

THE DIAMOND'S RAY

GAMMA RHO OF BETA THETA PI • DUKE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 1965

SPRING PLEDGE CLASS



Standing from left: Charles F. Deleot, Wayne Bing Guckenberger, Barry L. Holmes, Richard C. Glass, Garry H. Anthes. *Seated from left:* David V. John, John C. Robbins, Barry J. Tarasoff, Wayne R. Hardwick, Lee M. Kenna, William Bruce Phillips, Donald W. Brown. *Missing:* Stephen R. Place.

25 YEARS OF GAMMA RHO

The combined twenty-fifth Anniversary of Beta at Duke and the usual homecoming activities made for quite a full weekend here in Durham. Brother Steve Porter took the responsibility of getting letters out to the alumni about our plans for the weekend while the fall pledges and the more energetic brothers did their share of work on the homecoming display, which, as usual, didn't take any prizes.

Saturday didn't exactly begin with a bang as the football team lost to Georgia Tech; however, the cocktail party in the section after the game helped to brighten things up. We all then made our way to the Holiday Inn for a roast beef dinner and a dance, and were lucky in getting Rick Vance's dance band (one of the two that play in the Durham area) to provide music; for us, anyway, it was an interesting change

of pace from the rock-and-roll combo cabin parties that fill a good part of the year's social schedule. The food was good, the wine was flowing, so all in all it turned out to be quite a night.

The brotherhood enjoyed talking with Russell Woolley, Jr., William M. Ludwig and William H. Slocum about how things had changed since the chapter's beginning if at all, and it was also good to see the boys who had graduated more recently and find out how they were doing.

Well, that's about the lowdown on Homecoming; it's always a good weekend to come back and to those who were here we say "thanks for coming and good to see you," and we all hope that any time any "Old time Beta" is in Durham that he will again darken the Halls of Gamma Rho.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

April 24, 1965

Dear Brothers,



After a ten year absence I bring you greetings from the Gamma Rho Chapter. It is an established fact that fraternities exist on the support of their alumni. Although we are not as dependent upon alumni financial aid as chapters who must build and improve massive facilities, close contact with graduates is still a vital part of our fraternity lives. Nothing makes us feel as proud to be Betas as to have a compliment from those who have been here ahead of us. Nothing makes us want to improve more than criticism. But we can receive neither compliments nor criticism without alumni contact, and Gamma Rho has been sadly lacking in this area for the past several years.

But, as those of you who recently have been connected with the chapter know, this is one of the very few fields in which we have been lacking. Most important, I feel, is that we have continued to maintain the same high position on the Duke campus that we held when you were here. Continued and increased participation in campus activities, an improving academic standing, a good intramural program, and a recently installed financial program have

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Spring, 1965

GAMMA RHO of BETA THETA PI
DUKE UNIVERSITY

Alumni Secretary: Stephen T. Porter
Managing Editor: Roger J. Geller

DEDICATION

This issue of *The Diamond's Ray* is dedicated to Brother Richard Chandler Simpkins, Duke No. 197, who lost his life while a member of the active chapter. Brother Simpkins was the founder of

THE DIAMOND'S RAY

FRATERNITIES AND THE ADMINISTRATION

by Kenneth C. Bass '65



Although perhaps not as prominent now as a few years ago, the subject of fraternity-administration relations is one which vitally concerns each fraternity man, active or alumni. We all recall the apparent anti-fraternity race at numerous "prestige" universities in the past few years. It is only logical that as Duke advances in quality and stature the role of fraternities will be an area of questioning and concern.

Let me first allay many fears by assuring you that there is no concerted effort on the part of the administration at Duke to eliminate fraternities. This view is based on two years of close and frank discussion with many members of our administration. It is perhaps fair to say that in comparison with many institutions, our fraternity-administration relationship is one of the closest and most co-operative. This is not to say, however, that there is complete satisfaction with the present status of fraternities at Duke either on the part of the University or of the fraternities themselves.

Duke is in the process of a fantastically rapid growth and development. One of the major points of emphasis in this development is the concept of the residential college. As I am sure you know, Duke is to be by its charter a residential college. In the past this phrase has been interpreted merely to mean that all students reside on the campus. Now the interpretation is a bit broader. The residential units are no longer considered places simply for housing the student body and for studying; rather the emphasis is on the living group as a central part of the educational process. There is a genuine concern on the part of students, faculty, and the administration about the nature of residential groups.

The emphasis in fraternities has always been and probably always will be on the social aspects. This is as it should be. However, there is a growing concern that this aspect has been emphasized to the detriment of other valid benefits of the residential system at Duke. For too long Duke has conceived of the educational process as something primarily limited to the classroom and actual studying. Now there is a definite feeling that an institution of the caliber Duke desires should be pervaded by a feeling of education. This is often expressed as the goal of an intellectual atmosphere, a somewhat misrepresentative

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RUSH BRINGS US THE BEST

In the midst of heavy snows and the usual mass confusion, Gamma Rho had an extremely successful rush this year. The annual week of parties during semester break brought over half of the Class of '68 into the Duke fraternity system. Open houses, beer blasts, chow trains, and combo parties were the menu for the five-day period.

Gamma Rho made good use of Brother "Jelly Roll" Morton's Varsity Inn and other local establishments for afternoon and evening parties. During these parties, it sometimes seemed that the freshmen were more interested in the great dates that we had arranged for them than in the fraternity. However, they finally realized the primary purpose of rush, and the best of the Class of '68 made the right choice. Highlights of the evening parties were the semi-formal dance at the Holiday Inn and the chartered bus service to the final evening's festivities for all the brothers, freshmen, and dates.

