The Fraternal Life

Because the fraternity system plays such a large part in the life of most students at Georgia Tech, the 1965 BLUEPRINT has tried to capture the true spirit and purpose of fraternity life. Of course it is impossible to recreate the feelings and emotions that the names ATO and KA mean to all people because a fraternity means something a little bit different to each individual. Therefore, in order to tell the story of fraternities, it must be a story of the whole fraternity system rather than a meager attempt at a complete story of twenty seven separate fraternities. We hope that you will find this new approach both meaningful and interesting.
Rush: The Fall Recruiting Effort

For the entering freshman, rush is an opportunity to meet new people and to enter the mainstream of college activity. For the fraternity man, rush is a shorter summer and long hours of hard work. For both rush can be tension and even occasional disappointment, but all participants will almost surely include fraternity fall rush in a list of their most memorable college experiences.

The mechanical handshake welcomes a potential Theta Xi.

Fall rushees are greeted by the characteristic Pike enthusiasm.
Phi Kaps take time out from exhausting Hawaiian party.

Parties Introduce Social Life . . . .

Theta Chis relive prohibition era with recollections of the twenty-first amendment.

Imaginative dress is the key to the Sigma Chis' annual hillbilly party.
... But Add to Strain of a Hectic Week

The frantic pace maintained through the first weekend of rush inevitably slows as fraternities begin the second week of activity. In a new relaxed atmosphere, rushing is now conducted on a more personal basis. Rushees and fraternities alike generally take this time to make many of the important decisions that rush demands.
Rushees take a final look downstairs at the Delt house.
Final Parties:  
The End in Sight

SAE's sense the end of a trying rush week with a frantic affair.

Kappa Sigs "demonstrate" their enthusiasm with a "march" through the house.

Atlanta high school girls enjoy the benefits of a spirited KA rush.
Pledge Sunday:
Tension Mounts . . .

Poos pear over Peters Park for prospective pledges.

A rainy Sunday afternoon fails to dampen Sigma Nu spirit.
... And 600 More Enter the Greek World

Pledge Sunday annually sees upwards of 600 freshmen assume the role of fraternity pledgeship. For these gentlemen the party is now over. A lengthy and demanding probationary period stands before them as they seek to become brothers in their respective Greek letter organizations. Since such a large part of Tech student life is associated with the school’s strong fraternity system, this task seems to be one well worth undertaking.

Pikes congratulate a cheerful freshman as he undertakes to become a brother.

Solemnity characterizes the pledging ceremonies at the SAE house.

Enthusiasm is unbounded as the Betas welcome another rushee to pledgeship.
Delt mechanics discuss progress on their highly original Ramblin' Reck.

Scaffolding is an essential element in the construction of the mammoth Phi Ep exhibit.

Chi Phis enlist outside assistance in erecting "Beatles" display.
Miles of toilet paper are stuffed into the chicken wire skeleton of the Kappa Sig structure.

Homecoming: Campus Metamorphosis

Each fall an avalanche of technical talent pours from the Tech fraternities, as the renowned homecoming displays begin to take shape. Monstrous in size, the displays are especially distinctive due to their intricately designed moving parts. The traditional Friday night judging draws interested visitors from all over the state and provide alumni with strong recollections of their days at Tech.

Framework of the Sigma Chi display begins to materialize on Tuesday afternoon.
Imaginative Engineers Find Outlet

As display judging deadlines approach, fraternities will seek assistance from almost any available source. Even the Phi Sig housemother, Mrs. Katherine Graves, gets into the act (left). Below, a lonely brother makes a few adjustments on the Kappa Sig reck.
SAE’s labor over second place monkey.

Sigma Nus portray that old adage: “A greenback spent is a victory earned.”

A weary Phi Tau pauses during Saturday morning finishing touches.
Homecoming: A College Spectacle

Taking first place in the display judging goes a long way in making the tremendous construction effort seem worthwhile. Such was the good fortune of Delta Tau Delta, whose Mad Magazine caricature (right) made the judges' choice an obvious one. Below, a Beta Theta Pi brother adds a few pre-parade finishing touches.
Much of Atlanta turns out for the annual Tech Ramblin' Reck parade, one of the famous American college spectacles. Below, ATO's guide their entry around Peters Park course.

Young AEPi mascot seems unimpressed by the proceedings.

A cloud of smoke accompanies the Sigma Phi Epsilon Reck.
The Ramblin Reck competition was even stiffer than usual this year with top honors going to the propeller driven Fiji wreck (left). Above, the Chi Phi steam powered entry finally circle the park successfully, and a scantily clad brother bathes in Phi Tau wreck.
Reck Parade: Mechanical Pageantry

Spectators fill Phi Delt front yard, as parade moves along Fowler Street.

