

Fourth fraternity member pleads guilty

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Former Frat Member Pleads Guilty To Hazing
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SYRACUSE, N.Y. -- A former Alfred University fraternity member will spend 60 days in jail and three years on probation after admitting his role in the beating of another fraternity brother who later committed suicide. Adam Shain, 20, of Bernardsville, N.J., will be sentenced Sept 10. Shain reached a plea deal with prosecutors Monday while a jury was deliberating his case, Assistant District Attorney Beth Van Doren said Tuesday. Shain pleaded guilty to misdemeanor counts of first-degree hazing, second-degree unlawful imprisonment and third-degree assault, charges that could have brought him up to seven years in prison if he had been convicted by jurors. Authorities accused Shain and several other Zeta Beta Tau fraternity members of beating Benjamin Klein during a regional fraternity convention at a DeWitt hotel in February 2002. Klein, 21, an Alfred junior from Putney, Vt., was found dead in a creek behind the ZBT fraternity house Feb. 12, 2002. Police said his body was covered with cuts and bruises from a beating he suffered three days earlier while attending the convention. Police determined Klein died of a drug-overdose suicide. Three other fraternity members have already pleaded guilty in the case. A month after Klein died, the Alfred University board of trustees voted to eliminate fraternities and sororities at the campus. Alfred is 65 miles south of Rochester. Copyright 2003 by The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.