

THE RECORD

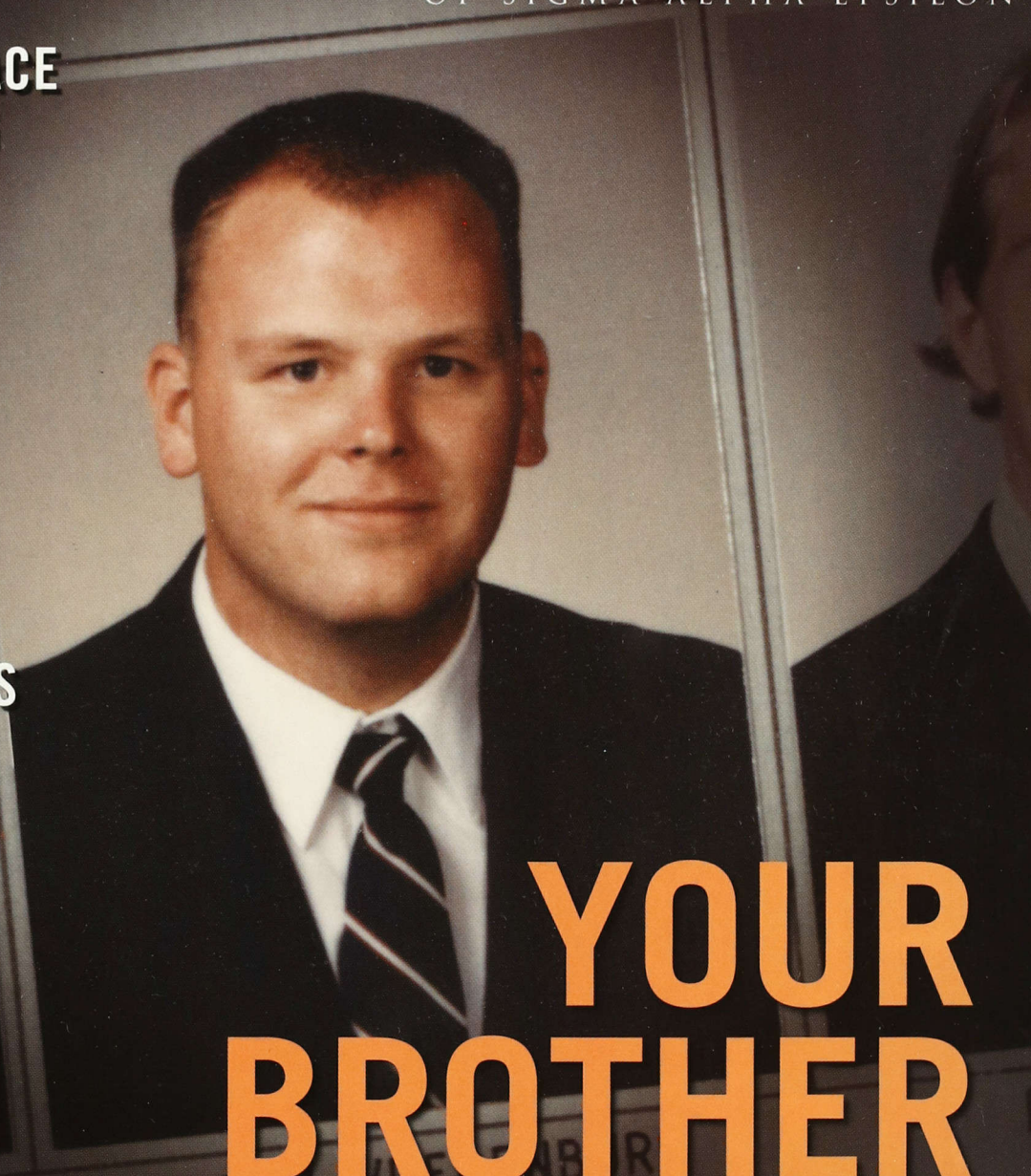
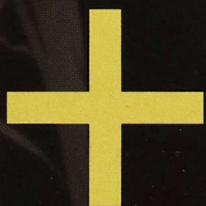
OF SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON

**RUNNING A RACE
WITH ONE LEG**

**HOW YOUR
CHAPTER
CAN SNAG
AN AWARD**

**WHY SUMMER
WILL SIZZLE**

**ALASKA KNOWS
HOW TO GIVE**



YOUR BROTHER

INMATE #6738178

**HOW ONE DECISION TOOK HIS FREEDOM
WHAT YOU CAN LEARN FROM HIM**



SNAPSHOT

Brothers leave the Alabama Mu house after an afternoon gathering during the Sesquicentennial Celebration in Tuscaloosa, Ala., on March 11, 2006.

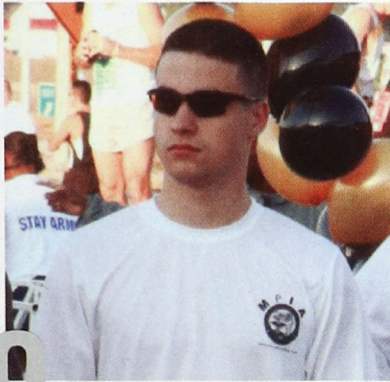




32

OVERSHADOWED IDENTITY

His daily routine was just like yours and mine. But one day, he made a decision that would change society's perception of him. He wants you to learn a lesson from his story.



9

PORTRAIT OF A GENTLEMAN

Marine veteran Aaron Rice sacrificed a body part in Iraq. We'll show you how he beat the odds back home.



14

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act heads to Congress. Find out what you can do to help the initiative.

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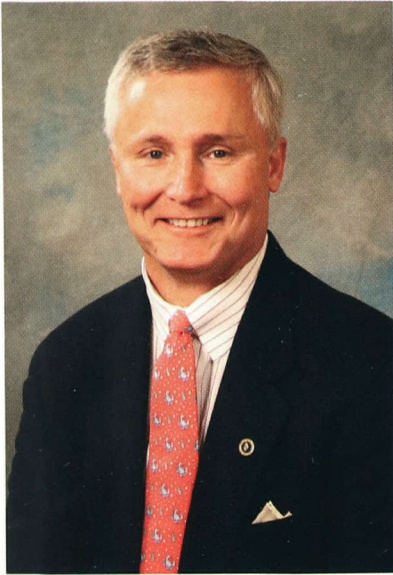
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Celebrating 150 Years



Dear Brothers:

March 9, 2006 has come and gone, but the memories of a wonderful celebration still linger with the brothers, wives and guests who were able to join us in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

With just shy of 1,000 people in attendance, this certainly was one of the largest gatherings in our Fraternity history. The stories of how the brothers got to Mother Mu are as varied as the men who came from around the country, but one thing that was constant was the love our great Order shares and the core values that we hold so dearly.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Eminent Supreme Archon Tom Goodale, Director of Communications Brandon Weghorst and the staff at the Fraternity Service Center, as well as Province Epsilon Archon Dan Gladding and his province council, the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation, ΣAE Services, the Tuscaloosa Area Alumni Association and the men from Alabama Mu. Everyone did a fantastic job, and it showed. What a great day to be an ΣAE!

The Supreme Council has made some changes to bring the John O. Moseley Leadership School attendance back to the levels that we saw in the 1960s and the 1970s. Attendance had fallen to approximately 315 men from about 800 men four decades ago, and we simply cannot have a positive effect on our chapters with just 315 men on 220 campuses. Something drastic needed to be done — and we are doing it. This year, we are taking Leadership School on a cruise to Mexico, enhancing the experience while preserving our leadership training. I am asking each of you to reach out to your chapter and help send these men on this voyage to better themselves. Great leaders help create and maintain strong chapters.

Phi Alpha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Michael Scarborough". The signature is fluid and cursive.

J. Michael Scarborough (Salisbury '76)
Eminent Supreme Archon

EDITOR'S NOTE

With all the excitement around the Levere Memorial Temple, keeping up with all the news from around the Realm has been difficult in the last few months. We've just wrapped up the largest event in Sigma Alpha Epsilon's history, and we're not quite ready to cover it in *The Record* just yet.

If you have any stories, photos or memories of your time at the 150th celebration in Tuscaloosa, send them to editor@sae.net. We'd love to get all the feedback we can — and look for full coverage of the sesquicentennial in the next issue.

Fraternally,
Nicholas A. Ziegler
Editor-in-Chief

Brothers have joined the Gentlemen's Circle online community

6,353



\$64,000
 minimum amount that will be awarded in scholarships this year

from the Levere Memorial Temple to Alaska Alpha, the largest distance between the headquarters and a chapter

eighteen
 number of chapters at the Dallas Recruitment Challenge on April 1

2840
MILES

Two Hundred and Sixty-Two
 number of chapter visits conducted by the regional directors from August 2005 through March 2006

At Mother Mu's open house during the Sesquicentennial Celebration, brothers and guests consumed:

170 pounds of pulled pork

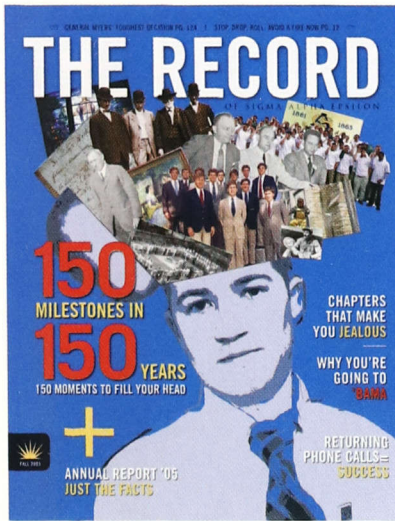
170 pounds of barbecued chicken

250 slabs of ribs



"Always keep an open mind and a compassionate heart."
 -Phil Jackson (North Dakota '67)

1
 number of active members it takes to successfully recruit a new brother
(see synonym at "The Power of One")



The fall 2005 issue of *The Record* was amazing! If you are able to capture the brothers in their 20s-40s with the current format, yet keep it pertinent [to the readers], you will have hit a grand slam. It really is key to get guys involved and reading in their years right after school, and it develops a strong platform for the future years.

Jake Abel (Simpson '03)

In this age of "I-have-to-get-all-my-information-on-the-internet," we think reading a magazine is pretty darn important. And we love feedback — good or bad.

I READ WITH GREAT INTEREST THE article on "Don't Get Burned" in your fall edition of *The Record*. I am a parent of one of your ΣAE members from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. Several years ago when I attended an open-house fundraising auction night, I was amazed at the potential safety condition of the house. We still see a large house occupying 20-30 guys in the 19-23 age bracket that probably do not even know which end of the screwdriver to hold let alone maintaining the integrity of a house that big.

I applaud you for promoting the concept of sprinkler systems. My daughter attended the University of Wisconsin at La Crosse and was a member of a sorority where the sorority house caught fire and took the lives of two resident students in the house.

For your discussion, I wish you well in trying to figure out who is going to take the bull by the horns and mandate all ΣAE houses be equipped with fire-suppression systems so ΣAE can be noted as the safest organization in the university systems.

Jim Kramer (father of undergraduate Ryan Kramer [Drake])

Our members would be shocked to hear how many young men and women in college have lost their lives in senseless fires that could have been avoided. Education is only half the battle. Putting a plan into action is the other half. We hope our chapters and house corporations follow suit.

INCREDIBLE! I CAN THINK OF NO

better word to describe the fall issue of *The Record*. It's great reading. Your skills, creativity, time spent and love for ΣAE are clearly evident in the content and quality of your finished product. You can be very proud of and pleased with your work.

Ben Allen (Miami '60)
Past ESA

THE CURRENT ISSUE OF THE RECORD

is just super! The abundance of facts regarding our 150 years of success is a lot of fun to read.

Jim Mottern (Idaho '70)

Thanks, guys! We thought maybe it would be bathroom reading. (Maybe it is.) But, hey, 150 tidbits of information makes us all historians.

I REALLY ENJOYED READING THE FALL issue of *The Record* as well as all prior issues. However, I did note a factual error in item 44 on page 77. Tennessee Eta actually won the zeal award in 1997. (*The Record* has it listed as 1990.) Having been an active during that year, [I know] we are very proud of that achievement. Besides that one small error, the fall issue was fantastic. Keep up the good work!

Stephen Eldridge (Union '97)

IN REFERENCE TO THE RECENT ISSUE

of *The Record* regarding "150 Milestones in 150 Years," I would like to call your attention to number 75. The picture is incorrectly identified. Actually, it is a picture of the pledging ceremony in the garden of the Tennessee Kappa chapter house in the fall of 1946. I was eminent archon of the chapter at that time, and the numbers were so large because of returning veterans of World War II.

Richard A. Koella
(Tennessee-Knoxville '44)

Us? A mistake? Hmmm. We must have fallen asleep writing all those milestones while we were burning the midnight oil. We told Starbucks we needed more coffee. Anyway, thanks for the catch.

HEADQUARTERS

NEWS BRIEFS



The Challenge Takes Over Dallas



As they begin recruitment planning for the coming academic year, dozens of undergraduate leaders from around

the Realm are armed with better tools for recruitment.

For the third consecutive year, Sigma Alpha Epsilon offered its Recruitment Challenge, engaging more than 90 participants from 18 chapters.

Recruitment committee chairman Mike Arthur presents his program on recruitment to undergraduates at the Challenge. He has been a member of the presentation team since its creation in 2003.

This year, we took the Challenge on the road to Dallas, Texas. In addition, the men at Southern Methodist University served as hosts, showcasing their new chapter house.

The Challenge provided educational training specifically for rush chairmen and chapter leaders, focusing on identifying prospective members, articulating the benefits of membership, motivating the entire chapter, retaining new members and learning best-practice techniques from around the Realm. All participants left with a defined action plan for their chapters or colonies and the tools to succeed during year-round recruitment.

The chapters and colonies that were represented include Christian Brothers, Colorado State, Eastern New Mexico, Fort Hays State, Kansas, Kansas State, Louisiana Tech, New Mexico, Occidental, Oklahoma State, Rockhurst, Southern Methodist, Texas-Austin, Texas Christian, Texas-Dallas, Texas Tech and Wichita State.

"This was the first time we've done the Recruitment Challenge on a regional level, and the turnout impressed us," said Mike Arthur, chairman of the recruitment committee.

Farewell, Brother DeMarco

It is with great sorrow that we report the passing of Brother Bob DeMarco (Cal State-Los Angeles '66), long-time staff member, into the Chapter Eternal. He died on the evening of Feb. 13, 2006, following complications from a heart attack.



DeMarco served the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity as an assistant executive director in the West for five years when the program first started. Most recently, he accepted a position as the regional campaign director for the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation. Outside the fraternal realm, DeMarco worked as an attorney and established a solid record in litigation.

He became a member of the Merit Key Society in 1999 and earned the Order of Minerva in 2005. He served as a province archon for many years and was a Nippert Society member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation.

The Fraternity Service Center held a memorial service for DeMarco, and many staff members attended his funeral on Feb. 20 in Pasadena, Calif.

The DeMarco family has established a scholarship in his name. *To make a contribution to the fund, please send donations to the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation, c/o Bob DeMarco Leadership School Scholarship Fund, 1856 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201-3837.*

Your Laws, Your Future

The governance of Sigma Alpha Epsilon is codified in and accomplished through the Fraternity Laws, which is accepted at the biannual Convention. Any Fraternity member in good standing who would like to amend an existing law or propose new legislation may submit a proposal to do so and, if accepted, the proposal will be voted on the Convention floor.

In order to be considered at the 151st Anniversary Convention, any proposal must be submitted to the Fraternity Service Center by midnight on Dec. 31, 2006. *If you have any questions or would like to submit a proposal, contact Associate Executive Director of ΣAE Services Gregory Somers at gsomers@sae.net.*

Sorry About That: Corrections

- > On page 49 of the fall 2005 issue, John Perkinson was incorrectly listed as "John Perkins."
- > On page 77 of the fall issue, Tennessee Eta at Union was incorrectly listed as having won the Zeal Award in 1990. The chapter won the award in 1997.
- > On page 84 of the fall issue, the picture for milestone 75 was incorrect. The picture is from the pledging ceremony of Tennessee Kappa in 1946, which at the time was the largest initiation in the Fraternity's history.
- > Due to a computer glitch, we inadvertently deleted eight chapters from the State of the Chapters section in the annual report section of the fall 2005 issue. The missing entries appear below.

CHAPTER	UNIVERSITY	STATUS	HOUSING
Alabama Alpha-Mu	Auburn	Active	Owns House
Georgia Alpha	Georgia Southern	Active	University Owns
Kansas Alpha	Kansas	Active	University Owns
Illinois Alpha	Monmouth	Closed	
Colorado Alpha	Northern Colorado	Active	Owns House
Virginia Alpha	Randolph-Macon	Active	Owns House
California Alpha	Stanford	Active	University Owns
Connecticut Alpha	Trinity	Closed	

Stay in the Spirit with 150th Merchandise

You know that by visiting the online Greek Marketplace, you can purchase your Sigma Alpha Epsilon items — such as the True Gentleman Brooks Brothers tie, the updated 150th-anniversary edition of *The Phoenix* pledge manual and an engraved plaque featuring the Fraternity's creed, "The True Gentleman."

