

8/5/77
JAP

The Snake Skin

EPSILON ETA OF SIGMA NU AT TENNESSEE

WINTER

1824 FRATERNITY DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37916

1977

A LETTER FROM THE COMMANDER

Brothers,

Soon after becoming Commander of Epsilon Eta I became aware of several areas in which the Chapter needed immediate attention — these being manpower, alumni relations, scholastic achievement, and financial stability. During the past year special emphasis has been directed toward these areas, with hopes of developing them into our strengths.

At the present time Epsilon Eta has 55 Brothers and 11 Pledges. However, we cannot continue to operate in an efficient manner unless we can increase our manpower. Financial constraints placed on the Chapter to obtain our recent house improvement loan, plus soaring utility and operating costs, have made extremely difficult the preparation of a sound budget. We need approximately 80 members to operate efficiently and to remain competitive with other fraternities on campus. Rush is the only solution to this problem, so hopefully more intense efforts with respect to *rush* will reap the rewards a year or two hence.

The second major area of concern is the improvement of our alumni relations. Efforts are now underway to help you, our alumni, once again become involved with Sigma Nu in some manner. For example:

- (1) Dennis Ford is attempting to organize an Alumni Chapter of Epsilon Eta in Memphis.
- (2) A Founder's Day is being organized for this Spring, to bring many of you back together again. (See article in this edition of *The Snake Skin*)
- (3) Efforts are being made to encourage all alumni to come by to visit Epsilon Eta and the University of Tennessee. We welcome your visits!
- (4) Homecoming continues to attract many alumni, but we're trying to reach more by providing football tickets to the Homecoming game.
- (5) Publish a quarterly Newsletter at the Chapter's expense.

All of these things are being done so that the Active Chapter may get to know you and become involved with you, our alumni. After all, you are a Sigma Nu for life — not just during your collegiate days!

Another major area of concern within the Chapter is the current lack of scholastic excellence. However, intense efforts and new programs are being developed which should encourage Brothers and Pledges to excel in their studies.

(Continued on Page Two)

ALUMNI AFFAIRS — FOUNDER'S DAY

Brothers,

It will be my pleasure for the next year to serve as your Alumni Contact Officer. I would like to tell you a few things about myself and some of the goals I have as I serve in this office.

First, my hometown is Memphis. I am, therefore, interested in helping start an active Alumni Chapter in this City. I am going to rely upon your support for this endeavor, so I hope you will write me to let me know of some of your ideas.

Secondly, I serve on the Inter-Fraternity Council as the Social Services Chairman. Since I am working in a charity position, I would like to be able to call upon some interested Sigma Nu Alumni to help us in our various projects. Also, as a Business major, I understand the valuable support our Alumni can offer and I intend to directionalize that support toward Epsilon Eta.

I am going to take my new role quite seriously and I'm sure that our Alumni will come through. At the end of each quarter we will have published a newsletter explaining what we have accomplished during that quarter.

Next fall our Homecoming '77 will take place, as usual. But my immediate attention will be directed toward our Founder's Day. This event will be sponsored solely for the Alumni of Epsilon Eta. The day will be filled with events ranging from a banquet with a prominent speaker to a band party featuring Dixie Jazz. The date is May 21st and this will be a good opportunity to see some of your old friends in Sigma Nu. We are going to try to develop this into an annual function for you, the Alumni. In order to cover cost, we are asking everyone to remit \$10.00 each. This will take care of the cost of the banquet and the Dixie Jazz band party. Please help make it a success! If you wish to attend, please return the attached card so we can plan on your attendance.

Fraternally,

Dallas Flowers, EH 997
Alumni Contact Officer

A LETTER FROM THE COMMANDER

(Continued from Page One)

A personal goal of mine is to get many of you who are specialists or professionals in your field to speak to the Active Chapter in an advisory capacity with respect to job opportunities, etc. You probably can help send someone down the road to success, since you've been there.

