

# The Hoosier FIJI

Winter 2025



# Academic Update

Within the confines of Phi Gamma Delta, a commitment to academics and scholarship stands as a cornerstone of our brotherhood and the culture we foster, placing the utmost importance on maintaining a strong academic standing. In the recent fall semester of 2024, our cumulative house GPA reached a **3.49**, with Freshman leading the way with an outstanding **3.62**.

As we transition into the spring semester, it's crucial to reflect on the leadership that played a pivotal role in shaping the academic performance of our chapter. The newly elected freshman scholarship chairs, namely **Zeke Richardson PC '28** and **Ryan Minor PC '28**, have excelled in their roles, contributing significantly to our academic success.

## Brothers who achieved a 4.0 GPA

- 
in

**Nick Frische PC '25**  
Informatics
- Michael Hawkins PC '26**  
Informatics


in
- 

**Jake Reasoner PC '26**  
Human Biology
- Nick Wood PC '26**  
Finance


in
- 

**Joe Brucato PC '27**  
Informatics

in
- William Dietrick PC '27**  
Finance


in
- 

**Sean Joy PC '27**  
Finance and Accounting

in
- Charlie Perine PC '27**  
Finance and Real Estate


in
- 

**Kyle Long PC '28**  
Finance

in
- Ryan Minor PC '28**  
Human Biology


- 

**Luke Reasoner PC '28**  
Accounting





# Leadership in the 431

## Cabinet



## Rush Chairs



# Rush Form



# Leadership on Campus

## Biotech Group at IU Co-President and Director of Marketing

Adam Bolad and John Merritt lead one of the newest clubs in the college of arts and sciences. Adam co-founded the club with Fiji junior Jake Reasoner in January of 2024. Jake has since left the club leadership and is now the co-president of Special Olympics at Indiana University. Most recently, John Merritt has taken on the role of Director of Marketing, focusing on the external aspects of the club.



Adam "Beta" Bolad, PC '27



John "Tweak" Merritt, PC '27



Biotech Group at Indiana University is split into Research, Professional Development, Consulting, and Finance. The club consists of a speaker series, field trips, and interactive events such as an end of semester research symposium and case competition for students of different fields to participate in.

## Director of Operations for the Real Estate Club

Jack Anderson entails all of the operations ensuring smooth communication and organization within the club. He is the only sophomore of the executive board of 6, and leads roughly 600 Kelley students towards their goals of learning about Real Estate. Next year, Jack will lead the club as President.



Jack "Wagon" Anderson, PC '27



Along with that, Jack has the opportunity to mentor teams in Real Estate Case Competitions. He gives insight to a selected team in order to help them succeed to the best of their abilities. This is nothing new to Jack as he was apart of the Fiji Real Estate team that placed second out of 30 teams in one of the spring competitions. His experience and mentorship shines a light on his achievements and dedication towards Real Estate.





# Leadership on Campus

## Special Olympics Co-Presidents

Tyler Lacy and Jake Reasoner, the co-presidents of Special Olympics at Indiana University, are dedicated to creating a supportive and inclusive environment for athletes. Their primary responsibility is to recruit volunteers from the Bloomington community for various Special Olympics events, including volleyball in the winter and bowling in the spring.



Tyler and Jake spend countless hours reaching out to students, local businesses, and community members, inspiring them to get involved. Their efforts ensure that athletes have a cheering crowd and a supportive network at every event, making them feel like stars. Through their hard work, Tyler and Jake help these athletes experience the joy of sports, fostering a sense of normalcy and belonging.



Tyler “Poms” Lacy PC '26



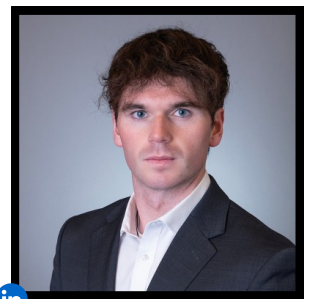
Jake “Reverse” Reasoner PC '26

## Phi Gam Entrepreneurs

Nick and Phil have been collaborating on various projects for some time, and they are now welcoming Blake Marcotte to their team. Currently, the three of them are engaged in independent research under the guidance of a Computer Science professor at Indiana University, focusing on Artificial Intelligence (AI) agents that can learn to efficiently automate tasks.

