



the  
phi alpha

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*"These are our standards . . ."*

## A Critical View of Pledge Education

by Denny Parish  
Ohio Nu

No pledge shall be subjected to corporal punishment of any kind. Because they are inconsistent with the Ritual and the objectives of the Fraternity, these practices specifically and all other similar activities are prohibited at any and all times in all Chapters for Pledges and all others: paddling, physical exercises resulting in excess fatigue or exhaustion, deprivation of normal sleep and rest, any form of corporal or mental punishment, the placing of anyone in actual or simulated peril or jeopardy of health . . . Title V, Art. 22, Sec. 67 and 69 of the National Laws of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

The first reaction upon seeing this is to smile and think to one's self "if they only knew . . .". Pledge Education has long been a highly debatable topic among brothers of all fraternities. But our concern is with Sigma Alpha Epsilon and how we can remain a leader and developer of a more liberal Pledge Education Program.

With the liberal society, in which we are living today, a stronger emphasis on the pledge as an individual is needed. The object of a good pledge program is not to educate the pledges as a class but instead as individuals within a group. If you train the individual properly, he will fit into the group. This way when the pledge program is over, you have a group of men who have been educated and trained to be good brothers and not a group of men who have been taught to be good pledges.

Of course, there is no answer to the question of which pledge program is the best. It differs with the needs and situations of each chapter. But there is a growing trend among many chapters toward the idea of a Pledge Committee instead of a single Pledge Trainer. An example of this would be a committee consisting of five members. One member could

cover SAE history, both national and local, along with the first twenty chapters of the Phoenix. His sole purpose would be to educate the pledge in the history of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Another member of the committee would be in charge of songs and spirit. It would be most vital that he instill in these young men the spirit of SAE. The third member would be in charge of activities. These include work at the house, a community or university service project, a fraternity service project, or any other activities such as dances, etc. The fourth member would be in charge of Big Brothers and Chapter relations. He would coordinate the pledges with the actives. This is a very important task in a program such as this. The fifth and final member of the committee is the Chairman or the Pledge Trainer per se. He coordinates the entire committee, reports to the chapter, and passes final judgement on the Pledge's performance. The advantages of a committee over a single individual controlling the Pledge Class are: A) it allows closer contact between the pledges and the actives, B) more personal guidance can be given each pledge, C) broadens the perspective of the fraternity the pledge receives since the ideas are coming

from a group of individuals, D) there is less reliance on a single person. But for a program like this to succeed you must have brothers who really care and will actively work to help the pledges.

In the past fraternities have been able to say to pledges: "These are our standards, now you must do as we say to meet them." There is no use kidding ourselves because we can no longer do this. You cannot continue to educate young men in the same manner you used five or ten years ago. It simply is not acceptable and one day many of our Chapters are going to come to the sad realization that they are gradually dying out. Many chapters have voiced concern over the fact that National does not strictly enforce the National Laws. But it is not National's duty to stand over us and enforce these laws—rather it is up to each individual chapter to police themselves and upgrade their own pledge program. Pledge Education is one of the most vital areas in our fraternity for it is in this area that a good brother can be made or lost. At this moment, we must quickly reevaluate ourselves and decide if our standards meet the requirements of today's society.

# Editorial

The Thirty-sixth Leadership School of Sigma Alpha Epsilon is coming to an end. In the past few, but enlightening days, we have gone through a slight metamorphosis. Our own personal ideas have become realities, made concrete by the evaluations and opinions of other Chapter delegates. When one considers the potential that is encompassed within Minerva's Realm, there is a satisfying assurance that the bonds of Sigma Alpha Epsilon will never cease.

We, as brothers, are obligated to return these knowledgeable experiences to our respected Chapters. This entire idea of a Leadership School where men come to participate in discussions for Chapter betterment and their problems is the most valuable asset that a Chapter can receive, an asset that cannot be matched by specific individuals or material wealth.

Therefore, this is where we are forming ideas and growing and asking ourselves, "Are our ideals really static, or shall we strive to find new meaning in the philosophy of SAE."

