

# S P E A C O N N

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Volume 5, No. 2

CONNECTICUT ALPHA — SIGMA PHI EPSILON

SPRING 1987

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## Dallas Wins Award

On February 21st, Connecticut Alpha's Chapter Counselor, Jerry Dallas, was honored by Sigma Phi Epsilon as a recipient of its "Distinguished Alumni Award."

Presented during the awards dinner at the New England Regional Leadership Academy in Hartford, this award honors volunteer alumni who have served Sigma Phi Epsilon with excellence for at least five years. In our eyes, there is no worthier candidate. A 1970 UConn graduate, Jerry was instrumental in organizing the rechartering of Connecticut Alpha in 1980, and for over eight years he has served as chapter counselor. During that time, he led the chapter in the search for a chapter house, and, upon its acquisition, was a major force behind its renovation. He has served as treasurer of our alumni board, has worked as a faculty member at previous leadership academies, and has attended the last four conclaves.

As an alumnus, Jerry Dallas has been one of Sigma Phi Epsilon's great leaders and motivators. Largely through his diligence and effort, Connecticut Alpha has become a great chapter. Thanks Jerry and  
**CONGRATULATIONS!**

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### — Inside

- Young at Heart Club
- New Feature — Alumni Profile

## Alumni Board News

As all of you probably know by now, the Alumni Board is now actively pursuing the options available to us to obtain new housing. Over the last three years Vic Tohak has been involved with the University and the Alumni Interfraternity Council. Both the Undergraduates and the Alumni have been working to prepare for the challenges that lie ahead of us.

This is where we need your help. It is going to take all of us to reach our goals. If we continue to think that a handful of Alumni on the Board will be enough, we are mistaken. All of our Alumni Brothers have to get involved. It is going to take both time and financial commitments for this effort to succeed. I urge all of you to attend the Alumni Board meetings and to get involved in alumni programming.

I am challenging all alumni to truly make Sig Ep their *lifetime* experience, whether you graduated last year, or twenty years ago, your input is necessary to make Sigma Phi Epsilon truly the greatest experience. The challenges are significant, and the rewards will be greater. Take a moment to decide how important Sigma Phi Epsilon has been to you, and then get involved.

Fraternally,  
Bill Wivell  
V.P. Alumni Board

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### Staff

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Mike Sinatra  
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*A special thanks to Bob Wein who helped with  
the production of this newsletter*

## Lost Brothers

Please help us "Find a Brother." There are approximately 35 alumni from our chapter who are missing from our records. If you have any information pertaining to the whereabouts of any of those listed below, it would be greatly appreciated if you could write us at 9 Gilbert Road, Storrs, CT 06268, Attn: ~~Brion Brandes~~ <sup>PAUL HEDENBERG</sup>

Vincent Cirillo '59  
Richard Concelmo '58  
Walter Sweeney '58  
James Mucock '59  
Raymond Holst '58  
Ramon Morias '56  
Alfred Camera, Jr. '60  
George Zitnay '60  
David Judd '60  
Francis Dillon '61  
James Cooke '60  
Patrick Healy '61  
Donald Novak '62  
John Burkholder '62  
Gerald Murchie '62  
Donald Sauerman '63  
Richard Chapin '63  
Wayne Stiles '63  
John Novak '63  
Don Lo Vetere '64  
Stanley Trask, Jr. '64  
Richard Gilson '65  
Richard Warner '67  
Gary Harrison '67  
David Butchman '68  
Gerald Doff '67  
Robert Clark '68  
Robert Edwards '67  
Richard Fravel '68  
Keith Walker '69  
James Moran '69  
Paul Kugler '69  
Michael Carrozza '69  
James Criss II '69  
Joseph Semprini '69  
Alexander Miano '82  
Jeffrey Renkl '85

# Alumni Profile

Diligence. It is a word that some say is heard less, and a concept that is ignored more and more. But to members of Sigma Phi Epsilon, it is one of the three Cardinal Principles. To 1971 Sigma Phi Epsilon alumnus, Dr. Michael Egan, the meaning and importance of the word have not faded.

Throughout Egan's college and alumni life, he has given his full effort to Sig Ep. As a member of the 1968 pledge class, "The Dirty Dozen," Egan recalls some of the duties the chapter required of him.

"Mostly, we had to learn a great deal about the pledges and brothers. We had to know just about every aspect of their personal lives," Egan says. "We also had to learn everything about the history of the local and national chapters."

