

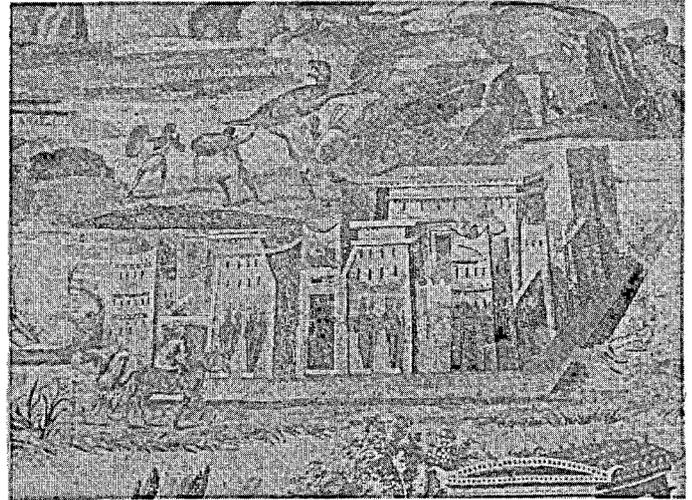
Rome, 1982

by
Christopher C. Smith

Forza Italia! Italy had just won the World Cup Soccer Championship, and hundreds of cars packed the streets of Rome. In a kind of modern day triumphal march, the zealous drivers were burning their horns out in joy. And no wonder: this was the first World Cup victory for Italy since 1938. On the Janiculum, celebrators scaled the colossal monument to Garibaldi; one dared not venture down to the fountain of Trevi for fear of being dowsed in the waters. The next day was testimony to the all-night gala: scarcely a soul showed up for work; an unofficial holiday reigned.

But we were not in Rome to celebrate a soccer victory (although that was admittedly most pleasant). We were in the Eternal City to study the culture and civilization of Ancient Rome in the summer session of the American Academy. "We" were my wife, Mary, and I (under the auspices of Eta Sigma Phi), barely three weeks married upon our arrival in Rome; she also is an Eta Sigma Phi alumna. Several months earlier, having been encouraged by my professors at St. Olaf College, I applied for the Eta Sigma Phi scholarship. It was only under their solid judgment and disciplined teaching that I became well enough qualified to be considered for the scholarship.

On June 2, I began a summer session which was to prove most fruitful and enjoyable for each member of our group. Our band consisted of twenty-nine members of diverse backgrounds and interests, from first year graduates and secondary school teachers to experienced professors. Undaunted by the hottest summer in years, we trekked from one end of Rome to the other, paying little heed to the bars that beckoned to us in the 100° heat. For the most part this "devotion" was due to our dedicated and erudite professor, Kathryn Geffcken and her assistant Elizabeth Bartman. Under their wise and experienced leadership the sites and civilization of Ancient Rome soon became topics of special interest and reasonable familiarity to me and my companions.



Barberini Mosaic

I would like briefly to describe only two of the many sites of the summer. In the first photograph above you see a detail of the famous Barberini mosaic (at Praeneste, present-day Palastrina), which is now housed in the top floor of the museum atop the Sanctuary of Fortune.¹ This mosaic depicts an expedition up the Nile to the interior of Africa and is, at best account, based on a Ptolemaic description of that expedition. The work is a veritable catalogue of both the true and the fabulous animals and civilizations along the Nile in the Hellenistic period. Here we see beautiful hanging gardens, a farm house, and Nile river craft. In many places incredible monsters are shown, their names given in Greek; in the photograph, for example, we read "Krokodilopardalis"—the "crocodile-leopard." Note as well the Ethiopian hunters in action and, nearby, the temple complex at Luxor—a striking example of an ancient site intact which now lies in ruins, a valuable tool for the archaeologist.

The mosaic's later history is fascinating. It seems that upon its discovery in the 17th century, it was lifted from its place in the upper sanctuary and was to be transported to Rome for the Barberini Palace there. Incredibly enough, on the way to Rome it fell out of the vehicle and broke into several pieces. The trip to Rome abandoned, the broken mosaic was shipped back to Palestrina, repaired, and placed in the Barberini palace there where we enjoy it today.



