

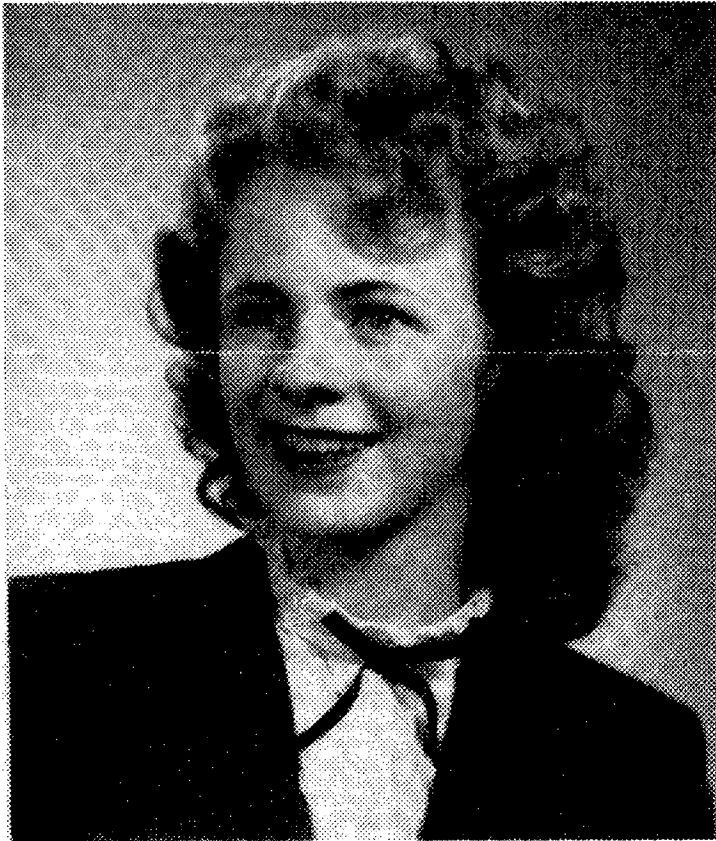


BEAVER SIG

M. I. T.

Alpha Theta Chapter, Sigma Chi Fraternity

1952-53



Our sweetheart

Alice Schomberg Chosen As Our Chapter Sweetheart

Miss Alice Schomberg, who wears the white cross of Brother Reinaldo d'Oliveira was chosen this spring to be our chapter sweetheart. At our annual sweetheart banquet she was presented with a large bouquet of Sigma Chi white roses, and she will reign as the queen representing Alpha Theta in the National Sweetheart Contest. Alice is a senior at M.I.T. and one usually finds her at the house for dinner on weekends—especially when there's a party on.

It's hard to say exactly how the fellows feel about a girl when they choose her to be their sweetheart, but you may be sure that they're proud to see her wearing a brother's pin, and that they think the world of her. We extend to Alice and Corky our very best wishes for a happy future.

Campus Sig-Nificants

Alpha Theta has been exceptionally well represented in campus activities this year, and as usual several of our brothers have distinguished themselves as leaders in their activities.

In intercollegiate athletics, "Big John" Morefield set new freshman records for both the twelve pound shot-put and the twenty-eight pound hammer-throw. Fausto Martins was elected captain of the varsity soccer team, and Chan Stevens served as chief manager for both the freshman and varsity track teams.

On the scholastic side, Bill Gilbert, Ned Lyke, and Al Ward were elected to Tau Beta Pi (the engineering equivalent of Phi Beta Kappa), and our "budding physicist" Kent Hansen wrote two technical articles which were accepted for publication in a national physics journal. Outstanding in other campus activities were: Corky d'Oliveira, president of the Naval Architecture Society; Bill Bohnert, president of Drama Shop and a leading actor in its productions; and Will Fiske, chairman of Public Relations Committee.

When student government elections rolled around, Alpha Theta's politicians busied themselves with campaign posters and petitions, and when all the returns were in, we found that they had done very well. Al Ward, who served as president of his class of '54 this year, was elected chairman of Interfraternity Council; Chan Stevens was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the class of '55; and Bob Jones was elected a member of the Finance Board. Bob Temple and Chan Stevens were elected to the Junior Prom Committee, replacing Will Fiske and Bob Jones who served as members this year.

All in all, it has been a successful year for us in campus activities, and we're proud to have Alpha Theta men holding top positions on campus as in previous years.

