Fraternity Philanthropies served as a demonstration of their concern for matters outside of the College. Philanthropic events ranged from competitive events such as Sigma Chi’s Derby Days in which the sororities competed for the title of Derby Days Champion and individual members competed for Miss Derby Days. This year Pi Phi beat out the other sororities in several events in order to take the Championship.

Many fraternities used their philanthropic events to reach out to Greeks and Non-Greeks alike. “Our philanthropy event is Earthball Soccer, a soccer tournament in the Sunken Garden with a ball that’s over 3-feet tall,” Richard Walsh, a member of Kappa Delta Rho, said. “Anyone on campus can play Earthball, and last year we had nearly 20 teams play.” Lots of preparation went into this specific event. Brothers woke up early and prepared the Sunken Gardens, set up the registration table, refreshments table, and the DJ equipment so music could play all day. The winners of the Earthball tournament received special gifts. “This year the winning women’s team was the ‘earthBALLERS’ and the winning men’s team was ‘Team Schnitzengiggle’ and they received $100 gift certificates to the Deli of their choice,” Walsh said.

Although most fraternities’ philanthropies were nationally mandated, many could closely relate to the issues that their philanthropic organization dealt with. “All of the proceeds from Earthball Soccer last year went to our philanthropy, the American Diabetes Association. Years ago, a brother in KDR lost a close friend to a diabetes-related seizure, and we decided that we would donate money to the ADA in honor of him,” Walsh said. All in all, these philanthropies provided precisely the right mix between brotherhood, philanthropy and fun.

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