Newly available on the site, however, is a collection of items commemorating Sigma Alpha Epsilon's 150th anniversary. A money clip, cuff links and a business-card holder, all with the 150th logo and set in sterling silver, are ready for purchase. Another new item, a sterling silver bracelet with the Fraternity's letters and our founding date inscribed on a tag, would make a perfect gift for a girlfriend or daughter.

Visit www.sae.net and see the "Merchandise" section on the home page for a full list of available items.



A Sporting-Good Summer

Just because Sigma Alpha Epsilon's signature events for the sesquicentennial year are over doesn't mean the excitement and buzz have ended. Dates for four major upcoming Fraternity events have been announced, and we invite you to mark your calendars now.

The **Amateur Golf Tournament** is slated for June 8–10, 2006, in Pensacola, Fla. This yearly golf outing takes place at Perdido Bay Golf Club, situated in the sunny, warm panhandle of Florida. For more than 25 years, the Pensacola Area Alumni Association has been sponsoring the event. The Perdido Bay Golf Club was the former site of the Pensacola Open for ten years and continues to hold its integrity as a premier championship golf course.

Then, softball enthusiasts know the yearly event that brings our brothers together on the diamond. The **21st ΣAE World Series** will be held June 9–10, 2006, in New Orleans. Both undergraduate and alumni teams from across the Realm participate in the tourney, and only one team can walk away boasting the national title of World Series Champions. Participants get the chance to experience a full day of games at City Park followed by incredible nightlife on Bourbon Street. The New Orleans Alumni Association sponsors this event.

You may think the **John O. Moseley Leadership School** follows the same curriculum each summer, but this year Sigma Alpha Epsilon is putting a twist on tradition. We're taking the entire school to sea via Carnival Cruise Line's "Inspiration." Undergraduate members can join hundreds of their fellow brothers for a five-day cruise to Cozumel, Mexico, during the 71st School, scheduled for July 27–31, 2006. The ship leaves and returns to port in Tampa, Fla. Delegates will enjoy award-winning sessions during the day and the ship's entertainment during the evenings. Plus, the stop in Mexico includes a chapter meeting scheduled at ancient ruins and a social event on the famous white beach.

And plans are already underway for next summer. Join us for the **151st Anniversary Convention** in our nation's capitol, Washington, D.C. The biannual convention is scheduled for July 5–7, 2007, in the true spirit of patriotism. Our hosts will be the Washington, D.C., and Northern Virginia Alumni Associations in conjunction with Province Gamma. See the sites, attend historical decision-making sessions and celebrate the Fourth of July in our country's political hub. Convention events allow collegiate and alumni members to come together every other year to discuss important decisions about the future of the Fraternity while experiencing the local flavor and sites of the host city. We'll even be celebrating Independence Day on the Mall.

For more information on all these events and to register, visit www.sae.net. ☀

The Determination to Succeed

Marine Veteran Aaron Rice

by Nicholas A. Ziegler

IMAGINE BEING IN THE HOSPITAL FOR months. Your muscles have atrophied, your body is weak. You're recovering from a major surgery, including a skin graft over the bottom half of your leg, where your left foot and ankle have been amputated.

Take two weeks to rest. On your new prosthetic leg, get up and run ten miles. Feeling rested? Now return to student life. Hope you're not winded yet because you have to run for student government.

It sounds ludicrous, but that's exactly what Marine Reserves Lance Cpl. Aaron Rice went through. Rice, a brother from Mississippi Theta, arrived in Iraq in the first few days of March 2005 with his infantry platoon. Not two weeks later, on the afternoon of March 18, the Humvee he was driving on a routine patrol struck a land mine.

"My left leg was looking back up at me, my right leg was pinned down by metal," Rice said. "My platoon commander was yelling about an incoming mortar attack, but I didn't really hear him."

Rice took a circuitous route to join the Marines. After a year at Mississippi State, he took a semester off to work on the campaign of Haley Barbour (Mississippi '69), who was running for governor of Mississippi at the time. With Barbour's victory came the end of a job, so Rice enlisted in the Marine Reserves, fulfilling a long-standing dream.

He used his time productively, joining Sigma Alpha Epsilon — following in the footsteps of Barbour, his former employer — and winning a seat on the student-association senate. But

the Marines came calling, meaning he would have to head to Iraq at the end of the semester. He resigned his governmental seat, and the chapter even held a special initiation for him before he deployed.

It would make all the difference because Rice's life was about to change forever.

"My total stay in the hospitals was about eight months, including physical therapy," Rice said. "I was on bed rest for a good part of it."

He had recovered mentally and physically from the attack but lost 40 pounds of muscle mass. Less than a month before the Army Ten-Miler, a race through the streets of Washington, D.C., Rice received his racing leg, which takes considerable strength and training to control. Despite all the obstacles facing him, he viewed the race as a mental challenge he needed to overcome. In fact, he was the first leg amputee to finish.

"I ran the race for two reasons," Rice said. "One, this was about my loved ones. This wasn't about me."

"Two, I was aware that when I stopped, my leg would start throbbing. Around mile three I turned to the therapist running with us and said 'I'm not stopping.'"

Rice is currently back on the Mississippi State campus, where he won an election to be named student-association attorney general — picking up his life right where it left off. He is no longer on the road to recovery, bouncing back from any barriers in his way. And his brothers in Sigma Alpha Epsilon have played an important role in that recovery.



photo courtesy Aaron Rice

Undergraduate brother and Marine Lance Cpl. Aaron Rice lines up for the Army Ten-Miler just a few weeks after being fitted with a new prosthetic leg.

"Some guys from the chapter drove up to visit me one day in the hospital," Rice says. "The day they came up, I found out my platoon had been ambushed again." Three of his friends had been killed in the same area where Rice's Humvee hit the land mine.

"The guys were coming up, and they didn't know how much I needed it that day," he said.

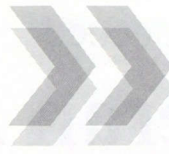
Maybe now you can find your own strength to run that ten-mile race. 🌟



They've Struck Gold

How Alaska Tops the Charts

by Christopher Speelman



Chartered in 2000, Alaska Alpha may be one of the youngest chapters in the

Realm, but the men have made their mark already as brothers who give back to the Fraternity. And the club reserved exclusively for collegiate men allowed them to do so.

“At Leadership School several brothers joined the Phi Alpha Club and came back with the idea of getting everyone in the chapter to join,” said Joseph Woody, member educator for the chapter. “At first it was just an idea to give a little something back and a way to get a new pin to wear. But after we contacted the Foundation and heard about the Young Alumni Level of the 1856 Society, we realized there was a lot more that we could be doing to support the Foundation.”

photo by Zac Hendricks



In a chapter-wide effort, 30 Alaska Alpha brothers rallied their wallets for the Foundation.

The Young Alumni Gold Level allows undergraduates and young alumni who have graduated within the last ten years to join the 1856 Society with a gift of \$118.56. That's less than half of the \$250 it usually takes to be recognized at this level. Many young alumni take advantage of this opportunity, but the brothers of Alaska Alpha are the first chapter to get behind the idea and support the Foundation together.

Already this year 13 brothers in the chapter have joined the 1856 Society and 17 more have joined the Phi Alpha Club.

"Once I got the ball rolling, people just started coming to me and asking how they could sign up," said Woody. "I feel like the chapter got behind the idea, and we really made a difference."

"It was a way we could help and know that our gifts were really making a difference," said Woody. "If you think about it, we were really just helping ourselves. When I graduate I know I will continue to support the Foundation. I just hope the tradition of giving I started will remain in the chapter. If that is how I am remembered, I will be very proud of the legacy I have created."

If you are an undergraduate or an alumnus and would like more information on joining the Phi Alpha Club or the 1856 Society, contact Director of Annual Giving Christopher Speelman at (800) 233-1856, ext. 221, or at cspeelman@sae.net. For more information on getting your chapter involved with the Foundation, visit www.sae.net. ☀️

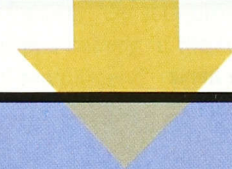
"At Leadership School several brothers joined the Phi Alpha Club and came back with the idea of getting everyone in the chapter to join."

Because all gifts to the 1856 Society go directly into the Annual Fund, the brothers' support went right back to helping Alaska Alpha. Gifts to the Annual Fund go directly to enhancing the Foundation's mission of "Prepare, Provide and Preserve." With this goal in mind, the Annual Fund supports Leadership School, undergraduate scholarships and the upkeep of the Levere Memorial Temple.

How the Numbers Stack Up

Here's how the men of Alaska Alpha tapped into a new level of giving.

1856 SOCIETY	
PLATINUM:	\$10,000+
EMERALD:	\$5,000-\$9,999
DIAMOND:	\$2,500-\$4,999
RUBY:	\$1,000-\$2,499
PEARL:	\$500-\$999
GOLD:	\$250-\$499
YOUNG ALUM GOLD:	\$118.56



Alaska's Gold Panners

The Foundation would like to thank the following brothers who joined the ranks of alumni donors with their team effort.

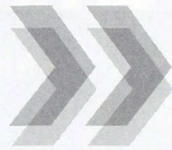
17 MEMBERS PHI ALPHA CLUB			
Ronald Macedo	Jeff Henderson	Geoff Galik	James Oxford
Nick Zapata	Mike Evans	Daniel I. Pace	Anthony E. Rivas
Ryan Redick	Jamie Cash	Logan Merrill	Thomas Hill
Jayvin Tonn	Ben Drake	Eric Tweet	T.W. Brannan
			Colin Ross
13 MEMBERS 1856 SOCIETY			
Matt Stout	Dan Johnson	Stuart Matthews	Nick Straka
James Doughty	Zac Heinen	Karl Wing	Joseph Woody
Luke Hodges	Curtis Markley	Charles LeBlanc	Nick Steward
			Quake Hayden

Get Your Piece of the Pie: Fraternity Awards



photo by Tony Armour Photography

**Will your chapter take home
the Zeal Award this year?**



Each summer at the John O. Moseley Leadership School, the Fraternity recognizes the most outstanding chapters and individuals in the Realm by giving awards based on the 12 Core Areas of the True Gentleman Initiative. Want to win? Applications can be downloaded at www.thetgi.net.

Every chapter is encouraged to apply for awards. But, contrary to popular belief, creating your packet does not have to be a trial. In order to streamline the process and encourage more chapters to apply, there have been many changes in the last two years. These are some of the things to keep in mind when you compile your awards packet this year.

- > Applications must be postmarked by May 31, 2006.
- > Include five (5) copies of your packet. Do not use elaborate binding. A simple, large metal butterfly clip will suffice. Each of the five copies will be sent to an individual member of the awards committee for review.
- > You will need the signature of your eminent archon, chapter adviser and Greek adviser on the proper forms. But please don't wait until the last minute to find out whether these people are available. If they will not be available when you need their signature, you can make alternate arrangements.
- > Legible and concise justification wins out over fancy covers and pagination every time. Numbered tabs with relevant information

are more useful to the awards committee than an overly complex awards packet.

- > Finally, you should know that the people who review the applications understand that Sigma Alpha Epsilon's diversity extends to the size, age, maturity, traditions, hosting institution and relative "wealth" of chapters within the Realm. They recognize those factors and attempt to rationalize evaluations on a balanced and fair basis, expecting that, for example, older chapters will have nicer chapter houses and more alumni contributors than newly chartered chapters, but those chapters shouldn't have an unfair advantage due to those facts.
- > Here's our biggest hint to help you win an award: It's about what you do with the resources you have.

Please direct questions and send completed applications to:

*Sigma Alpha Epsilon
c/o Dave Sandell
1856 Sheridan Road
Evanston, Illinois 60201-3837
dsandell@sae.net
(800) 233-1856, ext. 234*

Downtime. Summertime. Planning time.

IT'S SUMMER. SCHOOL IS OUT, THE WEATHER IS NICE, summer jobs are calling and everyone needs a break from hard work during the past year. Eminent archons have the added responsibility of making sure the chapter's momentum doesn't fade away inadvertently during the summer months. Here are ways you can take advantage

of your summer to keep the chapter engaged, create less work for everyone when school returns and prepare for the year ahead — but still leave plenty of time for all of your summer activities.

To aid your planning efforts, a weekly task is recommended for each of ten weeks, starting June 4. ☀️

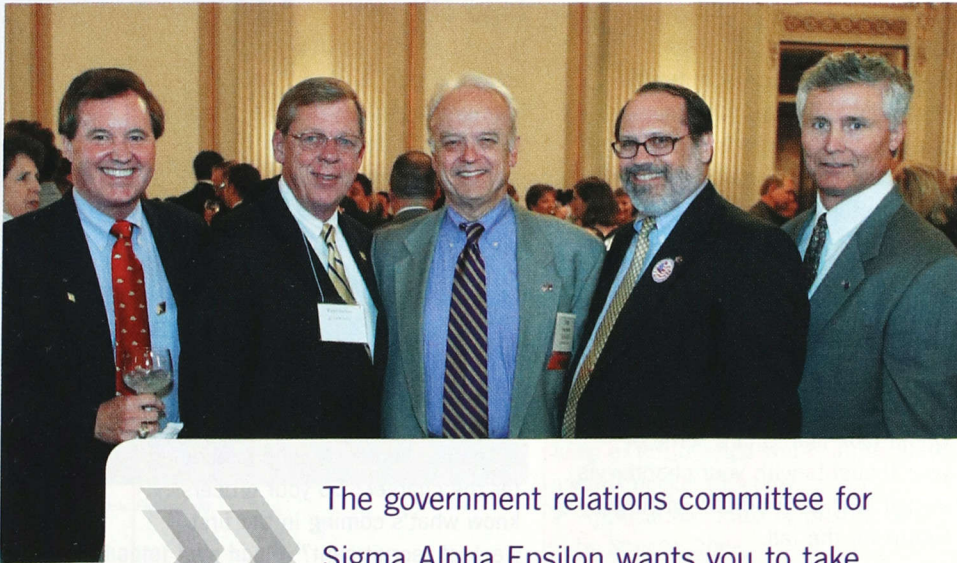
<p>June 4 Compile a list of everything you need to think about over the summer. Review your list once a week for the next few months.</p>	<p>June 11 If you are running a summer recruitment program, make sure your chairmen know what's expected of them and are communicating with the chapter via e-mail or phone.</p>	<p>June 18 If most of your chapter lives within driving distance of your school, plan a chapter get-together for sometime in July. This will help morale and keep everyone connected. You can delegate this to your social chairman as well.</p>
<p>June 25 Contact your e-board to check in and build a good working relationship for the school year. If you have the time and funds, hold a retreat for your executive council.</p>	<p>July 2 Set aside some time to dream about what a successful semester would look like. Share some of your thoughts with your chapter via e-mail now or in person when you return for the fall.</p>	<p>July 11 Compile a list of all the routine tasks that need to be organized right when you return to school. Is there a house cleanup schedule for the chapter? Do your officers know what's coming in the first week of recruitment?</p>
<p>July 16 Contact each of your officers by e-mail to share your thoughts from the July 11 task. You can share this workload with your eminent deputy archon and executive council.</p>	<p>July 23 If you are going, prepare for Leadership School. If others from your chapter are going, call them to make sure they are ready to go.</p>	<p>July 30 If you are planning a work week for the week before school to get your house into shape, make sure the brothers know what is expected of them and start reserving fun excursions (mini-golf, water parks, etc.) for the work week.</p>
<p>August 6 Contact your fall recruitment chairman and make sure everything is ready to go for when you return to campus.</p>	<p>August 13 Give yourself a mini-vacation to rest up for a great semester.</p>	



Make a Difference: The Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act

by Richard M. Hopple

photo courtesy John Williamson



Sigma Alpha Epsilon members Province Mu-Delta Archon Jim Sakers, Senator Johnny Isakson, Eminent Supreme Recorder Tom Goodale, Past Eminent Supreme Archon Richard Hopple and current Eminent Supreme Archon J. Michael Scarborough meet in 2004 at a lobbying event held by the North-American Interfraternity Conference.



The government relations committee for Sigma Alpha Epsilon wants you to take action on an initiative that affects every fraternity and sorority in this country. The North-American Interfraternity Conference recently organized visits to senators and representatives, and the government relations committee, chaired by Past Eminent Supreme Archon Richard Hopple, needs your help to encourage Congress to enact the legislation described here.

Our growing population of college students needs safe, modern and affordable housing. Rising enrollment is creating severe housing shortages on campuses nationwide, with many institutions forced to put students into private hotels, dormitory lounges and triple-resident rooms.

Greek residences are a key source of collegiate housing. The housing shortage would be even worse without fraternities and sororities, which are the nation's largest not-for-profit student landlords, operating housing worth several billion dollars for more than 250,000 students each year at no cost to the host institutions.

