All fraternities will be in good standing for R/O Week

By Diana ben-Aaron

Two fraternities currently on probation and whose rush privileges were removed by the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs are expected to be off probation by Residence/Orientation (R/O) Week, Associate Dean for Student Affairs Robert A. Sherwood said Thursday.

"My hope is that all of the fraternities that are currently under probation or disciplinary action by the Dean's Office will have their disciplinary status revoked by (R/O) Week," Sherwood said.

"If they don't have any problems between now and then, they will all be in good standing for Rush," he continued, adding that this may be "the first time in several years" that fraternities will be on probation during R/O Week.

A fraternity on probation can rush freshmen on an equal basis with other houses, but must inform all freshmen of its status, Sherwood reminded.

"I also meet with the fraternity's pledge class to outline the rules for probation and explain what progress has been made," he said.

It is a rush violation for another fraternity to tell freshmen of the probation of the fraternity, Sherwood said.

"We try not to publicize it to the detriment of the house, because if other frats say 'only the dogs of the freshman class live there,' [the fraternity only gets] more animal house types who end up in the same sort of activities rather than the type of freshmen around," he commented.

Sherwood emphasized that his decision to remove restrictions on the fraternities would be "subject to whatever happens over the rest of the summer.

He noted that "behavior in the fraternities often deteriorates over the summer. Brothers from other schools come in, the officers are often away. They have the stress of blasting and the needles annoyed," he said.

The Dean's Office removed Pi Lambda Phi's rush privileges, Sherwood said, adding that he had agreed to review this with the fraternity and restore rush privileges if "they could show they were in good standing and we could let our freshmen live there.

Pi Lambda Phi's rush privileges were revoked in the fall of 1983, according to the fraternity's president, John D. Lang '81, and rush chairman, Seamus W. O'Rourke '83.

"We've always had a strong incident prompted the probation, O'Rourke said, blamin communicaton problems for Pi Lambda Phi's status. "Sherwood didn't mark us as an al to the Dean's Office revoked Pi Lambda Phi's rush privileges," Lang said.

The Dean's Office has reinstated our rush privileges as of last term, tentative of any problems between them, Sherwood said.

"Pi Lambda Phi has started a community crime watch and a street cleanup program, improved its leadership, and worked with its campus organizations and the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs to remedy the situation," Sherwood said.

"We've always had a strong community service program. We always take part in the blood drives and IFC (International Fraternal) cleanups," O'Rourke noted. "We just publicized it more this year, and stepped it up a little to follow good will toward the community," he added.

Kappa Sigma and Delta Kappa Epsilon are on probation because of an ongoing battle between them, Sherwood said, citing "fraternity pledge raids and other destructive behavior.

The two fraternities have since improved their in-house judicial systems and community service records, he said.

"To say we're on probation is incorrect. We've had to submit reports [to the Dean's Office] but no privileges are taken away and we are not watched worse than anyone else," Mark Provenza, an officer of Delta Eke,

recently attributed the fraternity's conditional probation to a "stuck the Deke stage in the 1980's Yale football game.

The fraternity planted a self-inflating rubber balloon bearing the word "MIT" behind the turf of the football field, and triggered it by remote control at half-time.

"Some Harvmites thought [it could have been harmful]," Lucente said. "Someone up there had to be careful. MIT and had to say 'Careful, Dean's Office,' and the Dean's Office had to say 'Careful, Deke.'" he explained, adding "It was like an international incident.

The Deke's probation was triggered at the end of the season, tentatively of any problems between them, Sherwood said.

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