Chapter Receives \$200 Library Award For Scholarship

This spring we were all quite surprised to hear that our chapter along with several others in the country had been chosen to receive a two hundred dollar library award. This award is sponsored by the Sigma Chi Foundation for recognition of those chapters leading in scholastic standing for the school year 1951-1952. We have received the list of about twenty books and checked it over to prevent any duplications of our present library. The books will arrive sometime during the summer.

We feel that this award is especially significant in view of the fact that we are competing against chapters at school with considerably less exacting curricula. Much thanks goes to those men whose excellent marks last year made it possible for us to enjoy this reward. Let's keep up the good work.

Mother's Day Open House Was A Big Success

May tenth, Mother's Day, we had a wonderful turnout considering the distance many of the parents had to travel in order to attend. We feel it's really fine when parents will come all the way from Tennessee, Mississippi, and Ohio for the weekend.

After church Sunday, the parents of about thirteen of the fellows congregated at the house for dinner. Between the main course and dessert the quaestor, house manager and steward each gave a brief account of his job with regard to the operation of the house so that our parents would get an idea of how the business of the Fraternity is handled, and where the monthly checks go. Following dinner we had our usual coffee in the library and the house was open from top to bottom for parental inspection and (we hope) approval.

Social Highlights

Tired as we all were after a strenuous work week and rush week, our social activities began almost immediately. We had a series of evening parties during Freshman Weekend, with dates furnished by Boston University's Murlin House and Charlesgate Hall. To officially wind up our vacation we had a beach party at Wingershaek Beach in Gloucester, and after registration on Monday we toasted the new term with a traditionally rowdy stag party. Small informal parties were held throughout the remainder of the term on any weekend that enough fellows wanted one.

Our first really big party was the annual Pledge Party. The theme was that of a horror party and the pledges decorated the house so well, including boarding up the windows, that some passersby inquired if we had had a fire or catastrophe of some sort and had to close the house. That evening, however, there were about one hundred and fifty people present to enjoy the refreshments and watch the skit put on by the pledges. This display of dramatic ability was made even more humorous when "Big John" dragged the backdrop down as he was trying to faint in accordance with the script.

Although not an official house function, Sigma Chi held forth with two tables at the Junior Prom on October thirty-first. This event, held the first night at the Hotel Statler and the second night at Walker Memorial, provided a much needed weekend break, particularly for the freshmen, who had just suffered a setback at Field Day.

The following week a hayride was held but a combination of very cold weather and lack of space made it rather uncomfortable and yet "kinda" cozy.

As is traditional the Miami Triad weekend, December 5-7, was our largest social event of the fall term. The girls ousted the brothers from the house Friday afternoon, and the weekend began with a formal cocktail party and one of Chef Calvert's superb banquets preceding the formal dance in the Louis XIV Ballroom at the Hotel Somerset. Saturday was for the most part a quiet relaxed day of recuperation from the night before, but during the latter part of the afternoon a bit of decoration was done for the party that followed that evening. A cocktail party featuring song classics by Don Van Wart of Boston's Twelve Eighty Club, preceded a buffet dinner. Afterwards the boys and their dates began appearing in an odd assortment of costumes for the United Nations Party. By Sunday noon we had regained some semblance of order in the house and following the final banquet we held the traditional Christmas eggnog party and crazy gift exchange. In the melee the house acquired a white rat, but "Louie's" days as



Getting Sketched
Gone Fishin'

our mascot were numbered for he soon succumbed to the cold weather. The dates departed Sunday afternoon, and almost immediately the boys moved back in and promptly hit the sack to regain their energy for the following week of school.

Our last official social event of the fall term was a Christmas party for about twenty underprivileged children from the Jamaica Plains Neighborhood House. The success of this annual event was enhanced by the generous donation of gifts by Brother Hansen's Father.

Second term we continued to have our usual weekend parties. Our big affair of this term was the Interfraternity Council Dance. Once again the fellows turned the house over to their dates. Saturday after the big dance and banquet the night before, everybody piled themselves and food into the cars and we headed for Crane's Beach. Sunday after the second banquet the boys took their dates home except for two of the girls who had to take the train back to Virginia.

As the weekends get warmer there is more time spent partying at the beach than at the house. This will go on till exams put an end to our spring social season.

Goofin' Off

You can't study all the time; you "gotta" goof off some of the time! My gosh if you studied all the time you'd be a "brown bagger." Some folks say that goofin' off is wasting time when you should be studying, and other folks say it's just relaxing from studying. At any rate, everyone does some of it.

