



The Snakeskin

Published by Epsilon Eta Chapter of
Sigma Nu at the University of Tennessee

SUMMER 1987

KNOXVILLE, TN

FOUNDER'S DAY A GALA CELEBRATION

On May 23, 1987, brothers and alumni of Epsilon Eta chapter joined in celebrating the 66th anniversary of the founding of Sigma Nu Fraternity on the University of Tennessee campus. Gary Copp, EH934, the guest speaker for the celebration, delivered an inspirational speech to the brothers. He told them to enjoy their college days, stopping to smell the roses, but to take time out to set goals for their lives and strive to reach them. During his stay, Gary relived the escapades of his younger days through his many anecdotes. Later in the ceremony, Gary was awarded a plaque for outstanding accomplishment by an alumni outside the fraternity. Gary is president of Speedee Oil Change & Tune-Up, one of the fastest growing companies in America.

Other awards were presented during the ceremony. Brad Serff, EH1141, was named Sigma Nu Man of the Year. The leadership which Brad has given the fraternity since he was elected commander in March has prompted

an extremely high level of motivation and participation. Before being elected commander, Brad held the office of treasurer for one and a half years, lending a guiding hand in putting the fraternity back on the right track financially.

Chris Pike, EH1132, was chosen as Epsilon Eta's Athlete of the Year. Chris was a crucial part of the football, basketball, and softball teams. His leadership and physical abilities seemed to give us a winning edge and his undying enthusiasm helped to keep moral up, even when the odds were against us.

Also recognized at the celebration were brothers who attained the highest Grade Point Average in their respective classes. They were: Dave McGary — Freshman, Clark Pollitt — Sophomore, Chris Pike — Junior, Mark Anderson — Senior.

Donna Powers, who is our White Rose and little sister president, awarded Steve Steele the Snakeman of the Year an honor bestowed upon the brother who has been most supportive of the little sisters.

We know that many of our

alumni would have liked to have attended but were unable to due to the lack of advance notice. We would like to apologize for this, as well as the overall alumni contact over the past few years. As you may have noticed, we are getting back on the right track, trying to keep our alumni posted on what we have going on.

Announcements will be sent out in January or February of 1988 for the Founders' Day Celebration, giving everyone plenty of time to make their plans to attend.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Alumni,
We are no longer publishing THE SNAKESKIN through University Publishing Co. due to misinformation on their procedures. Donations to cover the cost of THE SNAKESKIN publication should be sent to:

THE SNAKESKIN
% Sigma Nu Fraternity
1824 Fraternity Park Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37916

NEW LEADERSHIP***High Expectations and
Limitless Possibilities***

In March, elections were held to choose the officers who would lead the fraternity through the 1987-88 school year. Better choices couldn't have been made. The new officers have brought a breath of fresh air to the fraternity. The entire brotherhood has developed a high level of enthusiasm and a new hope for greatness. The newly elected officers are:

Eminent Commander
• Brad Serff •

Lt. Commander
• Harry Murley •

*Recorder/Scholarship
Chairman*
• Kelly Eaves •

Treasurer • Clark Pollitt •

House Manager
• Greg Lester •

Kitchen Steward
• Robert Drexler •

Rush Chairman
• Jack Crawford •

Social Chairman
• Chris Pike •

Pledge Marshall
• Steve Steele •

Reporter/Alumni Contact
• Adam Black •

Little Sister Advisor
• George Brown •

Athletic Director
• Ty Ragsdale •

Chaplain • Tom Flynn •

Historian
• Kirk Chambers •

Sentinel • Bryan Stanley •

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Dear Alumni,

I would like to take this chance to personally thank each of you who have made donations to the Improvement Fund. As you can read in the "Home Improvements" column, the money is being put to good use. However, your continuous support is a necessity. Our plans for improvement are numerous and their execution is impossible without your help. I personally challenge each of you to make a donation and then come to UT homecoming weekend to see for yourselves that your contributions were well spent.

Your involvement in and support of the fraternity should never dwindle. You never outgrow the bonds of brotherhood. Each of you took an oath to be faithful to your fraternal profession. Your duties as alumni shouldn't be smaller than those you had as actives, but much greater. With your efforts, we can put Sigma Nu back on top - where we should be!

Fraternally yours,

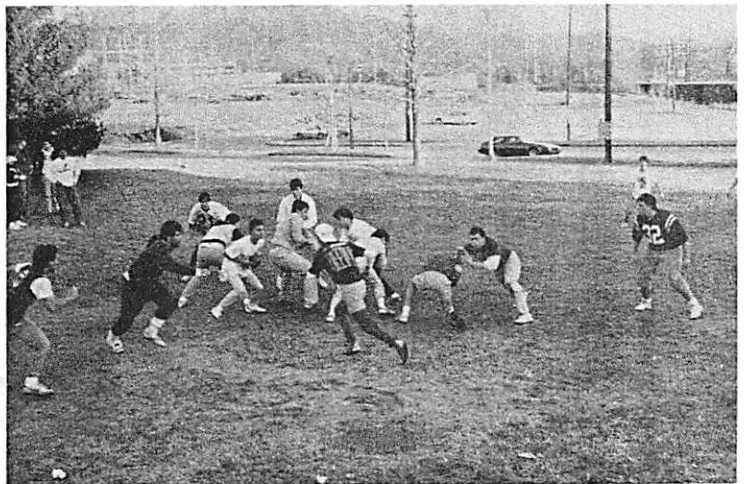
Bradley P. Serff
Eminent Commander

PLEDGES vs. ACTIVES

To Strengthen the Bond of Brotherhood

The close tie of brotherhood between the members of a pledge class is immeasurable. In January, the brothers of Epsilon Eta applied a new method of strengthening the bond between pledges and actives. The new system put them head to head against one another in a tackle football game.

