

Various rush options offered to students

BY KRISTEN WOMBLE
Features Reporter

Rush Week during September is a way to get involved at Truman State, and there are many different reasons to participate. Truman offers a choice of social, service and professional organizations.

There will be some organizations with later rush weeks, such as the service sororities and fraternities. Be aware most sororities only rush during the fall, while most fraternities rush during the fall and spring.

About 20 percent of Truman students are involved with Greek Life, whether they are in a service or social Greek organization.

Sophomore Holly Plackemeier is a member of Alpha Phi Omega, a co-ed service fraternity.

"I like all of the service opportunities and how you get to help people, but then at the same time you get to know your brothers," Plackemeier said.

Plackemeier said she did service during high school, so joining APO was a good way to continue that and also expand her circle of friends. She said that it's a way to meet people a few years older than you who might give you advice.

When asked about her pledge season, Plackemeier said it was busy and difficult to keep up with sometimes.

"It was a commitment and you have to meet the requirements, but it's also a lot of fun," Plackemeier said.

Another option students have is rushing social sororities and fraternities.

Senior Lucas Westhoff, Vice Archon of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, is in charge of recruitment for the Delta Delta chapter.

He said social fraternities offer networking opportunities. He has seen his brothers get jobs and internships because of alumni connections to the fraternity.

Westhoff said he also made some of his best friends through fraternity life.

Philanthropy is another principle at the center of Greek Life.

"[Pi Kappa Phi] provided opportunities I never thought I'd have," Westhoff said about his past two spring breaks spent rebuilding Push Camps, which specialize in helping people of all ages with disabilities, through their national philanthropy, The Ability Experience.

Last spring, he helped build brick paths at the Clemson University Outdoor Lab in Clemson, South Carolina.

Maggie* is a Gamma Chi through the Panhellenic Council, and acts as a guide for rushes throughout Rush Week.

Maggie said rushing poses a

great opportunity to meet new people, regardless of whether or not you decide to commit to a sorority.

"Be open-minded about the whole process ... Have fun, meet new people ... You can always drop if it's not for you," she said.

Maggie commented on the negative preconceived ideas some people might have about Greek Life.

"Some people think, 'Oh, all they do is party.' They just see the social part," she said.

She said that there is much more to Greek Life than parties. She said every sorority focuses on raising money for philanthropies, earning high GPAs and scheduling study hours.

However, Greek Life does have some drawbacks. Sophomore Tyler Shuck, member of Pi Kappa Phi, said the most common reasons not to rush are because of the time commitment and financial reasons.

Sophomore Alex Carmack, member of Tau Lambda Sigma, a service and social sorority, agrees sororities and fraternities are negatively stereotyped by some, but the stereotypes are simply not true.

"You meet a ton of people that can help you out later in life and being surrounded by your sisters makes you feel more confident about yourself," Carmack said.

DATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

RUSH

INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL FORMAL RECRUITMENT
SEPT. 5-12

PANHELLENIC COUNCIL FORMAL RECRUITMENT
SEPT. 4-9

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALPHA SIGMA GAMMA SEPT. 9-11
(National women's service sorority)

ALPHA PHI OMEGA SEPT. 14-21
(National co-ed service fraternity)

TAU LAMBDA SIGMA SEPT. 15-18
(Local women's service sorority)

Carmack encourages freshmen to rush because she said it is a good opportunity to find your place at Truman.

"I want them to find where they fit, be it in a social sorority [or] fraternity or a service

sorority [or] fraternity, or any club on campus," Carmack said.

*Editor's note: Because of recruitment reasons, Maggie's sorority forbids her from revealing her identity.

Delivery offers alternative to on campus dining

BY GRACE BUECKENDORF
Features Editor
index.featureseditor@gmail.com

If you live on campus, you soon will learn the dining halls don't serve dinner on Sunday nights, leaving you with limited options.

The first is eating at the Student Union Building. However, eating at the SUB generally guzzles more than just one meal block, leaving you hungry at the end of the semester. Your second option is going out to eat. However, getting hot, fresh food delivered right to your doorstep is much easier than getting dressed in your Sunday best to go out. Your second option is going out to eat. For those of you who live off campus and

already know the struggle of stocking your own pantry, ordering in offers a healthy alternative to the Pop-Tarts and potato chips that surely stock your pantry right now. All that leaves delivery as the most viable option for Sunday night dinners. Here is a basic list of delivery restaurants in Kirksville for when Sunday rolls around.

La Pachanga: Although La Pa is a little more pricey than other options, it is one of the few destination restaurants in Kirksville that actually delivers. They have an excellent vegetarian selection, as well as many different combinations of fajitas, quesadillas and burritos for everyone to enjoy. Personally, the spinach quesadilla holds a special place in my heart. Regardless of whether you are inviting friends to

your room for a movie night, throwing a party or just perusing Facebook alone, La Pa is sure to please.

Papa John's: It's no secret that an overwhelming number of Truman students stem from the great city of St. Louis. But all students can cash in on Papa John's St. Louis Blues deal. The day after the St. Louis Blues score three or more goals, Papa John's offers 50 percent off all online orders with the promotion code BLUES3. Pizza, already a classic, becomes that much more tempting when it's being sold half price.

Jimmy John's: Their main draw is speed. While the other options take longer to deliver, Jimmy John's really does deliver their subs so fast, you'll freak. I don't personally find their subs remark-

able or special, but they are good when time is a major concern. They also offer online ordering, making your Sunday meal that much easier.

Great Wall: Chinese food, always a delivery classic, is a perfectly viable option for your Sunday dinner. Great Wall offers a nice variety from egg drop soup to spring rolls, so everyone has something to choose from. There's nothing better than learning your fortune from a cookie.

There are certainly countless other options at your fingertips that I simply didn't have space to mention here. Other delivery joints that deserve mention include Domino's, Steve's Garden Deli, Pagliai's, The Greek Corner Gyros, China Palace and Bellacino's.

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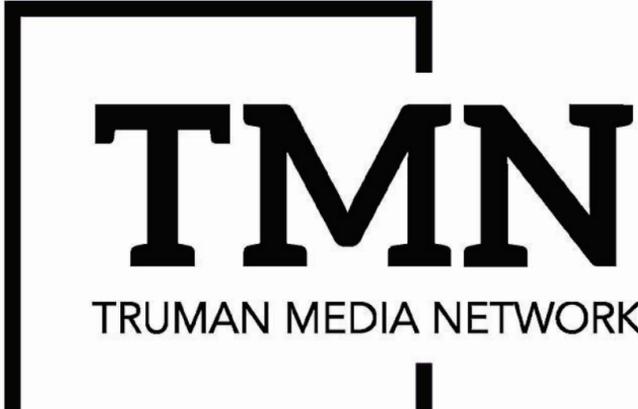
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