

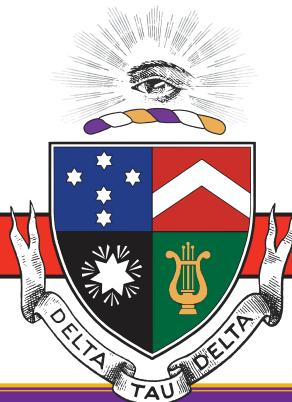
THE

IRIS

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

WINTER 2023

EPSILON MU CHAPTER



Building Community

Epsilon Mu Prepares for 2023

The undergraduates were excited to get back to campus this fall, as it was the first time in three years that we returned without COVID restrictions. The seniors who graduated last spring were the last to have experienced a non-pandemic school year, so it was new territory for the current membership. Luckily, operations were mostly back to normal, though some activities, like intramurals, are still at reduced levels—mostly due to a lack of referees.

RECRUITMENT

The Greek community is still struggling with lower membership overall, but we continue to stay strong and work toward successfully rebuilding our numbers. I think it's important for us to return above the 80-member threshold that indicates a healthy chapter, meaning enough brothers to share the workload, encourage relative diversity, stay engaged and, ultimately, enjoy success.

This fall, we reached out to parents at the beginning of pledgship via a Zoom session to outline values, goals, and obligations. Getting buy-in and support from families helped us retain more new members, and we'll be keeping that line of communication flowing.

We invited 22 new members, ultimately initiating 21 of them. Grades remain a focus, and our pledge-class GPA of 3.1 should help us remain above the all-men's average.

EVENTS

Social events have fully resumed, allowing actives to celebrate their hard work and the social nature of our brotherhood.

Watermelon Bust was a success with increased campus participation.

Homecoming with the Alpha Phis was another welcomed event for the actives, and the chapter expanded its participation, culminating in taking home the trophy for Air Jam.

In another return to normalcy, the brothers resumed their formal event and enjoyed the nightlife in Nashville, Tennessee.

LEADERSHIP

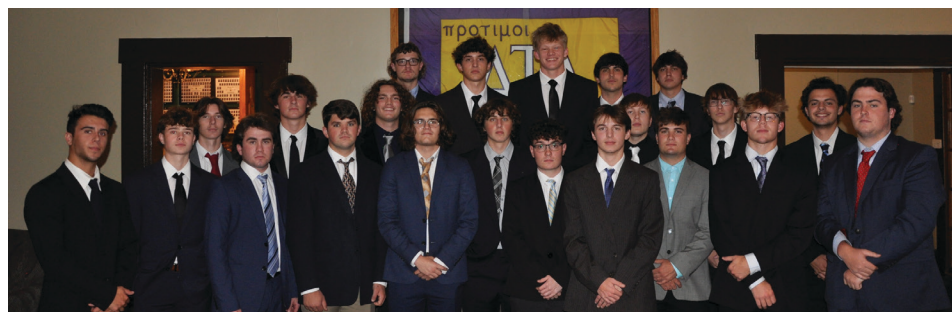
We continue to expand our outreach for alumni to join us tailgating on family and Homecoming game days, and we're always glad to reconnect with brothers. **If you have any recommendations, we're also open to ideas to make the 60th anniversary next year a special celebration.**

Elections are upon us for the next executive board, and many brothers have stepped up to contribute. We're still seeing a heavy reliance on sophomores and are trying to rebuild the leadership pipeline that keeps members engaged throughout their four years and helps build mentorship.

As always, if you're in Muncie, please stop by the Shelter at 1001 W. Riverside to say hello to your younger brothers.



Fraternally,
Andy Yakubik '90
Chapter Advisor



The cream of the crop! Welcome, 2022 new members.

FAMILY FIRST

Matt Momper '83
Is a Loyal Husband,
Father, and Delt for Life

The journey to Greek life comes in many forms. For **Matt Momper '83**, it began with his family. His mother, brother, and sisters all had Greek backgrounds, though what really captured him was the 1978 film *Animal House*. When Matt visited Ball State, he recognized something familiar about the Delt Shelter.