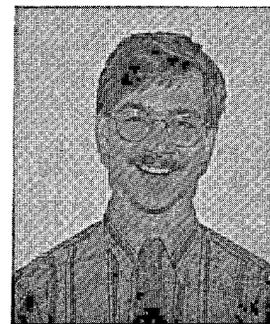
Aqua Claudia

On a different scale, the second photograph shows a section of the monumental Aqua Claudia. This and other aquaducts of Old Rome are remarkable structures, sometimes extending above ground as far as fifteen miles. This is a particularly well preserved section of the Aqua Claudia, with its roughly hewn stones illustrating the peculiar "rustic" quality that marked Roman building under Claudius. In the fifth and sixth arches from the left we can see extensive brick repair work, a building material which later would lure builders to dismantle many parts of the great aquaducts for their own purposes. Indeed, a great part of the Aqua Claudia itself has succumbed to later human enterprise. In fact, not far east of the section photographed it is nearly totally destroyed. Apparently sometime in the 17th century several monks came into possession of some land which the aquaduct crossed and sold it piece by piece as used building materials whenever their monetary needs arose. Still, even despite its partial destruction, the Aqua Claudia has stood the test of time eloquently, and continues to attest to the impressive engineering skills of the ancient Romans.

These are only a few of the many sites and experiences of a summer session at the American Academy in Rome which will leave their impression on me for many years. The value of the summer session lies not only in the experience on the site, but also in the enrichment it continues to bring to the study of the civilization and especially to the literature of ancient Rome. I will long remember and reflect on the reading of "O fons Bandusiae" in the chill mist of that spring on Horace's farm. The people of the summer session, too, are and will continue to be its greatest asset; they prove that two (and even more) heads are better than one. But most of all the summer session convinces even the most skeptical that ancient Rome has never declined—the art, the architecture, the literature, the ideas are alive and thriving. I wish to thank Eta Sigma Phi for granting me the Rome scholarship; it offered me a rare opportunity which I know will afford enrichment to my studies in the Classics, and I hope, to the studies of those around me.

¹For a full description of the mosaic and a photograph of the entire work, see Paul MacKendrick, **The Mute Stones Speak** (New York, 1976) pp.118f.

Editor's Note: Christopher Smith was for several years an outstanding competitor in Eta Sigma Phi's contests and won many prizes. He has continued his work in Classics in the graduate program of Harvard University where his wife is also enrolled in Harvard's Divinity School.



Christopher C. Smith

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SALVETE OMNES:

The volume of chapter reports has been steadily increasing, and this year those reports were so numerous that they had to be published in both issues of the **Nuntius**. They reflect continuing development and creativity within our active chapters.

Some of you write about events and activities that intrigue readers to the point that they often ask me for more details or even for pictures. One chapter that I know of sometimes has its pledges read, toga-clad, the **Aeneid** at noon to passers-by on campus. Many would like to see a picture of something like that!

This brings me to my point: The **Nuntius** is always looking for pictures that show our chapters in action. We have room to publish your chapter's significant events: the annual barbeque; the **certamen** for high school students; the Lupercalia celebration; an anniversary party; a fete to honor a long-term adviser. Please send these pictures, carefully captioned, to me, and I shall try to publish as many as possible along with the chapter reports in the **Res Gestae**.

Alumni stay in touch with Eta Sigma Phi by purchasing subscriptions to the **Nuntius** when they are graduated. For only \$5.00, you may have a five-year subscription (ten issues) sent to you. When you order a five-year subscription, please give me a permanent address.

Competition in the translation contests has increased again this year, and there were more strong entries submitted in each category. The new contest in Koine Greek, intermediate level, had about twenty entries this year. Professor Ann Castro of Thiel College assisted by our newest trustee, Professor Dwight Castro of Westminster College, has chosen this year's contest pieces and selected the winners.

Professor Barbara Gold, adviser to Gamma Sigma Chapter of the University of Texas became, on short notice, a member of the 1982-83 Scholarship Committee. We are fortunate to have so many fine advisers who so effectively serve on Eta Sigma Phi's committees. Special thanks go to Professors Ann and Dwight Castro of the Contest Committee and to Professor Cecelia Luschnig, to Sr. Theresa Lamy, and to Professor Gold, our Scholarship Committee, for work well done. The winners' names will appear in the **Nuntius** for September, 1983.