The night Pol came over (Pol is the fellow who draws caricatures) it was a mass goof off night. None of us got any work done but we had a great time watching him sketch each brother in turn.

Another night nobody studied was national election night. The library looked like a bookie joint with all the gamblers keeping tab on the races. It seems a lot of the guys were for Ike and they held a regular jamboree (bonfire, drums and horns) out front on Beacon St. when the official victory was announced.

Of course goofin' off doesn't have to be a "house project," it can be done in small groups. It must have been that "Ford" and Mickey didn't like what we were having for Saturday lunch 'cause they tromped down to the Charles River and beat a bunch of carp up onto the bank with a stick. Then they strung them and came trooping back into the dining room. Phew! get those smelly things out of here.

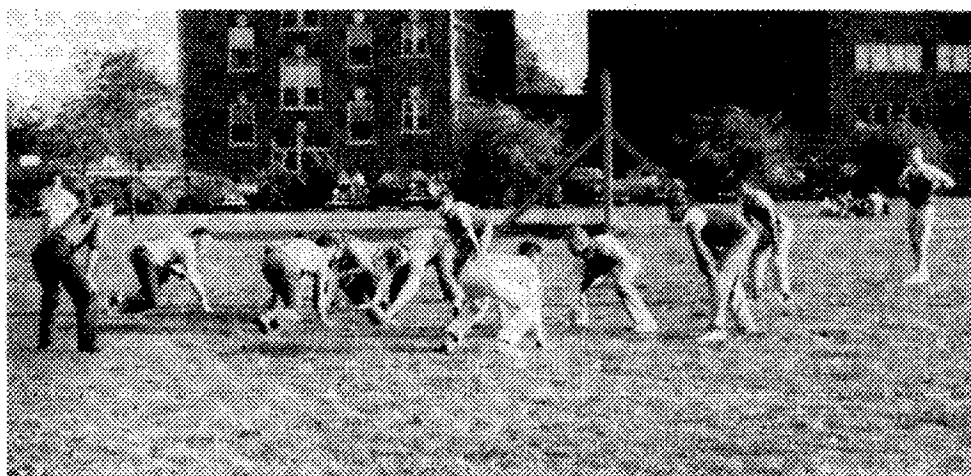
There are a few of the boys who think ping pong is too easy with paddles so they use a broom and shovel—sort of hard on the table. And if you don't like ping pong there's usually someone "plumber pitching" in the front hall.

Then there is always the studious goof who takes his books, a chair and some food to the roof when the weather's nice. Personally I'd just as soon hit the sack in my spare time.

Alpha Theta Alumni Sponsor Interfraternity Scholarship Trophy

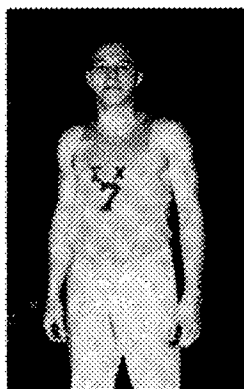
The alumni of our chapter presented M.I.T. with the Sigma Chi Foundation Scholarship Trophy this year. The trophy will be awarded each year to the fraternity with the highest scholastic rating on campus. The trophy was presented to the school at a scholarship banquet. President Killian was the speaker, and it was announced that the first fraternity to win the award was Sigma Alpha Mu.

At the present time we're looking for a location in the main building at Tech where the three foot trophy can be placed on permanent display.



Sigs on defense

Alpha Theta Athletics



"Rebel"

Intramural Sports

This fall the football season began with Alpha Theta showing a promising team of a strong returning line including Gene Oster, Bob Wilson and Bob Temple, and a small but speedy backfield composed of Norm Meyers,

Corky d'Oliveira,

Hobie Kraner and newcomer Joe Brazzatti. We won four games losing only to a hot Phi Gamma Delta bunch in close contest and finished second in the league play.

The basketball team started off the season by beating Alpha Tau Omega, last year's league winner, in a one-sided contest. Sparked by the great rebounding of Tom Dupree and the scoring of Jack Horner the Sigs looked as if they were headed for victory. But an upset by a weaker Sigma Phi Epsilon five left us tied with Alpha Tau Omega for top spot in our league. The play-off was won by our opponents in a low scoring defensive battle, 14-12. Next year's team should be stronger with only three players graduating while our first year men, including six foot five inch John Morefield and scrappy Joe Brazzatti, will have gained valuable experience

In volleyball we continued to show the power we have maintained the last four years during which we won two school championships and finished second twice, each time losing by a single game. This year again

we won our league easily and continued undefeated to the very end of the round robin tournament but lost in the championship match to the veteran and experienced Graduate House team.

