

THE SIGMAN

University of Michigan Chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, MARCH, 1971

Memories of Homecoming '70 Sigma Pledges 32 Members

Homecoming 1970 was a great success at Sigma Zeta this year. It was the first homecoming Saturday in a few years in which the Lambda Chis did not win a trophy for their homecoming float. The reason—the chapter did not choose to enter the parade this year.

Every year our campus at the University of Michigan becomes more involved in social issues. Sigma Zeta has always been a leader in sweeping out the cobwebs of the past and changing to meet the needs of today's student at the university.

Keeping this in mind the members of Sigma Zeta sat down two weeks before homecoming and discussed ideas ranging from building another float to giving the money we budgeted for homecoming to some deserving organization.

After hours of discussion, Scott St. Clair suggested investing our homecoming budget into 30 tickets for the football game that Saturday and taking 30 deserving young men from the neighborhood community.

Bill Kandler arranged for the YMCA to contact the boys and by Saturday morning 30 young men ages 6-10 were ready to go, including one boy around six years old who brought along his mother.

The boys were brought back to the house for a lunch consisting of what else? — hot dogs and ice cream. To help supervise, the girls of Delta Phi Epsilon came over in full force. After lunch we all gathered together and left for the game hoping that we had not forgotten anyone or would not lose anyone that afternoon.

At kickoff time a party of around 150 chops, dates, and kids had squeezed into our regular section of about 30 seats. The game developed early into a slaughter as the powerful Wolverines brutally crushed the Golden Gophers from Minnesota. Interest was soon lost in the game as a path was worn between our section and the



HOMECOMING GUEST

popcorn stand.

The afternoon was a very exciting one at that. Most of us in the house had forgotten that the favorite activity of boys was rough housing. The girls were quite disgruntled to find that boys have a pre-conceived idea that girls are something to avoid.

After the game the kids were taken back to the YMCA because the alumni were invited over to the house after the game. Surprisingly enough the only things that were lost were three jackets which we found and returned to the kids.

It was commented this year to a few of us in the house that other chapters in the country do this type of thing many times a year and think nothing of it. On our campus unfortunately the desire to act in the social consciousness of the times has been late in coming to the fraternity system. We are proud of our adventure on homecoming weekend not because of the fact that we did take 30 boys to a football game but because we did make a start in becoming concerned in the problems of our society. It is unlikely that to many of the youngsters, our concern had a great effect on their lives but we hope that in the future our house will be more involved in this type of activity. We have taken the first step, a small one, but the hardest one to take.

The fall rush this year for Sigma Zeta was not the largest we've had, but the quality of those people who did rush was exceptional.

Though rush isn't up to what it has been previously, we have found that our rushees are serious about pledging fraternities and are the type of people who would have attracted the most interest in any large group of rushees five or ten years ago. Thus our Fall 1970 pledge class was originally 11 men, ten of whom activated:

Gary Barton
Jack (Buzz) Blair
Keith Clark
Bill Deleeuw
Kirk Fraser
Rob Hamil
Bruce Koepfgen
Mike Kruse
Fred Schwarzer
Dave Scott

We are proud of these men, in our opinion, the best pledge class on campus.

These pledges played the key role in our second semester rush. They were our major advertising factor, contacting friends and people in their dorms and thus aiding our rush from the other side.

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AFTER THE GAME

THE SIGMAN



A publication for the alumni undergraduate members and friends of Sigma Zeta of Lambda Chi Alpha at the University of Michigan. Among the objects of the Sigman are: To afford each alumnus of the Chapter a means of continuing his interest in the Chapter and in all Lambda Chi Alpha affairs after graduation of his class from college, to keep alumni in touch with one another and with the Chapter, to keep all alumni members advised . . . and to seek advice and assistance from these alumni . . . concerning worthwhile projects undertaken by the Alumni Board of Advisors and the undergraduate chapter, and to provide for Sigma Zeta a record of alumni and undergraduate activities, accomplishments, problems and goals so that later generations of the Chapter may have a record of the efforts of their precursors with which to measure progress.

