

Greek Columns

Greek Columns is published and paid for by IFC

Greek softball game vs. CPD helps raise money for needy child

By Lindsey Redford
Sigma Kappa

After five innings of play, the Corvallis Police Department had scored many runs. More than ten, so the mercy rule was called, but the game was all in fun as the benefits of the game went to 5-year-old Noelle Spinney. Spinney suffers from a rare skin disease called Epidermolysis Bullosa. EB causes her skin to blister when anything comes in contact with her skin.

"I want to tell everyone thank you for their support and help," said Noelle. "I hope the Greeks win."

The charity softball game featured two players from every Greek chapter facing off against the CPD. Even though the Greeks did not come out on top, it was still a very exciting game. With the laid-back atmosphere, many fans were not sur-

prised to see in the park home runs.

This was a great charity game with lots of charity runs, said John Duncan, IFC president.

There were four, including two from the same police officer. The score was pretty even after three innings of play with the CPD ahead only 12-11. But then, in the fourth inning, the CPD took advantage and scored 11 runs. The Greeks tried to bounce back in the bottom of the fourth but were only able to score two runs.

This will be an annual philanthropy for all of the Greek community, said Amii Thompson, co-coordinator of the event. Its a local cause, so hopefully it will bring a lot of people out.

For its first year, the all-Greek philanthropy had a pretty good turnout. There were approximately 150 people in attendance to support Spinney and her trip to Miami.



Event co-organizer Amii Thompson watches as IFC president John Duncan Jr. hands over the megaphone to 5-year-old Noelle Spinney during the CPD's victory against the Greeks.

1999 IFC Sing Award Winners

1st	Lambda Chi Alpha/Delta Delta Delta Seven Brides for Seven Brothers	Outstanding Professor Award	Dr. Dale Weber, Animal Science
2nd	Acacia/Chi Omega Bye Bye Birdie	IFC Chapter Scholarship Award	Sigma Phi Epsilon
3rd	Delta Upsilon/Alpha Gamma Delta Pirates of Penzance	Panhellenic Chapter Scholarship Award	Alpha Chi Omega
Thanes Award	Sigma Phi Epsilon	Gamma Sigma Alpha Award (Most Improved)	Alpha Sigma Phi m
Talons Award	Kappa Delta	Greek Man of the Year	Kevin Lyons, Sigma Phi Epsilon
Kappa Alpha Theta Award	Sigma Phi Epsilon	Greek Woman of the Year	Merrit Tompkins, Sigma Kappa
Cultural Diversity Awareness Award	Toni Pusateri, Kappa Delta	Vanderpool Outstanding	
		Chapter of the Year	Kappa Kappa Gamma
		Brennan Cup	Sigma Phi Epsilon

Alpha Phi has strong, busy year

Spring term at Alpha Phi has been very busy. We started off with a great Sibling's Weekend, followed by a successful Mom's Weekend, including a wonderful brunch and auction.

The house had several rush retreats in order to get a head start on rush training for next year. The freshmen had a great retreat to the beach.

Members enjoyed a fun and exciting Hawaiian house dance, Wai-Ki-Phi, in May. A favorite sisterhood among the members this term was roller skating. Some of the girls coached soccer teams for Corvallis Parks and Recreation. We also plan to sponsor a little league team this summer.

Many members of Alpha Phi were also active

participants in the Blood Drive.

We have been working hard on our philanthropy this term, lead by Jackie Tempelton. Our philanthropy this term was Capture the Flag to benefit the Alpha Phi Foundation which aids in child care. We had a successful turnout at Avery Park and Lambda Chi Alpha won.

We continually work hard on receiving good grades and to keep up the increase in G.P.A. of 3.01 live-in average earned winter term. During the summer Alpha Phi will be renovated with new technology. Come fall, the chapter house will include a state-of-the-art phone system with Internet and printer service for every computer in the house.

OSU Sigma Chi's bringing back U of O Sigma Chi

By Brad Simpson
Sigma Chi

At the end of this year 10 members of the Beta Pi chapter of Sigma Chi will be heading off to the University of Oregon to embark on something that they have been striving to accomplish for the last three years; to bring back the Beta Iota chapter at UofO.

