

## State and Local

# Fraternity rush requires work, dedication

By Laura White  
Staff Writer

For some, the word 'rush' brings to mind parties, free beer and drunk greeks, but to fraternity rush chairmen and the greek adviser, 'rush' means a lot of hard work and dedication, with the reward of 25 new pledge classes.

For many fraternities, the rush process actually began last spring with the planning and advertising of parties.

"Sometime in April or May we decide on our goals," Sigma Chi-Rush Chairman Paul Cox said. "The chapter as a whole gets motivated and decides on concrete ideas."

Pi Kappa Alpha Rush Chairman James Martingano says, "It's a big job. We have six or seven events over the summer. The posters, cards, mailouts and all the other advertising have to be ready way before fall."

Not all fraternities participate in summer rush, but all 25 fraternities are busy in the fall recruiting new members.

Rush officially began Aug. 30 with the

Fraternity Live Seminar, an orientation program for rushees. The rush for new fraternity members ends Sept. 14.

Greek adviser Charles Goodman said, "During that time, rushees get a chance to meet individual members of fraternities and gather information about the chapters. At the end of that period, rushees have the opportunity to accept or decline any bids extended to them."

Fraternity membership is becoming an increasingly sought-after goal, Goodman said.

"The number of rushees is way up," he said. "We fully expect 500 men to pledge a fraternity this semester, which is a new record. We're really excited about it."

The Interfraternity Council has implemented several new programs in the past few semesters, including reducing the rush period and placing a time limit on how long prospective pledges have to accept bids.

Among the most significant changes this year is the introduction of the 'Bid House.'

### ATM greek ORGANIZATIONS

Fraternities will submit their bid lists at noon on Sept. 14. The lists are posted by 5 p.m., when the rushees receive a packet containing their bids.

"This means that the rushee will then have the opportunity to receive all his bids at one time in an impartial environment," Goodman says. "Fraternity representatives will be there and the rushee will have all the information he needs to make his decision."

Fraternity members have mixed feelings about the new program.

Greg Roden, rush chairman for Phi Delta Theta, said, "I think the Bid House is

a good idea. It gives each fraternity an equal starting point. Before this year there was big competition to see who could get a bid to the rushee first.

"This way everyone is sober in a big auditorium and they can start their decision-making process without the pressure that used to exist."

Steve Greiner, rush chairman for Theta Chi, disagrees.

"I think the Bid House is more impersonal," he says. "We used to have a personal bidding system where we could extend the bid as a fraternity. Now we have to get our fraternity's name implanted in the rushee's mind before he enters the auditorium."

Martingano says he sees both problems and benefits with the new bidding system.

"Rush is kind of confused with the new 'Bid House' system," he said. "A lot of people don't know what's going on. The other

way was a little more personal, but I can see that the new program will eliminate the undercutting among fraternities that used to take place."

Regardless of the bidding system, fraternity members say they are looking forward to getting to know their new pledges.

"I really enjoy the chance to meet new people," Greiner says. "Rush is the lifeblood of the fraternity. If we get a good pledge class then motivation and involvement in the chapter itself increases."

Goodman said, "I'm excited about rush. The system has really grown over the last few semesters. We're a lot more organized and the number of prospective pledges is higher than ever."

"We are seeing men from residence halls and the Corps going through rush. This could be in part attributed to the fact that fraternities are making a more conscious effort to become more involved on campus."

## Library, APO campaign reduces noise

By Kelly S. Brown  
Reporter

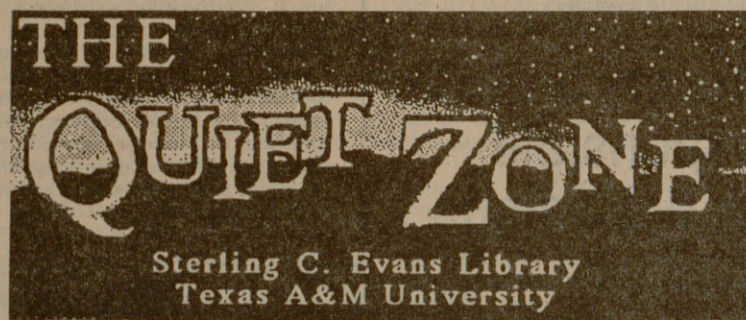
By the time a student enters college it is expected that the rule of using a 'whisper voice' in the library has become something of a natural reflex.

Walking through the Sterling C. Evans library, however, especially at night, it is apparent that many students' whisper reflexes are in poor shape.

