



Sigma Nu Fraternity • Theta Kappa Chapter • Georgia Southern University 103 Olympic Boulevard • Statesboro, GA 30458 • <u>www.SigmaNuGSU.com</u>

## November 17, 2015

On Friday, November 17, 1967, our Chapter was founded as Nu Sigma (N $\Sigma$ ). It was a cold, rainy night that the eighteen (18) founding members met in Room E-209 of Dorman Hall. The reason for the meeting was that the Board of Regents had recently approved the establishment of National Social Fraternities at Georgia Southern College and many of the well-established service fraternities were fracturing to petition colonization by these National Social Fraternities. Most, if not all, of our initial founders (some were never initiated) came from Alpha Phi Omega (A $\Phi\Omega$ ), a service fraternity; those founders sought Sigma Nu, so they could establish a fraternity based on the principle of honor and in opposition to hazing. Several key dates in our history, but here are just a few (there are many more):

- Founding: November, 17 1967
- Colonization: May 6, 1968
- Chartering: May 10, 1970
- Alumni Initiation of 14 early members: November 15, 1986
- Opening of our Home: February 1, 1989
- Dedication of our Home: November 11, 1989
- Elimination of our Original Mortgage: October 22, 2005
- Reorganization of Chapter: July 21, 2013

Today we celebrate our 48th "Founder's Day" on the forty-eighth anniversary of that evening. We do this with a collegiate chapter that is arguably the strongest it has ever been and on a trajectory for even more success as well as recognition, a pathway of Honor headed towards a possible Rock Chapter Award. They embrace the principle of honor and firmly reject the practice of hazing, a practice that is somewhat commonplace at GSU not unlike during Sigma Nu's founding at VMI in 1869. We are also in a ramp-up towards our 50th Anniversary, which will begin in two short years on November 17, 2017, the 50th Anniversary of our founding, and will culminate with the 50th Anniversary of the Chartering of the Theta Kappa Chapter (#171) of Sigma Nu Fraternity on May 10, 2020. In between now and then we will have a lot to celebrate including numerous anniversaries, successes, a potential expansion and further update of our Chapter home, and our 1000th initiate, which we expect in 2018. Interestingly enough we expect the brothers who were just initiated last week to be the officers honored to initiate our 1000th Theta Kappa brother. And then after 1000 initiates it is a sprint to the 50th anniversary in 2020.

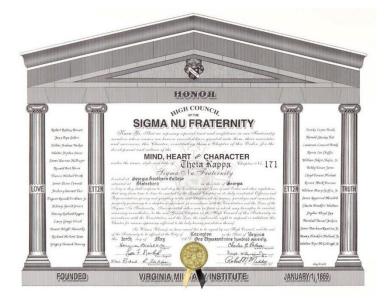
So tonight we ask you to tip a glass to our founders and chapter; celebrate where we are today, where we have been, and where we are headed; think about our history, our traditions, and our heroes of the Theta Kappa Chapter and Sigma Nu Fraternity; and then reflect on whether you can do more to help us grow and sustain our brotherhood, whether it is with your time, talent, or treasure – maybe it is just a visit back to GSU, a home game, our house, or to a big away game like this weekend – we appreciate it all!

If you think you can assist or are looking for ideas, please go to: <u>http://bit.ly/Sustain-SNGSU</u> for some great ideas. It is always being updated with new ones. Thank you for everything each of you have done in the past and your consideration of the future.

# TK all day! Snakes on top! ΣΝΕΤΤ



48 Years Today - The Start Of Theta Kappa - Tip Your Glass! ΣΝΕΤΤΙ





# Our founding, early, and charter members of the Theta Kappa Chapter obsert R. Brown, $\Theta$ K 1 Lawrence L. Brady, $\Theta$ K 19 Carl D. Murray, $\Theta$ K 0

Robert R. Brown,  $\Theta$ K 1 Zoltan A. Farkas, OK 3<sup>+</sup> Walter S. Joiner, **OK** 4 James H. McBraver,  $\Theta$ K 5 Ronald B. Norris, OK 6 Francis M. Brady, OK 7\* James O. Conwell, **OK 8** Anthony B. Fair,  $\Theta K \circ$ Eugene R. Fordham, Jr., ØK 10 Hilliary G. Jowers, ØK 11 Harvey R. Rogers, ØK 12 Larry G. Wood, OK 13 Duane W. Nunnally, OK 14\* Richard M. Yaun, OK 15 Gregory H. Dominy, ØK 16 Brooks L. Paulk, OK 17\* Ronald S. Pelt, ØK 18 Blue & a Cross (†) indicates our founders from 1967

