1968-1969 IFC OFFICERS: (L. to R.) Stanley Coker, President; Pete Palmisano, Vice President; Tom McLeod, Secretary; Danny Rogers, Treasurer.
Greeks are a curious lot. They always have been. Perhaps the person that first suggested that caution be the rule when dealing with such had a great deal more insight than even he supposed or it could be that the apt remark takes on a different meaning when applied in light of the more modern use of the word "Greek". Whatever the case, the fraternity system may still be viewed by some as a Trojan horse - a product of the crafty Greeks. The contents of this great structure is as much of a mystery to those unfamiliar with fraternity life today as its historical counterparts and those who accept the gift must be willing also to accept the consequences, be they good or bad. The following is a pictorial glimpse of the Greek system at Tech.
What is Rush? It is a once only for the first time experience. It has been previewed, summarized, critiqued, and examined in detail. The system which it serves has been outlined and the pros and cons for conforming to the system have all been hashed over. Like most things, however, it must be experienced.

Some approach the Fraternity system with apprehension; others, giving the matter little thought, are caught up in the natural flow of things. There is an awareness that the subject at hand is not presented as it really is, but this is hidden under a veil of friendly faces and warm handshakes.

In a way Rush seems confusing and the system appears to be somewhat overstated. This is no accident. The facade of grandeur which is presented to the novice is built by careful planning and hard work. The more clearly Rush is understood from the inside, the more impressive it appears to be from the outside. And this, in fact, is the essence of Rush.
RUSH...Friendliness, Fatigue, Flow Charts

DO'S AND DON'TS FOR TALKING TO RUSHEES

TRY NOT TO ASK:
1. How do you like Tech?
2. Are you getting settled in the dorm?
3. Don't joke about his name or hometown if there is something funny about it.
4. What's your major?

ASK:
1. What did you do this summer?
2. Interested in cars, sports, ham radio, etc.?
3. Get a sharp boy to talk about himself.

If a boy is really bogus, ask him the top questions. We can get rid of him, but he will think we are good guys later.

GENERAL:
1. Do not badmouth other fraternities. This will turn a good boy off quicker than anything.
2. Try to hold down on the cursing and drinking. A lot of these boys are sheltered and would be grossed out by our everyday behavior. Don't be Sigma Chis but be careful.

3. Variety is our greatest asset. Sell it to the rushees. Don't resent your brother because he's different from you, but be proud that we have a fraternity that is not stereotyped.
4. You can talk to the brothers all year long. Talk to the rushees.

The most effective way to rush is to be cordial and friendly to everybody. Pick out three or four boys that you are sincerely interested in as a person and BE THEIR FRIEND. The one thing they need most is a friend.

OPEN HOUSE

SOLID SQUIRREL GROUPS:
1. Don't take them upstairs. Explain that there are too many people coming through to show everybody upstairs.
2. Be nice to them. DON'T MAKE A JOKE OF IT! They might be legacies or they might have a sharp roommate to influence.
3. Explain to them when they are on the front porch. "WE know that you have a lot of houses to get around and see. The only way to make the correct choice in a fraternity is to see them all. Thank you for coming by to see us."

DON'T SAY: "COME BACK TO SEE US."

MIXED GROUPS:
1. Take them into the living room. Call a brother over to introduce them to the group. Try to separate the group by standing between them, talking about different subjects. One brother take the good boys upstairs; the other take the squirrels downstairs and out.

GOOD GROUPS:
1. After you have shown them the house, be sure to write down the names of the people that we want to contact. Try to introduce them to as many people as possible upstairs so that several people will have opinions about the boy.
2. The show off rooms are: Everitt's, Brown's, Bobo's, the Attic, the Den. If any squirrels succeed in getting upstairs, show them some of the "fair" rooms in the new wing. Don't show them the dumpster.
3. Anytime that you just want to talk to a rushee, take him into your room or any room that isn't knee deep in garbage. If your room is super messy, be sure it is locked.