The initial thought is that you are fighting yourselves and thus, defeating your purpose. Actually, by doing this, any bad feelings between pledges and actives were taken out on the field and left on the field. At the end of the game, pledge and active alike walked arm-in-arm away from the battlefield. Aside from a few bruises, the bond of brotherhood was unscarred.



It's all for the good of the fraternity!

ANOTHER YEAR IN THE SCRAPBOOKS

HOMECOMING

The theme for homecoming, which was played against the Memphis State Tigers, was "Shake, Rattle and Roll the Tigers." We captured third place in the lawn display competition. Our lawn display featured a nine foot tall Smokey shooting craps at Neyland Craps Stadium (a miniature Neyland Stadium with a crap table instead of a football field in its basin). We had a band party featuring *Black Widow* to celebrate the victory.

WINTER FORMAL

This year's winter formal was held at Bent Creek Country Club in Gatlinburg. Following a fantastic dinner, Tyrone Smith and Telstar provided the music as we danced and partied the night away. Donna Powers was named White Rose for her undying enthusiasm for the fraternity and her support of all its members.

PHILANTHROPY

On Thanksgiving Day, Epsilon Eta played host to the

Knoxville Track Club's five mile "fun run". The event, in which almost 400 runners competed, took place on the U.T. campus. Registration was held in the house and the finishing line was directly in front of the Sigma Nu house on Fraternity Park Drive.

The brothers of Epsilon Eta have been doing basic landscaping and upkeep on the grounds of the Ronald McDonald House in Knoxville on a regular basis. It has built our chapter a good reputation for dependability. We also recently began monthly food drives for the Knoxville Rescue Mission.

On May 16th, we held the second annual Sigma Nu Beach Volleyball Tournament. Six teams from various fraternities competed in the double elimination competition. Phi Sigma Kappa took the first place honors. Proceeds from the competition will go to Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Knoxville.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Over the past year, Epsilon Eta has begun a series of home improvements. We began with the absolute necessities. The electrical wiring was first. Each room in the house was rewired, and the project is nearly complete. We recently had work done on the plumbing in the upstairs bathrooms as well.

Our plans for the summer are many. We are looking into new curtains for all of the downstairs windows, hoping to replace the aged curtains which hang there at present. We are also planning to get black velvet-type curtains for the closets located on either side of the chapter room. The present drapes are extremely worn out. The new drapes would match the one which hangs at the entrance to the chapter room, thus adding continuity.

We also have plans to have a wrought iron gate constructed across the front of the chapter room. We hope to make the chapter room the sacred place that it should be, holding the mysteries of our fraternity within its closed doors. We have had three estimates for the construction of the gate, all around \$850.

Our plans include a redesign of the bar and pool room areas. A new design will allow television to be watched from any location in the pool room. The change will create a more versatile bar and party area and a more comfortable "group" living environment. Since the plans for the new design are not final at this time, a total cost has not yet been determined.

Your continuous support is imperative to the carrying out of our plans. We hope that you will make your contributions, and then visit *your* house in the near future to see the improvements.

Send donations to: SIGMA NU IMPROVEMENT FUND
1824 Fraternity Park Dr., Knoxville, TN 37916

RUSH NOTICE

If any alumni know of any potential rushees, please send information on them, including recommendations, to:

RUSH INFO
c/o Sigma Nu Fraternity
1824 Fraternity Park Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37916

Any help you can give us is very welcome - and urged. To get more involved with rush, call Jack Crawford or Harry Murley at 615-971-4817

THANKS TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

An important part of Sigma Nu Fraternity is its alumni support. We thank all of the alumni who made donations to the Sigma Nu Improvement Fund this past spring. We hope that others will join this long list of contributors, helping us to make our house a better place for you to come home to.

*L. A. Absher, M.D.
 Julian T. Bratton
 George Caton
 James D. Dodson
 John B. Ellis
 William E. Farrell
 Mark Fisher
 James W. Fly
 Charles E. Garriott
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 Col. Wm. M. Slayden II
 Bernie Smith
 Bill Thompson
 Michael J. Turner
 R. Bruce Yates
 Tad Zelski*

I apologize for the year that we've let go by since our last publication. Now that we are controlling the publishing process, THE SNAKESKIN should enter your home on a regular basis.

*Fraternally,
 Barry M. Spurlock,
 EH1144*

ALUMNI CHALLENGE

As some of you may know, our chapter has a debt to the Sigma Nu National Fraternity of nearly \$75,000. Our quarterly payments of \$2000.00 cover little more than the interest on this note.

William A. Russell has made a challenge that each alumni send in a quarterly contribution to pay off the debt. Quarterly reminders would be sent to you, should you decide to accept the challenge. To accept the challenge or for more information concerning it, write to:

Adam Black,
 Alumni Contact
 1824 Fraternity Park Dr.
 Knoxville, TN 37916

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 1824 FRATERNITY PARK DR.
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37916

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