What a Great Week to be Greek

Students performed 400 plus hours community service throughout Huntsville. The middle of the week provided entertainment as Greeks teamed up to put on a "Talent Show" where they had to show off their talents (see page 2). The following day students participated in a "Can Castle" competition, which raised 4,000 cans of food.

Last week was the first time the Inter-fraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Conference, Multicultural Greek Council, and National Pan-Hellenic Council united for a week of competition, community service, and charity. The 27 chapters were divided into eight teams for competitions each day, the teams earned points based on a completion and participation of the events. Greek Week started with a banner competition, followed by a blood drive and charity bowl-a-thon. The bowl-a-thon raised $1500 for "Make-A-Wish" and "United Way of Walker County." The next day teams visited about 30 places dividing students up between missions, includes going to places like YMCA, The Little Woman Home for animals, SAAFHE House, The Senior Citizen Center for the Walker County Hospitality House, and the Good Shepherd mission, among others. By the end of the day, what a great week to be Greek.

Greek Life Leadership Speaker Rick Barnes visits SHSU

On Thursday, August 26, 2010, The Greek Life office brought in renowned "Campus Speak" Leadership speaker Rick Barnes who has spoken at over 1,200 college campus nationwide. The main goal was to make sure that Greeks understand that leadership is more than a title it's more of a way of life. Barnes related a lot about his past experiences from being a member of a fraternity and taking part in leadership roles in his fraternity. Barnes also made it clear that leadership qualities can not only effect chapters and organizations in a positive way but in negative ways as well. Barnes said that he hoped his speech inspired the students being that he was the first guest speaker the Greek Life office has bought in to speak to the Greek community at SHSU.
What a week to be Greek Contd.

“Chance made us Greek, choice made us friends.”

Fall 2010 Panhellenic recruitment occurred August 12th-15th. Recruitment started with brag/philanthropy day which is designed to introduce young women to the many aspects of Greek Life. During the day, each potential new member visited every house to learn more about what they do and what the sorority is all about. During the house visits, the sororities talked about what they have to offer, what their philanthropy is and what they do to support it, and what kinds of community service they participate in. The next day was skill day which allowed potential new members to accept invitations to the parties they would like to attend. Each sorority had entertaining skits to further acclimate the potential new members with different aspects, talents, and attributes to their chapters. The following day was Preference day, during the two final house visits, potential new members decided where they felt the most “at home” so they could rank their chapter preferences. The sorority members shared their fraternal ideals, values, and gave potential new members a look at what their sisterhood is all about. On the following morning, the ladies accepted bids from the sororities and walked to sorority hill as everyone welcomed new members of the Greek community; their new home away from home.

Panhellenic Recruitment

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What a week to be Greek Contd.
IFC Recruitment

IFC Recruitment Week was held the week of September 7-11. The week began with recruits meeting in the LSC Ballroom and being informed about what each day of recruitment week would consist of, a hazing seminar and question & answer session by the IFC advisor, followed by students being split up into groups to meet with a select few members of the fraternities that make up IFC in rooms on the 3rd floor of the LSC. The next two days consisted of students being able to visit three fraternities houses of their choosing each day to get a better feel for the fraternity members and the personality of that fraternity. The next day students must select the final two fraternities houses that sparked their interest for membership throughout the week to visit for the last time to clarify which fraternity is the right fit for them to join. The last day, which was Bid Day, was the day students received bids from the fraternities they felt they could benefit from their membership and the students had to pick which of the fraternities they received bids from that they want to be a member of. Around 700 people were in attendance at the Bid Day jump at Old Main Pit to view the rushees join and celebrate with their new fraternity brothers. With Bid Day falling on 9/11 this past year, IFC wanted to make sure to do something in remembrance of the 9/11 tragedy that occurred nine years prior. SHSU Alum Travis Adams, a veteran of the United States Armed Forces and Kappa Sigma member gave a heartfelt speech delivered as well had a moment of silence in remembrance to those affected by the tragedy. This was soon followed by each fraternity having the opportunity to rush into the bottom level of Old Main Pit to celebrate with their new members and take photos. SHSU’s Greek community is proud to welcome their newest members and looks forward to watching them becoming tomorrow’s leaders in their fraternities as well on SHSU’s campus.

Sneak Peek At Greek

Greek Life’s Sneak Peek at Greek, was held the day before fall semester classes started, August 24th in the LSC Mall Area. The event was set up to allow students to meet and get to know all of the fraternities and sororities that make up the Greek community at Sam Houston State University. The mall area of the LSC was surrounded with tables for each Greek organization to have information about them and their recruitment process for those student who were interested in joining their organizations. The Greek Life department also handed out various promotional items, food, and fall schedules of Greek Life’s major events to attend throughout the semester. SHSU students as Greek Community responded saying that they really enjoyed the 1st ever Sneak Peek fair and the Greek Life office is now already planning on how to make the event bigger and better in the future. The Greek community at SHSU continues to grow and excel and events like Sneak Peek at Greek is one of the reason why.
Greek Spotlight

Rolando Flores is an active member of Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity Incorporated. Rolando's previous as well as current involvement as IFC Secretary, International Business Society member, Sigma Lambda Beta Membership Educator, Assistant Membership Educator, Social Chair, Culture Awareness Chair, Vice President, MGC Academics Delegate, National Hispanic Institute member, Business Professionals of America Youth Advisory Committee-Vice President, and Active CIS Alumni has connected him with a networking foundation reaching out as far as abroad studies. Rolando embraces education, community and family to push himself to achieve his goals. His goals in the next five years are to graduate from Sam Houston State University and receive a double major in Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Banking & Financial Ins. and Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Finance, continue moving up the corporate ladder at First Convenience Bank Texas, and serve in his fraternity’s Prairie View Area Alumni Association.

Sara Rider is a senior at Sam Houston State University. She is majoring in International Business and with a minor in Economics. She currently serves as the VP of Education in Alpha Chi Omega. She is in charge of the new members and educating the chapter of Alpha Chi Omega of their heritage in many aspects. Sara joined Alpha Chi Omega in the Fall of 2008. She is also a proud member of Panhellenic, which she currently serves in the position of Vice President. In the previous year, Sara served as Treasurer. Sara is a firm believer that Greek Life can make a huge difference on campus and being a part of Panhellenic has allowed her to be apart of Greek Life outside her own sorority. Sara also serves as the President of Order of Omega, the national Greek Honors fraternity at Sam Houston State University. Sara will be graduating in May 2011. In the future she plans to be an economics high school teacher and volleyball coach. Sara loves being Greek and being apart of any organization that supports the Greek System.

Alpha Tau Omega Awarded True Merit at Nationals

SHSU’s Zeta Mu chapter of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity received the “True Merit” during their fraternity’s national awards ceremony, held in Orlando, Florida, on August 7th. Only 16 chapters receive the award each year and this marked the first time that the 50 yr old Zeta Mu chapter received the award. This shouldn’t be a shock since Alpha Tau Omega took home a Sammy for the “Outstanding Social Fraternity” at this past academic year’s Sammy Awards banquet. The chapter has big plans to continue to build upon these accomplishments by continuing to build a stronger chapter with good young men that want to work tirelessly at bettering themselves, the chapter, and the fraternity as a whole in the future. The Greek Life office is proud of the Zeta Mu chapter of Alpha Tau Omega for their hard work and accomplishments over the past year.

Contact Us

We hope this issue is helpful to you and welcome your contributions, comments, and suggestions concerning this newsletter. It is our hope that this newsletter will help keep the community informed and connected to Greek Life.

Please direct your questions and comments to the editor of The Olympian:

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