

# The Snake Skin

EPSILON ETA OF SIGMA NU AT TENNESSEE

SPRING

BOX 2305, KNOXVILLE, TENN. 37901

1973

## White Rose Formal enjoyed

The annual Sigma Nu White Rose Formal was held the weekend of May 18 at Fontana Village, N.C. The formal is always the biggest social function of the year, and this year was no exception.

The activities began the week before the formal when we had White Rose rush. About 50 girls went through the rush that lasted three nights. After the final vote was counted it was evident that the new White Rose would be Bunny Ferrell from Nashville, Tennessee. Bunny is currently a Freshman majoring in pre-pharmacy. Overall the rush was fun for all the brothers and the girls that participated.

After rush was over everyone got ready for the formal weekend at Bontana. Most of the brothers stayed both Friday and Saturday nights in the cabins at the resort. Some of the activities provided for us included boating, swimming, tennis, golf and hiking. Of course the big night was Saturday which started off with a formal dinner at 7:00 p.m. and a dance from 9:00 to 11:00. The music was furnished by an exciting band from Charlotte called the Catalinas. They have been together for a long time and could play all types of music.

With this year's formal over except for the memories, thoughts are being directed to plan next year's to make it as much fun and enjoyment for the brothers of Sigma Nu.

## TRIBUTE

Among the fine brothers who walk in the halls of Sigma Nu, Lee Absher deserves worthy recognition. As well as being one of the chapter's first members; Dr. Absher was involved in many other campus activities, such as Scabbard and Blade, the '23 football team, and Blue Pencil Club. Following graduation from UT in 1925, Dr. Absher embarked on a satisfying career as a physician, including a stint in World War II, where he won a Bronze Star Ribbon. Among his other honors are charter membership in the American Academy of Fellow Physicians, and founding member of the Presidents Club of UT and the Southern Medical Association.

Dr. Absher's service to Sigma Nu has been of considerable value. He served as President of the Epsilon Eta Alumni Club from 1956 to 1969, performed many deeds for the benefit of the chapter. At present, Dr. Absher is our Financial Advisor.

Dr. Lee Absher, Sigma Nu salutes you!

## Rush planned all summer

As alumni of Epsilon Eta, I am sure you are all concerned with the process which keeps us in business — rush. This year is a decisive year for Sigma Nu as far as membership is concerned because our numbers are down from previous years. I have great hopes, as rush chairman, that rush this year will be highly successful. Our aim is to get as many men as possible without compromising our standards.

In order to realize this goal, we have organized an extensive and hopefully effective summer rush program. In Memphis, Nashville, and Knoxville, we are planning to add a new dimension to the usual program of smokers and parties by visiting each rushee prior to the activities. I think this will help in three ways: (1) it should increase the chances of the person attending the smokers; (2) it will give us a general idea of what the person is like; (3) it will establish a contact between the person and a brother.

Each city has a chairman who will supervise the events. Ray Morgan heads the Memphis brothers; Gary Copp is in charge of Nashville; and I am the chairman in Knoxville. At the end of each month, we are having a rush committee meeting doubling as a smoker which should keep things organized. The first two will be in Nashville, which is our least represented city, and the third is in Knoxville.

Also, new this year is the addition of a leaflet presently being compiled by Jim Parker and Kent Phillips. This will be a summary of what Sigma Nu is all about and is well illustrated with photographs and humorous drawings of "Snake." I think it should help tremendously.

For out-of-staters, we are trying a new idea with mail-outs. Gary Ross is in charge of sorting the people by states and sending these names to a brother from the appropriate state. I think that a personal letter from a brother who lives in the same area as the student would be far more influential than a standard form letter.

Rush Week is the first week of school, which is September 16-22. Whether or not all these plans and hopes will be successful will have to wait until then to be known. If you have any suggestions or want to let me know of anyone coming to U.T. this fall that you would like to see pledge Sigma Nu, please let me know.