Romie L. Chaffin, OK 20 William A. Chafin, Jr., OK 21 Bobby E. Jones, OK 22 Llovd P. Michael, OK 23 Ronnie M. Duncan, OK 24 William H. Griffin, Jr., OK 25 James R. Meredith, OK 26 Charles F. Wallace, OK 27 Stephen F. Gay, OK 28t Marshall D. Jenkins, OK 29 James B. Rawlins, Jr., OK 30 Dewey F. Holland, Jr., OK 31\* Wallace P. McCullough, Jr., OK 32 Wilburn T. Howard, OK 49 Emory D. Ellis, OK 50<sup>+</sup> John C. Shearouse, OK 51+

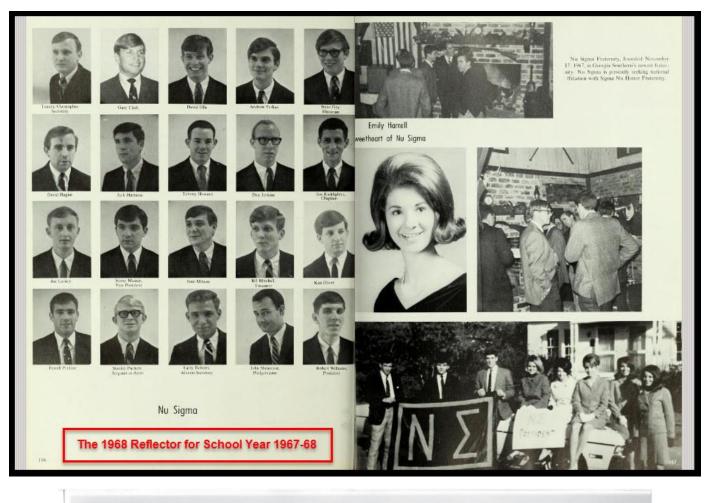
#### **Our Chapter Officers and Alumni Leaders**

Adam F. Clay, OK 810 Past Commander (45<sup>th</sup>), 2014-2015 Eric D. Degen, OK 811 Past Commander (44<sup>th</sup>), 2013-2014 Evan P. Winebarger, OK 754 Past Commander (43<sup>rd</sup>), 2013

Zachary A. Geurin,  $\Theta$ K 823 Commander (46<sup>th</sup>), 2015-2016 Marshal B. Richards,  $\Theta$ K 847 Lt. Commander, 2015-2016

Carl D. Murray, OK 90\* Robert G. Williams, OK 258+ Hubert R. Massey, OK 259<sup>+</sup> Cecil T. Christopher, Jr., OK 260+ Melvin S. Puckett, OK 261+\* Ferrell L. Penland, OK 262<sup>+\*</sup> John W. Yarbrough, II, ØK 263 Joseph E. Lariscy, III, OK 264 Harry F. Lott, **OK 265** Robert A. Cresswell, Jr., OK 266 Joseph A. Thomas, OK 267 A. Roy Fowler, III,  $\Theta$ K 268 Frank Garriga, OK 269 John W. Gilreath, ØK 270 John B. Wofford, OK 271 James L. Roberts, OK 329 James E. Kicklighter, OK 330+ \*Indicates Deceased, in Chapter Eternal

R. E. Shane Ragan II,  $\Theta$ K 254 House Corporation President, 2014 -Jonathan R. Cundiff,  $\Theta$ K 555 Worthy Commander, 2014-2016 William B. Geddy,  $\Theta$ K 219 Chairman, Alumni Advisory Board, 2008 -





SIGMA NU COLONY

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ANNUAL REPORT

# SIGMA NU COLONY ANNUAL REPORT

By

Robert G. Williams

Commander

November 20, 1968

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	411	
I.	INTRODUCTION	
II.	FALL QUARTER (1967)	
III.	WINTER QUARTER	
IV.	SPRING QUARTER	
ν.	FALL QUARTER (1968)	
VI.	CONCLUSION	
BIBLI	GRAPHY	

### SIGMA NU COLONY ANNUAL REPORT

#### Introdution

Sigma Nu Colony, Georgia Southern College, is presently seeking a charter as a chapter of Sigma Nu Honor Fraternity. Before the true story can be told, one must look at the ideals of the national fraternity of which it is a part. Sigma Nu Honor Fraternity, a leader in its field, was established at Virginia Military Institute on January 1,1869. Its founding fathers, James F, Hopkins, Greenfield Quarles, and James M. Riley, felt the need of an organization that opposed the system of hazing at the Institute. They believed in the principle that men should live by honor and not expediency. In Sigma Mu's near 100 years, this principle has evolved into over 150 collegiate chapters and 100,000 initiates.

