

"Too Damn Much Dirty Rushing" Rushee Member Have Verbal Battle During Rush Week

By Bill Gurney
Emerald Associate Editor

Men's rush week is over and 147 men pledged fraternities. The consensus of opinion among fraternity men seemed to be that rushing rules were not followed well during last fall term and, to a somewhat lesser extent, during rush week.

One house president said: "There was too damn much dirty rushing. We (the fraternities) all promised each other at the start of the year that we were going to play it clean. It kind of gets you to hear about constant violations."

A house officer said: "I definitely know there was a lot of illegal rushing going on fall term, and many violations during rush week. I know of numerous houses that did it. I think the problem will get worse next year if something isn't done. The competition is really getting cut-throat, and each year there are fewer freshmen going through because they apparently are not encouraged in the dorms to do so."

Fraternity member: "I think just about every house on campus did it (illegal rushing) last term, and I don't know how you could stop it."

And so it goes. You can talk to almost anyone in the fraternity system and find out they are not happy with the way things went.

Why should this be? Why can't fraternities abide by the "limited contact" rules prior to rush week and play strictly by the rules during rush week itself?

Possible reasons seem to be these: (1) Houses that violate the rules don't have confidence in their ability to get the men they want through legal rushing.

(2) Penalties are too light; often they consist of a \$25 fine and loss of the right to pledge the man involved for a year. "And what does that do to stop fraternities?" one house president said, "I know last year we (his house) went overboard on a boy and got fined. He's living in our house now."

(3) Houses that know of violations by other houses don't turn them in as they should. They reason this way: "We don't want to stick our neck out. They may catch us sometime and we'll just save this to throw back at them if we have to." And so dorm counselors turned in most of the violations that were reported fall term. Naturally counselors are not in the best position to see violations, because freshmen involved are going to keep quiet about them.

(4) There haven't been enough men going through rush week to go around—147 men pledged last week divided by 21 fraternities is an average of seven pledges per house. Why didn't houses relax and wait for open rushing and a shot at the large number of men they knew wouldn't go through rush week? They probably reasoned like this: "Most of the 'names,' the well-known men who will do us the most good are going through rush week. We want these men, we have to have them as drawing cards for the other good men who didn't go through rush week."

What can be done about illegal rushing? The alternatives:

(1) Levy stiffer fines, such as reducing house quotas when violations are reported. Here again you have the problem of enforcement. If fraternities wouldn't turn in violators for light penalties, would there be any more desire to do so under heavy, punitive penalties?

(2) There could be more mutual trust and sweetness and light between fraternities. This, of course, is the ideal. But it has been aimed at for three years now, and little apparent progress has been made.

(3) Hold rush week early fall term, as sororities do. The disadvantages to this are: Fraternities would have no GPA's to consider. They would pledge more men who would flunk out of school. Dormitory organization would perhaps be less effective because of divided loyalties.

We believe the advantages of fall term rushing outweigh the disadvantages. If fraternities can't live honestly under the present system, why should they keep kidding themselves? Why should they go on under rules they apparently have no desire to obey?

As to grades, fraternities could do more thorough investigation into high school records, which after all are a pretty good criterion for predicting college success. Not so good, we admit, as a college GPA, but fraternities apparently aren't willing, or able, to wait until these are available before going to work on rushing.

And we don't think there is any reason why dorm organizations can't function just as well with pledges from the start of the year. They already have to do this for two terms out of three, so we can't see anything impossible about starting out that way.

Also, smaller houses would get a better break. They could pledge more and better men because they would not have the obstacle of a term's publicity for "big name" houses. There is certainly no relation between how happy any given individual will be in a house and the number of campus "wheels" or athletes who live there. Thus the whole fraternity system would be kept strong; we think this is important to the University. (B.G.)

The unique collegiate phenomenon known as rush week has just run its course. And it was quite a week, fraught with material for a drama, comedy and satire all rolled into one. At least 15 fraternities now have the "best pledge class" on campus, and the rest have a "great nucleus to build on."

The conversation that went on was especially inspiring. Here's a somewhat exaggerated version of an exchange between a **Friendly Member** and a **Wide-eyed Freshman**. (The wide-eyed part is strictly fictional; most of them were about as naive and impressionable as charter members of the Black Hand.)

Friendly Member: Great to have you up here, son. My name is Orkney McLout. May I take your coat?

Wide-Eyed Freshman: My name's Sam Snodgrass, and I'll keep the coat for a while. I may want a leave.

FM: (Heartily) Ha Ha Ha. Well, Sam, where are you from?

WEF: Oh, I don't know. My old man's on the dodge and I ain't heard from him for three months. How much does it cost to pledge this house?