My address is:

6004 Grove Park Road  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37918

Bob Harter

## A Graduate's view

At the end of four years at a university as large as Tennessee, one has a tendency to feel dwarfed and inconsequential if he cannot find worth and value within the memories of past activities. There are, of course, many of the same activities that there were fifteen years ago — Homecoming Displays, All-Sing, and Carnicus. The activities may be entered by all students, but does the recollection of building a homecoming display with fifty people who one will perhaps never see again and never really know be a worthy souvenir? I contend that the answer is no! However, sharing the load with one's brothers in Sigma Nu Fraternity and years later digesting it all again in the fraternity scrapbook gives one the feeling that he truly belonged.

There were many memorable times that we as Seniors experienced in Epsilon Eta over the past four years: the first Chapter Little Sister Program was initiated; the first and second annual Man of the Year banquets took place; house improvements brought pool and ping-pong tables and carpeting throughout the house; first Chancellor's Cup Award was received for Homecoming spirit; and the first poetry reading at the White Rose Formal became a tradition.

There were traditional parties and fund raising projects, and intramural sports. There were picnics in the mountains, softball games with brothers and little sisters, and trips by the unsuspecting brothers to "the mud hole" behind the house where a "pinned" brother received his congratulatory splash.

There were good times and sad times and friendly times and mad times, but as brothers living and pulling together we became men. Our college years were years of Fraternity life and without regret when it was all over we were proud to have been a pledge. . . an active. . . a Brother Sigma Nu.

## Dues checks needed

This is the fourth mailing to all of our alumni this school year, and we hope all of our alumni across the country enjoy receiving newsletters and invitations from our chapter. We've received many comments from alumni who appreciate being kept up to date on their chapter's activities.

This newsletter expands our alumni program more, since it includes a large amount of news about alumni. This news was submitted by alumni, using the biographical form which was included in the fall newsletter. Another biographical form is enclosed with this issue for alumni who have not yet returned one, and news sent in will be used in our spring issue.

To finance our expanded and needed alumni program, we have begun a voluntary annual alumni dues program, asking each alumnus to send a \$12.00 check each year to support a continuing alumni communications program and Homecoming invitation and activities. To date we have received many comments praising the new program and many checks.

We send our thanks to the alumni who have sent a check, and we urge all alumni to make sure their check is sent this year. Please send your check to:

Epsilon Eta of Sigma Nu  
Box 2305  
Knoxville, Tenn. 37901.

## Huntsman Man of the Year

Stan Huntsman was the unanimous choice as the 1972-73 Sigma Nu Man of the Year. Mr. Huntsman is the UT cross country and track coach who led the 1972 Volunteers to the NCAA cross country title last fall. He is also being cited for his continuing efforts to lead the Big Orange track team to repeatedly high finishes in conference and national meets.

## Alumni News

John R. Scott '63 is president of Scott Nursery & Landscape Co., in Church Hill. He and his wife Freida live at Rt. 5 Ponderosa Estates, Church Hill.

William P. Ridley, Jr. '29 is a landowner and farmer in Columbia. He was formerly associated with a tobacco warehouse. He and his wife Eunice live at Mt. Pleasant Pike, Columbia 38401. He has three granddaughters.

Albert W. Lewis '70 is an industrial engineer with Louisville and Nashville RR Co. in Louisville, Ky. He lives at 609 Brightwood Place, Apt. B-1, Louisville, Ky. 40207.

Lawrence B. Haynes '58 is vice president of Wake Anesthesiologist Associates, Inc. in Raleigh, N.C. He owns Quail Ridge Charolais Farm. He and his wife Linda Lee live at 1205 Kershaw Dr., Raleigh, N.C. 27609.

Roy W. Davis '22 is an attorney in Marion, N.C. Roy was a member of the N.C. House of Representatives from 1949-51, was president of the Marion Kiwanis Club with 29 years perfect attendance. He and his wife Mildred live at 120 Rutherford Rd., Marion, N.C. 28752.

Jack H. Parten '52 is president and owner of W.J. Savage Co. and owner of W.S. Murrain Co. Cutting Tool Supply Co. He and his wife Hanna live at 3611 Taliluna Ave., Knoxville.



