Sorority Rush More Structured, United Than Frats’

Sorority, from Page 1

thing and to keep their options open.” Sororities are generally one. Each woman sees all four groups

experts. Another difference is that much of rush promoting their individual

many ILGs, sororities use a series of Chis, who assist freshmen during ‘93, who chairs the MIT Panhel Rho
guys around,” said Julia M. Stowell

Some fraternities, Killos said, spend more than $2,500 on rush. Some emphasized more of the vain aspects of life. The others emphasized

in excess of $10,000 during rush.

“...the silence rule, as “not a problem.”

“Without [the silence rule] you could be rooming next door to a sis-

spend all the time you want with them.”

men women outside of planned events drew a mixed review.

feel sorry for the guys.” “But,” she admitted, “we did go over to the

frac after [the panhellenic convocation] because we were so hungry.”

The final event is the preference party. Freshmen may receive many invitations, but have to extend them to no more than one sorority. The informals are the only time that freshmen and sorority members can interact with each other outside the rush room. This includes anything from strolling around campus to taking a tour of Boston or seeing Alpha Phi’s house. Once the informal is over, freshmen may only interact with sorority members inside the rush room.

The number of invitations a woman receives dictates how long she may spend at a sorority’s informal event, the first rush event after the open house. The more invitations a freshman receives, the less time she is allowed at each sorority. Panhel’s rush booklet stresses the importance of “keeping your options open” by looking at more than one sorority.

“Some are far stricter than any state anti-hazing laws. Sororities “have no reason to haze, and no desire to haze, and never have,” Scroggs said forcefully.

The freshmen who enter the rush process are, in essence, the last preference party, freshmen rank their top preference, and their top preference is extended. In addition, Niles said, “special ‘same-sex’ rooms are designated so that freshmen can avoid public embarrassment if they are visibly upset.”

The following morning, bids go out. Which freshmen receive bids from which sororities is determined by a representative group of alumni, based on the performance of the freshmen. The number of bids each sorority can give out is the same, and is the total number of women rostered at all the preference parties divided by four. Scroggs said this, the “bid quota,” is the maximum number of bids each sorority can give out. No woman will get more than one bid, if more than one sorority is interested in a woman, only the one highest on that woman’s list may extend her the bid. As a result is made to extend bids to all women who wish to join a sorority, and the bid quotas are waived in some cases in order to achieve this.

To accept a bid, a freshman must be in the best possible shape of a Rho Chi to ensure that she is making an inde-

petaunts. The majority of freshmen women wanted to regard the sorority as distinct, but essentially similar. “It’s confusing, but at least they really abide by all their rush rules,” said Nancy Enright ’96. “First rush looks really interesting. This is sort of like a business meeting,” she added an afterthought.

Through the one-week training program, the Chi Chair to teach them how to help freshmen women.

Sororities also treat rush viola-

different from rush promotions, Killos said. If a sorority mem-

sorority members tell freshmen about Panhel, and about what women’s groups have to offer. freshmen are told how to rush a sorority, about Rho Chis, and how to rush non-

sorority ILGs.

Linda L. Tsang ’96, however, felt there were major differences. “I guess there is a difference,” said Heitman, “but [they are] simi-

lar. I think they normally have more people giving them counseling ability and experience,

and rules designed for the sorority system as a whole. These men and women outside of planned events drew a mixed review.

spend all the time you want with them.”

It is a distinct, but essentially similar.

the majority of freshmen women seemed to regard the sorority, and this is what we believe. But, instead, it was just

Vajhala, “it really turned us off.” Diana did not have many positive things to say about it. “The Panhel convo-

sorority type," said Jcllette, "there’s not really a huge difference.”

Some emphasize more of the vain aspects of life. The others emphasize

the silence rule, as “not a problem.”

“Without [the silence rule] you could be rooming next door to a sis-

sorority’s rush room, located on the third and fourth floors of the Student Center. This is the first time that sororities break from the unified front, and tell the women about their individual sororities, Stein said.

Individual rush events

Open houses are the first sched-

uted events. Women go to different

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Next come “theme parties,” where women are expected to stay for the entire event. Each sorority thus has two of these parties, coor-

sororities, based on the preference list-

utes a freshman receives, the less

“...the silence rule is too restrictive...” you really like the people you should be able to spend all the time you want with them.

Most women said that first sororities were essentially similar.

“They’re basically a similar type of people. Anyone in a sorority is a sorority,” said Jillson, “there’s not really a huge difference.”

“I guess there is a difference,” said Heitman, “but [they are] simi-

lar in a lot of ways.” “Just different vibes from each one,” said Ophira Sag 96.

Linda L. Tsang ’96, however, felt there were major differences.

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