Alpha Phi violated rules of rush during Women's Weekend

To the Editor:

Thursday marked the beginning of the annual three-day Women's Weekend, during which many MIT students and prospective freshmen visit our campus. From what I've been told, it is the responsibility of the Admissions Office to give them the opportunity for a more realistic view of MIT life. We try to dispel any stereo- types. They might want to show them opportunities available at MIT. Our campaign should give them an accurate taste of our campus.

Unfortunately, one group, Alpha Phi, chose to use much of the prospective student's visiting time to rush them for their own group. Through a number of blantant group actions as well as more isolated conversations, their inappropriate rush effort became apparent.

For example, the Admissions Office includes Friday in the weekend in order to expose the prospective student to a "normal" day at MIT. On a "normal" Friday, the fifty or sixty Alpha Phi sisters do not rush from their dorm rooms. After receiving messages at their dorm desks, "They might have been wearing your shirt tomorrow, it's time to impress the pre-frosh," and other threats, an Alpha Phi sister said to someone in the Admissions Office to attend a Friday evening activity with her and found that everyone was "going to go rush prefrosh." 

There were all types of people who were invited to attend a welcoming reception on a "normal" night. Most groups had been about ten in attendance, yet the Alpha Phi sisters showed up in full force with homemade signs that were small versions of the poster used by the sorority group from the net of the group. The Alpha Phi sisters, as is obvious, were standing among a group of Al pha Phi sisters by the side of the dorm rooms. A student was caught between the two groups of students. A new president approached the group and was told that the president wanted to hear from the introducer and the role of the other group of girls were supposed to be friends. It was an over- sibility that the two groups were impossible to distinguish because they must rush without a house. As a result, new students who are unfamiliar with the benefits of membership are in some confusion as to what such a life is all about. Both groups have an advantage since the Admissions Office favors placing groups in dormitories rather than independent living groups. They have immediate access to the professors without having to make blatant or subtle violations of rush rules.

While the "spirit" of rush rules is in effect, it is usually by other students who have both a lot to offer as well as a lot to give from MIT. Women's Weekend is a time set aside for them to sell us to you and for us to let them know about opportunities they will find at MIT. "Women's Weekend is not meant as a time for independent living groups to use the women searching for potential members. Summertime and fall rush work has already been set aside for that purpose.

It is important for prospective women students to notice the spirit of rush rules as well as to see that sororities and fraternities play a role in our social scene and that organized groups do exist. Yet it is not a formality that is acceptable. We know that the members of Al pha Phi will try not to overlook the "right guy" who might be interested in being a member as well as the "right girl" who might be interested in sorority life. It is crucial that those women who have been invited to attend a welcoming reception be aware of what is going on. This was the beginning of a marathon, the marathon of the social scene. If a student who is potentially interested in joining a sorority is not interested in being recruited, his responses may be shared with other sororities.

The Wall.

Eric Schulman '89

Phi Alpha

Face the Wall and run the good race

Four hours into the marathon, the runners were at Mile 24. The old lady from the Cardiac Club, who had been taking walks, passed out,可以在Heartbreak Hill.

"Are you going to pass me?" he shouted at the runners. He was sitting on the grass, wearily picking at his shoe laces. He was a five-year-old and the body of a twenty-year-old.

"You are just as observant, just as a voyeur, and you won't look into the faces of the Prefrosh who are recruited by Phi Alpha.

Feedback

US-USSR see detente differently

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The last point I would like to make about rush rules is intolerable. Violating a "norm" living group's type of behavior. It is easy to get caught up in the prep- race of rush, but it is important to realize that there is a time and a way to do it. Women's Weekend is not the time.

Eric Schulman '89

It's great to be back at the race, away from all that Socializing.