

# The Old Gal Gazette

Number 7

December 2, 1988

## NATIONAL NEWS

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### SNYDER NAMED TO GRAND COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE

Craig Snyder, Penn State '85, has been named by Grand Senior President Edmund A. Hamburger as the undergraduate representative to the Grand Council's committee on finance. Brother Snyder will be present at the meetings of this committee to represent the undergraduate perspective.

Brother Snyder was the 1988 recipient of the Frank Hargear Memorial Award for being the outstanding undergraduate brother of the year. He has also been active on Penn State's IFC as well as the Collegiate Republican group.

Congratulations Craig!

### THE TOMAHAWK GETS A FACELIFT

For the first time since 1976 The Tomahawk will be in a magazine format for the annual report issue. This change is in accordance with the Grand Council's decision to change from the tabloid format for at least the annual report (fall) issue of The Tomahawk. With budget constraints in mind, the frequency of the magazine format will depend upon the finances available. Enjoy this new look for Alpha Sigs.

### THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FRATERNITY MAN ARE EMBODIED IN HIS FRATERNITY'S IDEALS

The following address was given by Brother Benjamin Clarke, Michigan '08 at the Eightieth Jubilee Celebration of Alpha Sigma Phi held at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, May 9, 1925. He also delivered it at the installation of the Alpha Delta Chapter at Cambridge, May 23, 1925. It is undoubtedly one of the finest speeches The Tomahawk has ever printed and can be applied to any fraternity in existence. The readers of The Tomahawk will do well to read this carefully and follow what is outlined therein.

\* \* \* \* \*

I believe you will all agree with me that men of education are looked up to, and people generally expect more of them, and as a matter of fact, more is required of them. Why is this? Ruskin says, "The object of true education is to make people not merely do right things, but to enjoy the right things--not merely industrious, but to love industry--not merely pure, but to love purity--not merely just, but hunger and thirst after justice."



## NATIONAL NEWS (Cont'd)

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The man of education being equipped with these desires and virtues is able to add his bit toward making this a better world to live in and therefore assist in uplifting the human race, provided he accepts the responsibility and is guided by these desires and virtues.

We men who are college men, having had the opportunity of securing some of his higher education, are naturally expected, required, and in fact cannot avoid carrying this additional responsibility. So much for the college man. In addition to being college men we are also members of an organization which would not exist except for these institutions of higher learning and whose only excuse for existence is that it will assist in attaining the objects of education. An organization that stands for and pledges its members to strive for ideals which, if observed and attained, will result in its members' being better men and better citizens, more helpful to the community, country, and humanity.

Our organization is obligated to uphold, foster, and strive for all those ideals which are essential for the uplifting of the human race to that point where we can say--"Now man is approaching the point of perfection."

These ideals are truth, wisdom, charity, purity, brotherly love, honor and patriotism. We men, each and every one of us, have pledged ourselves to our fraternity and to every other member to strive for these ideals. We see, therefore, that men of Alpha Sigma Phi have an even greater responsibility than the college man who is a non-fraternity man.

We should by our conduct and habits be influences of good to brother members while in college and in later life in a great measure influence the lives of not only our men with whom we come in contact, but also others of the community.

We should not be content if our members succeed in merely so conducting themselves that they bring no discredit to the fraternity, but we should feel that we have fallen far short of our objects and aims as men of Alpha Sigma Phi if we are not known as men of outstanding character in college and in the world at large.

This is our object and if we are falling short of this we are not progressing and there is no excuse for our existence.

(This is part one of a three part series of the 1925 article printed in The Tomahawk.)

### ZETA BETA TAU FRATERNITY ABOLISHES PLEDGING

Chicago, Sunday, September 25, 1988. Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity's Supreme Council, meeting in a special week-end long retreat format, resolved to abolish the institution of pledging throughout the Fraternity, beginning with the 1989 Fall school term. The Council's action followed a review of continuing hazing assaults, injuries and deaths throughout the Fraternity system.