Quarterly rewards for academic excellence are being instituted to promote scholarship within the fraternity. I feel the fraternity should play a major role in the development of an individual by preparing him for the day he leaves college. So we are once again trying to promote academic excellence among the members to prepare them for the future. After all, education should be the primary concern of our Brothers.

Financial stability has been a major problem the past four years. At the present time Epsilon Eta is meeting all of its bills, but is unable to put any money into a contingent account. This is an absolute must for the chapter now, since minor repairs to the house are becoming increasingly numerous. The immediate solution to the problem is obvious — Manpower.

If we had 80 members, as opposed to 65 at the present time, our income would increase by 23%. Increasing costs and no significant increases in membership have plagued the fraternity's social budget. However, if we can continue our present savings policy, by 1984 the Active Chapter will have placed approximately \$25,000 into the Building Trust Fund with Sigma Nu National. We're on our feet, but haven't been able to go anywhere, simply because of increasing costs and lack of manpower. Here, again, the solution is *Rush*.

A new House Corporation Board of Directors has been formed and I sincerely hope that it can and will become a very influential group with respect to the Active Chapter's activities. We lack experienced guidance in many situations where the House Corporation's input can be of great value. This group of Alumni can help the Active Chapter in so many ways, if only they will remain active and concerned.

Overall, Epsilon Eta is in fine condition. The house really looks great, but many external repairs are needed! And the quality of the Brothers is excellent. Everything is on the up-swing, but as one can tell from this letter, there are many areas in which Epsilon Eta needs improvement. We realize our shortcomings and are working diligently to solve them. With continued hard work and a couple of good years of *Rush*, we can solve most of our problems and continue to hail Epsilon Eta as the strongest fraternity on campus.

Yours in Honor,

William Byron Lawson
Commander (EH 951)

CONDITION OF THE HOUSE

During the last year the house has begun to create some problems for us. It is now over ten years old and we're having major problems with the plumbing and the roof. We need to replace all of our toilet units in the house, as well as completely tar and gravel the roof. Also, at the present time our hot water heater has quit functioning properly and needs to be replaced.

There are many other minor repairs which need to be made to the house, but have been put off simply because the chapter is having a serious cash flow problem. The Active Chapter took \$2,000 out of our savings account last fall, to pay the balance of the loan we obtained for house improvements. This has caused some major problems, in that we've had to put off making these necessary repairs, simply because we can't afford the expense. Actually, we can't afford not to make them. This house will have to last Epsilon Eta until the year 2005, when the mortgage will be paid off, and we can't let its condition falter.

So I'm asking you, as an alumnus of this chapter, to help us. We're not begging, but we are asking for your help. We cannot continue to put off repairs of this magnitude, because they will compound themselves and ultimately cost more money to correct. If each alumnus would send in \$5-\$10 each, we could make all the necessary corrections to the house and keep it in a good condition. I would like to point out that all alumni contributions will go for the purpose of improving the condition of the house, not for social functions. I wouldn't ask if it weren't necessary, but the seriousness of these repairs increases every week. Any help which you can provide will be greatly appreciated.

Fraternally,

Byron Lawson
Commander (EH 951)

VANDALISM

During the last Christmas break the fraternity house was vandalized. The brass Sigma Nu badges on our two front doors were pried off by crowbars. We've had no success in replacing them and have no idea where these badges were previously acquired. If anyone knows where these brass badges were purchased or manufactured, please notify us. We really need to replace them as they made the entrance to the house look 200% better. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Fraternally,

Byron Lawson, EH 951
Commander

ALUMNI CONTRIBUTORS

We, the Brothers of Epsilon Eta, wish to thank you for your generous contributions during the fall quarter of 1976. You have helped us to pay off part of the loan for our new furniture. However, some Brothers who made cash contributions during Homecoming may not have their names listed below, simply because of poor record-keeping. We apologize to you, but send our thanks just the same. The following Brothers contributed to Epsilon Eta fall quarter and we sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness. Thanks again.