Rush was not all parties for the brotherhood, however. It was necessary for outstanding efforts from all the brothers to keep the week running smoothly. The three and four A.M. meetings tried the patience and endurance of all. Special mention must be given to Brothers John Reynolds and Cliff Perry for the outstanding job they did during rush week and the entire semester that enabled Gamma Rho to conclude another prosperous rush period. Eighteen freshmen and one sophomore were "shaken up" and have now begun to

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phrase. The real purpose of the emphasis on the residential unit is to develop an awareness on the part of fraternities and other groups of their role in the University education which extends beyond simply providing a social outlet.

This goal is vague and difficult to achieve. As fraternities at Duke have long provided the major part of the student leadership in many areas, so are they now being challenged to assume the leadership in the development of the residential units to their full potential. Thus while the administration is in no way trying to eliminate fraternities, there is a definite desire for fraternities to broaden their horizons. The fraternity leadership in most instances is in accord with this emphasis and future outlooks for continued fraternity-administration co-operation in achieving our mutual goals of university excellence surpassed by none are excellent.

find their place in the fraternity. They are the following:

Gary Harrison Anthes
Wilmington, Delaware
Donald Walter Brown
Tulsa, Oklahoma
William Wood Cross
Neenah, Wisconsin
Christopher Owen Crowley
Arlington, Virginia
David Holmes Drennen
Bethesda, Maryland
William E. S. Dupuy
Quincy, Illinois
Alan Page Dye
Eustis, Florida
Richard Casper Glass
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
Eric Paul Handler
Durham, North Carolina
Wayne Randal Hardwick
Fort Worth, Texas
Michael Dave Hernandez
Miami, Florida
Barry Luther Holmes
Tulsa, Oklahoma
David Vaughn John
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Lee Mountcastle Kenna
Charleston, West Virginia
William Bruce Phillips
Setauket, New York
Stephen Richard Place
Fairview Park, Ohio
John Coe Robbins
High Point, North Carolina
Hyman Stadiem
Kinston, North Carolina
Gerret Preston Warner
Old Brookville, New York

LETTER—from page 2

been factors in the maintenance of our prestige. This is not to mention the social program of which you all would be proud and which continues to hold the rest of the campus in respectful awe.

This is what I hope will be the first of many issues of The Diamond's Ray. Without the support of Jack L. Ray (1945) it would have been impossible. Many thanks to him for financial and moral support. With the type of interest he has shown there can be no doubt that Gamma Rho will continue to be the outstanding chapter it has always been.

We are in Wannamaker Dorm, Duke University—you will always be welcome.

Yours in

—kai—

William C. Sammons, President

ALMOST . . . THERE!

SPORTS

A sparkling upset victory over the Divinity School ignited the season ending rally which carried the Beta footballers to within a half a game of the league championship. The defensive minded "Chinese Bandits," composed of Mike Lowry, Bill Sammons, Rod MacLeod, Walt Fraser, and Roger Geller, who had led the squad all season, were suddenly complimented by an explosive offensive punch over the last half of the season. Quarterback Rick Heugh and his two outstanding ends Bing Guckenberger and Mike Ratelle led the team to a stunning 13 to 9 victory over the first place Pi Kappa Phi fraternity and then on to another 20 to 6 rout over the then second place ZBT's in the last game of the season. These victories were much aided by the stellar play of Bob Worthington, Redge Hanes, Ash Pringle and a host of others. Thus the Betas, in second place, ended a successful and almost brilliant season.

The basketball team, after two years of lethargic play, took over where the gridiron stars left off and marched to another fine second place finish. Starters Heugh, Worthington, Lowry, Guckenberger, and Steve Porter left a record marred by only two defeats: the first a one pointer to the eventual third place finishers in the opening contest, and the second a heartbreaking overtime loss to the league champions. The season was climaxed by the highest scoring output of the campaign, a 69 to 42 victory over ZBT.

Unfortunately, as much can't be said about our usually outstanding volleyball team which met unexpected hardships this year. And now, our softball team, with a one and two record, faces a tough uphill climb to finish a successful season on the diamond.

SOCIAL

Due to the great flexibility of our social schedule and the unerring spontaneity of our brothers, Gamma Rho, under the leadership of Social Chairman Rod MacLeod, again presented a fitting array of fall and winter activities.

Many weekends began on Friday with informal open houses as the "Betas" played host to various sororities and occasional faculty members and deans. Football weekends brought open houses before and after the games and most Saturdays closed on a noisy note with combo parties. Sundays often found us again in the position of hosts as we "entertained" many of the freshman girls in our successful attempt to enlist female assistance during rush.

Traditional events including such sentimental favorites as the "Beta-Kappa" football game, the "Beta-A.D.Pi" Christmas Carol Sing and the "Beta-Pi Phi" Christmas Party for underprivileged children all added their particular flavor to our winter activities. The Christmas party was a special success and was highlighted by Hank Greenleaf's sky-diving arrival as Santa Claus as "Beta's" answer to Saint Nick came hurtling down from thousands of feet in the sky much to the delight of the spectators.

The fall and winter months were filled with activities but we anticipated even greater social enterprise as warm weather descends and as we begin to reap the benefits of a new bar built primarily through the efforts and expenditures of brothers Hoadley, Worthington, Van Sciver, Haigh, and Freeman. Beach weekend at Myrtle Beach and the now annual "Jungle Party" were fitting climaxes to a successful social season.

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