THE LAMBDA CHI ALPHA
FOUNDATION, INC.

Officers and directors elected on November 15, 1970.

President—

James Nette _____ 31964 Mayfair Lane
Birmingham, Mich. 48009

Vice-President—

Thomas Kress _____ 2553 Bunker Hill
Ann Arbor, Mich. 48105

Secretary—

Neil A. Cords _____ 18942 W. Chicago
Detroit, Mich. 48228

Treasurer—

Fred Herbert _____ 2804 Elmhurst
Royal Oak, Mich. 48073

Directors—

Claude Morehouse _____ 641 Dartmoor Road
Ann Arbor, Mich. 48103

J. William Schepers _____ 226 Ransom N. E.
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49503

William Hochenberger _____
1323 Pine Valley Ct.
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Gordon Merritt _____ 44403 Chedworth Dr.
Northville, Mich. 48167

William Hall _____ 2301 Easy Street
Ann Arbor, Mich. 48104

Donald Baty _____ 254 Hilake
Ann Arbor, Mich. 48103

1971-72 UNDERGRADUATE OFFICERS

President _____ Gary Krebs
Vice-President _____ Terry O'Dekirk
Secretary _____ Dave Ursin
Treasurer _____ Roger Whitaker
Rush Chairman _____ Chuck Cole

Letter from the High Alpha

At your reading, my term as High Alpha will be in its waning moments for the school year. A new officer has already been elected and in training for my job next year, and together we are working to look ahead to that up and coming year for its problems and opportunities. Our situation here at Michigan, like anywhere else, is one of change that requires planning now for tomorrow.

I feel that this planning on our part, is very reflective of our house policy, in that we here at Sigma want to anticipate change, and realize that we cannot function as we did a year before, nor do next year what we are doing now. We hope that this type of philosophy of questioning attitudes will prove to be the most important function a fraternity can do.

How have we stacked up here on the Michigan campus? This year we took 30 new members, in a campus atmosphere that some feel is good for only five or 10 new people a year. Why have we done so well? First, this statement has to be qualified to read that we have again done well in rush this year. Our performance has not faltered from year to year, and the house has remained strong. Thus, in this perpetuation of success, perhaps we have kept our ear to the ground, and adjusted to the new membership annually, rather than having them adjust 100% to us. This trade-off is our flexibility.

A house like ours can be cold and empty without the life we put into it. The "house" then, in effect is our life, and we project our actions through it. Often times the rules we set up for our setting change year to year, because our living style encourages a change. We go through a metamorphosis, and hopefully, it is at this point that we can project to prospective members that Sigma will be a house to live in, and also more importantly, a "house" which is him and reflects his existence. In an age of increasing call for relevancy and participation in running the "system," is this not the ideal situation? Instead of sitting back and listening to the talk, here is a chance to practice what some people preach.

Flexibility also carries over to the personal involvement that we project, which I can site our Homecoming effort last fall as an example. We chose not to involve ourselves in floats and parades. We found a greater satisfaction in taking 30 underprivileged children from Ann Arbor to the game, after morning activities at the house. It was the type of activity that we felt would mean a whole lot more to us than just a float, and is proven to be so in the memories that day presents.

I remarked earlier that this is near the end of my term, and that the next High Alpha and I are looking ahead to what the future holds. In a sense we are planning, but also planning to be flexible. We are trying to look ahead and calculate off the mistakes of this year, to allow us even more participation from the house than before. We want to let the members have more control in aspects of social, administrative, and physical operation of Sigma, and provide all the opportunities it takes to encourage this end. In a sense, we want to clarify our role as mediators in channeling this vast ocean of energy to the well being of the house. We must adopt and change for the well being of the house, which is instrumental in its survival. We are of course first and foremost a fraternity, but we hope to that fraternity, a brotherhood of cooperation is just what we are reaching for, and that our policy is indicative to this end.

