



The Pendulum

Tonight's

Sidewalk Dance

Theatre

performance previewed

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Volume XIV Number 6

Elon College, Elon College, NC 27244

Thursday, March 10, 1983

Pledge bill of rights: a Greek effort

by Loukia Louka
News Editor

The Intra-Fraternal Council (IFC) and the Panhellenic Council in cooperation with the Dean of Student Affairs William Long has approved a pledge bill of rights. The bill is 21 regulatory guidelines that fraternities and sororities must follow during their pledge period.

William Long, Dean of Student Affairs, says that this bill of rights was adopted because in the past there has been "verifiable evidence" that during pledge periods academic achievement has dropped.

In addition, there were cases where pledges felt they were treated in an unacceptable manner by some groups or individuals.

"It dawned on us that the pledges weren't told their rights and they didn't know what was allowed," says Long. "If a student has a test and a sorority or fraternity says the pledge has to stay up late, we can yank their charter."

"We thought it would be fair for the pledges to know what can and cannot be

asked of them. This is not a new idea. New is letting the pledges have a list."

Bill Clarke, Coordinator of Student Activities, who acts as a liaison between the fraternities and the administration, met with the presidents of Panhellenic and Intra-Fraternal Council Betsy White and Greg Blackburn, respectively.

The Panhellenic Council then proposed a bill to Dean Long, who added more details that he felt were overlooked. Panhellenic and IFC then approved the bill.

Long explains this bill as an attempt to think of every form of hazing, make sure the pledges get a copy, and hope they find it a help.

On Tuesday, all pledges and their pledge educators met with Clarke and were given a copy of the bill and had everything explained to them.

IFC President Greg Blackburn says that as far as the pledge bill of rights goes, the regulations are stated by everyone's National Charter.

"Dean Long wanted the Greeks here to have a basic bill of rights. It's not like

they've never had the rules before. These are 21 regulations that are set standards," says Blackburn.

Each fraternity and soror-

ity has a pledge educator to make sure that pledges are aware of their rights and know what is expected of them.

Blackburn, a Kappa Sigma, says that "if one of our pledges feels bad about the

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MEMBERS OF Sigma Phi Epsilon is one fraternity that supports the new pledge bill of rights. Photo by Nader Hamidpour.

Anticipation, nervousness, excitement fill frat rush

by Paul R. Deford

Rushing a fraternity is a mixture of excitement, friendships, and continual nervousness. It is open houses and smoker parties mixed with too many games of quarter toss. It is a time for students interested in fraternities to show that they want to become a Greek.

It is a couple of weeks of nervous anticipation and hope that ends in a night of jubilant howls and cheers ringing through the halls of the dorms.

Elon's sororities had given out their bids six days earlier and now it was time for the six frats to go and seek out new members and formally ask if they would like to join. Last Thursday night at 9 p.m. small parties from each frat set out to relieve the nervous tedium of many hopeful men.

Trip Godsey and Donny Kraper are two such people. They are average Elon students. Godsey is 19 and a second semester freshman who came to Elon from Roanoke, Va. Kraper, who is also 19 and a second semester freshman, calls Vienna, Va. his home. They are good friends and do many things together. They both participated in rush, and they both received bids from Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

For Godsey and Kraper the week's events included going to Sunday's open house activities. Later that week the activities became less formal with the fraternity's smoker party held at the Rebels Lounge. The week came to an end with the brother-sister party held the following Sunday.

"It's a great system," said Godsey. "You have to budget your time for school, but you meet lots of the brothers and many

new friends." "I've gotten constant invitations to parties, and that's good," said Kraper. Godsey and Kraper said that it also gives you the incentive to do well in school because you have to have a 2.0 G.P.A. to rush a fraternity. They both agree that rush has been the best time they've had all year.

It was a few minutes before 9 p.m. Thursday, when the officers of TKE gathered behind the new dorms. The lights from the dorms cut through the night air revealing the red clad party to curious onlookers. At the sound of the chimes, the party started toward the building zig-zagging with no apparent destination, until they reached wing C. With a loud knock at the desired door, the blaring music on the stereo was muffled and the long wait was over for the anxious duo.

"The brothers of TKE invite you to become associate members of our fraternity," said one of the brothers. "Sign here," he said. They arose from their comfortable sprawled positions and with happiness written all over their faces, signed their names. When the signatures were finished a chorus of cheers and "all right" marked the end of the long night of anticipation. The crowd of fraters affectionately shook hands with the men and were off in the night seeking another new member.

This scene was repeated many times that night by TKE and the other fraternities of Elon. But these men are not through yet, before they can don the caps and shirts emblazoned with their respective greek letters, they have many more weeks of the same anticipation and nervousness. Instead of it being over with, it's only just the beginning.

Pledge Bill of Rights

No pledge shall be required by any person or persons to perform any act which:

1. Is sadistic—treats the pledge in a "sub-human" manner
2. Is illegal
3. Is immoral
4. Places the pledge in physical danger or in jeopardy of losing his or her life
5. Places severe emotional stress upon the pledge
6. Interferes with the academic process—causes the pledge to miss classes, labs, study sessions, or tests
7. Causes the pledge to violate College regulations
8. Requires the pledge to consume alcohol or to use it in excessive quantities
9. Requires the pledge to be present at activities for unreasonable periods of time
10. Prevents the pledge from securing normal amounts of sleep
11. Requires the pledge to perform personal services for collegiate members
12. Requires the pledge to participate in a "Kangaroo Court" or other individual questioning activity
13. Prescribes the wearing of anything other than the pledge pin to identify pledgeship
14. Requires the pledge to carry items which they would not normally bear
15. Requires the pledge to answer the telephone in a manner unlike a member would answer it
16. Prevents the pledge from speaking for an extended period of time
17. Requires the abandonment of pledges or active members—"Road Trips"
18. Requires the blindfolding of the pledge
19. Requires the pledge to stand when a collegiate member enters the room
20. Requires the pledge to intentionally deface the house or charter room so that clean-up is mandated
21. Requires calling other pledges "names"