Dustin Aman, Brad Bigelow, Wayne Chao, Marx Cruz, Brian Luccio, Jason Merck, Chris Miller, Patrick O'Brien, Chris Tate, and Charlie Tiantawach will be giving up a lot leaving the Beta Pi chapter. Throughout the process of this endeavor, they have been asked constantly the question, "Why are you doing this?" For each individual, the answer is different in most respects, but they all do

agree with one thing. Miller sums it up in his comment, "The experiences and memories that we will gain with this is going to make it all worthwhile."

In 1996, Beta Iota had their charter taken away by nationals for conduct unbecoming of a Sigma Chi chapter. Each brother plans to incorporate the things that they have learned from their Sigma Chi experience and place it into this project. They have all agreed to stay at UofO for at least two years, and make it one of the strongest fraternities on campus while having a positive reflection towards the Eugene community as well.

Taking to heart the problems that failed Sigma Chi in the past at UofO, Beta Pi is ensuring that they will not happen again. Bringing over the principles that Sigma Chi stands for, they will stress that there is absolutely no hazing. "It is crucial that the pledges are put through a pledgship where they can learn and grow," Merck comments.

Scholarship is recognized as the top priority in this project. Quiet hours from Monday through Thursday will be enforced to ensure a proper learning environment. The social portion of it plans to be strong as well, with one change; the ten Sigs want to get away from the large party weekends, and concentrate on hosting more socially responsible events. This will include more events such as formal house dances, cocktail parties, and movie nights. Sororities really enjoy the atmosphere, and it would increase the awareness of alcohol.

With the reinstatement of the Beta Iota chapter, the Northwest Province will regain the tradition and strength in which it once had. It is currently a very strong and diverse province, but another chapter will allow brothers to gain new friendships and valuable resources for the future.

Nobody said it was going to be easy, but these ten men are ready for the challenge. The brotherhood is backing their decision to do this one-hundred percent, anxious to have their neighbor chapter reinstated. Beta Iota is back, and Beta Pi is ready to ensure its existence for a long time.



These members of Sigma Chi have chosen to be the foundation for the upcoming reopening of the Beta Iota chapter at the University of Oregon next fall. All ten members have agreed to stay for at least two years to make it one of the strongest fraternities on campus.

Recent changes aim to improve retention, numbers

By Joanna King
Panhellenic VP Recruitment

This is a very exciting time for recruitment in the Greek community. The changes that have occurred over the last two years have been implemented to improve retention in the rush process, as well as increase the number of women going through rush. The Membership Chairs of each chapter have made important decisions about how to present the Greek community to new students of Oregon State University.

Fall Formal Rush begins Sept. 25 and ends Oct. 3. Each chapter decided they would rather have their chapter concentrate on going to class and studying during the first week of school rather than concentrating on recruiting women. Therefore, there will be no formal rush parties the first Monday through Thursday of school. This will give an opportunity for the women going through rush to concentrate on their first week of classes, as well as taking a break from the intense rush process. Rush is also a very intense process for affiliated women and this four-day break gives them an opportunity to take a well earned break from the recruitment process.

There have also been some important logistical changes in the actual rush process. The main goal for the next formal rush is to concentrate on retention before and after the recruitment process is over. Each rushee is designated a role model, also known as a Rush Counselor. This woman is an upperclassman who disaffiliates herself from her chapter during rush week. These women are educated about the rush process, each individual and how to counsel women who are going through rush. A new change this year is each Rush Counselor is allocated \$50 to help retain the rushees. This money can be used in purchasing candy, gifts and welcoming signs for the rushees, in hopes the rushee will want to learn more about the Greek community and what it has to offer. If the Rush Counselor can connect with their rushees, hopefully more rushees will continue in the rush process and become an active member in the Greek community.

Other changes that have been made have affected the rush parties. In the past, there has been a skit during the Go Greek Day, the first round of parties. In 1992, the National Panhellenic Conference unanimously voted to get rid of these skits. During Fall Formal Rush 1998, these skits were still an important part of OSUs Rush, but the Membership Chairs have decided to not implement these skits in the first round of rush parties.