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## Perspective:

# Brother John Baugh

by Denny Parish  
Ohio Nu

The second session of the thirty-sixth annual Leadership School marks the farewell of one of SAE's most beloved and respected brothers. Brother John Baugh is retiring from the Leadership School Staff after having attended twenty-seven Leadership Schools. Brother Baugh, who graduated from Oklahoma Mu at Oklahoma State University in 1935, currently makes his home in both Evanston, Ill. and Meeker, Okla. He has been associated with the National Office since 1946 and in his role as Pledge Trainer for the honor pledges at Leadership School, he has guided forty-two classes through the experience.

Brother Baugh expressed great pleasure over the chance to meet and work with young men from all over the country as the main reason he enjoyed Leadership School so well. In the area of pledge education Brother Baugh favors a well-planned, constructive pledge program that is strict but fair to every person. He also feels that it is vital for all the pledges to know each other and the actives quite well by the end of their pledgship.

Perhaps the most interesting association Brother Baugh has had was with John O. Moseley. For a year Brother Baugh lived in the Moseley home in Evanston and during this period he gained much valuable knowledge about Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Although this is the last Leadership School Brother Baugh will attend before his retirement there is little doubt that he will be coming back time after time as a guest speaker, for here is a great talent that cannot be lost to future Schools. To Brother John Baugh—on behalf of the many Brothers across this land, we salute you and thank you. We hope that Minerva will guide and protect you in the years to come.

## Brother

# Carl P. Kimball Is Recovering

One of the truly outstanding members of our Fraternity is missing from the Thirty-Sixth Leadership School. That person is Brother Carl P. Kimball who is the Archon of Province Chi. Unfortunately Brother Kimball was involved in a very serious automobile accident a few weeks ago. He suffered multiple fractures and concussions of the skull, both arms and legs were fractured, and there were internal injuries. He has been in a very critical condition and today remains in serious condition. We, the members of the Phi Alpha staff along with all the Brothers attending Leadership School, wish Brother Kimball a speedy recovery so that he may once more actively join our ranks.

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# "Hair" is Outstanding

Review by Denny Parish  
Ohio Nu

"This is the dawning of the Age of Aquarius . . ." this was the message delivered at the most popular extra-curricular activity at this year's Leadership School. Of course this line is from the song "Aquarius" from the popular American Love-Rock musical "Hair." The Brothers attending the first session of Leadership School, on Wednesday their free night off, went to the Shubert Theater in downtown Chicago, to see the musical. It went over

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# The Collegiate Council is a Reality

by Roy J. Medlin & Denny Parish  
Calif. Nu Ohio Nu

**On August 29, the Saturday between the two sessions of Leadership School, Sigma Alpha Epsilon held its first annual Collegiate Council. Each Province sent one delegate who was selected by the Province. The four major areas of concern dealt with at the meeting were: 1) Pledge Education, 2) A National Rush Brochure, 3) help and assistance from National, and 4) the fraternity's role in "the changing picture in higher education." One other problem dealt with was the emergency situation at Colorado Zeta.**

The first topic acted upon by the Collegiate Council was the method of selection of future delegates to this honored body. Henceforth future delegates will be elected at the Province Convention or during off-years at Province meetings for a term of one year. The candidate should be an upperclassman in collegiate standing, with active graduate students eligible. Each chapter in turn will elect, from their own ranks, a junior delegate who will serve as a member of a Province Collegiate Council. Each chapter will be urged to fill these positions with underclassmen who can benefit from

this experience. The delegates to the National Collegiate Council must attend the first session of Leadership School.

With regard to the four major areas of concern the following action was taken: Pledge Education—Add to the Phoenix important presentations from the Leadership School seminars on such topics as: chapter management, chapter finance, rush, and National programs. Also the National Laws concerning hazing of pledges. Require every chapter to submit a comprehensive report on their Pledge Education program with the hope that the ten programs that best fulfill the needs of their chapter and school be published and finally, a John Baugh Pledge Program Award for the outstanding Pledge Program submitted. A National Rush Brochure—Use one issue of the RECORD each year as a type of "rush issue," without change in its regular make-up. The cover and center sections would be left blank to allow the local chapter to place its picture here and supply local information. This might qualify the RECORD as an educational publication, thus solving some financial problems that are arising.

