



Anna Marie Glaize '08 and Cherita Jeffreys '08 participated in a panel on the Pan-Hellenic sorority last fall.

Sorority search continues with AKA, Zeta presentations

BY COLLEEN MCKOWN
Senior Staff Writer

Two National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) sororities, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Zeta Phi Beta, presented their organizations to Davidson students Tuesday and Wednesday of last week.

Whitney White '08, a member of the sorority selection committee, was impressed by each group's presentation.

"Zeta Phi Beta's two representatives spoke very passionately about the bonds that they have developed as sisters," White said. "They also expressed how grateful they are to know that they can always depend on their sisters."

She also saw Alpha Kappa Alpha as a quality organization.

"Alpha Kappa Alpha detailed their commitment to service and high academic and moral standards. Their six representatives described the organization's service initiatives, which all chapters devote themselves to," White said.

Alpha Kappa Alpha's representatives from their Charlotte graduate chapter, Alpha Lambda Omega, emphasized their motto, "service to all mankind," and made it clear that they were not simply a social club, but an organization characterized by high ethical and academic standards. AKA has a minimum GPA requirement of 3.0 and a strict anti-hazing policy.

Zeta Phi Beta's representatives, also from their graduate chapter in Charlotte, articulated their organization's commitments to service, sisterhood and academic excellence.

Their minimum GPA requirement is 2.5. Their organization was the first to charter a chapter in Africa and is constitutionally bound to the fraternity Phi Beta Sigma, and forms adult and youth auxiliary groups.

Both organizations emphasized the bonds of sisterhood as being among the most beneficial aspects to being part of a sorority.

President of the Charlotte graduate chapter Deborah Blackney said that, with 170,000 members, "One of your sisters has always got your back."

Parliamentarian Marilyn McClain agreed. "Some of my best friends have been through Alpha Kappa Alpha. When you travel anywhere, your sisters will know and they will have someone there to meet you," said McClain.

Zeta Phi Beta Representative Ursula Smith spoke about the warm welcome she received from her sorority.

"I joined because of the way I was treated by my sorority," she said.

She emphasized "the respect we have for each other, the love, the admiration, and the encouragement."

About the overall presentations, student

Ebony Harley '09 felt that both were well-done, but was especially impressed with Alpha Kappa Alpha's presentation.

"The presentation made by Alpha Kappa Alpha was a very comprehensive and informative overview of the organization. Each of the AKA women articulately and completely explained the various aspects of their sisterhood, going into detail about their policies, processes, and member expectations," Harley said. "AKA's GPA requirement shows their commitment to scholarship and sends interested women the message that academics come first above all other extracurricular activities."

Zeta Phi Beta could have been more detailed.

"I thought they could have talked more about their anti-hazing policies and general requirements for membership," said Harley.

Alpha Kappa Alpha's member intake process starts with a "rush party."

Here, interested women speak with a graduate advisory committee in a mentoring process, where graduate sisters are each paired with undergraduate sisters.

The pairs are comprised of people with similar academic and personal interests. To join AKA, students must apply and be accepted by the national headquarters.

To join Zeta Phi Beta, interested students first attend a general information session, such as the one held this past Wednesday.

Then, individuals attend a tea to get to know the students better. After the tea, students are invited to memberships.

They then learn more about the sorority and take an exam through their national headquarters.

Alpha Kappa Alpha also spoke about their service initiatives, which center around education, the black family, health, economics and the arts.

Two of their education programs are the IYY reading academy, an early learning program that teaches reading skills to youth and the Presidential Freedom Scholarships for high school juniors and seniors.

To promote health, AKAs hold a "Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day; to promote the black family, a Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

Zeta Phi Beta also places a large emphasis on service.

Their national program, called Zetas Helping Other People Excel (Z-HOPE) puts on programs for men, youth, seniors, men, and the international community.

Through Z-HOPE, Zeta Phi Beta gives National Education Foundation scholarships and conducts community education programs.

They also form auxiliary groups which

See Sororities, page 3

Housing, from page 1

sophomore apartments and endure the sophomore slump. I don't think it will encourage as much sophomore bonding and unity as my class experienced because they will be living around seniors."

