## Pi Kappa Alpha house returning after six years

By Stacy Ivie Emerald Associate Editor

Responding to a desire for more greek houses on campus, the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity is returning to the University.

The University chapter was last on campus in 1984 but financial difficulty and an extortion incident prompted the house to close, said Ken Jaycox, national chapter consultant for Pi Kappa Alpha.

Now, however, Jaycox and Doug Ray, national expansion associate, see a bright future for a new colony on campus.

Interviews of possible members began last Monday in the Century E Room of the EMU.

Ray said many people have expressed interest in the fraternity.

"We are really excited to be

back on campus," he said.
"The school has a good rapport
with administration and
greeks, there is a strong group
of alumni, and the housing is
competitive. U of O is someplace we'd like to be."

Ray and Jaycox don't anticipate the new fraternity will have the membership success the two newest sororities are boasting. However, they do expect membership will grow to over 100 within a year.

"We will be happy if we get 25 guys who fit the bill this time around," said Ray.

During the first year on campus. Pi Kappa Alpha does not plan on purchasing a house. But an alumni group has started a fund-raiser to alleviate the cost of buying a house for the chapter in the future.



University student Jason Earls (left) was interviewed for membership into Pi Kappa Alpha by National Expansion Associate Doug Ray (center) and National Chapter Consultant Ken Jaycox.

## Greek interest falling, but not at University

By Stacy Ivie Emerald Associate Editor

While the greek system nationally is showing a decrease in enrollment and interest, the University's greek system is flourishing.

The overflow is such that two new sororities and a new fraternity have started up in the last year.

This term, University fraternities took in 262 fall pledges, while sororities tallied 387 pledges compared to 361 females and 205 males pledging during the same period in 1989.

But other universities aren't seeing such an increase.

The University of Arizona lost 300 women and 300 men during fall rush this year.

"The numbers are really going down," said Kerwin Kroschik, president of the Panhellenic Council at University of Arizona. "We had 1,100 women rush houses last year, and only 800 this year."

Evelyn Bennett, executive director of the Panhellenic Council at the University of Texas, confirms the decrease in Texas' greek system.

"We have had 150 less females for the past two years, but I hear that its common across the country," Bennett said. "We are told to expect this for about another five years."

The University greek system has experienced the opposite.

"Interest on this campus has been up so much that we had to look at adding new sororities and fraternities," said Joe Lawson, University interfraternity public relations chairman.

Kappa Delta, which solicited its first University pledges during Spring 1990, and Sigma Kappa, which began succepting members this term, are the new sororities on campus.

Both are substantial in size, with more than 100 members

"It is unusual that a new sorority can draw so many members," said Deanna Jergens, president of the University's Panhellenic Council.

Oregon Daily Emerald

"We are getting rid of our negative image by cutting out hazing and enforcing a strict alcohol program," Lawson said, adding the new guidelines are a big reason interest has increased on a campus that is 20 percent greek.

"The University has made giant steps to make the greek system more than just the party atmosphere," Lawson said.

Jergens said she believes that since the greek system took the initiative to implement the stricter guidelines, students are reacting to the policies favorably.

"Even though its a hard task to take on, we want the policies to work," Jergens said.

However, these reasons are what other universities are citing as a deterrent to students.

"We're turning some people off for a good reason," said Jonathan Brant, executive director of the National Interfraternity Council based in Indianapolis.

Brant speculated the antihazing and alcohol regulations adopted by many fraternities may be responsible for helping to weed out troublemakers.

"Sororities are really working on (their campus images), especially as far as hazing and alcohol go," said Becky Mitchell of the National Panhellenic Society, also based in Indianapolis

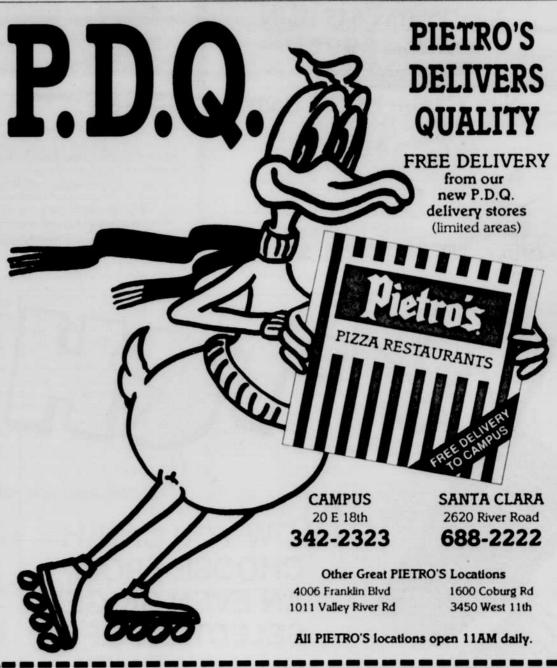
jergens said a changing student population plays a role in the changing make-up of the greek system.

"It seems that the people coming into the greek system and the University are more academically oriented and have goals other than partying," Jergens said.

Tom Oberhue, Interfraternity Council president, said another reason for the higher figures is that more students are staying involved in the house after rush week is over.

The decrease in interest nationally is also attributed to the

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