

# Rush

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came easily once the initial tension was broken.

"It's easy to talk to the girls. They're all really outgoing because they want to get to know you," said freshman Tina Jacobsen.

And from the inside, Pi Beta Phi member Angela Elden said, "The first day (of rush) it's really hard. But the second day you get to know them (the rushees). It's really not small talk after the first day."

However, freshman Katie Clawson said despite welcoming attitudes, when rushees found themselves short of conversation upon meeting a sorority member, they could lose their bids to that house.

Clawson explained that such brief visits to each house also could mean only getting to visit with one house member.

"If she's not talkative to you and you're not talkative to her, she can say 'she didn't talk,' and you can get dropped (from that house)," Clawson said.

Johnson estimated about 20 percent of the women who sign up for rush don't join houses, either because they don't want to join a house, they can't decide on a house or they don't get chosen by the house they want to be in.

"The houses can really make you feel one way or another," Johnson said. But with 11 houses to choose from, rushees can hopefully make at least one connection.

## MEANWHILE

### AT THE FRATERNITIES...

Rush took on a more formal air this year.

While rushees last year could visit any house at any time, formal visitations are held every evening this year, with daytime open for drop-ins.

"This year they must see every house through a structured process. Last year they only had to see about half of them," Vance said.

But Vance said the change provides a clearer picture, since not every man is meant for the same house.

Also making the selection a more serious decision is the "dry rush policy," which the local fraternities adopted four years ago. "There are too many

problems with rushees drinking and making the decision of what house their going to be in the next four years," Vance said.

In addition, over 50 percent of this year's rushees gained greater insight to the fraternity system through the Resident Rushee Program. In its second year, this program allows rushees to live in a fraternity during rush week so they can fully experience the Greek system, he added. Boarding at the Phi Psi's during rush helped freshman Wade Blackburn af-

firm that "fraternities might be fun."

Interfraternity Council Rush Chairman Jay Halverson said rush is "a great way to meet people. I have a lot of friends outside the fraternity life, and I have met a lot of them through the rush process."

With the number of students rushing this fall due to a 13.5 percent increase in freshman enrollment at the University, Vance said informal Spring rush will be less demanding.

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