ABOVE RIGHT: A decision is made. ABOVE FAR RIGHT: Enthusiasm on the part of both sides as a new pledge is received. RIGHT: An aerial view shows this party to be in full swing. FAR RIGHT: An appropriate salute from the KA cannon for one of their new pledges.
Homecoming injects its own special form of adrenalin into the main artery of the Greek system. For the first time since Rush the spirit of competition is rampant; the campus is blanketed with action.

The animated homecoming display of grandiose dimension is peculiar to the Tech Greek. The fraternities' most creative minds and their pledges' ability to survive without sleep are the vehicles which transform the campus into a showplace. These Freshmen work blindly toward completing an impossible goal only to stand before the finished structure still not believing that the drawings which they saw on paper a few days before have taken form.

The designing of the Reck is an honor left to the senior mechanics in each fraternity. Their ideas take exotic shapes during the marathon mechanical genius and welding sessions. Recks all have a unique drive train, so unique that horsepower must usually be replaced by the more dependable pledge power.
Homecoming Provides an Outlet for Fraternity Rivalry.
In addition to the abundance of labor that is summoned forth in the few short days preceding the Homecoming weekend to complete the displays, a similar and equally untiring work force is concentrated on piles of abandoned scrap steel with the intent of remolding the masses into a wreck worthy of the fraternity name. While the former incorporates the skills of the artist and the carpenter, the latter seeks to employ the ingenuity and skills of the mechanic and technician.

The night before the parade usually witnesses an all night marathon and monitors a nervous battle between worn hands, stubborn steel, and the untiring flame of a blowtorch.

The reward for the days of labor is not always received. While it may be a pretty sure bet that, with some effort, a display will be ready, a guarantee that the completed wreck will make the required trip around Peter's Park is not so easy to come by. For this reason, a successful journey may well be taken as its own reward.

LEFT: The “Bump Tulane Train” sports an apt engineer. BELOW LEFT: The “Bird” takes off. BELOW: Modesty proves no more a virtue than a bath with water. RIGHT: It’s a good idea to cool your thoughts before the big event.
PARTIES...

Parties... a word no less common in the vocabulary of a frat man than the actual event is in his itinerary.

The week of a Techman presents its share of pressures and problems. The weekend is an oasis in the desert offering a welcome respite and a brief pause in the course of things. Some would argue that parties are necessary; that without them, it would be impossible for any normal person to maintain a sane frame of mind. Others would offer the suggestion that parties are an integral factor in the development of a person who is to be at ease in society. Still others contend that parties are pure fun and exist for no specific purpose. Whatever the argument, rationalization in any form seems to spite the point, for at the time, the party is all that is necessary.

LEFT: "You enjoy a good party as much as the 'feel' of being there." BELOW: "Hang on... we're just getting started." BELOW RIGHT: The effect of a strobe blurs the mind. RIGHT: Tension finds an outlet.
While the swing set makes the scene on the one hand, the formal gathering holds its own on the other end of the line. Providing relief from pressures and serving to strengthen the social graces, parties play a dual role for the frat man. Although there is a reluctance to include those events labeled as “formals” under the more frivolous heading of parties, it would be unfair to slight these coat and tie events on the basis of their lack of appeal when compared to the regular fling. After all, in the final analysis, it must be agreed that in its own way, a formal yields an ample share of enjoyment.

The Formal and the Not So Formal
Parties Offer a Chance to Develop Common Interests
Where there's a party there're people, and when people get together, they discover common interests. For this reason, parties are a prime innovator in the field of new relationships. Often, the feel of being one with the crowd is transient, and it is the more substantial relationship that transpires as a result of interested conversation that moves to fill the gap.

FAR LEFT: A lull in the action provides time for conversation. LEFT: If you're happy, you might as well show it. ABOVE: The loneliest place can be a crowded room. ABOVE RIGHT: "But you look better if you button your collar." RIGHT: More of this later.
The party mood is not always geared to follow a refined pattern of entertainment. Frequently the already frivolous atmosphere of a fraternity gathering is further spiced with the variety of new and different party themes. A sampling of parties across the campus would reveal such party facades as "A Luau", "A Hippie Party", "The Old South", or "A Hillbilly Fling".