New Sisters of the Serpent are honored at Pledge-Little Sister Formal at Holston Hills Country Club

## Twelve initiated in January

The following men were initiated into Sigma Nu Fraternity Epsilon Eta Chapter in January:

- Tyler K. Smith - freshman from Chicago, Illinois majoring in Journalism (best pledge)  
David L. Blankman - freshman from Nashville majoring in Pre-Med  
Richard S. Childs - freshman from Memphis majoring in Pre-Med  
Gary L. Copp - freshman from Nashville majoring in Business  
Michael L. Craig - freshman from Memphis majoring in Business  
Carroll N. Freeman - junior from San Francisco, California majoring in Economics  
Robert K. Harter - freshman from Knoxville majoring in Pre-Dentistry  
Herbert L. Lewis III - freshman from Memphis majoring in Political Science  
Daniel M. Shveda - freshman from Pittsburgh, Penn-

## Rain helps Snakes beat SAE in soft ball 29-5

The softball team this year did not live up to its expectations. Before we started practice, we evaluated the team over and over. On paper we had the third best team in the nation, ranked behind Rudder Construction Co., and Goldilocks Mattress Co., both out of Belemoth, Miss.

We started off with an 8-7 loss, *in overtime*, to Sigma Chi. This game was highlighted by Gary Copp's magnificent throw off Jimmy Thomas head who was 4 feet away. By the way they were on the same m.

We rebounded with a 10-3 shell attacking of Lambda Chi, our traditional rivals. This victory was especially sweet as was the beer at the house afterwards.

Next came the bombing of SAE in a pouring rain, 29-5. Everybody and his mother got a hit in this one except John Stokely who went 0-6. It seems the "E"'s resembled plaster of paris as they tripped over bats, balls, and bases.

Then came our Waterloo. It seems we had a band party Friday night and our game was at 10:00 on Saturday morning. We resembled clowns that morning as our errors rewarded Phi Gam the victory. It seems Jimmy Hinson did the longest sleepwalk at second base in history as they won 8-5. The game against Pike was zero in emotional output of players as our hitting resembled the Babe Ruth Little League. They won 8-6 because they hit better. Facts are facts.

In the last game of the season, we rebounded with a slaughter of Kappa Sig, 15-1. This game was a brilliant defensive victory as the line blocked tremendously.

Our leading players this year were Jimmy Thomas with a .706 batting avg., Geof Hanisk with a .640, Tom Mariner with a .593 and John Richardson with a .560 avg. and 8 home runs. Next year we're looking good on again with many returning stars such as Polaris Stokely, Veta Richardson, and Betelguise Copp. Pray for rain, brothers.

sylvania majoring in Advertising

Joseph D. Simpson - senior from Knoxville majoring in Forestry

William W. Wilder - freshman from Germantown majoring in Pre-Med

The fall 1972 pledge class returned to the Rock of Sigma Nu when they visited National Headquarters at Lexington, Va., on the weekend of October 26-27. Along with the 15 pledges, about a dozen brothers went to enrich their history of the fraternity. A good time was had by all at a party given by Washington & Lee's Lambda Chapter.

Thomas W. Thomson '42 is an attorney in Knoxville. He has been assistant attorney general for Knox County and is Commissioner Northeast Knox Utility District. He and his wife Kathryn live at Route 5, Millertown Pike.

## CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY GROWS

This article will concern itself with an often slighted but essential portion of fraternity life. Ready? Let's take a look at Christian activity at the Sigma Nu house.

Winter quarter saw a few Christian members become involved in a group prayer session for one very sick brother whom the Lord saw fit to heal completely. Spring quarter a Bible study was started in which practical day to day problems in the fraternity as well as areas of Christian growth were discussed in terms of the Christian perspective.

This article has a two fold purpose: First, to inform all alumni of Christian activity (not yet widespread by any means) within the fraternity, and secondly, to earnestly request that our Christian alumni and other interested Christians will pray that Sigma Nu will become an active force for spreading and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ and that our rush this fall will provide some men through whom the Lord can work.

EH 827 BKP

## THE SNAKE SKIN

This newsletter is published regularly by Epsilon Eta of Sigma Fraternity at the University of Tennessee.