Looking ahead, their goal is to apply these AI agent technologies to real-world business environments, building solutions that streamline and improve organizational workflows. All three plan to continue pursuing graduate studies in Data Science and Machine Learning at Indiana University, further honing their technical expertise.

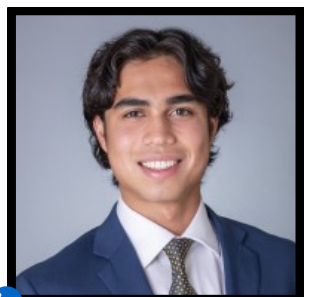
In addition, they have formed a team dedicated to working on consulting contracts and collaborative projects—leveraging their collective research and hands-on experience to offer advanced AI and automation services to companies in the near future. By combining their academic background, research insights, and practical skills, they aim to drive innovation through intelligent automation solutions.



Phil “Legend” Hess PC '25



Nick “Boardman” Frische PC '25



Blake “Fish” Marcotte PC '25



## Dad's Weekend

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Over the weekend of November 8-10, the brothers of the Zeta Chapter enjoyed quality time with our fathers. Starting on Friday the 8th, active brothers and their fathers began a weekend full of quality time, fun and a Hoosier Football victory.

Throughout the day Friday brothers spent their time differently, whether it be grabbing a bite to eat, going out to the bars, or golfing all with the great company of their fathers. As great as the day was the night was even better, with an excellent meal prepared for us by our wonderful cooks, while we held our silent auction. After fathers and sons took on Bloomington whether it was at the Bars or that nights party at the Beta house.

November 9 was finally here and the Hoosiers took on defending National Champion Michigan Wolverines in a classic Big Ten battle. Leading up to this the brothers enjoyed a tailgate put on by our wonderful fathers. Special thanks is owed to our active dads weekend chair [John "Tweak" Merritt PC'27](#) and his father [Brett "Carvey" Merritt PC'98](#). The Hoosiers went on to win the game as you all know.

After this the weekend was capped off with a Hoosier basketball game that Sunday where the Hoosiers went on to beat Eastern Illinois. A sweet ending to a wonderful weekend of Father-Son time.







## Run the Ball - [Website](#)

The brothers of the Zeta chapter and Lambda Iota chapter successfully completed the run from West Lafayette to Bloomington on November 29th. The event was a major success with both chapters combining to raise over 55,000 dollars in support of both Wheeler Mission and the Lafayette Urban Ministry. The Zeta brothers raised 27,257 dollars which went directly to Wheeler Mission here in Bloomington.

Fifteen Zeta brothers participated in the run starting in Greencastle, 4 brothers represented the freshman class, 2 represented the sophomore class, 6 represented the juniors, and finally 3 represented the seniors. When asked what the best part of the run was Brother **Matt “Wet Bandit” Mills** of PC ‘26 said, “Having the chance to come together with my best friends and know we are doing something for a good cause made it so awesome.”

The run featured impressive individual efforts, including standout 4-mile stints from Brother **Marcus “Marcus Wynalda” Wynalda** PC ‘26 and Brother **Charlie “Champ” Perine** PC ‘27. The brothers faced the elements including snow on their trek down to the rock at Memorial Stadium.

All the brothers of both chapters who participated in the run gathered at the rock for a group photo at the conclusion of the run. The future is bright for Run the Ball with plans already in motion for next years event. Another big shoutout to Brother **Nick “Boardman” Frische** PC ‘25 for leading the charge to bring back this great event.



Zeta and Lambda Iota Brothers at Heps Rock



# IU Dance Marathon

Last semester, the brothers had many opportunities to volunteer for the community and different events for some amazing causes on campus. We understand the importance of helping others, therefore we made many philanthropy events a priority to attend. However, there is always a heavy involvement in the house with IU Dance Marathon.