#### Fall Quarter

#### Approval

With the official sanction of the Board of Regents of Georgia, national social fraternities were approved to be established at Georgia Southern College in the Fall of 1967. Many well-established service organizations immediately petitioned national fraternities. The national service fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega, split to form three seperate groups - one which was to later establish Nu Sigma Fraternity. When this split in the brotherhood occured, Robert G. Williams saw the need for action. Immediately he wrote a letter to Sigma Nu Honor Fraternity, later receiving a favorable but cautious reply. After talking with close friends, he decided to petition Sigma Nu Fraternity.

#### Establishment

On November 17, 1967, a cold, rainy Friday night, a nucleus group of eighteen men meet in Room E-209, Dorman Hall, with the intent of establishing Sigma Nu Honor Fraternity at Georgia Southern College. Earlier talk had spread like fire through the campus, that "Greek" organizations would soon be deleted if they had not meet the approval of the, then weak, Inter-Fraternity Council. Already eight fraternities had meet the approval of the Inter-Fraternity Council-Nu Sigma nad not.

Organization. Realizing that much had to be done, the brothers elected officers. They were; Robert Williams-President, Sonny Massey-Vice-President, Bill Mitchell-Treasuren, Oecil Christopher-Recording Secretary, Larry Roberts-Alumni Secretary, Stanley Puckett-Sgt-at-Arms, Steve Gay-Historian, and Jim Elcklighter-Chaplain. A constitution, submitted by Robert Williams, was approved by the newly formed brotherhood. In order to finance the fraternity, all brothers were assessed ten dollars as an initial payment to the fraternity. To gain recognition from the Inter-Fraternity Council, Robert Williams and Sonny Massey were appointed to appear before the Council. The followint Wednesday night, the men tried

in vain to gain approval. Ron Rabin, president of the Inter-Fraternity Council, asked that further evidence be obtained before approval of the group. Nu Sigma was then even more determined.

<u>Incouragement</u>. A telephone call with Dean Kenneth M. England, Dean of Students at Georgia State College, escalated the morale of the group. He, as Division Commander of Sigma Nu Fraternity, was soon to visit Georgia Southern. On Thursday, December 7, 1967, his visit became a reality. In his address to the fraternity, he expressed his desires of establishing Sigma Nu Fraternity on the campus. He explained the process and guidelines of petitioning the National. Because of his strong encouragement, the Inter-Fraternity Council approved Nu Sigma at a special call meeting. It was a joyuos time, but there was much to be done.

#### Winter Quarter

#### Manpower

With the beginning of Winter Quarter, the race to build the manpower of each fraternity was on. In a crowded field of elever fraternities, Nu Sigma knew that they were at a tremendous disadvantage. Their competition had already received official recognition from their nationals - Nu Sigma had not.

<u>Ruch</u>. How could a local fraternity compete with large nationals if only fifty dollars was appropriated for Rush activities? There was notime to answer such questions,

only fight. During the ensuing week of Rush, Nu Sigma did fight. After letting nine bids, only four men pledged the fraternity: Dan Jenkins, Joe Lariscy, Ken Oliver, and Gary Clark. Nu Sigma had not built in quantity, but it had built in quality, a far cry from what other number-counting fraternities had done. Now they were twenty-two brothers in Nu Sigma, but National expected more.

#### Management

Meetings. During the Winter Quarter, the fraternity meet every Monday at 7:00 p.m. The President, Robert Williams, constantly asked for order at the meetings but with little or no response. An alumni of the University of Georgia Sigma Nu chapter, Palmer Drew, became enthused with the group. Serving as an advisor, he showed the fraternity the area that needed more organization and work. As activities increased, the need for additional leadership was recognized. To aducate the pledges in the proper way of fraternity life, John Shearouse was elected Pledgemaster. To represent Nu Sigma in the Inter-Fraternity Council was Robert Williams, Sonny Massey, and Ferrell Penland. Continuously, committees, meet to iraft by-laws and set policies for the fraternity.