Collegiate housing capacity and safety need to be upgraded. Life-safety upgrades are the top challenge facing fraternity housing, as their smaller and older living spaces have twice the injury rate from other campus fires and significantly higher rates of property losses. Studies

A Sample Letter of Support

show that 80 percent of fatalities in student-housing fires since 2000 have occurred in off-campus housing such as fraternities and sororities where a majority of students live.

The current tax code hinders modernization and safety of some student housing. It allows colleges and universities to use tax-deductible contributions for improvements in infrastructure to classrooms, laboratories, dormitories, meeting areas and dining facilities, but forbids contributions to fraternity and sorority foundations to be used to make similar improvements to student housing, meeting areas and dining facilities.

The Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act of 2005 would change this law, making it possible for your contributions to a chapter's house corporation for the purpose of improvements to the domicile a federally tax-deductible contribution.

The CHIA allows tax-deductible contributions to fraternity and sorority foundations to be used for the same purposes that a college or university could use such contributions (except for physical-fitness equipment). In the 108th Congress, the CHIA was included in the Charitable Giving Act of 2003 that passed the House by a 408-13 margin. The 2005 version of the CHIA is the same as the language within the Charitable Giving Act of 2003 that passed the House in the last Congress.

What can you do as a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon?

You are asked to write your senators and congressmen as well as any other Fraternity members in the House or Senate. Or, if you know a member of Congress personally, discuss with him the need to support this act. If you need help in identifying your local representative or senator or his fax number, you may find www.congressmerge.com helpful. ☀

The Honorable _____
FULL NAME
 United States Senate
 Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator _____
LAST NAME

Please co-sponsor the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act of 2005 (H.R.1548/S.173). There are numerous House and Senate members who were sponsors of CHIA in the last Congress. As a fraternity volunteer and concerned member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, I know firsthand that the bill's results will benefit the students here at

NAME OF COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

NAME OF COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

can use tax-deductible charitable contributions for innumerable purposes, including the improvement and building of student housing. Fraternities and sororities, the second largest not-for-profit student landlord in the United States, are currently prohibited from using tax-deductible charitable contributions given to their 501(c)(3) educational foundations for any infrastructure improvements to the student housing they own. In short, the current tax laws discriminate against some providers such as my fraternity.

Fraternity and sorority facilities fill an important need at my school. At a time when all colleges and universities are impacted by state budget crunches, increased operating costs and other financial challenges related to rising enrollment, the fraternity housing market is an important resource for my campus. Unfortunately, the housing stock for fraternities is deteriorating, and it will continue to do so without the future ability to tap donated funds for long-term capital improvements.

I am most concerned about student safety at my school, and the change proposed by the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act will enhance student safety. Too many of our members have already been hurt or died from fraternity-house fires. Right now, only about one in 12 fraternity houses nationwide has fire sprinklers because there is no way to raise the money needed to install this life-saving equipment. Where some institutions are making it mandatory, it will bankrupt our chapters unless they have the help of alumni contributions. These will be made easier by the passage of this Act.

You should join me and the overwhelming number of national fraternities and sororities in support of H.R.1548/S.713 because it will allow us to raise necessary funds to upgrade our houses, install advanced life-safety equipment such as fire sprinklers and make other much-needed housing improvements. I urge you to add your name to the list of co-sponsors for the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act.

Sincerely,

NAME

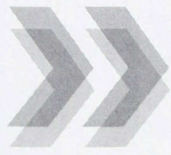
ADDRESS

CITY, ZIP, STATE

ALUMNI

NEWS BRIEFS

NORTHERN ILLINOIS



Nearly 100 members of Illinois Gamma renewed their bonds of brotherhood during the chapter's

40th anniversary in January. Alumni Association President Justin Kozlowski ('02) and Vice President Michael Corelli ('01) welcomed the group, which included many members from the original group, Delta Phi Beta. Some of the founding fathers traveled from as far away as California. They enjoyed a social hour and banquet — with speeches by the original president, Frank Porrevecchio ('69), a presentation of 25-year certificates and reflections by Eminent Supreme Recorder Thomas Goodale and current Eminent Archon Brandon Zeman. The Fraternity also presented Porrevecchio with the Order of the Lion, an honor bestowed upon alumni who have been loyal to the organization.



ARIZONA

Brad Cohen ('85) was honored at the Juvenile Diabetes Research foundation's sixth annual Dream Gala in Anaheim, Calif., on February 25, which was attended by more than 500 guests. Cohen, who was diagnosed with diabetes at age 13, shared his stories with the attendees. The gala raised \$690,000 for the cause.

ARKANSAS-FAYETTEVILLE

With the recent completion of the renovation of the 50-year-old chapter house at the University of Arkansas, Scott Rittelmeyer ('80) is heading a \$2.25 million capital campaign to pay for the work. Alumni can make tax-deductible contributions to the University of Arkansas to aid in reaching this goal.

In other news, Arkansas Alpha-Upsilon also took 51 pledges this past September, making it one of the chapter's largest pledge classes ever.

CAL STATE-LOS ANGELES

Chief Warrant Officer Neil T. LaSala ('84) is in his second combat tour in Iraq and has been stationed there since August 2005. He is the Target Acquisition Officer for 1st Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Many of his ΣAE brothers have supported him and his fellow Marines with packages and letters; some he hadn't heard from in more than 20 years.

CHARLESTON

In February, Foundation trustee R. Keith Sauls ('90) received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the College of Charleston Alumni Association. He was just one of five award recipients during the presentation in the Stern Center Ballroom. Sauls earned his degree in business administration from the college and his MBA from Emory University. He now serves as a senior vice president with Asset Management Advisors. In addition, he has served as chairman of the Advisory Board for the Tate Center for Entrepreneurship, and he has endowed a scholarship for prospective undergraduate business majors.

DUKE

Dr. J. Graham Smith Jr. ('45) earned the Distinguished Service Award of the Southern Medical Association during its annual meeting in San Antonio, Tex. He is the founding editor of the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology* and a member of numerous dermatological associations and societies. In addition, Smith is the founding chair of the Department of Dermatology at the Medical College of Georgia and founding chair for the dermatology department at the University of South Alabama. He is a professor emeritus at the University of South Alabama and runs a private practice in Mobile, Ala.

EMORY

Tom Pierpont ('81) has published his first novel, *The Starmaker Project*, a fast-paced thriller centered on the duties and dangers associated with keeping our nation safe. He is currently working on his next book, *Caroline Whispers*. For more information, visit www.authorhouse.com.

FLORIDA STATE

Alumni from Florida Beta held their first-ever alumni reunion last fall. More than 350 alumni, wives and guests attended the event, which was held in the University Club housed in Doak Campbell Stadium. A representative from each decade between the 1950s and the 1970s spoke, accompanied by a slide-show presentation from each decade. Participants also gave their sporting skills a swing with a golf tournament at the Florida State course and followed up with a tailgate event before the football game against North Carolina State. The alumni plan to have an annual reunion for the last home football game at FSU each year.

GEORGIA TECH

Last spring, James Arthur "Flip" Lyle ('67) was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame and is the first triathlete to be honored. Lyle has competed in 333 multi-sport competitions.

KENT STATE

Matthew J. Busser ('02) recently celebrated a graduation ceremony for the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, D.C. The MPD is the primary law-enforcement agency out of the 57 agencies in the D.C. area. During the eight months of training, Busser was first in his class in the 1.5-mile run and the physical-agility test. He was assigned to the 7th District.

KENTUCKY

The families of United Flight 93 appointed Chris T. Sullivan ('70) as national chairman of a \$30-million fundraising campaign in February. The goal is to raise money for the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, Pa. He also announced a commitment of \$2 million to the campaign. Sullivan is founder and chairman of Outback Steakhouse. He also

**IDAHO**

Col. Reginald Myers, USMC ('41), passed away at the end of last year, but his memory lives on among his chapter brothers. He earned the Medal of Honor, our nation's highest military award for heroism and selflessness in combat. As a Major during the Korean War, Myers, then the second-in-command of his Marine battalion, was responsible for putting together a mixed unit of inexperienced Army and Marine personnel to defend the strategic base of Hagaru-ri. Leading from the front, Myers directed the counter-attack against communist forces that were situated on higher ground in well-prepared fighting positions. He fought through 14 hours of battle in sub-zero conditions in which he lost 170 men, with 600 enemies killed and 500 enemies wounded. Myers' leadership ensured that the perimeter of the base was not penetrated. He and his 250-man ad-hoc unit were outnumbered 80 to five, but their actions prevented the base from being completely overrun.

serves many other organizations in various positions, including Florida Council of 100 Executive Committee, the Florida Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors for the Florida Council on Economic Education and Lowry Park Zoological Endowment Foundation.

MICHIGAN STATE

Tony Tuzzolino ('97) played for the 2006 Italian Olympic ice hockey team. A former New York Ranger and Boston Bruin, Tuzzolino had one assist in the February 15 preliminary round against Canada. Fellow alum Larry Lage ('95), journalist for the Associated Press, had the chance to interview the team in Turin.

MONTANA STATE

Dennis Erickson ('69) returned to Idaho this February to become head coach at the school that

jump-started his coaching career in 1982. Erickson won two national championships at Miami in 1989 and 1991 and turned Idaho into one of the nation's top Division I-AA teams during his first stretch. His record as a head coach is 144-57-1 at Idaho, Wyoming, Washington State, Miami and Oregon State.

NEBRASKA

Blue Square Studios, a provider of web-based solutions for the hospitality industry, has hired distribution expert Eric Chapman ('77) as vice president of sales. He is responsible for all sales management and business development for the company. Most recently, Chapman was director of sales for Datalex PLC, which distributes platforms for airlines,

hotels, train systems and other travel companies. He also worked as vice president for Tickets.com.

SAN DIEGO STATE

Jerry Sanders ('72) was overwhelmingly elected the 34th mayor of San Diego in the fall election. He served 26 years with the San Diego Police Department, the last six as chief. He later was chief executive of the local United Way chapter and then became chairman of the local Red Cross. When Sanders stepped to the microphone to accept his victory before a television audience, he gave the ΣAE salute. As it turns out, he was returning the salute to a brother in the audience, who saluted him.

SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Sigma held its 40th Anniversary Celebration Event and 6th Annual Draw-Down in early November at the Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg. The group presented seven Order of the Lion certificates and medallions and eight Outstanding Eminent Archon certificates as well as an Outstanding Chapter Adviser Award to Bobby Banks ('72). Charter member and first Eminent Archon Sam Davis ('66) made remarks along with founding father Jim Kaiser ('66), a retired dentist and entrepreneur from New Orleans and Baton Rouge. Eminent Supreme Herald Todd Buchanan ('90) was one of the three Draw-Down winners who split the \$10,000 pot. Buchanan even advocated a \$550 contribution back to the chapter fund from the winners.

UC-BERKELEY

About 20 brothers from California Beta rendezvoused in December at the Fish Market Restaurant in San Mateo, Calif., to reminisce, share war



NORTH CAROLINA STATE

John "Perk" Perkinson ('94), center, a rock singer located in Los Angeles, has just returned from his second tour of the U.S. Naval Base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Perkinson is a favorite among the troops stationed on the island, and he feels his performances let the troops know how much he supports them and their mission to protect our freedom. You can find out more about Perkinson at www.planetperk.com.

stories of the past and catch up with personal affairs. Each year, brothers who graduated in the 1950s get together and, this year, participated in two activities at the chapter house.

WAKE FOREST

Former North Carolina Chi Eminent Archon Chris Brown ('05) is participating in the Governor's Fellowship Program in Georgia. He is one of the four recent college graduates to participate in the program. Unlike interns, fellows hold full-time positions for six months and are paid. Brown is working in the Governor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs in Atlanta. The program allows fellows the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of governmental careers and to learn how the state government helps local cities and counties.

WYOMING

Rick Maamann ('73), one of the chapter advisers for Florida Upsilon, has recently become a board member for a local charity in Gainesville, the Climb for Cancer Foundation. The organization raises money by sponsoring people who climb mountains. It then donates to children's cancer research, mostly to the University of Florida and other Florida hospitals. In the last three years, more than \$300,000 has been raised and donated to the charities. Last year, Florida Upsilon was instrumental in an effort to sponsor the Three Tenors for a campus-wide opera performance and fundraising event. This year the organization is embarking on a national effort to have 50 teams climb to the summit the highest peaks in all 50 states on the same day. Each team leader has a goal to raise at least \$5,000. 🌟



PROVINCE ALPHA

University of Maine alumni (from left) Province Alpha Archon Jay Sexton ('99); Shawn Casey ('95); Baxter, the dog; Eric Meffert ('97) and Mike Canon ('94) enjoyed a pheasant hunt together in central Maine late last fall, a yearly event for this group.

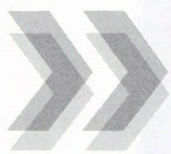
Brother Know-it-all answers
(from pg. 49)

1. None. While Washington City Rho is domiciled in a district and city, not a state, the chapter's name still contains the name of a state, Washington. 2. c. 3. b. 4. c. 5. b. 6. True. 7. a. That song was written by Louis Armstrong, another famous saxophonist. 8. c. They had 58 pledges. 9. a. 10. b

CHAPTER

NEWS BRIEFS

EASTERN KENTUCKY



Chris Burlile has completed a black-and-white drawing of a lion in honor of ΣΑΕ. He's been sketching since he was seven years old and has had works featured in numerous art shows. This particular version of the lion took Burlile three weeks to complete the detailed mane and shading. In addition, he created the sketch during his first semester as a newly initiated member, and he used a photo of a real lion lying in a field as inspiration. The entire piece is sketched in pencil.



AKRON

The men of Ohio Phi placed first in two different fraternities' philanthropic activities. They are most proud of placing in Alpha Sigma Phi's "Puppy Love," where they built a dog house to be used for seeing-eye dogs. In the fall semester, brothers worked at Cedar Point, a Sandusky amusement park, and raised roughly \$6,000.

BOSTON CONSORTIUM

Massachusetts Beta-Alfa, the first citywide chapter, joined the Realm on Nov. 18, 2005. The ceremony was held in the historic Old North Church, the same location where Paul Revere warned citizens the British were coming. A brother from Vermont Beta allowed the group to use the church. Following the initiation, the Fraternity held a reception at the Union Oyster House. Peter Ross served as the eminent archon for the ceremony, with undergraduates from other Boston chapters and from Province Alpha Council filling out the rest of the Ritual team. After the colony received its charter, Ross

was recognized with the Order of the Phoenix for his service to Province Alpha and to the Fraternity. New members' parents also participated in the events.

CAL STATE-FRESNO

Fresno State students spent the beginning of January helping victims of this past year's devastating hurricanes in the Gulf. Several campus, student and community groups left for Louisiana to help rebuild homes damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma. California Iota donated \$1,000 of the \$4,000 raised by campus groups at Fresno State. A number of fraternity members joined volunteers on their trip to the South.

CUMBERLAND

Tennessee Lambda welcomed its alumni back to campus in February for an undergraduate/alumni football game and chili served up at the chapter's new house. Tennessee Lambda's membership has consistently boasted many of Cumberland University's varsity football players since its return in 1997, including several All-Americans. Members

of the wrestling team are also part of the chapter, including 2005 NAIA National Champion Keith Cupp at 174 pounds.

DARTMOUTH

Senior Will Canestaro will be participating in Bike and Build, a national organization that helps to raise money for Habitat for Humanity by biking across the country. The Dartmouth Chapter of Habitat for Humanity raises \$50,000, half of its annual operating budget, from Bike and Build. Anyone interested in donating can do so through the website at www.bikeandbuild.org. Mention that the donation is for Will Canestaro.

GEORGE WASHINGTON

Washington City Rho inducted its new members at a room in the Capitol building in February. Bill Livingood (Michigan State '61), the sergeant-at-arms for the U.S. House of Representatives, arranged the event. The chapter is now planning to hold the induction ceremony every semester on Capitol Hill.

MIAMI

Despite obstacles of weather and Mother Nature, Florida Alpha pledged 12 men for its fall class and initiated them in early December. The chapter also participated in Relay for Life, which honors cancer survivors and pays tribute to those who've lost their lives to the disease. The chapter's goal was to raise \$5,100 for the cause. Florida Alpha also ranked number one out of ten fraternities with a grade point average of 3.339, which dominated the all-undergraduate men and the all-fraternity averages.

MIAMI OF OHIO

John Richmond, one of Miami's goaltenders, helped Miami's hockey team clinch the Central Collegiate Hockey Association season hockey title after beating OSU 6-3 at

Goggin Arena. Miami's hockey team currently is ranked No. 5 in the NCAA hockey polls.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS

Illinois Gamma initiated 14 brothers into its brotherhood in the spring. The men started the semester with a fundraiser, raising nearly \$2,000 in four hours of work, which they put towards house improvements. In other community service events, the chapter's Paddy Murphy celebration was held in honor of the late Bill Donlon.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE

North Carolina Alpha, upon its return to campus, has 12 men who are now part of the colony. Members of the colony council include President Chris Andrews, Vice President Nick Singleton, Treasurer Henry

Neese, Recruitment Chairman Dean Norman Jr. and Social Chairmen Thomas Webb and Will Carpenter. The timeline of the colony includes completing specific goals assigned by the Fraternity Service Center and North Carolina State over the course of two semesters and petitioning for the return of the charter in the fall of 2007 after the investigation is complete. The colony expects to be housed on fraternity row in either spring or fall of 2007.