Another important change in the rush process is the incorporation of community service into the actual rush process. Each chapter will be doing their own philanthropy project on the second round of parties, allowing the rushees to observe what kind of community service the chapter is involved in.

All of these changes are very positive for the Greek community. Incorporating a philanthropy instead of including skits in the rush process gives rushees an accurate picture of what belonging to a Greek organization is really about. The goal of any recruitment period is to educate the rushees about what membership in a Greek organization means. The changes that have been implemented during the past two years have created a positive atmosphere for retention of women in the community, as well as attracting more women to participate in Formal Rush.

"Another important change in the rush process is the incorporation of community service into the actual rush process. Each chapter will be doing their own philanthropy project on the second round of parties, allowing the rushees to observe what kind of community service the chapter is involved in"

Greeks adapting to changing times

Educating new members becoming more of a focal point for chapters' long term success

By Ryan Oliver
IFC Regulations Vice President

This past year has been one of many changes for the Greek community at Oregon State University. Increased educational programming, strong adherence to risk management policies, and greater involvement in the Oregon State and Corvallis communities. The fraternities and sororities on campus have been active in many facets of the community, including fundraising for national charities, service at local shelters and community centers, and extensive numbers of campus student groups. Greek members can be found serving in ASOSU, department clubs, athletics, honor societies, and the Memorial Union Program Council, among other organizations.

Within the past school year we have made changes to our IFC and Panhellenic systems that offer better assistance to our chapters through the sharing of programs that work for our chapters to increase substance-free activities for chapter members to participate in. Many of our chapters are making the transition to substance-free housing and have learned ways to enact these changes for the betterment of their members.

Education of our members has been at the forefront of the Greek experience at Oregon State with speakers and workshops including: Dave Westol of Theta Chi Fraternity presenting "Leaving the Baggage Behind," a risk management seminar and Dr. Will Keim of Delta Upsilon Fraternity speaking about motivation and the improvement of the Greek community. This year's Third Annual Greek

Summit was a tremendous success, including workshops on campus involvement, risk management, recruitment of new members, and personal leadership.

The Greek chapters on campus have prided themselves on many accomplishments this year, including the Interfraternity Council receiving the Patrick J. Naessen's award for campus education and the Panhellenic Council receiving the award for Greek publications at the 51st Western Regional Greek Conference. Once again the Greek chapters on campus have achieved an average G.P.A. higher than that of the other campus housing groups. This spring the Greek community hosted a softball game against the Corvallis Police Department that successfully raised funds to help provide medical treatment for a young lady in the community.

The combination of education, service, leadership, athletics, and scholarship has brought many chapters pride and has caused others to realize the need to improve. As a community, Greeks at Oregon State have pledged themselves to improving all facets of our community by strongly adhering to the principles of our founding brothers and sisters. Our community has committed to building a strong relationship with the University, the Corvallis community, all students on campus, and each other chapter that is part of our community. We have gathered the support of many faculty, administrators, community members, and the national organizations that we represent. Over the years to come we have many goals to achieve, such as continuing our extensive campus and community involvement, making our chapter houses ever safer for all of our guests and members, holding each other responsible for living up to our high ideals and Creeds, and building an ever-strengthening community that can offer the best of the college experience to all current and future Oregon State students.

Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity scholarship fund

By Brad Simpson
Sigma Chi

Lambda Chi Alpha has one of the largest scholarship funds on campus, one that started in the 1980's by its first initiate at Oregon State.

Twenty five years ago, Clayton Strain left part of his estate to be put into a trust fund when he passed away. In what started as an award that granted around \$15,000 to worthy brothers, it has grown tremendously from alumni support and now provides scholarships which total about \$35,000. In the past 15-20 years, over \$300,000 has been awarded to deserving members.

The President of Lambda Chi Alpha, Jeff Patterson, feels this scholarship is truly something special. This year he was one of 16 brothers who were awarded with scholarships. "It awards those who are working hard in the fraternity," Patterson said. "And it eases the financial burden of many parents."

