

My Jewish Brothers *continued from page 53*

State): “Before I came to college, my Jewish identity basically involved doing what my parents told me to do, such as, “Go to services, because that’s what Jews do.” Once I came to college and my parents were no longer around, my connection to Judaism basically disappeared. I didn’t even go to High Holiday services. Then I joined AEPi and my Judaism made a comeback. Judaism was the one thing all my brothers and I had in common. It brought us together.”

What was your most memorable Jewish frat experience?

Josh Nason: “During my sophomore year, the AEPi chapter at Michigan State held a Shabbat dinner to honor the memory of Michael Schwerner, an AEPi alum from Cornell who had briefly attended Michigan State; he went down to Mississippi during the Civil Rights movement and was killed by the KKK. Four of us at Cornell decided to go on a road trip to Michigan State for the din-

ner. It was a great experience to meet guys from another AEPi chapter who were remarkably like us. We stayed at their chapter house, partied with them, even got to see a Michigan State home football game. And being there to honor Michael Schwerner gave us all a lot of pride in our fraternity and in the Jewish commitment to social justice.”

Evan Slaton: “This past Passover, one of my brothers, Max, decided to hold a seder at our fraternity house. About fifteen of us attended. We set up tables and chairs on our side porch and we each brought food. Just sitting there with my brothers, singing and eating, I felt a real connection to my brothers and to Judaism.”

Have you ever experienced anti-Semitism on campus?

David Safier: “Since Ohio State is so large and diverse, anti-Semitism hasn’t been as much of a problem here. However, many people still have never met a Jewish person before, so occasionally I’m asked questions like ‘do Jews celebrate Thanksgiving?’ That’s ignorance,

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