

The Muse

MU CHAPTER OF SIGMA PI FRATERNITY - CORNELL UNIVERSITY

ITHACA, NEW YORK

MARCH 1996

The Future Of Sigma Pi Depends On *All* Of Its Members

Our fraternity is positioned for a long, successful future at Cornell! That future depends on what the *undergraduates* do, and it depends on what the *alumni* do. No amount of success by either group will have any meaning without equal success and commitment by the other. There has never before been a time when the very existence of the fraternity depended on all of its members. This can and, I think, will turn out to be a happy circumstance.

I believe every one of us owes something of the success of our college days to Sigma Pi. Many of us feel that the fraternity experience, with the responsibility it entailed, was as important to our careers as the classroom work. Mu Chapter existed for us because of the people who came before. We, whatever our age, are now the "people who came before," and the responsibility to ensure the future of the fraternity is ours.

The house membership has gone through some very traumatic times over the last several years—the decline of the physical plant, the closing of the house to prepare for renovation, the fire and resulting further delays, the uncertainty among the undergrads as to whether a new house would actually be built, and, finally, the recent reestablishment of a code of conduct. The house membership before January rush stood at 15. (The alumni leadership thinks the membership should be in the 60 to 70 range.)

In the fall, a "confrontation" occurred between certain of the undergraduates and the alumni leadership. From this event has evolved a new and healthy relationship between the current undergraduates and the alumni board. The relationship is productive and friendly. All of the new officers are sophomores. They are working to build an organization that stands for something, and they need our help and support! As you know from past communication, last fall the board members were fully prepared to recommend closing the house and restarting later with a new group. We have a new group of fine young men who can and will, with our support, do what it takes

to make all of us proud to say, "I am a member of Sigma Pi at Cornell."

We, as alumni leaders, have always known that we had two campaigns to complete—the building of a house and the rebuilding of an organization. Both are started; neither is complete. I will discuss both in some detail.

THE ORGANIZATION

The sophomore officers are working to develop the "job descriptions" of their responsibilities. These young men have gone directly from pledge to sage, from pledge to treasurer, etc. They have no role models to emulate. They have been helped by representatives of the national fraternity, who visit often. Members of our alumni board visit often, too, and have regular communication. At the annual meeting during Homecoming, a number of alums volunteered to become involved. The undergrads have a huge task. It is my hope that many of the current leaders will continue to accept positions of responsibility as juniors, so that we can reestablish

the normal succession of house officers.

We have an alumni board that is organized and functions in accordance with a set of bylaws, looking after the corporate affairs of the group.

THE BUILDING

We have a fine new house. It has now been in use for a year, and, as was inevitable, some things have been identified as problems that need to be fixed (e.g., the pantry needs a ventilation system so that the appliances don't overheat). The furnishings need to be completed. Approximately \$40,000 needs to be spent to truly finish the job.

FINANCIAL

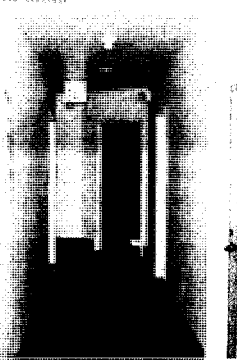
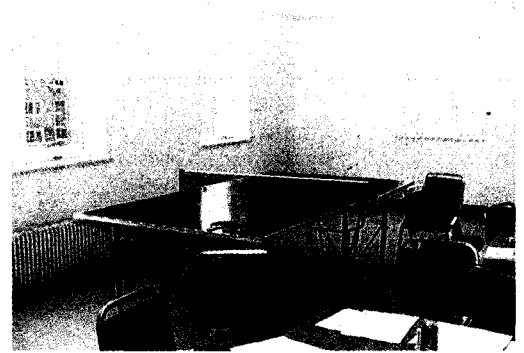
The current financial situation is not good. Here are some significant summary points:

1. We have debt of \$650,000. The original model was based on \$450,000. When the construction was nearing completion, we had to borrow \$100,000 to "fund" contribution pledges that had not been paid, and an addi-

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Shoveling after the first snowfall at 730 University Avenue.

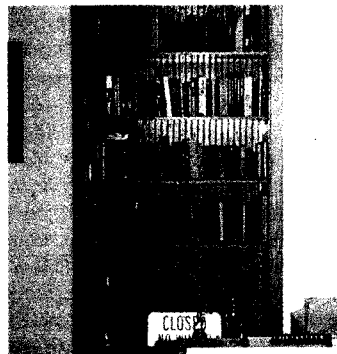
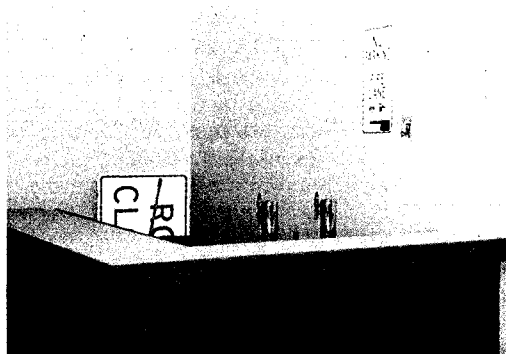


Views of the new house.

