

Social Clubs



CREATING A *Bond* FOR THE FUTURE

Open house. Bid Day. Induction Week. Ceremonies. Jerseys. Friendships. Functions. Devotionals. Traditions. Service Projects. Spring Sing. Banquets. Unity.

Throughout Harding's 75 years, social clubs have come to mean a great deal to the student body. From open house to induction week to spring banquets, clubs give students the opportunity to participate in activities with a close-knit group of individuals in a Christian environment.

Spiritual life is prominent in the clubs at Harding. This is evident through activities such as club devotionals and service projects. Students are given the opportunity to serve each other and the community by participating in worship together and being involved in projects such as visiting the elderly and helping the needy.

Another important aspect of club life is friendships. The friendships made at Harding are not ordinary friendships. Friendships are made to last a lifetime. The students genuinely care for one another. This compassion is seen through club sisters and brothers taking prayer requests at Monday night meetings, sending notes of encouragement to the club in its club box and going on club retreats. Each club has its own personality and traditions for different activities.

The diversity present in the clubs provides an atmosphere in which most students can fulfill their interests. However, Harding students are not partial to just the people that belong to their club. All over campus it is common to see two or more people in different colored jerseys walking together and enjoying one another's company.

Woodson-Harding Comrades. The QQ Club. Pioneers. Koinonia. Lambda Sigma. Delta Iota. Frater Sodalitas. Tobfebt.

Koinonia honors their queen, Linda Robinson, with a sweater for her support to the club throughout the 1964-65 school year. Koinonia, which means "fellowship," began in 1935 and lasted into the 70s.



Phi Delta. These clubs, which existed in the past, represent the foundation on which we now build. Each in its own way left a mark on the past. Chi Omega Pi. Kappa Gamma Epsilon. Pi Kappa Epsilon. Titans. Delta Chi Delta. Delta Gamma Rho. Omega Sigma. During the past 25 years, these new groups surfaced to carry on the customs of social clubs at Harding and to chart a course for the future.

*"The times of laughter, fun and wit;
Our functions and our dates,
The social lives of each one fit,
and friendships consecrate."*

Petit Jean, 1947

Sarah Johnston, Social Clubs Editor



Photo from 1965 Petit Jean



Photo by Salomon Pineda

Juniors Alison and Jen Sheets check their club box between classes while enjoying the company of senior Amber Sawyer and junior Seth Haines. Wearing club jerseys on Fridays has been a tradition for many years.



SUPPORTING THE *Customs* OF THE PAST



Only one thing is constant in the social club cycle...

It's always changing

Since 1926, Harding students have participated in social clubs. Though many changes have taken place, social clubs are still a vital part of the Harding experience.

The roles of social clubs have changed, though their purpose is still the same. The earliest clubs took part in an annual drama presentation, while today's clubs are involved in banquets, hay rides, theme parties, service projects, Spring Sing, club sports and Homecoming activities. Throughout Harding's history, social clubs have served their purpose well—to provide social interaction.

The number of clubs has roller coasted almost as much as the personalities of the clubs themselves. In 1974, Harding's 50th anniversary, 43 clubs existed. Now, 25 years later, the number has dropped to 28. Harding now hosts 14 women's clubs and 14 men's clubs. Ju Go Ju, the oldest surviving women's club, was established during the 1926-1927 school year. The oldest men's club still in existence, Sub T-16, was formed during the 1929-1930 school year. Galaxy, chartered in 1947, recently dissolved in the 1998 spring semester, while Omega Sigma began this fall with six members.

As clubs come and go, so do the stereotypes each club carries. The cycle of clubs, though not scientifically proven, seems to hold true. Big clubs become small clubs and small become big as each pledge class adds its own unique qualities. The selection of a new pledge class becomes important

not only for the present, but also for the future of the club. Size, character, personality, reputation and activities all affect the stability of a club and one pledge class can bring in many changes, especially for a small club where the pledges might outnumber the members. "The possibility of one pledge class totally changing a club isn't always exciting," said Trisha Case, vice president of Sigma Phi Mu. "We just want some good girls who want to stay active and be a part of us."

The social club process is constantly evolving to meet the needs of the students. One significant change for this year's social clubs involved the women's small club reception. After bids were delivered, the four small women's clubs hosted a joint welcome reception. This reception allowed friends to join a small club together, although they may have received bids from separate small clubs.

Mandy Emberson, vice president of Theta Beta Kappa, said, "This encouraged girls to participate in a club even though they might not have gotten a bid from their first choice large club."

This addition to the pledging process also benefits the small clubs themselves. According to freshman Renae Stewart, a member of OEGE, "The reception will help the smaller clubs get larger, especially those whose numbers are dwindling. Hopefully, it will build up both clubs and friendships that are already established."

— Emily Haas Brown

Sub T-16 members Micah Johnson, Ty Pope, Justin Melton and Adam Goddard wear their club jerseys proudly around campus. Sub T-16 is the oldest men's club still in existence at Harding.