One by one the Council noted the failure of ZBT's efforts to stop hazing; prohibiting convention legislation, alternate programming suggestions, workshops and seminars, field staff emphasis, manuals and video taped presentations. Resultingly, it concluded that the abolition of the institution that fosters hazing, namely pledging, was the only remaining responsible course.





The Supreme Council recognizes that it will not end pledging and hence hazing by its own legislation alone, even though the Constitution of the Fraternity reserves such authority to the Council. Members of the Supreme Council must now seek to build a broad based consensus among the several chapters and trustee advisors. Until there is a consensus that hazing and its usual environment, pledging, is dangerous, life threatening and immoral, the process will not have been completed.

Additionally, the Council must develop new alternate forms of programming. The bonding and unity building often associated with pledging should also be given an opportunity for expression. These efforts, if they are to be successful, must impart the common values and shared goals of the respective chapters.

In taking this action, the Supreme Council notes that pledging as an institution in fraternities developed, willy nilly, more than 100 years after the founding of the fraternity system, that no essential part of the Ritual or Credo of ZBT is dependent on pledging and that the bonding or unity building process associated with pledging can just as easily be accomplished in programs that do not hold threat of not being ultimately initiated.

- Zeta Beta Tau Statement

### **IOWA STATE BANS FRATERNITY AFTER HAZING INCIDENT**

A fraternity at Iowa State that was found guilty of hazing and harassment has been suspended for the academic year and prohibited from participating in campus activities.

The suspension of Delta Upsilon stems from a hazing incident in late September in which fraternity members asked a freshman pledge to perform "a fairly humiliating act," said Thomas B. Thielen, vice-president for student affairs. The nature of the act and the student's name have not been disclosed. The student has left the university as a result of the incident.

A university judiciary committee found the fraternity guilty of hazing and recommended suspension. Delta Upsilon appealed, but the decision to ban the chapter from all university activities this year was upheld.

Next year the fraternity can be readmitted as a student organization but will be placed on probation until 1992.

- Chronicle of Higher Education  
November 23, 1988

### **HAZING**

It still exists, unfortunately, and young men continue to die from it. As you read, Zeta Beta Tau has decided to eliminate pledging and pledges to help get rid of some of the hazing that exists. Here is an excerpt from the cover article in "The Washington Monthly," November 1988, by Jason DeParle. He hits the thoughts about hazing right on the head. Read on and find out what one who was hazed feels about it now. (Delta Tau Delta Fraternity is mentioned, but it could just as well be Alpha Sigma Phi or any other fraternity.)



### HAZING (Cont'd)

#### About Men

As hazing histories go, our exploits were mostly mild. No one froze to death on a winter's night while locked in a car trunk swilling whiskey. Unlike the account Willie Morris presents in "North Toward Home" of his hazing at the University of Texas in the late 1950s. I was never pelted with eggs or covered with molasses and corn flakes. (Three years ago, a similar stunt, again at UT, sent nine pledges to the hospital, where two had emergency surgery. Most still joined the fraternity, and one pledge explained that the experience "helped bring the whole class together.") One Delt pledge did wind up in the hospital with a mild case of exposure on Hell Night, after marching through a mud pond, chugging warm beer, and jogging three miles. A few years later, the same Hell Night routine sent another pledge to the hospital for knee surgery.

Outside of Hell Night, pondings were the mainstay of Delt hazing. The Duke campus is blessed with lovely gardens. The gardens are blessed with a pond. Delt pledges were blessed with being heaved in it whenever there were enough brothers on hand to drag them off. And vice versa. (Cease fires were called on the coldest days.) The purpose, we were told, was to build brotherhood: the threat of being hauled away encouraged you to move in packs. At best, this was tiresome. It meant a semester of sneaking around campus like a Baghdad thief, scouting the quad before emerging from the library. Given that pledging occurs every other semester, this fills fully one-half of a Delt's college career with the worry of abduction. That alone is reason enough to quit.

At worst, the pondings produced the exact opposite of the spirit they intended. Tempers flared. Punches landed. Our attempts to pond one brother sent him to the emergency room for stitches on a cut above his eye. As the semester progressed, so did the frustration of the ponded, and the clashes grew increasingly physical.

