

THE SIGMAN

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Complete Failure of Deferred Rushing Forces University to Abandon Policy

*Smaller Number of Freshmen Attain
High Grades, Disproving
Claims of Faculty*

The policy of deferred rushing as inaugurated by the University this year proved to be a tremendous fiasco. Six hundred of the twelve hundred freshmen were declared scholastically ineligible to pledge fraternities, thus disproving the University's argument that fraternities are not conducive to high grades.

Then, under the University's shielding wing, the remaining freshmen were led through a whirlwind week of rushing and told to make their choice. The fraternities also made their choices, and in the resulting mix-up, only two hundred and sixty-five men were pledged. With sixty-five fraternities on the campus, the situation became acute. Seven houses, including such strong national fraternities as Alpha Sigma Phi and Kappa Sigma, received no pledges.

Resulting outbursts forced the University to retreat from its adamant attitude and declare all rushing rules suspended. Immediately a wild scramble was started by the fraternities. Strong-arming, hot-boxing and all other arts peculiar to fraternity pledging were prevalent, and all desirable freshmen were snapped up.

As yet no other rushing plan has been proposed by the University for next year, but it is hoped that if one is presented it will prove more adaptable than deferred rushing has been.

DRUIDS, VULCANS CHOOSE SIGMEN

Two brothers of Sigma Zeta were recently honored by receiving bids to senior honor societies. David Nichol was initiated into Druids, Senior Literary College society composed of men who have distinguished themselves on the campus. Vulcans, honorary Engineering society, initiated Bob Snyder in recognition of his activities in the Engineering College. The house takes pride in the honors earned by these brothers and their efforts to uphold the fraternity in the University.

SIGMA ZETA WINS TWO FRATERNITY SWIMMING TITLES

*Defeats Theta Chi in Dual Competition;
Breaks Records in Two
Relay Events*

Victories in the dual fraternity swimming competition and the Interfraternity swimming meet are the result of the efforts of Lambda Chi Alpha's aquatic stars. In recognition of their achievements two handsome cups, each topped by a statuette of a swimmer, have found resting spots on the mantle alongside the first place cup which the chapter was awarded last fall for Homecoming Decorations.

In the finals of the dual meets, the Sigmen met Theta Chi for the title. The score was virtually a tie until the last event, diving, in which Dick Ashton captured a first to put Lambda Chi out in front. Ray Schauble, Bill Mohrhoff, Bob and Dick Snyder, and John Kagay were the other men who placed. When the Interfraternity meet was held, it



proved to be another battle with Theta Chi, and again Lambda Chi came out on top. Schauble took first in the 220-yard free style and fourth in diving. Dick Snyder won the 50-yard backstroke, and Bob placed fourth in the backstroke and third in the 50-yard free style event. In the 200-yard free style relay Dick Snyder, Kagay, Schauble, and Bob Snyder broke the existing record, emulating their performance in the finals of the dual competition, when they broke the record for the 100-yard free style relay.

Dick Snyder broke the record for the backstroke in winning the event in the All-Campus meet, which was held shortly after the Interfraternity meet.

THE SIGMAN

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Editor Allan F. Schmalzriedt
Associate Editor Robert K. McKenzie
Circulation Manager Charles E. Wilcox

OFFICERS

High Alpha William H. Mohrhoff
High Beta J. Wilfred Smith
High Pi Prof. H. L. Caverly
High Gamma Duane L. Eriksen
High Tau Arthur H. Wilson
High Epsilon George D. Kyes
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An Alumnus Writes

In my mind, alumni relations hinge around two or three very simple facts. But in taking these facts into consideration it is well to look into just what makes up an alumnus. He is not a queer sort of animal but his natural habitat might seem strange to many fellows who are at present going through their college experience. In a way an alumnus is nothing but an individual who has had his day at what the average college man is now going through.

But when the new alumnus starts out, he soon finds that the "rosy haze of college days" is not still about him. That fact alone is hard to take, and it naturally does something to the individual which he would hate to admit. Circumstances force him to hole in and buckle down. If the world would permit it, he would like to continue the college point of view, but he is generally permitted no such leeway and the result is not pleasant. He finds it better to withdraw for the time being.

Often that process of withdrawing becomes a habit, and before he knows it, he either has family obligations or business obligations that have him tied to the mast. The wife and the boss do not understand, and consequently it is often easier just to lie dormant and forget the past; for to live in the business world, it is necessary to live in the present.

Gradually, however, some alumni wake up and realize that sleeping at the switch is not absolutely necessary. And lucky is he who finds it out in time to get back a little bit into the swing of things. However, that period of living the hermit has had its effect. In the meantime all the old friends have scattered to the four corners of the earth and the bunch around the house seems different.