Clockwise from top left: the west lounge; stairs; the dining room; second-floor hall; the west lounge; bookcase; bar; view of Libe Slope from stairs to dining room.



Our house mascot, Tequila.



The Future Of Sigma Pi Depends On All Of Its Members

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tional \$100,000 to furnish the house.

2. The original need was for \$500,000 in alumni contributions. We are still \$150,000 from that goal (if all pledges are paid). The goal should have been \$600,000.

3. We have a significant number of pledges that remain unpaid (+/- \$65,000). Numerous reminders have been sent over the last several years. Every brother who made a pledge and has not fulfilled it has received a letter recently. I continue to believe that each of these men will follow through and that the commitments will be fulfilled.

4. We have pending litigation for uninsured losses against the contractor who caused the fire. If our claims are satisfactorily settled, some of the pressure will be relieved. Unfortunately, we have no way of forecasting the outcome of the litigation.

5. The new house is designed to hold 35 men. The income stream from a full mem-

bership is important. We feel we are two to three years away from the hope of a full membership.

6. Last (and of the most importance), we need the financial support of our alumni. We should be able to surpass the \$500,000 or larger goal. Only one third of our living alumni have thus far participated at any level of giving. As much as the fraternity should mean to all of us, I refuse to believe that there are over 600 of us who don't care enough to step up to the plate!

VISITS

In the six years that I have chosen to be active in alumni affairs, I have heard from many brothers about their deep disappointment when "dropping in" to visit the house. Over recent years, the almost universal reaction has been disgust, anger, or sorrow—and often tears. Try it once more! You will not be disappointed! The undergrads you run into

may not have the self-confidence to take you under wing, but many do, and will. The undergrads are eager to share something with you—our house, and our fraternity. Give them a chance to do it.

Sigma Pi's re-emergence as a quality fraternity offering a worthwhile experience to young men in an attractive, safe living unit is important to all of us, and it is important to Cornell. There are 1,000 of us living today who can wear the Mu of Sigma Pi badge of membership. This is the only group of people to whom we can turn to ensure that the fraternity gets to continue its now 84-year life at Cornell.

It is, my brothers, up to you!

Fraternally,
James H. Keene III '57
Alumni President and
Building Committee Chairman

Chapter Needs Money And Members To Succeed In 1996

Let me start by stating that the 1996 spring term will be the most critical term in Mu Chapter's history.

Let me give you a little background. As with most Mu Chapter alumni, I had not had much contact with 730 University Avenue since the early '60s. Hearing from the building committee and with hopes of seeing some of my former classmates, I traveled to Ithaca. I couldn't believe what I encountered. The physical plant was so bad, including housekeeping, that I couldn't imagine anyone living at Sigma Pi. I was tempted to leave, never to return.

However, my memories of how important Sigma Pi was to my college experience prompted me to contact the building committee to see if I could help. Several trips to Ithaca later, I was contacted by Sigma Pi National and asked to be chapter director.

The Mu Chapter brothers had endured first the deterioration of the house, then remodeling, a fire, and the building of a new house. All that time they had been farmed out to a rental house at The Knoll. It was no wonder that their numbers had dwindled.

The ones who had endured are to be commended for holding the group together. With the completion of the new structure (by far the best on campus), they needed to redirect their activities toward true fraternity ideals.

Although their numbers dropped to 12, this group is dedicated to making Mu Chapter at Cornell the best fraternity on campus. If you visit, you will find a well-maintained house and very friendly brothers. Don't take my word: you need to experience it yourself. When you leave, you will be

\$200,000 Needed To Complete Heritage Fund

This and many previous issues of *The Muse*, as well as other correspondence, have detailed our financial picture. A spring mailing will present a detailed accounting of the Heritage Fund. In summary, we need new gifts totaling \$200,000, and we need these funds soon. If we can raise \$200,000, we can accomplish two things:

1. Get our debt down to \$450,000. The original plan showed we could service this amount.
2. Stop the drain of funds now being used to pay interest on the added borrowing.

The source of this money is simple:

1. Contributions from the 600 members who thus far have offered no support.
2. Added gifts from the almost 400 brothers who have given. Already many of the 400 have sent additional contributions. The greater number of our donors to date have given \$1,000 or more. We have a large number who have given \$5,000 or more and at least five brothers who have given more than \$15,000.

Think about it—your participation is truly needed!

proud of Sigma Pi.

Before I go on, I want to thank the building committee. They put in, and are still putting in, a lot of time and effort. We have the best house at Cornell and possibly the best of all Sigma Pi Chapters, thanks to Jim, Rob, and Dave.

