Greeks to battle on football field to raise money for local charities

By Sharon Kinkley  
Lifestyle Staff Writer

Campus fraternities and sororities will be fighting each other on the football field this weekend to raise money for two local charities.

Beta Theta Pi and Alpha Xi Delta are sponsoring the football competition with teams from 16 sororities and 25 fraternities. The two houses expect to raise about $2,000 for charities.

The teams will play from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the intramural fields.

Profits from the weekend events will be split evenly between Beta Theta Pi, who will give the money to Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and Alpha Xi Delta, who will give money to the American Lung Association, said Melanie Rose, a junior from Westerville and philanthropy chairman for Alpha Xi Delta.

Each sorority and fraternity paid $35 to enter the tournament, said Bob Mahoney, a senior from Willoughby and assistant philanthropy chairman for Beta Theta Pi.

Each sorority team will be coached by two members of Beta Theta Pi and the fraternities are coached by members of Alpha Xi Delta, Mahoney said. Sororities will play against sororities and fraternities against fraternities, he said.

In addition to the entrance fee, profits will also come from the sale of t-shirts, which will be sold for $5.95, and sweatshirts, which will be sold for $8.95.

The houses also sponsored a kick-off party at Presley's last night. The houses received 50 percent of the door profits, Mahoney said.

"The Betas usually have had a football tournament for sororities for about eight years. However, we decided to combine the project with Alpha Xi Delta in order to raise more money," Mahoney said.

"We combine with the Betas because we wanted to incorporate the entire Greek system," Rose said.

Last year, the Betas raised approximately $1,200 from the football tournament, Mahoney said.

"We plan to surprise the American Lung Association and Big Brother/Big Sisters with the donation," Rose said.

All of the fraternities and sororities on campus raise money for national charities through a variety of philanthropic fundraising events, Rose said.