



# Beaver Sig



JUNE 1961

ALPHA THETA OF SIGMA CHI



With Sweetheart Weekend in March, Centennial in April and Tech House the first Saturday of May, the brothers of Alpha Theta have enjoyed an exceptional spring social season.

This year Sweetheart Weekend was held on March 10-12. After our traditional Friday afternoon cocktail party which has come to be well-known on campus, the brothers and their dates packed off for Commonwealth Country Club near Chestnut Hill to enjoy a formal dinner and dance.

The highlight of the Ball came when former Sweetheart Judy Wurstner crowned Miss Kay Bohnert, Alpha Theta's Sweetheart of 1961. Both Judy and Kay are students at Wellesley College. Kay, a sophomore from Pine Bluff, Arkansas, is engaged to Brother Winn Martin '61. The marriage will take place in Kay's home town later in the summer.

After the dance the Sigs enjoyed punch and light refreshments at a Pajama Party back at the House. Prizes were awarded by Social Chairman Mac Harris for the most colorful and best dressed couples. Saturday in classical Roman tradition, the brothers and their dates celebrated at a Toga Party. Everyone that afternoon was given one sheet and allowed to wear a particular color denoting the office he held in the chapter. The dining room gained additional old world tradition with the notable lack of silverware and the abundance of fruits, nuts, and coconuts. After dinner wine and song flowed free. Brother and Mrs. Bryant Vann chaperoned the weekend.

Combining IFC and Dorm Weekend, the MIT Centennial Committee conducted an all-campus weekend, April

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## ATHLETIC SHORTS

The beginning of the second term found the men of Alpha Theta eager to resume the intramural athletic program which is so much a part of their lives as undergraduate members of Sigma Chi.

Alpha Theta began the term by fielding what it considered to be the finest undergraduate hockey team to appear on the MIT scene in many a year. Unfortunately, the game is not played on the field and this put the team at a distinct disadvantage for the remainder of the season. But being the men they are, the Alpha Theta aggregate set out to overcome this obstacle by a series of intensive practices. The improvement was notable. For example, men like "Tex" Huff, whose experience with ice was limited to the 8.01 "frictionless variety", improved so by the end of the season that he was averaging only one intimate contact with the ice per game. Unfortunately, each of these intimate contacts was of considerable duration and usually resulted in his absence from the line-up for the remainder of the game. Al Bellows, the "Charlotte Terror", who's only problem was turning in a radius less than 20 Ft., was another of the stalwarts on this unique team. Not to be denied, Al quickly compensated for this shortcoming by learning to skate backwards with a precision equal to that of his forward means of locomotion. Rounding out the comical element of the team were Bob Johnson and Dick Brown who were usually spared the agonies, respectively, of twisted ankles and deflated lungs, by frequent substitution.

But not all of the team were such "self-made men". Erich Ippen, a fine skater from Belmont, Mass., led the team in many a drive to the oppositions goal. The team was coached ably by John Rupert, a first line member of the varsity hockey team. Bill Hackett, with the assistance of graduate student Ed Nield, (It was discovered that two goalies were better than one under the circumstances), did a fine job of protecting the Alpha Theta goal. The ability and experience of senior Earl Van Horn were indispensable to the team effort. The freshman class, in the persons of Lex Brincko, Fred Schaffert, and Dick Kurth, once again contributed greatly to the Alpha Theta cause.

With the melting of the ice come the call from Alpha Theta's volleyball captains Al Brennecke and Winn Martin. The "A" team, captained by Al, showed good promise in pre-season drills and swept to a first place in its league with five straight victories. Fine spiking by Al, graduate students Tom Dupree and Dave Baldwin, and Dick Brown was made possible by excellent set-ups from Bruce Tarter, Julian Ayres, Dan Blosssey, and Bill Remsen. After winning its first two tournament games, the anticipation of a coming championship began to invade Alpha Theta. The majority of the chapter turned out for the remaining games, only to see the elusive cup fall into other hands.

In addition to IM sports, Alpha Theta is once again a major contributor to varsity athletics. Hank Schleinitz and John Rupert formed a fine combination on the varsity hockey

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## FROM THE CONSUL'S STUDY

Sigma Chi has continued to a place of prominence on the M.I.T. Campus. The internal strength and self-consistency of the chapter make it a respected competitor in scholarship and athletics. The members enthusiastically participate and excel in all phases of Institute life. Sigs have recently made significant contributions in student government, honoraries, and inter-collegiate athletics.

Currently the Chapter is concerned with the advent of Grand Chapter on June 27 through June 30. The assembly will hear a motion to abolish the word "white" from our Constitution. This is an especially important issue at this time, for no fewer than fourteen of our chapters are in imminent danger of extinction because of adamant university administrations. Two chapters in this Province, Dartmouth and Connecticut, have succumbed to these pressures in recent years.

Alpha Theta's delegate, Dean Boyd, has been instructed by the chapter to support the motion. Of course, the standards on which Sigma Chi has grown and prospered will not be altered, but the objectionable phrase will be removed if the motion is passed. It is not a complete solution, but it does fit the needs of the times. We hope that you will encourage your Alumni Chapters to support this motion.

