

Greek past

System has come far since being banned

By LYNNE THOMSON
DTH Staff Writer

Fraternities and sororities have come a long way since their inception on the UNC campus. In 1842, when such organizations began to appear, the Faculty Council passed a resolution banning fraternities on the grounds that they were detrimental to "the cause of good morals and sound learning."

The council went so far as to demand a pledge from entering freshmen not to join such a group.

When the ban was lifted in 1851, the DKE's came to Carolina. Delta Kappa Epsilon became the first nationally chartered fraternity on campus; Phi Gamma Delta formed a local chapter the same year.

There was a forerunner to the fraternities simply called The Club. In the 1865 edition of the *North Carolina University Magazine*, Gibbon Williamson wrote about the club: "The enemies of The Club contended that its great object was drinking and swearing, as the members were known to excel in nothing else."

That charge is common against fraternities today but it went even further in those days.

The fraternities, Williamson wrote, justified their existence as social organizations. He recounts what anti-fraternity spokesman Jack Smith said: "As for fostering sociability, it is enough to say, college is not a place for exercising the social qualities, but rather a place for restraining them."

Williamson described the membership of one of the major fraternities. DKE, he wrote, was the favorite of the "polite gentlemen, who had a disregard amounting almost to contempt for dull textbooks, but spent most of their time over the polite literature of the day and at some fashionable saloons, kept by some free gentlemen of the color."

They may be known today for their khaki and madras but in the 1850s. Williamson wrote, they carried canes and gloves and wore "ponderous chains."

The Phi Gams, Williamson wrote, affected a ridged morality and lashed with unsparing hands at the innocent follies and small vices of the time."

Williamson insinuated that the Phi Gams were known for their vanities: "The president (of the fraternity) kept to his room night and day for two or three weeks preceding commencement in order to give his skin that softness and delicacy of tint, so desirable and so much sought after."

The Greek system at UNC has come quite a long way since its beginnings in 1842. There are currently 15 University-recognized sororities and 28 recognized fraternities.

The University and the fraternities closed during Reconstruction and, when the University was reopened in 1875, the Faculty Council banned the reorganization of the fraternities.

The ban lasted 10 years until 1885 when the groups were allowed to reorganize as long as they gave the faculty a list of their members and did not have liquor in the houses.

Sororities did not have the same trouble that the fraternities did. Dr. Guion Johnson, a Chi Omega alumnus living in Chapel Hill, helped found the chapter here in 1923. The Pi Beta Phi chapter opened earlier the same year.

Johnson said that the University administrators were supportive of the women's efforts to organize. But, it was not until 16 years later that a third house appeared on the campus in 1939. The lack of a large number of houses in the early years was probably due to the small enrollment of women at the University.

By 1970 all but three of the existing sororities had been established at UNC. The final three having been added since 1976, there are now 15 recognized sororities on campus owning 11 houses with a membership of more than 1,300.

Fraternity membership rose during the 1960s though its percentage of students on campus has decreased. During this time the Greeks came under attack for being racially segregated and for being open only to wealthier students.

Since that time some fraternities have integrated to an extent that the financial aid office has dropped its ban forbidding the students on scholarships to join fraternities.

There are now 28 University-recognized fraternities on campus, the total Greek population comprising approximately 20 percent of the campus.



Take cover; dorm wars exist at UNC

By RACHEL PERRY
DTH Staff Writer

Raw egg dripped from our hair and eyelashes, empty water balloons lay scattered around the living room floor and tomato pulp was squished into the sliding door screen and all over the patio.

My two conspirators and I huddled together on the soaked couch, sticky, shivering and laughing.

Chapel Hill riots? An early Halloween? New hazing rites?

No, just a friendly apartment rivalry. Apartment, dormitory, floor and suite rivalries have become a popular, if somewhat messy, pastime at Carolina.

With shaving cream, eggs, ever-popular water balloons, panty and jock strap raids, along with more demure abuses such as shouting matches and insults, rivalries between residence halls flourish.