NORTH DAKOTA

The men of North Dakota Alpha hosted a reception following inductions into the North Dakota Entrepreneur Hall of Fame. Marilyn Whitney, co-founder of Gaymar Industries, was selected as a 2005 inductee into the Hall. Her husband,



HOFSTRA

New York Chi participated in the annual Heart Walk for the American Heart Association, raising more money than any other fraternity to support the fight against heart disease. The chapter also succeeded in the annual homecoming competitions, where brothers received the highest award for float building, and former Eminent Archon Alex Strum ('03) was named Homecoming King 2005. The chapter also won the annual Sinterklaas competition in which a Christmas tree is decorated and donated to less-fortunate families in the community. Strum was also elected president of Order of Omega. Justin Carbone was recently elected as the eminent archon for 2006, and Christopher Maguire was named president of the Interfraternity Council.



MILLIKIN

Illinois Delta pledged 13 new members, a highly successful recruitment for the size of Greek life at Millikin University. At the house, the former game room is being converted into a library and alumni room and, in March, the chapter planned an extensive celebration for its 95th anniversary. Illinois Delta alumni can visit a newly revised website at www.millikin.edu/sae.

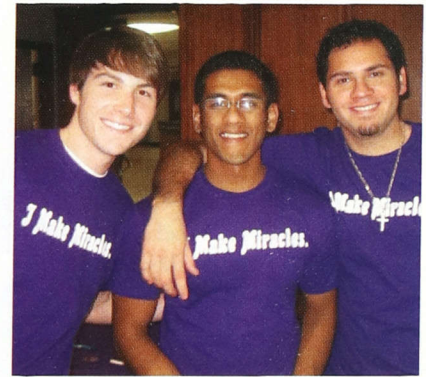
John Whitney ('50), died in a plane crash in Idaho in 1998 during a business trip. Their company specialized first in welded plastic products, then in health-care products. Brothers from North Dakota Alpha honored his memory by hosting the reception to support the Whitneys' accomplishments during their life together. The men greeted Marilyn with flowers and a composite photograph.

OKLAHOMA

The men of Oklahoma Kappa finished a total overhaul of their chapter room, funded in large part by Jack Counts Jr. (Westminster '69). In fact, Counts' grandfather is James Earl Foster, one of the chapter's founding fathers. The original dedication took place on March 16, 1947, and was led by John O. Moseley ('16). Gene Edwards ('46) was in attendance at that ceremony and was able to attend this one as well. He

made a few remarks in remembrance of that day and of life at the chapter house during World War II.

The rededication ceremony took place in November before the OU-OSU football game. Nearly 125 members attended. The renovation cost \$250,000. Counts, the primary patron for the work, spoke about his grandfather and his lifetime achievements. The chapter men even renamed the room the Earl Foster Chapter Room in his memory. On the walls are the pictures of 15 Oklahoma Kappa brothers who were killed during World War II. Other repairs included new plumbing, paneling, carpet and ceilings and rewiring. Bruce Bockus ('77) of Bockus-Payne and Associates provided the architectural design services free of charge, and Craig Tucker ('80) assisted and advised in the project.



MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY

The men of Missouri Kappa-Chi raised \$1,775 at its Making Miracles for Kids fundraiser for Children's Miracle Network. The event drew more than 40 items sold in a silent auction as well as 20 men auctioned off as dates. T-shirts were even made for the event. The men provided refreshments for bidders, and more than 100 people attended.

PROVINCES OMICRON/GAMMA

About 125 members attended the Province Omicron/Gamma Regional True Gentleman Institute in February, hosted by North Carolina Delta. The conference included multiple interactive workshops in the morning, ranging from chapter management and officer training to Ritual practice, financial planning and combating chapter apathy. During a model initiation ceremony, the group activated 25 neophytes from North Carolina Sigma and North Carolina Delta. In the evening, delegates enjoyed a presentation from Col. Don Bartholomew (Eastern Kentucky '80), a special staff officer and recruiter with the U.S. Army, on the topic of "The True Gentleman and Serving Your Country." Bart Andrus (UC-Davis '73), North Carolina Omega chapter adviser, was recognized and

honored with the announcement of the Bart Andrus Scholarship Fund, a Leadership School fund for members of the chapter.

PROVINCE TAU

Iowa Sigma hosted the 31st Annual Province Tau Leadership School in early November. More than 170 brothers from all 12 chapters in the province attended, while sessions focused on several core areas. The school also conducted an initiation ceremony for 26 new brothers, including North Dakota Alpha's entire pledge class. Faculty included Iowa Sigma alumni Rich Clogg ('71), Chris Goodale ('86) and Jim Thorius ('73). Other faculty were Dr. Jorie Edwards from Simpson's Office of Student Development, Coordinator of Recruitment Matt Hannahan, Regional Director Mike Mansfield, former ΣAE First Lady Joyce Smith, Fraternity Historian Dr. Joe Walt, Director of Communications Brandon Weghorst and Indianola City Manager Tim Zisoff. At the banquet, Mansfield presented the Province Tau Outstanding Chapter Award to South Dakota Sigma. Leadership School Chairman Eric Zisoff received special recognition for organizing the successful weekend.

PROVINCE THETA

David Vicknair, a member of the Louisiana Chi chapter at Nicholls State, was named Province Theta's True Gentleman of the Year. Additionally, he was elected the Province Undergraduate for Louisiana for Province Theta. Vicknair majors in business and pre-law at Nicholls State.

SAN DIEGO STATE

California Theta conducted a holiday party for its alumni in the San Diego area. During the event, which took place at the San Diego Yacht Club, more than 90 brothers and their dates attended, toting toys

when they came in the door. The chapter then distributed the toys in time for the holiday to the pediatric hematology/oncology clinic at the Kaiser Foundation Hospital.

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota Sigma received five province awards at this year's Province Tau Leadership School. They not only received the Province Tau Outstanding Chapter Award, but also the Community Service Award, Most Improved Chapter GPA, Outstanding Campus Involvement Award and the Outstanding Alumni Relations Award. South Dakota Sigma contributed more than 550 hours in community service this past semester and helped the Knights of Columbus raise more than \$9,000 to benefit the disabled community in the Sioux Falls area.

STANFORD

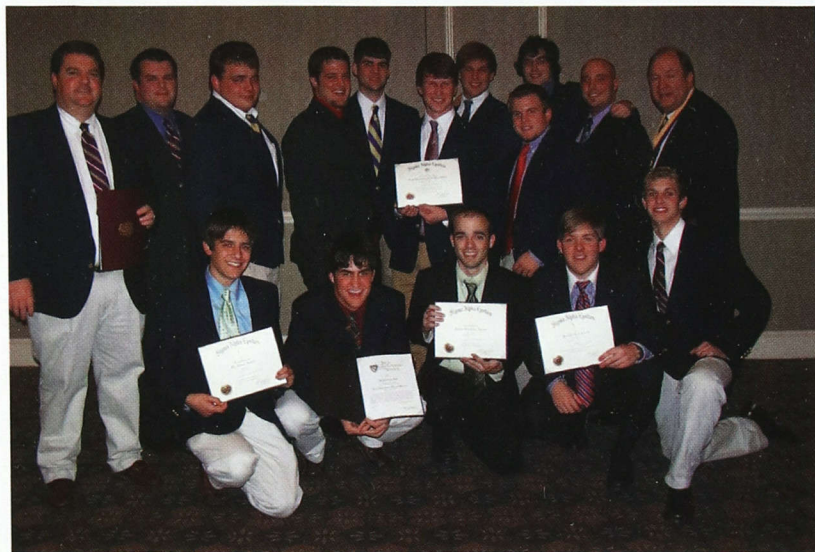
On Nov. 18, 2005, Nico Martinez took home the \$100,000 grand prize for the 2005 *JEOPARDY!* College Championship, a two-week tournament. The Michigan native is currently pursuing a major in political science and a minor in geological/environmental science.

TEXAS-DALLAS

In November, Texas Chi held a philanthropic dodgeball tournament, which took place in the university's activity center. The tournament consisted of 14 teams from different campus organizations and raised \$550 for the Children's Miracle Network.

WESTERN MICHIGAN

The brothers are keeping up their tradition of taking semester road trips to the Temple to initiate their new members in the Tower Room.



NICHOLLS STATE

Louisiana Chi received numerous awards at the recent Province Theta Convention in Tunica, Miss. These awards include the Province Theta Zeal Chapter Award, Outstanding Pledge Education, Outstanding Ritual and the True Gentleman Day of Service Award. Louisiana Chi is also the winner of the Interfraternity Council's Greek Cup, has the highest fraternity GPA at Nicholls State and is actively involved in community service and leadership around campus.



VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH

Members of Virginia Chi participated in the Greek intramural flag-football league. Even with a 0–5 record, they made it to the playoffs, beating one of the school’s best teams. Then, in the championship game, they shot down Theta Chi 12–6. Even though the opposing team had 50 fans compared to their six and taunted them the entire game, the colony men upheld the “True Gentleman” and acted as good sportsmen.



RICHMOND

The Virginia Tau chapter raised \$25,000 dollars for the Southern Virginia Special Olympics at the Polar Plunge in Virginia Beach, Va. The event is Southern Virginia’s largest fundraising effort as thousands plunge into the frigid Atlantic Ocean. The water was only 44 degrees.

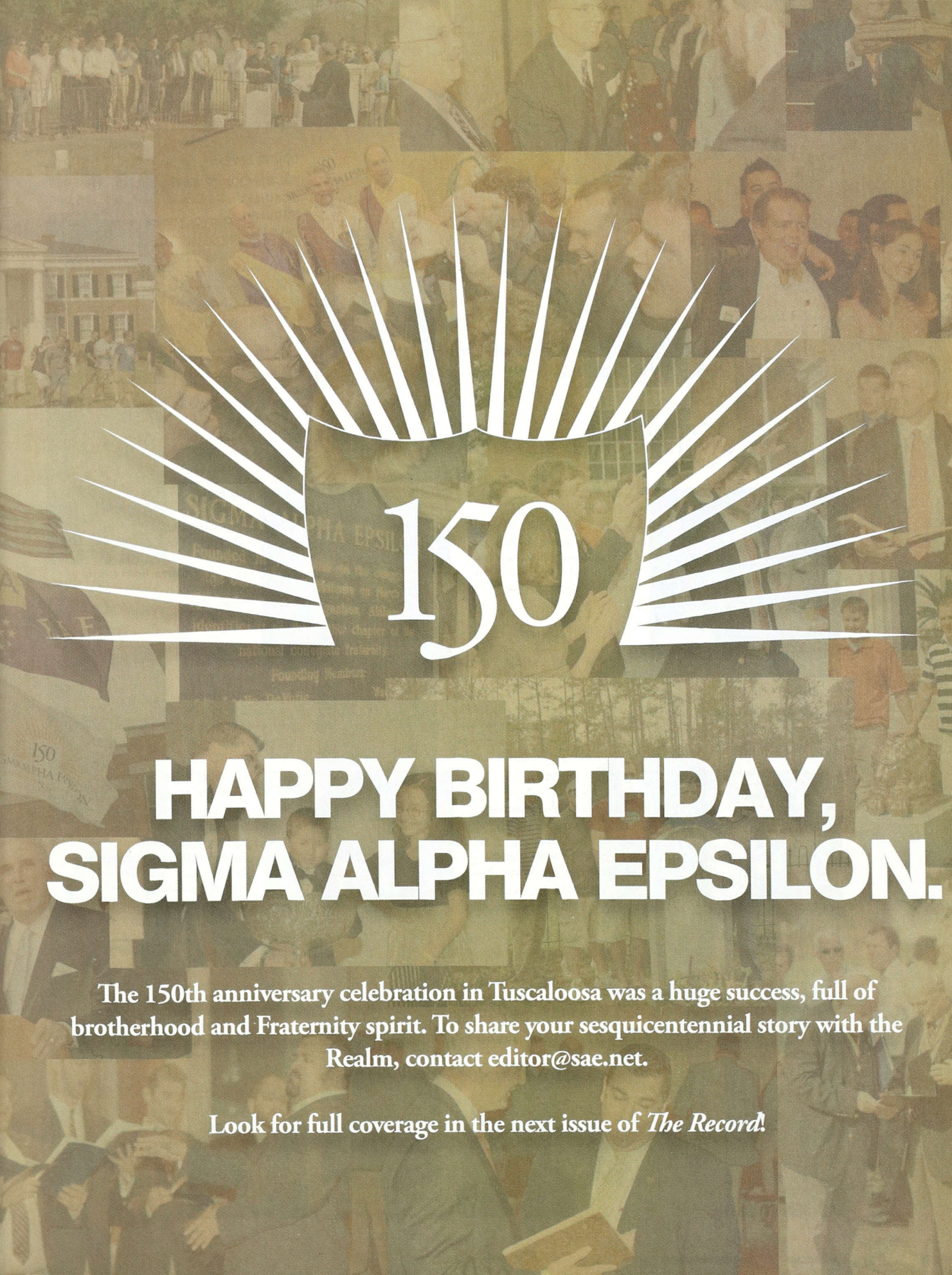
In addition, they logged more than 50 hours of community service for a local neighborhood association by cleaning up trash throughout the neighborhood and planting tulip bulbs. Michigan Delta also raised more than \$300 for philanthropy by converting the house into a haunted house for two nights.

WOFFORD

South Carolina Gamma hosted a day of educational workshops that ended with the initiation of 20 men, bringing membership to 70. The workshops focused on setting officers’ goals and training brothers to recruit more effectively. In February, the chapter hosted its Paddy Murphy celebration for approximately 500 guests that featured a band party and a senior brother re-enactment of the legend of Paddy. Ten chapter representatives attended Province Rho Leadership School, where the men received the Province Cup for Chapter Excellence for the second year in a row. And in late February, the chapter’s month of successes ended with ten of the brothers’ parents volunteering and preparing an oyster roast.

WYOMING

The Wyoming Alpha chapter raised more than \$2,600 for Children’s Miracle Network by creating a haunted house and led three nights of tours to people from Laramie, the university and from throughout the state. ☀️



150

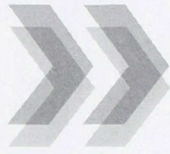
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON.

The 150th anniversary celebration in Tuscaloosa was a huge success, full of brotherhood and Fraternity spirit. To share your sesquicentennial story with the Realm, contact editor@sae.net.

Look for full coverage in the next issue of *The Record!*

DONOR

LEVELS



Donor Levels recognize total lifetime giving. Your annual support assists with scholarships, student loans, educational programming and the preservation of the Levere Memorial Temple.

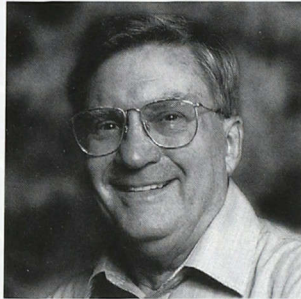
If you have questions regarding contributions, please contact Director of Annual Giving Christopher Speelman at (800) 233-1856, ext. 221, or at cspeelman@sae.net.

DONOR LEVELS

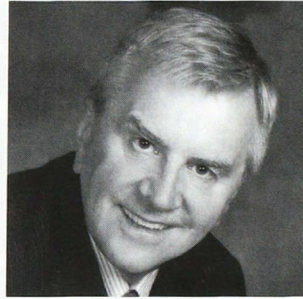
FOUNDATION FELLOW.....	\$100,000
MCKINLEY.....	\$75,000
RUDULPH.....	\$50,000
DEVOTIE.....	\$25,000
NIPPERT.....	\$10,000
BUNTING.....	\$5,000
PHOENIX.....	\$2,500
FOUNDER.....	\$1,000

Gifts to the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation, a 501(c)3 corporation, are tax-deductible. Brothers' donor levels are recognized in *The Record* upon receipt of a photograph and biography.

\$25,000 DEVOTIE SOCIETY

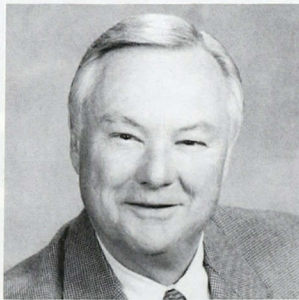


Glen McLaughlin
Oklahoma '56
McLaughlin is co-founder and director of Greater Bay Bancorp. He and his wife, Ellen, have two children and three grandchildren and live in Saratoga, Calif.

