A Message from the President

By JD Jean

Thank you for the encouragement, support, and advice on the first edition of The Phoenix. I got many positive emails back with encouragement and helpful words on what to do to improve our newsletter. I thank y’all for that and hope that I keep receiving encouragement and advice from every alumnus. I believe that alumni are crucial to a chapter’s well being, and for so long we have not reached out to y’all and I feel like that is a big problem that must be fixed. This will be fixed by: this newsletter coming out monthly, an open invitation to all alumni to come back to chapter to remember what it mean to be a SigEp, and alumni events happening at least once a semester where the alumni will get to meet new guys, hang out with brothers, and reconnect with friends from college. I would like to give you heads up on the first of these events which is coming up on April 9th, but it is the Alumni vs. Actives Slowpitch Softball game. The place is yet to be determined but we do know that we are planning to play on the morning of April 9th which is the last day of the CloverJam music fest. You are more than welcome to bring your families and enjoy our chapter facilities with us and them. We plan to be grilling out after the game in the chapter room and all are invited. I ask that you read the entire newsletter and you are asked to input on any changes or ideas you may have. Thanks again.    JD Jean

Rush to Recruitment

By Ian Layne

The Balanced Man Program has always pushed the idea of 365 recruitment; it was not until this CLA that we really picked up on the idea. We have always done a more traditional rush week with very few open bids but startin this semester we look to put our emphasis on recruiting year round rather only two main weeks of the year. By doing this we open up avenues to people that other fraternities on this campus can’t because of their inability to open bid. With this we will not drop out of rush week but we will only look for the quality guys instead of trying to hit manpower in this one week. We will be trying to reach manpower throughout the year, giving us a better shot at recruiting leaders on campus instead of rushing guys we think have potential. This new recruitment style will utilize year round recruitment events with summer recruitment and the Balanced Man Scholarship being a staple of it. With this new recruiting style we are looking to average 7 to 9 guys a year that will be in the chapter to make an impact for all four years.
SigEp’s Silent Auction

Sigma Phi Epsilon raised money to help pay off their fall bill, which was larger than expected after losing more guys than anticipated over the summer, by doing a silent auction throughout the university to auction of a certain number of brothers to help do work around professors’ houses. In all the men of SigEp raised $640 which was matched by Lawton Langford (Giles Langford’s father) to bring it to a grand total $1280. This money was put towards the paying off of the bill which has been reduced to nearly half of what it was. The brothers did such things as mow lawns, rake leaves, cut down trees, and clean up for a department at school. The silent auction was such a success that it is being put on the agenda for next year already. If any alumni have any great fundraising ideas from what you did while in school, send them into jjean@huntingdon.edu.

Intramural Dominance Continues

By JD Jean

One aspect that Alabama Zeta has prided itself on in the last 20 years has been their dominance on the athletic fields. This year SigEp has already secured the Intramural Cup again after Greek Championships in Football, Ultimate Frisbee, Basketball, and Softball (2009–2010 year); with campus wide championships coming in Ultimate Frisbee and runner up in Football and Softball. This will be the 19th out of the last 20 Intramural Cups to come home to SigEp.

SigEp also fields a great number of student athletes also with brothers participating in Cross Country, Soccer, Basketball, and Baseball. In this group of men we have 4 brothers that won conference titles (2 Cross Country and 2 Basketball) and we also have 1 Academic All-Conference team, Jacob Bailey Men’s Soccer.

SigEp continues its run for the clean sweep of Greek championships on Thursday when we take on Kappa Sigma in Beach Volleyball followed by Sigma Nu the following Tuesday.

“This will be the 19th out of the last 20 Intramural Cups to come home to SigEp.”
Back to the Heart of Sigma Phi Epsilon
By Dexter Dean

This past weekend was SigEp’s Carlson Leadership Academy in Atlanta, and it was my first trip to CLA as the chaplain. I learned many things over the course of the weekend, but the one main thing I took from the weekend was the question “what is SigEp truly about?” Is it swaps, frat–tastic Friday’s, or the waterslide? I would like to think not, I could get any group of friends together and do that, so why do I pay dues every semester?

I think our chapter has focused on the social side of the fraternity way too long, and I think it’s time to get back to the heart of SigEp. Over the course of the weekend I have racked my brain on how to bring SigEp back to our roots, and I would like to express these to you and get some feedback. One thing I will be starting immediately is a “Chaplains Corner” in chapter every week. This is a time where I discuss what it means to be a SigEp, and what makes us different. I also want to begin a ritual study after every new member passes through each rite of passage. This would be separate from the interpretation, and would occur the following week after a new member goes through a rite of passage. This time is designed to ask/answer questions, and ensure that the particular new member understands the commitments he is making. I believe it’s time to go back to the heart of SigEp and focus more on Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love than we do on hosting events.

When people think of fraternities these days they think parties, beer, sex, drugs, and many others. Where in our ritual does it mention any of these things? Where in Sigma, Phi, and Epsilon class do we talk about this? Fraternities were never intended to turn into what they have in today’s society; and there are men in our chapter today that I believe have no clue what SigEp is truly about. In my last few years in this chapter I would like to begin to “flip the script” on the communities view of our chapter. I’m tired of seeing us fall farther and farther away from our original meaning, and something must be done. We have more people show up for a party than we do a formal chapter, and I cannot stand for it any longer. It’s time to focus more on our principles and ritual than anything else, it’s time to start building balanced men, and it’s time to start truly living out our principles of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love. HFF,

Dexter Dean
ddean@huntingdon.edu

Events Planned for the End of the Semester

April 3– Phi Mu Swap

April 7– Waterslide during Luau

April 7–9– CloverJam Music Fest

April 9– Alumni vs. Active Softball game

April 22–24(tentative)– Formal

April 25– Dead Day Water Slide

March 14–18– Initiation Week
–Ritual will be the morning of the 18th

March 12– Penny Map for End of Phi Class

April 5– Bodacious Beauty Pageant
The Upcoming Events of SigEp

March 9-12 GREEK WEEK
March 9- Dodgeball Tournament & Matinee at the Rave
March 10- Bowling Night
March 11- Faculty & Staff Appreciation Brunch
March 12- Tailgating Baseball game beginning at 10 game begins at 1
March 14-18- Initiation Week
March 21-25- Spring Break

Chapters this Month

March 6- 7 p.m. (formal)
March 13- 7p.m. (informal)
March 27- 7p.m. (informal)

The SigEp chapter room is located underneath the Hut.

At SigEp we believe in the Red Door policy that any brother is allowed to come to chapter and to come visit at anytime. Any alumni are allowed to participate in formal chapters and will be gladly welcomed back.

Boustani Enjoying Chi O Skate Date
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JD Jean
President

Motto
"Building Balanced Leaders for the World's Communities"

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Alumni Donations this Month

Patrick Dean - donating the supplies for neophyte night

We look forward to any alumni donations to whatever fund you would like it to go to. Specify in the donation and it will go to that event, or part of the chapter.