Joe Canady, an RA in Grimes, a men's residence hall on Olde Campus, said there had always been a big rivalry between Grimes and Manly.

"They have large yelling matches (usually obscenities) across the quad to see who can outyell each other," he said.

Canady said the rivalry between the two dormitories was usually "pretty clean-cut. They stick to annual snowball fights and intense intramural games."

Rivalries between the East (women's) and the West (men's) wings of Granville Towers do not always remain so orderly.

Shaving cream fights, water fights, baby powder showers, egg fights, pool wars and other inventive escapades are popular in the East-West rivalry, said Billy Branner, an RA on sixth floor West.

"Whenever we mix with girls in East, we usually go over there the night before and kind of introduce ourselves with shaving cream all over their doors," he said. "About 40 guys will cram into the elevators with their shaving cream cans and cover the whole floor with shaving cream, like a S.W.A.T. team."

Of course, the retaliations can take unexpected turns. "My guys did the whole East wing last year (covered it with shaving cream), and the girls ended up demolishing our floor with 14 dozen eggs," Branner said. Needless to say, Granville authorities were not pleased when all the carpeting had to be replaced and the doors had to be revarnished.

But Granville does not hold the monopoly on dorm wars. One senior recalled water fights during her years at Morrison residence hall on South Campus. "It would come down in bucketfuls from the top floors, on top of whatever unlucky people who were walking or playing basketball."

Panty and jock strap raids, standard forms of friendly rivalries, seem to be losing popularity at Carolina. Panty raids occur occasionally in Ehringhaus and James dormitories, but a more popular escapade is tying the four doors in a suite together with string so nobody can get out of the rooms, or placing a stack of pennies underneath a door, which prevents anyone inside from opening the door.

Newspapering someone, or taping newspaper in front of someone's door for a rude pre-shower awakening the next morning, is also a popular pastime.

Branner recalled one incident in Granville when the retaliating girls newspapered the halls, tied all the doors in the hall together and released about 100 crickets to chirp the early morning away. "It took us forever to clean that mess up," he said.

Watch out. Your apartment, hall or dorm may be next.



Pep rally participation may soon be bolstered

By ANN PETERS
DTH Staff Writer

Football Saturdays and Carolina spirit go hand in hand. Every fall moving pep rallies weave in and out of the streets on campus. But they usually travel through North or South campus, and student participation, other than running out to the beer truck to get some brew, is minimal.

This year's cheerleading squad hopes to change that with the introduction of more stationary pep rallies, possibly in the Pit.

Co-captain Ted Hopkins said student participation was really important since the rallies are more for the students than for anyone else.

"We want to initiate something big," Hopkins said. "It's something different, especially after the year we had last year."

"We want it to be a Carolina effort. That's what it boils down to, that's what it should be."

Hopkins said the administration also was interested in getting more student involvement with the pep rallies rather than it being simply the cheerleaders and the band. One suggestion is to have different student groups put together skits and other activities to have more crowd participation.

The main point is that Hopkins and Beth Cloninger, the other co-captain, believe that a stationary pep rally would get more people involved from all over the campus and off-campus as well.

For Lucinda McLaughlin this will be her second year on the varsity cheerleading squad. She said she was very enthused about the possibility of a larger pep rally.

"This squad is really working toward getting more crowd involvement," McLaughlin said. "Last year we were more reserved. But now we want to get all the students more involved, especially for the

big games, to have a real blow out at a pep rally."

Cheerleaders who are on the squad for their first year also are excited about the idea. Lisa Law said she was sure that a large stationary pep rally would get students more involved.

"Hopefully, they'll feel like they are more into the game, more psyched and ready for the game," Law said.

"We want the crowd more involved because they want to be," McLaughlin said.

Other ways for students to become more involved with the Carolina spirit is through try-outs for the junior varsity cheerleading squad. Teaching workshops are scheduled for 6 p.m. today and Tuesday. Try-outs are scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday. Both will be held in Carmichael Auditorium.