Treasurer's Report

When I first announced my candidacy for treasurer, more than a year ago, I was told by several people, including two ex-treasurers, that the job was nothing but a headache. Being hard headed and determined, for better or worse, I won. It didn't take long to find out that being treasurer does subject one to an uncommonly large amount of headaches. A short recap of the year's financial activity will illustrate this.

The financial picture at Sigma did not look very encouraging in early August. As a result of losing a couple of pledges over the summer and of people either dropping out of school or transferring from here, it was doubtful that the house would be filled by the beginning of the term. This situation made it impossible to work out an efficient operating budget.

To alleviate the problem I (with the encouragement of the Householding Corporation) decided to take on a few boarders to make up the needed income. This solution was received with mixed emotion. Many of the brothers, including myself, were not too happy with the idea of outsiders living

New Cook Keeps Morale High

We have a new face around our kitchen nowadays, her name is Mrs. Klydie Mae Smith. Mrs. Smith, who likes to be called Klydie Mae, first began cooking for us last September. She was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. She has been married for 45 years.

Klydie Mae has been a cook in the fraternity and sorority system for around 30 years. She spent seven years cooking for the Alpha, Phi, ten with Chi Phi, in addition to Beta Theta Pi and Kappa Kappa Gamma houses.

Everyone knows that good food in a house creates good morale which is very important for a good living situation. Certainly one of the reasons we at Sigma chapter have had such a good year is due to the fantastic cooking of Mrs. Klydie Mae Smith.

in the house, but it was a necessary step. The situation has worked out fine, one of the boarders ended up pledging this term.

Although the boarders gave us enough income to operate, things were still very tight, but as time went on I learned how to make the best out of our tight budget. Things are going so well as a matter of fact that it looks as if the anticipated slight deficit will be rubbed out. We did not even have to sacrifice comfort. We managed to make a great deal of improvements on the physical house.

I cannot fail to mention that to a great extent our financial position was bolstered by the Householding Corporation. The Corporation was very generous in responding to our emergency call for help in October when the water heater failed, completely absorbing the bill for replacing it. The cost of the water heater would have greatly crippled the house financial situation. The Householding Corporation also footed the bill for painting the upper exterior of the house.

All in all the year has turned out very well. Morale in the house has been the best it has been since I have been a Lambda Chi. Lambda Chi right now has the best reputation on a campus where fraternities are making a slight comeback. Financially we are surprisingly sound considering the slow start we had. A total of 32 pledges this year makes next year appear possibly as the best year Sigma chapter has had in a long time.

Bill Kandler
Treasurer.

Alumni News

Larry Hester, sigma 533 recently was transferred from the ready reserve to the retired reserve following the completion of 20 years of service. His branch was Civil Affairs and he served in USAR civil affairs units in Michigan, Indiana, and Tennessee. His current activities include Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Model Cities Review Board.

Jack the Dog Joins House

This year Sigma chapter has broken the long tradition of having a St. Bernard for a mascot. The last St. Bernard, Major Von Schwartzwaldhof, was forced into retirement due to a case of bad temper, rotten teeth and thinning fur. Old Major is now passing his last days on a farm of Mr. and Mrs. Tai, parents of alumnus Art Tai.

Our new dog is appropriately named Jack the Dog. Some of you may know Jack by his old name Seagrams. Jack was forced to give up the name of Seagrams because his health warranted that he start hitting staff easier to handle.

Jack is part of every breed you can think of, but more collie than anything else. He was adopted by the house after spending many months in East Quad where he was rudely put out onto the street after barging his way into the cafeteria one afternoon. From there Jack visited the dog pound. After complaining about the food and treatment he was getting, Jack convinced the authorities to let him go. From the pound Jack found his way over to the Chap house with the help of two of our pledges.

Jack's value lies in the fact that he is capable of distinguishing between mailmen, delivery men, and unwanted trespassers, something which Major Von Schwartzwaldhof had trouble doing. Combined with Jack's great watchdog quality, he is also very intelligent. In the year and a half that Jack has been a Lambda Chi he has already learned to speak and shake hands.