While some rising seniors are worried about underclassmen living in the senior apartments, Marsicano does not anticipate any big issues.

"The seniors will set the tone," Marsicano said. "At this point, they are comfortable enough on campus that they will be able to effectively address inappropriate behavior."

Some underclassmen are aware of the potential tensions they will face on Martin Court next year.

"I've heard that we're going to get majority hated on, but I really don't care," Sarah Petrino '09 said. "We never thought we would get it. We're still in shock that they called our names in the RLO office on that fateful evening."

Other underclassmen who will be living in Martin Court did not expect to get apartments either, but are excited at the prospect of living in Martin Court next year.

"We decided to try for senior apartments when we heard that there were openings. We figured that there was nothing to lose by trying for one of the apartments; the worst thing that could happen would be that we ended up not getting one," Meghan Curtiss '09 said.

Lila Allen '09 said she looks forward to the many benefits of Martin Court living.

"I don't mind living with my roommate at all and I wouldn't be opposed to another year, but I am looking forward to playing music whenever I want, keeping the lights on late, and cooking. I am awful in the kitchen and need all the practice I can get," Allen said.

Petrino and her roommates said they are thrilled about their living situation next year.

"We're really excited because of the freedom we will have," Petrino said. "It's the best of both worlds. We have our own rooms but we also live with our closest friends. I'm really excited because I think Flowe is such an amazing location. We're right on the Court, we're close to the Union, F and it's not that far from Chambers or the Library."

"We're really excited because of the freedom we will have. It's the best of both worlds. We have our own rooms, but we also live with our closest friends."

--Sarah Petrino '09

Marsicano attributes the abnormalities in housing distribution to several factors.

An unusually large number of students plan to study abroad next year.

Furthermore, off campus housing permissions increased significantly due to a combination of a large number of applications and the renovation of Duke residence hall next year.

One hundred twenty-seven off campus permissions were granted, as compared to 80 last year.

There was also a 30 percent increase in the number of off-campus permissions granted to rising seniors, with 80 next year in contrast to 60 this past year.

Even with the increased number of off-campus permissions, there is still a lengthy waiting list of students hoping to live off campus.

CAMPUS POLICE BLOTTER

3/31/06

Martin Court

Noise Complaint

An officer received a call about a noise complaint from Martin Court F. Upon arriving, the officer observed several white males playing a drinking game and laughing loudly on the third floor. The officer told the subjects they had to stop the game and asked for identification, upon which the subjects became belligerent. The officer had to stand with his back to the wall to keep the subjects from walking and standing behind him. One of the subjects asked to make a final shot, and when the officer said the game was over, the subjects became aggressive and one grabbed the officer by the arm. The officer advised the subject not to touch him again in any way and called dispatch to send additional officers. When the four additional officers arrived, all the subjects complied with the reporting officer's instructions and went back to their respective rooms.

03/31/06

Little Dormitory

Underage Drinking

An officer observed a white male with a 40-ounce King Cobra beer walk into Little Dormitory. The officer followed the student and asked him about the drink. The student said he was 18 and was consuming a malt beverage. The officer detected the odor of alcohol coming from the subject's person. There was another white male in the room with the subject, but the officer was unable to detect the odor of alcohol coming from either the second student or the room.

4/2/06

Tomlinson Parking Lot

Property Damage

A subject at Tomlinson Dormitory said he had observed three black males walking across the Tomlinson parking lot and saw one of them hit several vehicles with his fist and a beer can. There were three other witnesses who observed the student hit two of the vehicles. The officer inspected the vehicles that had been struck and saw no apparent damage done to any of them. The reporting subject did not find any damage to his vehicle. The officer informed the other three vehicle owners, informed them of the situation and requested that they check their vehicles to see if there was any damage done. The vehicles are a 1992 Buick with tag number NC-SRS4331, a 2000 BMW with tag number PA-GCW6762 and a 2004 Toyota with tag number GA-3222ATK

Students with information about campus crimes can contact Campus Police anonymously by logging onto www.davidson.edu/publicsafety