

# Houseboys wash dishes, wait tables for free meals

*Working in sororities provides opportunity to socialize as well*

By Jennifer Thomas  
Emerald Contributor

Imagine about 40 women vying for your attention as you look forward to a good meal and a sink full of dishes after dinner.

This describes a part-time job of a few male University students who call themselves houseboys. It is agreed, though, that a benefit of the job is the convenience.

"The original intention was to find a way to get my meals cooked," said Brian Posewitz, a second-year law student and houseboy for the Chi Omega sorority.

"For us, it is a good deal if you don't like to cook and clean. School keeps me busy and it's a real convenience," he continued.

Houseboys, or "hashers" as they are sometimes called, are students who work out a deal with a sorority to provide dishwashing and waiter services in exchange for free meals.

The meals serve as payment for the service, although technically, a wage is given and the meals are deducted out of the paycheck. The houseboys receive the remainder of the bal-

ance when they are paid, said Posewitz.

"Most of the houseboys are law students, and we are so busy," said Posewitz.

Brook Sessions, another second-year law student and houseboy for the Chi Omega sorority said, "I live in Springfield and it really saves time to be able to eat at the sorority. It saves money, too."

In the Delta Delta Delta sorority, "I hire the new boys by word of mouth," said housemother Shirley Dryden. "There is a waiting list of boys wanting to work. We haven't had to change often. The boys are good."

The weekly schedule usually employs one houseboy working for 90 minutes on the lunch shift, while two houseboys work for two hours at dinner, cleaning off the tables and washing dishes.

The Monday night formal dinners are the only occasions the houseboys are expected to wait on the tables as well as perform the regular duties. Each houseboy ends up working three to four days a week, Posewitz said.

"I figure the time I spend working would be the time I

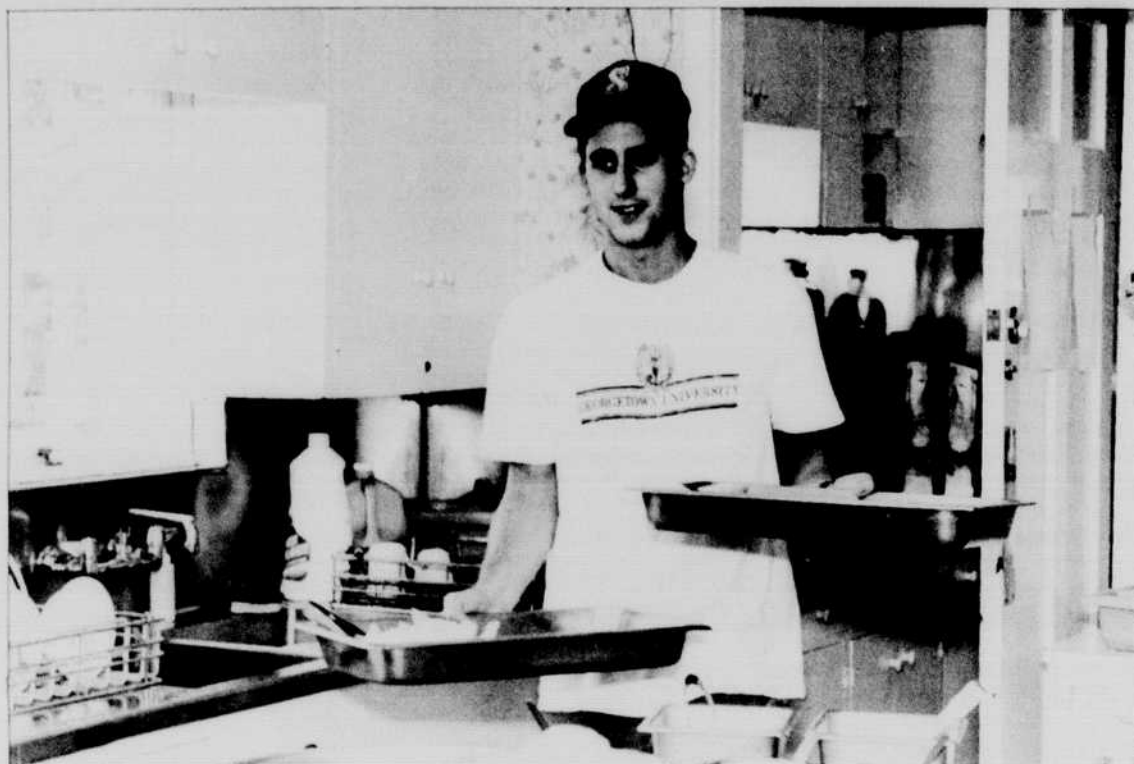


Photo by Sean Poston

Scott Horejsi, a junior business major has worked a "hasher" in the Pi Beta Phi sorority for the past two years.

would normally spend cooking, cleaning and shopping," he said.

"Socially, it's good, too," he continued. "We get to eat in the dining room with the girls and get to know them. The members are always really nice, pleasant and polite. I can't complain."

Sessions agreed. "The best part is getting to know the girls. You feel like a part of the house. We all get along well."

Recently, the houseboys of the Chi Omega sorority put on a "hasher ball" for the women. Sessions said the party was complete with a limousine for the "hasher queen", as well as a live band and dancing.

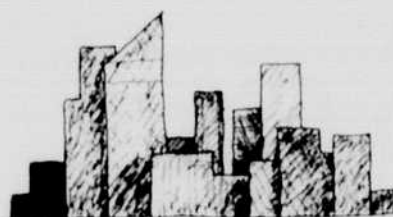
"My motivation for becoming a houseboy was not to find a girlfriend," Sessions said. "Sometimes we do go out with the girls in groups to birthday parties and on group dates, but that's usually it."

Leslie Hamaker of Kappa Kappa Gamma said, "The houseboys are all our age and we get along really well."

"Seventy percent of them are from the Fiji house across the street," she continued. "Last year we didn't get to know the houseboys very well, but this term we are getting to know them better. They are really good."

A Gamma Phi Beta member said, "They are a great asset to the house. They are friendly and really keep the house together. They are great guys."

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