"Sig Ep is really special to me. As far as my personal development at college is concerned, Sig Ep was the most important factor. And it was even more important at a large university like UConn," Egan says.

Since Egan's graduation from UConn in 1971, his personal life has been very busy. He graduated from the Georgetown University Dental School in 1975 with his D.D.S., and established a private practice in Hartford in 1976.

"The practice is doing very well," Egan says. "I'm in an expansion phase right now and the practice is growing."

Egan also got married ten years ago, and lives with his wife, Vicki, in Portland, Conn. Right now their house is occupied by a "family" that is composed of a yellow labrador and a golden retriever, as well as several cats. "I don't know what kind of cats they are," he says with a chuckle.

Despite Egan's commitment to his family and his practice, he has kept his diligence toward the fraternity intact by remaining very active on the Alumni Board and by attending undergraduate sponsored alumni events.

"When the chapter was rechartered in 1981, Jerry Dallas got in touch with me, and the five of us were about the bare minimum that made up the Alumni Board at that time," he says. "I was a part of the group that literally built the house on Gilbert Road."

Work that needed to be done on the house included the addition of the third floor, so nine more brothers could live in the house; the addition of a sprinkler system and the fire escape, to bring the house up to fire-safety standards; and many of the finishing touches.

Egan also served as president of the Alumni Board for four years, until other commitments forced him to give up the position. "But my dentist office is still the home of most of the Alumni Board meetings," he says.

And Egan still finds time to have fun with the undergraduate chapter as well. "I still attend Yale games with friends from my undergraduate days. I'm trying to get in touch with other Alums who want to go to the banquet this semester."

As a result of Egan's hard work, dedication and diligence to Sigma Phi Epsilon, members of the Alumni board established the "Egan/Ogren" Award. This award honors the undergraduate brother who proves to be the best big brother during each pledge period.

"They honored the work and dedication that Roger and I put into the house, and that honor comes about only through exemplifying that type of commitment and dedication," Egan says.

Egan is happy with the strong growth and reputation Connecticut Alpha has developed during the past six years. But he has some advice for the chapter and Alumni to follow to assure continued strength for the years to come.

"The chapter needs to maintain contact with its recent alumni. They shouldn't have to make the same mistakes twice," he says, adding that the chapter can learn from its past mistakes.

As the University makes plans for its "dream campus," which tentatively plans for the demolition of the houses on Gilbert Road, Egan hopes alumni will be looking out for the future of Connecticut Alpha, and for the entire Greek community at UConn.

"I would like to see the creation of independent housing for each member of the Greek community," he says. "I also encourage alumni to take an active role in the next step of Sig Ep development—establishment of permanent housing."

For Dr. Mike Egan, Diligence has played an important role in his life, whether he is easing the pain of one of his dental patients or attending an Alumni Board meeting. But with a person so grounded in one of our Cardinal Principles, Virtue and Brotherly Love can't help but shine through as well.

## **The Latest Wire**

### **The 60's**

— **Ted Johnson, '62** is presently working for Keebler as an Accounts Development Manager and is living in Naperville, IL with his wife Barbara and three children.

### **The 70's**

— **John Martin Schwanfelder, '70** is currently teaching social studies at Branford Intermediate School. As an undergraduate member of Sigma Phi Epsilon he was most well known for being a 21 year-old freshman at B & D Package Store.

— **William Anderson, '71** is currently a practicing physical therapist and president of the Westchester P.T. Associates in White Plains, NY.

— **Michel Mouravieff, '73**, referred to as "Doctor Mike", he is presently practicing dentistry in Ridgewood, NJ. He went back to dental school after 9 years of work and he just finished in 1986.

### **The 80's**

— **David Marti, '81** is currently a lieutenant with the U.S. Navy and is cruising the Persian Gulf until May '87.

— **Joseph Langella, '83** is currently the National Alumni Director for Sigma Phi Epsilon. Joey lives in Richmond, VA and claims that if he had the money he'd buy CT Alpha a new house.

— **Nicholas Greene, '84** is presently living in Winthrop, MA and is pursuing a degree in architecture as well as a graduate degree in real estate management.

— **Vincent Piselli, '86** is presently a bank teller with Mechanics and Farmers FSB in New Canaan, CT. Vinny is most well known for winning the "fest" awards and running over ducks.