The awards are distributed to applicants each Spring. After being interviewed by an alumni panel, the scholarships are given

based on academics, financial need, service to Lambda Chi Alpha, and service to Oregon State, with each worth 25 percent of the final decision. Anyone in Lambda Chi Alpha is allowed to apply for these scholarships. Freshman are eligible their first year and will receive the award their sophomore year. With such a large amount of money from alumni, not one person was denied a scholarship who applied this year.

Top awards amount to full, in-state tuition, with a number of partial tuition scholarships. Brian Yoss is another brother who is grateful for this fund. Next year he will receive \$1,200, \$400 each term. "It helps me out a lot. Without it, I'd have to get a job."

This scholarship fund has helped hundreds of brothers handle the financial difficulties that college brings. And it also plays as a "Thank you" from the fraternity for the members' ongoing benefits he brings to Lambda Chi Alpha, the university and the community. The alumni's support for this fund has made it reach tremendous heights and is evidence as to how much this scholarship means to the fraternity.

New rules on trial run for Formal Rush

New rules enacted to benefit prospective pledges and chapters' retention rates

By Andy Van Fleet
IFC Recruitment Chair

This year's Rush 101 workshops were altered a little since last year. With the addition of four more classes I was able to cover much more material and present it to each house's Rush Chairman. Even with the addition of these new classes I felt that we were short on time.

I felt the class went fairly smoothly and I have a great feeling that next year's Fall Rush will easily exceed last year's numbers. If every house follows through on the goals they have set, we may very well see the largest rush numbers in history. I will be checking up periodically on the houses that are not on pace with their goals and I am more than willing to offer new ideas to help out any of the Rush Chairs throughout the course of the summer.

Due to abuse of certain areas of summer recruitment in the past, the Executive Council and I have changed a few rules with

the interest of benefiting Men's Rush.

First, we have set a limit on summer pledges. We have done this in the hopes of dissuading chapters from summer pledging. The retention rate of summer pledges is much lower than those who pledge during rush week. With this new rule more freshman will go through rush week and be able to see which house they actually fit in the best, thus increasing the retention rate.

The second adjustment was most controversial. This year, for the first time, we have set a limit on how many men a house can R&R for rush week.

We have set the cap so that larger houses can't invite everyone they meet and then cut the men they don't want which makes those cut feel rejected by the Greek system. I am hoping that this rule will benefit the smaller houses by being able to recruit more men during the summer.

This is a trial run with these new rules and I hope they will affect men's rush in a positive manner. I really don't think it can hurt us and with all things considered I feel that we will be boosting the Greek numbers dramatically going into the year 2000.

First annual Greek Summit educates, impacts Greek community

By Krista Tappan
Panhellenic Programming Vice President

Panhellenic Council's 1999 Greek Summit Leadership Conference was held at the CH2M Hill Alumni Center on April 26 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Becca Andrew, Greek Life GTA, and myself, Krista Tappan, Panhellenic Programming Vice President, co-coordinated the event. A total of 276 Greek members registered. This year's conference focused on leadership development among the younger members of our Greek community, as well as overall educational emphasis on the issues Greeks face today. Thirteen

presenters extended their valuable time and energy to provide the educational workshops throughout the day, which included topics that covered a variety of subject matter. To name a few, these included recruitment, alcohol-free housing, sexual assault, and several aspects of leadership development.

After the Keynote address, the participants broke into the first of three educational sessions where they could choose from eight different workshop meetings. This enabled the students to choose appropriate areas of interest regarding their chapter or personal office. This proved to be an effective

way of incorporating a diverse group of topics within the course of the day.

I would like to thank all of the presenters for enabling a successful conference this year by providing such powerful and rewarding presentations. I also thank and appreciate those participants who represented their individual chapters respectfully, for it is you and your chapters who have gained the most from the experience. Overall, I feel that the Greek Summit made an effective impact on the attendees, their chapters, and hopefully the entire Greek community.