Help and Assistance from National—An urge to the local chapters to make better use of the Chapter Consultants and have these men be more responsive to the provinces than the National Office. Also a National publication on various fraternity programs that have been successful at other chapters.

The fraternity's role in the "changing picture in higher education"—Unanimous agreement with the Supreme Council's statement on "The Current Crisis in Higher Education." A call for the end of the one blackball system of membership selection and a need for further educating fraternity members on all aspects of the today's drug problem today.

The final order of business brought before the Council was the emergency situation at Colorado Zeta. During the past several years, apathy settled upon the chapter causing over forty brothers to leave the membership. This left only three members to carry on the business of the fraternity. The Council suggested that each chapter, across the country, send at least one letter or telegram to the chapter wishing them luck on the forthcoming rush period and reaffirming our faith in them, also asking each Province to donate twenty-five dollars to aid in sending a group of people to visit and to assist them in their rush program.

At the conclusion of the meeting two Brothers were selected as chairman and Vice-Chairman who will present these ideas to the Supreme Council.

Of course, the above actions of the Collegiate Council are suggestions that will be brought before the Supreme Council. But these are the suggestions of undergraduates whose peers are the true voice of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

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## Great Men

by Robert Pearson Ohio Nu

One often thinks and asks,  
"Are men great because they are SAE's, or  
are they SAE's because they are great."

It is like trying to settle the old adage  
"Which came first, the chicken or the egg." The man  
is great who is a true brother of Sigma Alpha Epsilon,  
yet his greatness is meaningful only through what he  
does.

The true SAE will strive for betterment for all  
as well as for himself.

Above all, Sigma Alpha Epsilon is a philosophy  
of life.

## "Hair is Outstanding

(Continued from page 2)

so well and was such a big success with those Brothers who saw it that Ass't. Leadership School Director John Henry Stone decided to secure tickets for the Wednesday evening show for those interested Brothers who were attending the second session. Over seventy-five Brothers attended the performance and all of them agreed that it was tremendous.

Many points brought out in the musical deal with the same problems the Brothers at Leadership School are examining in higher education. Among these problems are: drugs, student revolt, civil rights and the generation gap. All of the Brothers at the performance were amazed at the musical's frankness and each came away with the hope that we may some day help in solving some of these problems.

# Province Alpha Succeeds

by Everett Newton  
Conn. Lambda

Just as the life blood of Sigma Alpha Epsilon is its members, and the heart of the Fraternity, its national offices, the veins of SAE are its twenty two provinces throughout the country. Province leadership is often overlooked as a source of strength to the individual chapters, though, and therein lies a danger to the solidarity of the Fraternity.

The New England realm of Province Alpha provides fitting examples both of the hazards of weak province organization and of the benefits to be derived from a viable and vibrant alliance of chapters collegiate. Province Alpha has proceeded in the past four years from a position of near non-existence as a governing and counseling body to that of protector and pacesetter for its chapters. In 1966, Lambda Phi Alpha local fraternity at the University of Hartford in Connecticut

sent out pleas for help in its bid for entrance into the realm of Minerva. Hartford County's Alumni Association, as well as several area chapters, responded warmly and with sincere hope for the local's success. But the truth of the matter was Province Alpha had not seen an expansion chapter since 1943 (Connecticut Beta), and was at a loss as to how to proceed.

Seven men of Lambda Phi Alpha, poorly prepared and ill informed, went to the (111th) Anniversary Convention in Minneapolis and returned in great disappointment to their Brothers, still Lambda Phi Alpha's. The shock to province officials and concerned alumni was never as great. Under the leadership of Province Archon Andrew P. Cueroni (Massachusetts Delta) a series of bi-monthly province conventions was inaugurated. Seminars, discussions and letters followed. They received backing from nearly every New England chapter. Feeling confident, Province Alpha's favorite sons invaded the San Francisco Convention and returned triumphant. Once again the province was a functioning mechanism in the Northeast.

## The Phi Alpha of Sigma Alpha Epsilon

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