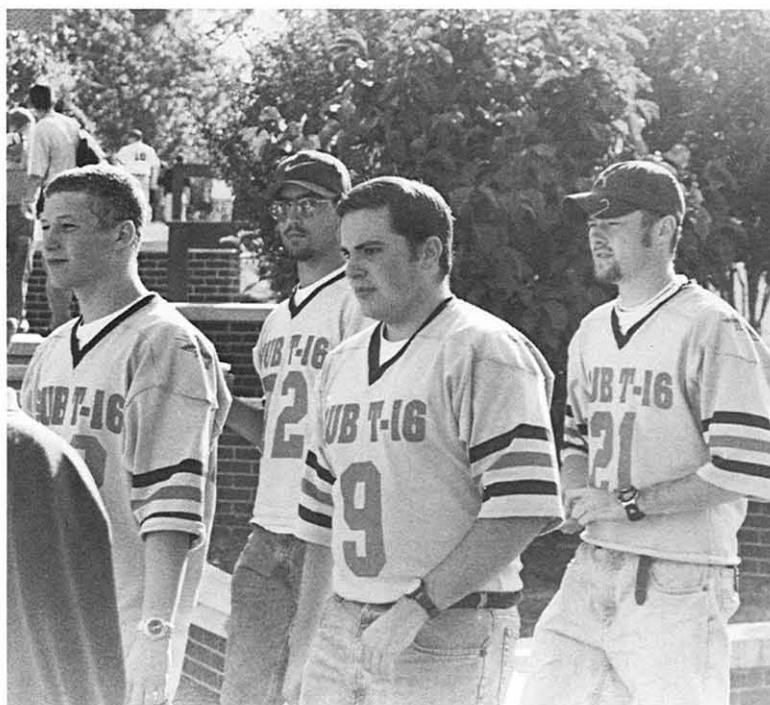
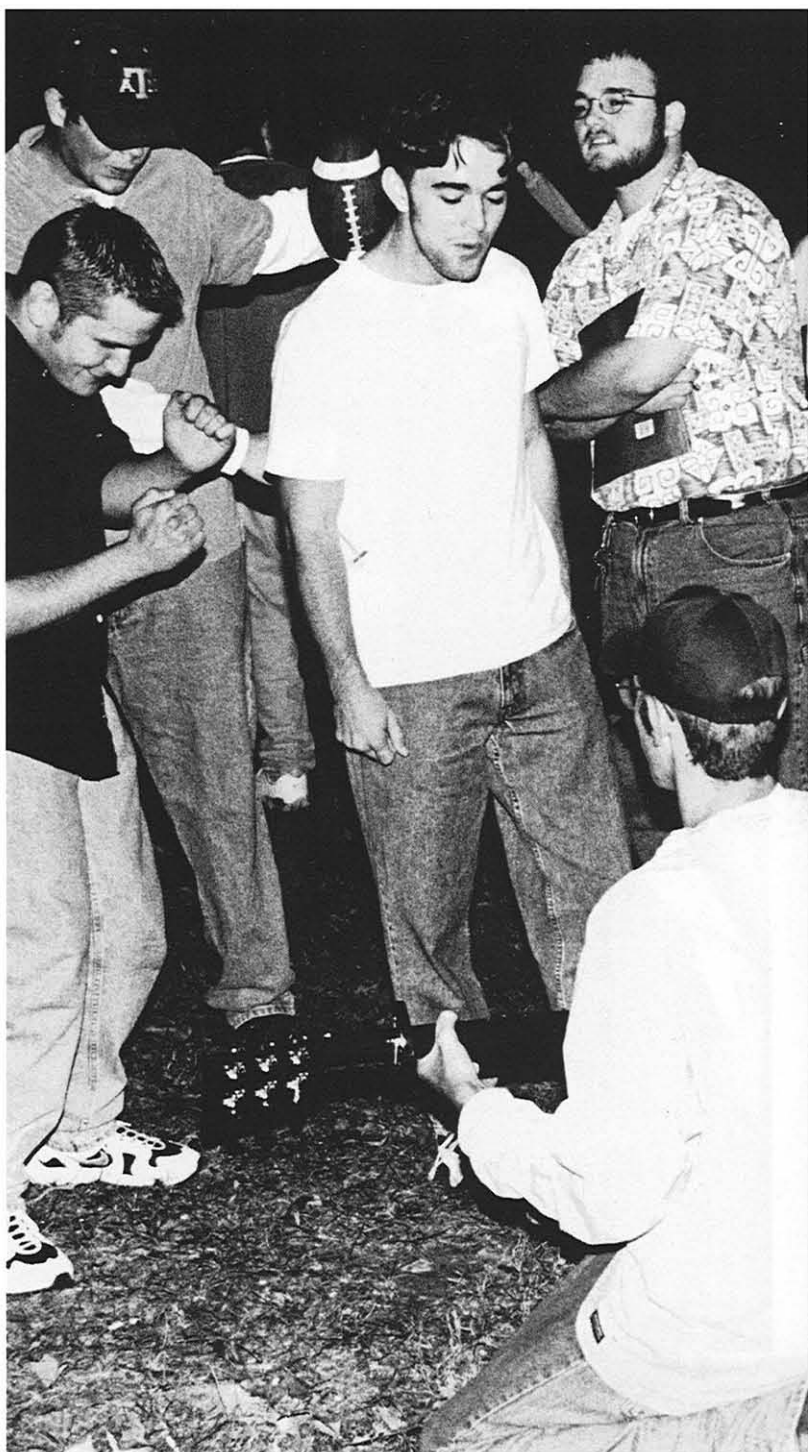
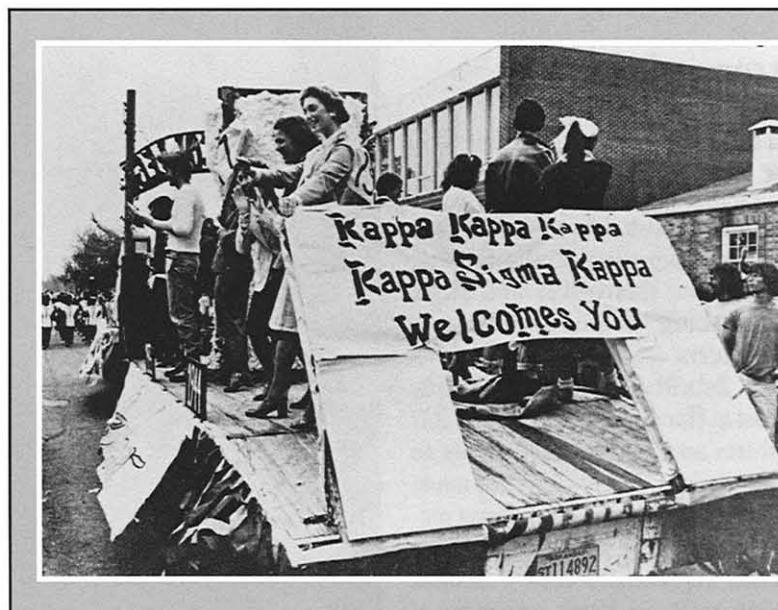


Photo by Daniel Dubois



Photo by Salomon Pineda

Doug Helm, Shaun Morgan, Andrew Stanfield and Nathan McIntyre enjoy the music styles of club brother Chris Mirante at the annual Regina/Chi Sigma Alpha luau. These brother/sister clubs host a luau every year during pledge week to encourage class two member involvement.



Brother and sister clubs Kappa Sigma Kappa and Tri Kappa designed this Homecoming float in 1978 that won first place in competition. Homecoming used to include a parade in which clubs and classes entered a float to be judged.

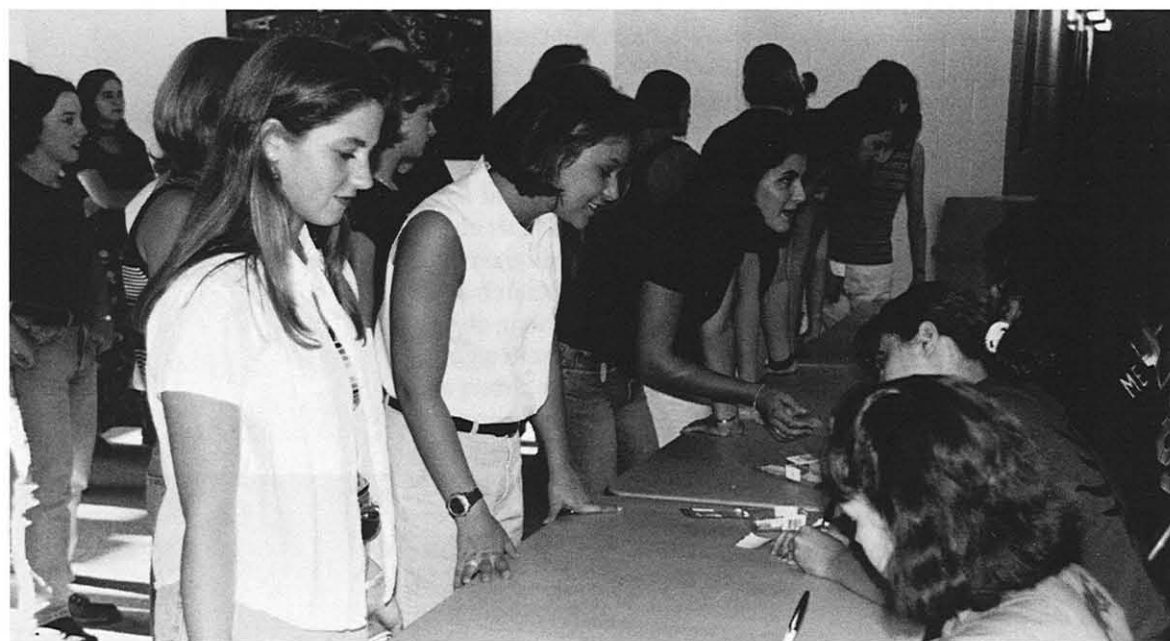


Photo by Salomon Pineda

Girls interested in joining a club line up to get a name tag at women's open house. Open house took place at the beginning of the year in order to get women who were not currently in a club acquainted with the 14 clubs that were active on campus. A men's open house was also held.

Class two members of Ju Go Ju social club show their spirit at the annual Silly Olympics. Silly Olympics has been a long-standing tradition where class two members of Tri Kappa, Zeta Rho, Ko Jo Kai and Ju Go Ju play silly games that encourage competition and friendships.



Photo by Laura Riley

After more than a month, it comes down to...

Bid Day Sunday

Six weeks of mixers, visiting and voting comes to an end on a Sunday afternoon for those Harding students pledging a social club. This year, October 4 was the official bid day in which hopeful pledges found out exactly which club they were invited to join.

A common sight to see on Bid Day Sunday was people who were wishing to be in a club rushing home from church in order to be home in time to have their resident assistant hand the bid to them personally. Only then could pledges relax and join the club to which they were invited.

While everyone involved in the pledging process was guaranteed a bid, some did not get into their first choice club. That uncertainty caused anxiety and excitement. Freshman Cindy Patton, who received a bid from Tri Kappa, said, "I was relaxed all the way until I heard the knock on my door; then I got really nervous."

Kara Lee, a sophomore who received a bid from Shantih, said, "I wasn't really nervous because I knew I would have fun no matter what club I got." The idea of having fun in any club hit the core of the purpose for social clubs and bid day.

New pledges were not the only ones who got excited on bid day. Older members took part in the fun, too. Most social clubs met once or twice on bid day Sunday to greet the pledges, pass out pledge books and get acquainted. Many clubs used traditional meeting places and a set routine that they followed every year. Regina, a

women's club, has met each year at the Recording Studio to sing, introduce themselves and share something unique, according to President Amy Thornton.