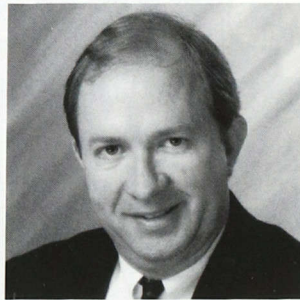


Sig Rogich
Nevada-Reno '66
Rogich is president/owner of The Rogich Communications Group. He and his wife, Lori, have four children, Britten, Erin, Olivia and Sig Jr., and live in Las Vegas, Nev.

\$10,000 NIPPERT SOCIETY

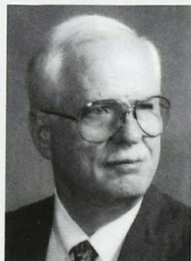


Brooks T. Mancini
San Jose State '64
Mancini is chairman emeritus of B.T. Mancini Co., Inc. He and his wife, Diane, have two children, Brooks Jr. and Catherine, and live in Reno, Nev.



J.L. (Jim) Pope
Southern Mississippi '73
Pope is an agent with State Farm Insurance Co. and has been the top agent in Germantown, Tenn. for the last 15 years. He has five children, Stacy, Anna, Mary Frances and Phoenix, and lives in Cordova, Tenn. He is also a Past Eminent Supreme Archon.

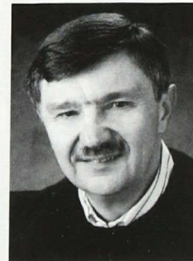
\$5,000 BUNTING SOCIETY



Richard C. Barrett
Connecticut '64
Barrett is president of Stonebridge Capital Management. He and his wife, Debra, have a daughter, Christopher, and live in Los Angeles, Calif.

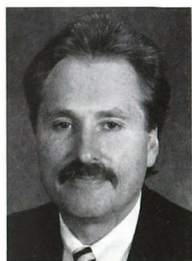


M. Todd Buchanan
Southern Mississippi '90
Buchanan is senior vice president of AIG Valic and is currently Eminent Supreme Herald. He and his wife, Babsie, have two children, Ashton and Riley, and live in Kingwood, Tex.



Donald C. Cowles III
Montana '66
Cowles is president and owner of Wild West Shirt Company. He and his wife, Patty, have two children, Kalani and Carson, and live in Bozeman, Mont.

\$5,000 BUNTING SOCIETY (continued)



Bill D. Fife
Idaho '74
Fife is senior vice president of Met Life Investors. He and his wife, Jane, have three children, Brian, Katie and Megan, and live in Doylestown, Pa.



Kenneth Keith Kauffman
Drake '60
Kauffman is retired from Shell Oil Company. He and his wife, Miriam, live in Mendota Heights, Minn.



Robert K. Murray
Millikin '50
Murray is retired as senior vice president of The Richard F. Jacobs Group of Cleveland, Ohio. He and his wife, Melinda, have two daughters, Dian and Cindy, and a stepson, James, and live in Rocky River, Ohio.

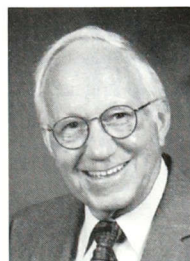


David E. Taylor
Cincinnati '54
Taylor is chairman of Crescent Park Corp. He and his wife, Maureen, have three children, Steve, Dave and Chris, and live in Indian Hill, Ohio.

\$2,500 PHOENIX SOCIETY



Peter M. Carlson
Willamette '68
Carlson is professor of political science at Christopher Newport University. He and his wife, Rhonda, have a daughter, Julie, and live in Smithfield, Va.



Eugene E. Frantz
Iowa '56
Frantz is retired. He and his wife, Mary, have two children, David and Sarah, and live in Dallas, Tex.



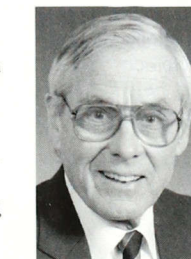
Guy K. Johnson
Southern California '81
Johnson is president of Johnson Capital and lives in Irvine, Calif.



Bruce F. Langenegger
Washington (Washington) '58
Langenegger was operations manager with H & S Products and is now retired. He and his wife, Audrey, have a daughter and a granddaughter and live in Sunnyvale, Calif.



Fredric T. Langton
Puget Sound '61
Langton is a retired math teacher and is currently the Honorary Eminent Supreme Archon. He and his wife, Diane, have five children, Gregg, Tom, Andy, Kris and Jeff, and live in University Place, Wash.



Stuart V. McQueen
Cincinnati '48
McQueen was CEO of Forest Products Manufacturing and Forestry and is now retired. He and his wife, Margaret, have four children, Mark, Ladd, Marily and Laurie, and live in Medford, Ore.



Wayne E. Mirre
Cincinnati '55
Mirre is the retired division manager of marketing for ATA. He and his wife, Joyce, have three children, Michael, David and Laura, and live in Hot Springs, Ark.



Richard Glenn Montgomery
Wyoming '52
Montgomery is retired and has three children, Michael, Don and Evelyn, and five grandchildren and lives in Sun City West, Ariz.



Richard D. Nelson
George Washington '89
Nelson is a pilot and commander in the U.S. Navy. He and his wife, Rebecca, have one child, Caden, and live in Arlington, Va.

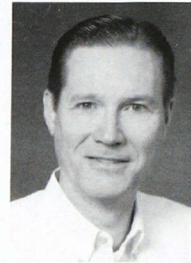
\$2,500 PHOENIX SOCIETY (continued)



Richard M. Robinson
Florida '62
Robinson is an attorney and shareholder with Gray Robinson, P.A. He and his wife, Gail, have two children, Bill and Beth, and live in Maitland, Fla.



David Stacy
Alabama '61
Stacy is a pathologist at Shepherd Center/St. Joseph's Hospital of Atlanta. He and his wife, Beverly, have two children, Deborah and Elizabeth, and live in Atlanta, Ga.



Bernard T. Swift Jr.
Drake '72
Swift is a physician in occupational medicine with the Texas Med Clinic-San Antonio. He and his wife, Kathy, have two children, Brandon and Nicole, and live in San Antonio, Tex.

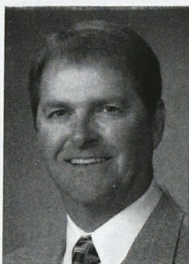


Charles E. Trangsrud
North Dakota State '59
Trangsrud is retired. He and his wife, Mimi, live in Tucson, Ariz.



Kevin P. Wyndham
Kent State '88
Wyndham is director of design and project management of AVI Foodsystems, Inc. He and his wife, Jennifer, have one daughter, Isabelle, and live in Warren, Ohio.

\$1,000 FOUNDER MEMBERS



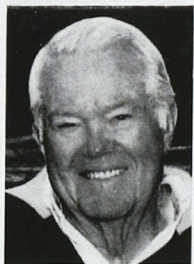
Alan H. Cottle
Puget Sound '74
FM # 6239
Yakima, Wash.



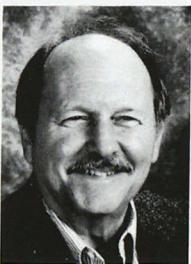
Richard Ben Hershberger
UC-Los Angeles '53
FM # 6199
Los Angeles, Calif.



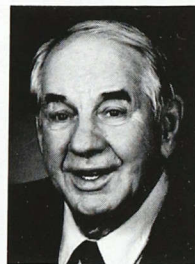
Paul R. Kimmel
Case Western Reserve '69
FM # 6225
Goleta, Calif.



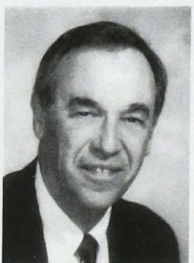
C. Brock Lippitt
Colorado '51
FM # 6169
Kingsburg, Calif.



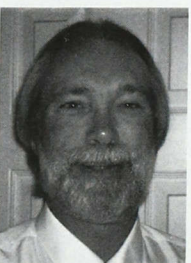
Walter Maykulsky
Arizona '73
FM # 6116
Cathedral City, Calif.



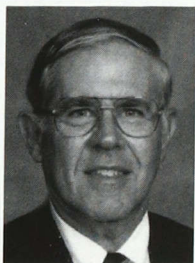
Leonard McEwan
Wyoming '49
FM # 6210
Story, Wyo.



H. Arthur McLane
Emory '61
FM # 6302
Valdosta, Ga.



Warren K. Morris
Auburn '81
FM # 6250
Montgomery, Ala.



Richard J. Neiman
Iowa State '65
FM # 6279
Amelia C.H., Va.

\$1,000 FOUNDER MEMBERS (continued)



John H. Otten
Nebraska '56
FM # 6253
Omaha, Neb.



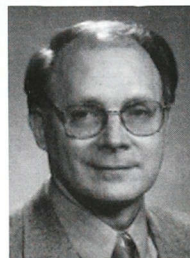
Earl H. Philip
Northern Illinois '66
FM # 6211
Blue Springs, Mo.



Robert Roediger
Cincinnati '51
FM # 6227
Troy, Ohio



Michael F. Salva
Northern Illinois '00
FM # 6228
Alexandria, Va.



Curtis W. Stofferahn
North Dakota
State '75
FM # 6230
Grand Forks, N.D.



Robert H. Watts
Boston '68
FM # 6263
Wayland, Mass.

NOT PICTURED

Robert B. Connolly
Arizona '70
FM # 6084
Phoenix, Ariz.

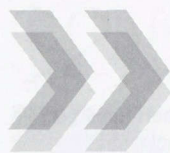
Eugene F. Cook
Denver '50
FM # 6237
La Jolla, Calif.

Daryn Friedman
Cal State-Northridge '98
FM # 6148
Encino, Calif.

Donald F. Jacobs
Cincinnati '56
FM # 6223
Greenville, S.C.

MEMORY & HONOR

IN MEMORY / IN HONOR



This section provides a chance for brothers to memorialize or recognize those members who have impacted someone's life by making a contribution in that member's name to the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation.

Contributions in honor or in memory of brothers and friends of the Fraternity can be sent to the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation, 1856 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois 60201.

Notices are published within two issues of receiving the contribution. There is no minimum contribution for such recognition.

IN MEMORY

Arkansas-Fayetteville, Arkansas Alpha-Upsilon

Paul M. Farrell Jr. '69
by Randall E. Northern

Auburn, Alabama Alpha-Mu

Robert T. Carnes Jr. '87
by Rinnai America

Case Western Reserve, Ohio Rho

Robert M. Oehler '48
by Mrs. Dorisgene Oehler

Colorado State, Colorado Delta

John A. Nelson '51
by Fred J. Roberts

Denver, Colorado Zeta

Kenneth O. Fosse III '83
by Joel S. Haberman

Emory, Georgia Epsilon

William Troy Bivings Jr. '27
by Stewart A. Marshall III

John Q. Cleveland '62

by John Hinson
Alex Hinson

Harold F. Hunter Jr. '53

by William L. Dickens

Franklin, Indiana Alpha

Norman H. Pritchard '04
by Kenneth D. Tracey

Kansas, Kansas Alpha

Timothy N. Turner '70
by Joseph H. Vaughan Jr.

Maryland-College Park, Maryland Beta

Richard E. Frederick '57
by Ronald E. Ward

Charles A. Haslup '46

by Charles O. Ensor

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Massachusetts Iota-Tau

Paul J. Baker '70
by Henry H. Perritt

Miami of Ohio, Ohio Tau

Robert W. Blouch '43
by Mrs. Dorothy Blouch

Missouri, Missouri Alpha

Carl Ray Holman Jr. '64
by Jon W. Carlson

Gene F. Reardon '54

by Harold R. Jordan
Michael R. Lawler

Montana State, Montana Alpha

Robert W. Palmer '38
by Ms. Pamela Palmer Headley

New Hampshire, New Hampshire Beta

Michael R. LeBlanc '89
by William D. Ford

North Carolina State, North Carolina Alpha

William R. Makepeace II '63
by William R. Makepeace IV

North Dakota State, North Dakota Beta

William J. Thompson '63
by Mrs. Marilyn K. Thompson

Ohio State, Ohio Theta

Thomas W. Connor '42
By Michael B. Weingard

James R. Sexton '41

by Mrs. Betty Sexton

Richmond, Virginia Tau

Burnet L. Waring '51
by Giles C. Engledove Jr.

South Carolina Columbia, South Carolina Delta

Claude Mike Adair '61
by Russell Harley

Toledo, Ohio Nu

Gerald W. Heineman '70
by Toledo Area Alumni Association

Troy, Alabama Epsilon

Casey L. Houston '88
by Ronald V. Beck II

Texas-El Paso, Texas Gamma

Herbert E. "Tio" Cooper '61
by James C. Harvie
Thomas W. Trumbull
Kenneth N. Zaring

Texas Tech, Texas Alpha

Ronald C. Harlan '55
by Donald R. Furgeson

Tulane, Louisiana Tau-Upsilon

Alston Callahan '33
by Timothy A.R. Callahan

Union, Tennessee Eta

Ben Boston '41
by Will Rogers

Vermont, Vermont Beta

David Machanic '54
by Murray W. Seagears

Washington State, Washington Beta

C. Gordon Edgren '46
by Tad Richardson

Non-ΣAE Members

Dr. Carl Bivings
by Stewart A. Marshall III

IN HONOR

Ball State, Indiana Zeta

Drake T. Land '07
by Thomas R. Land

Loyola-Chicago, Illinois Alpha-Omega

Parker K. Tracey '02
by Kenneth D. Tracey

Morehead State, Kentucky Gamma

Sgt. Gary Brian Curtis, USAF '05
by Benjamin H. Caudill

Western Carolina, North Carolina Omega

The Gentlemen of North Carolina Omega
by Harold L. Walburn

POP QUIZ:

What does this look like to you?



A) Vacation fun



B) Walking on the beach



C) Fine dining



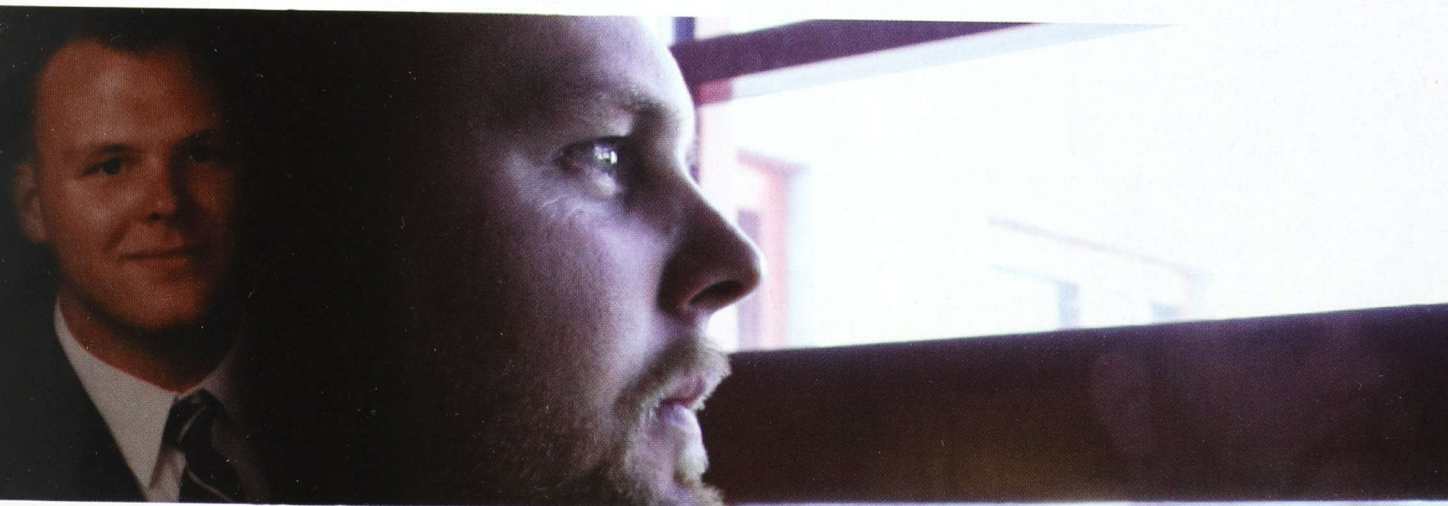
D) Leadership School

Answer: **E** — ALL OF THE ABOVE

Get inspired this year at Leadership School on Carnival Cruise Lines. Hurry! Registration closes soon.

Find all the information you need and sign up at www.sae.net.