So it becomes necessary to help that fel-
(Continued on page 4)

THE HIGH ALPHA REMARKS

To Sigma's many interested alumni and friends the progress that the house is making this year may be of some consequence.

A most noticeable and welcome rise in the House scholarship mark over last year's level has been the greatest evidence of progress in the eyes of the executive committee.

At the mid-year in February a rough compilation showed Sigma Zeta to be at least 2.5 per cent higher, or approximately twenty places better, on the Interfraternity scale, than last year. With another semester to go, and with the same attitude toward scholarship existing in the house, it is not improbable that the close of the year will find Sigma well among the first eighteen fraternities on the Interfraternity list.

Of equal importance and just as noticeable has been the willingness of every member in the house to do his share in aiding activities of the house as a whole. This spirit of co-operation was greatly responsible for our winning Homecoming Decorations prize, for the success of the two big rushing parties last semester, and for our fine record in Intramural athletic competition.

We are especially grateful to the alumni for the response obtained in the matter of rushing. In many cases, our contacts with these freshmen may be traced directly to the interest that some alumnus has shown in the house and in the man.

It would seem also that the parents of the men in the active chapter have been taking an increasing interest in the organization at Ann Arbor during the past year. This has been noticed and is very gratefully appreciated.

Again, we would like to extend our invitation to all to whom this letter may come, to visit us at Michigan. We are always glad to see you and will do our best to make your stay enjoyable.

Congratulations

Brother Thayer J. Lauer is the proud father of a baby girl, Vivian, born February 26. "Gen" is married to the former Miss Vera Wilkie, of Detroit.

Seconds From Past Minutes

* * *

Nov. 5, 1913, it was moved by Bro. Bolin and seconded by Bro. Ball that the wages of Mr. Davis as janitor be decreased to \$16.00 per month. Life is just one depression after another.

* * *

In the elections of Feb. 10, 1914, Bro. Edison was elected High Alpha; Bro. Maxwell, High Beta; Bro. Wells, High Gamma; Bro. Watters, High Tau; Bro. Blood, High Epsilon; and Bro. Thomas, High Phi.

* * *

On the suggestion of Bro. Payne during the meeting of Feb. 21, 1918, Bro. Marshall was instructed to investigate and report on the feasibility of purchasing a wrestling mat for the basement.

* * *

Bro. Zimmerli reported that the ventilation committee had ordered ventilation, which would cost about \$125. This was on Feb. 16, 1920.

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On Feb. 24, 1925, the High Tau was instructed to collect twenty-five cents from each man to buy a dog collar and license.

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It was suggested by Bro. Ross during the meeting on Nov. 30, 1925, that the pledges provide a little comedy on the night of December 17th.

* * *

Jan. 19, 1926, Bro. Wilcox moved that soup should be served on Wednesday evenings. Unfortunately the motion was lost, probably due to opposition led by the High Tau.

BROTHER MILLS RECEIVES UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENT

Harold A. Mills, '17, was appointed this year to the staff of the University of Michigan. The former position of treasurer has been split into two divisions, one headed by the cashier of the University and the other by the head of the department of investments. Brother Mills is the first person to hold the newly created position of cashier.

For the fourteen years previous to his appointment here, Brother Mills was located in Detroit, where he gained distinction as a certified public accountant. Sigma Zeta takes pleasure in welcoming Brother Mills on his return to the University of Michigan campus.

THIRTEEN PLEDGES OBTAINED BY SIGMA

*Several States Represented in Group
Which Includes Eleven
First Year Men*

In spite of the restrictions imposed on fraternities by the University's policy of deferred rushing, Sigma Zeta now has thirteen pledges, of whom eleven are freshmen. Their accomplishments are many and varied and bid fair to bring honors to Lambda Chi Alpha.

OLIVER EAMES—"Ollie" is from Highland Park Junior College and is now in his junior year.

KEITH T. DAVIS—Baseball, basketball and musical activities claimed Keith's attention while he attended South Otselic High School in New York State.

WILFRED C. DRESSER—East Hartford High School in Connecticut is Wilfred's alma mater. While there he engaged in dramatics.

FLOYD W. HARTMAN—"Doc" came to us from Wauseon High School in Ohio. Football and work on student publications were his activities.

SHELDON F. HEIM—East Chicago, Indiana, is Sheldon's home town, where he attended the local high school. Football, debating, and dramatics occupied his spare moments during this period.

THOMAS HUNT—East Orange, New Jersey, is Tom's present home, but he graduated from high school in South Bend, Indiana, where he did literary and debating work.

CLETUS H. LINDEMAN—Clete participated in football, baseball, and track for Cathedral Latin, in Cleveland, Ohio.