Now what makes spring 1996 so important? Two things—money and members.

These items are related. We have a house that holds 33. With 12 members, they do not have income enough to run a good program. In order to generate enough income to pay the mortgage, some of the rooms have been rented to outside boarders, which has caused some problems. Also, as you have heard, we need to reduce the mortgage to a manageable amount.

What can you do?

Think back to your college days at Sigma

Pi and commit yourself to getting involved in 1996. Involvement can be many things, from helping to raise alumni pledges, contributing funds, stopping in at 730 University Avenue to show undergrads your support, returning your newsform for publication in *The Muse*, sending names of potential rushees—and so on.

The current brothers, with help from Sigma Pi National, are committed to making the spring 1996 rush successful. Any names of good candidates should be sent or phoned to the rush chairman, Liviu Rusu, at 730 University Avenue, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607/279-0556).

Call a classmate and meet them at Sigma Pi. It's a great experience!

Thanks for your help.

Van Ness D. Robinson '57

International Headquarters Praises Mu Chapter's Efforts

On behalf of the International Headquarters of Sigma Pi Fraternity International, let me say to all Mu alumni how proud and excited we are at the progress that has been made by the undergraduate brothers of Mu Chapter. After what has been a trying time for everyone concerned, the brothers at Mu have emerged stronger and more committed to the ideals of our fraternity.

We at the international headquarters are pleased with Mu's efforts to establish a better working relationship with the office. The chapter is exercising good fiscal management and is showing great improvement in chapter operations. I have all of the confidence in Sage Matt Rosedale and his young and hard-working executive board in leading the Mu Chapter.

This spring semester, the brothers are

working very hard on rush. The spring rush period has gone well here, and the chapter is looking to take about 20 men. This fall, the brothers hope to take another five in an informal rush session, adding more quality men to Mu Chapter. But Mu is planning much more in the future.

With a good social schedule in 1996, Mu will be looking to improve its already positive campus image. The brothers of Mu will then use the increasing popularity and social status to make what will undoubtedly be a tremendous spring 1997 pledge class. Mu Chapter is not looking to be just the biggest, but the best fraternity at Cornell.

The brothers at Mu are also very committed to having great relations with the alumni. Supportive alumni are the backbone of our fraternity, and I see the brothers making an

honest effort to reach out to Mu Chapter brothers everywhere, no matter how far away they are. And by the same token, alumni should not hesitate to let the brothers at the house know that they support their alma mater and their chapter.

I really can't say enough about the brothers here at Mu. They are working hard, playing hard, and are really getting it done. I'm happy to help them achieve the goals that they've set. Mu Chapter will go a long way, now and into the 21st century, and these are the guys who will take it there.

Fraternally,
Siegfried A. Elizondo
Northeast Region
Educational Leadership Consultant

Alumni Memorialized In Library

The Memorial Library in the new house is dedicated to the memory of our brothers who have died. This is a new room and is proving to be the most popular. One wall is dedicated to brass plaques acknowledging those who have contributed to the Heritage Campaign at the "fair share" level or higher.

We have instituted a program of special memorials, which was announced at the dedication in April 1995. This new program offers individuals or groups the opportunity to pay tribute to a deceased brother. For a contribution of \$5,000 plus the cost of the plaque (approximately \$115), a distinctive

bronze plaque is installed in that brother's memory. The plaques are four inches high and 12 inches long, and already five have been installed. They give the room a special feeling.

When the capital campaign is over, the "in memory" fund could well supply the funds to retire the mortgage debt faster. This opportunity to memorialize our late classmates adds strength and life to our organization.

If you would like to consider placing a plaque, please contact any member of the alumni or undergraduate leadership.

"A Struggle To Endure," Says Treasurer

The fall semester was a tough one for Mu Chapter, as most of you are aware. That theme carried into the area of finances, as it is difficult to have a robust fraternity program with only 12 active brothers. This was an unforeseeable problem, since we ended the spring semester with 18 actives. However, due to certain miscommunications, the path was opened for senior apathy, and this phenomenon reared its head in the form of a mass inactivation of six senior members in mid-September. Our financial problems were compounded by overspending last spring, leaving us with even less funds to carry on our usual social and chapter activities once we had paid our outstanding bills from that term.

However, we had the fresh blood of 10 new initiates, and, with the support and guidance of our two remaining veteran actives, they rose to the challenge. The first order of business involved meeting three men who signed bids to join our struggle to endure. They formed a tight pledge class, which was invaluable spiritually and economically, and the 15 of us managed to carry on a reasonably successful fall pro-

gram. Some of the highlights included a successful back-to-school party, an enjoyable Homecoming Weekend (beginning with a somber discussion on the direction our chapter wanted to take and ending with a relaxing formal), a successful pledge program that resulted in the initiation of three solid new members, and a traditional Christmas formal to cap off the semester.