Lambda Chi's Watermelon Bash does something special

The fraternity's wild spring philanthropy cashes in big bucks for local Special Olympics

By Troy Foster
Lambda Chi Alpha

Members of OSU's Lambda Chi Alpha chapter didn't seem to mind scraping watermelon guts, seeds and rinds from their parking lot on the quiet evening of Thursday, May 27.

After all, the 80-member fraternity had just completed its second annual Watermelon Bash philanthropy, which succeeded in raising over \$1,000 for the local Special Olympics of Linn, Lane and Benton Counties for a second straight year.

"It's really been a great thing for them to work with us," said John Gallagher, a volunteer with Special Olympics. "In fact, OSU in general has been really helpful too."

Although hosting a charitable event could sound time consuming or even boring, the Lambda Chis had nothing but pure fun on this day.

With help from eight sororities which included Alpha Chi Omega, Chi Omega, Alpha Phi, Kappa Kappa

Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta, Delta Delta Delta, Alpha Gamma Delta, and Alpha Xi Delta, the philanthropy featured a whole lot of watermelon tossing, bashing, carving, rolling and spitting.

Wooden mallets destroyed watermelons while other unfortunate fruits were cast off the roof only to explode upon a point target spread over the fraternity's parking lot.

By the time the evening's events were through, filthy watermelon goo covered the chapters property. That's okay, however, according to the Lambda Chis.

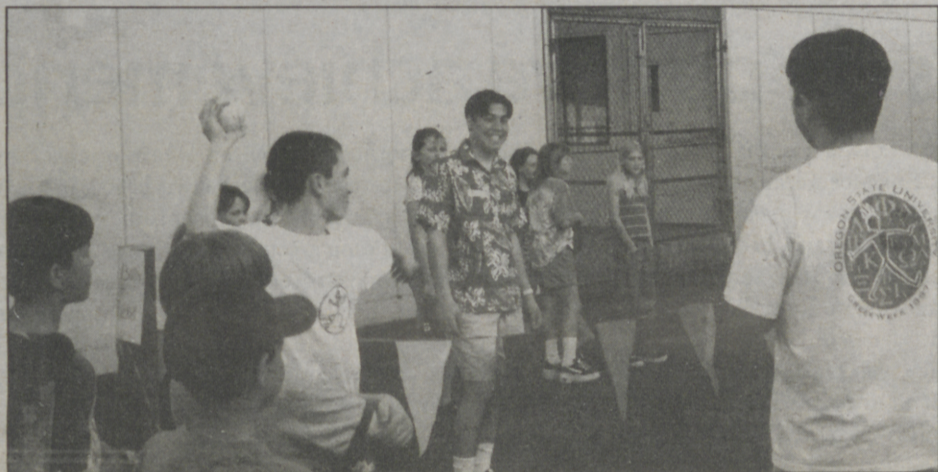
"Everybody really gets a kick out of doing this," said the fraternity's Philanthropy Chairman, Peter Hersh. "It doesn't take too long to clean up. And all the girls and all of us have so much fun that sometimes we forget when it's over that we just raised a lot of money for a good cause."

The fundraiser was organized as a competition between sororities with the Alpha Chis taking the 1999 crown followed closely by Chi Omega and Alpha Phi. The money is raised through T-shirt sales, coin jars, entry fees and donations.

The members of Lambda Chi Alpha hope to make next year's event even larger and raise more dollars.



Lambda Chi Alpha member Brandon Blake spent an entire day on campus as "Watermelon Man". Sororities who found Brandon received points in the philanthropy's competition. (Photo by Benji Kamph)



Fiji member Bill Anderson watches a carnival goer set his sights on the dunk tank as part of Oak Elementary's annual carnival.

Fiji's volunteer for school carnival

By Phi Gamma Delta

Recently the men of Phi Gamma Delta volunteered their time and energy to make Oak Elementary's annual carnival a huge success. The carnival is an annual event that raises money to pay for field trips, assemblies and equipment for the upcoming school year. This year the carnival raised about \$5,000 for the school.

The carnival consisted of many activities,

including abundant door prizes, a dunk tank, a hockey game and a balloon popping dart game. The kids all bought tickets which enabled them to play the games. At most games they could win play money and redeem it for various prizes.

