

**From Sorority pg. 5**

Panhellenic Council, which is currently made up of nine African American Greek-letter organizations, met and decided that hazing and other negative pledging activities would come to a stop, she said. "Stopping is a gradual process. It takes a while to trickle down to every member," Herring said.

Millersville's Sigma chapter was one of the first to recognize that such negative pledging practices were not a necessary part of the sorority experience.

Lori Johnson-Negron, former vice president of the Millersville undergraduate chapter, recalled what the Sigma pledging process was like in 1989. The sorority would check on pledgee's academic schedules, to make sure everyone was doing well with their classes, she said. And, for two hours each evening during the pledge period, the women were required to spend time in the library, whether they had specific course work to do, or not. If a pledgee had a long project to work on, pledging participation was not expected at that time. "You could never give the excuse that you didn't have time to do work or a paper because you were pledging," she said.

The taint of past pledge processes is still with some of the Greek-letter organizations in terms of potential members, Herring explained. She did observe a decrease in new black Greek-letter memberships about 10 years ago, she said. "At this time, I don't think there's a decline. I think you have to do more to market a sorority or fraternity on a campus, now," she said.

Today, other things, such as jobs and other organizations, compete for a student's attention. "We're dealing with an older population of students," Herring said.

Although Sigma never had an abusive pledging process, it now has no pledge process at all. Today, young women who want to become Sigmas undergo a 28-day period of completing forms, attending to fees and other

requirements, and then can be inducted on the 28th day, Herring said.

Much of Herring's attention right now is also focused on planning for a celebration for Sigma's 75th anniversary, which will be held in Indianapolis, Ind., the weekend of July 10-13, 1997. Attendance will be open to all members, and the event will be called, "Sigma Gamma Rho's 75th Birthday Party."

Beyond their anniversary celebration, the Sigmas have to consider their direction as they enter the next century. "It's going to be imperative that we become businesses that are patterned after the business structure. We no longer survive on volunteers," Herring said. The sorority must have a regular staff than can be available to respond to members' needs as they have emerged in the computer age, such as communication through e-mail, she said.

Greek-letter organizations must take on a leadership role in their communities in the 21st century, and bear in mind that many accomplished and celebrated people have been members of sororities and fraternities, she said.

At Millersville, Tamiko Barber expressed an optimistic view of Sigma's future, worldwide. "I think we're growing. We just opened a chapter in the Virgin Islands," she said. Then she considered her own chapter. "I see it growing because we are taking in members next semester. We're not going to focus on quantity, but quality," she maintained.

In the future, as people discuss African-American sororities, Sigma Gamma Rho is bound to become a familiar name as the sisters gain a presence on more and more college campuses. And if you hadn't heard about them before, it's a pretty safe bet you'll be hearing a lot more about them before long.

**From Fierce pg. 4**

The animals in *Fierce Creatures* make the movie even more funny. Just imagine sleeping in bed with a raccoon and an ostrich. Or a Panda being ferocious. I thought a twenty pound cat whose only goal is to try to sleep on my chest was comical.

The cast of *Fierce Creatures* is quite short compared to the sponsor companies in the movie. The movie should have been paid for by

the promotional spots or endorsements. I can not imagine this movie being over budget.

The movie is quite enjoyable. I felt the promotional spots in the movie toward the end were a little much. If you need a break from the rigors of college life, this will provide you with it. Or in my case, a break from Statistics.



photo by David Appleby

The quintessential company man, Rollo (John Cusack), finds his sanity beginning to unravel once he's reassigned by Octopus, Inc. to run Marwood Zoo in Universal Pictures' *Fierce Creatures*



# WPSH

## TOP 10 LIST

(Artist = Title = Label)

- 1 Nine Inch Nails = "Perfect Drug" = Interscope
- 2 Sneaker Pimps = Becoming = Virgin
- 3 Tricky = Premillennium Tension = Island
- 4 Space = Spiders = Gut Records
- 5 Prodigy = "Fire Starter"/"Their Law" = Maverick WB
- 6 Mortal Kombat = More Kombat = TVT
- 7 Latimer = Live = World Domination
- 8 Depeche Mode = "Barrel of a Gun" = Reprise
- 9 Luscious Jackson = Fever In = Capitol
- 10 Tool = AName = Zoo

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