DELT DEVELOPMENT

"I visited Ball State, and the person took me down fraternity row," Matt said. "I remember it like it was yesterday; she pointed out the Delt Shelter and I asked, 'Is that the Animal House?' She responded, 'More than you'll ever know.'"

Epsilon Mu surpassed Matt's pop culture reference and became a place where he made connections for life. The chapter emphasized engagement in and out of the Shelter, requiring brothers to join one house committee and one campus committee. Matt developed communication and organization skills as house manager for Epsilon Mu, and he utilized those skills when he joined the family business after college.



"My experience in all these committees taught me programming skills and gave me a lot of responsibility at a young age. The skill set that I learned being in the fraternity was just as much as what I learned in the classroom."

(Continued on page 2)

THE IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT

How Brett Benson '98 Remains Committed to Growing Delta Tau Delta

Recruitment is the lifeblood of a thriving brotherhood, and it takes dedicated individuals to grow a fraternity chapter. As an undergraduate, **Brett Benson '98** joined Epsilon Mu as a legacy member to his Delt sibling and quickly grew attached to the recruitment process. Through continued devotion to Delta Tau Delta, Brett has made sure the undergraduate chapter stays on the right track for growth.

"The longer that I've lived, the more I've learned how important the Ritual and the words are."

"I loved recruitment; I think I found a good foundation for how to hold events and create engagement for newcoming people. I really enjoyed that, and I was good at it."

As an alumnus, Brett recently assisted in Epsilon Mu's recruitment process because he recognizes the value of a quality fraternity experience. "You'll have friends and lifelong connections for your entire life," he mentioned. From simple things like proper handshaking and holding a conversation to more broad discussions about communication and engagement, Brett has made a significant impact in Epsilon Mu recruitment efforts.

Not only has Brett helped Epsilon Mu—he served Delta Tau Delta Headquarters for five years as director of alumni affairs. He was responsible for finding the right alumni that could reengage with Delt chapters and provide guidance for undergraduate members.



Brett Benson '98 (right) with Sheldon Bratton '98.

"It was definitely a dynamic experience, being able to meet some really neat individuals that volunteered with the fraternity."

Brett's career path made use of his recruitment skills through human resources consulting work, and he now does sales in the high voltage utility industry. In his spare time, Brett enjoys spending time with his kids and watching the Indianapolis Colts. You can connect with Brett and learn more about work with the Deltas at resolutionone@yahoo.com.

FAMILY FIRST

(Continued from page 1)

MOMPER'S MANAGEMENT

With degrees in economics and management, and later an MBA from Drake University, Matt was poised to grow and expand Momper Insulation. He bought the company from his parents and later merged with another family business for expansion.

Along with his work in the family business, Matt has heavily supported Epsilon Mu as an alumnus, even playing a role in fundraising and personally working on development of the Fisher Wing.

Matt's work with the Deltas earned him an Alumni of the Year award, though he wasn't in it for the fame—he simply enjoyed helping the Deltas on campus. As a Ball State alumnus, Matt was appointed to the Ball State Board of Trustees by numerous individuals, including

Vice President Mike Pence and Governor Eric Holcomb. In total, Matt has served four terms and is reaching 16 years on the board.

"I'm very proud of that," Matt said. "We have a great university, and [the board] helped to polish it even more."

FAMILY LIFE

While Matt remains busy, he always makes time to be a devoted family man. He is a husband and a father to three kids, with two following in his Greek footsteps. He is extremely proud of their accomplishments in college and encourages them to follow their career dreams.

As a father of recent graduates, Matt knows the importance of students staying socially disciplined and maintaining a clean online



ADMISSIONS COORDINATING TEAM. Front Row: Ann Reiter, Don Lanham, Paula Brackin, Rick Martinez, Lisa Scotton. Second Row: Randy Gearhart, Matt Momper, Duffy Burns, Bill Stephens, Perry Blessing, Lynn Henderson. Back Row: Lori Eller, Karen Rogers, Jan Hansing, Julie Norris, Lisa Snyder, Dan Breault, Tammy McColige.

presence. Though college life offers fun opportunities, he knows how important it is for young men, especially active Deltas, to focus on their work and prepare for an established career path after college.

From his undergraduate experience at Ball State to being adopted into Phi Kappa Delta at Drake, as well as his family business and Board of Trustees experience, Matt owes plenty to his Epsilon Mu experience. You can connect with Matt and share your Delt stories at mmomper@momper.com.

