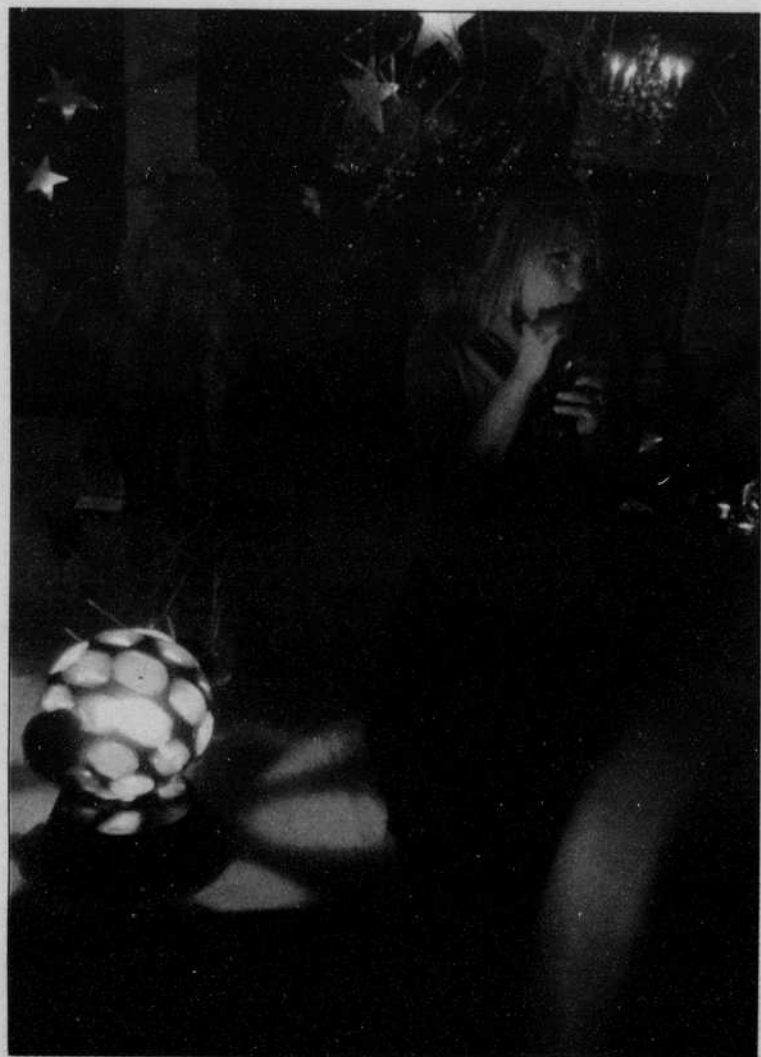


Celebrating

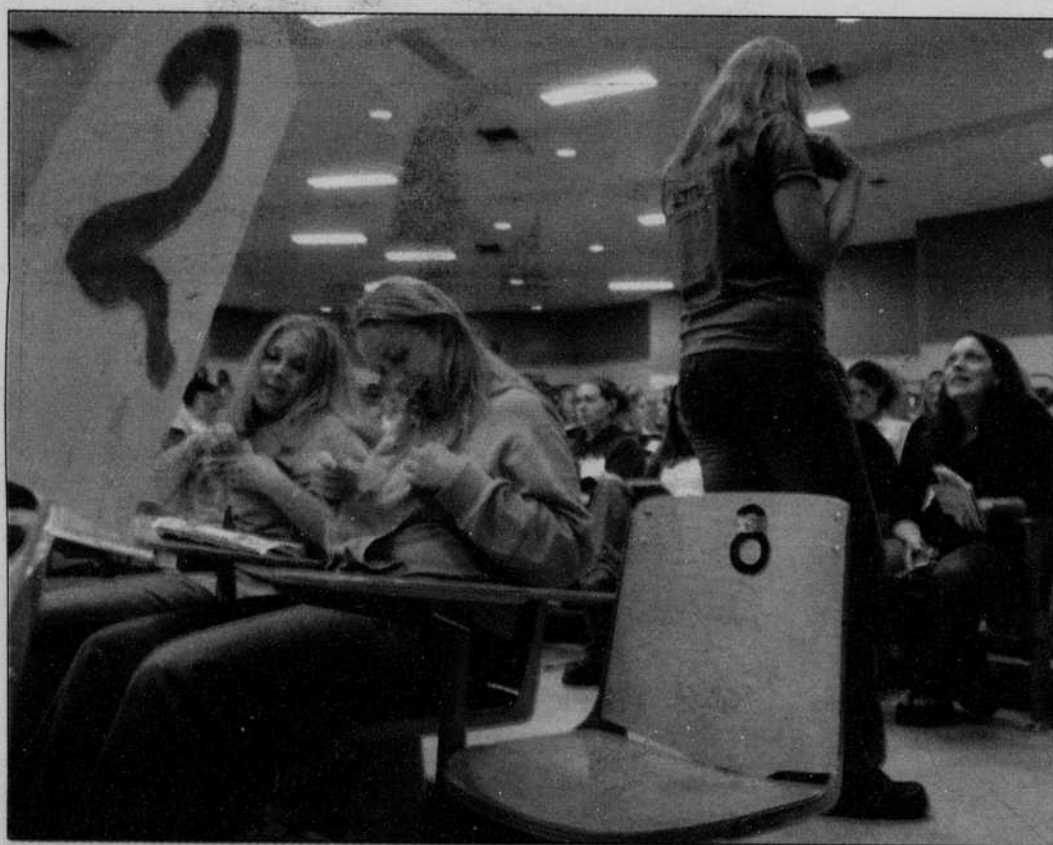
Photography by Lauren Wimer



Members of the Chi Omega sorority (right) dress formally to begin activity night, an opportunity for the women to entertain their guests on the third night of recruitment.



Cali Bagby (left), a sophomore studying vocal performance, begins the party with a Shirley Temple.



Sorority recruitment begins with orientation where every interested woman attending the University meets for an informational overview and has her first chance to get to know the others.

A swarm of women poured into one room with the same goal in mind: to become sorority members. They were excited and anxious, reserved and outgoing.

For these women, trying to create unity within a group has never been such a rigorous and secretive experience, an experience that lasts for five days of recruitment, an experience that many see as necessary for opening doors to an active future.

As each evening passed, the women became closer to each other and began forming the ties meant to last a lifetime. The exuberance and welcoming smiles of the Chi Omega sorority house encouraged each potential member to imagine what it would be like to share a bond

of friendship for a lifetime.

It wasn't until Bid Night, when the women raced across the open field at Gerlinger Hall into the arms of their new sisters, that their dreams became reality.

The University is home to nine nationally recognized sororities and 12 nationally recognized fraternities with more than 1,500 members. Formal recruitment for University sororities ran from Oct. 3 through Oct. 8. Informal recruitment began Oct. 9 and will continue throughout the academic year.

For more information, contact the Greek Life Office at 346-1146 or online at greek-life.uoregon.edu.

— Lauren Wimer

Preference Night begins with a warm welcome from Amy Seely, a senior studying anthropology, and Jo Bauer, Chi Omega recruitment chair, before the ladies treat their guest to a salad and dessert on the final evening of recruitment.



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