

## Myron Rolle Named Rhodes Scholar



**M**yron Rolle, a 2008 Theta Eta initiate, has been selected as one of the 32 Rhodes Scholarship recipients from the United States. The Rhodes Scholarship program was established in 1903 by Cecil Rhodes, a philanthropist who dreamed of improving the world through the diffusion of leaders motivated to serve their contemporaries, trained in the contemplative life of the mind, and broadened by their acquaintance with one another and by their exposure to cultures different from their own. Mr. Rhodes hoped that his plan of bringing able students from throughout the English-speaking world and beyond to study at Oxford University would aid in the promotion of international understanding and peace.

Each year, 32 United States citizens are among the approximately 80 Rhodes Scholars worldwide who pursue degrees at Oxford University in England. Rhodes Scholars are selected based on four criteria: literary and scholastic attainments; energy to use one's talents to the full, as exemplified by fondness for and success in sports; truth, courage devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness, and fellowship; and moral force of character and instincts to lead and to take an interest in one's fellow beings.

Rolle has a history as an outstanding scholar. As a high school student at the Hun School of Princeton (NJ), he was an All-American football player who maintained a 4.0 grade point average. Rolle was ranked as the #1 high school prospect by ESPN's sports rating service in 2006. He also served as sports editor of the school newspaper and played saxophone in the school band.



*Theta Eta Advisor Alvin Barrington, Rhodes Scholar Myron Rolle, and Theta Eta initiates Jwyanza Nuriddin and Charles Davis share a moment at National Founders' Day program.*

Rolle received numerous scholarship offers and accepted an award to play football at Florida State University, where he became an All-American safety and a Theta Eta initiate. Rolle earned a Bachelor of Science in exercise science/biology pre-medicine in two-and-a-half years while maintaining a 3.75 GPA. He participated in campus projects, including laboratory studies to conduct stem cell and cancer research. Rolle received the Arthur Ashe Foundation Academic All-American Award, and he was named ACC Defensive Rookie of the Year during his freshman year.

A native of Houston, Texas, and resident of Galloway, New Jersey, Rolle was featured in *Sports Illustrated* and *USA Today* publications and on their websites as well as on Time.com. Additionally, he was highlighted in program segments on ESPN and other national news networks. His Rhodes Scholarship interview was originally



*Myron Rolle, center, accepts Creating Inspiration Award from Grand Polemarch Dwayne M. Murray as Junior Grand Vice Polemarch Michael J.A. Davis looks on.*

scheduled on November 24, 2008, at the same time his Florida State Seminole team was to play at the University of Maryland. The NCAA allowed Rolle, however, to take a chartered plane from his interview in Birmingham, Alabama, to College Park, Maryland, in order to complete his interview and participate in the ACC football game.

Expected to be one of the top 50 picks in the 2009 National Football League draft, Rolle decided to accept the Rhodes Scholarship to study for a Master of Arts degree in medical anthropology for the 2009-2010 academic year at Oxford University. He then plans to enter the 2010 NFL draft and subsequently attend medical school. Rolle's goal is to practice medicine in the Bahamas, the homeland of his parents.

Grand Polemarch Dwayne M. Murray presented Rolle with the Creating Inspiration Award at the fourth annual National Founders' Day program in Charlotte, North Carolina, in January. In accepting the award, Rolle thanked members of the Theta Eta Chapter, his advisor, Alvin Barrington, and the fraternity for their unwavering support of his efforts and for helping him develop into a young man determined to give back to the world and continue his quest for achievement.

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