A noteworthy election took place at the end of the semester, at which time a new treasurer joined the executive board elected early in the semester. The man for the job turned out to be Alex Schmelkin, who will do an excellent job of maintaining the treasury and carefully planning and following a reasonable budget this spring.

The main order of business at this point will be preparing for rush week. A large pledge class will ensure longevity of the fraternity and will allow for a more ambitious schedule of events. Everyone is excited to see what lies ahead for Mu Chapter this spring.

John Schroeder '96
Sigma Pi Treasurer

Brothers' Respect For House Reflected In Its Upkeep

It's the last day of fall semester, and, as I look back, I realize that it has been a very eventful semester, both good and bad.

Although all the rooms were used as singles, there was only one empty room, since we had 11 boarders. Security has been difficult: there are too many people walking around with master keys, while we've had five thefts and two assaults. On a brighter note, however, I can comfortably say that the house is clean and has been that way since we've started a system of fines and areas of responsibility: each person living in the house has one. It's also been nice to watch everyone develop a sense of respect for the house—something that was abundantly evident after our Christmas formal. The house might have been expected to be a mess, but the morning after this event, less than 20 minutes was required to clean up.

For the spring semester, we are looking forward to the installation of wood paneling in the dining room and a more secure front entry system, as well as to maintaining this house as a jewel on the campus.

Liviu Rusu '97
House Manager

Despite Limited Funds, Sigma Pi Enjoys Active Social Calendar

Among the ideals central to the existence of a fraternity is the value of the balanced life. The brothers of the Sigma Pi Fraternity believe that a crucial element in this value is a full and enjoyable social experience. Despite the small amount of funds available, the brothers, still true to their ways, threw a very successful registered house party on the first weekend after classes began. In addition, there were mixers, an enjoyable Homecoming, and a Christmas formal.

Given a large pledge class, the spring term should be more eventful and even more exciting. Mixers are being planned with a number of sororities, bands are being reviewed for the Rock and Roll Tea, the annual philanthropic event, and of course the annual Orchid Ball is being planned. In fact, if funds allow, a third and even more creative and dynamic party will be attempted. Whatever the case, the prospects for Sigma Pi's spring social events are promising.

Gregory I. Korn
Social Chairman

We Welcome The Following Pledges:

PLEDGE	HOMETOWN	SCHOOL
Jonathan Albert Eyal '99	Boca Raton, FL	Hotel
Saad S. Faruqui '98	Karachi, Pakistan	A&S
Omar Saifullah-Khan	Islamabad, Pakistan	Engineering
David Michael Goodman '99	New City, NY	Architecture
Christopher Gerard Huemmer '99	Farmingville, NY	Human Ecology
Larry Keane '99	Mahopac, NY	Agriculture
James Michael Lauer '99	Lake Forest, IL	ILR
Peter Sedivy '99	Norwood Park Twp, IL	ILR
Jean Paul Simoes	Kearny, NJ	A&S
Matthew David Steinberg '99	Riverside, CT	Agriculture
Bryce Loutsch '98	Petaluma, CA	Hotel



Sage Matthew Rosedale '98

Sage's Report:

Great Strides Toward A Bright Future

The past couple of years have been a struggle for the brothers of Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi. However, during the fall semester the brotherhood made great strides toward a bright future for our fraternity and for our brotherhood. The building of our new house was completed in January 1995, fulfilling the promise of a new external structure for our brotherhood. Since the completion of the house, the current active brothers have embarked on a journey to solidify the internal structure of our organization.

Although we have accomplished much, I must say that the path traveled has not been easy. In September the house went through a great transition. I'm sure many of you remember the proxy that was sent to you regarding the status of the undergraduate brotherhood. It was at this time that I was elected to be the leader of our effort to strengthen our fraternity and reestablish bloodlines with our alumni and our national fraternity. When we set out to establish new guidelines to follow, some of our fellow undergraduate brothers chose not to remain a part of the brotherhood for their own personal reasons. This left the active brotherhood totaling 12 members, with a great deal of work to do to rebuild the fraternity. Needless to say, being the new sage (and probably the youngest sage in our chapter's history), I had big shoes to fill.

Since Homecoming Weekend, my executive board and I have met several times with the alumni board to establish common goals. With their help and guidance we have been able to run the organization smoothly, foster a stronger brotherhood, have fun, and improve our relationship with our alumni and national. We have come closer to resolv-

Ideals And Values Must Figure Highly In Rebuilding Our Membership

The problems outlined in Jim Keene's letter to all alumni last September are not and were not solely the problems of Mu of Sigma Pi. As you recall, those problems were:

1. Lack of undergraduate leadership.
2. No control of alcohol use.
3. Not maintaining a drug-free house.
4. No financial responsibility by undergraduates.
5. No respect for either real or personal property.
6. Continuance of hazing.