## **"The Young at Heart" Club**

Those young at heart Sig Ep Alumni in the Hartford area, we have begun meeting on Friday afternoons. In sunny weather, Dagny's has been the Hot Spot, and when mother nature doesn't cooperate, Sean Patrick's has been a good substitute.

Jeff Russek is organizing a white water rafting trip for the weekend of July 10-12. If you have any questions call Jeff at 529-7086 A.S.A.P.

Ron Nault is going to organize a hiking trip in June. More details coming soon.

If you want information, or want to volunteer to organize something, feel free to call Bill Wivell at 721-7324.

Let's all get involved!!!

## **SIGMA PHI EPSILON**

## **Reminder**

When making checks out to the Educational Foundation, you can designate that the check be credited towards the CT Alpha Scholarship-Leadership Award. Currently we have over \$3,900 in the fund, and we are trying to reach a goal of \$5,000. Interest earned in the fund goes toward one scholarship for \$250 awarded at the spring banquet. If we reach our goal of \$5,000, we would then have \$500 to award in scholarships.



## Conclave

All aboard for New Orleans!! Sigma Phi Epsilon's 40th Grand Chapter Conclave promises to be one of the best ever. All Sig Ep Brothers, alumni, and guests will be staying at the luxurious New Orleans Fairmount, only a short distance from Bourbon Street and the French Quarter. At the Fairmount, various presentations outlining Sig Ep's past, present and future will instill in every Brother a great sense of pride in belonging to the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity.

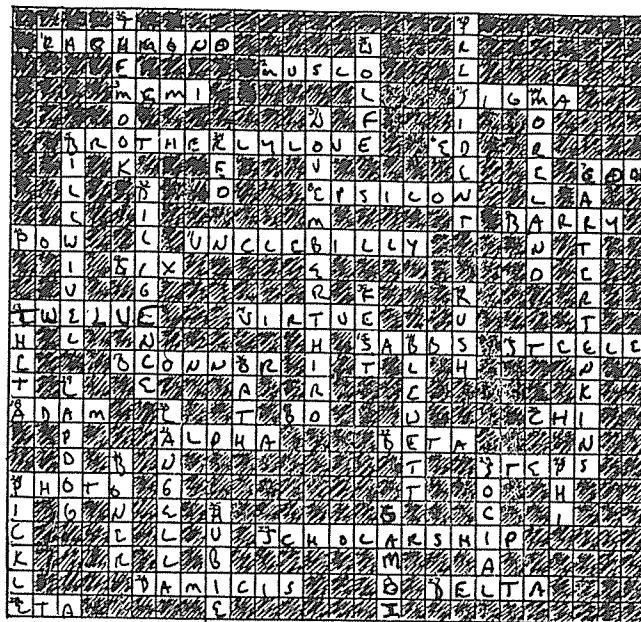
Once again, Connecticut Alpha will be well represented with a well-motivated undergraduate chapter with assistance from the Alumni Board. Connecticut Alpha showed its excellence at the San Antonio Conclave, winning several awards including our second Buchanan Cup. Much of the same is expected for New Orleans as we try for our third Buchanan Cup.

After the festivities at the Fairmount, there will be plenty of free time to explore New Orleans' world famous night life. As an undergraduate brother or alumni of Connecticut Alpha, attending a conclave is definitely a rewarding experience.

*40th Grand Chapter Conclave  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 13 - 16, 1987*

*For more information contact Chris Smith at 203-487-5389.*

## ANSWERS TO LAST ISSUE'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE



# UNDERGRADUATE REPORT

## President's Report

Dear Alumni,

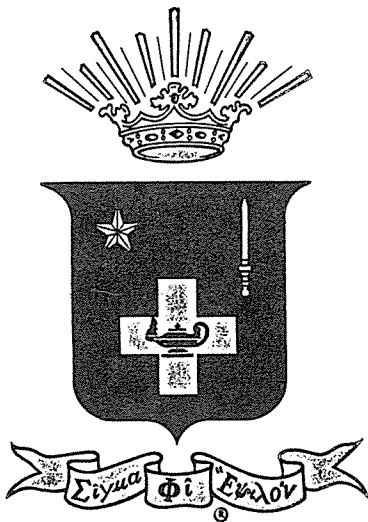
As Connecticut Alpha looks forward to the New Orleans Conclave in August, in anticipation of our third Buchanan Cup, we can look back at a very successful year. Sigma Phi Epsilon continues to be the strongest and largest fraternity at The University of Connecticut with 31 total initiates catapulting our total membership to an unprecedented 104 Brothers.

