



Al Eveland, Interfraternity Council president and Barb Hengen, Panhellenic Council president.

Leaders seek growth for Greeks

By Rex Seline

The newly installed presidents of the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils say they will seek continued growth and more involvement from individuals in the Greek system as they begin their first semester in office.

Both Barb Hengen, president of the Panhellenic Council, and Al Eveland, Interfraternity Council (IFC) president, voiced the concern that, in Eveland's words, "people have a misconception about IFC (and Panhellenic). They look at it as the office in the Union; they don't realize that they are IFC (or Panhellenic)."

The new executives said they are in the midst of planning seminars and the annual Greek Week festivities which they hope will get more people involved.

Seminars planned

The seminars being planned will involve officers and committees from within the individual houses. Those serving in similar positions from the different houses will get together to discuss mutual problems. The program will be run along lines already established by a similar program for treasurers that has been running for a few years, Eveland said.

Greek Week, planned for March 9-14, will include a Trivia Bowl competition and a Greek Follies variety show according to Hengen. Other activities are still being studied.

Both Hengen and Eveland said that membership in fraternities and sororities continues to increase after a period of slight decline in the late '60s and, although no new fraternities or sororities are expected on campus for awhile, they say that no house is in serious trouble.

Attitude blamed

The slight decline in the '60s was blamed on antiestablishment attitude that "came with the beginning of the Vietnam War," Eveland said. "I suppose that the Greeks did represent the establishment then, if that's the term you want to slap on them."

Eveland said that since then, fraternities have been "scrapping the traditional ideas" including

such infamous activities as hazing. He added that, to his knowledge, UNL fraternities have followed UPI article, away from such harassment of first year members (pledges).

"Fraternities are moving toward programs of pledge improvement instead. Pledges aren't being made to conform, they're being encouraged to branch out," Eveland said.

Hengen said that the activism of the '60s "never really hit this campus's Greek system," but gave credit to a new image which increased the number of girls going through rush (the process of selection where potential members pick and are picked by a fraternity or sorority).

New image

"The new image has lost some of the old stereotypes," Hengen said. "The old stereotype that sorority girls are the rich and elite who sit around all day playing bridge and sometimes going to class doesn't hold and is at least starting to go from most people's minds."

She added, "Girls are turning away from dorms because sororities aren't that much more expensive in comparison to an on-campus home-like atmosphere."

IFC is in the process of planning a "model house" program which "probably won't be implemented until next semester." The program will incorporate, into volunteer houses, ideas on what programs are best in areas such as scholarship and alumni relations.

Buying study

Hengen said that a feasibility study on cooperative buying being made by the IFC alumni advisory board will continue. She said preliminary reports indicate it would take at least 15 groups, making an initial investment of \$1,000, buying merchandise in volume to make the program work.

Both executives discounted the rumored possibility that freshmen will be forced to live in residence halls in the future to bolster declining residence occupancy rates. At present freshman men are allowed to live in the fraternities while second semester freshman women can move in if room exists in the house.

Eveland is a junior art major from Ames, Neb. Hengen, from Wahoo, is a junior in the Teacher's College.

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