Zeta Rho, also a women's club, met at Harding Park to hand out t-shirts and assign sweet sisters to the pledges. The pledge class made a human pyramid for a group picture, and then each older pledge class represented took a similar picture. Becky Pratt, a member of Zeta Rho said, "This is really neat because I have a picture of my pledge class from each year since I pledged. It's interesting to see who's still around and how we each have changed."

In the past, large and small female clubs have also met on the front lawn so they could greet their new members immediately after they walked out of their dorms. One could hear the excitement in the air through all the cheers and yelling that took place during this time. Some clubs took this time to assign the new members a big sister who was responsible for encouraging the new member during pledge week. This helped to build strong relationships between the younger and older members. Cherry Owen, a member of Ju Go Ju social club, said, "It [big sister/little sister assignment] was great because I got to know some of the girls better and we became almost like a family."

Passing down traditions like these truly made bid day special for older members, new members and members to come.

—Emily Haas Brown

Dan McCool covers up with a blanket with his date, Joy Tucker, at the Delta Chi Delta fall function. Most social clubs host a fall function, typically a hayride, where new members and old members can get acquainted with one another and enjoy the entertainment.

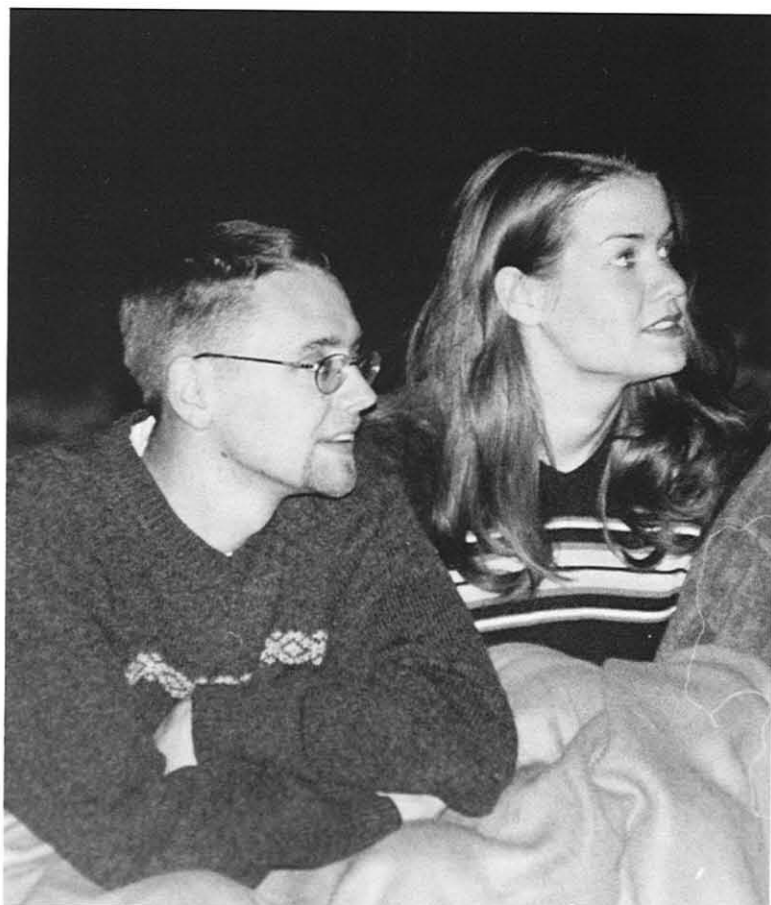




Photo by Cody Warmack

Rachel Willis of Shantih bends down to wash the feet of a class two member, Nikki Coonts. Many clubs engaged in a humbling, service-oriented project such as this to show the class two members the spirit of Jesus.

Seniors Brian Hannel and Travis Greenwell of Knights help class two member Regan Price fill out his pledge book. After chapel was a popular time for pledges to get the signatures of upperclassmen.

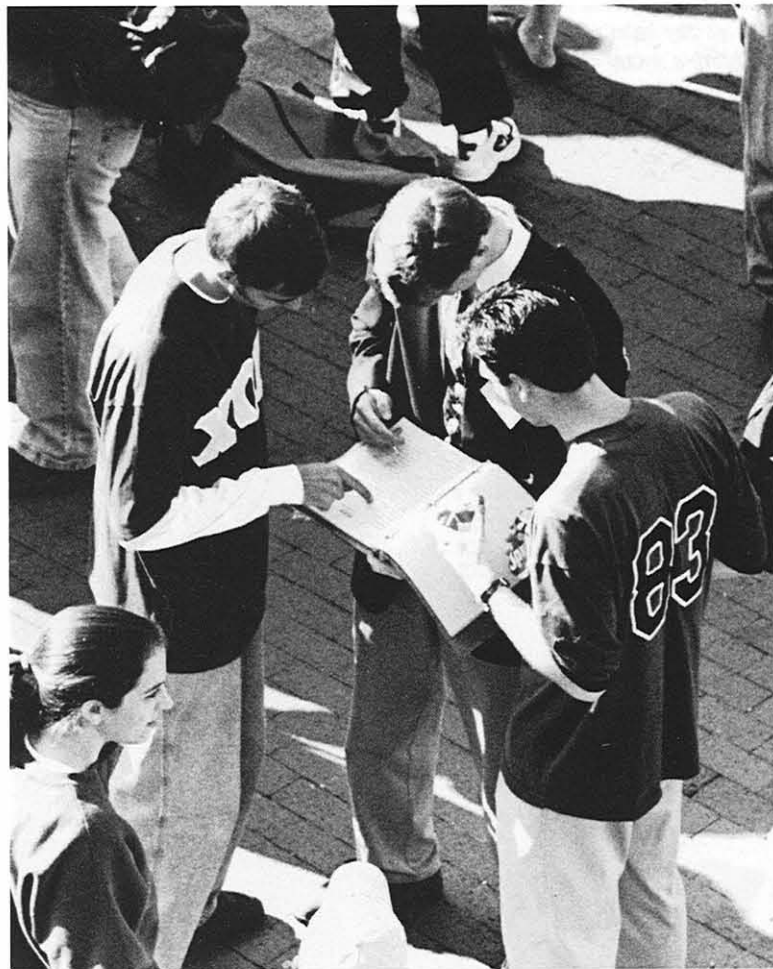


Photo by Salomon Pineda



OECE pledges line up to receive orders from their pledge mistresses at the beginning of pledge week in 1969. Pledge week was very different 30 years ago than it is today. "Class two" members were ordered to do things such as shine shoes, water flagpoles and various other activities.



Photo by Daniel Dubois

Zeta Rho members add a five-point star, their club symbol, next to their names on the "Zeta Superstars" sign. During pledge week, most clubs made a sign representing their club to hang in the student center.

Wes Duncan asks the members of Seminoles social club, "Can I get a roll call?" in order to start the annual Seminoles Stomp. The Stomp was a traditional activity for all clubs to watch on the last night of pledge week.

Dave Brannan shows a prospective pledge the history and traditions of Alpha Tau at the men's open house, an orientation for new men interested in pledging a social club.



Photo by Salomon Pineda



Photo by Daniel Dubois

Chi Omega Pi inductees, DeAnne Tonnessen and Andrea Hall display their decorated sticks. This tradition required class two members to decorate ordinary sticks and carry them at all times during pledge week.



Class two members of Frater Sodalis men's social club show their spirit at a pep rally during pledge week in 1968. This kind of scene was not unusual 30 years ago when the commitment stage was longer and consisted of very different activities than in 1998.