The carnival was a fun event to work for and was a great way to give something back to the community. The brothers all felt closer to the community and were glad to share their time for a good cause.

Phi Delta's strive to be leaders

By Phi Delta Theta

As the Oregon Beta Chapter at Oregon State University, Phi Delta Theta is an important member of the community both on- and off-campus. Founded in 1848 on the principles of sound learning, friendship and moral rectitude, Phi Deltas everywhere have contributed to the improvement of our society. Within our own chapter, programs are enacted to educate incoming freshmen, to help them receive more from their time in college. Activities are planned which stimulate intellectual and social growth within all members and pledges. Phi Deltas often volunteer their time for community service, in such programs as Corvallis Boys and Girls Club, Adopt-a-Highway, and the Big Brother/Big Sister Program. Other activities and programs that Phi Deltas participate in are varsity sports, IM sports, IFC, Friends of the Library and many others.

One of the biggest events each year is our Annual Christmas Party for underprivileged children of the community. On Dec. 6, 1998, Phi Delta Theta, in conjunction with Alpha Phi sorority, held our annual Christmas Party for the Big Brother/Big Sister program. Each year underprivileged children of Corvallis and their Big Brother/Big Sister are invited to the Phi Delta chapter for a day of celebration, entertainment and mutual gift exchanging. It is unfortunate that there are children who live in poverty and do not have proper adult figures with which to emulate,

therefore the men of Phi Delta Theta volunteer our time to be with these children, either for companionship or as their mentor. Teachers, counselors, and other public officials have stated that such mentorship by an adult help to stimulate proper development and growth for these young children, often improving their outlook on life. In continuing our tradition of helping the community when possible, the annual Christmas party at Phi Delta Theta is but one more way to bring a smile to a child.

For our chapter as a whole, we achieved nearly total commitment with more than 90 percent of members and all pledges present. A total of \$350 was spent on obtaining gifts which were wrapped and decorated by every person in the house and then given to the children at the end of the party. Members and pledges were assigned duties to fulfill during the event, either as hosts or in supporting roles, providing for safety, catering to the children, or talking to the public present. Everyone expressed their gratitude for having been present at our Christmas party and look forward to attending again next year.

Being one of the largest and oldest fraternities in the country, Phi Deltas are blessed with having a rich history. Famous alumni have played vital roles in the shaping of our country and of society in general. It is this strong connection with our past that will ensure that Phi Delta Theta will have a strong future.

Choose Children, a top priority

By Codi Honeywell
Alpha Xi Delta

Philanthropy has been the main focus of Alpha Xi Delta this spring. "Choose Children," our national philanthropy, focuses on reaching out into the community to work with children who are in need of attention. For the Easter holiday, the chapter helped to co-sponsor an Easter egg hunt with a neighborhood day care. The children were eager and excited to spend time with members of AZD, racing around trying to find the next prize.

Our philanthropy continued over the recent Mom's Day celebration on campus. To raise

money for "Choose Children" the chapter arranged and sold flowers to other members of the Greek community. With the help of all the other chapters we were able to raise a significant amount of money for the national organization of "Choose Children." This money will then be given out to help children in need throughout the country. By reaching out to the children of today we are preparing for a better tomorrow.

The members of Alpha Xi Delta would again like to thank their fellow Greek members, and all others who participated, for making our philanthropy event such a wonderful success.

Kick-It the Chi-O Way

Members helped out by acting as coaches and cheering squads for the teams

By Antonette Advincula
Chi Omega

On May 15, Chi Omega held its annual philanthropy, Kick-It the Chi-O Way. Kick-It is a five-on-five men's soccer tournament whose proceeds benefit the ARC of Benton County. For the tournament, Chi Omega members adopted

teams and acted as coaches and cheering squads throughout the day. We received volunteer referees from various soccer organizations and numerous establishments donated items to help put the event on.