<u>Correspondence</u>. Repeated efforts were made to gain recognition from Sigma Nu National. Twice representatives of the Mathonal, who were to visit with Nu Sigma, were unable to come because of bad weather. Written correspondence continued but with no definite statements of approval.

Morale was falling, but the brotherhood stayed together, sensing success in the future.

#### Program

Since Nu Sigma was only in its infancy, little or no uq fraternity program existed.

<u>Homecoming</u>. The biggest event of the quarter was the Homecoming weekend of January 26, 1968. Participation in the Homecoming Parade consisted only of several cars driven by the brothers. That evening the brothers held their Homecoming Party at the Holiday Inn. of Statesboro. With music supplied by the "Younger Brotners", the party was a social success. In order to keep interest stimulated in the Traternity, other parties were held throughout the quarter. The need for additional funds resulted in a fraternity car-

Activities. To represent the fraternity in campus contest, Miss Emily Harrell was elected Sweetheart for 1968. Miss Vick: South was chosen to represent the pledge class. This was developing the makings of a fraternity, but still there way no official recognition from National. The brothers felt that participation in sports would show National a further desire. Entering intramural basketball, Nu Sigma ended near the bottom of the list by the quarter's end.

#### Finances

As the activities of the fraternity increased, so did the need for revenue. Dues were set at twenty dollars per quarter with assessments of one dollar for parties. To finance the Homecoming Purty, the brothers payed an additional five dollar assessment. Many brothers thought that brotherbood was being wrapped a dollar bill - it was not. They soon realized that dues would soon have to be raised again. To increase the attendence at the mestings, the brothers voted to impose a fine of one dollar for missing meetings. This did not increase the revenue, but it surely did increase attendence.

#### Spring Quarter

#### Manpower

With Spring fever in their blood, the brothers of Nu Sigma Fraternity wereready to select new member for the fraternity. Survival of the fraternity depended on its ability to attract others to join. Without a national name it was hard to attract members, and without members it would be hard to attract a national name. The fraternity was caught in a vicious circle.

<u>Rush</u>. With the appropriation of a larger sum of funds, the Rush Committee made plans for a great Rush. Smokers and parties served as the media for meeting prospective pledges.<sup>4</sup> At the final Rush party, there existed a spirit that was surpassed by no other fraternity on campus. Nu Sigma had made a substantial gain in its fight for survival. Eight men pledged the fraternity because they felt that they had something to offer. They were: Bob Brown, Greg Brewer, Jimmy MoBrager, Jack Stegall, Dewey Holland, Steve Joiner,

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Pom Hendrix, and Ronnie Norris. Eventhough fifteen bids had been given, the brothers felt that the eight that had accepted were of the caliber to become good Sigma Nu's. Additional manpower was what Sigma Nu National wanted, and Nu Sigma had shown that they could compete for pledges.

#### Management

Elections. Early in the quarter, the Constitutional Committee drafted a new constitution, which was later approved by the brothers. Robert's Rules of Order was introduced as a means of conducting the fraternity meetings. In general, added optimism increased the morale of the brothers, thus producing greater participation. On April 15, 1968, semiannual elections were held. As suggested by our advisor, Palmer Drew, the fraternity decided to use the same office title us used by Sigma Nu National. The new officers were: Eobert Wilkgims-Commander, Sonny Massey-Lt. Commander, David Are Ellis-Fledgemaster, Ferrell Penland-Treasurer, Andrew Farkas-Recorder, Steve Jay-Historian, John Shearouse-Reporter, Joe Lariscy-Hommai Contact Officer, and Tommy Howard-Chaplain. is stated in the new constitution, each officer had specific duties to perform. Realizing the job that needed to be done; these officers began contributing their share of the load.

<u>Committees</u>. To perform larger functions, committees were appointed by the Commander. The committees were: Bush Committee, Social Committee, Scholarship Committee, and Campus Projects Committee. As these committees meet throughbut the genter, the committee of the Lordentity became

more efficient. Planning was a key word for all fraternity functions. The brothers began to realize that fraternity was a big busines.

Recognition. Then it happened - a telegram from Sigma Nu National Fraternity. "Congragulations. High Council has approved colony status for Nu Sigma. Letter with detail follows. Regards, Richard R. Fletcher." <sup>1</sup> Since Mr. Richard R. Fletcher, National Executive Secretary of Sigma Nu, had visited Nu Sigma in late March, approval was anticipated but not assured. Immediately the fraternity was call together to be told of the news. Soon guidelines, letters, books, and phamplets were being sent by National. Instantly, fraternity spirit picked up. Nu Sigma Fraternity soon changed its name to Sigma Nu Colony.

