

October 29, 2002

Dear Student Athlete:

As any founding father would tell you, starting your own fraternity is one of the most rewarding experiences a college student can have.

You will have the opportunity to leave a long-term mark at Montana State University and significantly change the campus culture. A founding father creates the fraternity from the ground up by recruiting the right men and by setting policies and procedures, as well as the programming that will define the fraternity.

As a student athlete at Montana State University, you have the opportunity to work with students in an atmosphere that fosters academic excellence, while promoting the idea that a healthy body is one key to a great life.

SigEp would like to further that experience for athletes at Montana State University. Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp), the nation's largest fraternity, is recruiting men for its Montana State University chapter throughout the month of October and beyond. Over the years, SigEp has become the athlete and coach's choice for fraternity involvement. Consider the following:

- SigEp chapters foster an academic environment. The majority of SigEp chapters rank above the all men's grade point average. In the Spring, 2001, term, 24 chapters ranked above a 3.15 grade point average. This environment helps coaches and advisors by providing athletes positive peer influences off the field to keep them focused on the right things.
- SigEp is different from all other fraternities because of the Balanced Man Program—no pledging, full membership from the first day. Often, fraternities will promote a “pledge” term, which may take away from an athlete's valuable time. Our Balanced Man Program is an award-winning, nationally recognized leadership program designed to help students achieve their goals by developing key life skills. At the center of this program is the development of a sound mind and a sound body.
- SigEp encourages coaches' involvement in the chapter through volunteer roles. This allows coaches the opportunity to be involved in the mentoring of athletes on and off the field. Often, coaches use this time to forge closer relationships with student-athletes.

SigEps enjoy ample resources because Sigma Phi Epsilon is the nation's largest fraternity. There are over 212,000 living members who each represent a potential friend, mentor, or employer. The Sigma Phi Epsilon Educational Foundation has nearly 20 million dollars in assets to help provide student loans, grants, and sponsor educational programs for members.

Enclosed are Spring, 2002, and Summer, 2002, issues of the Journal, Sigma Phi Epsilon's magazine which highlight numerous stories of varsity and club sport athletes as SigEps. Consider also the following examples of current SigEp chapters:

- Our Dartmouth University chapter in New Hampshire has members on the varsity track and cross-country teams. The chapter holds "spoken word" nights where students and university faculty come to share poetry, short stories, and essays at the chapter house. This 70-man chapter finished the Spring, 2001, semester with a staggering 3.62 average GPA and had three members elected to Phi Beta Kappa.
- Our Colorado State chapter is comprised of varsity soccer and tennis players, and has members on the rugby and lacrosse teams. A live-in Resident Scholar works with the chapter on academic goals and mentoring, and the results were a 3.12 GPA for the Fall of 2001.
- Our Columbia University chapter in New York City boasts the captain of the lightweight crew team, captain of the lacrosse team, captain of the fencing team, and has members involved on the varsity swim team, water polo, sailing, and skiing teams. This 50-man chapter boasts a cumulative 3.42 GPA with more than half its members on the Dean's List.
- Our Worcester Polytechnic Institute chapter in Massachusetts is composed primarily of the varsity football team. This 90-man chapter promotes positive living on the field and off. During the 2001 spring break, chapter members served their community by participating in Alternative Spring Break. The chapter finished the Spring, 2001, term with a 3.4 GPA.
- Our Clarkson University chapter in New York is made up of several members of the varsity soccer team. Chapter members follow stringent study hours and participate in SigEp leadership and educational programs. The chapter finished the Spring, 2001, academic term with a 3.12 GPA.
- Our Southern Methodist University chapter has members on the varsity football, swimming, and crew teams. They have implemented a Residential Learning Community in the chapter facility with a fully functional Faculty Fellow office. The chapter boasts a 3.2 average GPA.

As you can see, Sigma Phi Epsilon promotes an environment for not just athletic success but also academic success. Our Residential Learning Communities epitomize our commitment to sound mind and sound body, and the results speak for themselves.

We are actively recruiting men who live the Balanced Man ideal—those striving to foster a sound mind and a sound body, and we are looking for men of high caliber for our chapter at Montana State University. We are looking for men who are academically minded, athletic, and truly interested in living the Balanced Man ideal. We are looking for those men who want to better themselves on the athletic field, in the classroom, and in their daily lives. We are looking for Balanced Men.

Please review the enclosed materials that detail our Fraternity, specifically the ideals and programs that we use. I have included:

The Quest — A member's guide through the Balanced Man Program, the Fraternity's leadership development program.

Residential Learning Community Brochure — Outlining SigEp commitment to an improved academic environment, involvement of faculty student interaction and a focus on a development program that helps men build a sound mind and a sound body.

Balanced Man Program “Cliff Notes” — A summary of the Balanced Man Program, its results, and common questions of participants.

For more information about SigEp, please visit our web site, www.sigep.org. I can be contacted at (800) 313-1901, voice mail 311, or by email at ryan.jacobsen@sigep.net.

I look forward to meeting you this fall.

Sincerely,

Ryan P. Jacobsen
Director of New Chapter Development