It was truly a weekend to remember. In the chapter’s biggest reunion ever, over 150 brothers gathered on a beautiful spring weekend in Boston to celebrate Alpha Theta’s 120th anniversary at MIT. Brothers from all over the world and from classes back to the 1940s returned to 532 Beacon Street to meet old friends and revisit old memories.

The reunion began on Friday, April 12, with a series of class dinners held throughout the Boston area. Following these dinners, brothers all met for a reception at 532 Beacon Street that afforded brothers from all classes the opportunity to meet with one another, share stories about what they had been doing since they graduated, and reminisce about life when they were undergraduates at MIT. Brothers of the active chapter also got the opportunity to learn about Alpha Theta’s rich past and to share with alumni the current traditions and stories of the chapter.

The following morning, brothers met to witness the active members’ performing part of the ritual, bringing back that common bond that Sigma Chis from all over share and confirming the bonds of true friendship that hold us all together. A picnic lunch outside followed the morning’s activities, and then brothers met for the Alpha Theta Academy.

The academy was intended to be an expose of some of the more interesting pursuits by brothers after their graduation from MIT. Ian Hueton ’84 led off the academy by describing his involvement in the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City as the director of competition for the fine and ancient sport of curling, entertaining the audience with a discussion that ranged from the physics of the sport to his dealings with the national press.

Shane Crotty ’96 followed with the refreshingly candid story about the publishing of his first book, *Ahead of the Curve: David Baltimore’s Life in Science*, including his battle with an editor over the inclusion of a reference to 532 Beacon Street in the book. Pete Warren ’87 concluded the academy by demonstrating his work for a consulting firm on a number of very cool technologies, including rugged remote-controlled robots for use in hostile environments (complete with videos of the robots deployed in Bosnia and at the World Trade Center), pop-up motorized tank decoys that can fool so-called smart weapons, and deployable space structures.

The academy ended with a bang (continued on page two)
Once again, the brothers of Alpha Theta are enjoying a full social calendar. Spring term 2002 began with a spirited initiation after-party, featuring our newest brothers clad in lettered shirts and decked out in full face paint. The fun continued with an open party featuring a "Patriotic" theme following the New England Patriots' unlikely Super Bowl victory. Brothers dressed up in anything red, white, or blue and danced the night away amid a packed house of people.

As always, excursions into the community have provided enjoyable weekend gatherings. While a net gun that is designed to trap birds was beakless in a tangle of web on Kevar thread (think Spiderman here), this was a truly memorable end to a fascinating set of presentations. Saturday evening, over 250 people attended the 120th anniversary banquet and ball at the Kendall Square Marriott. Brothers dined and danced late into the night to the songs played by a live band.

During the banquet, Rolf Brandt '69 gave a warm tribute to Robert Swanson '69 and presented the second annual Swanson Memorial Scholarship Award to Jonathan Coo '02. Jim Black '69 followed by making the first-ever public presentation of the Professor S. Curtis Powell '37 Memorial Scholarship Award to Erin Zhang '04, recounting Professor Powell's extraordinary involvement with the chapter in the '50s and '60s. MIT Chairman Alex D'Arbeloff '49 then made a surprise presentation to Rolf and Jim of a Presidential Citation Award, the MIT Alumnae of Sigma Chi Fraternity's highest honor, for their work in establishing the Swanson Scholarship.

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Friday night dinner with the classes of ’49–’53 at Legal Seafoods: Carl Bergmann ’49, Helen and Ray Sauer ’53, Conrad (Bob) Frey ’52, Ed McLee ’50, Shirley and Janet McLeod, Ann and Bob Gillmeister ‘49, Sylvia and Les Cline ’49, and Betsy Bergmann.

Friday night reception in the library: Jim Orr ’48 looks at some old Beaver Sig editions with Helen and Ray Sauer ’53, Betsy Bergmann, Jeremy Verba ’86, and Dave Pehlke ’86.

Presentation by Rolf Brauchler ’69 of the Robert A. Swanson Memorial Scholarship Award to Jonathan Coe ’02.

All but two of the pledge class of 2000: John Pelly, Joe Cheng, Sam Towell, Sean Falde, Nick Bogovich, and Larry Aller.

Two alumni take it easy.

Pete Warren ’87 (in full body armor) gets shot by a net gun as part of the Alpha Theta Academy.

Brothers danced with their dates.

Many children attended the reunion, as well.


Sunday afternoon barbecue at 532.

Friday night dinner with the classes of ’78–’82.

Two brothers take time out for the camera.

Susan Piotti with the next generation of Alpha Thetas in front of 532.

Josh Soong and his date, Mindy Ju.

Mark and Debbie Curtiss.

Tae Won Kim and his date, Bo Kim.

Eric Raman demonstrates his Koob technique.

Eve Dotson and Amy (Malay) Ulrich (’79 sweetheart).

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Alpha Theta Stands Ready For New Structure Of Recruitment In Fall

Until now, MIT’s recruitment period has been limited to these few days before or entation for the fall term. As a result, pledges moved into Alpha Theta from the day they pledged, thus facilitating a close brotherhood from the very first day of school. Under new changes required by the administration, however, the structure of recruitment and pledging will be radically different. Starting in the fall of 2002, freshmen will not be allowed to move between fraternities until their sophomore year, and the recruitment period will last one month during the fall term. Many other fraternity will have trouble adapting to these new changes in recruitment. However, the brothers of Alpha Theta Sigma Chi are more than ready to meet and surpass the challenges that these changes bring. We have already begun preparing for the new format of rush by holding on-campus study breaks with freshmen in the dorms to measure the level of interest in Sigma Chi that a freshman living in the dorms has. Judging from the marginal success of these forays into the non-affiliated environment, we are prepared to recruit even harder than we have before, and make Sigma Chi the ideal fraternity to join. Even now, we are preparing for the challenge by planning new event ideas and methods of recruitment and by strengthening our brotherhood. On the topic of brotherhood, however, would not be as strong without you, our alumni.