Valete,

Brent M. Froberg
Executive Secretary

Eta Sigma Phi Advisers Receive APA Awards for Excellent Teaching

Professor Daniel J. Taylor, adviser of Alpha Omicron Chapter, Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin, received an award for excellence in teaching Classics at the December, 1982, meetings of the American Philological Association, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Professor Taylor, a graduate of Lawrence University and an Eta Sigma Phi alumnus, has been a member of Lawrence's faculty since 1974.

Professor Taylor received M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Classics from the University of Washington in Seattle and was for six years a member of the faculty in Classics at the University of Illinois before he came to Lawrence. During the 1981-82 academic year, Professor Taylor, as the recipient of a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities, studies the only surviving manuscript copy of "De Lingua Latina" in Florence, Italy. Alpha Omicron Chapter has thrived with Professor Taylor as its adviser.

Professor Taylor joins Eta Sigma Phi advisers Professor Louis Feldman (Gamma Delta, Yeshiva University) and Catherine Freis (Alpha Phi, Millsaps College) who have been recognized also for distinguished teaching by the APA in the last two years. Only about three professors annually are awarded recognition for distinguished teaching, and so Eta Sigma Phi is especially pleased that so high a percentage of recent winners have come from the ranks of our advisers.



Luella Emmons, Prytanis (1981-82) installs Eta Sigma Phi's officers (l. to r.) P.A. Magee (President), Al Pierce (Vice-President), Arthur Sperry (Secretary), and Eileen Torrence (Treasurer) at the 1982 National Convention in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

reece, 1982

by R. Alden Smith

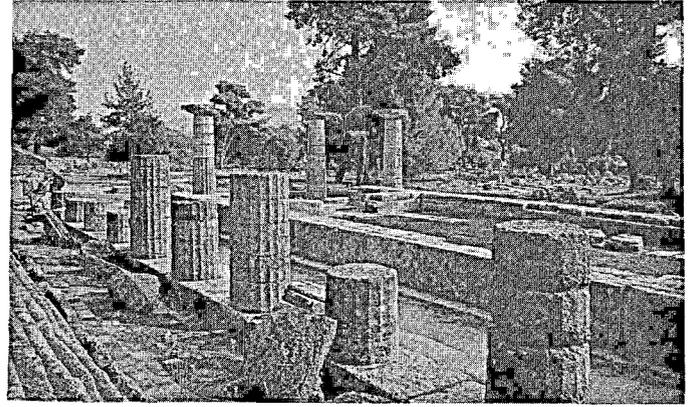
Who says dreams don't come true? Thanks to Eta Sigma Phi an exciting dream came true for me in Greece last summer when I attended the American School Summer Session.

When I arrived in Athens it was a hundred and fifteen degrees. A small, friendly Greek man who spoke no English whatsoever tried to show me the way to the American School on my chocolate-covered city map. We laughed together when I showed him the wrapper of the Toblerone candy bar which had melted in my backpack over all my earthly possessions. I licked off my hands and slowly made my way to the school, about to embark on the most exciting six weeks of my life.

Before I knew it, the summer session had begun, and within a week our twenty-odd person entourage under the vivacious leadership of Professor John Fischer of Wabash College was touring Crete. The time spent on Crete was highly inspirational, for as we walked amidst the 3500 year old remains of Knossos and witnessed these Mediterranean roots of western culture, the essential meaning of "Classical Studies" began to fill our minds and find a place in our hearts. We returned from Crete awe-struck, yet excited and ready to see the next footprint of ancient man.

This we did in two sweeping field trips. The "Northern Trip" took us through Boeotia, Thessaly, and Euboea, included such exciting sites as Sesklo, Thermopylae, and Thebes, and culminated in a three-day visit to Delphi. Having seen photographs of the Athenian Treasury, the Temple of Apollo, and the Charioteer of Delphi on many previous occasions, I thought that I knew what to expect. I never guessed that the air of the place could be so astonishing and lend so much depth of understanding to the onlooker. In a way, Delphi was more deceptive than any of the other sites, for each time I thought that I had grasped its spirit, either the mountains beyond the temple, or the smell of thyme in the air, or the steep climb up to the theatre and the stadium would give me a new perception of the place. Amidst the dreamlike beauty of this place, the Parnassian breezes seemed to whisper the words of the god: "Know thyself."