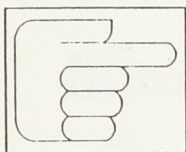
So did the weekly pledge meetings, where the number of requisite push-ups was growing. One evening a pledge entered the chapter room without making the mandatory D-T-D sign above his head; a brother slammed him into the wall. "Get out there and do it again, pledge," he said. I was at an off-campus party that semester with my tie-dyed friend when an unusually nerdy Delt, a future neurosurgeon, demanded that I join him in a chug contest. I won. "Pledge," he said, pouring a beer on my head.

The humiliations of hazing are said to build bonds, forge a collective identity. The theory goes like this: If you and 12 buddies have had cornflakes stuck to your crotch and ducks defecate in your hair, and only you and your 12 buddies, then it gives you something in common. This is true, of course. But one suspects there are better ways to share experiences--like starting a soup kitchen or going on a camping trip. Duke offered a student-run wilderness course that, like Outward Bound, offered challenges and bonded its participants with rituals like ropes courses and trust falls, rather than humiliation. For all the talk of togetherness, fraternity hazing is probably at least as divisive as it is uniting. I certainly was not eager to embrace as a brother the jerk who threw beer on me in front of my girlfriend. Those resentments don't disappear when a pledge pin comes off.



The truer appeal to hazing may simply be that it gives you a chance to dump on someone with immunity. Where else, outside of a fraternity could a neurosurgeon pretend he's Conrad Dobler? There's a little bit of punk in most of us that delights in the powerlessness of others, and hazing sets it free--too free by the witness of various coroners' reports. Hazing doesn't just offer immunity from retaliation; it offers immunity from self, too, from conscience. The hazer can think, "I'm not really doing this; the group is." The film Fraternity Row which appeared a year before Animal House and which got none of the recognition it deserved, masterfully depicts the dynamics of hazing. A reformer pledgemaster wants to ban it, citing the ugly aftertaste. "The stuff Preston pulled divides us still," he pleads with his brothers. No one denies that Preston, their former tormentor, was a creep. But now it's their turn, and the chance to pelt the pledges is just too tempting.

-Jason DeParle  
The Washington Monthly



### COLLEGE LIFE CHANGES WITH DRINKING LAW

Oxford, Ohio--Ohio's college students and the taverns that cater to them are beginning to rethink strategies in view of Ohio's new drinking laws.

This year is the last in which some 20 year-olds will be able to buy alcohol legally. Next summer, the law sets the drinking age at 21.

That means in towns such as Oxford, where the 15,000 students at Miami University are the town's lifeblood, roughly three-fourths of them will be barred from drinking.

Senior Jeff Berding of Cincinnati, executive vice president of the Associated Student Government, has launched a program for underage students that gets them into the bars and clubs in return for their promises not to drink. He's getting questions from college student governments around the state.

"Last year, when the freshmen and sophomores were barred, they complained bitterly that they were being excluded from social life uptown," Berding said. He persuaded the university to institute a plan called "Protect Uptown Bound" or "PUB."

Underage students buy a \$5 PUB card and are allowed to enter the clubs and bars under an agreement between the bars and student government. While they can eat and drink soft drinks and socialize, they cannot buy alcohol.

"We have only had to pull the cards of three people out of the 2,000 we've sold," Berding said. He expects to sell a lot more next year because most freshmen, sophomores and juniors will be underage.

The money from the PUB card goes for printing them and supporting non-alcoholic activities on campus. They include concerts, speeches and social events.

"We're still trying to cipher out whether the law is going to affect the business," said Daryl Kline, manager of Ozzie's, one of the largest clubs.

"There's been a slow change anyhow because of the changing attitude toward alcohol by everyone. Everyone has been cutting back. Quite a few are not coming anymore," Kline said.



## NATIONAL NEWS (Cont'd)

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Most of the clubs limit the PUB card users to Monday night football, and Thursdays through Saturdays, when the taverns offer entertainment. The bars also have cover charges those nights.

"The girls come those nights because they want to dance, and they don't care about drinking that much, said Tim Hamilton, manager of the Attractions Club.