On Saturday, February 9, Alpha Theta welcomed the pledge class of 2005 into the brotherhood. In pledge order they are as follows:

- Ahsen Altunbay
- Manoj Vyasusamatham
- Brady Williams Young
- Neelesh Anand Kantak
- Leandor Yanouchi
- William Stockwell

Although 1-week consisted of much thoughtful introspection, it was interrupt- ed early in the week for socrates celebration in the streets following the Patri- on’s victory in the Super Bowl.

We had a great showing during the ini- nation ceremony. Many thanks to all of our alumni. The event was attended by thousands of participants. Ahsen Altunbay ‘03, Nick Bogovich ‘03, Rick Karash ‘68, Jon Coe ‘02, and Dave Pehlke ‘86 at reunion.

Our Athletics Taste Much Success

Sports have played an integral part of the everyday life of the actives. Alpha Theta has been involved in many intra- murals throughout the year. With the winter, we participated in IM soccer, basketball, and ice hockey. The spring- time beckoned teams in softball, ultimate Frisbee, and volleyball. A hockey team was trained by Woon Jin ‘03, and the team enjoyed its most successful season in recent history. We entered the Sigs into the post-season as the 14th seed, but upset the third and sixth seeds en route to a semifinal three-point loss to eventual champion Theta Chi.

Expansion Of 532 Beacon Street

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Keep in touch with WINCHELL T. HAYWARD ‘46 at 208 Willard N., San Francisco, CA 94118.

Writes STANLEY W. MOUTON JR. ‘51, "You certainly do a great job of keeping us all informed, and, as you say, modern technology is amazing, but I bet the January walks across the Mass. Ave. bridge are just as cold and blustery as they always were. It is interesting to read about the changes starting next year, but being the 'Old Curnudgessor' that I am (my children and grandchildren call me 'The Yankee Curnudgessor'), I can't help but wonder if we shouldn't spend more time instilling in our youth and families love, care, compassion, responsibility, ethics, morals, and just being a 'good' person rather than try to set up controls to 'make it happen.' My freshman year at Alpha Theta was a very formative year for me, even after two years in the USAF. The brothers had a big impact on me, and I still remember every brother I roomed with, the evening meals, the attention to many types of social values, and the constant emphasis on knowledge. (I still cringe every time I see the word 'frat' in an article about fraternities, and I also cringe when I read some of the stupid things other fraternities do.) We had a good mix of ages at our time, but as I look back, there was a lot of maturity regardless of age. The white cross is very important to me." Write Stan at #4028 Poppy Dr., Hemet, CA 92544, e-mail: doublidngt@aol.com.

Keep in touch with JULIAN A. AYRES ‘63 at P.O. Box P, Mountain City, GA 30562; jayresmd@aol.com.

Send best wishes to JOHN M. HOLZER ‘65 at 248 S. Post Oak Lane, Houston, TX 77056; e-mail: macholzer@worldnet.att.com.

“I have become the medical director of the emergency department of the St. Joseph Hospital in Tacoma,” writes CHRISTOPHER J. DAVIS ‘68 (9436 SW Harbor Dr., Vashon, WA 98170; e-mail: chrisdav@aol.com). "St. Joe’s is one of the largest and busiest hospitals in Washington State, with a very intense ER that hospitalizes about 30 patients per day. It’s a great and demanding job and will be a fine way to finish off my nearly 30 years in emergency medicine.”

The managing director of Crossroads, LLC, JOHN F. WALTERS ‘69 resides at 7 Hawthorne Lane, Coto de Caza, CA 92875; johnw@crossroads.com.

A captain in the U.S. Navy, STEPHEN W. KEITH ‘77 receives mail at 4066 NE 86th St., Seattle, WA 98115; e-mail: stephenkeith@alum.mit.edu.

Greet DANIEL J. BERKERY ’91 at 106 Adele Garden Way, Herndon, VA 20170; danberkery@alum.mit.edu.

“I have moved!” pens LON VANGELVEN ‘91. “I’m back in the U.S. now, living in Michigan on a mini-farm out in the country (5037 Five Mile Rd., South Lyon, MI 48178). I’m still working at Ford at the Michigan truck plant, and I’m looking to settle here for a while.”

DAVID A. CHASE ‘92 is a regional manager with Sweetland Engineering and Associates, Inc., and resides at 108 Vaillee Place, Sayre, PA 18840 (e-mail: dchase@sweetland-eng.com).

Write ANTHONY CHANG ‘95 at 931-C N. 35th St., Seattle, WA 98103; tchang@u.washington.edu.

BRIAN N. HUBERT ’95 is founder and chief technology officer of Nanotechonica, Inc., and receives mail at 1670 El Camino Real, #360, Menlo Park, CA 94025; bhubert@media.mit.edu.

DECEASED

We regret to report the following deaths:

HAROLD G. ELROD ‘42
ALBERT C. WARNER ‘26