This year the tournament was opened to all male students on campus. We gained support from lodges, residence halls, fraternities, and several people who live off campus. This diverse group of men arrived at the intramural fields at 9 a.m. and began the tournament. There were many good matches but for the second year in a

row, Phi Delta Theta once again proved to be victorious. Coming in second was Lambda Chi Alpha and tying for third were Sigma Phi Epsilon and Lambda Chi Alpha (team #2).

The event was fun and successful and Chi Omega appreciates everyone's support. Thanks again to all of the volunteer referees and establishments who made this event possible. An especially big thanks goes out to all the men who participated and had fun at our philanthropy.

Helping the cause



Alpha Tau Omega senior Karsten Wood faces little opposition at the plate as he cruises in for a run during the all-Greek philanthropy. Approximately 150 people were in attendance at the softball game to support 5-year-old Noelle Spinney and her trip to Miami for treatment.

Sigma Pi's help Greeks, community through philanthropies



Members of Sigma Pi display their awards after participating in Pi Beta Phi's annual Arrowspike philanthropy.

By Jason Sarmiento
Sigma Pi

As the end of Spring term and the academic school year approaches, we at Sigma Pi Fraternity have tried hard to keep our focus going into the summer break. Within the last term, we have been stressing the involvement in philanthropies and the upcoming summer rush programs. These are two of the many key elements in keeping our house going strong.

With the passing of our annual philanthropy of Singled Out, we have found the dedication to participate in the events that other houses have put on for their philanthropies. The most recent events that we have participated in have been the IFC philanthropy softball game, the Alpha Phi Capture the Flag, the Pi Beta Phi volleyball tournament, and the Alpha Chi Omega Swingers softball game. After the support

shown by others to make Singled Out a success, we went to make other philanthropies successes as well. We are proud to be able to contribute to such good causes.

The other great contributor to the success of our house, as well as many other houses has been summer rush. We have begun to turn some of the attention of our house to the incoming batch of possible rushees. Our two rush chairmen, Chris Wright and Ryan Hildum, have taken the helm of this position with great desire to succeed this summer. We are focused greatly on not only getting people into the house or the Greek system, but also getting to know a lot of other people. Rush is a great way for us to get to know a lot of guys.

The end of the school year approaches and we have tried to keep our focus on maintaining a good standing in the community and as a house in general. This has been a successful year for us and we look forward to next year.

"Within the last term, we have been stressing the involvement in philanthropies and the upcoming summer rush programs."

Time is right for critics to focus on positive achievements

By Fred Miner
Alpha Tau Omega

The time is long overdue that we all examine the Greek system in a positive light. This is because I feel our critics have provided no answers whatsoever. Instead it is time to focus on all the positives of being Greek. Ask any member of any fraternity what he has gotten out of being Greek and you'll get a different answer every time. There are some common themes and they are the building blocks of the New Greek system that we all can see on the horizon.

Nowhere else on campus can you find a more perfect model for learning leadership skills. The executive members of any fraternity are guiding a team. This is the advantage of working with men who are listening and willing to work together for a common goal. Student government does not provide the same kind of leadership opportunities. When less than 20 percent of the student population turns out to elect them. What good is leadership if nobody is following? Truly, if you want to lead and see your efforts bare

fruit, the best opportunity is in the Greek community.

To my knowledge every fraternity on this campus has some kind of academic program, (some more structured than others). I don't believe any other living group on campus has that kind of dedication to the advancement of its members. Everyone who is serious about their college education should be impressed by the Greek system's dedication to help them graduate with the highest possible standing. The commitment of Greek chapters does not end there. Fraternities unanimously offer their members career training, specialized internships, and job placement not available to the unaffiliated student population.

Fraternities also offer their members a kind of social support not available anywhere else on campus. We all came to Oregon State determined to succeed, but sometimes our personal convictions are not enough to carry us through the hard times. We need someone to listen to us, someone to support us, and even at times some-

one who will stand up for us. Fraternities help their members learn to interact positively with others. Perhaps most impressively I have seen fraternities stand behind their members even when it seems an entire campus has turned against them. Regardless of your feelings about what happened outside the Phi Delta Theta house, you can rest assured that they will stand behind their members and pledges until the truth is uncovered and brought to light. Isn't it

reassuring to know somewhere on this campus that there are people that will believe in you until proven guilty by the proper authority?

