

## Kiss-Off: Hugely successful event raises funds for charity

Jeremy Devine, this year's head of philanthropy at Delta Upsilon, wanted Kiss-Off to continue its recent success and raise a substantial amount of money to give to the Boys & Girls Club; his goal was realized.

Alpha Chi Omega, the sorority paired with DU for Kiss-Off, gave essential assistance in selling tickets and helping with arrangements. In addition to ticket sales, money was raised by canning, selling pizza, arranging commercial sponsors, and soliciting money from parents. These efforts raised enough money to purchase the car and donate the profits to the Boys & Girls Club.

When it came time to kick off the event on Saturday, March 31, the front lawn was full of eager ticket buyers, all trying to be one of the 20 lucky individuals who would be chosen for a chance to kiss the car. One of the goals this year was to make the event shorter by upholding all rules to a strict degree. The key rule is simple. Contestants must place their lips on the car and not remove them under any circumstances. Only their lips can touch the car, and if any other body part touches the car, then that person is disqualified. The strict enforcement of the rules shortened the duration of the event from 15 hours a year ago to six hours this year.

This year DU was also fortunate to host the band Remington, who came all the way from New York to play for the large crowd of people at the house. The



last person with his lips on the car this year was Tommy Dutko. The 22-year-old from Cedar Lake, Ind., was excited to win the 2002 Pontiac Grand Am, but he was equally excited to have a chance to help a charity. "At the end of the day, it's really about the kids," Dutko said.

Brad Newell, a junior who played an integral role in planning and coordinating this event, said: "Everyone really helped out a lot this year. Everybody involved should be proud for making this event

a huge success." After the event, Devine commented, "The event was a huge success. It's everything we could've hoped for, and I hope we can do it again next year."

Amounts raised from the Kiss-Off and the Jibbs concert (see below) provided almost \$4,000 as a contribution to the Boys & Girls Club. When the club's executive director, Jeff Baldwin, received the contribution, he expressed the club's sincere appreciation for the chapter's efforts.

— Chris Nelson