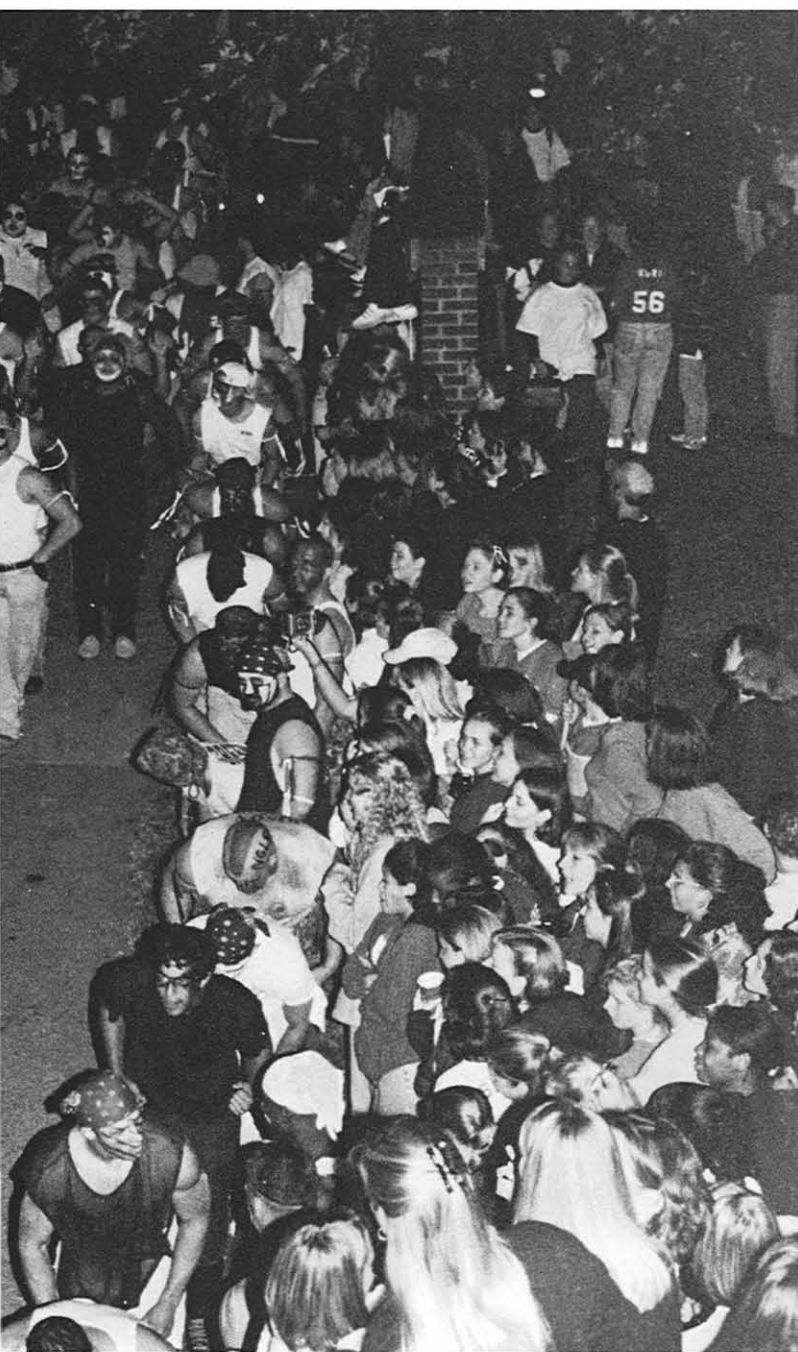


Photo by Daniel Dubois

Class two members become class one after...

Commitment week

After Bid Day, new pledges began "induction week." Also known as commitment week, induction week was geared toward promoting spiritual, emotional and physical growth. Sunday through Friday night, pledges or class two members, participated daily in activities such as service projects, cheering at softball games, devotionals, shaving cream fights, silly olympics, sports, treasure hunts, dinner parties, talent shows and lectures on club history.

Of course, pledge books were also completed. Those may have included facts about class one and two members, information on queens and beaux, signatures, minor and major dates, essays, trivia, club history, journals, club songs and scriptures, interviews and sometimes even pictures to color. On Friday night, class two members found out whether they completed enough activities and pledge book assignments to earn class one status and a jersey to wear on Monday.

Though probably the most stressful week on campus other than finals week, the induction process did serve its purpose by bonding pledges with each other and with class one members. Friendships were formed quickly as clubs spent several hours a day together during the week. In addition, many pledge classes held meetings together outside of the

regular schedule to catch up on pledge books and offer moral support.

Sophomore Seth Bullington, a new member of Knights social club, said, "We had daily meetings with only the pledges that really unified us. Also, the members and pledges were bonded in preparation for the annual 'joust' by working together on armor."

Sigma Tau Sigma pledges were assigned the task of making their own induction week t-shirts, according to new member, freshman Bryant Johnson. "We shopped together and then worked together to complete the shirts," he said. "That really helped the pledges to get to know each other."

Many clubs tried to put the focus of induction on unity. Kelly Dowdy, a freshman who pledged Kappa Gamma Epsilon, said, "Our whole last night focused on unity. Plus, we had one specific night where unity among the pledges was stressed."

Alpha Tau Epsilon also included unity building activities on Friday night, according to freshman Matt Owen. "The pledges had to build a bonfire together and, if a pledge fell or got behind while we were in the woods, we had to start our activity over. We learned to encourage each other," Owen said. Activities such as these led to a stronger pledge class and ultimately to a stronger club.

— Emily Haas Brown

Michelle Rollet, an OEGE pledge, involves herself in the traditional shaving cream fight by smothering Jeanuth Lewis, a Theta Beta Kappa pledge, in shaving cream. These kinds of "friendly" fights took place every year during induction week. All of the small clubs were involved in one big shaving cream fight this year on the old football field behind Brackett Library.



Photo by Daniel Dubois

Sallie Chase and Kim Parrish, Knights queens, watch intently as their honor is defended at the annual "Knights Joust." This was an event in which class two members made armor and jousted with another class two member. The winner went on to joust the champion from the previous year.



Beverly Gatlin proudly accepts an engraved gold bracelet from Beta Phi Kappa's president as a gift for being elected club queen in 1961. Today, clubs still elect queens and beaux to represent their clubs. They are there to offer encouragement and spirit to the club.



Photo by Daniel Dubois

Members of King's Men and OEGE social clubs – Ryan Cook, Aubri Putman and Aaron Conner – provide cookies and drinks for blood donors at the fall blood drive. These two clubs hosted a biannual blood drive for the Red Cross. Many Harding students showed up to offer support. In the spring, the clubs offered a free t-shirt to donors.

Allison Black of Delta Gamma Rho looks on with an alumna of the club at a scrapbook donated for the Homecoming tea by one of the club's members. Homecoming tea was a tradition held by most social clubs that allowed members of clubs in the past to visit the new members and see how the club has changed.



Photo by Daniel Dubois



Photo by Salomon Pineda

Spiritual life is the greatest benefit for...

Queens and beaux

While Harding's social clubs are designated as primarily male or female, most clubs honor a few individuals of the opposite sex with the title "queen" or "beau." These special individuals are nominated and voted on by active club members to receive membership into the club. Clubs vary in their queening and beausing approaches. Some honor new individuals every semester, while other clubs vote only once a year. Queens and beaux are given club jerseys, allowed to come to meetings, honored with candy and presents and included in pledge week activities. In return, many queens and beaux make encouraging signs to hang in the student center, coach and/or referee sporting events, send notes to members in campus mail and provide entertainment at club functions. A queen or beau is usually considered active for a full year and then has honorary status.

Being a queen or a beau definitely has its perks. Just the fact that the individuals are chosen as queens and beaux to represent the personalities and ideals of 20 to 100 people is flattering enough. According to junior Brent Carter, a Delta Gamma Rho beau, the best thing about being a beau was "spending great quality time with 100 of the best girls on campus."

Most clubs go out of the way to make their queens and beaux feel special. Junior Christy Gra-

ham, a queen for TNT, said that she was treated especially well during pledge week. "My birthday was during pledge week and the pledges got together and threw me a surprise birthday party."

Other positive aspects come along with the honor of being a club queen or beau. Sophomore Kimberly Christian, a Titans queen, said she liked seeing the differences between girls' and guys' clubs. "I've heard about the guys' pledge week before, but this year I got to experience it," she said.

Junior Carmen Clark, a queen for Sub T-16, commented, "It's nice knowing that, if I ever need anything, there's a whole group of guys willing to help. Plus, the guys are really friendly and a lot of fun to be around."

Queens and beaux also benefit spiritually from their clubs. "The greatest part of being a queen is the spiritual encouragement from the guys," said junior Elizabeth Root, a Chi Sigma Alpha queen.

Senior Brian Hannel, a Chi Omega Pi beau, said, "It's just awesome to get to hang out with good Christian girls that really care."