Because of the growing problem of excess noise in the library, the library and Alpha Phi Omega have started a campaign — called The Quiet Zone — to battle the noise.

"The noise level has gotten out of hand and the number of complaints is growing," Candace Benefiel, public information and humanities reference librarian and originator of the campaign, said.

"The library wants to show the student body that we are just as concerned about the problem as everyone else, but we need everyone's cooperation to be effective."



"It's primarily a public awareness campaign with more eye-catching signs and APO members passing out fliers. It's aimed at every individual who enters the library," she said.

Ron Lott, a junior animal science major, said, "It's embarrassing that there has to be an actual campaign to decrease the noise level in our library. I go there to study and expect quiet, instead I hear people socializing. I guess something had to be done."

Benefiel says, "We want the stu-

dents to think about why they are there, while respecting the students studying around them. We also encourage students to politely tell noisy students to quiet down. Everyone should get involved, because maintaining the noise level should not be left up to the monitor alone."

A monitor walks around the library at night asking noise- and no-food-violators to follow the library's rules of courtesy.

"As a matter of courtesy and ma-

turity, college students should be quieter," she says. "They are expected to be mature enough to behave appropriately, and it's a shame that this has not been the case."

Designated talking areas are located in the student lounge on the second floor, and the group study areas on the third and fourth floors.

Other options exist for groups needing an area to talk but not necessarily to use the library resources.

Beginning Sept. 12, the MSC, Sbis Dining Hall, Pavilion and the Pie Are Square snack bar will be open at night to students looking for an alternate study place.

"We're not throwing the students out," Benefiel said. "We're here to provide a service, not deny it."

"We realize that students need to discuss assignments and we're not asking for total silence, only that the noise level be decreased — a lot," she said. "It's up to the students to follow and enforce the 'Quiet Zone' policy. The library is not a place for social gatherings, nor is it a slumber party."

## Airplane's wreckage includes beer cans

EL PASO (AP) — Open beer cans were found among the wreckage of a small airplane that crashed east of El Paso last week-end, killing three brothers and an 8-year-old boy, an investigator said.

Witnesses saw the plane diving steeply at low altitudes and buzzing a pickup truck before it crashed Saturday, National Safety Transportation Board investigator Armond Edwards said Tuesday.

Open beer cans were found among the Cessna 170A's wreckage, and people questioned during the investigation said the pilot and his two brothers had been drinking, Edwards said.

"There are indications that there was some drinking going on while they were flying," Edwards said.

Killed in the crash were the pi-

lot, Dennis R. Peterson, 37, of El Paso; Kevin Peterson, 34, of El Paso; Bernard John Peterson, 30, of Austin; and Justin Hafley, 8, of El Paso. Hafley was the son of the pilot's employer.

A man who knew the Petersons told Edwards he was driving a pickup truck near the West Texas Regional Airport — where the plane took off — when the plane buzzed the truck.

Other witnesses reported seeing the plane dive closely to the ground and then pull up sharply, Edwards said.

Authorities said a preliminary investigation showed the plane was flying low when a wing struck the ground, forcing the nose into the ground and causing the plane to tumble and break apart.

Dennis Peterson liked teasing the ground, Phil Barrett, owner of West Texas Regional Airport, said.

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Exhibition Opening Thursday, September 8, 1988  
Lecture by Dr. Nadia Tscherny, The Frick Collection, New York City  
"From Kin to Kine: The British Fascination with Portraiture"  
7:00 p.m. Rudder Tower Room 701  
Reception to follow the lecture in Rudder Exhibit Hall.

Thursday, September 22, 1988  
Lecture by Dr. David R. Anderson, Associate Professor, Department of English, TAMU  
"The Moral Power of the Image for the Eighteenth Century English Collector"  
7:00 p.m. Memorial Student Center Room 201

Thursday, October 13, 1988  
Lecture by Dr. James M. Rosenheim, Assistant Professor, Department of History, TAMU  
"The English Collector in Historical Perspective"  
7:00 p.m. Memorial Student Center Room 201

Docent tours of the exhibition are available by calling 845-8501.

## Dillard's is pleased to announce the formation of the Fall '88 College Advisory Board

The Dillard's College Advisory Board is being formed with the intention of developing a direct communication link with the Texas A&M University student body. Our goal is to use this feedback in a constructive manner to better serve the student customer.

Applications are available for college men and women at Customer Service and are due Sept. 13. Contact Pam Johnsen at 764-0014

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