



LIVING IN

# style:

## SOUTH DAKOTA SIGMA WINS HOUSING AWARD

**S**igma Alpha Epsilon Services, or ΣΑΕ Services, Inc., formed out of the organization's existing structure to assist chapters with housing needs. To that end, the winner of the Fraternity Housing Award is very special to Services, as it showcases the chapter that has gone beyond the call of duty to make its house the best it could possibly be. The Fraternity recognizes houses across the country, some of which are owned by the Fraternity, some by the housing corporations and some by the universities.

At the 70th John O. Mosley Leadership School, South Dakota Sigma at the University of South Dakota earned the Fraternity Housing Award. Chapter members took their house to a new level in the past year, tearing out an entire basement party room to make way for a lounge, a study area and a meeting room.

According to longtime chapter adviser Steve Sikorski, the chapter members have

worked tirelessly to improve the house — backed by an extremely helpful house corporation. “We are very fortunate at South Dakota Sigma to have dedicated house corporation board members,” Sikorski said. “We also were lucky to have a bunch of guys living in the house that were dedicated to improving their surroundings and did so by completely refurbishing the old ‘Pit.’”

As the members wrote in their awards application, “The most dramatic renovation occurred in one of our basement rooms that was coined ‘The Pit’ for obvious reasons. Through the tireless work of a few men living in the chapter house last summer, ‘The Pit’ was gutted, new walls were put up, fresh paint was applied and new carpet and new ceiling tiles were put in. The former ‘Pit’ is now two rooms: a TV room complete with stadium seating and a study room with high-speed Internet access, computers and large study tables.”

Other improvements to the property have included general landscaping efforts, remodeling of the utility shed and the installation of a new fire alarm system.

The house for South Dakota Sigma opened in 1962 and has since had a number of renovations, such as a new roof, a new boiler, a fire-detection system and a complete overhaul of the kitchen. The housing corporation owns the chapter house and, this year, approximately 24 men live in the structure. 🍷

### The South Dakota Sigma housing committee

Regan Smith ('89), *president*  
 Mike Sagness ('99), *secretary/treasurer*  
 Steve Sikorski ('64), *board member*  
 Bill Lenker ('90), *board member*  
 Aaron McGowan ('96), *board member and counsel*