You cannot conceive of a more valuable offer to accompany your college experience. These are some, but certainly not all of the positives of being in a fraternity. These are also the building blocks; the positives that every house must build on to create the strong and influential Greek community of tomorrow.

First year student offers personal insight into fraternity experience

By Adam Hickey
Theta Chi

This year has been very busy for the members of Theta Chi Fraternity. This being my first year at college, I found it rather eye opening. Way back in fall term the journey began for my pledge brothers and me. We were educated about the chapter history, ideals, and the goals of the brotherhood for the future.

To kick things off socially, we held a concert that over 500 people gathered for in our backyard. This was a substance-free event that featured the Portland-based Rap artist, Cool Nutz. He, along with the opening act of Pete Misser performed for just over three hours. Despite rain the concert was a great success and is now being used by other fraternities as well as the City of Corvallis as a model for event planning and substance-free social opportunities. Shortly after the concert we held our annual barn dance. This year was the 82nd Red Ox and was held out in the country, in a hay loft of a barn. From the country music to the wrestling

in the hay, it was a night none of us will soon forget.

Our chapter was selected to host a regional mid-year leadership conference. Theta Chi's from Washington, California and the University of Oregon were all participants in the conference. As brothers we worked together to learn how to uphold the ideals on which our fraternity was founded. We also gained a greater understanding of the true meaning of brotherhood. It was a great chance to meet people from other parts of the country who share the same experiences we do. It was a great opportunity for our new members to learn about leadership and the ideals of the fraternity.

We have tried to become as involved around campus as possible. We currently have members who serve on the Interfraternity Executive Council, IFC committees, and student government, along with many other organizations. We are able to be involved with the issues which directly affect us and the rest of the Greek community. We have many members who have been recognized

by the honor societies, including the national Order of Omega.

A tradition of hosting guests every other Monday night has started this year. University President Paul Risser and his wife, and our coordinator of Greek Life have all been welcomed to our home. Our guests speak after dinner on topics such as alcohol awareness, bettering the Greek community, rape awareness and campus involvement.

It is hard to believe that a year has already passed. Plans for another concert are already in the works. New visitors will come next year, along with some returning friends. Another leadership conference will take place and new leaders will emerge. We look forward to welcoming many new, strong, young men into our chapter to share the experiences we have had. As a freshman I have had great opportunities and await with great expectations the next year as a brother of Theta Chi Fraternity.

Kappa Delta's function as one

By Selena Morris
Kappa Delta

Kappa Delta has been brought together this year as one unit and not just a house with 79 different individuals.

The KDs have made leaps and bounds with efforts to bring all members together as sisters and to trust one another to help each sister to succeed.

The '98-'99 KD pledge class has strived to work together and in the end succeeded when they were awarded with this year's freshman pledge class Talons award. The Talons award is given to the pledge class who has excelled in their cumulative grade point average and overall off- and on-campus involvement. The award was presented at this year's IFC Sing. Along with the Talons Award, a senior member of KD, Toni Pusateri, was awarded the Multi Cultural Award of the year.

This term Kappa Delta played intramural softball and soccer, along with being involved in the Order of Omega. The Order of Omega is a junior

and senior honorary that six KD members are a part of.

To bring the sisters closer and to form a stronger bond, KDs have focused their attention on having sisterhoods more frequently. The sisterhoods are times when the house can come together and really get to know and understand one another. The program has been an important achievement and helped the house to unify not only as sisters but as roommates.

In past years, Kappa Delta has never had a standard program to help academically struggling members of the house. This term they have come up with a "study tables" program to help further academic help and support. So far, the program has greatly increased the house's involvement on working together to reach academic goals. Kappa Delta is very excited about the goals they have reached this year. What makes KDs accomplishments even more exciting is the fact that it did not happen on an individual basis, we worked as a team.

Teamwork



The 1999 Panhellenic Executive Council takes a group break during a leadership retreat with the previous IFC Executive Council this past winter.