

FIGURE 1



Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. member Montel Evans puts on his “grit” during the 2008 Fall Fest at the University of Missouri on September 11, 2008. Fall fest is organized to welcome all incoming and returning Mizzou students and introduces new students to MU academic, cultural resources, and the Black student organizations on campus.

FIGURE 2



Members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. line up their aspirates in front of Rankin Chapel at Howard University in 1987. At Howard University, showing the line was a tradition of the first church service when a fraternity or sorority had a line of aspirants.

FIGURE 3



When Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was finally established on December, 4, 1906, the motto "First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All." gave new meaning to the purpose of the fraternity. Even then, the stated purpose of Alpha Phi Alpha was, "To promote a more perfect union among college men; to aid in and insist upon the personal progress of its members..." Service is incredibly important, but the social empowerment of Black students during this movement should not go unrecognized.

FIGURE 4



Camille Hardiman demonstrates the hand sign of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. to the newest initiates of Epsilon Psi Chapter hours before their 2008 Fall probate. The Delta hand sign consists of the formation of the pyramid which also mimics the greek symbol for Delta. In mathematical and scientific terms, Delta represents change.

FIGURE 5



Greg Green, one of the newest members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. gets a hug from his grandmother during his probate on December 12, 2009 in Conservation Auditorium.

FIGURE 6



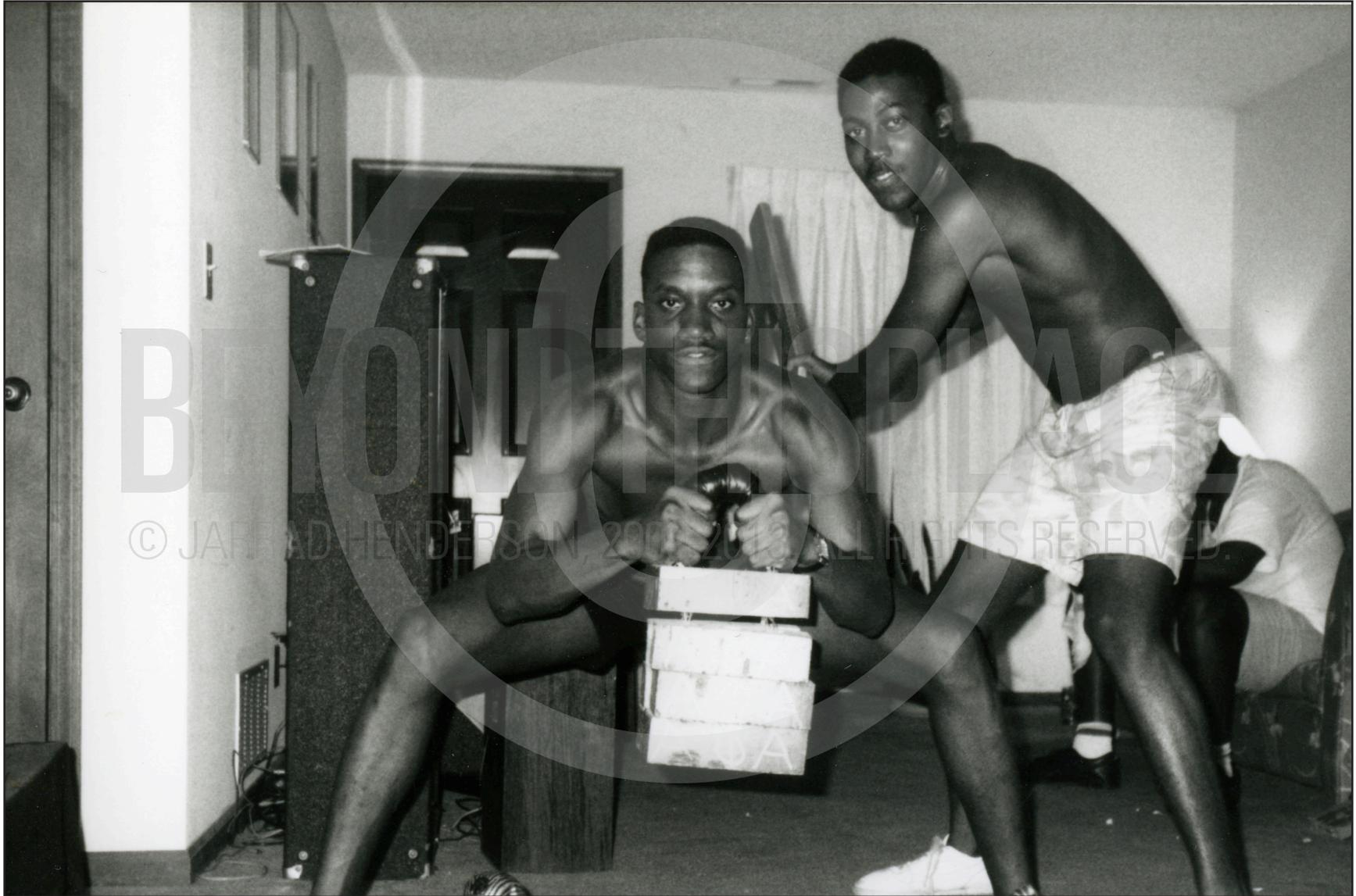
A 1988 hand drawn flyer for a greek party at the University of Missouri's Memorial Union for Friday October, 14.