Out of the ordinary themes are often the result of a fraternity tradition; sometimes they are borrowed from other schools and other chapters; on occasion they are simply a spur-of-the-moment idea that catches the interest of the group and snowballs into a planned party with a different atmosphere. Transforming the usual gathering place into the desired form calls on the ingenuity of the bagsters. Decorations vary with the amount of effect desired and may be extravagant on the one hand or non-existent on the other. No matter what the background, the party spirit usually prevails.
Volleyball Tips Off Intramurals
Intramurals are a popular portion of the Greek format. Enlisting the natural athletic abilities of the frat men, intramural sports see one fraternity pitted against another as each battles it out for the league championship and the coveted IFC athletic trophy.

Providing an opportunity to engage competitively in the major sports, such as football, baseball, and basketball, the competition between fraternities carries over into the less publicized sports such as bowling, paddleball, soccer, and even ping pong. Volleyball is one such minor activity that sees strong competition as intramurals get under way. Primarily a sport that is set aside for second year P.T. exercise, volleyball comes into its own as fraternity rivalries are kindled afresh in the season opener.

There are certain skills that need to be developed to play any sport well, and the lesser known sports are often played with little knowledge of the minor points that make a difference in the score. As with any sport, practice makes perfect, and the fraternity that invests a little time in exploring the possibilities of the game may well find satisfaction in achieving proficiency which will pay off in the long run.
As in the big time, intramurals are also spectator sports, and typically, football is the largest crowd drawer as well as the largest crowd pleaser. Interest is especially keen in the first few games of the season to see what new talents have been brought into the fraternity stockpile of already established athletes.

The Sigma Nu's, Delta Sigma Phi's, S A E's, and Chi Phi's enjoyed the limelight of top spot in their respective leagues climbing to the winning positions only after several weeks of consistent playing and determination to prove that their team was the best.

Football sees a pool of untapped talent in the field of sports and plays host to a variety of coaching talents. The passing game, for the most part, is favored over the ground game and contributes to a more enjoyable spectator sport.
Basketball-Soccer Keep the Ball Rolling
This year’s soccer contests were plagued with rain and mud. Games were frequently canceled and recanceled and quite often were never played at all. Those games that were completed in spite of the weather were slippery affairs and even after they were over, the success of the winning team was more often than not attributed to the haphazard playing conditions.

Basketball, an all-weather sport, saw traditional rivalries battle it out under the boards and the teams that scored big in the past came through in true form for the most part to finish as well as could be expected. Sigma Chi came from behind to upend the Kappa Sigs and win the fraternity championship. Each team marched into the game undefeated with hard-won victories over Phi Delta Theta and Phi Kappa Theta, the other two league champions.
Fraternities Sport Another Scene

It goes without saying that a fraternity is a home. While it can never compete with the home away from school, most fraternity men are of the opinion that there could be no better place to base operations for a short tenure of four years than the fraternity house. It is for this reason that they are proud to be a part of the fraternity system and benefit from as well as contribute to the tradition that makes up the fraternity ideal.

LEFT: Those who enjoy the leisure of easy parking may find that it gets a little expensive. ABOVE RIGHT: What better place to relax than the roof. RIGHT: A grim detail taken lightly. BELOW RIGHT: Bridge is a game that allows a spectator to improve his skills.
Fraternities are a hub of activity. With such a concentration of people who sport a wide assortment of interests, there is always an outlet for fun and a suitable target at which to direct extracurricular energies. However, should the need for rest and reflection present itself, the fraternity usually offers a quiet place to engage in such attitudes.

In the absence of a pressing obligation, meals are enjoyed in a leisurely manner and often are supplemented with absorbing conversation. Afternoon study hours are frequently substituted for in the form of a lengthy “nap” or time well spent in soaking up rays. For those who are a part of the “system”, no pressing argument need be presented to convince them that this is the life.

ABOVE: Meals are often spiced with conversation if nothing else. RIGHT: A relaxed moment ... a welcome visitor. FAR RIGHT: Sig Ep’s enjoy the day relaxing on their front porch.

Fraternity Life...The Reason for the Choice