#### Program

Still no program existed as such. Programming evolved

Activities. Activities of all types were encouraged by the fraternity. Social activities were held with participation. The brothers supported the Inter-Fraternity Council's activities such as the Arthur Conley Dance and the Saster Seal Drive. The huge amount of thirty-seven dollars was collected by Sigma Ju Colony for the Saster Seal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Telectrum by Rickers R. Pletcher, Signa Nu Fraternity, May 6, 106 .

Drive. During the quarter the brothers sponsored a campuswide Donut Sale that netted over one hundred dollars. As pledge projects, the pledges held two successful carwashes. Sigma du Colony also participated in intramural softball, ending in fourth place.

<u>Honors</u>. Toward the end of the quarter, the Inter-Fraternity Council sponggred an Honors Night. Because of their outstanding contributions to the fraternity system at Georgia Southern College, five brothers were initiated into the Order of Omega, a National Greek Honor Society. They were: Sonny Massey, Ferrell Penland, Robert Williams, David Ellis, and Andrew Parkus.

<u>Traditions</u>. The Chaplain, seeing the need for religious activities, asked that all members attend church together. This idea soon evolved into "Sigma Nu Sunday", which has become a quarterly tradition of Sigma Nu Colony. To recognize activities of the brothers, trophies were to be given to the Outstanding Brother of the Year, Scholastic Acheivement of the Year, and Best Pledge each quarter.

#### Finance

Since the fraternity had established itself as Sigma Nu Colony, the need for further financing was evident. The dues were raised to twenty dollars for Fall and Spring Quarter, and twenty-five dollars for Winter Quarter. Assessments continued as previously set. Even with raising the dues  $\hat{O}$ the fraternity beened toplways have financial problems.  $\mathcal{W}$ 

#### Scholarship

At the end of the year, Sigma Nu Colony was ranked number six out of eleven fraternities in scholastic achievement. The fraternity's 2.25 G.P.A. was above the All-Fraternity Average.

Fall Quarter when 14

#### Manpower

After a summer of fun and frolic, the brothers were ready to begin the serious business of fraternity. Sigma Nu now had the backing of the National. This would play an important role in building of manpower.

<u>Rush</u>. Rush Chairman, David Ellis, had Rush planned in a very systematic manner. The prospective pledges attended smokers and then were invited to a party on the following weakend. When two weeks of Rush had ended, fifteen men had decided to pledge Sigma Mu. The pledges were: Mike Brady, James Conwell, Bob Cresswell, Tony Fair, Russell Fordham, Roy Fowler, Reed Harrington, Gerald Jowers, Jack Knight, Frank Lott, James Fawlins, Michard Rodgers, Joseph Thomas, Nobert Sound, and Larry Wood. This was the third largest pled to cluss in a field of thirthen strong competitors. During the Rush the brothers learned the importance of a close working unit, following a well-organized plan. This had been the most successful Rush that Sigma Nu had prepared. The extra welp and moral backing from Sigma Wu Mational had olayed an incortant wort.

#### Management

During Fall Quarter more was learned about the management than in all the previous quarters combined. Many guidelines were set done by National as to how to manage the fraternity.

Organization. During the week of October 6-13, Sigma Hu Colony had the oppurtunity to have Mr. Reed Morgan, Staff Associate of Sigma du Fraternity, visit the Colony. For the entire week, the fraternity meet as a whole, in committees, and also individually to discuss with Mr. Morgan the operations of Sigma Nu Fraternity. Discussions covered all facets of fraternity: Rush, Finances, Communications, Duties of the officers, Fledge Training, Traditions, and et cetra. One main problem that seemed very prevelant was that of communicating. With the establishment of a Communications Committee, this problem was, in large part, alleviated. Their duties were to inform the brothers of all activities concerning the fruternity. Mr. Morgan pointed many ideas for the Jolony Educational program, stressing that all brothers had to be well versed on the history of Sigma Nu Honor Fraternity.

<u>Advisors</u>. As a requirement of both the college and the Mational, Sigma Nu and Faculty advisors had to be selected. Or. Gary Wilfert, Professor of Biology, and Mr. Palmer Drew were chosed for these important positions. The brothers recognized that mature guidance was needed to build a strong Sigma Ex Colong.