The eleven-day "Peloponnesian Trip" was the longest field trip, encompassing such sites as Tiryns, Mycenae, Sparta, Megalopolis, Pylos, and Olympia. The Bronze Age sites were impressive, and a visit to Mycenae "rich in gold" widened our perspective and deepened our admiration for Homer. Seeing the other Bronze Age sites as well, we came to realize just how extensive this Mycenaean civilization was. Olympia, on the other hand, gave us a panoramic view of Greece from the Archaic through the Roman time periods. The Temple of Zeus is



A view of the magnificent Temple of Hera, Olympia, Greece.

particularly striking, but does not preclude the seventh-century Heraion or the third-century palaestra. A focal point for the ancient Greeks, Olympia now is a testimony to the Greek spirit of unity amidst diversity, competition among equals.

Between these exciting field trips we spent several days in Athens touring the city from the Acropolis to the Kerameikos. Using Athens for a base, we also went on several one-day excursions throughout Attica, including trips to Sounion, Piraeus, Aegina, and Eleusis. These were perfectly timed country breaks from the city life of Athens, and they gave us a view of the Greek world, both ancient and modern, throughout the Attic peninsula.

There are a few other features that made an outstanding summer even more memorable. One of these was the excellent teaching, both of John Fischer and the archaeologists who lectured to us at many of the sites which we visited. Another feature is that my father-in-law made it possible for my wife, also a classicist, to attend the program. And the great group of fellow students made the summer session the best.

Seeing what you have read about, studied about, and dreamed about is an incredible experience. It brings together dangling ends and misplaced notions, but more than these it gives the mind's eye a real image upon which to focus. The trip to Greece facilitated my preparation for my M.A. exams which I took last fall, and has greatly broadened my view of the classical world generally. An important dream came true for me last summer.

So, I'll ask again, "Who says dreams don't come true?" Not I, for the dream of seeing Greece came true for me; and not Eta Sigma Phi, because Eta Sigma Phi is in the business of making dreams like mine come true.

Editor's Note: R. Alden Smith was an undergraduate member of Delta Theta Chapter of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania and is a candidate for an M.A. degree in Classics at the University of Vermont which recently reactivated its Iota Chapter.



Res Gestae



Gamma Alpha **Indiana State University**

Gamma Alpha Chapter began the year in the summer of 1981 by sponsoring a two-day excursion to the Alexander Exhibit in Chicago. Then, in September, we held a banana split sale for which Marycolette Hruskocy donated toppings and utensils; she was also responsible for the set-up and sales.

At our first meeting in September, we planned our year, set up committees, and began preparation for our Annual Foreign Language Day.

We held our annual Greek dinner to introduce potential new members to Eta Sigma Phi, in October at the home of Dr. and Mrs. James Loyd. The guest speaker was Miss Gertrude Ewing who discussed the history of Gamma Alpha Chapter and the life of the late Miss Lillian Gay Berry, long-time professor of Latin at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

At our annual Foreign Day, we featured a certamen and a Latin playlet entitled "Quis Percussit J.C.?", a humorous take-off on the popular TV series, **Dallas**. We were also entertained by skits performed by the high school participants. The students enjoyed our play and paid us numerous compliments.

In November we initiated two people and pledged four whom we initiated on March 9, 1982. In December we were invited to take part in a Christmas celebration sponsored by Phi Epsilon Iota, the foreign language honorary. At our January meeting we made plans to attend the convention in Gettysburg and enjoyed a slide presentation, "Pompeii A.D. 79," by Lynn Dunnagan.

On March 29, Gamma Alpha celebrated its thirtieth anniversary by honoring its founder and mentor, Professor Gertrude Ewing, and by honoring Professor James Loyd, Gamma Alpha's sponsor for many years. Many alumni members attended this special meeting, and letters of congratulation from many friends of Gamma Alpha were read.

On April 21 we met at the home of Professor Angelo DiSalvo for a pizza party hosted by Eta Sigma Phi with the members of Phi Epsilon Iota as our guests. Scott Borders and Al Pierce presented the program, a discussion of the influences that Roman and Greek cultures had upon each other in ancient times.

Several members and associates traveled in Greece during the intersession with Professor Donald Jennermann.

As usual, Gamma Alpha Chapter has been responsible for weekly tutoring sessions for students at the first and second year levels. Our hyparchos Scott Borders has been the director of these sessions, and he has also arranged the high school extension programs. He has sent annual letters to high school teachers in southern Indiana to encourage them to purchase Eta Sigma Phi medals to award to their outstanding students.

