Second chance for Pike in 2005

By Cara O'Connor

Second year Army ROTC Cadet James Ventre, a finance junior, makes his way down a rope leading away from a high platform on an obstacle course Saturday afternoon at Fort Huachuca.

The outcome of Pi Kappa Alpha’s final appeal has left fraternity members with a reason to celebrate.

Vice President for Campus Life Saundra Taylor made the decision based on findings made by the University Hearing Board, composed of faculty, students and staff, to which Pi Kappa Alpha (Pike) made its last plea.

Because of Taylor’s decision, the fraternity will be eligible to reapply for recognition in January 2005.

The hearing board recommended that the fraternity will be eligible for expansion, or acceptance by the university, in January 2005.

The hearing board recommended that:

See PIKE/10

U.S. troops kill 7 Iraqi civilians

The Associated Press

NEAR KARBALA, Iraq — U.S. troops shot and killed at least seven Iraqi civilians — some of them children — in a vehicle at checkpoint yesterday in southern Iraq when the driver did not stop as ordered, U.S. Central Command said.

The soldiers involved were from the 3rd Infantry Division, the same unit that lost four soldiers Saturday at another checkpoint when an Iraqi soldier dressed as a civilian detonated a car bomb.

Yesterday, the vehicle approached the U.S. Army checkpoint at about 4:30 p.m. Soldiers motioned for the driver to stop but were ignored, the Central Command said. They fired warning shots, which also were ignored, the U.S. military said.

Troops then shot into the vehicle’s engine, but the driver continued toward the checkpoint. As a last resort, the military involved the U.S. Army.

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FORT HUACHUCA — Bilal Chaudhry needed to see firsthand what the big deal was.

His younger brother, a student at the Virginia Military Institute, had told Chaudhry that the military way of life helped him develop his individuality. In fact, he often talked about it; he talked so much about it that Chaudhry just had to experience it for himself.

After a semester in Army ROTC courses, he said he began to understand what his brother was talking about.

“In classes, everything is very individual. Out here, it’s about teamwork, it’s about trust,” he said.

The Army ROTC pushes group performance over the individual, resulting in a very cohesive group of people, the computer science junior said.

“I had a lot of preconceptions, and I wanted to see what it was actually like,” Chaudhry said. “It’s been a lot of fun.”

To stress teamwork and the importance of trust, U.S. Army ROTC took 100 first and second year military science students last weekend to the Fort Huachuca army post, near Sierra Vista, southeast of Tucson, for skills training framed in a social experience.

“We wanted them to have some military training and to have some fun at the same time,” said Maj. C. Stewart Slatton II, an enrollment advisor with the U.S. Army.

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