

Campus Happenings

GREEK CORNER

By Connie Malone,
Section Editor

Parties + Violence = Bad Combination

The Mu Epsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is suffering from physical injuries as well as image damage. During the Fall semester the chapter of 11 members practically monopolized the party industry for WSSU students and visitors. The chapter was on its way with the party monopoly at the start of the Spring semester but violence brought its foreseen success to a halt.

A few Mu Epsilon chapter members, visiting Omegas of local colleges and universities and a few WSSU athletes are responsible for the spark of violence. One member of Mu Epsilon said one incident that occurred on the campus following the Livingstone basketball contest - goes back as far as the football championship game held in Bowie, Maryland.

At the start of this particular incident one Omega and a non-athlete were involved - by the end, a few athletes and other by-standers had joined the action. When violence breaks out, it's not one Omega or one

athlete but the very broad statement of the Ques and the football players. That evening four members of Mu Epsilon were present and two were actually involved. Also there were 10 or more visiting Omegas from Livingstone College in the area. The party scheduled for that Thursday evening went over well but immediately following, the violence continued. This time gun power came into play. No one was injured.

Saturday night, another Omega party and that brought more violence. Immediately following the NCCU/WSSU basketball contest, the Omegas sponsored a party at the Benton Convention Center. During the party a fight broke out - the names of the persons or group were not disclosed. This time the irate group of persons did more than disrupt the party but decided to damage the convention center. Two sinks were ripped out of the wall in a bathroom - Why? Spite, anger and jealousy definitely top the list of reasons. The Mu Epsilon Chapter pretty much knows the persons that

took part in the incident.

The Assistant Manager of the Convention Center and Coliseum, Tex Leonard, said in a phone interview that Mu Epsilon was charged for the damage. There was no replacement cost for the sinks, but they were assessed the cost of labor. The administrators of the convention center did not develop new policies because of the incident but a policy that was already effective is, the organization is responsible for all damages that occur during a function.

There's more! A university organization sponsored a dance in the student union ballroom one Friday night in February. Once again there was violence between a few Omegas and a few athletes. As a result of this scene, a member of Mu Epsilon had no down sight or peripheral vision. Who is really responsible? This has yet to be answered. Will administrators intervene and talk with the questionable bodies? Yes.

Recently the administra-

tors met with head football coach, Pete Richardson, the advisor of Mu Epsilon, Dr. Willie Bailey, Director of Security, James Lewis, Campus Police Coordinator, Avon Harding, and Special Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor of Student Activities, Dr. Manderline Scales. Two members of Mu Epsilon tried to get admitted into the meeting but were denied. The administrators and security officials are aware of the suspects involved.

At press time, no new developments have surfaced in this matter. The future plans of Mu Epsilon Chapter include changing their actions in public that may provoke such violence and discuss with administrators details of the incidents and arrive at a solution.

Should Greek Organizations Have Pledge Periods?

By Carla Bridges

The fourth annual undergraduate Pan-Hellenic Summit was held at North Carolina A&T State University on February 16-17. Toni Forté, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha and Carla Bridges, a member of Delta Sigma Theta were in attendance at the two-day session.

The theme for the summit was: "Greek Letter Organizations: Reaffirming the Commitment to Excellence in Education, Leadership and Service."

Many important topics were discussed such as the decreasing of the length of pledge period activities. National President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Dr. Henry Ponder, addressed the opening session members on two main points. First, if the founders of the eight organizations (that designed the principles we believe in) did not "pledge" and consequently were not "hazed" why do we practice it? Secondly, whatever happened to scholarship? Greek organizations have some of the

lowest grade point averages on black and white college campuses. If we would stop worrying about who "steps" the best or who's the "flyest" we would improve on all our positive areas of focus.

Ponder was on his way to a session in Missouri with the eight other national presidents to discuss banning pledge activities and replacing them with initiation ceremonies. Reports state that this action was passed and will be effective September 1, 1990.

If you want to submit

information to the
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