We have experienced thirty fruitful years as a chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, and we look forward to many, many more years as a member of the Fraternity.

Melinda Page,
Grammateus

Gamma Delta **Yeshiva University**

Gamma Delta Chapter met at the house of faculty adviser, Professor Louis Feldman, on November 28. Four second-year Latin students were asked to translate Genesis xviii from the Hebrew text into Latin as the project assigned to determine eligibility for initiation. Before the projects were read aloud and scrutinized by the active members, everyone joined in singing the traditional Latin song, "Sodalis ille iucundus," "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

After the song, the projects were presented aloud and gone over with a "fine-toothed comb" by the active members. Finally a vote of the active members was taken, and two candidates—Jay Barbalatt and Alan Grossman—were accepted for membership.

After the official initiation, elections were held, and Todd Weiss was re-elected prytanis for 1981-82. We then discussed activities for the coming year and then adjourned, larger by two new members.

Jay Barbalatt,
Chrysophylax

Gamma Xi **Howard University**

The members and pledges of Gamma Xi of Howard University in Washington, D.C., have had an intellectually stimulating year. With the Classics Department, the chapter participated in the sponsorship of three lectures which were paid for by an Andrew W. Mellon grant to the Humanities Division. Dr. Cynthia Shelmerdine, a fellow at the Center for Hellenic Studies of Washington, D.C., gave an illustrated lecture on Greek Bronze Age Archaeology and myth. Dr. Nancy

Rubin, also a fellow at the Center, spoke on "Telemachus as Usurper and other Unrealized Plots in the *Odyssey*," and Dr. Carl Rubino of the University of Texas spoke on "Returns in Homer, Virgil, and Proust." The chapter also sponsored the showing of the film of Euripides's tragedy the *Trojan Women*.

Our annual initiation and banquet were held on April 24, 1982, at the home of one of our sponsors, Professor Carrie Cowherd. We initiated ten new, enthusiastic members and planned a joint meeting with the Philosophy Club and a trip to the Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore, Maryland. Some of our members visited the Walters last year when the National Convention was held at Notre Dame of Maryland.

Dr. Cowherd became a life member of Eta Sigma Phi at the National Convention at Gettysburg College.

Gamma Omicron Monmouth College

Luella Emmons, our chapter president, was elected national president at the 1981 National Convention. In spring, 1981, we honored retiring Professor Bernice Fox at a dinner meeting. She has been the sponsor of our chapter since its establishment in 1956 and has served as a member of Eta Sigma Phi's Board of Trustees. She is a Life Member of Eta Sigma Phi. At her retirement from active service to Monmouth College, she was honored with the title of Professor Emerita and was also commended by the Monmouth College faculty and the Illinois Classical Conference.

We also initiated two new members, Brien Durham and Chris Baysingar. In fall, 1981, our chapter elected new officers—Marcene Holverson as president and Kathy Roe as secretary/treasurer and celebrated our annual Saturnalia party with an Italian dinner, desert, and games at Professor Fox's home. At our first meeting of 1982, our new adviser, Robin Graham, spoke on the legal rights of Greek and Roman women. Since then we have planned a series of meetings with members giving presentations.

Marcene Holverson,
Prytanis

Delta Pi Randolph-Macon College

In the last calendar year (1981-82), our chapter has sponsored several events. Under Faith Coppedge, the last president, we sponsored a trip to the Alexander exhibit in the National Gallery in Washington, D.C. We also held a high school architectural contest in late April. Students from area high schools and junior high schools came to the R-MC campus for a lecture on architecture and then a scavenger hunt around Ashland to find these aspects of ancient architecture on the buildings in the town and college.

Under our new president, Debbie Minghini, we have sponsored two excursions to the meetings of the Richmond chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America. In October, the topic was Greece from the air presented by Fr. Raymond V. Schoder, S.J., the author of *Wings over Hellas*. In February of this year we attended another meeting to explore the topic of Greek weddings in Greek art.

We held our annual initiation ceremony shortly after our spring break and honored our graduating seniors with a dinner.

Robin R. Brooks,
Grammateus

Epsilon Beta George Washington University

In November, 1981, our vice-president, Anna Moore, gave a slide presentation of her trip to Italy last summer with the Vergilian Society. In February, 1982, our chapter made a trip to Johns Hopkins University to meet the faculty and to explore the facilities and the graduate program of the Classics Department. A few weeks later we initiated eight new members.

