger Newill '68, and Phi Psi National President Greg Knapp raise a toast to Phi Psi's future. Left: Alumni President Jim Campbell '62 welcomes guests to groundbreaking ceremonies.
Facility To Offer State-Of-The-Art Technologies

At last, Phi Kappa Psi prepares to enter the new millennium. As we all know, our brotherhood will be the beneficiary of a new state-of-the-art facility called The Gables. On June 7, 1997, alumni and actives gathered at 525 Stewart Avenue to celebrate the groundbreaking of this project. Although we received one of those bad Ithaca days we all have come to know and love, people were in good spirits because of the nature of the occasion. The event was well attended by over 100 brothers, plus the many guests invited to this joyous event.

The program of events included the a cappella serenading of The Hangovers, the unveiling of the bronze bear to reside in the great hall of The Gables, and a few words from people associated with the project. We should all thank brother Matt Battistella '91 and his family for the wine they provided for the event, from their Six Mile Creek Winery.

One purpose of the ceremony was to capture the spirit of Old 312 Thurston and the current house at 525 Stewart Avenue and to bridge the gap between the two generations of brothers who resided at these cornerstones of Phi Psi. Many of the words spoken at the event were directed toward the role of the Gables campaign in bridging that gap. Another focus of the ceremony was The Gables' role in the lives of current and future undergraduate Phi Psi. The Gables will provide important tools for these students as they pursue their undergraduate education. The building will offer state-of-the-art educational technologies, which will serve as a resource to the Phi Psi scholar. Also included in the design are areas for study and an expanded library.

Although learning is our primary purpose at this university, we can't neglect the other aspects of life. The Gables encourages all these aspects with its first-rate living, dining, and social accommodations. The sum of these aspects leaves us with a facility that combines all the necessary components of students' lives into one great building. Cornell University is such a big place, but with a facility like The Gables, we can make this university more intimate and conducive to learning. These were some of the thoughts expressed by the many great speakers, such as Win Shiras '48, Jim Campbell '62, Dan Meyer '87, Susan Murphy, Gregory Knapp, and Roger Newill '68.

Now that we have broken ground, we look forward to the dedication scheduled for the fall of 1998.

Mahad Ibrahim '97

Gables Groundbreaking A Huge Success

(continued from page one)

Alpha's achievements and to Phi Psi's long future at Cornell. Following the toast, The Hangovers led those assembled in the singing of the Cornell alma mater.

With the ceremonial portion of the dedication completed, guests were invited to enjoy wines and other beverages provided by Six Mile Creek Vineyards, which is owned by the Battistella family, parents of Matthew D. Battistella '91.

Also present for the ceremony was a most impressive and yet-to-be-named large bronze "Cornell" bear that was procured by Roger Newill. The bear, which is pictured on pages four and five of this issue, will grace the main foyer and make a striking entrance to The Gables.

With groundbreaking behind us and construction now under way, we are already looking forward to the dedication ceremonies, which are now planned for the fall of 1998.

This issue of The NYAlphan contains a small sample of the pictures taken during the event. An entire collection of these photos and more taken at the dedication next fall will be put on permanent exhibit at The Gables.
GABLES CONSTRUCTION BEGINS!
Completion Date Set for August 1, 1998

After a delay of several months, construction is now under way on The Gables. Work that was originally expected to start this summer did not commence until late October as final architectural details were worked out between project architect Roger F. Newill ’68 and the department of planning, design, and construction at the university.

Early construction priorities will be given to the removal of the facing on the existing structure and the demolition of the three-story stairwell on the south side (facing Delta Tau Delta) of the house. Other tasks that should be well under way by the time you read this will be the extension of the foundation to the perimeters of The Gables and the erection of the building shell. Swift progress is expected in these early stages, and much of the building shell should be closed in before the coldest winter weather makes its arrival in Ithaca.

Because of the delay in the start of construction, the completion date for the project has been set back to August 1, 1998. According to the contractor and those at Cornell who will be overseeing the project, this is a realistic date and one that should ensure that our undergraduate brothers will start the next academic year in their new home.

With the completion date set back to August 1, dedication ceremonies have also been rescheduled for fall of 1998. Although the exact date has yet to be set, Phi Psi alumni will be given adequate notice to help ensure that The Gables’ dedication is the largest and greatest event in our fraternity’s long history at Cornell.

Excitement Mounts As Project Gets Under Way

At the biannual meeting of NYA3 on September 26, 1997, Don Kennedy ’55 announced to grads and undergrads alike that Cornell University had given the final approval required for construction to begin on the $4 million Gables project at 525 Stewart Avenue. The announcement thwarted rumors that had begun to circulate as Phi Psi stood vacant and virtually untouched since groundbreaking as actives returned to Ithaca for the start of the new school year.

In days following the announcement, all doubts removed, the air about New York Alpha was full of joy and exuberance. Brothers new and old are excited as construction of The Gables begins. The Gables project not only represents a new chapter in Phi Psi history, but a deeply rooted commitment by Phi Psi’s past and present to continuing the proud, fabled traditions of New York Alpha on the hill. Current brothers are ecstatic that they will finally have a house they can be proud to live in, one that outsiders will envy. No longer will Phi Psi be called the ugliest house on campus. (I’m talking about the building, not the recent composite!) The brutalist bomb shelter of old served its purpose, but it has now taken its place in Phi Psi history.

