Sorority woman earns achievement award

By Shelly Rashid
Lantern staff writer

The 1997 John W. Bricker Sorority Woman of the Year award was presented to Patricia Cika, a member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority, Sunday at the Fawcett Center.

"The award recognizes sorority women with outstanding achievements in scholarship, leadership and service," said Alex Stolyar, president of the Delta Chi fraternity.

The fraternity, which hosted the awards program, has been presenting the award for more than 30 years.

"To me, this award is especially important because it recognizes young women and promotes the advancement of women in their respective fields," Cika said. "It fights the stereotype that exists. Young Greek women are doing things and going places."

Cika, who is from Hubbard, Ohio, is a graduating senior majoring in political science and women's studies. She was also one of 10 students awarded the Outstanding Senior Award by OSU President E. Gordon Gee.

She will put her service in the Army ROTC on hold while she attends law school at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

"I am especially interested in working for the advancement of minorities and women," she said.

Since the age of 15, she has spent her summers in Washington D.C. working for Congress.

After her military time is served, she said she would like to run for office.

"By that time, maybe we will be ready for a female president," she said.

The Sorority Woman of the Year award is named for John W. Bricker, a former member of the OSU chapter of the Delta Chi fraternity, who went on to be a U.S. senator and governor of Ohio.

"Bricker was a great Ohioan, U.S. citizen and leader," said Kathy Cleveland Bull, director of Student Life and one of the judges for the award. "These same women perform that leadership."

All sorority women at Ohio State were invited to submit an application.

Eleven finalists were interviewed by the 10 judges about leadership, scholarship, community service, creativity, social awareness, diversity issues and academic achievement, said Stan Gajda, a member of Delta Chi.

Cika received a trophy and a $500 scholarship which was donated by The Fraternity and Sorority Foundation.