

# BETA DELTA SPORTS

## Basketball Squad Makes Finals While Diamond Nine Reaches Semi-Finals

Basketball Squad Reaches Semi-Finals; Softball Team On Way To League Championship.

After somewhat of a slow start in football this fall Beta Delta promises to finish strong this spring and a top contender for the all-sports trophy.

After the loss of "Fats" Jones, one of our outstanding sports figures here at Beta Delta, Pat Miller took over the coaching chores of the football team leading them to third place in our league. Through graduation we lost several of our linemen, which hurt us considerably. Quarterback Julian Graddick passed and ran the team like a veteran while getting fine support from ends John Yelverton and Gordon Martin. Jim Alford and Haas Strother turned in fine performances at the blocking back position while Cecil Skinner, Frank Moody and Pat Miller added the extra punch needed at the wing-back positions. The defensive platoon, lead by John Arant, Wiley Long, Greer Megginson, and John Walter Petrey in the the backfield and Bob Martin and Bobby Jolly at the defensive ends, more than once held the opposing teams to a minimum of yardage. Only two men leave the team by graduation which should leave us in a fine position this coming fall.

The blue and gold quintet got off to a fine start and did not let up until the season was over. Under the capable coaching of Milo Keathley the Beta Delta five was runner-up in the league while losing in the semi-finals. More than once the exciting play of Robert Owens, Dick Allen, Dave Keathley, Gordon Martin, and George Wakefield kept all the Brothers on the edge of their seats. Clutch shooting by freshman Bootsie Thorington and fine floor play by Julian Graddick, along with capable assistance by John Walter Petrey and Frank Ussery, enabled the A.T.O. five to have one of their best seasons in years. We will long remember the exciting nights spent at Foster Auditorium and the fine play by everyone on the team.

With the spring season here softball again comes to the A.T.O. house. The loss of Hub Wright's fine ball pitching has been felt, but the fine team play and the added hitting power points to another fine season on the diamond. Under the watchful eye of Coach Cecil Skinner the team is fast at the capstone. Three games



Frank (Tush) Ussery Swings Before Connecting for Two Run Homer

have been played to date, with two more coming up in the following weeks. Gordon Martin has taken over the pitching chores and is ably backed up at the plate by none other than W. M. John Yelverton. One of the hottest infields on the campus, led by Dick Allen, Jim Harmon, Dave Keathley, and Robert Owens, is equally backed up by a fine outfield composed of Frank Ussery, John Walter Petrey, and Milton Wilson. The A.T.O. stickmen have already won two and if things go as planned the softball trophy should be ours.

Not to be forgotten are our surprising Rinky Dinks. Our independent team has done itself well in all three sports while giving considerable enjoyment to the Brothers who want to play Intermural sports but do not have the time to devote to supervised practice. The Rinky Dinks, coached by Dan Haas in football, Cecil Skinner and Pace Bozeman in basketball, and Pat Miller in softball, have done much to raise the morale of the chapter.

Bill Samford is making fine headway in the tennis singles and should come out on top. He has won his first match and we are all looking forward to his going all the way.

With our fine showing in basketball, tennis, and softball the chances are excellent that we will finish among the very top in competition for the all sports trophy.

### Beta Delta in 1956-1957

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pledges are especially to be congratuated, as their over-all average was 1.71. While there are no figures available on this we feel confident this was the highest pledge class average on the Alabama campus.

Far from confining ourselves to scholastic endeavors, social activities were at a peak. Especially memorable were our football dances, the "Esquire Party," the "Singapore Party," and the Spring Formal. Our unique "Esquire Party" was so successful we are adding it to our list of annual events.

Politically we can well stand up and be counted. Led by Brother Bert Nettles as Vice-President of the Student Government Association, we are well represented in the Student Legislature and all campus honorary and service organizations.

Financially we are sound. At the present time we have approximately sixteen thousand dollars in our New House Fund and four thousand dollars in our Depreciation and Repair Fund. We also have an adequate surplus in our General Fund. While we do not anticipate building a new house in the very

immediate future, plans are being made.

In Sports we were league champions in basketball and at the present time are well on our way toward the softball trophy. We are also proud of our impressive records in other athletic activities.

In the fall we received the trophy for Outstanding Decoration at Homecoming. This Spring Brother Peter Brock led us to first place in the Inter-Fraternity step-singing competition. We are naturally proud of these two first-place trophies.

This year we made numerous improvements in the house. The outside was completely painted and new screens were provided. The living room, TV room, card room on the first floor were completely redecorated. Improvements were made in the basement and some work was done on the second floor.

This year we began the nucleus of what we hope will become a fraternity library of which we can boast. Our faculty adviser, Mr. Lang, has made generous contributions of books, and the individual Brothers are contributing also.

Last but not least is the intangible "spirit" of the fraternity. This year it has been especially prevalent, and in an atmosphere of brotherhood and cooperation has been a fruitful and enjoyable one for us all.