In softball we took three out of four games. Jake Horner our cleanup batter left us for the air force. Hobie Kraner and Norm Meyers shared the mound work with Ray "Campy" Sauer behind the plate. The fielding of "Pepper Pot" Russ Meyer and the long ball hitting of Bob Wilson were two of the highlights of th season.

Roy Mennell and Blev Dunklin took the league championship for us in squash and advanced to the championship game where they lost to come in second in the school.

The league title in ping-pong was also taken by Alpha Theta. Bob Temple, Roger Richardson, Roy Mennell and Tom Dupree advanced as far as the quarter finals before they were beaten out.

Intercollegiate Sports

Alpha Theta is also represented on the intercollegiate rosters at Tech. Fausto Martins played soccer for the varsity and has been elected captain of next year's team. Barney Silver and Al Wahlberg have been working out with the varsity track squad. Carl Boedecker is pulling an oar for the freshman crew, while Don Barnby has been swimming on the freshman team. John Morefield has been a standout in freshman field events. The big two hundred twenty pound lad from Harnsburg, Pennsylvania has been breaking records right and left. Already "Big John" has broken Tech's freshman shot put record. We are all looking forward to seeing Brother John working on the varsity.

Thank You

This Beaver Sig is published by the Alpha Theta Chapter of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, 532 Beacon St., Boston, Massachusetts. The Associate Editor William H. Bohnert was assisted by Donald W. Barnby. We would like to say thanks to the following contributors who have helped put this paper out: Wilbur P. Fiske, Kent P. Hansen, Robert E. Jones, Hobart W. Kraner, Raymond W. Sauer, Robert W. Temple, Henry G. Weber, and Elwood S. Wood III. We appreciate what you have done.

So Long Seniors

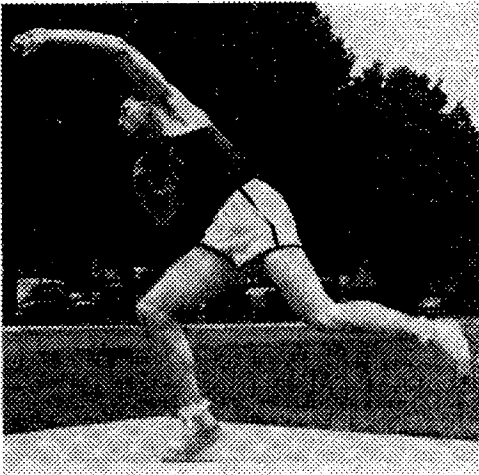
When the time comes for the Senior Banquet it's late in the spring and we realize that once exams are over we may never see some of our brothers again. As is the custom at the banquet, the seniors must entertain the chapter with jokes which most of them save all year for the occasion. And after the fun they attempt to leave with the chapter some of the things they've learned in their years at Alpha Theta. There are expressions of sincere gratitude for the true fellowship and brotherhood found in Sigma Chi. The seniors at this banquet seem to have the knack of saying what we all feel and find hard to express.

We that are carrying on can truly say to you seniors, there was never a better more genuine bunch of guys--really. We thank you for the sterling silver coffee pot, creamer and sugar bowl you're giving the chapter.

So long Reb, good luck flying those jets. And Gramps, think of us while you're peddling chemicals. Bill, go easy on those obnoxious pills in the morning. Cleon, best wishes for you and Laura. And Corky, when you have a vineyard of your own, let us know. Ford and his unlucky blue suit will be staying for graduate work as well as barn door K-head.

The biggest joke at the Senior Banquet





John Morefield putting the shot

Ten New Initiates Wear The White Cross

Seven of our new actives are freshmen, two are sophomores, and one is a junior. What their pledge class lacked in quantity they made up for in quality. The pledge party was one of the finest. Three of the freshmen were crafty enough to outwit and befuddle the bragging sophomores in the traditional freshman-sophomore rivalry.

At any rate, the following men are our new initiates:

James William Austin Tyler from Houston, Texas. Tex is a sophomore transfer from Texas A.&M., where he excelled as an outstanding ROTC student. Here at Tech he is a member of the Air Force Drill Team, DeMolay, and secretary of Alpha Phi Omega.

Elwood Steven Wood III from Norfolk, Virginia. Chip is one of our two new rebels. He never would stop talking about the cotton mouths in Dismal Swamp so his nickname is now cotton-mouth (with the southern accent). The poor fellow nearly froze to death when the temperature went below thirty.