TUDENT I AM AN IOWA SIGMA I A
CITIZEN I AM A FRATERNITY MAN
M A FRIEND I AM A 27 YEAR OLD I A
COLLEGE STUDENT I AM AN IOWA
ATIVE I AM AN ALL-AMERICAN BO
AM A BROTHER I AM A HAPPY-GO
LUCKY GUY I AM AN UNCLE I AM A
THLETE I AM THE BOY NEXT DOOR
AM A LOVING SON I AM THE MA
N THE CHAIR I AM A BEST FRIEN
AM A FOOTBALLER I AM A KILLER M A FAM
Y MEMBER I AM A LEADER I AM
PERSON I AM A FRATERNITY BROTH
R I AM A RELIGIOUS PERSON I A
IMPSON COLLEGE CLASS OF 200
AM A GOOD GUY I AM A YOUNG MA
AM AN ATHLETE I AM A GRANDCHIL
AM A NEIGHBOR I AM A MEMBER
A COACH I AM NOT LIKE YO



OVERSHADOWED IDENTITY

How one decision can change society's perception of you

by Brandon E. Weghorst

SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS COUNTRY, IN OUR NATION'S HEARTLAND, YOU HAVE A BROTHER WHO IS JUST LIKE YOU IN MANY WAYS. SETH VREDENBURG. IOWA SIGMA. CLASS OF 2001. BUT TODAY, HIS DAY, HIS ORDEAL, IS NOT QUITE THE SAME AS YOURS.

You probably got out of bed, got dressed, maybe headed to work or class. He got out of bed at 6:30 a.m., got dressed in bright orange and waited for a woman to escort him to work along with a group of other men dressed like him.

Maybe you came home and had something to eat and watched some TV. He came back and was stripped down naked and searched for contraband.

Perhaps you socialized with friends or co-workers. Maybe you talked about your weekend plans. He had dinner when officers told him to eat, and he went inside when they told him it was getting dark because he's not allowed outside after sundown.

Come to think of it, your day wasn't anything like Seth's day. In fact, everything about your day was most likely as routine as possible — because that's the kind of life you're used to living. No one tells you much what to do. No one plans your day for you. No one is watching your every move. And that's a good feeling. In fact, you probably think it's your God-given right as an American citizen.

His day panned out as it did because he's been branded a killer. And to experience all those life's joys again, he's waiting on an hourglass that slowly drains.

He's 27 years old, and it's as if someone pressed the pause button on his life. Because when he was just a few years younger, he thought he was what all of us think we are. Invincible. And after a night of drinking, he got behind the wheel of a car. And he killed someone.

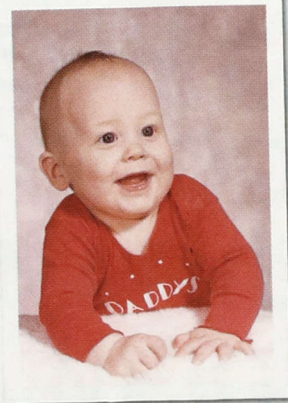
Here's the interesting part. Seth Vredenberg's day may not be like yours, but he is just like you, and he's just like me. He's your brother, your friend, your son. He's a good guy, but he can make bad choices because, like you, he's human. And that decision — well, he can wish he hadn't done it. He can replay the moment over and over in his head. But the outcome is still the same.

So for now, he's got the label that best fits his actions. That's how we've branded him, how we've put a label on his behavior, on what he did to put himself in this place. What else would you consider him to be? A young man with a bright future? A loving son whose family raised him to be the best person he could be — armed with values and morals? A loyal fraternity brother who led among his brothers at Simpson College, who knew everybody and who graduated and got accepted at vet school at Iowa State?

He's all those things. But maybe "killer" overshadows his other identities to the majority of people who don't know him. After all, he's in prison. He committed vehicular homicide. He knows what he did, and he repents. When you see him, it's hard to believe this 5'10," 230-pound man with sparkling green eyes and a grin from ear to ear fits that label — this Iowa native who looks exactly like he's a product of his land — corn-fed, hardworking and sincere. It's hard to believe the person standing before me in this prison who offers me the grip — this person whom I call brother — is the person our judicial system says he is.

Seeing him dressed in bright orange and tagged with a number, would I know he's the same person who played three sports in high school, who was listed in the National Honor Society and Who's Who Among American High School Students, who'd been active in so many things and who'd been on a path that would have made him a veterinarian? Nah. Because inside here, he's just like everyone

DENT BROTHER CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGHBOR CITIZEN FELON DRUNK DRIVER STUDENT





IT'S KIND OF LIKE HAVING A FAMILY MEMBER WITH A VERY SERIOUS ILLNESS. YOU ARE CONSUMED BY IT. YOU LIVE DAY BY DAY WITH IT. YOU PRAY A LOT, YOU FACE A LOT OF DISAPPOINTMENTS AND JUST HOPE, IN THE END, ALL WILL BE OKAY. ¶ NO MATTER WHAT SETH HAS BEEN THROUGH OR LOST, OR WHAT WE HAVE ENDURED AS HIS FAMILY, IT CANNOT COMPARE WITH WHAT THE VICTIM'S FAMILY LOST. ¶ HE WILL BE A BETTER, STRONGER PERSON FOR WHAT HE HAS EXPERIENCED, SUFFERED AND ENDURED. WE ARE INDEED FORTUNATE.

~ Linda & John Vredenburg, parents



else wearing orange and donning a name badge. He's just a number in the criminal-justice system of his state and our country.

But this number, inmate 6738178 to be exact, has a story you should hear because if you are anything like him — and you probably are — his fate can be your fate, too.

Pointing Fingers in All Directions

You have to wonder: did Seth go wrong somewhere? Whom can we blame? Society tends to draw conclusions from the past to understand the present. His mom stayed at home for many years and took care of his brothers and him before she became a travel agent. His father, a corporate pilot, never pushed them into anything and allowed the boys to decide what path they wanted in life. His parents and grandparents raised them with values and morals and provided them with love and nurturing just like other children so often get. And they wanted him to have a life better than their own. If that meant going to college, they supported him all the way.

And if you ask people in his hometown of Chariton, Iowa, what they most remember about Seth, the word “killer” would not come to mind. They'd say he was a happy-go-lucky guy, the kind of guy who knew everybody and who could converse with everybody.

“I could sit down and talk to anybody,” Seth said. “I had a lot of friends, and it seemed like I could talk to their parents just as easily as they could talk to my parents.”

Even during his incarceration, Seth spends as much time with his parents as possible. They call him. They visit him. They send out a monthly letter to more than 100 people, letting them know Seth's progress and news. His parents remain supportive and loving and committed to helping him through this situation, regardless of how long it takes.

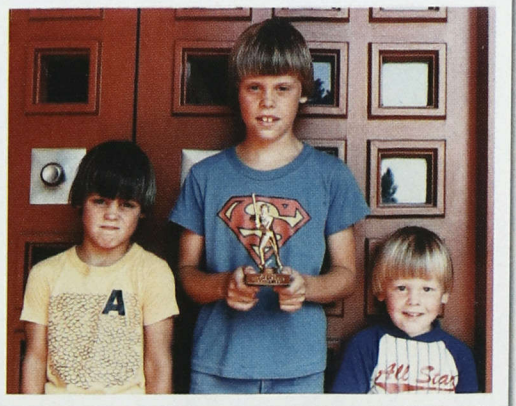


To his community, he's the All-American boy. To his neighbors, he's the boy next door. To his parents, he's the loving son.

So we can't really blame his parents or his community.

Perhaps we can blame the Fraternity. Maybe being labeled is something we can understand. Fraternity men are surely labeled — most of the time as mischievous college students who reject authority and who drink excessive

DENT BROTHER CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGHBOR **CITIZEN** FELON DRUNK DRIVER STUDENT BR





Seth said he never drank much until he turned 21 because the desire wasn't there. Of course, he enjoyed the Fraternity's social outlet as much as the next guy. But he knew his limits. He'd been educated on the dangers of alcohol, and he had to learn from his own mistakes. He watched others drink excessively, but he was there to help them, to protect them from harm.

Actually it was the Fraternity and his brothers who helped get Seth through the day. Now that he has more time to think, one of his best memories is something only Iowa Sigma brothers can truly understand. He remembers house retreats and being the "Man in the Chair." The activity allows a brother to sit in a chair in the front of the room with his back faced to the other brothers. He could sit in it and vent and let everything out that was on his mind without consequences. He could yell or confront or cry. And no one judged him.

"Men that you think are so strong — just sitting in the chair crying — that is something I thought I would never experience," Seth said.

But he was in that chair. He was in that chair for four years. And, yes, he was one of those strong men who shed tears.

And now that he's incarcerated, three of his best friends, his fraternity brothers, remain committed to Seth's well-being. They write each other. They care for him and think of him often. They understand that strong bond of friendship and brotherhood the Fraternity provides, even when they make mistakes.

"There is no giving up in that friendship," he said. "Even though I made the mistake and I'm in prison, they are still there, and they love me no matter what."

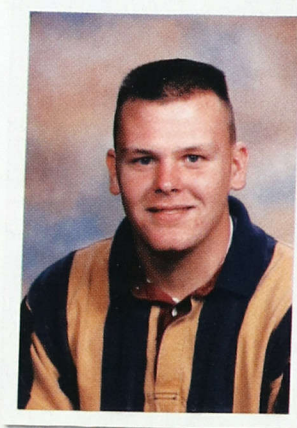
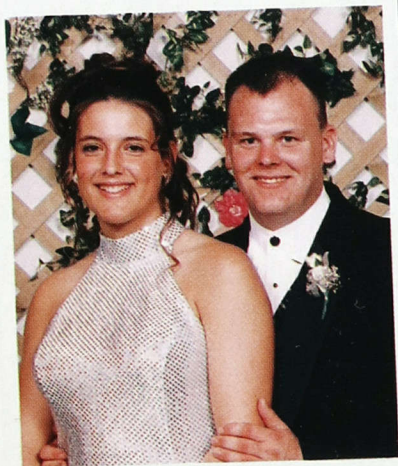
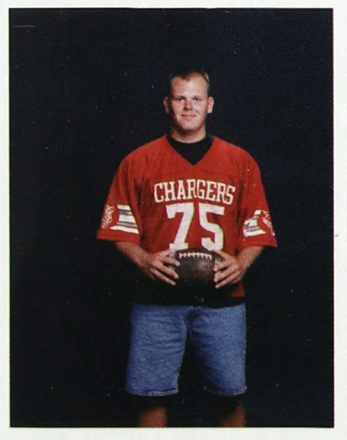
To his chapter acquaintances, he's the brother. To the pledges, he's the leader.

So we really can't blame the Fraternity.

amounts of alcohol and assault women. So his accident would make sense, then, because that's our label. Surely, we can relate because we were all part of that culture at some point, and we're all branded as fraternity men.

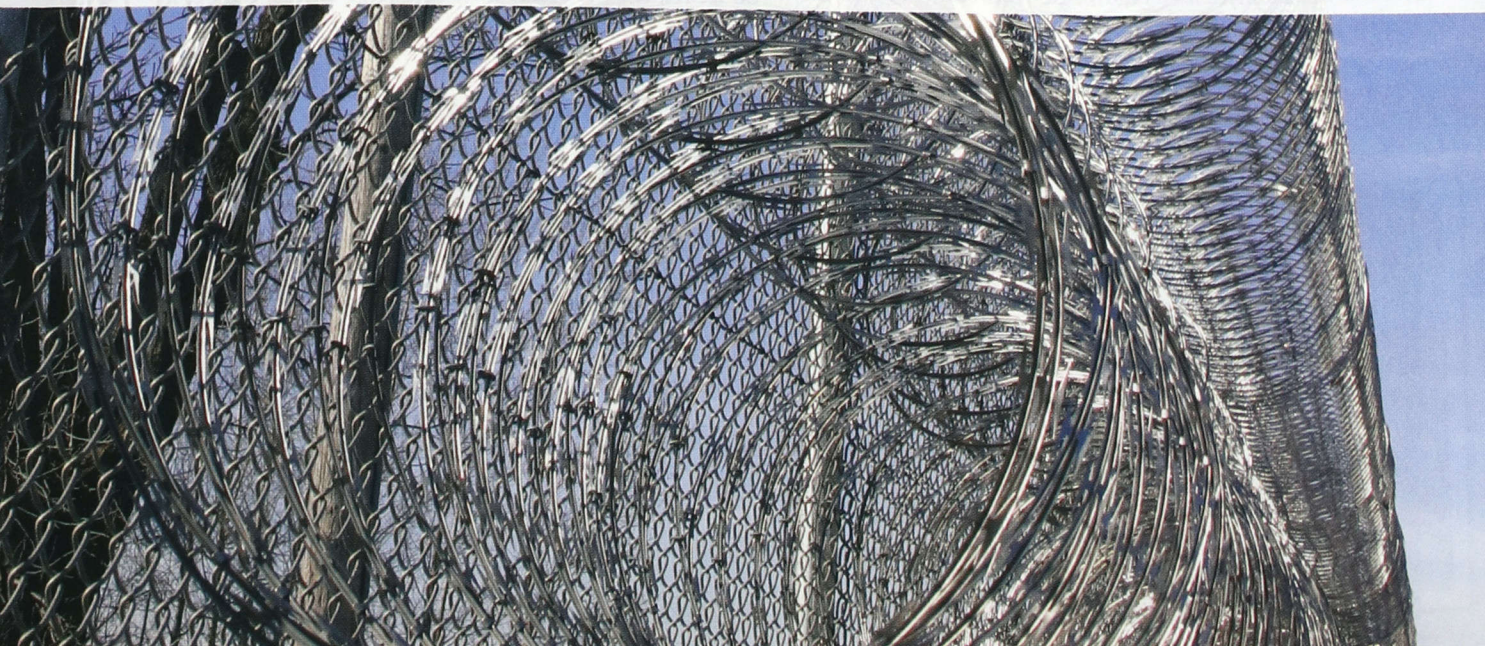
"There's that freedom that you no longer have your parents sitting at home with you," he said. "But I didn't go overboard, and my friends didn't go overboard."

CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGHBOR CITIZEN STUDENT BROTHER CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGH





I THINK ABOUT HIM OFTEN. I THINK ABOUT HOW TRAGIC AND UNFAIR IT IS THAT ONE POOR DECISION COULD CHANGE HIS LIFE AND THE LIVES OF MANY OTHERS SO DRASTICALLY; THAT AN INNOCENT PERSON LOST HIS LIFE AS A RESULT OF THIS DECISION; THAT MY FRIEND, WHO IS A GOOD MAN AND WOULD NEVER DELIBERATELY HURT ANYONE, IS RESPONSIBLE. ¶ I KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT SETH IS TRYING TO ATONE FOR WHAT HAPPENED IN EVERY WAY THAT HE CAN, AND I'M GLAD THAT HE IS SHARING HIS EXPERIENCES IN THE HOPE OF PREVENTING OTHERS FROM MAKING THE SAME MISTAKE HE DID. ~ *Jared Gerlock (Simpson '01), chapter brother*



Truth is, Seth knows there is only one person to blame for what happened that night. Himself. He made the decision to drink. He made the decision to drive home. And anyone who's been incarcerated knows he has to come to terms with accepting responsibility — and forgiving himself. Because he thinks if he can't blame himself and forgive himself, no one else can help him.

He doesn't want people to feel sorry for him, and even if he wanted their sympathy, they probably wouldn't offer it. At the same time, he feels lucky to have friends who look out for him. And he realizes another fact of life that haunts so many people, so many brothers, so many chapters. Men fail to stand up and confront behavior in one another. They may see the warning signs that something is wrong but fail to act. They fail to confront big issues that can impact someone's life. He never displayed warning signs — because he felt there was no danger. Sure, he saw self-destructive behavior all around him on campus, but that wasn't his fate, was it? And he had his friends, but maybe brotherhood is more selective than we think.

"I had the few guys that I graduated with, and we were really tight. We were really good in helping in each other, but we lacked in helping the rest of the house," he said. "It's sad, isn't it? I never really thought about that. We need to be a support group."

The Day He Got a New Label

Seth remembers "that day" like a scratched CD that keeps playing the same few beats.

But Saturday, December 9, 2001, started just like any other Saturday in Seth's life. He went through a daily routine just like any college student. He slept late and didn't do much of anything during the day. But he was anxious to see friends that night in Des Moines for a get-together

— a combination holiday/going-away party with fraternity brothers. He grabbed a sandwich on the ride from Ames to Des Moines and even showed up early at his friend's house.

"I wouldn't even call it a party," Seth said. "It was a get-together. Nobody was there to get plastered."

So Seth shared a 12-pack with a friend and guesses he had six beers for the six hours he was there. Six beers in six hours. For a 220-pound man. He thought he was being sensible, and based on what he knew about alcohol absorption, nothing seemed to be flawed about the equation.

He left around 2 a.m. He knew he had to get back to Iowa State and study because the following week would be the dead week before finals. The host of the party approached him and asked if he was okay to drive. In return, Seth asked if he looked okay to drive. It was a mutual agreement, and they left it at that.

He put on his mid-length leather coat he bought in Italy — one of his favorite jackets — and headed out the door into the brisk, clear December night in central Iowa. He walked around the apartment, got in his green 2001 Hyundai Santa Fe, buckled his seat belt and put his cell phone between his legs, where he normally kept it during a drive. He remembers those moments perfectly.

He remembers passing a rest area just north of the Ankeny exit on I-35. And he remembers thinking he should stop because he had to use the restroom. But he didn't.

And that's the last he remembers.