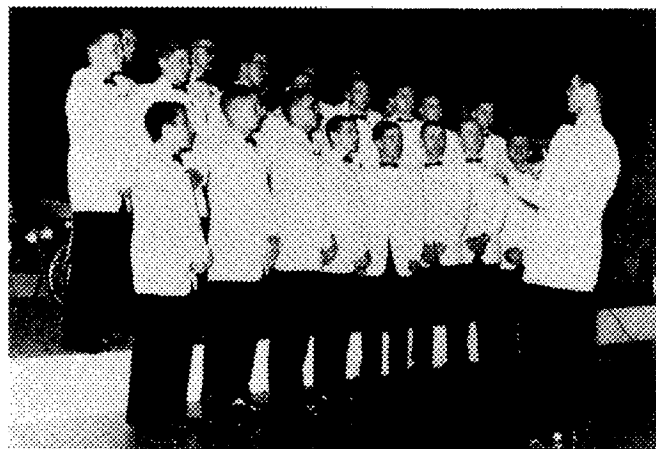
The Chapter has recently opened its doors to provide facilities for the Boston and Cambridge Alumni Chapter meetings. The Alumni join us for cocktails and dinner before adjourning to the library for business meetings. Both chapters have been reactivated and will be represented at the Grand Chapter.

M.I.T. plans to provide facilities for fraternities on West Campus in the near future. The Administration's proposal for establishing fraternities on Campus will be in our hands by the end of the term. A recent conference with the Dean of Residence indicated that the proposal may leave much to be desired. It will probably provide for eight co-operative living units designed for fifty men in four separate structures. These units will provide adequate facilities for fraternities, but they will be operated as auxiliary dormitories. M.I.T. will retain possession of the land, the structures and the furnishings; receive rent from each man individually for his room; and retain the right to assign any student to space not utilized by fraternity members.

We are unfavorably disposed toward accepting the conditions of such a proposal. We have achieved eminent success under our present autonomy. Further, we feel that accepting these conditions, whereby control will be shifted in part to the Institute, will weaken the bonds of the Brothers to Sigma Chi. If the basic premise of fraternities, membership selectivity, is destroyed as it can be by this proposal, it could weaken the fraternal ties of brotherhood which have figured so prominently in bringing Sigma Chi to its position of respect and admiration. In short, we feel that this plan may well cause an adverse change in the fraternity system at M.I.T.

However, certain fraternities will accept these limitations. We are going to have to match the facilities of the new units. If we do not, we shall be severely handicapped in the short, pre-school rush period. It will become increasingly difficult for Alpha Theta to maintain its position as a leader among the M.I.T. fraternities.

This means that we must relocate entirely or plan extensive remodeling of our existing residence within the next few years. The Chapter has in its accounts less than twenty percent of the funds necessary for such a move. We are actively looking for a site. We hope that if a suitable one is found, we can depend on our alumni and the Sigma Chi Foundation for the financial assistance we will need to retain Alpha Theta's position in the M.I.T. Community.



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21-22, including a Friday night ball and a Saturday trip to colonial Sturbridge Village. Rockwell Cage, was strikingly decorated to accommodate 2500 people. Ballroom lights, curtains, drapes, a tremendous dancefloor surrounded by potted plants had completely transformed the gym. Entertainment was provided by Society handleader Herbert Marshard and the Sigma Chi Chorus and Octet. The Sigs were pleased to have John and Jane McAllister as their chaperons.

After a late informal party and an early brunch on Saturday morning, everyone was off to Sturbridge aboard the New York Central Special from Cambridge. Each living group had its own personally decorated coach and prizes were awarded for the best. The day was spent sightseeing, picnicking on the countryside, and listening to a memorable Pete Seeger Performance. Back at Cambridge, Saturday night's entertainment was provided by the Modern Jazz Quartet, the Four Freshmen, and comedian Irwin Corey. The Weekend was definitely to be a once in a hundred years affair.

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team which had its best record in several years. John was elected captain of next years team.

Mike Williams was an outstanding varsity wrestler in the 177 Lb. class and capped the season by placing third in the New England Championship match. Mac Harris, Bob Johnston, and Tom Rowe were also members of the team.

Jed Engeler and Steve Colburn were instrumental in providing the varsity swimming team with a winning 7-3 record. Jed was a member of the 400 yd. relay team which set a new school record and was elected captain of next years squad. Fred Schaffert was a promising member of the freshman team.

Julian Ayres is the Alpha Theta contribution to the varsity squash and tennis teams. Lex Brincko and Dick Kurth were members of the freshman squash team. Dan Blossy is presently on the freshman tennis team.

Sandy Von Kuegelgen, Stan Yeager, and Bill McClure are three Alpha Theta Sigs who make the long trip down to the MIT boathouse each day. Sandy and Stan are on the varsity crew while Bill is the freshman cox.