In addition to getting a new house to live in, current brothers also (continued on page six)
Above: Project architect Roger Newill '68; Pete McChesney, Illinois Alpha ’64, whose firm, Stewart Howe Alumni Service, coordinated the Gables fund-raising effort; and John Benson, project manager for Cornell's department of planning, design, and construction. Right: Two younger brothers welcome the fraternity's new-found friend.

Vice President for Student and Academic Services Susan Murphy, Phi Psi Executive Director Terry Harper, Phi Psi National President Greg Knapp, and Alumni President Jim Campbell.

We’re missing some identifications here, including the couple at the left standing next to Ed Callahan ’52, then Sue ’54 and Jack Voigt ’52, Carman Hill ’49, Bill Hagar ’41, and Cletus Lauth ’47.
Let's hear it for the class of '52! Left to right: Elden Bennett Hartshorn, Tiger Weinman, Harlow Cameron, Jack Voigt, Ed Callahan, Dave Bacon, and Doug MacLean.

Paul Bleakley '55 and Elden Bennett Hartshorn '52.

Dan Meyer '87 and Greg Knapp exchange thoughts.

Above: Tim Wern '89 (facing the camera) enjoys the buffet that followed groundbreaking ceremonies. Below: Other than Mark Hennessey '87 (center), we’re not going to be able to provide identification for these smiling faces.

Left to right: Brian Dawson ’75 (kneeling), Buck Briggs '76, "Z" '76, unidentified, "Ned," Howie Borkan '81, and Dave Dunn '77.
Phi Psi Sends Two Representatives To Leadership School

Taking a break from our summer activities, Alex Park '99 and I, Brian Fallik '99, traveled to Indiana to represent New York Alpha at the 1997 Woodrow Wilson Leadership School. The event, hosted by Purdue University, enabled brothers from all over the country to discuss the current state of the fraternity, learn some historical foundations of the organization, and build a framework for the future of Phi Kappa Psi and the entire Greek community. Business aside, the trip was also an opportunity to socialize with Phi Psis from across the country and learn what makes each chapter unique.

For three days, the education seminars alternated between large lectures and smaller group peer discussions. The speakers included distinguished Phi Psis and famous orators from other national fraternities. These discourses examined the national media's unfavorable treatment of Greek organizations, predicted the future of leadership in the new century, and even presented proper etiquette for men of the '90s. In a more informal setting, the peer group discussions presented a stage for the representatives to voice their opinions on all facets of the brotherhood. In these small groups, representatives analyzed practical aspects such as rush techniques, social events, philanthropy, and house leadership. The central theme of the meetings involved much more than merely listening to the experiences of other brothers at their chapters. These meetings required that each representative apply the experiences to his own chapter. Clearly an effective tool for determining the strengths and weaknesses of each chapter, this process allowed participants to gather and analyze successes and failures from Phi Psi all over the country.

The weekend included substantial national business in addition to the leadership seminars. During the second evening, representatives split into their geographical divisions for dinner and district meetings. After hearing general comments from the outgoing archon, each chapter presented a short synopsis of notable events from the previous school year. District I representatives were eager for news of The Gables at Cornell, and the excitement increased with an account of the groundbreaking and completion date of August 1998. Nominations for archon followed, and Alex received a nomination from several schools in the district. Unfortunately, he lost an extremely close vote after several run-off elections.

Taking a break from business, we found plenty of time for brotherhood among the hundreds of Phi Psis in attendance. Sampling the entertainment opportunities in Lafayette, Alex and I quickly found a spot to unwind and enjoy Purdue in the summer. Many more Phi Psis eventually joined us, and we relaxed and fraternized well into the nights.

The weekend retreat provided Alex and me with an essential blueprint of the national structure of Phi Kappa Psi as well as the individual chapters from around the United States. Furthermore, we gained information in areas vital to the preservation of the fraternity while also building our leadership skills and fraternity objectives. After an intense weekend of Phi Kappa Psi, Alex and I were eager to return and discuss our experiences with the brotherhood.

Brian Fallik '99

The Intramural Muse

He ran down the court, passing them all; Brother Rendall had stolen the ball! He raced toward the basket as fast as he could. Nobody knew what that happened would. He jumped high, into the air, Doing tricks and flips without a care. And then it happened—he hit his head. He fell to the floor, we thought he was dead. The ball that he had didn’t go in, But soon he got up, determined to win. His neck hurt badly, his eyes burned and teared. The crowd stomped their feet and everyone cheered. "The clock is ticking. Time’s running out! Win for us, John!" we started to shout. He looked at the score. We were losing by two. As soon as he saw this, he knew what to do. He turned toward the ball, and reached out to grab it. As always, John moved with the speed of a rabbit. He quickly went back to the three-point line, Looked up at the clock—"Seconds left: 9." He stopped his dribbling and began to aim. It would be up to him to win the game. He was terribly nervous, and his face grew hot, His knees were shaking, his stomach in a knot, He shot the trey, and it went right in. The whole crowd roared, what a dink! John L. Rendall had finally won! With a half second left, he beat them by one... Then he woke up serving water to the team: The entire game had just been a dream... That pretty much wraps up the IM scene.