IU Dance Marathon is an annual 36 hour marathon dedicated to raising money for Riley Children's Hospital. College students and Riley families spend their time at the IU Tennis Center raising money until the 36 hours is completed. This year, PC' 28 was able to raise \$64,852 and placed first in Greek life donations. Freshman brother, [Max Schellman](#), solely raised \$36,871 and led all of IUDM in donations. We would not have been able to do that without the support and generosity of our graduate brothers. We sincerely thank you for your donations as it helped IUDM raise over \$3 million for Riley Children's Hospital.

We are proud to say that we have 5 brothers with leadership roles for IUDM for 2025. Brothers [John Merritt](#) and [Jake Cerar](#) are on the Riley Development executive team. To go along with that, sophomores [Graham Mosher](#) and [Charlie Perine](#) are on the Entertainment executive team. Finally, freshman [Max Schellman](#) is on the executive team for the Accounting committee. These roles are hand picked by a select group of directors, in which they interview hundreds of applicants each year. Fiji is excited to make an impactful difference and lead their respective committees in the right direction.







# FIJI Wins GBA Championship

This past fall our Phi Gamma Delta basketball team brought home the gold in the Greek Basketball Association with an electric buzzer beater. For those who don't know the Greek Basketball Association (GBA) is a basketball league created solely for fraternities to participate in. The season lasts a total of two months with two games per week. Each game is played at a fraternity house's outdoor court with two refs provided by each opposing team. Despite the disadvantage of always playing at opposing teams' courts, our FIJI squad managed to rank 5th by the end of the regular season, securing their spot in the playoffs.



FIJI's GBA championship squad posing together for a victory photo at the Delts house.

Seeding 5th in the regular season, the FIJI squad's playoff run was anything but guaranteed. In the first round they faced off against Phi Delt, the second round against Phi Sig, the third round against Sigma Nu, and then against the Pike for the championship. The finals were hosted by Delts to ensure that no team had a home court advantage, despite this, hundreds of brothers from both fraternities packed out the stands, making for an electric environment.



FIJI's own Will "Grimace" Grissom being hoisted up after hitting a buzzer beater three to win the GBA Championship.

Despite trailing all game, the FIJI GBA squad was able to cut Pike's lead to just 1 with 3 seconds to go. After inbounding to Will "Grimace" Grissom, he was able to put up a last second three pointer to win them the game. The brothers of FIJI rushed the court and raised Will up in celebration. When asked to reflect on the win Will said, that "the moment was something I'll never forget. So glad we brought it home for the seniors that contributed so much to our team. Another special shout out to the brothers that came and supported, we couldn't have done it without their energy and support. Will always be the best hoops fraternity on campus!" Long-standing have IM's and FIJI athletics been an emphasis in our house, so we are proud to not only uphold the tradition but to solidify and grow it.



# Calling all Graduate Brothers

## Living Database

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We encourage you to share this newsletter with members of your pledge class. We currently only have around 50% of all living brothers. So if you are seeing this and you did not receive this through an email please email [jryan6447@yahoo.com](mailto:jryan6447@yahoo.com) to be added to the email list.

Also, follow our Instagram @fjijindiana

## Missing Plaques

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We have too many empty plaques on our awards wall! If you are a recipient of any of the following awards, please reach out to Toby Meyer at [tobyhudsonmeyer@hotmail.com](mailto:tobyhudsonmeyer@hotmail.com).

**Mark Rogge Award - '91,'92**

**Teddy Verlihay Award - 2018**

**Christopher Wooling Award - '81, '82, '83, '84, '85, '86, '87, '88, '89, '90, '91, '92, '93, '94, '95, '96, '97, '10, '11, '18**

**Bruce W. White Award - '89, '90, '91, '92, '93, '94, '95, '96, '97, '98, '02, '03, '15, '21**

**Jerry Tardy Outstanding Senior Cyclist Scholarship - '07, '08, '11, '12**

**The Purple Domestique Award - '98, '99, '00, '01, '01, '02, '03, '04, '05, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '14, '15, '16**

**Outstanding Senior Freshman - '91, '92**

**Outstanding Freshman Award - '80, '81, '82, '83, '84, '02**





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