The National Interfraternity Conference in 1995, in response to the identification of the above and other problems nationwide, decided to become proactive in devising policies that could remedy these problems.

They noted that the fraternity mission is simple: to build better men who care for others as much as for themselves, men who are active contributors to the larger society. It is a mission shared with family, religious organizations, and schools.

The NIC further noted that many of the 5,500 undergraduate fraternity chapters in North America are shining examples of the

worth of fraternity: outstanding scholarship, exemplary student leadership, brotherhood realized through high values, hands-on service to the community, and alumni mentoring. Many others, however, have substandard academic performance, mediocre leaders, brotherhoods revolving around alcohol and drugs, minimal outreach to the community, and no alumni involvement. These chapters do not enhance the positive public perception of fraternities. In fact, they discredit the integrity of all fraternities and lead many non-affiliated men to believe that fraternities have nothing to offer them.

In order to survive as a fraternity in the ever more competitive atmosphere of the college campus, Mu of Sigma Pi must become a group dedicated to the ideals and values expressed in our creed. Lip service is not enough. In order to attract ever better pledges we must have a positive program based on strong values designed to develop better men. That is our task and our challenge.

David A. Lefevre '60
Alumni Vice President

Visit Mu Chapter On The World Wide Web!

A little less than a year ago, Mu Chapter joined the thousands of organizations setting up home pages on the World Wide Web. We started out with a home page that had a basic description of our membership and alumni network. Now, almost a year later, the Sigma Pi Mu Chapter home page is one of the most popular World Wide Web sites at Cornell, hosting over 150 visitors a week.

Our home page now contains pictures of the old house burning down and our new beautiful white house in its shining glory. We plan to add pictures of the new house in its construction process and pictures of the current undergraduates. We have added a calendar of events that we update every semester. A planned addition (to be implemented by spring rush) is the "what's Muse?" page, which will be updated weekly and will contain the latest news concerning our undergrads and alumni. Information such as details of our parties and formals, scores of our intramural sports games, and

any other current events will soon be found in this section of our home page.

The most widely used and celebrated area of our home page so far has been the "leave us a note" section. We receive roughly 10 e-mails a day from Mu Chapter alumni, current Mu Chapter undergrads studying for a semester at other universities, and other chapter undergrads eager to correspond. Through the "leave us a note" section we have made friends at other universities and had questions about old house stories and traditions answered by some of our alumni. Please come and visit our home page. Our address is <http://crux3.cit.cornell.edu/~jkl/sigmapi.html>.

We are constantly updating and adding new features almost every day. So check back often and leave us a note. We'd love to hear from you!

Alex Schmelkin

ing our financial debts and have demonstrated our ability to care for and run our house responsibly. On December 3, we initiated three new brothers after having an informal fall pledge program. I firmly believe that we have proven to ourselves and our alumni that we are deserving of your support. I personal-

ly encourage those of you who have not been back to Cornell in a while to stop in and be proud of what you see—because you will be proud. I look forward to meeting many of you.

Fraternally,
Matthew Rosedale '98

What's Happening With Your Alumni Brothers?

N.B.: Much of the following news was submitted more than a year ago, so it is not as timely as we would like it to be. We hope that alumni will send additions and corrections for publication in the next issue of The Muse.

Please note this new address for HOWARD T. CRITCHLOW JR. '36: 309 Bridgeboro Rd., Room 2608, Moorestown, NJ 08057.

"Not much new," reports retiree FRANCIS R. FOWLER '36. "Still chugging along, although not as fast as I used to." Drop him a line at 6 Princeton Rd., Wayne, PA 19087.

CHARLES V. L. HAYES '40 writes, "It's hard to realize the old house is gone. I feel as though I've lost an old friend. What a lot of memories were suddenly reduced to ashes!" "Stork" is enjoying his retirement at 5208 Suson Lane, Fort Pierce, FL 34951. "With few exceptions, all plans are made same day over morning coffee. It sounds dull, but actually I have very little spare time."

Physician GEORGE G. READER '40 works as a consultant in health care delivery after a career of teaching public health and medicine at Cornell. He can be reached at 155 Stuyvesant Ave., Rye, NY 10580.

FRANK C. ABBOTT '42 keeps busy coordinating three regional higher education organizations. He tips his hat to JIM KEENE '57: "Like every Mu brother, I am indebted to him and others who have dedicated themselves to creating the funding required to continue Sigma Pi at Cornell!" Frank makes his home at 1250 Norwood Ave., Boulder, CO 80304.

Raising race horses is one of LORENZ K. MULLER's ('46) retirement passions. He lives at 1211 N. 98th Court, Omaha, NE 68114.

Write to ROBERT F. STEPHENS '48 at 969 Antelope Ave. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122.