Joseph Brazzatti, Jr. from Linden, New Jersey is our lone junior initiate. Joe is taking naval architecture and has been secretary of the propellor club, secretary of the Public Relations Committee, and a member of Pershing Rifles.

Donald William Baraby is from Toledo, Ohio. It seems someone thought he was in the sack once when he shouldn't be, so he's now known as Sackby. Sack was a member of the victorious freshman field day swimming team and continued on as a member of the freshman squad.

David Lytle McBride III from Alexandria, Virginia was the angel of the pledge class. For this reason he's acquired the name of Deacon. Deac has done quite well for himself here at Tech so far. He is on Freshman Council, Secretariat, and now is an assistant Quaestor.

Roy Franklin Mennell from Quincy, Massachusetts is a commuter, traveling 15 miles a day in a little Chevy that should have been scrapped ten years ago. Roy was chairman of the pledge class and a member of the secretariat and choir.

John Alfred Morefield, Jr. from Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, "Little John" (six foot five) specializes in field events. He throws the hammer, discus, and javelin, and puts the shot, and has already broken six records.

Carl H. Bosdecker from Springfield, Massachusetts has been pulling an oar on the freshman crew. He's been pulling so hard that he broke an oar two and one-half inches in diameter.

Henry G. Weber from Lake Bluff, Illinois is a sophomore transfer student in electrical engineering. He spends his spare time on the neighboring rooftops stringing aerials for his ham radio set.

Mickey Parker from Marietta, Georgia is from the deep south an' y'all can tell it. Mick's a great one for going fishing in the muddy Charles.

Alumni News

The class of 1952 left Alpha Theta last June and since then has scattered itself over two continents:

Ricardo Haegler is currently working in Switzerland and is doing up Paris in his spare time.

Jerry Laufs, who was married last June, is now working for Esso Oil Company in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Jack Horner who has been working at M.I.T. entered the air force and is located in Texas.

Chuck Doverspike has given up sleeping until all hours of the evening as he is serving in Uncle Sam's army in Maryland.

Barnard Briber is finishing off his first year of graduate work in Industrial Management here at Tech.

Bob (Bubbles) Frey, Consul of Alpha Theta last Spring, is now in Maryland working in Bethlehem Steel's Loop Course.

From years past: Dave Stallard, Alpha Theta of '50, has left Westinghouse in Baltimore to return to MIT. Dave has been working in the servomechanism lab since June.

Still around in Graduate school are Gene Oster who is working in chemical engineering in metallurgy. Clay Monkman is sweating out his last year on his doctorate. Bob C. Stout is finishing up his thesis in Physics along with Bob "Reed Head" Kiehn.

This past year an Alumni Letter was created, sending the news to the alumni every other month. We have been very pleased with the response given by the alumni to this new publication and hope to continue to keep them up to date with Alpha Theta and alumni activities throughout the coming year.

Dear Brothers and Friends,

Looking back at the past years we of the class of 1953 feel the Chapter is better prepared than ever before to meet the problems ahead. What the future holds is uncertain but the world situation and national emergency will surely be burdens upon subsequent members. Thanks to the nature of our studies at M.I.T. and the assistance of the administration the chapter has not yet been seriously hampered. The fraternity system as a whole is moving into one of its most difficult phases. The issue of discrimination is now the major topic of contention on all campuses. It will require a great deal of effort on the part of fraternities and school authorities to reach an equitable settlement.

Looking to the brighter side of college life, Alpha Theta has enjoyed a banner year. With our well integrated social, athletic, and academic program the chapter spirit and brotherhood has prospered greatly. Fortunate in having a high potential in the lower classes the chapter can only grow stronger in the coming years. Much of the success of Alpha Theta is due to the untiring efforts of our capable trustees, Mr. W. H. Carlisle, Mr. H. A. Wood, Mr. W. Hall, Dean B. A. Thresher, and President J. R. Killian. The Chapter is very grateful for their continued support and assistance on our behalf.

The Fraternalism which has prevailed for the past year is directly attributed to Brothers R. W. Sauer and J. L. Lunsford and the officers who served under them this past fall. It is the hope of the present officers to carry on as well as our predecessors.

As a final word we of the Senior Class wish to express our sincere appreciation to the past and present brothers who have made our collegiate years the most memorable and rewarding of our lives. Best of luck to the future Alpha Theta.

Faternally,

Kent F. Hansen

Kent F. Hansen
Consul