ALLEN D. MCCOMBS—Track, golf, publications, dramatics, and club work kept Al busy at Detroit Northwestern High School.

CHARLES MCKINLEY—Chuck is also from Northwestern. Swimming is his main forte. Football, track, golf, and publications also claimed his attention.

J. GORDON MORROW—Red Bank High School in New Jersey sent Gordon. At present he is winning his numerals in fencing.

FRANK PALMER—Frank is from Highland Park Junior College and is now a sophomore. His greatest interest is chasing the elusive puck in the manly game of hockey.

JAMES A. SCANLON—Football, basketball, golf, and dramatics are Jim's accomplishments, and he hails from the local high school in St. Mary's Kansas.

RALPH H. WHISLER—Ralph is in the Engineering College. His home is in St. Clair Shores, Mich., where he attended Lake Shore High.

Just In Time

the last time this letter was written was so long ago it was so long ago i forget what i said . . . and so do you . . . nevertheless here we are again i'd tell you about the fallperiod . . . but that is history we did win the house decoration cup . . . the one for homecoming and if you think we weren't lit up . . . you're goofy . . . brother nichol was elected president of the senior class . . . brothers robert snyder and bobbie mckenzie ran for similar officers frank swanson had his tonsils out in november . . . and the other day fell and sprained his arm . . . quite a season . . . all in all . . . letter from bill reynolds in quaint old quincy, mass he's practically living on the water in a boat got some swell new draperies for the house quite the nertz letter from brother schurman rounding round in russia . . . coming home soon . . . with many wild tales now . . . now garret he says the vodka is hot . . . the women warm . . . and the weather downright cold letter from brother dave allen in germany says there's nothing new in nudism brother selards is coming home from australia this spring . . . bringing a kangaroo skin . . something new in house parties kangaroo skins . . . sure glad the way you fellows answered the requests for pledge recommends we have about thirteen . . . now they run from east orange, n. j. to chicago . . . by way of cleveland . . . had the annual house freshman. soph fight . . . six freshmen sat on one of the sophomores . . almost ruined his disposition . . . to say nothing of his other characteristics . . . letter from howard orr . . . he's thinking in terms of three's now . . . two of them of the other type . . . congratulations bud schrader working in plymouth . . . helping the lord and his dad take care of the dead but prescott . . . husband to bud's sister . . . is carrying out hoover's own a homeplan' in dixon, ill dick gustine threatens to graduate . . . just threatens . . . dick ramsdell . . larry prakken . . . and gen lauer have gone the hard way . . . letter from howard shineman . . . now principally the clinton, n. y. high school . . . planning a big swing out this year . . . matter of fact have been planning it for four years . . . won two cups in swimming this year the mantle looks like a pawn shop planning on mother's day and alum's day . . . will let you know when things develop . . . bill mohrhoff . . . is the new high a looks like a good pledge class . . we looked that way too nofzinger is seeing the world with the marines and we're all going to have a vacation next week hurray . . . for . . . VACATION . . . stop in and see us some day plan on coming to the . . initiation banquet be seen' you

ALUMNUS WRITES

(Continued from page 2)

low get back into the circle again. Naturally you will find that his thought line is not working in harmony with the thought line in the living room at the house today. Perhaps Mr. Alumnus will be adaptable enough to be able to muscle his way back into the circle. But he is just as apt to sit like a bump on a log and appear to be bored to death. That makes a problem for the group, and it is questionable as to how far it is wise to go in an attempt to overcome that difficulty. If the mess is not ironed out, there is every good chance to think that you will not see him again. Also there is just a chance that he may be nettled and you can believe that you will have to take your share of the blame for that state of affairs. On the other hand the group should not go too far in its attempt to bring back this lost alumnus. Many men do not like to be fussed over in that way, and so they retire further into their shell and allow themselves to be scared away.

An Alumnus.

Social Events

Lambda Chi Alpha Day, which was celebrated March 22, gave several alumni who were close enough to come back to the chapter house an opportunity to join with the active chapter in commemorating the establishment of the Fraternity on its present basis. Among those who attended the gathering at the house were Prof. H. L. Caverly, Prof. Clifford Woody, Prof. Floyd Calhoun, Prof. Ruel Churchill, and Bros. J. K. G. Silvey, Harold Mills, Lawrence Prakken, Joseph Sahlmark, and Edwin Schrader.

At the Pledge Formal held March 25, there were several alumni who came back to visit the chapter. Included in the list of guests were Bro. and Mrs. Lawrence Prakken, Bro. and Mrs. Richard Ramsdell, and Bros. J. K. G. Silvey, Joseph Witter, Alfred Wineman, Hartley LaChapelle, Fred Bauckham, and Colin Vardon.

Our next dance will be a Formal and will be held Saturday, April 30.