

SUMMER 2023

SigEp

The
SPEAR

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

A Look into the Life of Roy Romer '50

Our Brother Shares His Experiences and Expertise

Roy was born in 1928 in the small town of Friend, Kansas. His family moved to Holly, Colorado, when he was 6 months old. He recalls living a very good life even though times were difficult in the 1930s with the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl. It was during these times he developed most of his character.

In high school, Roy was tasked by the U.S. Government to manage a work gang of German POWs. He was responsible for 12 prisoners. Each morning he would give each of them a knife to harvest the broomcorn.

"That's crazy when you think about it, but we all had to do difficult things during the war because there was nobody else around to do them," he shared.

When it was time to go to college, Roy wanted to find a place he would fit in, and Colorado A&M was that place.

When he joined SigEp, he was trying to learn what the world was like and the meaning of the fraternity. "I was very immature coming from a small town. I was not a sophisticated guy, and I learned a lot about the world from my brothers."

Roy tells us more about his life below.

WHAT PEOPLE OR EVENTS IMPACTED YOUR LIFE?

"Harris Gard was a math professor and advisor for student government, and he was very important to me. He not only taught me math but also how to function as a student leader.

When I ran for student body president, 90% of my motivation was ego, trying to prove that I was somebody. The agenda of the student body president is not a heavy one. It wasn't about making the world better or helping people live better in it. However, I began to recognize that I was interested in representing people and helping them."



TELL US ABOUT THE VIETNAM WAR.

"I was an AFROTC student and served in the Air Force for two years. I was a prosecutor in Germany. I've always had an interest in history, so I read a great deal about Vietnam. When we got involved in Vietnam, I sensed that we were not being told the truth. I decided to go there in 1965 because I wanted to learn about the war. When I came back, I was convinced that we shouldn't be in this war. But the whole country felt otherwise. At the time, I was one of the lead Democrats in Colorado and decided to call a meeting of the Democratic Party [with the idea that] we should establish a reference library on Vietnam that has both sides of the war. I was laughed out of the room. I quit because I didn't believe we were doing the right thing internationally."

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO GO INTO PUBLIC SERVICE?

"I had always wanted to serve people, and I knew politics and government were important. When I went to law school and served in the Air Force, I wanted to come back and be in the legislature. So, I took a year off and studied ethics at Yale, which was very helpful. I became a young lawyer and ran for the House from Denver and served four years in the Senate. I then ran for the U.S. Senate, lost, and dropped out for 10 years.

I came back into politics when Governor Lamb asked me to be his agricultural secretary. I later became his chief of staff. Then he appointed me state treasurer, and I held that job for 10 years. Then I ran for governor and was elected three times."

WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN LIFE?

"For me, it's that you live with a group of people who care enough about you to keep helping you find a better level of performance and a better level of being a human being. I had that, and that's what I'm most thankful about!"

ROY'S ADVICE...

...FOR ASPIRING LEADERS

- Tell the truth.
- Be bold, take risks.
- Listen strongly to people who disagree with you because there's some truth they may have that you need.
- Don't be the smartest guy in the room. Be the guy who's learning the most.
- Be humble.

...FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

- Pick work you like and do it with quality. You may not be the fastest runner, but you can do what you can.
- Always be thinking about standing in the other person's shoes. What do they feel?
- If you always keep an open mind, you will pick up knowledge from those around you.

Celebrating Our Wins

COLORADO GAMMA ENJOYS A FANTASTIC SEMESTER

We're excited to share our latest Colorado Gamma updates with you!

PARENT'S WEEKEND

Our Parent's Weekend was a memorable time shared with our loved ones. Everyone enjoyed live music by Elijah Petty and the Part-Times. It was a pleasure showing off our home with some food, courtesy to grill masters **Dillon Hinners** and his father. After, we headed to Prost Brewing Company and enjoyed the Colorado Avalanches' playoff win.



Brothers and parents enjoy connecting and listening to Elijah Petty and The Part-Times during Parent's Weekend.

SPRING FORMAL

This April, we held our Spring Formal in Breckenridge, Colorado. **Matt Lodi '25** and others put a considerable amount of time and effort into providing our chapter with a great formal experience in such a short period, and they did not disappoint. We rented out several homes in the area and enjoyed a formal lunch as well as a tailgate at Arapahoe Basin. It was great to spend quality time together ahead of finals and the end of the semester.

BROTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Both **Aidan Hall '24** and **Todd Soellner** will be taking part in a Kiewit Internship Program. Aidan will be serving as a project controls intern while Todd will be working as a field engineer and laborer in Little Rock, Arkansas,

with a team hoping to expand the I-30 across the Arkansas River. **Gavin Dawson 'YR** will hold a global supply chain internship at Cintas Corporation in Chicago, Illinois, this summer.

RUCK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

President **Brendon Beaver '23** and Vice President of Communications **Owen Harrison '26** recently attended the esteemed institute in Richmond, Virginia. We're excited for our brothers to better themselves as leaders and apply their newfound knowledge to our chapter for our betterment.

DEPARTING SENIOR HIGHLIGHT

Keegan Hughes '23 is headed off to Sunnyvale, California, to begin his career at Lockheed Martin Aerospace Corporation. We are extremely proud of him!