JACK THE DOG

Grade Point At Sigma Soars

Once again, the academic excellence at Sigma Zeta is very high. This year's grade point average for the chapter has proven itself to be at a new all-time record of 3.15—which is .2 over last year's 2.98.

The reasons for this increase are multiple: winter pledge class of 70 who boasted of a 3.28 g.p.a. now living in the house; very good individual performances by the brothers such as a 3.50 by our High Beta Mark Knapp and also by our newly elected rush chairman, sophomore Chuck Cole; many others fell into the 3.25 to 3.33 category, even our Social Chairman (High Epailon) Bart Bartels pulled a 3.33!

Each night after dinner, the slow procession from 1601 Washtenaw to the corridors of the Undergraduate Library can be seen. Hundreds of brothers trading through all kinds of weather, overcoming all conflicts and fears, fighting for seats at the library, just to hold up the high academic standard at Sigma Zeta. As High Sigma, I would like to offer my personal congratulations to the men in the house for a fine job this year in demonstrating their scholastic abilities.

Thirty-Two Pledge Chapter

(Continued from page 1)

Winter rush was twice the size of our first semester. We had more people through the house than anyone on campus, put on what we feel was a very good rush by the members of the house, for more than two thirds of our bids extended were accepted by the rushees. Again this semester we did take the largest pledge class on campus. The winter pledge class of 1971 numbers 22 men:

Carl Anderson
Jim Avery
Mike Bartholomew
Todd Beel
Pat Cosgrove
Mike Crimmins
John Dale
Bob (Wild Man) Falk

Alumni, wherefore art thou? Please send us a line letting us know any change of address or news about yourself. Among some of the alumni that have sent us letters about themselves, we have heard from:

Curtis E. Bottum, Sr., Zeta '65, class of '20, resides in Ann Arbor. He is now a construction contractor for Townsend & Bottum Inc.

Joseph E. Carpenter is now residing in Harman, Md., where he is a design engineer for Md. Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. He is

a former scoutmaster, PTA officer, and church treasurer. He is presently a member of the Naval Architects and Marine Engineers and Marine Historical Society. His son Thomas Bruce is a member of the Bullimore County Police Dept., and also is a Radio Ham of W3YVV.

W. Scott Chilman, '67, is now a lawyer for the law firm of Clark, Klein, Winter, Parsons and Prewitt. At this moment Scott is in the U. S. Army stationed at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Alumni Day Draws Large Crowd

Sigma chapter tried to put a great effort this Oct. 24 Alumni Day into really showing the alumni a good time; whether we succeeded or not we don't really know. Past Alumni Days usually consisted of cider and donuts after the football game. This year, we as a house took 30 children from the YMCA to the homecoming football game. Most of us felt this Alumni Day was most successful.

For the first hour after the foot-

ball game, kegs of beer were rolled out as many alumni and wives showed up. The main attractions of the afternoon were our new completed addition, the repainted foyer, and little living room.

Dinner was next on the agenda as our new cook, Mrs. Klydie Mae Smith demonstrated her talents. A few hours after dinner there was a party to which the alumni were invited, although few of them actually stayed for it.

A few alumni in the past have complained about the fact that other frats on campus treat their returning alumni better than we treat ours. Last semester we made a concentrated effort to get our alumni back and treat them well. In the next few semesters Sigma chapter will try even harder.

Although many alumni did not sign our guest register, among those that did we see:

Howard J. Howerth	Zeta 364
Richard Yarmain	609
Gordon Merritt	685
L. L. Knowlton	673
David Haral	684
William C. Billmeier	705
Neil Taylor	739
Edward R. Ellison	747
Frank Lude	868
Paul Robertson	878
Ed Petrick	900
Jack Moorhead	901
Don Baty	916
Lawrence McKay	1026
James E. Quakenbush	1050

We find that all of these people are great guys and fine prospects for the house. We are assured right now that we will have a full house next year making the future look very encouraging.