

Beta Theta Pi Alumni Letter

Intramurals Nearing Completion

With only four major events (swimming, team golf, tennis, and softball) remaining this year, the Betas have a commanding 20 point lead over 2nd. place Delta Tau Delta for the IFC intramural trophy.

A great deal has happened since the last news letter was written. Despite some heartbreaking losses, our depth and overall efforts have enabled us to remain on top. A good example of this is volleyball, in which our "A" team was defeated in the finals. However, our "B" and "C" teams each won their respective divisions. In basketball, the "A" team finished 3rd after a semifinal loss to the Deltas (two free throws after time had expired gave the Deltas a one point victory). The Beta "B" team finished second and the "C" team first in their divisions.

We are all proud of our wrestlers second place finish. Two Betas, J. W. Weeks and Pat Mapes, were champions, and Scott Rayburn came away with a second place medal.

Softball is just getting underway, and our "A", "B", and "C" teams all sport unblemished 2-0 records.

The enthusiasm has been unbelievable all year, and everybody at the house is confident (but not overconfident) that the trophy will once again return to 800 Chautauqua.

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House Improvements

The week before spring break saw the Beta House receive a "face lift" as many new improvements were added to the house. First (and foremost) was the installation of a new carpet on both 2nd and 3rd floors. The old carpet was approximately three years old, and while that does not seem like a long time, many Beta parties came and went over the old green carpet. The new carpet adds a great touch to these floors and House Manager Dan Sadberry, Norman sophomore, said of the carpet: "This really makes the house look great. The old carpet was torn and the seams were coming apart. This new carpet was installed very well and should last a long time."

Adding to the face life, the new initiates also cleaned up and scrubbed the house during their work week prior to initiation. During this time, the front and back yards were cleaned and all beds cleaned and shrubbery trimmed. Inside, many areas were painted (Chapter Room, Coke Machine Room, etc.) and general improvements made. Also, the entire 2nd and 3rd floor walls were painted by the new initiates. Brother Brad Hoopes, Pledge Class House Manager and freshman from Muskogee, kept a close eye on his fellow pledge brothers during this time and made sure all repairs were done correctly.

A final touch to the house was the addition of a new flag. The old one was torn in several places (despite Mom Greer's excellent sewing jobs) and a new one was needed very badly.

On the whole, the Beta House has never been in better shape and this will continue to be the policy in future years as we build from our future brothers.

Initiation

Saturday night of the Regional Beta Workshop will long be remembered by thirty pledges of Gamma Phi chapter who entered our brotherhood that March 10th through initiation. The ceremony had special significance because it was conducted by the Gamma Lambda chapter initiation team from OSU.

The initiation was planned to coincide with the Beta gathering as a highlight of the workshop and also to show representatives from the many other chapters present a meaningful ceremony. The Gamma Lambda Betas conducted the event upon request by the national office and Gamma Phi members approved it because we thought it would add special significance.

The ceremony was something to be remembered not only by those initiated, but also by those many other brothers from various other chapters in our region attending the workshop.

New initiates for the chapter are: Gary Lee Bond, Duncan; Anthony Bumpas, Oklahoma City; Patrick Eugene Campbell, Miami; William Nunt Creel II, Bartlesville; Mark William Curnutt, Vinita; Troy Douglas Emde, Perry; John Alan Fuller, Oklahoma City; Douglass Kennard Garrett, Wynnewood; Si Kenney Gibson, Miami; James Bradford Gibbons, Tulsa; William Arthur Gifforn, Miami; William Anderson Gossett, Moore; Carl Hayes Holliday, Muskogee.

Also, Bradford Bixby Hoopes, Muskogee; John Stephen Klabzuba, Prague; Ronald Carl Krieger, Oklahoma City; Mark Tyler Lisle, Enid; Kevin Frank O'Halloran, Cordell; Jack Ellis Rayburn, Jr., Oklahoma City; Scott Reed Rogers, Chickasha; Mark Allen Scott, Houston, Texas; Harry Benjamin Sherman, Miami; Roger Neil Steed, Shawnee; Donald Lynn Stuart, Duncan.

Paul Louis Szafranski, Oklahoma City; Garland Richard Talley, Miami; Gail Ray Watkins, Duncan; Mark Ronald Wesner, Cordell; Chauncey B. Witercraft III, Pawhuska and Robert Brown Wyrick, Atoka.

From Our New Rush Chairman

Each year a new rush team eagerly undertakes one of the most important jobs of the house. So far, our team has worked hard and we are learning more and more about handling parties and people. Our outlook is very optimistic.

One of our foremost concerns for the first time is in I.F.C. rule that limits our initial pledge class to 40 men. Since we have been accustomed to starting with over 60 new pledges, this will make our task more difficult. We have to be sure the men we pledge are mature and motivated enough to see their decision through. Consequently, this will demand a lot more of us.

We are not afraid of doing the work. However, we will be short-handed without hearing all the suggestions and ideas you have. We ask and encourage you to contact us anytime.

We are very much looking forward to this year's rush and are looking forward to seeing many of you this summer.

Yours in -kai-
David Emmott
Richard Baptist
Rick Gibbon

<4-11-1973>

FROM OUR PRESIDENT**Regional Workshop in Norman**

Gamma Phi was both honored and privileged to be selected as host chapter to a workshop sponsored by the national fraternity of Oxford, Ohio. Held at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge in Norman, the workshop attracted 120 undergraduates and graduate advisers from the 12 chapters of Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas and Colorado.

In addition, Ralph N. Fey (Beta Theta Pi President), Col. Richard R. (Misty) Shoop (current General Secretary), Peter W. C. Barnhart (Administrative Secretary), K. Warren Fawcett (Archivist and editor of Beta Magazine), and Burton W. Folsom (past General Secretary) were present as discussion moderators and seminar leaders.

The day was well-structured with such topics as house finances, pledge program, rush problems, and alumni involvement receiving special attention. Gamma Phi was well-represented at the various seminars and served as an exemplary chapter in several categories of fraternity affairs — especially alumni relations.

The evening session was highlighted by the keynote address of former General Secretary Burt Folsom of Lincoln, Nebraska. Immediately following the banquet, Gamma Phi's pledge class of 1972-73 was initiated in a model initiation ceremony conducted by the chapter of

Oklahoma State. Thirty new names were added to the rolls of Gamma Phi bringing the sum total to 1593.

In all the workshop was a great success. We learned a few things that we hope to eventually implement into our own chapter. The Gamma Phis who took part in the weekend's activities were filled with a great sense of pride for our own house was described by such adjective as "Elegance" and "grandeur." But more than anything, we became aware that we enjoy something in our chapter that many others lack to many varying degrees.

We were being totally honest when we bragged that our alumni involvement serves as a great source of strength to the house. Not only do our alums enable us to conduct a successful rush every summer, but they also are more than willing to cooperate with and assist us in our many yearly activities that require a little morale support. To say the obvious — we appreciate our alums!

Your in -kai-
Steve Barghols
President

REMINDER!

**Your \$12.50 Voluntary Alumni Dues
Are Due.**