FIGURE 7



Members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Chi Kappa Chapter recite Zeta history during their probate on January 30, 2009. While there are different chapters of BGLOs all across the world, the history and significance of fraternity/sorority life remains the same. Members of these organizations all have the same thing in common: the task to uplift the communities from which they come from.

FIGURE 8



Members demonstrate 'the cut' a traditional paddling stance that is also in Spike Lee's *School Daze*. When pledging was legal, initiates were paddled for disciplinary reasons. After members cross the practice could still continue as a sign of being 'made'.

FIGURE 9



Charles Ukatu, Jr. mediating while his fraternity brother, Donte Howard, cuts his hair on December 12, 2009. Brotherhood and sisterhood mean a lot of things to BGLOs. The bond between members is strong an everlasting and more than anything, members will maintain the brotherhood/sisterhood AKA 'hood' at all cost. The 'hood' is what drives networking among BGLOs giving people opportunities in business, entrepreneurship and employment. The 1900's began the development of a new, more culture conscious Black community.

FIGURE 10



Ono Ikanone teaches steps during a community service event sponsored by the Sprite Step Off in Columbia, MO. The Columbia Boys and Girls Club also received a special surprise when they were offered a check for \$4,500 to help support their programs. Ever BGLO was founded on the aim of service and ideally, should strive to uplift their community.

FIGURE 11



Detrez Woods sets out a hop during Fall Fest at the University of Missouri on September 9, 2009. Members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. wear the distinction in the BGLO world as 'hoppers' as opposed to steppers. While most of the Divine Nine steps with rhythmic combinations of hand and feet movements to produce sound, the Omegas entertain and hop while singing chants and songs.

FIGURE 12



The Founders' Memorial Window was produced by Alpha Kappa Alpha member, internationally renowned African American artist and long-time professor of art at Howard University, Lois Mailou Jones. In 1978 the window was dedicated.

FIGURE 13



Members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc gather around their plot at Howard University on January 9, 2009 for their founders day celebration. Founders day is a time where current and alumni members come back to celebrate the founding of their organizations.

FIGURE 14



Members of the Alpha Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta dismount a plane in 1978. Image taken from the Bison, Howard University's yearbook.

FIGURE 15



The Zeta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. poses after the newest members (with bald heads) pose for their first picture. The newest initiates are called Neophytes, representing their status as a beginner or novice member of the organization. As time progresses and the Neophyte matures and brings in another initiate class, he will then be considered a Prophte.

FIGURE 16



Jerome Perkins hugs his mother after 'coming out' to the University of Missouri community as the newest member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. on April 23, 2010. In the tradition of probating, Black Greeks celebrate the re-introduction into their community after being taken away to learn how be more effective leaders and service people in their communities.

FIGURE 17



Aisha Barnes, left, sits nervously as her prophete Brittney Jewett-Hale gives last minute encouragement to her neophytes before their probate January, 30, 2009. The probate is the ceremony in which neophytes, the newest members of a BGLO, are revealed to the community, showing their newly acquired knowledge.

FIGURE 18



Jake Mitchell prepares for his probate on May 10, 2010 at the University of Missouri Columbia. The probate is, above all things, a celebration. While most see the probate as an indicator of hazing, others view the practice as traditional and essential to the right of passage of Black Greek initiation. It is one of the things that makes the Black Greek experience unique and has rarely been questioned in its purpose as other secret societies have similar celebrations.

FIGURE 19



The 'Alpha' Chapter plot at Howard University is a significant sign for members of Delta Sigma Theta who often travel to the University to see where the history of DSST began. One of the major differences in BGLOs and non-Black greek organizations is that once an aspirant has obtained membership through initiation, they are a life-long member of that organization. The organization is not something that 'I did in college' but is something that the member continually does.

FIGURE 20



Scooter, Buddy, and a visiting brother take some time with a real Que dog.

Image from the 1983 Bison yearbook. Caption reads: Scooter, Buddy, and a visiting brother take some time with a real Que dog.