PHILANTHROPY

On February 26, we invited the CSU community to Sigma "Pie" Epsilon at the house to support Doctors Without Borders. The brothers sold pie and hot chocolate, and for \$5 you could pie a brother of your choice. The event was a success, and we raised \$750.

Additionally, we held a SigEp X Dance Marathon Carnival, which raised \$1,169 for Dance Marathon's main event. The event raised over \$20,000, and Colorado Gamma was directly responsible for \$4,000. We are extremely thankful to be in the position to give back to our community and those in need!

ASCSU AND CARLSON

Upcoming senior **Cole Johnson '24** has been elected to the Associated Students of Colorado State University and will be representing Greek life in the Senate.

Members of our executive board traveled to Atlanta and Oklahoma City for the Carlson Leadership Academy. The academy allowed us to gain further insight into what it takes to



SigEps at the Ruck Leadership Institute

adequately do our jobs. Additionally, we got the chance to interact with members of chapters from across the country and learn some interesting SigEp history! We were honored with the Talent Power Award for our incredible year of recruiting and member retention.

ZOLLINGER AWARD RECIPIENT

Former President **Braden Courter** received the J. Edward Zollinger Outstanding Senior Award for his outstanding scholastic achievement, fraternity and campus leadership, and community involvement. Braden was also honored with the Living the Ritual Award at this year's Fraternity Sorority Life Awards. Words don't describe the impact of members like Braden and how essential they are for us to set a standard as to what it means to be a SigEp.

ACCREDITED AS A SIGEP LEARNING COMMUNITY

In the last issue of *The Spear*, we touched on the work being done to become an accredited SigEp Learning Community. With the help of our former vice president of learning community, **Matt Lodi '25**, our current vice president of learning community, **Parker Orth '26**, and our residential scholar, Abby Howk, we were able to get the necessary paperwork for the application and are proud to announce **we are now an RLC-accredited chapter!**

This is a big deal for us, as we are on the brink of attaining the highest IFC GPA of chapters with over 50 members. Accreditation also means that more of the money we spend on dues goes to us instead of national insurance, meaning more events for current brothers and our beloved alumni!

Fraternally,
Brendon Beaver '23, Chapter President

P.S. Homecoming is on **October 14** this year, and we hope to see as many alumni as possible at the chapter house to celebrate with us!



Brothers enjoy spending time together at our Spring Formal.

THE VALUE OF THE FRATERNITY EXPERIENCE

Research Proves Our Mission Is Important

Fraternities **empower students** and provide a **strong support** system.

When members **seek help**, they are twice as likely to **turn to a brother** than anyone else.

Members are **more academically engaged** than their peers.

Brothers are **more connected** to their local communities, and they spend **more time volunteering** than nonaffiliated students.

Members experience **greater gains in learning** and **graduate at higher rates** than their peers.

83% of members say their confidence in their **leadership skills increased** because of their membership.

CHAPTER OFFICERS



(Left) Members of the executive board at the Carlson Leadership Academy. From left: Advisor Todd Donovan, Owen Harrison '26, Brendon Beaver '23, Billy Maddalon '90, and Brody Parker '26. (Right) Members of SigEp were honored to have Coach Sam Jones join them for chapter on April 24. The coach spent an hour speaking with the chapter about leadership and recruitment. He was one of our best speakers!

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Aidan Hall '24

VP Learning Community
Parker Orth '26

Chaplain
Javier Marcus '26

Brother Mentor Challenge Cord
Brendon Beaver '23

VP Finance
Aden Pesicka '25

Sigma Challenge Coordinator
Steven Dent '25
Sam Rosen '24 (Alternate)

BMS Chairman
Owen Harrison '26

VP Member Development
Gavin Dawson '25

House Manager
Matt Lodi '25

SAVE THE DATES



29TH ANNUAL SPE COLORADO ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join Colorado SigEp alumni, undergraduates, and friends on **Friday, August 18**, at Walnut Creek Golf Preserve in Westminster for another great day of golf!

Walnut Creek has hosted the local U.S. Open qualifying for more than 10 years. The course has lots of undulation/hills/tough greens and is a great scramble course.

By playing, you will raise funds to support the chapter's Learning Community, an endowment that provides grants for academic programs and equipment for the chapter. The fund is structured to grow over time while available annual grants also grow. All proceeds go to the endowment.

Visit csusigep.org/calendar to sign up.

As always, you don't want to miss this chance to reconnect with old brothers and meet new brothers.

HOMECOMING

October 14

121 E. Lake Street

Join us for Jimmy Buffett, crew burgers in paradise, and a tap truck!

SigEp

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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

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58th Grand Chapter Conclave

Join SigEp in the Lone Star State this August to celebrate the 58th Grand Chapter Conclave. Every two years, Sigma Phi Epsilon hosts the largest gathering of its members across the nation, the Grand Chapter Conclave. This year's ultimate SigEp experience will take place **Aug. 2 - 6, 2023**, at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio River Walk. More than 1,000 brothers, alumni and friends will come together to celebrate the achievements of the past biennium and inspire continued success for the future of the Fraternity.

Register today!

Check out what else is
happening at SigEp inside!