U. NEWS

ALABAMA

No Hair, No Bid . . A U. of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, freshman claims she was forced to de-pledge from the Sigma Kappa sorority there after she revealed her head is shaved. The woman, who wore a wig while attending rush functions, said she has to shave her head due to a recent medical condition. "This is the kind of situation that is supposed to only happen in the movies," said 18vear-old Crystal Thompson. At a large dinner where the pledges introduced themselves, in front of everyone, she revealed that her head was shaved. "I didn't realize that it made that much of a difference," she said. The next night, Thompson said she was visited in her room by three Sigma Kappa officers not including the president - who told her that because the chapter was new on campus it could not afford to have its reputation tarnished. She said they asked for her pledge shirt back and said her pledge was not official because she was not Sigma Kappa material. Thompson has trichotillmonia, an obsessive-compulsive disorder that causes the victim to pull out his or her hair. After investigating the complaint, Kathleen Randall, director of student life, said, "We did discover membership practices which were of concern to us, so we recommended national intervention" by the sorority's headquarters. • Hayden Child, The Crimson White, U. of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

MASSACHUSETTS

Meal Deal . . . Officials at Clark U. in Worcester, Mass., are offering students money back if they do not like their residence hall meals. The new program is designed to dispel the notion that all college food is bad and to better accommodate the individual tastes of student customers, said Jack Foley, business manager. "It seems to be a common denominator for students at all colleges and universities to write home about the quality of the food," he said. Under the new plan, students unhappy with the food on their travs can complain to the food services manager, who will credit a student's university account for the price of the meal if an adequate substitute cannot be provided. Daka, the Massachusetts food service company that manages Clark's cafeterias, intends to "make (the refund plan) available to all of our schools," said Ron Cohen, Daka official. • The Review, U. of Delaware

GEORGIA

Losers Weepers . . . Locks on the front doors of nearly every residence hall on campus were changed at Emory U. this fall, and almost 3,000 new keys were distributed to students after a mechanic misplaced a master key, said Robert Stezkorn, the maintenance department's director of operations. It took several days to order the new keys because, as one university employee said, they don't "usually carry 3,000 blanks." Total costs associated with the loss of the master amounted to \$5,000. The mechanic had taken a master key home after completing a late night repair in a residence hall and lost it while at home. Lock and key hassles are not new to Emmory: Last year locks on the doors of every residential building had to be changed at a cost of nearly \$90,000. ■ Adam Biegel, The Emory Wheel, Emory U.

KENTUCKY

What's in a Name? A Western Kentucky U. freshman's name helped him through fraternity rush. Joe Rush was a name most could remember. But when introducing himself at parties, "a couple people thought I was being cocky with them," he said. "Most just made jokes all week." Rush met members from all the fraternities because of a new policy adopted by the Interfraternity Council that made him visit each and every house — a policy that also made Rush endure even more rush jokes than he would have otherwise. But he didn't mind. "I liked the new system," said Rush, who finally pledged the Kappa Sigma fraternity. . Paul Baldwin. College Heights Herald, Western Kentucky U.

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MISSOURI

Blood U. . . . For the record, the U. of Missouri is the bloodiest place in the world. The school established a new world record this year for a peacetime blood drive, surpassing the record set by Southern Illinois U. at Carbondale in 1986. According to Alan Elias, manager of the Account Development for the Missouri Blood Center, 3,995 units of blood were donated by 4,461 donors. SIU set the record with 3,706 units. The record-breaking pints were donated by steering committee member Amir Jalali and university Chancellor Haskell Monroe. "I was completely overwhelmed by the accomplishment," said Stephanie Simmons, chairwoman of the event. • Karen Brooks, The Maneater, U. of Missouri, Columbia

OKLAHOMA

Chocoholics Anonymous . . . People who give in to their cravings for chocolate may feel a sense of pleasure that goes beyond the taste buds. That's because chocolate triggers the pleasure center in the brain, said Rob Holt, assistant pharmacology professor at the U. of Oklahoma. "It is the same pleasure as when one feels love and satisfaction," he said. "It's the same satisfaction as when you see the man (or woman) of your dreams." When eaten in large quantities, chocolate may be a stimulant because of its caffeine content, but the treat has no nutritional value. Only milk chocolate has any nutritional value, which comes from the small amount of milk it contains. Piper Largent, Oklahoma Daily, U. of Oklahoma



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