"Retirement is great!" pens JOHN W. LLOYD '49. "I've been busy traveling, doing some consulting work, and volunteering." He would like to see fellow alums more often and invites old friends to contact him at 77 Miles Circle, Fairport, NY 14450.

JOSEPH W. CALBY JR. '51 resides at

5308 Winged Foot Rd., Charlotte, NC 28226.

After 35 years in advertising, ROBERT K. CHRISTENBERRY JR. '52 (34 Friendship Court, Red Bank, NJ 07701) is retired. He'd like to get back in touch with DAVID C. KAY '49, whose address is 1784 W. Circle Dr., Martinsville, NJ 08836.

Brenda and LINCOLN C. PEIRCE '52 have moved to 26 Mendum's Landing, Barrington, NH 03825.

We were sorry to learn from WARREN D. LEACH '53 that his wife, Carol Shelby Leach, died suddenly from a pulmonary embolism in April 1994. Warren is retired and lives at 4 Skytop Rd., Edison, NJ 08820.

The Alumni Dues Program

The alumni dues program continues. Alumni dues are \$25 per year, or a greater amount if you want to help at a higher level. The alumni dues program pays the cost of our alumni communications and helps to facilitate other alumni functions. It is separate from the continuing capital fund drive. When the capital fund drive is complete we must continue to emphasize the alumni dues program as a source of funds for major maintenance, redecoration, etc. Alumni dues notices will be sent in the spring.

After redesigning the University of the United Arab Emirates, management consultant MANFRED W. HOFFMANN '60 returned to the U.S. to solicit new clients. His specialty is conflict mediation, conflict resolution, and strategic organization development. Send your regards to Manny at 12316 Lakewood Dr., McKinney, TX 75070.

Note this new address for KARL F. MILLER '64: 800 Penn Center Blvd., #606, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

C. EDWARD KEMP '68 writes, "In October 1993, my wife, Carol O'Loughlin, started her own real estate company. While awaiting the sale of my veterinary practice, I've been helping Carol out in her new business venture. Business has been very busy, and we now have four other salespeople

working for us. So should you be looking to buy or sell Cape Cod property, give us a call!" His phone number is 508/548-5811, and his address is 3 Kinghorn Dr., Falmouth, MA 02540.

"I am pleased to let my friends now that on May 14, 1994, I was married to Diane Herman Knerr," writes WALTER L. KNOX III '71. "I was joined by my son, Andy (17), my daughter, Emily (12), Diane's daughter, Sarah (9), and Diane's son, Jason (7). We are excited about starting our new family at 168 Brentwood Dr., Penfield, NY 14526." Wally wants to add his voice to those acknowledging the work of JIM KEENE '57 on behalf of Sigma Pi. "Thanks for your tireless, outstanding leadership, Jim. There is much silent appreciation for your efforts."

A banking consultant, FRED M. PETERSON '71 can be reached at 131 Scalybark Rd., Summerville, SC 29485.

GREGORY W. FISHER '72 receives mail at 126 Schoolhouse Rd., Claysville, PA 15323.

STEVEN D. SILBERMANN '72 is employed by Eastman Kodak as a photo CD product manager, and he makes his home at 111 Knolltop Dr., Rochester, NY 14610.

Anyone who donated to the building fund was invited to stop by 16229 Snyder Rd., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022, for a great meal, "complete with great wines and/or beers," courtesy of J. CHASE FORBES JR. '74. "I may even treat for an Indians game in the new stadium!" Casey is president of Vintage Wine Distributor.

From January to September of 1993, WILLIAM H. AHRENS '76 was on sabbatic leave at Northeast Agricultural University in Harbin, China, with wife Peggy and their three boys, Ben, Mitch, and Russ. "China is a very interesting place!" The Ahrens family is now back at home at 2017 9-1/2 St. N., Fargo, ND 58102.

THOMAS M. GARR '76 and his family have moved to 4245 Paran Walk NW, Atlanta, GA 30327.

Mail for JAMES R. FRANZ '77 should now be addressed to him at 321 Front St., Owego, NY 13827.

PETER E. WRIGHT '77 has a new ad-
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Report From The Alumni Secretary

This has certainly been an exciting semester for all of us here at Sigma Pi Mu Chapter. In the first weeks of the semester, a new executive board was elected—and since then, we have taken on the challenges of rebuilding the chapter. With only 12 brothers and three pledges, we had many obstacles, and we faced them head-on. Our work has paid off; we are finally coming to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Over the course of the semester we have instituted new policies that will make our undergraduate chapter as strong as it can be. Some of these policies include a system of fines for missing house meetings and house cleanups and a judiciary system to help keep tabs on all of the brothers. Everyone is eagerly awaiting spring rush; we hope it will be a successful one. If any alumni wish to recommend someone they know for rush, please feel free to contact me. My telephone number is 607/256-3030.