Rob Quackenbush '99

Brother Quackenbush is an electrical engineer, thankfully, not a poet.

Excitement Mounts As Project Gets Under Way

(continued from page three)

understand the new responsibilities associated with it. We, as brothers, are proud of The Gables, even before its completion. We are looking forward to having a house that we can show off to friends and relatives and are committed to working hard to keep the gift of The Gables in excellent condition. Steps have been taken to develop new house policies regarding upkeep of furniture and facility. The Animal House attitude that may have been present in the past is disappearing as actives find new appreciation for their surroundings.

Despite lacking an official home at Cornell, New York Alpha has been able to maintain a strong preliminary rush. Upon returning to campus, The Gables will provide the brotherhood with a top-notch facility and no longer serve as a detriment to the strength of the chapter. Phi Psi will finally return to its proper place as one of the strongest brotherhoods on campus.

Speaking for all the brothers, I would like to thank everyone who contributed large amounts of their time and money in order to make The Gables become a reality.

Jay "Mr. Fix-It" Gill '99
Actives Thank Alums For Gables Contributions

On Sunday, October 26, an enthusiastic group of undergraduate brothers gathered at the Cornell development office to call alumni to express their appreciation for the generosity that helped make The Gables a reality.

During the course of the early evening project, more than 450 calls were placed, which allowed brothers to reach a significant portion of our approximately 600 contributors. For many it was an opportunity to express personal appreciation or at least leave a message on an answering machine expressing thanks.

Brothers Possess Unusual Skills And Interests

Each fall, men journey from all corners of the Earth to arrive at Cornell University, ready to take on the world. It is at college that they discover themselves, surrounded by friends and immersed in their studies. This was especially true of the men from New York Alpha, as it seems several have wasted little time this year in finding their true calling and getting their feet wet.

One of these is sophomore Daniel Bruzzo, who recently surfaced as one of the most respected collectibles experts in the area. "D-Bruz," as we know him, presumably spent his entire summer researching the vast field of antique furniture and hard-to-find classical items. He has put this wealth of knowledge to good use this semester and has been known to acquire high-quality pieces at rock-bottom prices. As if that weren't enough, D-Bruz also specializes in transportation and delivery of the items he handles.

We turn now to a classmate of Dan's, young John Rendall. Rendall, an electrical engineer, is one of the more technically oriented New York Alphans, as is evident by his performance on the Speak 'N' Spell. A Picasso in his own right, John has occasionally lent his skills to specially chosen campus renovation projects.

A pledgemate of John's and also an engineer, Kevin Porter '99 has spent the better part of the semester making a very personal sacrifice in the name of medical science. As part of an intense investigation into the forms and means of supplemental introduction of deficient chemicals into the body, Kevin undergoes application of a series of epidermal bandages on a daily basis. His efforts are commendable, and we applaud him.

Let us now focus our attention on Herbert Smith '99. Making his big debut in the wonderful world of fashion, Herbert's timeless orange bell-bottoms and form-fitting silk shirts in a variety of pastel colors have admirers everywhere shouting "Super!" and "Fabulous!"

Last, but certainly not least (not by any stretch of the imagination), we have Michael Dickman '99. As if Dickman's achievements thus far weren't enough of an example for the rest of the brotherhood, he has recently brought his musical talents to center stage and performed live for neighbors and Cornellians. Michael has spent the past several years perfecting his art form and can now be considered one of the premier amateur flute players in the Northeast.

Stephen Surman '99

Semester Going Well For Undergrads

I want to start by thanking all of my officers for helping get this semester of Phi Psi in col­legetown off to a successful start. It hasn't been easy adapting to the separated living arrangements and other difficulties presented by our current living situation. I want to especially thank the rush chairs, Brian Fallik '99 and Howard Flowers '99, for working so hard on finding innovative ways to lure rushees into collegetown. This has been the best-looking group of fall rushees we have seen in a few years. I foresee no problem with us meeting our goal of pledging 15 men from the out-of-house location.

I believe part of the reason things are off to such a great start is because of a really productive retreat we had at the end of August. About 15 men were able to join me in attending this year's undergrad retreat to the Arnot Forest. At the two-day event, we tackled such critical issues as keeping the brotherhood united throughout the next year and the problems of rushing from C-town and how to solve them. We also came up with several ideas for the housing contract and residence plan. I hope we can establish this retreat as a tradition that we follow every summer. The benefits of getting everyone out of Ithaca and spending a few days focusing on Phi Psi issues are enormous. In addition, I think everyone had a good time going to the Arnot Forest.

We are still one semester away from com­pleting our goals and making the move into The Gables, but I think we have started on the right track, and I feel the brotherhood will be able to make the transition as smooth as possible. As always, please don't hesitate to use the e-mail listservs to contact actives and/or alumni.

Bradley Shaw '98
President