

Gift drive ends 5 percent short

By Sarah Sturmon

Although the Senior Gift Drive Committee extended the deadline one week, the class of 1981 fell five percent short of its goal of 85 percent participation, according to Chairman Bernie Thomas.

According to Thomas, the class received a total of \$22,110 in pledges, \$2,392 in immediate cash gifts, and achieved an 80 percent participation rate. "We've given more to the annual fund than any class since 1972, or the classes of 1944 and 1945," said Thomas.

"Despite the fact that we didn't make our 85 percent participation, I'm still proud of our 80 percent effort," Thomas added.

The senior class had originally planned to give out eight \$1000 scholarships in honor of Colonel David Roeder, the DePauw graduate who was held hostage in Iran, and five deceased class members.

Thomas was unsure what the decreased amount would do to the scholarships' prospects. "The University may plan on adding money to reach our goal or we may have to go with one less scholarship," he added.

The class of 1981 will receive \$9,250 in matching funds from the Joyce Foundation. The Joyce Foundation donated \$5000 for every one percent increase in donations to the senior gift drive over last year's donations. According to Thomas, last year's class donated a total of \$18,000.

"Hopefully the contribution we are making will ease some of the financial pressures on the University and accommodate the desires of

several needy students," Thomas said.

The class of 1951 is competing with this year's seniors to see who can get the largest participation in the gift drive — a challenge which was designed to increase participation in the drive for both classes.

According to Thomas, the last figures for the class of 1951 showed a 40 percent participation rate. "But they have contributed more than \$22,000," he added.

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