Leadership. Secuuse Sigma Mu National believed in active brotherhood, not only in the fraternity but in other areas, the Commander encouraged brothers to suck class and organizational positions. This resulted in a brother being elected Vice-President of the Sophomore Class, thus placing him on the Student Government. Insediately other positions were obtained by several brothers - Secretary of the Inter-Fraternity Council, Assistant Public Relations Officer of the Student Government, two other brothers gained voting positions on the Student Government, and German Club President. With such a strong voice in the Government, the brothers were able to place twelve other brothers and pleiges on various committees. A brother was also elected to the Men's Governing Council. These were only a part -- Sigma Nu was on its way as a leader. Jigma Nu was developing men with the ability of lealership, and this was the purpose of fraternitiss.

#### Program

With the approval of Mational programs became a necessity that had to be carried out. Weekly programs were begun to acquaint the brothers with the operations of Sigma Mu.

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<u>Consitment</u>. Signa Ma Colony was officially committed to Signa Ma Mational on Sunday, October 13, 196°. The ceresony, held at the Holiday Inc. was attended by parents, college administrators, and Jigma Lu alumni. Mr. Reed Morgan, servict as the representative of the Mational, presented the consillert corecely. Division Commander, Dear Henneth M. X 17

England, presented to the fraternity a plaque inscribed with the Greed of Sigma Nu. Sigma Mu Colony was honored to have Dr. Eldson, the new president of Georgia Southern College, address the fraternity. It was a time of a hope becoming a reality.

<u>Fledge Activities</u>. Because Sigma Mu's pledge class was full of new ideas, they decided to start a tradition. On October 31, "Project Halloween" was begun. At the Bulloch County Pospital, the pledges treated the children by giving them toys and candy. Filled with enthusiasm, the pledges went on to treat the college housemothers in the same fashion. This project brought great praise and thanks from the adminitration. Again the pledges wanted to do something. A donut sale resulted, and in one hour the brothers and the pledges had sold 500 dozen donuts.

Sweetzeart Tea. In order to chose a new sweetheart, a Sweetheart Tea was held on konday, November 11, at the Windsor Cafeteria. Miss Gail Hall, a sociology major from Warner Poblas, Georgia, was chosen is the 1968-1969 Gweetheart. Miss Conn. Thompson and Miss Debbie Penland were selected to Serve as mar court. Miss Emily Harrell, Sweetheart of 1965, has given a silver truy is a token of appreciation from the brothers.

Protornity Activities. To offer services to other organications, Sigma Ju Colony volunteered to help the Student Association of Poverning Councils present the Platters in concert. Jith the help of all brothers, the gym was cleaned in parior to the corfornators. On Friday, November 15, Sigma

Nu helped the Pan-Hellenic Council sponsed a dance. The brothers were asked to make sure that no damage was done to the Landrum Center since it was the first time that it was used for a dance. The following day, Saturday, November 16, the trothers were up of 6:00a.m. headed to Tallahassee, Flordia. The occasion - a pilgrimage to the gravesite of the John Alexander Howard, founder of the Delta which is the official magazine of Sigma Nu. After the graveside service, the Flordda State chapter of Sigma Nu entertained the brothers at the fraternity house. The Women's Governing Council asked Sigma Nu to help with the Bloodmobile on November 19. This project was immediately accepted. To maintain their tradition of Sigma Nu Sundar Othe brother have set November 24, as their day of reverence.

Sports. Realizing that sports was an important aspect of building fraternalism, Sigma Nu Colony entered intramuted 22 football competition. Although not breaking any records, Sigma Nu fid compete.

<u>Puture Projects</u>. Recently with the approval of the Administration, Signa Nu Colony has established plans for three future projects; Signa Nu Slow Car Rally, OMOO, and Digma Su Ding. Along with these campus projects, there will also be community projects. The need for campus and community activities has been recognized by Signa Nu Colony.

#### Figure

At the beginning of the quarter, it was announced by the Treasure: that Bigma nu Colony was financially stable.

Because National required each Colony to save for future building needs. Dues were raised to twelve dollars a month. To encourage all brothers to attend all meetings, the fine for missing meetings was raised from one dollar to five dollars.

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#### Conclusion

Signa Nu Colony was very unstable during its infancy, but the fraternity has become a stable and well-organized body. With goals set for the future, Sigma Nu will develop soon into a chapter of Sigma Nu Honor Praternity.

As outlined by Mational, the five major areas of operational concern use: Maapower, Management, Program, Finance, and Scholarship. This report was formulate with these specific topics serving as guidelines.