

Hillel dedicates new home

Natasha Shepard
Oregon Daily Emerald

When Rabbi Hanan Sills began the Hillel program at the University in 1985, the only space available to work out of was the back of his Datsun.

On Monday, a four plus-room house on Hilyard Street was dedicated to be the new Hillel house, and Hillel Director Sills and eight other "founders" of the Hillel Foundation at the University of Oregon were awarded for their work.

More than 75 Hillel supporters attended the reception, which honored Sills with a Hillel "Founders Award" for his role in the organization of the University Hillel, along with several community organizations such as the Jewish Federations of Lane County and Portland and the Sigma Alpha Mu fund.

University student and Assistant Hillel Director Danny Miller was specially awarded at the reception for being the Hillel team's quarterback.

"Danny had the vision and wanted to carry that through to completion," Sills said. "Of all the accomplishments of all my students, I have never seen any student accomplish what our Danny has. He motivates his plays and leads and inspires his team to victory."

Lenya Treewater, Sheldon Rubin, Harold Pollin and Oscar and Marjorie Boonshoft were also given awards at the dedication and reception.

Hillel is a Washington, D.C.-based organization that has branches at universities around the nation.

The primary purpose of the organization is to serve the Jewish campus community, Miller said.

"The purpose is to serve the



The new Hillel house, located at 1059 Hillard St., was dedicated Monday afternoon at a special awards ceremony and reception.

students, the faculty, and to foster relations between students, law students, graduate students and faculty," he said.

Hillel hosts various cultural, educational and social activities, such as weekly sabbath services, which attract between 40 and 60 students a week, he said.

During Hillel's 10 years on campus, it has grown from operating out of the back of Sills' car to having its own house near campus.

Before being housed on Hilliard, Hillel had an office in the Koinonia House for about three years, Sills said.

Though funding had improved from the \$1,500 Hillel was given in its first year, there was little monetary opportunity for expansion until Sills was approached by Oscar Boonshoft, a Jewish man from Ohio whose son lives in Eugene and was impressed by the efforts of the University Hillel.

The Boonshofts gave \$275,000 to Hillel and allowed the group

to make their first payment on the house, which they purchased in December, 1994.

Of the Boonshofts' gift, \$230,000 went toward the house, which was purchased for \$315,000.

Since the Boonshofts' challenge grant, Hillel has been able to fund raise and was recently given another grant from Ed and Barbara Aster for \$10,000 a year for the next five years and \$15,000 a year for the next five years from a Jewish educational foundation.

These two grants, announced at the dedication, will "actualize the future of Hillel," according to Sharon Ungerleider, president of the University Hillel Board of Directors.

Because of the additional expenses of the house, however, the additional funds will maintain the level of the Hillel organization. The group is continuing to fund raise to both maintain and increase their level of programs, Miller said.

ET ALS

MEETINGS

Mortar Board will meet and elect officers tonight at 7 in EMU Cedar Room E.
Student Senate will meet today at 5 p.m. in the EMU Board Room. For more information, call 346-3749.
Health Sciences Club will meet and elect next year's officers tonight at 6:30 in the EMU Ben Linder Room. For more information, call 687-7226.

MISCELLANEOUS

Office of International Education and Exchange will sponsor a lecture by visiting Russian professor Alexei Krasheninnikov titled "Culture and Tradition in Russian Architecture" today from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the EMU Walnut Room. For more information, call 346-1333.



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