Having queens and beaux is just another way for the social clubs to reach out to the campus and community. It allows clubs the freedom to include more students into their "circle" and honor those students whom the club especially respects and appreciates.

— Emily Haas Brown

Regina beau Bryce Murray enjoys spending time with fellow club members Danielle Rubin, Heather Sutherlin, Graham Sutherlin and Mandy Hintz. Students often used their spare time between classes to socialize in the student center and catch up on what was going on around campus.



Photo by Sarah Johnston

Uniqueness is seen through what happens at...

Club functions

Social clubs had functions each semester, providing opportunities for fun and socializing. Clubs were permitted to have two major functions this year, as well as two minor functions. Traditionally, functions included a theme, a meal, games or entertainment, pictures and t-shirts.

Many clubs on campus have annual functions. Chi Sigma Alpha has had a Shindig each fall for the past six years, and this year marked their fourth Caddyshack function, according to Dennis Gaskins, a sophomore Chi Sigma Alpha member. The Shindig included a hayride and entertainment provided by new members. For Caddyshack, members got together and built an indoor putt-putt golf course.

Other clubs have traditional joint functions. Kappa Sigma Kappa and Ju Go Ju hosted Jupiter Coyote together, though it was not an annual event, according to freshman Ju Go Ju members Marcy Schaffer and Lauren Robinson. This function included the band "Jupiter Coyote" and refreshments. The concert was held at the White County Fairgrounds and was open to all students for a cover charge.

Many clubs have special traditions at their Christmas functions. Tri Kappa women made stockings and wrote poems for their dates. The poems were read aloud and their dates had to guess which poem was about them, according to Jenny Stewart, Tri Kappa president.

"I think it's the best function that we have because there is a surprise element to it and it sets us apart from everyone else," said

Beth Bratton, a senior Tri Kappa member.

Some clubs have certain traditions for their functions, though the themes and other events of the function may change from year to year. During a spring function, TNT members gave their dates "blue gifts." According to Zac Watson, a member of TNT, these gifts were painted blue and white and included the TNT symbol and often the name of the couple. Jennifer Duke remembered this function fondly, saying, "The TNT spring functions are the best functions I have attended since I've been at Harding." Duke's date, Josh Jones, made her a hot tub out of a grain bin.

Another function unique to one of Harding's social clubs was Shantih's Orange Crush Party. Each girl was allowed to invite not one, not two, but three dates anonymously. Guys received an invitation in the mail and they did not know who it was from – they only knew where to go and at what time.

"They don't ever find out who sent the invitation and that's all the fun in it; it's completely anonymous," said Kathy Hurley, a member of Shantih.

At Harding, functions represent good times, togetherness and memories. They provide an opportune time for both men and women to be on the asking side of the dating game.

Members of every social club anticipate upcoming events so that they can spend time with club sisters and brothers while making new friendships among the others invited.

– Emily Haas Brown

Regina member Alyssa Hunter leads children in story hour. Regina's service projects this fall included decorating Spring Park for Christmas and spending time with children from the housing authority. Hunter thought of this idea to help the community last year.



Photo by Daniel Dubois

Josh Jones, Michael Cooper, Matt Bishop, Clint Locke, Jimmy Teigen and Bill Witt stop to pose for a picture before hauling the "TNT hot tub" to the spring function. Jones presented this gift, which was made from a grain bin, to his date and won first place in the competition.

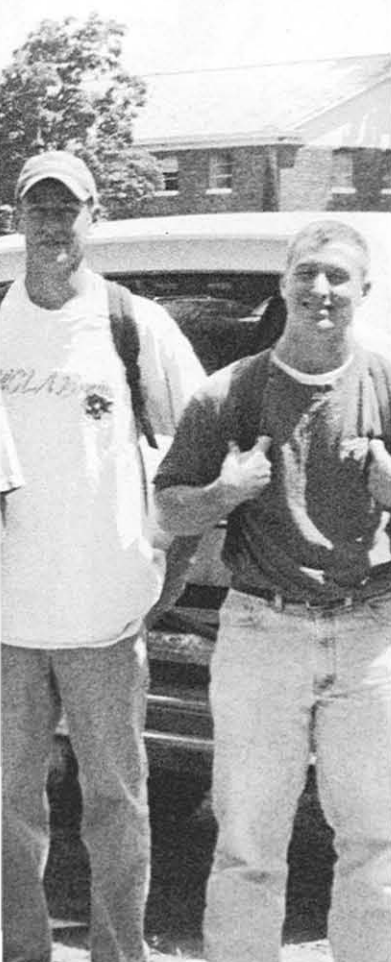


Photo by Jennifer Duke



Claudette Harris smiles sweetly at her function date in 1955 as he helps her from the car. It was very common to see students dressed formally to attend club banquets in the past years. This is a tradition that has been passed down and still exists to this day.



Photo by Yavonda Fletcher

Kappa Gamma Epsilon beaux provide entertainment at the club's spring formal. Club queens and beaux were traditionally responsible for entertaining the guests at all of the club's functions.

Brian Alldredge and Brent Adams, members of Kappa Sigma Kappa, visit with each other in the student center after class on Friday. Kappa Sigma Kappa members traditionally wore a dress shirt and a maroon and gold striped tie every other Friday. They wore their jerseys every Monday like their sister club, Tri Kappa.

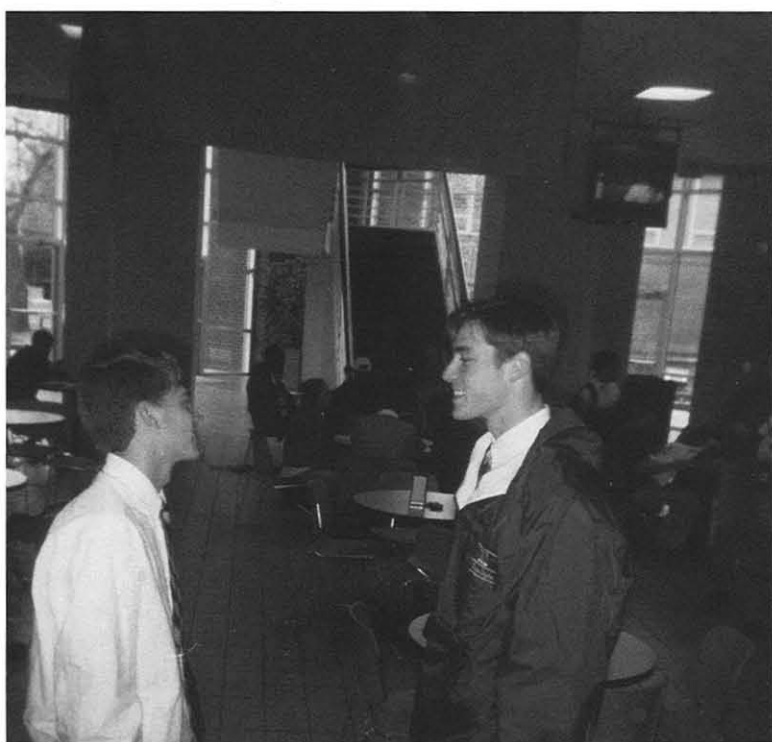


Photo by Sarah Johnston

Athletics bring clubs together in...

Competition

Clubs offer many different opportunities for fun and entertainment, but only one is constant throughout the school year – club athletics. Flag football, volleyball, basketball, fall and spring softball, swimming and track and field are all open for club competition. As one season ends, another is usually beginning, which keeps club athletic directors and members pretty busy.

Athletic directors, or “AD’s,” are elected officers who coordinate teams and practices for their clubs. Clubs play within their size bracket: small, medium or large. Each club also divides into teams according to confidence and skill, starting with “A” and often working their way down the alphabet as far as having one or two “G” teams.

Jeremy Luallen, a senior Delta Chi Delta member, said, “It’s the D teams that have the most fun. There’s a lot less pressure, so you can just mess around and have a good time with your friends.”

On the other side of the spectrum, “A” and “B” teams still have a share in the fun and excitement. According to Betsy Wyatt, a junior GATA member, “It’s the intense competition that pulls us together and makes us work as a team, especially in softball. We usually

have only two teams, so around half our club members are on the “A” or “B” teams. The competition of softball season really bonds our club as a whole.”

Lia Shoemaker, a sophomore Ko Jo Kai member, said, “I love sports anyway, but club athletics helps me get to know the girls in my club better. A team really becomes bonded through practices and games. My football team grew really close, so our last game was kind of emotional for me.”