The goals of the newsletters are to strengthen Sigma Nu Fraternity at the University of Tennessee, to help alumni keep informed about their chapter, to help alumni keep in touch with one another, to encourage alumni to attend Homecoming and reunions, and to secure rush recommendations from alumni.

This newsletter and our entire alumni relations program is financed by voluntary alumni dues of \$12.00 per school year, which each alumnus is asked to pay.

Chapter Editor:

Nelson Hurst

Mt. Vernon, Ill.

Alumni news, alumni dues, rush recommendations, and address changes are solicited from all alumni, and should be sent to:

Sigma Nu Fraternity

Box 2305

Knoxville, Tenn. 37901

# Gary Ross is IFC Secretary

Epsilon Eta is well represented on campus these days, as Gary Ross, chapter Recorder, is Secretary of the Interfraternity Council. Gary is the first IFC officer from our chapter since Tommy Thomas, who was IFC President.

As Secretary of UT's, IFC, Gary is responsible for accurate accounts of all IFC meetings, both Presidents' Council and Executive Council; Gary is a member of the Executive Council himself. This position is good for both Gary and his fraternity, as only one fraternity can be represented at a time on the Executive Council.

Being Secretary of the IFC means more than just the usual duties that an organization's Secretary commonly faces. Besides the records that must be kept, Gary edits the Greek newsletter, the Newsgreek. Through the Newsgreek fraternities are able to see what every other chapter is doing on campus and in the community, as well as gain ideas for their own activities. The paper also provides every chapter with schedules of all intramural sports, articles from Greeks around the nation, and announcements about campus events.

As part of the IFC Gary helps carry the name of Sigma Nu to other parts of the community, the state, and the Southeast. The IFC is active in the university community as it sponsors events such as the Annual High School Leadership Appreciation Banquet where area high school students are guests of honor in appreciation for what they've done at their respective schools, and the Annual IFC Christmas Party for the underprivileged children in our area. The IFC provides workshops, handbooks, and other various material to both University of Tennessee students, as well as to students around the state. And in the Southeast, UT's IFC is recognized as one of the most outstanding. At the Southeastern Interfraternity Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, our IFC attended in full force and represented our school well. Again the name of Sigma Nu was there as Gary was part of this delegation.

Besides his IFC work, Gary represents our chapter in campus activities such as All-Sing, Carnicus, and Homecoming. He was Co-Chairman of Research and Records to the 1973 Carnicus Advisory Board, and is now a member of the 1973 Homecoming Advisory Board.

Responsibility seems to be Gary's job, and our chapter is the better because of it. Through UT's IFC, various campus and community activities, and dedication to Epsilon Eta, Gary has helped make the name of Sigma Nu Fraternity a little louder.

West H. Morton, Jr. '29 retired in December from the insurance field, having been employed by Allen Agency, Inc. in Nashville. He lives at 4839 Lynn Dr., Nashville.

Stephen C. Beckmann '71 is a contract salesman with Graybar Electric Co., in Atlanta. He lives at Apt. U12 2383 Akers Mill Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 30339.

## HOMEcomings ENJOYED BY ALL IN 1972

The 1972 version of Homecoming at Epsilon Eta was, as usual, a rousing success. After weeklong efforts, the Chapter, in collaboration with Chi Omega Sorority, was awarded the Second Place Trophy in the House Decorations Contest. The House was busy Saturday, the day of the game, with a buffet luncheon of spare ribs and an alumni buffet dinner of fried chicken.



Proud Sigma Nus pose in front of second place Homecoming House Decoration.



It's carnival time at the Sigma Nu booth at the Homecoming Carnival.

## Homecoming is Nov. 3

Start planning now to attend our 1973 Homecoming on Nov. 3. The Sigma Nu house will be open for visiting alumni before and after the football game, and we're sure you will enjoy meeting your Sigma Nu alumni and undergraduate friends again.

All of the usual events are on our Homecoming schedule - and this year we're putting a special emphasis on welcoming alumni at the chapter house at 1824 Fraternity Park Dr. (within walking distance of the stadium).

If you will be attending the game with friends who are not Sigma Nus, feel free to bring them by the house, too.

More detailed information about Homecoming will be mailed to you in September. We hope you'll stop by the Sigma Nu house this Homecoming.