From there until Sunday morning, he only recalls bits and pieces — 30-second clips — much like a bad dream. He doesn't know whether he passed out or fell asleep. But he remembers being at the crash site and paramedics talking to him although he can't remember what was said. He remembers a Life Flight to Des Moines. Voices. He remembers voices.

CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGHBOR CITIZEN STUDENT **BROTHER** CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGH



"I was conscious of where I was," he said. "I wasn't conscious of what had happened. I didn't know I had been in a car crash. I didn't know that someone had died."

The doctor was the first to tell him the grim news. And if it hadn't been for the police report, he might never have known what happened. He was driving northbound on I-35 and ran into the back of a semi. That's when his Santa Fe became lodged underneath, so the truck driver slammed on his brakes. Then, Seth's SUV came loose and careened across the median into southbound traffic. At the same time, a young college student was also headed back home — his route from Ames to Des Moines. But with Seth's SUV now headed for him on a collision course, the other driver would never make his final destination.

Seth awoke in a hospital bed covered with grass and shards of glass. He had no injuries except for a few scars on his face. But he remembers the cold reception he got from the hospital staff. The atmosphere changed. The air became thick with disbelief and insinuations, as if suddenly he wasn't that same happy-go-lucky, good-guy Seth. The accident caused a sudden transformation — simply because he was something more of a monster now. A new label reared its ugly head. During his blackout, a state trooper visited the room and, unbeknownst to Seth, took a blood sample, which would place his blood alcohol level at .13, just a fraction over the legal limit of .12.

Still, he drove drunk. That's all that counts in a court of law. And that's all it took to transform him from an All-American boy to a killer.

"As soon as I woke up, they were telling me I had to pee in a cup for them, and once I did that, I could leave," he said. "And that was the extent of their treatment for me."

Bearing the Weight of the World

Time started to slow down for Seth. He knew what happened that December night had started a chain reaction that could not be stopped. The worries started to build. The fear started to grow. He became displaced from his social life and questioned his educational future. In his mind, what happened could not be erased.

"I don't think I processed it for a long time. It's something you don't think you're capable of doing ever," he said. "All of a sudden, you're there — and you've caused someone to die."

In the weeks and months after the accident, before the trial, Seth was so stressed out that he couldn't concentrate on anything. He would try to study and wind up staring blankly at the page because he couldn't concentrate.

He drank as a physical and emotional release because he didn't know how to deal with the fact that he had killed someone. "No one can prepare you for anything like that. That much stress and grief and remorse built onto you, you didn't know what to do."

The state charged him with felonies that could have amounted to 35 years in prison. But he didn't fret over the hefty terms he could face. Instead, Seth worried about leaving school — the one thing he cared enough to pursue. The one thing he worked so hard to achieve. The one thing that gave him the proudest moment of his life.

In June 2003, he pleaded guilty to vehicular homicide, which meant he had to meet with the victim's family, had to serve a ten-year prison term and had to pay \$150,000 restitution to the family.

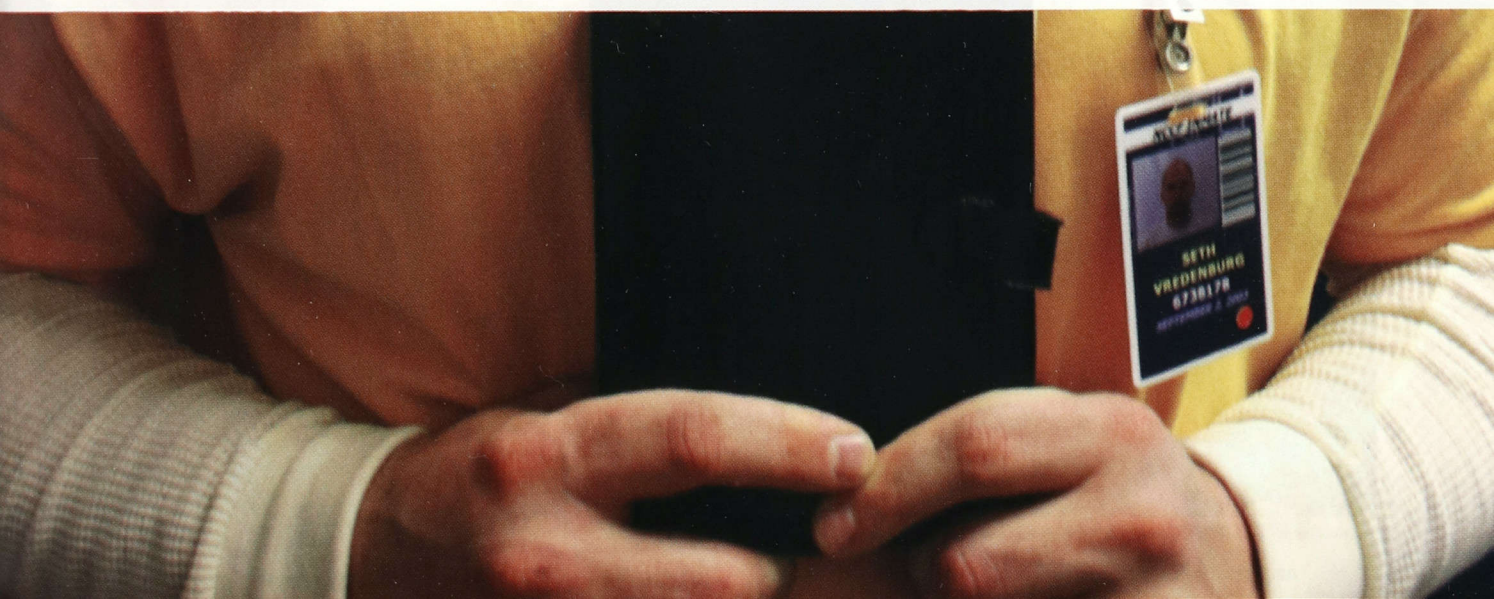
And if facing the truth about going to prison weren't enough, that requirement to confront the family gave him a sobering experience. An experience no one wants to face. He had to look them in the eyes and explain what he did to their loved one. He had to tell them why he killed him.





BEFORE SETH'S ACCIDENT, I THINK EVERYONE INCLUDING ME WAS A BIT CARELESS WHEN IT CAME TO DRINKING AND DRIVING. THE CONSEQUENCES ARE QUITE CLEAR. FROM A SELFISH STANDPOINT, I HAVE TEMPORARILY LOST MY BEST FRIEND. ¶ I KNOW THAT THE FAMILY OF THE GENTLEMAN WHO WAS KILLED IN THE ACCIDENT WILL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN. THOUGH I COUNT THE DAYS BEFORE I CAN SEE AND HANG OUT WITH MY BEST FRIEND AND SHOW OFF MY NEW SON TO HIM, I KNOW THAT MY LOSS IS ONLY TEMPORARY. ¶ MY ONLY REGRET IS THAT IT TOOK SOMETHING LIKE SETH'S ACCIDENT TO CHANGE ME.

~ Eric Goodhue (Simpson '00), chapter brother



Normally, the system would give a felon 12 months to prepare for this type of confrontation, but Seth only got 45 minutes on the phone with a social worker. She asked him what he wanted to say, what he could offer. And all he could say was that he was sorry. But those simple words weren't so easy when he sat down with 14 of them, including the parents, fiancée and siblings.

It's like the person who has to tell parents their son is dead from hazing or alcohol poisoning. It's like the person who has to explain to a court why he raped a woman. Look them straight in the eyes. Use all the strength you have. Mutter some sort of explanation for the worst news you can tell someone. And truth be told, a lot of people will never know what that's like.

"You want to give them everything you can, but you have absolutely nothing to give," Seth said. "You can't ask them for forgiveness. You can ask God. You can ask yourself. But you can't ask them for it."

Maybe that brotherhood activity from Iowa Sigma, "Man in the Chair," prepared him for this moment. Back then, he could sit there and talk uncensored. Directly. His brothers would forgive him. This confrontation, however, would not be so easy. He could pray they wouldn't judge him like his fraternity brothers. He could pray they would shake his hand and smile and tell him everything would be okay. But emotions flooded his mind, and just like "Man in the Chair," he cried. And he cried more. And the session lasted two-and-a-half hours.

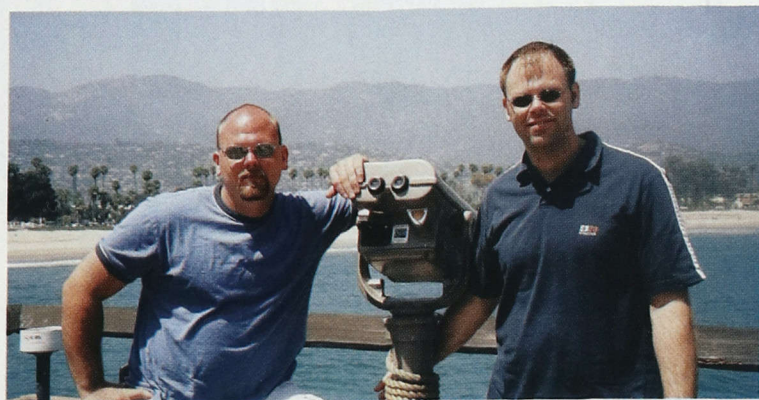
"I don't think I can give them closure," he said. "I gave them what I could — my sincerest apology." But he faced the facts. He accepted his responsibility and, in a way, the confrontation gave him a final sense of calm, especially when family members said, "I don't hate you. I hate what happened."

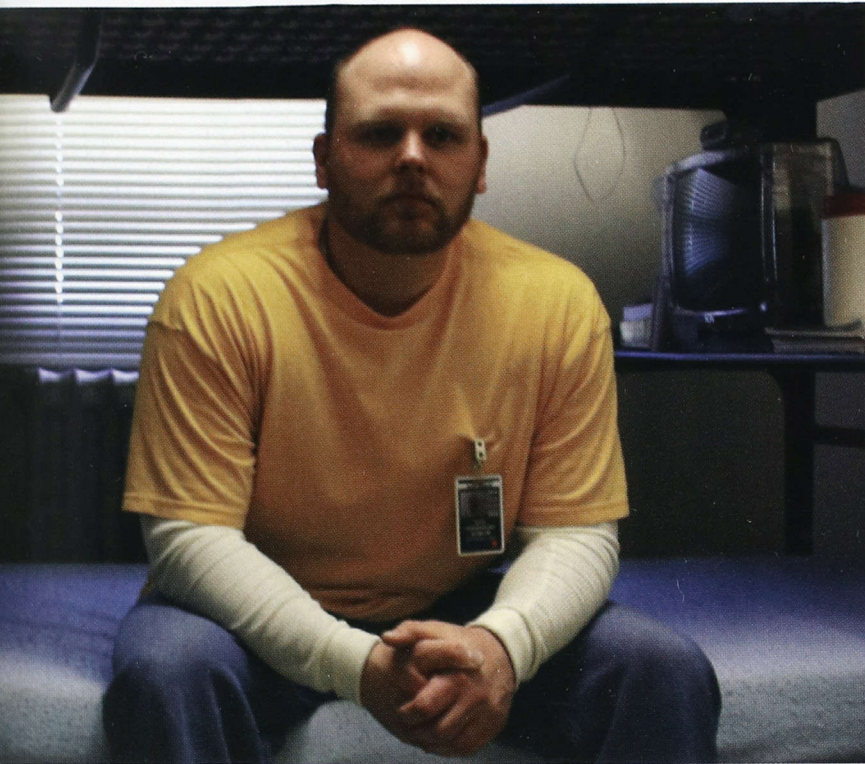


Farewell, Freedom, Until We Meet Again

As the months after the accident progressed, Seth's worries started to build. In an instant, he killed someone. In an instant, the court system came after him. And soon he would be faced with the inevitable — life behind bars. But the fact that his freedom would soon be snatched away didn't hit Seth until he helped a friend move to Minneapolis.

IDENT BROTHER CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGHBOR CITIZEN FELON DRUNK DRIVER STUDENT B





forgiveness, no second chances. He had to face the facts. And he needed a lot of faith — in a higher being.

The day he left, his brother gave him a Bible. “I think that’s the best advice anyone’s given me,” Seth said.

And then, sentencing day came, like the final moments of a made-for-TV drama. He sat in the Story County courtroom in front of his parents, his oldest brother, friends from Iowa State and other good friends. Once the judge handed down Seth’s sentence — ten years behind bars with the possibility of parole — they escorted him out. He tried not to look back, but the feeling of sadness hung over the room like a dark rain cloud. As if in slow motion, his goodbye took place. His family and friends did not want to let go. But they said their peace and watched Seth disappear into the unknown world of prison, not knowing when they’d see him again.

And when he got ready to head back to Iowa, to say goodbye to his friend, Seth said, “I’m going to be going away for awhile.”

He just didn’t realize how long “awhile” would be.

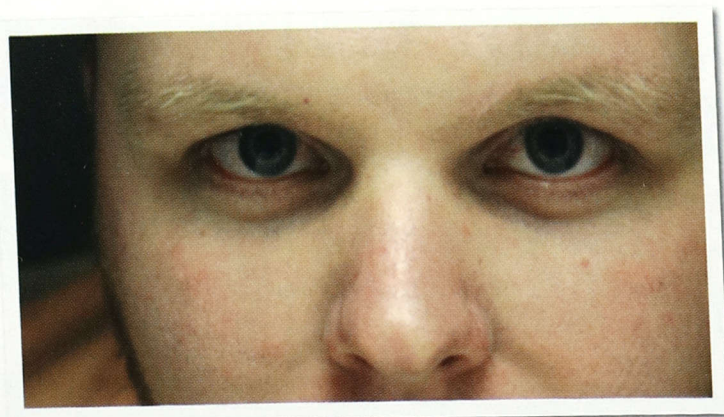
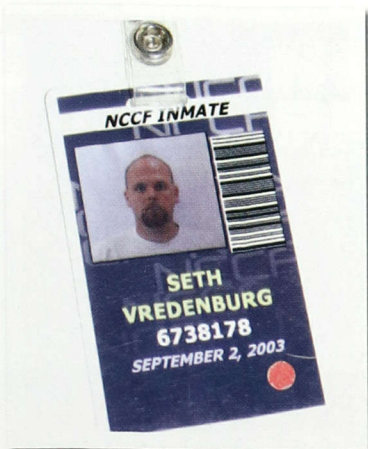
July 16, 2003, would become Seth’s last day of complete freedom, and he knew it. He went out to dinner with a friend and went to a movie with some other friends. But there was calmness about his fate. He knew there was no way to talk himself out of this one. There would be no

Welcome to Life in Rockwell City

Now it’s been nearly three years since Seth has been in his new home, scenery and faces unfamiliar and scary at first. Before he landed here, he didn’t know what to expect. But he surely felt the fear based on all the stereotypes of the men who he would serve their prison term alongside him.

It’s kind of like the labels. You know. Killer. Felon. Offender. Seth thought prison was full of those types before he ended up on the same side of the fence as they. You could call it his new band of brothers. Yes, they are

CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGHBOR CITIZEN STUDENT BROTHER CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGH





WE HAVE ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD THAT HE NEEDS TO SERVE HIS TIME FOR WHAT HAPPENED, YET WONDERED "WHY SETH?" SETH ALWAYS SEEMED TO DO THINGS RIGHT AND WAS A LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN. ALL IT TOOK WAS ONE INCIDENT, AND HIS LIFE WAS CHANGED DRASTICALLY. ¶ WE LEARNED TO NOT TAKE FAMILY FOR GRANTED AND HAVE BEEN MORE CONSCIOUS IN OUR OWN LIVES. WE SPEAK TO OTHERS ABOUT MAKING BETTER CHOICES AND SHARE SETH'S STORY WHEN APPROPRIATE TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY. ~ Colby & Nicole Vredenburg, brother and sister-in-law

brothers now, too, because they share a common bond. They look different from the faces at Iowa Sigma, but now he shares that bond with them — something only they can understand. And as time passed, he learned their labels were worthless on his side of the fence.

“I’m just like you,” he admitted. “Before I came to prison, I never thought about it. A lot of these guys have just made mistakes or a choice that has landed them here. They are genuinely good guys, but now they are incarcerated.”

He is one of them now. To his fellow inmates, he’s a confidant. He’s a friend.

But he lucked out, for Rockwell City is not like most prisons. Sure, it’s plain, sterile, white. You’ll find bars on the windows. No gourmet food. No wi-fi hot spots or digital cable. It’s more like a campus, like one big campus where you can’t lock your door and where the student body is all male, where you can’t check your e-mail or skip class. Maybe it’s just a stricter version of college — a campus without the co-eds, the bars and the late-night food runs.

“In my mind, I haven’t really left freedom. In my mind, I’m on sabbatical,” Seth said.

A strange situation. Most people would consider prison a death sentence, a place where you’re thrown to rot in hell among other deviants. Where you never see the light of day. But Seth considers his prison a trip, a journey. He’s found a place to reflect, to cope with his decision, to become a better man. A place of spiritual peace.