That kind of attachment is especially evident in athletic directors who become highly involved with teams in every sport. Every practice and rule change in the games affects the athletic directors and the decisions they make for their clubs.

King’s Men sophomore athletic director Randall Weaver said, “This year, King’s Men pulled their potential and talents together to have very competitive softball and football teams, especially in the potluck softball tournament. The new football rules were different, but I think everybody is adjusting well. It is a great privilege to be the athletic director of such a fine group of talented athletes.”

– Emily Haas Brown

Jason Dyniewski blocks a fierce spike from Delta Chi Delta member Matt Tibbles while Kyle Brice cheers on his teammate in this heated club game against TNT.

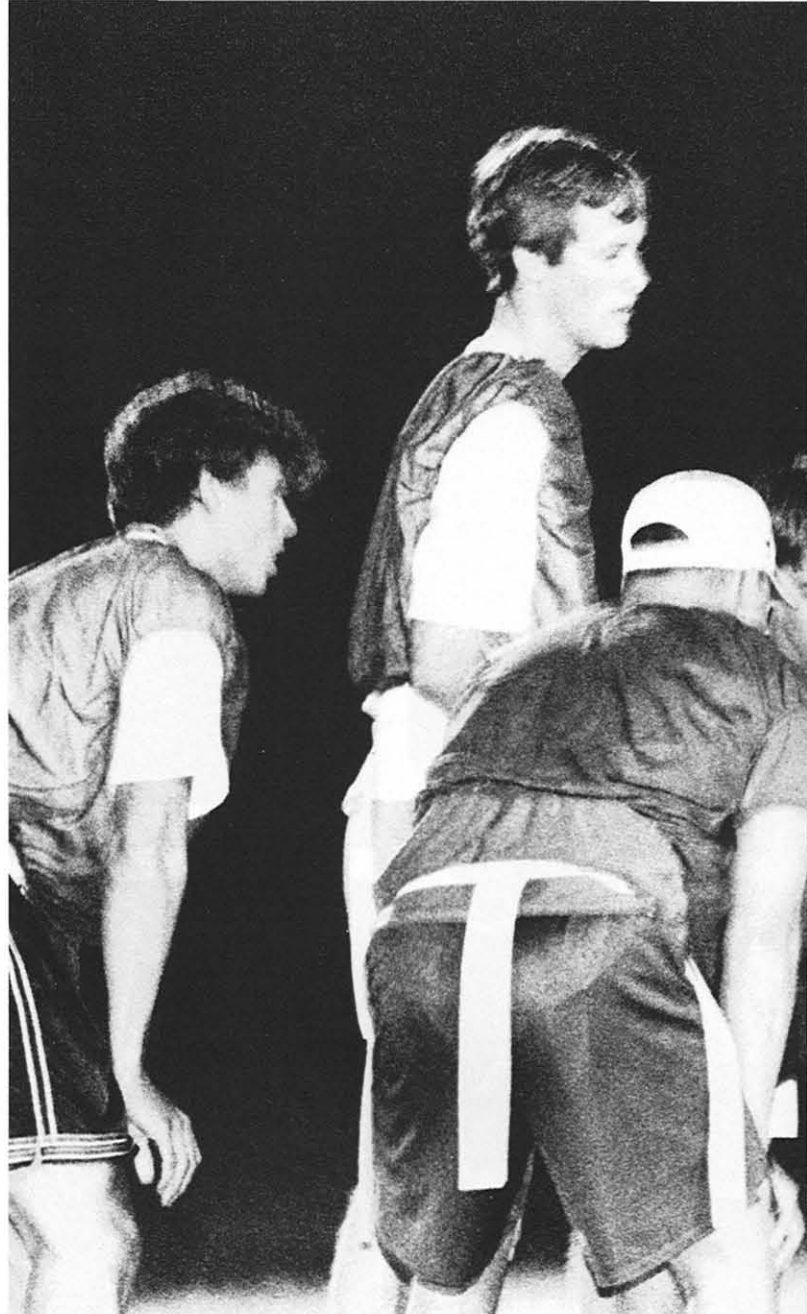


Photo by Daniel Dubois



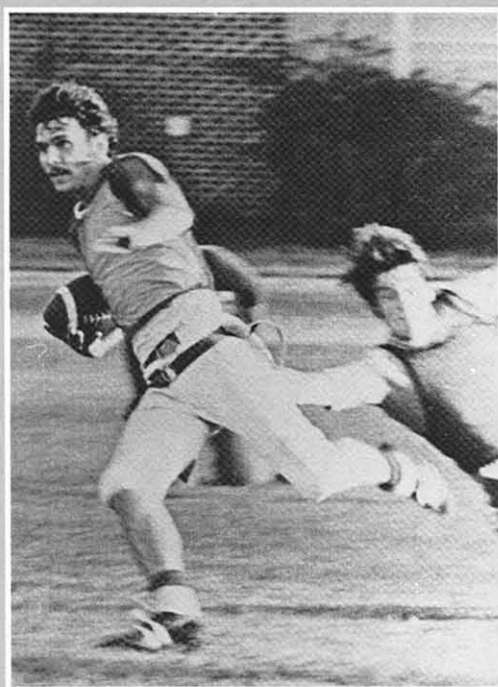
Photo by Salomon Pineda

Members of Titans social club, Will Tucker, Heath Carpenter, Nathan Walters and Clay Midyett listen to what the next play will be during an intense flag football game against Knights. Club football has always been a favorite among Harding students that brings out many spectators as well as players.

Shantih member Kelly Simmons tries to avoid having her flag pulled by her opponent during a flag football game. Despite the many rule changes this year for club football, it was a very competitive sport for the clubs.



Photo by Daniel Dubois



Alpha Tau member Gregg Ratliff races toward the end zone in 1971 trying not to get his flag pulled during a game of flag football. Up until last year, club football took place on the field behind the Brackett Library. Now clubs play on the field across the bridge. Although the rules have recently changed to make flag football a non-contact sport, it is and has been a very popular sport for clubs for many years.



Photo by Daniel Dubois

Members of King's Men social club offer support to one of their members while he tries to gather as much cash as he can in the "swim for cash" competition at Midnight Madness. Each club was given a chance to blindfold a representative and allow him or her to feel around for cash on the gym floor while listening for directions from surrounding club members.

Julie Kopf and Jennifer Duke, members of Ko Jo Kai, gather around their club sister, Heather Gantt, after her ring ceremony to hear the story of how she became engaged to her fiancé, Lance Kemper. Women's clubs traditionally held a ring ceremony for every member that got engaged.

Lucy Wonders of Zeta Rho talks with hopeful pledges at the Zeta Rho/TNT annual "Brady Bunch" mixer held on the front lawn.

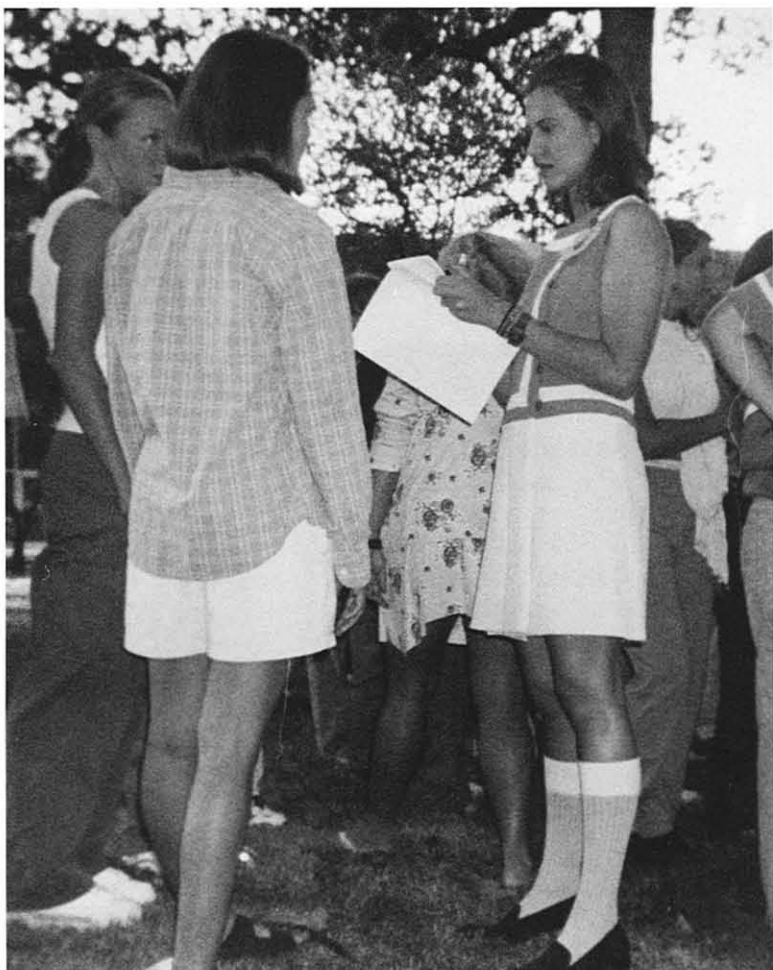


Photo by Kristi Burns



Photo by Kristi Burns

Jeremy Hogg of Pi Kappa Epsilon gives his best impression of a pirate in Spring Sing 1998 with Ko Jo Kai, Ju Go Ju and friends in the show titled, "X Marks the Spot."



