

# TIGER HEART REVIEW

## SIGMA PHI EPSILON - MISSOURI ALPHA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER FOR BROTHERS, PARENTS, AND ALUMNI FALL 2023

### Fall 2023 Recruitment

Since the end of the Spring 2023 semester, we have welcomed 50 new brothers to Missouri Alpha! This significant increase in recruitment would not have been possible without the chapter's commitment to improve. "The success we've had in recruiting this year can be attested to the fact that all of our members have been working so hard to improve. Recruiting new members also comes naturally when what we are doing here is something that every young man should want to be a part of," said VP of Recruitment Noah Voss. Events hosted over the summer as well as applications received through the Balanced Man Scholarship led to 30 new members joining over the summer, laying a strong foundation for an additional 20 new members to join since the start of the semester.

Brother Andrew May joined the chapter over the summer after going to Midway Golf and having dinner with the recruitment team. "I originally wasn't going to join a fraternity, but after those meetings I saw the values this chapter has and felt more than confident I could balance my academic and social life with SigEp," he said. "Since joining, my favorite event was going to an escape room for one of the Sigma challenges. It was great to be able to work together and grow closer with my brothers."

The Sigma Challenge is the first step in our Balanced Man Program. "I really like Sigma because it's the beginning of our SigEp experience. I've learned so much not just from our coordinators, but also from the other new brothers about their values and life experiences," Andrew said. Noah is also proud of what he's seen from the new members that he helped recruit. "I'm pleased to see how involved and committed they have already become. They are truly bought into the principles that we are founded on," he said. We're so excited to welcome this new member class and can't wait to see the legacy they build at Mizzou!

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Fall 2023 New Member Class



# BMS Banquet

In September, Missouri Alpha held its annual Balanced Man Scholarship Banquet, where four \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to the most deserving undergraduate males at Mizzou: Bhushan Sreekrishnavilas, Josh Plessner, Isaac Cyr, and Gavin Lage. The banquet was organized by our BMS Chairman Jake Schafer, and SigEp's Grand Chapter President Brad Nahrstadt joined us as the keynote speaker.



Grand Chapter President Brad Nahrstadt



BMS Recipient Gavin Lage

As mentioned previously, the Balanced Man Scholarship played a key role in the success of our recruitment, with Josh, Isaac, and Gavin all having joined the chapter through the scholarship. Brother Gavin Lage first learned about SigEp through the Balanced Man Scholarship and quickly joined during the summer after having conversations with the recruitment team. "I had never really considered joining a fraternity, but after talking to some of the guys I realized this organization is genuinely different and possessed every quality I could ever want out of a fraternity. The greatest thing about receiving this scholarship was seeing my brothers light up with excitement when my name was called. It's crazy to think that these were people I didn't know three months ago, yet they were ecstatic about the award I had won. It reminded me of the reason why I chose to join SigEp and speaks to the brotherhood we have," Gavin said. We could not be more proud of having the opportunity to award the Balanced Man Scholarship to all four of these truly balanced men.



BMS Recipients Bhushan Sreekrishnavilas, Josh Plessner, and Isaac Cyr

# Decade of the 60s Reunion

We also got the chance to host the first ever 60s Decade Class Reunion in September! We had a blast spending time tailgating and enjoying a Mizzou football victory with some of our amazing alumni. We cannot thank them enough for the contributions and lasting impacts they have made at Missouri Alpha.



Decade of the 60s Class

# Homecoming

At Mizzou, Homecoming is a tradition that makes waves across campus. This year, our theme was “The Little Engine That Could” and we were paired with the women of Zeta Tau Alpha as well as the men of Sigma Chi and Alpha Sigma Phi. Our brothers had a great time painting house decorations, constructing the float, and preparing our skit and dance for Homecoming Fling at Jesse Hall. As part of the Greek community, our pairing helped contribute to a record-breaking year for the canned food and blood drives. A total of 93 SigEps donated blood, helping our pairing earn a fifth place finish in the blood drive! We also finished third place in float!