We were fortunate this year to have two productions of ancient Greek drama available to us: the university theater staged Euripides's *Electra*, and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is now showing an adaptation of Euripides's *Medea*.

We made a proposal to the university library to use one of their showcases to display examples of classical influence in the city of Washington, D.C. To conclude our year we made a trip to the Richmond Museum to see their collection of antiquities and a special display of Eupulian vases.

Carol L. Johnson,
Prytanis

Epsilon Gamma University of Scranton

This has been a quiet year for our chapter. We held only two meetings, one in the fall and one this spring. Officers were elected and a lecture was held on March 23, 1982. The presentation was given by Dr. Njegos Petroric of the University of Scranton's Foreign Language/Fine Arts Department and covered material on the recent bronze statue discoveries off the coast of southern Italy.

Leon X. Zawacki,
Prytanis

Marguerite Pedley,
Hyparchos

Epsilon Epsilon Rockford College

Jean Wrage, one of our members, gave an illustrated talk on her January trip to England at a meeting of Epsilon Epsilon on February 14, 1982. After our annual Lupercalia dinner at Lino's Italian Restaurant, the chapter met at the home of the faculty adviser, Professor Raymond Den Adel, to hear Ms. Wrage and to initiate three new members. Certificates were awarded to the new initiates in April at the Honors Convention of Rockford College.

Several other classical events occurred in the fall of 1981. Two lectures of the Archaeological Institute of America (Rockford Chapter) were of special interest: "Etruscan Mirrors and Luxury Arts," by Professor Richard DePuma of the University of Iowa and "Excavations on the Island of Thera," by Professor Avra Liakos of Northern Illinois University. Professor William Scott of Dartmouth College gave a talk to the college community on the **Oedipus Rex**. In December the chapter members and other interested classicists sang Latin carols at the Rockford College Christmas Wassail.

Renee Peron
Grammateus

Epsilon Eta Kent State University

During this past year our chapter has been involved in a variety of activities. After our initiation ceremony in which Dr. William Arrowsmith was the guest speaker, we took a group to the Cleveland Playhouse Theater to see "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," based on the plays of Plautus. Following the performance we feasted on Greek cuisine and were entertained by Greek music.

Since then our group has become involved in Greek music and dancing. Our chapter adviser, Dr. Rick Newton, belongs to the Greek Orthodox Church in Akron where we have often attended dances and festivals. We are fortunate to have a student from Cyprus, Zeus Olympus, who has given our group some lessons.

Our chapter has encouraged attendance at the A.I.A. lectures which feature many distinguished speakers. The most recent speaker was Professor Cynthia King from Wright State University whose specialty is ancient pottery.

Our most recent endeavor was a public service project to expose young people to foreign languages and to encourage them to pursue the study of a foreign language. The popular fairytale "Little Red Riding Hood" was performed in eight languages—English, German, French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Hebrew, and Latin. We performed our version in Roman attire, and the only tense moment was when our Little Red Riding Hood almost lost her **stola** when the safety pins gave way.

This month two members attended the National Convention in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and another member chaperoned a group of high school students at the state JCL convention. Next month we are going to initiate new members, and at the end of the semester a group from our chapter is leaving for Italy for a tour of the mainland and then for a tour of Sicily for the remainder of the trip. The trip will last five weeks with options to stay longer available.

Jo Ann Sveda,
Prytanis

Kathleen Marie Straw,
Hyparchos

Epsilon Iota University of Florida

The 1981-1982 year turned into an exciting year for the Epsilon Iota Chapter despite a slow start. On October 19, we had our first meeting to elect officers and to decide on fund raising activities.

Our chapter initiation was combined with a lecture by a visiting professor in February. Twenty-two students were initiated, and many were eager to participate in our chapter's activities.

Our basic fund-raising projects were two: the sale of **I AM A CLASSIC** T-shirts (cost, six dollars) and a garage sale on April 3.

Our major spring activities included the annual Greek Drama Forum, March 18-20, at the University of Florida and the Latin State Forum from April 22-24. At the drama festival we served at the registration desks and acted as guides and all-around go-fors for the conference. For the State Latin Forum, we served as officials and as chaperones.

Stanley A. Mansfield,
Prytanis