Students also may sign up for mic-man try-outs to be held Thursday. Sign-up will be during the JV workshops and tryouts.

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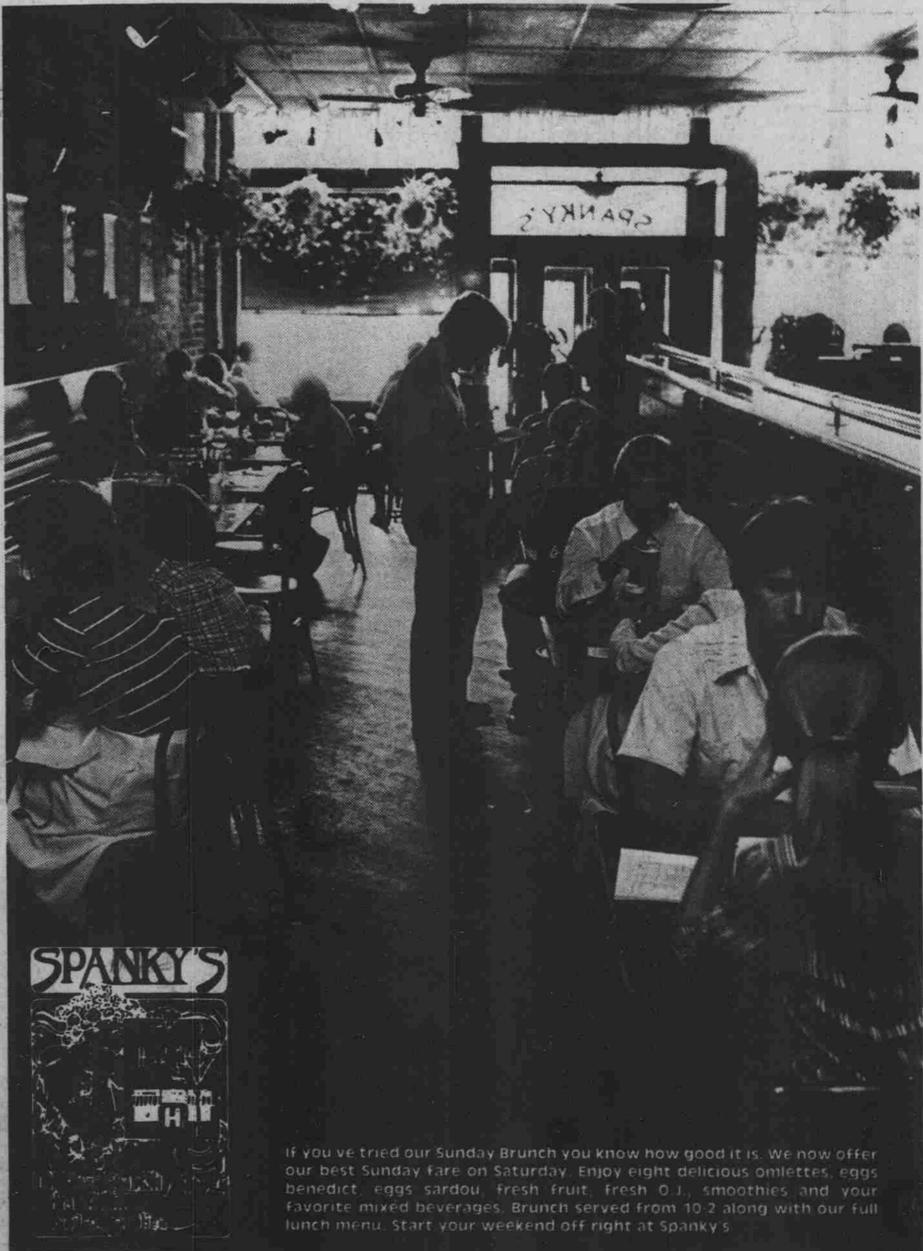
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