House Decorations at ZTA



Head Homecoming Liaisons



Third Place Float

On top of all this, our chapter had multiple individuals involved with the Homecoming Steering Committee and Royalty Court! On Steerco, brother Braden Bond served on the parade committee while brother Jonathan Thomas served on the blood drive committee. For Royalty Court, brother Andy Hinkamp was selected to the Royalty Top 30, and brothers Jayden Reyes and Christian Hall were selected to the Royalty Top 10. At the Homecoming football game on October 21st, Christian was crowned as Mizzou’s 2023 Homecoming King! We had an amazing experience with our pairing and are so proud of our brothers that were honored during Homecoming.



Braden Bond, Jayden Reyes, Jonathan Thomas, and Christian Hall



Homecoming Tailgate at the Chapter House



# Summer Events

One unique aspect of SigEp is the excellent national programming. Over the summer, a number of our brothers had the opportunity to engage with SigEps from around the nation at the Ruck Leadership Institute and Grand Chapter Conclave.

The Frank J. Ruck Leadership Institute takes place each summer in Richmond, Virginia where SigEp was founded in 1901. The four-day experience provides high-achieving undergraduates with the opportunity to build deep relationships with brothers on different campuses, all while learning how to be a better leader. MO Alpha was one of the

few chapters that had three brothers selected to attend Ruck: Cody Salka, Harrison Luechtefeld, and Wyatt Carlson. Wyatt described his experience as one of the most impactful of his college career, sharing that “the relationships I built and skills I learned at Ruck are things I will take with me for the rest of my life.”



Cody Salka, Harrison Luechtefeld, and Wyatt Carlson



Ruck Breakout Session



Ruck Frisbee Tournament

Every other summer, SigEp gathers for the Grand Chapter Conclave. In 2023, Conclave was held at the San Antonio River Walk, and we had the opportunity to send multiple brothers to represent our chapter. Conclave is a time to reconnect with brothers from all over the country, build an impactful SigEp network, and celebrate chapter success. SigEp at Mizzou was awarded a Buchanan Cup at the Balanced Man Celebration – Conclave’s opening ceremony. “Buc Cups” are reserved for roughly the top 10% of chapters around the nation, and MO Alpha worked diligently to earn that recognition. Brother Zach Lovelace had the opportunity to attend Conclave after being a member of the executive board during the Buchanan Cup application review period, and he could not have been more proud to see the chapter be recognized on the national stage for all of the work that has been put in. For Zach, “Conclave was the perfect chance to spend time with brothers and celebrate what makes SigEp so special – the shared values and vision we have to build men who are prepared for great things.” We are honored to receive our first Buchanan Cup since returning to Mizzou and will continue striving to earn even more.



MO Alpha Brothers and Alumni with the Buchanan Cup



Alumni Greg Pierson with His Award for Dedicated Service on the National Board



# What's Next

In the next newsletter, we will highlight the numerous achievements that the chapter and our brothers have made this semester.

We will also introduce our newly elected 2024 Executive Board. In February, they will be heading to Chicago, Illinois for the Carlson Leadership Academy – another one of SigEp's amazing national programs. There our executive board will have the opportunity to enhance their leadership skills, set goals for the chapter, and network with other executive boards from throughout the Midwest. All of this will ultimately create a strong foundation to continue the legacy of success we have at Missouri Alpha.

In February, we will look to win a 2nd consecutive Rockin' Against Multiple Sclerosis (RAMS) title. RAMS is one of Mizzou's largest student-run organizations and helped raise over \$200,000 for the Multiple Sclerosis Institute of Mid-Missouri last year. We are looking forward to contributing to a great cause and winning another title again this year.

For more updates on what MO Alpha is up to, be sure to follow us on social media and check out our website!



A Few More Fall Moments!

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# It's a Great Day to be a SigEp!

