

Some spaces being filled by 'walk-ins'

Many dorm rooms vacant this spring

By JEAN LONGSERRE
Battalion Reporter

Too many students and not enough dorm spaces was the housing department's problem in the fall. Now the department faces too many dorm spaces and not enough students to fill them.

About 115 of the 5,949 non-Corps dorm spaces are empty this semester and most are expected to remain empty, said Ron Sasse, director of student affairs for student housing.

"We haven't been completely full in the spring semester for a long time," said Sasse. But this semester the number of empty spaces is a little higher than in past years.

"Each semester we have to pre-

dict how many spaces will be available for the next semester," Sasse said. "All we have is past records to base those predictions on."

Sasse explained that dorm residents are required to fill out housing cards at the end of each semester. These cards state whether a resident is keeping the space, moving off campus, or transferring to another dorm.

"We have to make our assignments for the spring usually about the same time sign-up is going on," Sasse said, "so we really don't know much more than when we started, because we have to make our prediction before we see the cards."

This semester, the housing de-

partment's prediction for empty spaces was low. Sasse explained that empty dorm spaces can hurt the University financially. "The amount of impact is related to the number of vacancies," he said.

This year, due to the over-assignment problem of the fall, the University will probably not suffer a significant financial loss. "We benefited from the extra income."

Sasse gave several reasons for the housing department's low prediction. "We didn't expect the deans' block list to be as high as it was," he said. The "block" list is a list of students blocked from returning to the University due to poor grades.

"No-shows were also up just a little," Sasse said. "No-shows" are students who do not return to school and don't bother to inform the housing department.

"The reason they don't tell anybody is usually because they have already forfeited their deposit and

they don't think they need to say anything," said Sasse. Dorm deposit is \$65.

"There were 90 men and 25 women no-shows this semester," said Sasse. He explained that, between the 115 no-shows and other students who gave up their rooms for some reason, the housing department found itself with about 145 empty spaces.

"The first thing we did was send out letters to people on the dorm waiting list," Sasse said. "But most of the students had made arrangements to live somewhere else."

Sasse said most students living in apartments are required to sign a nine-month lease. "Usually the lease can't be broken," Sasse said. "Even if a lease can be broken, there are not many people who could afford the change from an apartment to dorm."

Sasse explained that the student making the change would probably

have to forfeit the apartment deposit, sublease the apartment, pay for the dorm space and pay the dorm deposit.

Sasse said that about 30 of the 145 spaces were filled by "walk-ins," people who had not applied for a dorm space, but came into the housing office and asked for a space. "We didn't take any walk-ins until we had checked with people on the waiting list," Sasse said. There were 30 walk-ins, 20 men and 10 women.

"After we assigned the walk-ins there were still about 115 empty spaces," said Sasse. "We have done everything we can to fill the spaces," he said. "There isn't much more we can do."

2 triplet sets born same day, hospital

United Press International
CHICAGO — Triplets are born once in 81,000 births — but it happened twice on the same day at a South Side hospital.

Two sets of triplets were born "almost simultaneously" around noon Wednesday at Michael Reese Hospital, a spokeswoman said.

Kenneth and Leah Rawson of Wilmette, Ill., are the parents of two 5-pound girls and one 4-pound boy.

The babies were delivered by Caesarean section.

Three girls — weighing 3 pounds, 4 ounces; 3 pounds, 5 ounces, and 4 pounds, 8 ounces — were born to Thomas and Jane Cooper of Chicago.

The Cooper infants were put in the hospital's special care nursery as a precaution "because they are so little," the spokeswoman said.

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Information should be submitted on a form available in The Battalion, Room 216, Reed McDonald Building.

Information should include the

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Forms are next to the black box in the Battalion office. Information should be submitted three days prior before the event.

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