"We get about 40 or 50 kids," on such nights, Hamilton said, with more expected during colder weather.

- Excerpt from The Columbus Dispatch  
November 28, 1988

## CHAPTER NEWS

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### UPSILON CHAPTER, Pennsylvania State University

Congratulations to our football team, the 1988 I.M. Champions! Thus far this semester, Upsilon has taken the title in golf, softball, and now football!

We had elections this past weekend and due to the strong desire to be a leader of Upsilon they lasted a good ten hours.

- Larry Walker, HSP



### ALPHA NU CHAPTER, Westminster College

The brothers of Alpha Nu recently celebrated 50 years of existence at Westminster during Homecoming. The festivities saw a large contingent of alumni return to 129 Waugh Avenue. Our 1940s "Rat Pack" theme took first place in the float competition for the second year in a row. The day ended with brothers and alumni attending a dinner at the Sheraton. Overall the event was a huge success and the brothers of Alpha Nu would like to thank our great alumni, it was wonderful seeing all of you!

- Jon R. Hunter, HCS



### BETA DELTA CHAPTER, Marshall University

Our alumni association has provided us with \$20,000 pledged to the construction of a new house. Our goal is \$200,000. We had a brotherhood weekend from Friday, November 4 to Sunday, November 6. The weekend started out with a can food drive for the Bishop Hodges house, which provides food and shelter for the needy and ended with pickup football games.

Brother Brian Richmond has been accepted to Medical School while Brother Walt Babecki won an all conference soccer award. The chapter is sponsoring a campus blood drive with the Red Cross as well as providing our pledges with a Rush workshop so that they'll be an active force in our spring rush.

- James M. Slack, HR





## CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd)

### **BETA XI CHAPTER, Hartwick College**

"Alcohol Awareness Week" again came to Hartwick College as it has for the last two years. Students were asked to give up drinking for a five day period of Monday through Friday. Beta Xi Chapter took the initiative of running several workshops, one hosted by Emily Victors that the students were asked to come and inquire about alcohol related problems. A wrecked car was also brought on campus that several alcohol slogans were painted on by brothers and pledges alike.

The following Halloween weekend brought many a good time to Beta Xi and Hartwick College. One such event was Alpha Sigma Phi's "Sick Flicks." The brotherhood showed two movies (The Fly and Night of The Living Dead), and gave free pizza to everyone that came. This event could not have been done without the extra work of **Chris Kondo**. The pledges are also to thank for their help in initial setup and cleaning up afterwards.

-Carl Lehrkind, HR

## PLEDGED TO THE SEVEN POINTS



**DELTA ALPHA CHAPTER, Loyola University of Chicago:** John Tierney, Andrew Carl Koster, Anthony Zac and Charles Edward McDonough on October 5, 1988.

## INITIATED INTO THE MYSTIC CIRCLE



**ZETA CHAPTER, The Ohio State University:** Steve Blais on November 18, 1988.

**BETA IOTA CHAPTER, Tufts University:** Rich Blagbrough, Chris Denig, Adam Eibirt, Kenny Pierce, Josh Rosenthol, Bill Sandberg and Jake Witherell on December 4, 1988.



The **Old Gal Gazette** is published every two weeks during the academic year by the National Headquarters. It is distributed to all chapters, colonies, advisors and fraternity volunteers in an effort to keep all informed of their Fraternity's activities, plans and progress.

News items for **The Gazette** may be sent to: Alpha Sigma Phi National Headquarters, 24 West William Street, Delaware, OH 43015.

## Little Things

Most of us  
miss out  
on life's  
big prizes.  
The Pulitzer.  
The Nobel.  
Oscars.  
Tonys.  
Emmys.  
But we're  
all eligible  
for life's  
small pleasures.  
A pat  
on the back.  
A kiss  
behind the ear.  
A four pound bass.  
A full moon.  
An empty  
parking space.  
A crackling fire.  
A great meal.  
A glorious sunset.  
Hot soup.  
Cold beer.  
Don't fret  
about  
copping life's  
grand awards.  
Enjoy its  
tiny delights.  
There are plenty  
for all of us.