With the end of another school year, over 20 Brothers are joining the ranks of our most valuable resource — the Alumni. With added concerns facing the undergraduate chapter every day, the experience and knowledge of the Conn. Alpha alumni is one of our greatest assets. Your involvement can provide the insight necessary to meet any goal or solve any problem. Connecticut Alpha is making a concerted effort to involve our Alumni in more and more aspects of fraternity operations. Don't hesitate in getting involved — Sigma Phi Epsilon is your lifetime experience.

Have a wonderful summer and hope to see you in New Orleans.

Fraternally,  
Brian T. Kurnik

Sigma Phi Epsilon



*Sigma Phi Epsilon*

*Virtue, Diligence &  
Brotherly Love*

Please call if you can't drive.

486-5213



## Hartford Regionals Prove Spectacular

The 1987 Sigma Phi Epsilon Regional Leadership Academy was held in Hartford, Connecticut, with Connecticut Alpha being the host chapter. Held in the Parkview Hilton from February 21-23, this year's academy proved to be one of the best ever. With a stupendous showing by Connecticut Alpha — 64 undergraduates in attendance — everything ran smoothly. The chapter hung up a welcoming banner, provided a guide to local nightspots and served as liaisons between the headquarters staff and the other undergraduates. Individual contributions to the academy's program were made by Brother Ed Kaplan who served as the Standard's Chairman, Brothers Todd Blewett and Paul Saloom who led discussions on the ritual, Chaplain Luis Baez who delivered the banquet convocation, and Chapter President Brian Kurnik who delivered the opening greeting.

The Leadership Academy is a yearly event in which younger brothers and new officers get a chance to gain knowledge on specific chapter operations and the fraternity in general. It is also a chance for local alumni to offer their own experiences regarding leadership skills and how it can be applied in the fraternity setting. Sigma Phi Epsilon's Headquarters also invited a number of experts to field questions on issues confronting fraternities in the '80s. Connecticut Alpha was especially honored to have Mrs. Judith Preston, UConn's Coordinator of Greek Life, volunteer her services to the panel. Any alumni interested in possibly volunteering their services for future Leadership Academies should contact Joe Langella, National Alumni Director, at headquarters.

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**A Buchanan Cup Chapter**

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## New Relationship between University and Greeks

The new *Statement of Relationship between The University of Connecticut and The Greek System* provides a better understanding of the position assumed by the Division of Student Affairs towards the developing Greek system on campus. As mentioned by Dr. Carol Wiggins in its introductory letter: "it supports Greek life and provides the necessary guidelines for a positive working relationship between The University of Connecticut and the Greek organizations."

The Statement of Relationship seeks the mutual support from the Greek and academic system for the enrichment of the individual both in professional and social life. The University of Connecticut recognizes the value of the Greek system as to "provide a living-learning experience in a democracy" and by their enhancement "through the work of loyal alumni and strong undergraduate chapters."

Included in the statement there is a description of what is called the stages of recognition: Full Recognition, Provisional and Probational Recognition. In the Full and Provisional Recognition, the University supports and conditions the establishment of Greek chapters on campus, while the Probational Recognition applies certain sanctions against a chapter that has failed to maintain the University regulations.

Other topics mentioned by the Statement of Relationship reaffirm the policies described in The University of Connecticut Handbook and by the Division of Residential Life with respect to academic and living standards in the University community.

**SIGMA  
PHI  
EPSILON**

## Spring Point System Working Well

For the Spring 1987 semester, in addition to the fine system, a point system was being used by the chapter in which a brother must have 85% of the mandatory points to attend the banquet. All mandatory events were given a point value.

Any brother who was unexcused from an event was fined as well as lost the points in question. The brother then had two weeks to make up lost points by doing various extra deeds.

So far the system has worked well and attendance at mandatory functions has improved. The chapter secretary was in charge of keeping track of the points as well as informing any brother who was below the 85% minimum needed. The continued use of the system will be voted on at the end of the semester.



### UNDERGRADUATE OFFICERS

President.....	Brian Kurnik
Vice President.....	Brian Sabia
Controller.....	John Kocot
Secretary.....	Ken Mysogland
Alumni Operations.....	Brion Brandes
Chaplain.....	Luis Baez



## Yesteryear

*Can you name all the Brothers in this picture?*

**SPE**<sub>CONN</sub>  
ALUMNI NEWSLETTER  
9 Gilbert Road  
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