Tired Tekes collapse after an all-night effort at the Ramblin Reck camp.
Parties: the Greek Steam Valve

Saturday night finds the Phi Delts in the usual jovial party mood.

A Theta Xi couple enjoy a combo party in the Techwood Drive house.

Sig Eps waste no time in putting their new house to festive use.
Crowded dance floor is typical of Phi Sig parties.

Phi Delts import can-can girls to liven up the night's activity.

A Teke takes a Saturday night break from a hard week on the hill and concentrates on the business at hand.
Variety Spices the Social Life

Springtime prompts frequent weekend visits to the lake. (Tau Kappa Epsilon)

Eyebrows no longer raise as pajama parties are now a part of the Tech standard. (Tau Kappa Epsilon)

Handsome Fiji Island couple visit the Tech campus in the Phi Gamma Delta fashion.
Hours of Preparation Pay Off

Zealous Lambda Chis carry on at their South Sea Island party.

A party well-planned is likely to be a success. Delta Sigs’ theme adds to the merriment (right), while Phi Delts find that two dates make for an enjoyable evening (above).
A Teke pajama party rages out of control as campus cops attempt to restore order.

Fiji Island diseases are common things around the Phi Gamma Delta house.

An ATO date inspects tropical surroundings.
The KA Old South Ball *(above)* is a gala affair sponsored by the three State of Georgia chapters. Emory, U. of Georgia, and Tech KA’s take this opportunity to crown their respective sweethearts *(right)*.
Formals Highlight Fraternal Life

Attire is semi-formal at the AEPi affair.

The famous purple garter is set in place as a Fiji concentrates on his assignment.
Things get under way as a Phi Delt brother lends a hand in unloading.

Houseparties: A Feminine Invasion

Late-night and early morning breakfasts are a standard item at Beta Theta Pi houseparties.
Most of the Georgia Tech fraternities have on-campus houseparties. The Sig Eps prepare to send a delegation to church (above left), before their short weekend closes. Left, Delta Tau Delta dates ready themselves for the party, while a Delt brother has some last minute words with his weekend date before she takes over the room (above).
Betas attempt a crucial extra point.

Tech intramural football strategy calls for a predominantly passing game. (Phi Kappa Alpha)
Football Kicks Off Intramurals

Fraternity football competition draws the largest crowds of the traditionally popular intramural events. Interest is especially high to see what sort of new athletes the rush effort has produced. Below, a group of AEPi spectators watch a Delta Sig PAT attempt, and Chi Phis discuss half time strategy over Varsity sandwiches.
Greeks Contend for Athletic Trophy

Competition for the athletic and IFC trophies has stimulated participation in the intramural program during recent years. Above the DU's and Chi Psi's battle it out as they renew one of Tech's biggest rivalries. At left, the AEPI's receive some needed moral support from the sidelines.
Phi Ep grace is displayed on a long downfield pass.

Though passing is the major yard-gainer in intramural football, the Theta Chi's pull a successful running play. At right, a DU brother goes for points in the bowling tournament.
Turnout is always large at ATO intramural events.

DU’s and Chi Psi’s are still renewing that rivalry.
Intramurals: Competitive Recreation

Pi Kappa Phi's challenge traditional DU football dynasty.

Sigma Nu's drop everything in search of a lost contact lens.

Popular two-platoon system gives Lambda Chi defense an opportunity to take a short break.
AEPi brothers pool their funds to purchase a dated hearse whose novelty is a source of amusement.

Sigma Chi's exchange observations on a lazy spring afternoon, as Greek week chariot races proceed.
Atlanta's scenic autumn poses yearly problem for ATO pledges.

A pledge's work is never done. An aspiring Sig Ep brother spends a Saturday afternoon cleaning the yard.

Fraternities Enrich Student Life

Only a small portion of fraternal life concerns rush, partying, homecoming preparation, and intramurals. A much deeper part of the fraternity system stems from the close friendships, many of which will extend far beyond the brief stay in college. There are students at Tech from Statesboro, South Georgia; there are students from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Through fraternities, these students are thrown together in a situation whose contribution to their development is as important as their required academic activities.
Pi Kappa Phi members exchange snowballs in front of their house.

With two inches of snow on the ground, it's open season on everyone. Phi Taus (below) and Delta Sigs (above) are busy on this January afternoon.
Winter Diversion
A lake visit is traditional following a brother's pinning...

...ATO's make quick work of this unwilling subject.

More Than Casual Acquaintances

Birdogging is a popular Fowler street pastime. (Beta Theta Pi).
Delta Sigs find brotherhood in a tree.