

Mike Evar

There was a time, four years ago, when I led a secret life here on campus. By day I was a semi-committed, coffee-drinking, drama student; at night I became... a fraternity person. I didn't volunteer information about my membership in Kappa Sigma because, in most cases, the reaction I received from my fellow non-Greek students made me feel like I had contracted communicable leprosy, a non-existent disease. And how do you fight perceptions about something that does not exist?

Fraternities are a much maligned aspect of university social life largely because of the reputation they have acquired from the popular media. Everyone gets a gross-out kick from *Animal House*, but to actually be associated with such an organization is beyond comprehension. The truth however, is less horrific than the myth

Fraternities are social organizations. They provide a frequent opportunity for partying on a large scale. In addition to open parties, regular exchanges are held between the men's and women's fraternities that are closed to the general public. The Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Society sponsor social events for their membership. But fraternities offer a good deal more than reasons to get drunk and act silly.

All fraternities are involved in work for charity. My own, Kappa Sigma, has an annual Christmas party for mentally retarded children. The Fijis are currently raising money for the Canadian Cancer Society.

Many fraternities are directly associated with charitable organizations and make contributions throughout the year

Membership in a fraternity is also an unrivalled opportunity to become involved in university intramurals. Few of us have enough friends readily available to mount a full contingent for intramural soccer, football, basketball, volleyball, water-polo... Within a fraternity teams for intramural sports are much easier to get together and the regular outlet for athletics helps to make the academic drudgery of university easier to cope with.

Now that the subject of academics has been broached, it should be mentioned that all fraternities have minimum academic reequirements for membership in recognition of the reason that students are at university. When a member is neglecting his studies it is not uncommon for him to be approached by other members of his fraternity to pull up his socks.

And finally, fraternities offer and ideal opportunity for cheap travel. Almost every large university in the United States has twenty to thirty fraternities. Membership entitles you to free room and board wherever you may be. When I was in Los angeles two years ago, the USC chapter of Kappa Sigma put myself and a non-member friend of mine up for a week despite his GDI (goddam independent) status, simply because he was with me. We were gone for three weeks and spent maybe four hundred dollars.

Fraternities are not, however, for everyone. Rush and pledging enable prospective members to scout out the realities of fraternity involvement and determine whether or not it suits them. Most fraternities begin a rush period in September to recruit new members and another in January at the beginning of the second term. If you are at all interested, call the IFC office in SUB or drop by a fraternity house on campus. Any fraternity would be pleased to fill you in on the other positive points of membership and to help you find out more about the system in general.

by Beckers and Stetch

SPECIAL STUDENT PRICES

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Mens Shampoo, Cut, Blow Dry — 12.00

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Involvement Opportunities

University Senate

 1 undergraduate student required to sit as a member of the University Senate.

— The Senate's responsibility is to inquire into any matter that might tend to enhance the usefulness of the University (University Act, 1966).

Vice-President's Standing Committee: Recreational Use of "Physical Education and Recreation Centre

2 undergraduate representatives required

— The purpose of the committee is to:

The Senate meets 5 times year

- review recreational needs of the students and staff as they affect the scheduling of free time in the Physical Education and Recreation Centre;
- To establish policy as to the Centre's use during the periods not scheduled for regular classes.
- The Committee meets at the call of the Chair

Term of Office:

Immediately to 30 April 1986

Deadline for Applications: 4:00 p.m., Friday, 13 September 1985

For Applications and Information, Contact the Students' Union Executive Offices, Room 259 Students' Union Building (SUB) (8:00 - 12 Noon, 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.)

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STUDENTS' ORIENTATION SERVICES'

GENERAL MEETING
September 11, 1985
Room 142, SUB
7:00 P.M.

The agenda will include the selection of the 1985-86 S.OR.S.E. Advisory Board.

If you are interested in becoming involved in S.OR.S.E. this year, please attend.