FM: (Very Heartily) Ho, Ho, Ho. Oh it doesn't cost much at all, and we'll pay your way if you are a little short. Now let me show you the rooms—right here is one of our nicer ones. Look at that big roomy closet and the big soft chair, all for only six guys. Isn't that wonderful?

WEF: Yeah

FM: I knew you'd like it. Now let me show you the sleeping porches. (opens porch door and blast of ice-cold air comes out) Ah! Real fresh air. Just what a man needs to keep healthy. None of that stuffy dead stuff.

WEF: Yeah, but how do ya get up to the top bunk without waking up the five guys below you? How do ya?

FM: I knew you'd like the house, Sam, now let me tell you a little about the men we have up here. For instance, there's Dudley Rahrah, president of the campus bird-watching society and vice president of the Friday afternoon beer club, and for all of that he's just a plain, modest likeable guy. And then there is Deltoid Virull, captain of the lacrosse team, and a real simple, happy guy. Here's Deltoid right now.

Deltoid: I am a big dumb athlete. I can dress myself, feed myself, and do menial chores.

FM: That's fine, Deltoid, now go back to your room; dinner will be later. Sam, what's your major here at college?

WEF: Will, I kind of like biology.

FM: That's fine, Sam, you mean—you study all those theories?

WEF: No, I mean applied biology.

FM: Well, Sam, its almost time to leave now. Is there anything else you'd like to know about the house?

WEF: Yeah, where's the beer. I'm a little thirsty.

And so on. And so forth. Somewhere in the whole process there are a lot of significant conclusions that could be drawn. Right now, just after rush week, we are tired.

Six years ago today:
● Sixteen Phi Delt pledges staged a "kissing bee," entering five sorority houses and receiving (or planting) 65 kisses per man.
● Thieves took \$80 in March of Dimes money from a window sill at Kappa Sigma.

The College Crowd

Campus Headlines Elsewhere

By Rae Thomas

Registration usually causes a lot of confusion but a coed at North Texas State College nearly got the worst of it. She was going through registration lines when she was ushered into a separate room. There a nurse told her that since she had no record of a previous vaccination, she would have to take one now.

"But," the young lady stammered, "will that work? I'm registering for my husband."

A grave situation is reported at UCLA. The chairman of the anatomy department has issued the statement that the medical division of the school is in dire need of bodies. Unclaimed corpses have provided the medics with enough experimental material in the past, but students are getting behind in the practice sets. UCLA alumni are being urged to will their corpses to the school.

Is any body interested?

The Daily Reveille, Louisiana State University, has this comment to make about the honor system: "It seems that the teachers have the honor and the students have the system."

A Plymouth sedan and a Carnation milk truck collided in the middle of the U of Washington campus. The woman driving the Plymouth reported to student witnesses a bit angrily, "no one has been injured—yet!"

Headline: from the Eastern State News, Eastern Illinois State college: "Winter Weather, Wine, Not Women Cause Wreck." And from the Daily Tar Heel, University of North Carolina: "Jones Jolts Fagged Fans; Zest Zooms."

Ohio State's 1953 yearbook, The Makio, will be heard as well as seen.

In each yearbook there will be a 15-minute phonograph record

of some of the sounds most familiar to Ohio State students—the chimes, the marching band, school songs and excerpts from speeches by campus leaders.

Gambling in the Ventura college card playing room is getting out of hand, according to the Ventura Pirate Press.

The administration has threatened to revoke all card playing privileges if the gambling continues.

The examination schedule for students at San Jose was printed under the headline of "READ 'EM AND WEEP, SUCKERS."

The Cougar, University of Houston publication, carries in one paper an account of their \$50,000 fire, in which \$10,000 worth of equipment—monkeys, rats, etc.—were lost by the Psych department and the rest lost by the Pharmacy and Engineering Colleges. The next issue carries the announcement that the University has received the first certificate for fire prevention ever awarded by the National Fire Prevention Association. They received the certificate for offering a course in fire prevention. (It seems they could better use a pound of cure.)

The "Daily Texan" reports that according to a recent poll taken in several small Southern schools, these were the sweetest words in the English language:

- 1. I love you.
- 2. Dinner is served.
- 3. All is forgiven.
- 4. Sleep 'till noon.
- 5. Keep the change.
- 6. No class tomorrow.
- 7. Ask me again sometime.

The saddest were:

- 1. Buy me one.
- 2. We're through.
- 3. I graded those quizzes.
- 4. External use only.
- 5. Report to your local board.

The Social Side



"May we introduce ourselves? My frat brothers and I couldn't help but notice you're wearing our pin."

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