Other Alpha Theta Sigs involved in MIT athletics include; Dean Boyd - lacrosse; Bill Remsen - freshman track; Cris Colton - freshman golf; Dick Kurth - freshman rifle team; and Jim McGaughy - freshman lacrosse manager.

Dick Brown, Athletic Chairman

## ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE

During the past few years the active chapter here at 532 has been making an intensive effort to strengthen its alumni relations. Projects have been undertaken not only to bring alumni closer to the active chapter, but also to enable alumni to keep in touch with each other. In seeking to achieve these goals every issue of the BEAVER SIG has seen these words come from the alumni representative: "... please send us your suggestions and criticisms ...". This issue will be no different, except that the request will be made even more violently than in the past. This is your program; success can only be achieved if you send us your opinions and current newsworthy items about yourself. News that you consider unimportant may interest a classmate and revitalize the bond of brotherhood. We brothers here at Alpha Theta are always glad to coordinate or instigate any ideas that you might have. One project on which we would like some opinion is the circular letters.

Last year letters were sent to one member of each class along with the addresses of each of his classmates. It was hoped that each member would write a biographical sketch of his years since graduation and send it on to some other member of his class. After everyone had written a sketch, the letter would be sent back to Alpha Theta and the sketches would be published in the BEAVER SIG. Up to now this plan has been almost a complete failure with only two letters being received by the active chapter. We would like to know, if there is any interest in these circular letters; and, if there is, are there any suggestions on how to make them successful?

M.I.T.'s Centennial Week, April 1-9, brought many alumni back for a visit to the chapter house and to the Institute. The active chapter enjoyed renewing old acquaintances and striking up new ones with the twenty or so alumni who dropped by during the week or else came to the Alumni Open House on Sunday. Everyone who came to Boston to take part in the Centennial Celebration agreed that the time was well spent - from Prime Minister Macmillan's speech Friday to the Academic procession on Sunday in which scholars from all over the world were represented. At least two Alpha Theta alumni figured prominently in the celebration. Richard S. Leghorn, '39, not only took part in the official Centennial program, but he was instrumental in obtaining \$2.5 million dollars in private funds to work on disarmament. The other Alpha Theta Sig was James R. Killian, '25, who served in his position as Chairman of the M.I.T. Corporation.

Hank Schleinitz has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for advanced study in chemical engineering at Trinity College, Cambridge University, England. Hank, present consul here at AO, is also recipient of the Sigma Chi Balfour Province Award for Northern New England.

An activity of interest to Boston area alumni is the reorganization of the Boston and Cambridge Alumni Chapters which have been meeting at the chapter house. Although membership in these chapters is not restricted to Alpha Theta men, a majority of the members are from the chapter. The discussions in recent meetings have centered around plans for the 53rd Grand Chapter at Miami this June and around the problems and difficulties facing Sigma Chi with regard to its membership standards. If any brother would like to take part in the activities of either of these chapters, just call the house and information on the next meeting can be obtained.

Although rush week is not until next September, plans are already being made for that important period. Rushing is one area of the active chapter's life in which alumni can lend an active hand. Acceptances to M.I.T. are now being sent out - if someone you know whom you consider to be a prospective Sigma Chi is accepted and plans to attend, please drop the rushing chairman a note and let him know about the man. Five men out of this year's fifteen man pledge class were recommended in advance.

Sometime in March you all received a copy of Alpha Theta's alumni directory, the purpose of which was to enable alumni separated since graduation to strike up some communications. As we expected when we undertook this project, a great many discrepancies and errors have come out of the old records. Although we have already received several letters making corrections, if you know of any mistakes please do not hesitate to write us and tell us about them so that they can be published in a supplement sometime in the near future. Also, we need help in finding out the whereabouts of the following brothers. If you know anything about them, please send us the information.

1910	1931	1948
Court, Alva B.	Hastings, Julian Payson	Dean, Robert C. Jr.
1914	1933	Muellen, Norman F.
Balke, Frank C.	Marcy, Richard C.	1949
1915	1934	Benedict, Jonathan Gardner
Brown, Horatio Whittemore	Merryweather, George	Bolton, Edmund Arnold
1920	1943	Hendershott, Howard E. Jr.
Boynton, Philip Edward	Briber, Frank Edward Jr.	Plachta, Robert Anthony
1921	1944	Ranger, Casper III
Pomeroy, Frederick Hutchinson	Ward, Dixon Henry	Hossfield, George J. Jr.
1922	1945	1950
Amon, Will Rice	Foust, Russel A. Jr.	Peppler, William Stuart Jr.
Brinckerhoff, James Bevier	Tamblyn, Robert Stanley	1952
1925	1946	Doverspike, Charles Albert
Barnes, Hobart Dexter	Davies, Stanley Smyth	Graham, Robert Gene
Rockefeller, Robert Lawrence	Freiberger, John Jacob	1955
1927	Kenneth, Frank Edison Jr.	Meyerand, Russell Gilbert Jr.
Chase, Eugene Augustus	1947	Wahlberg, Allen H.
	Ederly, William S.	1956
		Bowicker, Carl Oubert