This semester we all enjoyed a successful Homecoming Weekend. After the annual meeting, many alumni came up to join the undergraduates at our truck for tailgating before, during, and after the football game.

After tailgating, we had our Homecoming formal, and a good time was had by both young and old.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the course of the semester. Please feel free to stop by at any time. If you are going to be at Cornell for Reunion Weekend (June 6-9), several undergraduate brothers will be keeping the house open for you this weekend. You will receive more details soon about the weekend's structured events.

Thank you for your continued support for Sigma Pi. We have all had a turbulent time in the past couple of years, and without your help we would not be here right now. We need your continued support to prosper and thrive. The house still needs many improvements, and, with the current undergraduate membership at 15 brothers, we are at a monetary standstill. With your continued support, Sigma Pi Mu Chapter will be here at Cornell and will always make you proud to be a brother.

Jeff Jones '98
Alumni Secretary

Rewarding Rush Anticipated

We've been watching the Sigma Pi *How to Rush* video as a group, in an all-out effort to get ready for what promises to be the most taxing, and possibly most rewarding, spring rush. The rush calendar is filled with events like bowling at Ide's, go-karting at Ringwood Raceway, fun at Turningstone Casino, football on the quad, dinners at the house, and the usual smokers and contacts.

Most of us are sophomores, and the only experience we've had with rush was a taste during this year's fall rush. After pledging and initiating three new members, we're looking to sink our teeth in and get another 15 to possibly 20. It looks like pledges will outnumber brothers in the spring, and the pledge educator will have his work cut out for him.

Liviu Rusu

What's Cookin'?

With the new house and all the goings on, it has been an exciting semester to be the steward. We have hired a new cook, Patrick "Pat" Spirawk, who has been providing such great meals as prime rib, fajitas, and Cornish game hens. He has helped with the formals and with fall smokers, and he's planning a fantastic menu for the spring smokers.

With Jim Keene's generous donations of two new refrigerators and a new freezer, we have the best equipment on campus and will be able to provide great food for a long time. All the brothers are very excited about the new cook and the new kitchen and are very pleased with the great meals. Some say that a way to a man's heart is through his stomach; well, the way to a Pi-man's heart is "mot sticks" and cheese fries, which are in great supply.

We look forward to a tasty next semester and hope that alumni will join us for some of the wonderful dinners to come.

Grant Portier
Steward

A Day In The Life Of Sigma Pi

Walking down Libe Slope, the cold snow falling on your head, you cannot wait to arrive at the Pi house. With the just-finished exam still in your thoughts, you know that the Pi house is the place to go to unwind. Upon entering the house, you walk into the kitchen to grab a cup of hot coffee. Immediately, Tequila (the new dog in the house) runs up to you, hoping that you are heading to the refrigerator. Sorry, pal.

As you walk into the dining room, the Ping-Pong table beckons. Before you know it, a paddle has appeared in your hand. It does not take a lot of coaxing to persuade another brother to join in a quick game that you both realize will definitely become a best-out-of-five series. After finishing five games of Wimbledon Ping-Pong, you enter

the "black hole"—a.k.a. the TV room, a.k.a. the rec room.

Some time later, you begin to wander up to your room. On the way you happen to see people hanging out in a brother's room. Since everyone is hanging out just listening to music, you want to walk in and say "hi." Over an hour later you realize you somehow have agreed to go out to collegetown. You run to your room, check the messages on the answering machine, and head into collegetown. At three in the morning you walk in the front door of the house. After tripping on the rug by the door, you suddenly remember your nine o'clock class that you must attend in the morning. That leaves at least four hours sleep....

Just another day in the Pi house.

Below, left to right: pledge Dave Goodman '99 and date; pledge Saad Faruqui '98 and date; brother Matt Reynolds '98 and his girlfriend; pledge Bryce Loutsch '98 and date.



What's Happening With Your Alumni Brothers?

(continued from page six)

dress: 111 Clinton St., Homer, NY 13077.

When we last heard from LAWRENCE D. MacLENNAN '79, he and Sue were awaiting the birth of their second child. Send best wishes to them at 20 Thornton Rd., Londonderry, NH 03053.

"My wife, Felicity McNichol (Cornell '80), and I recently had our first child, Savannah Rae McNichol," reports CURTIS A. QUANTZ '79. He had taken what he hoped would be a permanent leave from the role of corporate employee to work as a dad and as an independent marketing contractor. For news of "CQ's" family, write to 3486 Cooper Dr., Santa Clara, CA 95051.

LEO L. TIMMS '79 continues to work at Iowa State, teaching and doing research in all areas concerning dairy. His wife is a short-stay surgical nurse at the local hospital, and they have two sons, Rob and Sam. Several years ago they moved to a house out in the country at 3721 Pleasant View Rd., Ames, IA 50014. "We've got plenty of room, so come visit the heartland."

After living in Germany, RICHARD A. BOSSHARDT '80 returned to the U.S. and now resides at 28 Tempo Dr., Danville, NH 03819.

