

The

FIJI

Newsletter



March 2024



FIJI Gets 8th in Quals

The annual qualifications for the Little 500 race commenced on March 23rd, and the guys made the most of it. FIJI grabbed our favorite time to race 8 AM, setting the bar high right off the bat. Evan “Russ” King PC ‘26 (2x), Walker “Sink” Kight PC ‘26, and Jarno “The Joker” Hicks PC ‘27 raced fearlessly with a time of **2:33.4** which is a testimony to how much time and effort these guys have put in to get to this moment. There is not a more dedicated team in the house, and they represented us well with a time that finished 8th overall on the day. Special thanks to Coach Jim “Willy” Lohman PC ‘98 for leading the guys in training, elevating a team of all underclassmen to achieve their best.



The festivities in the house started early, with the classic “Space Jam Wake Up” echoing the halls at 3 AM. The brothers got up, throwing their favorite IMs on and chanting for the guys racing, getting ready to wake up the girls of Alpha Chi Omega, our little 500 pair this year. When the fellas arrived at AXO, they made sure that nobody would still be sleeping, running through the halls and waking the ladies up to come over to the FIJI house. Fun times were had while everyone eagerly got ready to head over to the track and see the guys race. 8 AM came and all were at the track, cheering on the guys to turn left fast. Quals is truly a special day where we can all have a great time and celebrate the hard work and dedication of the Gams on bikes.





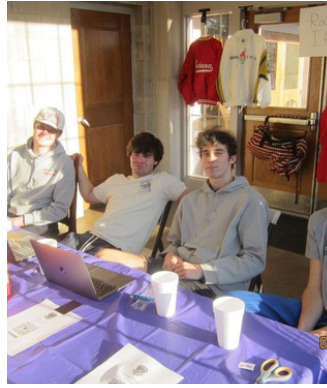
Black Diamond



The first weekend of March the brothers traveled by busses, funded by the Moms Club, to Chicago for the annual Black Diamond formal. This year we stayed at the 21c Museum Hotel in the River North neighborhood. Friday night the brothers, accompanied by their dates, went to HVAC Pub, a night for the ages. Saturday consisted of sightseeing, quality time with dates, and the formal. The brothers of PC '23 also made an appearance at Parlay in Chicago to catch up and reminisce about their time in the house and visit younger brothers. Later that night the formal venue took place at the historic Hubbard Inn. A wonderful weekend was had with the brothers and our dates. Truly and amazing way to start the best month of the year!

Vintage Pop-up

On March 26th the Zeta Chapter of Phi Gamm Delta hosted a vintage clothes pop-up shop in the basement of 431. With seven different vintage clothes dealers, food provided by brothers Kyle “River Reasoner PC ‘25 and Cole “Grevious“ Maxwell PC ‘26, and a live DJ, the basement became a wonderful space for the event. This Fiji Market was set up to raise funds for “Kates Krew”, a fundraising group set up to help current Zeta Kate Johnson and her fight against Sarcoma. The event was able to raise over \$1550 in just four hours to support Kate’s Krew. Special thanks to brother Mike Hawkins PC ‘26 for setting up and running the event.



Rush Update

RUSH FIJI 2024

Contact Rush Chairmen:



Will Grissom
317-900-2214

Blake Burns
303-656-0364

Our rush chairs have begun to fill PC ‘28, and are still looking for more potential candidates, don’t hesitate to reach out!

7 of 13 accepted bids for PC ‘28 are legacies



2x Intramural Champions



We have gotten off to a hot start this Spring semester winning two Intramural Championships. The first is in walleyball, pictured on the top, and handball, at the bottom. These two wins have extended our lead in the Hoosier Grail by a tremendous sum, where we are doubling the team in second in points! With a little over a month left in school, our top FIJI teams enter the playoffs in wiffleball, 4v4 flag football, and soccer to wrap up the year.





Gam Spotlight



Evan “Russ” King, PC ‘26



Evan is a Healthcare Management major from Naperville, IL. Outside of school, Evan is the Little 500 bike team captain, involved in Future Professionals in Healthcare, and plays Intramural soccer and badminton. Evan’s favorite Zeta FIJI memory is racing in this year’s Little 500 qualifications in the 8 A.M. time slot. His favorite Zeta FIJI traditions are the house’s steadfast support of our bike team and the legendary Space Jam wakeups on big weekends. After college, Evan plans on pursuing a Master’s degree in either business or healthcare, and wants to work in healthcare administration.



Gam Spotlight



Nick “Boardman” Frische, PC ‘25



Nick “Boardman” Frische PC ‘25, a Junior from Carmel, Indiana, is studying informatics. About eight months ago, he teamed up with Phil "Grape" Hess '25 to start an AI virtual chatbot business. Last week, their business officially launched, thanks to funding secured by Nick through the Luddy Shoebox Pitch Competition. Competing at the Shoemaker Innovation Center, Nick vied against others for the first-place prize of \$5,000, which was awarded to him and Phil.

Last semester, Nick initiated a bible study within FIJI, with the goal of uniting the members and fostering faith within the house. Every Monday evening, Nick leads the study sessions, guiding the guys through lessons using Bibles generously provided by Mike "Tunes" Evans PC '85.

Within the house, Nick holds multiple leadership roles, serving as the recording secretary, head scholarship chair, and head graduate relations chair. Beyond the fraternity, he is actively involved in the Luddy Shoebox and plays a pivotal role in the organization: Campus Outreach. Additionally, Nick is an avid participant in intramural sports, where he is a two-time champion in Handball and Flag Football, as well as a Greek Basketball Association champ.

Nick is truly passionate about his involvement within the house. As he anticipates graduating next May '25, he eagerly looks forward to giving back for one more year. Reflecting on his time within the walls of 431, Nick expresses deep appreciation for the growth opportunities and bonds formed. He emphasizes, "Joining FIJI has been the best decision of my life. The guys I've met here are more than just friends; they're lifetime brothers. The experiences I've had within the house have created some of the happiest memories of my life."





Spring Break

Europe, Ft. Lauderdale, Winter Park, Cancun, and Miami

Over spring break, the brothers traveled the globe. The seniors traveled to Miami and Cancun to enjoy the sun. The juniors went to Europe to visit their pledge brothers abroad. They flew to Rome, Barcelona, and finally Dublin for St. Patrick's Day. The sophomores split up traveling to Winter Park, Colorado to ski and Miami. Finally, the frogs got the opportunity to travel as a pledge class to Fort Lauderdale.





Calling all Graduate Brothers

Living Database

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 rkitchell74@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

Little 500 Call out

If Graduate Brothers are interested in coming back for the little 500 race to support our riders we would be happy to have you come. The men's race will begin at 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 20 at the Bill Armstrong Stadium. Bring an IM or email zetafijicabinet@gmail.com and we would be happy to bring you one.





Calling all Graduate Brothers

Missing Plaques

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.

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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