G. R. Scott	EH 268	L. F. Waldrop	EH 265
Harry Berryman	(Oregon) EH 918	R. A. Lawson, III	EH 891
John Parks	EH 918	John S. Arendt	EH 911
Tom Brown	EH 943	George T. Mariner	EH 864
Charles M. Cary	EH 808	Albert Lewis	EH 797
William H. Ross	EH 981	Doug Smith	EH 908
A. B. Coleman	EH 680	Mack Hornbeak	EH 91
Tyler K. Smith	EH 931	John Richardson	EH 914
Daniel M. Shveda	EH 933	Bill Cates	EH 493
James L. Hanvey	EH 901	Gary L. Copp	EH 934
Warren ("Bud") Richey (La. Tech)			

SPORTS "NU'S"

Last fall Sigma Nu made a vow to do their best in all campus sports. After participating in every sport, Sigma Nu was tied for the lead in the Beta League and 7th in over-all fraternities.

We won the tug-of-war competition and placed 2nd in football. By winning first in tug-of-war in the fraternity division we went on to compete in the University finals in which we placed 4th. We placed 2nd in the Beta League and 2nd in the University in volleyball, as well. To round out the fall, Sigma Nu finished 3rd in the cross country turkey-trot race and 4th in golf, racketball and bowling.

We were not as fortunate in winter sports, since we slipped to 3rd in the Beta League. In these winter sports we placed 3rd: swimming, track, and water-polo. We placed 4th in basketball.

In two events not point-oriented, Sigma Nu did real well. We placed 2nd in the Delta Gamma Anchor Splash. It is a swimming event in which we won a 4½ foot trophy. Also, the Inter-Fraternity Council sponsored a Superstar competition. From this competition they chose finalists to go to Columbia, S. C. in April to represent Tennessee in a Southeastern IFC Superstar Competition. Out of 35 entries, seven were chosen. Among the lucky seven are two Sigma Nus: Bengy Davis of Nashville and Dana Turner of Memphis.

Now that spring is before us, Sigma Nu will be looking for a first place in the Beta League and possibly a Fraternity Champion title. With the sports-minded Brothers in the Chapter, we know it can be done!

--Steve Peggs
Intra-Murals Chairman

WINTER INITIATES

Sam G. Reid	EH 1004	Knoxville, TN
Richard W. Graves	EH 1005	Nashville, TN
Eric S. Anderson	EH 1006	Nashville, TN
C. Philip Kelley	EH 1007	Nashville, TN
Michael R. Mears	EH 1008	Knoxville, TN
William G. Cook	EH 1009	Franklin, TN
Frank D. Thomas	EH 1010	Memphis, TN
Gary E. Wells	EH 1011	Decherd, TN
Warren S. McClellan	EH 1012	Marion, VA
Frank E. Neal	EH 1013	Brentwood, TN
George C. Ross	EH 1014	Memphis, TN
David A. Cavanaugh, Jr.	EH 1015	Memphis, TN
Dana S. Turner	EH 1016	Memphis, TN

PI PHI AND SIGMA NU TEAM FOR CARNICUS

It's time, once again, for Carnicus, the annual all-campus event of short skits and plays. We encourage all of our Alumni to attend this event on May 14th and 15th. This year we are going in with Pi Beta Phi, a well-established sorority on the Tennessee campus. Both the Pi Beta Phis and Sigma Nus expect a good showing.

WHY NOT TAKE PEN IN HAND?

We would like to once again notify all of our Brothers that Ophelia Wilson, our recently-retired cook, still loves to hear from her "boys." She gets the biggest thrill from a letter from you and she still talks about all the good times she had with Sigma Nu. So we just want to pass along her address, with hopes that some of you will write and tell her how you are doing.