LUC C. CHABOT '80 wrote in April 1994 that he was about to be sent "into exile" for three years to work on the Hibernia Project in St. John's, Newfoundland. "Any brothers heading to Disney World for vacation are invited to take a small detour north to 'the rock' to visit a very unique place." Luc's new address is 10 Dollard Place, Mount Pearl, Newfoundland A1N 4K5, CANADA.

We heard from ROBERT B. FUCHS '80 while on his second tour of duty in Singapore as an oil trader. "So far, I've managed to avoid the cane." Get in touch with Rob at 17 Nassim Rd., #02-01 Nassim Park, 1025 SINGAPORE.

JARRETT WAIT '80 reports a new address of 21 Basil Mansions, Basil St., London SW3 1AP, ENGLAND.

Pi-men are invited to visit Debbie and BRADFORD L. CROOKE '81 and their daughter, Allyson, at the Croke's new home at 2 Woodpark Circle, Lexington, MA 02173.

"I just opened up a new manufacturing company called Viking Manufacturing, which is in the business of producing shoes and moccasins for alternative uses," reports JONATHAN S. PETTEE '81 (14 Colchester

Rd., Weston, MA 02193). "I'm optimistic that the company will provide synergies with our already established beer distributorship operation."

Get in touch with JAMES E. GARR '82 at 750 Washington Rd., #1407, Pittsburgh, PA 15228.

Life in Las Vegas is terrific, according to TIMOTHY M. HAWES '82, who lives at 2025 Cedar Hills St., Las Vegas, NV 89128. He was excited about being the best man in STEVE PIERETTI's ('83) wedding and wrote that BRIAN FINNERAN '81 "will have to be satisfied being head parking attendant!" Tim is vice president of gaming development for Hilton Hotel Corporation, and he has a preschool daughter who is "a major fireball. She will definitely be going to an all-girls' school far, far away from Cornell and Ziggy Poo!"

WILLIAM P. FISHER '85 earned an MBA from Indiana University in 1993 and the same year wed Marlene Bagans. He works for General Electric as manager of human resources and makes his home at 25195 Meridian Rd., Grosse Ile, MI 48138.

Drop a line to ERIC R. HAMBURG '85 at 2140 Sturges Highway, Westport, CT 06880.

WILLIAM W. HOPPIN '85 reports a new address of 417 Forest Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301.

We last heard from GREGORY S. VOJNOVIC '85 as he was preparing to transfer to Atlanta (1571 Crossway Dr., Atlanta, GA 30319) to pursue a career in domestic franchising with Arby's. He shares his home with his brother, NICHOLAS S. VOJNOVIC '81. Greg sends news of Alexa and KURT E. BOSSHARDT's ('83) new daughter and also reports seeing TOM McHUGH '81 at a restaurant show in Chicago. "Tom is food and beverage director of a riverboat casino in Aurora, Illinois."

We have this new address for JAY R. LITTMAN '87: 14 Standish Circle, Andover, MA 01810.

JEFFREY V. LIPSKY '89 has moved, too. His new abode is at 4 Wentworth Dr., Dix Hills, NY 11746.

STEVEN L. CLOSTER '91 and his long-time girlfriend, Missy, tied the knot in December 1993. Write to them at 200 E. 33rd St., Apt. 8A, New York, NY 10016.

Engineer MATTHEW R. CUDDY '92

graduated with a master's in mechanical engineering from Colorado State University-Boulder in May 1994 and now works at the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, Colorado. We hope he'll provide us with his new address soon, but in the meantime mail can be directed to him at P.O. Box 222, Winterport, ME 04496.

Get in touch with JASON D. HALIO '93 at 165 E. 83rd St., #4G, New York, NY 10028.

DECEASED

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

RICHARD ALLAN '56,
April 19, 1993

C. RUSSELL CARR '29,
December 25, 1993

FRANK CONTI '53

RICHARD F. FELLOWS '59,
June 3, 1990

CHARLES HAWKS III '60,
January 20, 1993

ARTHUR C. HILL '37,
July 11, 1993

GORDON B. HOFFMAN '31,
June 23, 1995

ROBERT I. INGLEHART JR. '49,
October 15, 1993

ARTHUR L. NASH '27,
January 20, 1995

JOHN C. PERROLLAZ '54,
January 12, 1994

JOHN D. PERRY '45,
September 12, 1995

THEODORE ROBERTSON '39

JOHN S. SPAULDING '20

JOEL K. VAN WYNEN '58,
October 27, 1993

LOUIS WARNCKE '27,
June 13, 1993

JOSEPH A. WITZEL '21,
May 2, 1993

THE MUSE

Published regularly by the Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity at Cornell University for its members and friends. News contributions and pictures are welcome at all times and should be sent to Sigma Pi Fraternity, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.