He’s learned to adapt to his new environment the same as others who come here. And he learned to forego some of life’s luxuries that he can no longer enjoy. Now, he can only write letters. Now, he can talk on the phone only briefly — and it’s not a cell phone. They have to keep their own rooms clean and do their own laundry. They have to work together. They have to fulfill the state’s requirements.

And in such a strict environment, he stays active. He is a member of the inmate-run church and holds leadership positions in some of the facility’s organizations. And from his work and his incarceration, he notices some changes about himself. He is more driven and focused and feels more accepting of other people and their situations. But, most importantly, Seth shares a common goal with other inmates, something that helps them cope with life on the inside. They’ve placed their faith in a higher being, in God himself.

“I don’t think anybody can bear the burden of killing someone without having the strength of God in him,” Seth said. “That’s the only place I get my strength.”

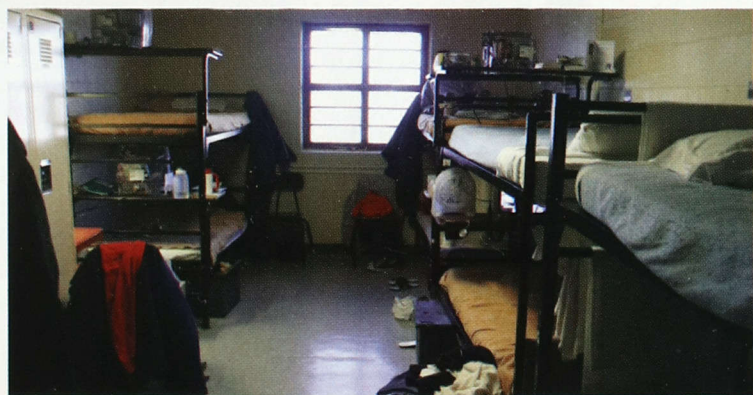
They are on a journey together because, like it or not, they can’t overcome the labels. It may be easy for you or me to call him a killer. He may accept his fate as being branded that way. But he and his fellow inmates are learning not to label others and judge others. They feel God has to forgive them but, more importantly, they have to forgive themselves. Even if that means society won’t forgive them.

Still, the labels will remain with him long after his prison term ends.

“Anytime I apply to a job, I have to check that box that says, ‘Yes, I have been incarcerated,’” he said.

He realizes he has to justify that mark, and he’s never been discriminated against in his life. Now he bears the burden of fitting into a definition affixed by society. It’s not as nice as the definition that says he’s a good person, a hard worker or a family-oriented person. He’s clumped with a group of people who have been shunned for their decisions. And he knows what it’s like to be let down. Each time Seth appeared before the parole board, they rejected him. He wanted to explain how he changed, how he re-

CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGHBOR CITIZEN STUDENT BROTHER CONVICT SON ATHLETE NEIGH



pented, how he learned his lesson. But he's been rejected. Three times. And while it may be a fleeting thought to the parole board, it's not a fleeting thought in Seth's mind.

"This is the one thing you're banking on — going home," he said. "It's hard not to get your hopes up here."

So his dreams of life's simple pleasures — going to the movie theater, playing basketball with friends on Tuesday nights, going to the grocery store — remain on hold. No one is ready to release the pause button. No one is ready to change his label. He copes and he hopes. At the same time, he realizes he is lucky because there are men among him who will be locked up for the rest of their lives.

And whether you envision your daily routine or Seth's daily routine, whether you look in the mirror and hate what you see or look at others and hate what you see, it's a matter of perception. It's a matter of labels.

And it's a matter of choice. Seth knows it was a bad choice to drive that night in December 2001. And he's paying the consequence for his one choice. But don't feel sorry for him. Learn from him. After all, he's learned from himself. He feels he's a better person. He feels more accepting of different cultures and backgrounds. He feels inner peace by believing in his God. He considers himself blessed. And when the day finally comes when he can walk among the rest of us, he's ready for the challenge to rebuild. He's ready to overcome labels and stereotypes and biases.

He's ready to take his message to others and say, "I'm just like you. I make mistakes, too, and I want to tell you about this one — because I care about you." He knows now that he's not invincible.

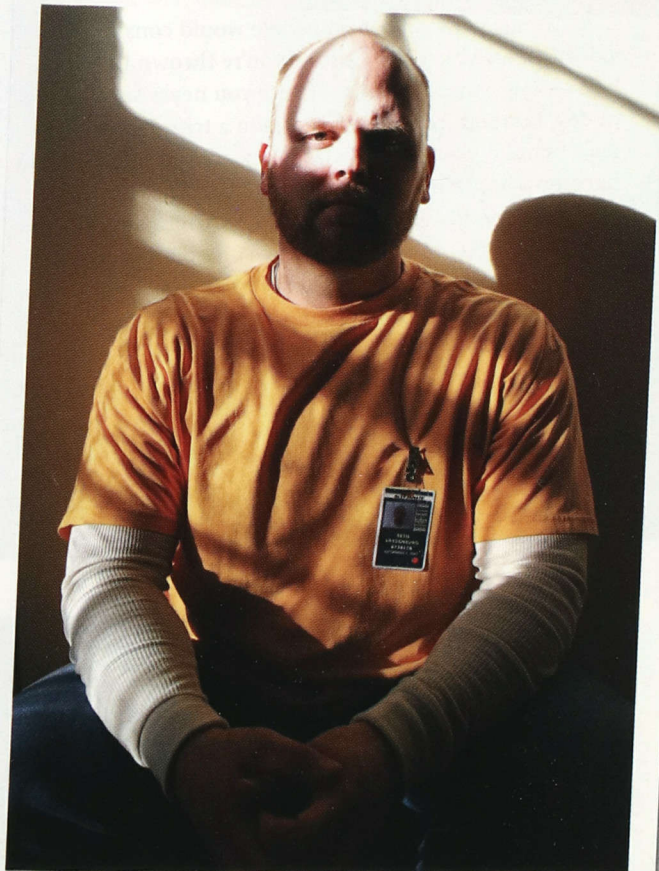
"We're not immune because we're college students or because we're educated. Anything can happen to us anytime," Seth said. "I was in the mindset I would never be incarcerated. I was in the mindset that I would never know anyone who was killed by a drunk driver. And then

I knew a young man in August of 2001 who was killed by a drunk driver. And then in December of 2001 I turned around and became the drunk driver myself. And it's too bad two lives had to be lost for me to learn the lesson."

And Seth said he's learned his lesson — not only about the accident but about how perception becomes reality when you've been labeled. Maybe he's a killer to you. Maybe you think he gets what he deserves. But to a slew of other people in his life who love him, to those who know him and to those who remain loyal to him, a label means nothing. To them, he's not a felon or an inmate or a drunk driver. He is the same person he's always been. And he's ready to reclaim his original identity.

He is your brother. He is my brother. He is just like you. ☀️

The Record would like to thank Dr. Will Keim, Warden James McKinney and the Vrendenburg family and friends for their assistance with this article.



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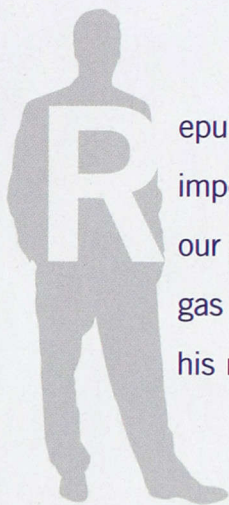


Passengers aboard the Inaugural Interfraternity Cruise in 2005

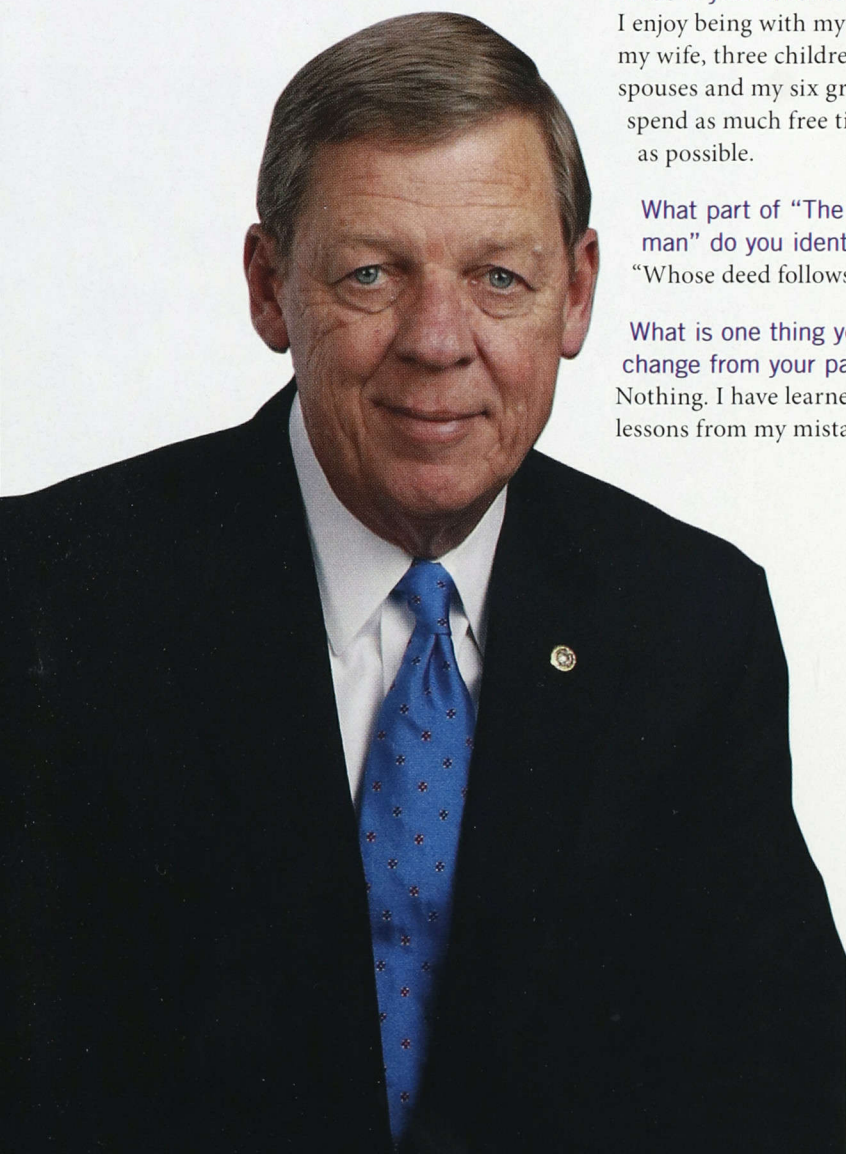


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Talking Politics with **Senator Johnny Isakson**



Republican Sen. Johnny Isakson (Georgia '66) rallies for some of our nation's most important decisions alongside other lawmakers in Washington, D.C. And although our government has been busy with major issues such as the war in Iraq, surging gas prices and immigration laws, Sen. Isakson took a few moments for us to prod his mind.



What did your time in ΣAE teach you?

The value of character.

What is your favorite pastime?

I enjoy being with my family — my wife, three children and their spouses and my six grandkids. I spend as much free time with them as possible.

What part of “The True “gentleman” do you identify with most? “Whose deed follows his word...”

What is one thing you would change from your past?
Nothing. I have learned valuable lessons from my mistakes.

Who do you most admire?
My parents.

What is the most difficult decision you have ever made?
Deciding to run for statewide office after two previous losses.

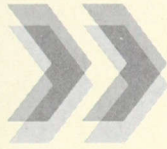
What advice do you have for the Fraternity's undergraduates?
Good personal relationships are the key to success in life and fraternity is the best experience to develop lasting relationships.

What is your favorite food?
Italian.

What talent would you most like to have?
The ability to sing.

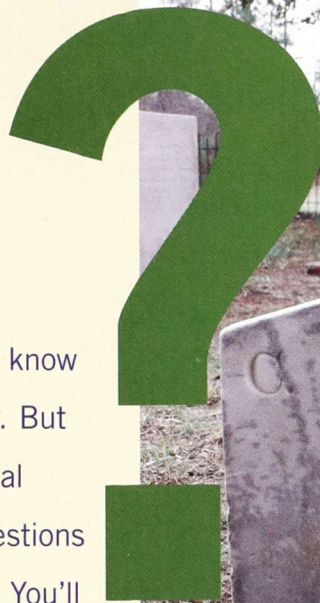
What Fraternity member, living or dead, would you most like to speak to?
Dr. Glen Nygreen, past Eminent Supreme Archon and former Director of Leadership Training.

Brother Know-it-all



Think you know everything there is to know about the Fraternity? We beg to differ. But we'll let you try to showcase your trivial

knowledge just to prove us wrong. Here are ten questions about Sigma Alpha Epsilon you should give a whirl. You'll find the answers on page 19. History can be so much fun when you're taking a quiz.



#4 Is someone stealing footstones for the Temple?

- Chapters are generally designated by the name of a state followed by one or two Greek letters (e.g. Massachusetts Iota-Tau). How many designations of chapters in the United States do not include the name of a state?**
 - One
 - Two
 - Four
 - None
- Name the other national fraternity that has its headquarters less than 1,000 feet away from the Levere Memorial Temple.**
 - Beta Theta Pi
 - Alpha Kappa Lambda
 - Sigma Chi
 - None
- How many total chapters, whether currently active or dormant, have been installed by Sigma Alpha Epsilon to date?**
 - 290
 - 291
 - 292
 - 293
- Which Founding Father's footstone from his gravesite is housed in the Levere Memorial Temple museum?**
 - Noble Leslie DeVotie
 - Thomas Chappell Cook
 - Abner Edwin Patton
 - There are no footstones at the Temple.
- During the convention of 1983, newly elected Eminent Supreme Herald Ben Allen handed out pins for his campaign. What did they say?**
 - "VOTE FOR BEN"
 - "BEN"
 - "BEN'S THE BEST BET"
 - "BEN FOR E.S.H."
- John Barratt Rudolph was the last of the Founding Fathers to die.**

True or False
- Which song is not a piece written by famous musician, saxophonist and brother Rudy Vallee?**
 - "What a Wonderful World"
 - "As Time Goes By"
 - "Life is Just a Bowl of Cherries"
 - "Goodnight, Sweetheart"
- Which chapter reported the most pledges to the Fraternity Service Center this past fall?**
 - Arkansas Alpha-Upsilon (Arkansas)
 - Texas Rho (Texas-Austin)
 - Oklahoma Kappa (Oklahoma)
 - Mississippi Gamma (Mississippi)
- Which chapter traveled the furthest to the Sesquicentennial Celebration in Alabama via car?**
 - Wyoming Alpha
 - Alaska Alpha
 - Maine Alpha
 - Massachusetts Delta
- At the 1890 Convention in Cincinnati, delegates listened to members push this Fraternity Law change, although it did not pass:**
 - Supreme Council members should live in the same city.
 - Change the Fraternity grip.
 - Replace the purple in the coat-of-arms with Nazarene blue.
 - Merge the constitution and the Ritual back together.

Graduation Birthdays Father's Day Christmas Initiation Founders' Day

Father's Day

The Perfect Gift for The True Gentleman Personalized with His Name & Initiation Date

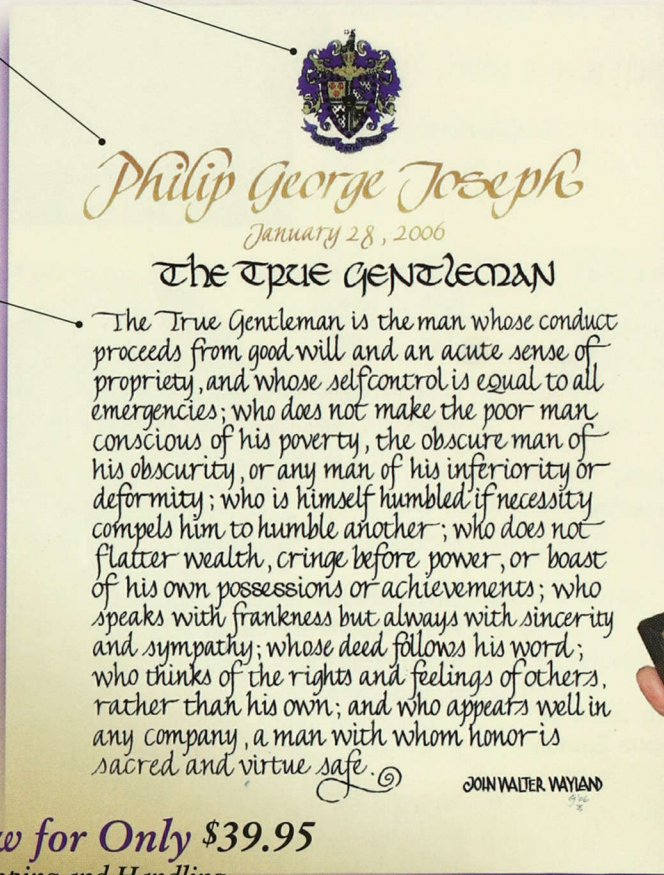
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