Ophelia Wilson
436 Hembree Street
Knoxville, TN 37914
(615) 522-5677

NEW OFFICERS — 1977 — 1978

Commander	Byron Lawson	London, TN
Lt. Commander	Jim Craig	Concord, TN
Treasurer	Tommy Sweatt	Nashville, TN
Asst. Treasurer	John Parks	Knoxville, TN
Rush (1st)	Bobby Bailey	Memphis, TN
Rush (2nd)	Wink Neal	Brentwood, TN
Pledge Marshal	Barry Gaddes	Mt. Juliet, TN
Recorder	Greg Cook	Franklin, TN
House Manager	Sam Reid	Knoxville, TN
Kitchen Steward	Rick Graves	Nashville, TN
Social	DeJean Melancon	Leesburg, FL
Alumni Contact	Dalles Flowers	Memphis, TN
Scholarship	Eric Anderson	Nashville, TN
Chaplain	Gary Wells	Decherd, TN
Sentinel	Denny Thomas	Memphis, TN
Intramural	Philip Arendt	Oak Ridge, TN

EPSILON ETA UPHOLDS TRADITION DURING HOMECOMING '76

Even before the Big Orange's first football game, Brothers of Epsilon Eta were thinking ahead to "Homecoming '76." At our second chapter meetings Brothers Bruce Wiley (EH 953) and Chuck Dezean (EH 980) were elected to serve as Co-Chairmen over the Homecoming Committees. We also decided to accept the offer of Alpha Chi Omega Sorority to join us for the competition.

At our first meeting with them Sub-Committees were set up to work on specific areas of the four different events in which we were entered. Sigma Nus in key positions were Tom Sweatt (EH 988) - banner; John Felton (EH 984) - window; Bill Hearn (EH 960) - carnival booth; and Chuck Dezean - yard display. Work on the projects began the weekend of October 24th. Even though the game with Mississippi was still two weeks away, we needed the time because of the complexity of our designs. Our banner was a 10' x 20' cotton sheet with a scene painted on it showing traditional Rebels and Volunteer figures watching a 20's flapper girl. Its theme, as set by All Campus Events, was "Flaunt Them Flappers." You may have seen it hanging at Neyland Stadium before the game. It earned a second place finish among stiff competition and was a fitting reward for Brother Sweatt's hard work.

Once again Brother Felton allowed us to view his genius - for the second year in a row he provided our window display. If you didn't get a chance to see it, then words can only partially create the effect transmitted to the fortunate few who witnessed his masterpiece. It was an audio-visual panorama of life in the Old South circa 1860's. He used 3-D scenarios to depict certain events that stand out in a time of great turmoil. The theme was "Showcase of the South." Brother Felton has every right to be proud of his work, even though the display only earned a third place finish. We at Epsilon Eta know who *should* have won and next year when you come to Knoxville you, too, will see John's tremendous talent.

As for the yard display this year, we probably reached our limitation on what can be accomplished in the "practi-

cal" construction of a yard display. The entire front of the house was turned into one giant pumped riverboat. It was a sight to be seen! Snokey was once again the prominent figure reclining on deck, dressed as a Southern gentleman. The distraught Rebel was confined in a cotton bail, much the same as were the football representatives from Mississippi that day. The Volunteers won easily 32-6.

I wish I could single out all of the Brothers who forfeited study time, play time and, yes, class time to see that the name of Sigma Nu would again be victoriously announced at half-time of the Homecoming game.

A few of the ones who deserve a pat on the back are Bill Hearn, Sam Reid, Jerry Lyle, David Buck and Bob McKibben. These men went above and beyond the call of duty. Please, the next time you come for Homecoming, meet these people and you'll know why we're proud to be their Brothers.

Overall we finished third in the events, but it was our first place in the yard display that stood out. For the 4th year in a row we captured first place and it was our 6th in the last seven years! This truly is something to be proud of and promotes the name "Sigma Nu" all over campus.

Next year the Homecoming game is November 5th, against Memphis State. Be sure to come early for the meal at the house and stay late for the festivities that night. Remember - we are Brothers in Sigma Nu and in the truest sense of the word. Our victories are your victories, too. I hope you'll share one with us next year. Till then . . .

Faternally,

Bruce Charles Wiley, EH 953

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SIGMA NU FRATERNITY
EPSILON ETA CHAPTER
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