Welcome, Brothers!

Charlie Bostic '26

Isaac Bowman '25

Grant Bradley '26

Dylan Clark '25

Mason Dillon '26

Jamison Dunham '26

Landon Friend '26

Ashden Gentry '26

Kaden Graft '26

John Hendricks '26

Owen Johnson '26*

Coleton Kadinger '26

Cooper McCoy '26

Conor Moriarty '26

Jake Phillips '26*

Charlie Pitcock '26*

Noah Richardson '25

Andrew Schilling '26

Dominick Smith '26

Gavin Sullivan '26

Zach Sutherlin '26

Curt Warren '26

*Legacy



What better place to dance the night away than in Nashville?



Smashing watermelons to raise money for a good cause is a win-win!



Brothers showing off their skills at Top Golf.

The Bond of Brotherhood



ACTIVES EXCEL ON AND OFF CAMPUS

Epsilon Mu had an outstanding fall semester, earning a GPA of 2.94 and welcoming 22 new members in an era of difficult recruitment circumstances.

BONDING EVENTS

Those first few months included many brotherhood events like football, billiards, and basketball tournaments. Our new sweetheart, Jett McClaskey, helped a ton by setting up many activities and helping to spring into a good semester.

We had family weekend in September, which included tailgating with parents and siblings for the Ball State Cardinals. Activation was followed by a busy Homecoming the week of October 18. The week was packed with activities, including Air Jam (which we paired with Alpha Phi for). Our chapters performed a dance in front of the school and ended up winning it all!

On November 5, we had our formal in Nashville, Tennessee, which was a great

success. Still in the month of November, our chapter celebrated Dad's Day with axe throwing and watching college football games.

PHILANTHROPY

The following weekend featured Watermelon Bust. We raised a total of \$13,000 and split it with Alpha Chi Omega. After expenses, this resulted in around \$5,000 for our philanthropies.

We then paired with Delta Zeta to help bring our organizations closer. Just before Thanksgiving Break, we served the community through Second Harvest Food Bank.

ELECTIONS

With a few more brotherhood events and activities, we ended the academic semester in December in great spirits. Elections are taking place, and we look forward to another great year with new leadership.

Fraternally,
Andrew Synko '24
Chapter President

THE IRIS



DELTA TAU DELTA

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

P.O. Box 442100

Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MAILED FROM
ZIP CODE 66044
PERMIT #570

Attention: This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending Ball State University, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.



Our sweetheart has made such an impact this year!

SWEETHEART NOTES

Delta's Sweetheart Shares Her Love

Well, howdy! This year has been jam-packed with epic memories with the best men on campus, and I'm so thankful for each one of them.

The first event I was able to attend was their recruitment event at Top Golf in August. Channeling my inner Tiger Woods and getting to know the potential new members was a blast.

To kick off the school year, I brought donuts and wrote each room in the house a personalized letter to get them motivated for a great year! I went to all the recruitment events and formed friendships with the new member class that I continue to grow. As a new member gift, I made them all DTD keychains with my number on the back and a nice note to keep them smiling day-to-day.

Over the last couple of months, I have been able to spend a lot of time at the Shelter with activities ranging from setting picks and getting

buckets on the basketball court while playing 3-on-3 to being taught the ways behind being an exceptional pool player and, of course, the endless hours painting multiple banners in the basement. I was even able to go to their formal in Nashville, which was an absolute blast! Tearing up the dance floor is a given whenever I'm with Delts, whether that's in Nashville or in the courtyard on a Thursday.

Being Sweetheart has easily been the highlight of my senior year thus far, and I can't wait for the next couple of months so I can continue to give them love and support, just like they give me every day. It's been an honor being able to learn more about Delta Tau Delta and being involved with everything they do.

Sent with positivity,

Jett McClaskey

Panhellenic Association | VP of Membership Development | Delta Zeta, Gamma Chi



CONTACT US

HOUSE CORPORATION
John Knox '78
jrknox@bsu.edu



WEBSITE
bsudelts.org



FACEBOOK
BSU Delts Alumni



INSTAGRAM
@bsudelts