Tyonia Pipkin and Ann Porter of Sigma Phi Mu take part in the finale of Spring Sing in the spring of 1983. Sigma Phi Mu was just two years old when they participated in "Singular Sensations," the title of one of the songs that they choreographed. The finale of the show traditionally included a few select members of each club who learned a small section of each other club's show. This was where the crowd got involved and very excited.





Photo courtesy of Heather Gantt

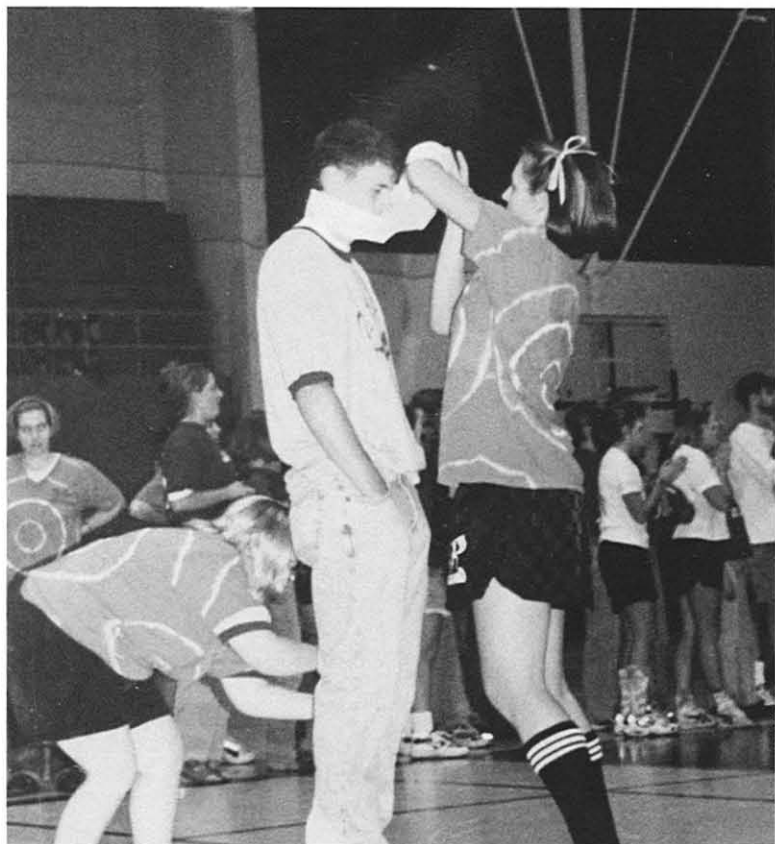


Photo by Beth Britton

Year after year clubs paint their personality through...

Traditions

Traditions kept the social club system alive. Year to year, the stories were passed down to freshmen as they anticipated the events of their first year in a social club. These traditions both attracted freshmen to clubs and aided them in the club selection process because they painted a picture of the club's personality.

Jay Segadi, a junior member of Pi Kappa Epsilon, said, "It's our third round mixer that a lot of people know about. It's called 'For Whom the Bell Tolls,' and we feed a snake during the mixer. There has been talk of doing away with this tradition, but I would like to see it stay. Traditions, even the silly ones, make the whole thing fun."

Pledge week, functions, jersey days, ring ceremonies and senior speeches have all been touched by tradition. Seminoles presented the Seminole Stomp every year on the last night of pledge week. "The Stomp is created mainly by the members and is practiced every night during pledge week by the pledges," according to Micah Gifford, a sophomore Seminoles member. Theta Tau Delta had a traditional spring function. "We all go out to eat in Little Rock

and then we go to a Travelers baseball game," said Jesse Jordan, a sophomore member of Theta Tau.

Some traditions affected brother and sister clubs in a special way. Tri Kappa and Kappa Sigma Kappa have been connected since 1969. "We have activities together during pledge week and wear our jerseys together on Mondays," said Tim Johnston, a sophomore in Kappa Sigma Kappa.

One tradition that was unique to girls' clubs was the ring ceremony when a member became engaged. During the ceremony, a candle was passed around with the ring on it, and the owner of the ring blew out the candle when it reached her. "My ring ceremony was really special because Graham proposed to me at the ceremony in front of all of our friends," said Heather Sutherlin, a junior member of Regina.

Many clubs had senior speeches at the end of each semester as graduating members prepared to say their final farewells. "I think my speech will be difficult," said Rita Boudra, a senior member of Shantih. "I've known some of these girls for four years, and it will be scary to leave them."

— Emily Haas Brown

Tri Kappa "gopher" Jennifer Hoffman starts at the top of beau Tim Johnston's head, with the help of Amy House, trying to completely cover him in toilet paper at Silly Olympics. Three other clubs also competed in this activity during pledge week. The rules required that each club send two pledges to "wrap a beau." The clubs cheered for their members in hopes that they would finish first.

Pat and Deborah Bills readily take direction from ensemble host and hostess director Dottie Frye during a routine Sunday night practice. The ensemble practiced at least eight hours each week to prepare for the big Spring Sing extravaganza weekend in April.



"Small in Stature, Big in Faith" was the headline that described Regina Spirit Award recipient, Lonnie "Lonzo" Jones, in the 1985 Petit Jean yearbook. The founder of this award, Dr. Mary Ann Whitaker Harris, initiated this tradition in the early 1950s.

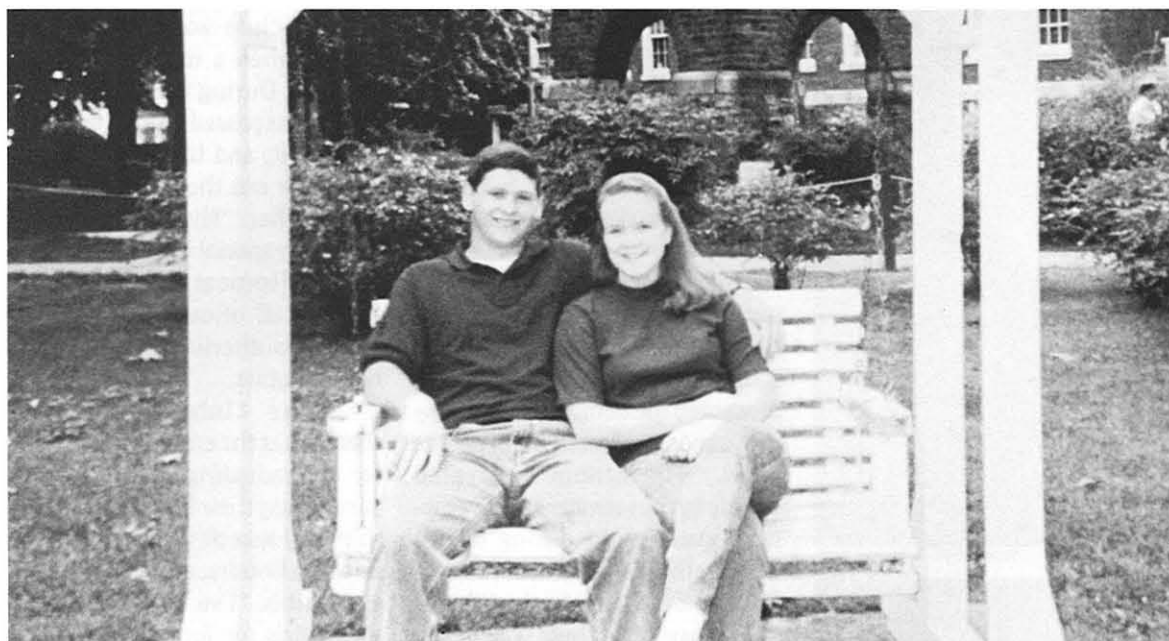


Photo courtesy of Pat and Deborah Bills

Pat and Deborah Bills take a minute to pose for the camera while enjoying an afternoon together on the Harding campus.

