

TRANSLATING GREEK AT RIDER

By Tymish Halibey
Staff Writer

Every year around this time the freshman are startled and confused by the sounds of chanting, singing and yelling from the houses around the lake. Many freshman have no idea what many of the letters, traditions, strange terms and chants mean, so here's the long and short of it.

Rider has 12 social Greek organizations. There are four fraternities, which are Greek organizations for men. They include Alpha Epsilon Pi, Zeta Beta Tau, Sigma Phi Epsilon and Phi Kappa Tau. In addition there are four sororities, which are Greek organizations for women. They are Alpha Xi Delta, Delta Phi Epsilon, Zeta Tau Alpha and Phi Sigma Sigma. There are also four cultural Greek organizations: Delta Sigma Theta, Lambda Theta Alpha, Lambda Theta Phi and Phi Beta Sigma. Each of these organizations is often referred to as a House. There is also a wealth of business, leadership, academic, honors and service co-educational Greek organizations.

Throughout the year Greeks have many different traditional events in which they participate.

One of the important traditions is Bid Day, which took place on Oct. 3. During the week before Bid Day the fraternities hand out bids, which are invitations to join the organization. The sororities have a series of events called "formal rush" where potential members attend events at each sorority and decide which house they want to join. On Bid Day, the entire Greek community gathers on the Bart Luedeke Center patio and chants, yells and sings while waiting to find out who accepted bids and who

Explanations to all of that chanting



Photo by Hugh Tsung

The Greeks celebrate as rush concludes and students receive bids from the sororities or fraternities that have chosen them. This year's Bid Day took place Oct. 3, outside of the Bart Luedeke Center.

the new members will be that semester.

For many this is the beginning of their Greek experience. Junior Casey Kocsis, a sister of Alpha Xi Delta, said that her first Bid Day is one of her fondest memories.

"It's hard to sum up an experience like Bid Day," she said. "It was such an overwhelming rush of happiness when I received a bid to the house I felt most connected with. I can't put into words the experience of running out onto the balcony and looking down at so many smiling faces of girls that I, for the first time, could call my sisters."

Another significant event is Sweetheart Weekend. Traditionally, it spans over Thursday and Friday night into Saturday morning. On Thursday night all the fraternities go to each

sorority house and nominate several girls to be their sweetheart. On Friday the sororities do the same for the fraternities. Then anyone who received a nomination either accepts or declines and writes a letter to the nominating organization explaining their choice. Out of all the people that accepted a nomination, each house chooses one sweetheart. The sweetheart is an honorary member of the fraternity or sorority. It is someone that the whole house considers special and worthy of wearing the organization's letters.

Senior Audrey Marmol, a sister of Phi Sigma Sigma, said that her favorite part of Sweetheart Weekend is the anticipation.

"All the Greeks are there and everyone wants to know who's going to be

each house's next sweet heart," she said.

The final campus tradition of the year that involves the Greek community is Greek Week, a week of competitions which involves all the houses. The winner of each event receives points and the house with the most at the end of the week is the winner.

Senior Rob Schulte, a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, said that the highlight of the week is usually the lip synch contest, in which each house has to choreograph a dance to a mix of pop songs.

"There's nothing funnier than 40 uncoordinated fraternity guys trying to dance like N'Sync," he said.

Even independants have fun at these events.

"Even though I never joined a sorority, it's nice that all the Greeks have always made me feel welcome at their events," said senior Kayla Pacan.

Greek life is not all fun and games. The sorority GPA for the past year was 2.93 and the fraternity GPA was 2.74, making the all Greek GPA of 2.85 at Rider.

Campus involvement seems very important to Greeks, said freshman Viviana Franco.

"The Greeks seem like they are always willing to help out with all the activities," she added.

For many students Greek life holds the fondest memories of their college career. Rider graduate Paul Caustin summarized his Greek experience.

"Greek life is one aspect of college life, a portion of a person which can lead to self discovery and learning," he said. "Although not necessary in a college experience, it is a tool which can develop, educate and help a person in their life to come."

'Memoir of an Assimilated Family' reflects life

By Candice Grieco
Staff Writer

The Bart Luedeke Center (BLC) art gallery will have over 100 of Brodsky's etchings, entitled *Memoir of an Assimilated Family*. The BLC will be the home of the artist Judith Brodsky's artwork on Sept. 26 continuing through to Oct. 26.

In a recent conversation with Harry I. Naar, professor of the Fine Arts department at Rider, Brodsky commented that her collection is meant to be a reflection of life.

"People do not look at it right away as artwork," said Naar, "but more as curiosity."

When first entering the art gallery, the viewers might look at the artwork as plain old photographs, but the images go far beyond that, according to Naar.

"It's important for people to realize these are not photographs," he said.

Instead, these are etchings, which require a great deal of hard and unique work, all done by hand.

"She developed the images to what she really wanted," said Naar.

Brodsky uses computers to help her manipulate pictures to their desired look. She also added images together to create a look that she wanted. Many



Photo by Jennifer Kuhn

Freshman Regina Shinn examines a piece of Judith Brodsky's artwork, at the *Memoir of an Assimilated Family* exhibit, which will be on display in the Bart Luedeke Center Art Gallery through Oct. 26. Brodsky will be speaking about the exhibit on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m.

people are very unaware of the hard, as well as time consuming, efforts that go into each etching.

It is quite fascinating to see each etching and discover that each has its own story to tell.

"It's pretty exciting to read; it's almost as though you are reading a book," said Naar. "You feel as though you're a part of the world she's telling about."

Naar also commented on the set

up of the gallery. Unlike previous years, the etchings were set up close together, partly because of the large amount that Brodsky has. Another reason they are close, which is the more emotional aspect, is to draw the audience in, so the show "becomes more environmental," said Naar.

Naar said that everybody will find some way to relate with the artwork. It will touch a person's soul and interact with their emotions. Everybody will

'You feel as though you're a part of the world she's telling about.'

— Harry Naar

find some way to relate, whether it be to a sibling or a parent. In this gallery there is the aroma of nostalgia.

"That is what Judy wants," said Naar. "She wants you to rethink of your own photos, to make you remember and recollect your memories."

Brodsky will be hosting an artist talk on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. in the art gallery. This informal information session will start off with Naar giving a brief introduction to the public about Brodsky. Afterwards Brodsky will elaborate on topics of her work, as well as host a question and answer session.

"She is a terrific speaker," said Naar.

The gallery is open daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Sunday's noon to 4 p.m. All events are free and open to the public.