Pat Bills accepts an award presented to him by Amy Thornton, representing Regina social club, for his outstanding service to others. The Regina Spirit Award has been given for many years to one male and one female student whom the student body consider to exhibit Christ-like attitudes.

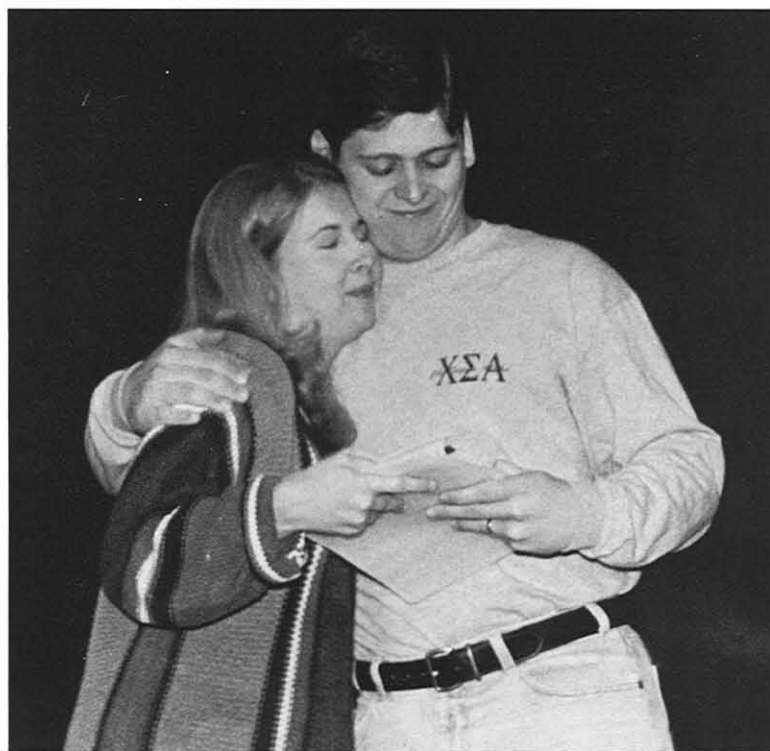


Photo by Salomon Pinetia

Regina social club recognizes students for...

Spirituality

I Timothy 4:12 says, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."

This verse is the basis for the Regina Spirit Award, which is awarded each year to one male and one female by the Regina social club.

Members of Regina nominated students who upheld the characteristics of the verse in I Timothy, presenting a Christ-like example to their peers. Seniors then voted on the nominees, and plaques were presented to the individuals who were chosen.

The recipients of this year's award were Pat and Deborah Bills. According to Amy Thornton, Regina's president, this was the first time a married couple ever received the award.

Both seniors, Pat majored in youth ministry and religious education with a minor in psychology, and Deborah majored in elementary education and vocational ministry. The couple, who had been married since May, had served together for several years.

Beginning their freshman year, Pat and Deborah worked for two and a half years with the Bradford Church of Christ youth group. They served together at the Hickory Ridge tornado relief effort, the annual Rake and Run program, the spiritual life committee and as Youth Corps members.

This year, they worked with the Downtown Church of Christ youth group, where they have served since the summer of 1997.

Because both Pat and Deborah spent a significant time serving in

youth ministry positions, it was no surprise that they named many young people as good examples. Pat said, "The kids we have worked with have been so tender-hearted. Also, my younger brother is a great example to me. Not many people can say they look up to their younger brother, but I do."

Deborah named two Harding students as examples of big hearts. "There are two guys who were in the youth group at Bradford that now attend Harding who are good examples to their peers. Their names are Shane and Pacer."

Pat and Deborah had other people who came to mind as good examples such as Pat's father, some of the kids at the Downtown Church of Christ youth group, Deborah's grandmother and her father.

"After we found out we both received the honor, several professors came up to us and said, 'Wow, you sure are a spiritual family.' Really, there are lots of good servants at Harding and it's so humbling for us both to be honored like this. Of course, I wasn't surprised when Deborah was named, and I guess she would say the same for me. It just makes you feel good to be honored like this," Pat said.

This is not the first time Pat and Deborah have received honors at the same time. Pat was chosen as a beau for Deborah's social club, Shantih, and Deborah was named queen for Pat's social club, Chi Sigma Alpha, on the same night within 10 minutes of each other. The couple also served as a Spring Sing host and hostess this year.

— Emily Haas Brown

Deborah Bills receives the Regina Spirit Award from the vice president of Regina, Carla McCarty. The award was presented in chapel toward the end of the fall semester to honor two seniors for extraordinary service to others.



Photo by Daniel Dubois



Photo by Salomon Pineda

Petit Jean recognizes social club for its willingness...

To Serve

The traditional *Petit Jean* queen of early years was replaced in 1993 by the *Petit Jean* Service Award, presented to a social club whose service to others was considered exemplary. The yearbook staff solicits summaries of clubs' projects and chooses a panel of judges who are not affiliated with any club to rank the entries. This year, the spotlight fell on Delta Gamma Rho.

"Since servanthood is such a vital part of Harding and social clubs play a key role in campus life, it seemed appropriate that one of these groups should be recognized for its outstanding involvement in Christian service," said Stacey Hopkins, 1999 *Petit Jean* editor.

Cori Weeks, a senior member of Delta Gamma Rho, said, "The girls are very service-oriented. Immediate action is taken when a need arises, thanks to the good planning of Amy Martin and Rachel Griggs, who plan our service projects together. They keep projects continually going, and service has become a real priority for our club."

This was evident in the five service areas that Delta Gamma Rho adopted during the year: the Searcy Battered Women's Shelter, the Searcy Children's Home, a family with quintuplets, a sponsored

child at Camp Wyldewood and support of a missionary couple.

Kelly Poffenbarger, a sophomore member of Delta Gamma Rho, explained some of the tasks done on behalf of the Searcy Battered Women's Shelter. "Some outside work was done for the shelter and we collected money for food and supplies for the shelter," she said. Delta Gamma Rho also collected needed items for Richard and Tiffany Prichard, who are missionaries.

Neil Cutsinger, beau for the club, described Delta Gamma Rho as an "amazing club" that stayed active in service. "The girls helped the Searcy Children's Home a lot by cleaning up the home and playing with the kids. The club also collected money and gifts for some quintuplets that were born recently," Cutsinger said.

The service project completed by the members of Delta Gamma Rho touched and benefited many in the Searcy community and beyond, but even more, the projects seemed to unite the members. After all, doing good for others makes one feel good, and though that was not the motivation behind Delta Gamma Rho's acts of service, it certainly was a positive example for the rest of the Harding University campus.

— Emily Haas Brown

Members of Delta Gamma Rho stand outside on the fire escape after helping clean up and paint the Searcy Battered Women's Shelter.





Photo courtesy of Emily Montandon

Amy Martin helps hold open a large garbage bag as Angelina Gearhart rakes the remaining leaves at the annual rake and run in the fall. Delta Gamma Rho members participated in this activity each year.



In the years before the Petit Jean Service Award was presented to a social club for its outstanding commitment to the community, a student who represented Harding in all its attributes was chosen Petit Jean queen. In 1979, third-year Knights queen Julie Wiedner was chosen by the student body as Petit Jean queen.



Photo courtesy of Emily Montandon

Delta Gamma Rho members Joy Madlaing, Rachel Griggs, Amy Martin and Kelly Duncan take a brief break from raking leaves to pose for a picture.

After spending the day with kids at Searcy Children's Home, Delta Gamma Rho members gather together for some fellowship. Participating in service projects like this one united the club and encouraged stronger relationships.



Photo courtesy of Amy Martin

