THE RED

The Official Newsletter of Sigma Phi Epsilon's Indiana Zeta Chapter

HALFWAY THERE

And We're Living on a Prayer

While it may not have been as unpredictable as last year, March 2021 was not an easy month, containing its own highs and lows. Classes were moved online for the first two weeks after national cases spiked, adding to the already existent academic stress. Furthermore, additional limitations on gathering sizes prevented inperson brotherhood, service, recruitment events, as well as rites of passage until the later half of the month. Fortunately, Indiana Zeta was able to use the first half of March to plan ahead, leading to an abundance of in-person events once restrictions were loosened, allowing many of the brothers to feel better.

IN THIS ISSUE

Feature Stories

Burning Heart

2

Family Olympics

3

Saucy SigEps

4

Fitness Competition

6

Helping out at Hilltop

7

AN OLD TRADITION REMAINS

On Friday, March 26th, the men of Indiana Zeta were able to safely participate in the Burning Heart Ceremony. For those not familiar with this tradition, Burning Heart is a public ceremony in which the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon profess and explain their core values of virtue, diligence, and brotherly love to all in attendance: friends, family members, significant others, and chapter volunteers have the opportunity to listen to our brothers proclaim how we tangibly practice each of our cardinal principles.

Brothers Bradley Davis, Dylan Grace, Kyle Langreck, and Charlie Presar were the ones conveying the message of our cardinal principles to the public on this night. The men of IN Zeta cherish Burning Heart a little extra than others might as is tradition that we also combine this public ceremony with our big-little brother reveal. Each of our eight new brothers finally had the opportunity to meet their big brother, a brother that they self-selected during their Sigma Challenge of our Balanced Man Program.



A NEW TRADITION ARISES

A new tradition was also born this same weekend. On the morning of Saturday, March 27th, the Family Olympics was launched, an event I had been planning for a few months prior. First, let me explain families a little bit. Once you get your big brother, you join his family. Families are made up of several big-little brother pairs. Indiana Zeta has four families: the Hollywood, Huntsmen, Gorilla, and Wolf dynasties, respectively. To my knowledge there had never been an organized competition between the families, so I thought it may be fun to create one. Who doesn't love a little competition? I sure do.

The Family Olympics will consist of ten events, one for each month that we are in school for the academic year. March's event was a Spike Ball tournament, and next month's event is sand volleyball. Gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded accordingly based on the results of each event. At the end of each academic year, a trophy will be awarded to the family with the highest medal count. This is a tradition that I'm excited to build upon, one that I'm hoping stays well past my days of college.

With Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love,

Reed Hubbert



Lights, Camera, Action:

Saucy SigEps By Tanner Grashorn:

Vice President of Communications

Last month, VP of Recruitment Ryan Cummings came to me with an idea. He wanted to start a show based off the YouTube special "Hot Ones," except where we interview SigEp brothers instead of celebrities. At first I thought there was no way we could make this a reality, or at least not into something that would attract viewers. We started to drift away from the idea as it seemed too difficult to manage. Because "Hot Ones" was mentioned in this conversation, I suddenly had the urge to watch some episodes on YouTube. After seeing Shaquille O'Neal in pain from eating spicy wings, I knew we had to reconsider the choice to not make our own version of the show.

Ryan and I reconvened and started talking about our ideas for what the show could look like. We planned what some of the questions would be, got brothers to sign up to be on the show, and even bought two of the spiciest sauces that are featured on "Hot Ones." We then got brothers James Sroge and Noah Godsell to volunteer to be the interviewers for the show, as well as Daniel Asselstine to be our cameraman and video editor. All we needed was a name. After considering names such as SigEp Spicy Sundays, SigEp's Scoville Scale, and Sigma Peppery Epsilon, we landed on the name "Saucy SigEps." Of course we needed a logo to go with the name.

Below: A behind the scenes angle at **Reed** and **James** in Episode Two.



Luckily, newly joined brother Andrew Messerchmidt is a wizard when it comes to graphic design. He managed to create a logo for us based on the Balanced Man, as can be seen on the right. Our show was finally ready to air!

The first two episodes featuring Joel Stangebye and Reed Hubbert are out on our YouTube page. We plan to release an episode once a week, so make sure to subscribe to Valpo SigEp. We have big plans for this show and are excited to bring entertainment and laughter to our viewers!





Left: **James** and **Joel** in Episode One.

Right: James and Reed in Episode Two.



THE RED DOOR 5

CHAPTER EVENTS: MARCH

Because classes went online for two weeks, Indiana Zeta was not able to have as many events as we hoped for.

20 Service Event: Cleaning Day at Hilltop

20 Sigma Lock-in

21 Sound Body: Fitness Competition

- 24 Sound Spirit Bible Study
- **26** Burning Heart
- 27 Family Olympics

27 Unity Event: GeoGuesser with Phi Delta Theta

- 26 Service / Unity Event: Campus Cleanup with Kappa Delta
- 28 Phi Rite of Passage
- 29 Brotherhood Event: Eggsanitiy

Our First

Fitness Competition By Allen Marvel

Vice President of SigEp Learning Community

As VP of SLC for our chapter, I am in charge of hosting Sound Mind, Body, and Spirit Events. I have always wanted to host a fitness competition as a Sound Body event, and this semester I got the opportunity to.

One thing I love to do is Crossfit, and throughout the year, I have had brothers try it out with me. They really enjoyed the style of workouts, so I decided to make a little competition out of it. I created three different types of workouts involving cardio and weightlifting for brothers to partake in and we had different brothers excel in each different workout. Brothers were competing for different prizes provided by one of our alumni, Scott Dueball, who works as an Assistant Brand Manager at BSN.

Brother Drayce Adams took home first place, Joel Stangbye was second, and President Kyle Langreck was third. Brothers Bradley Davis, David-Paul Schulze, and Tanner Grashorn competed as well. All of the brothers that competed really enjoyed it and said we should do it again sometime, so more fitness competitions are already in the making. Thank you to all of the brothers who competed and helped make this event possible!

Helping out at Hilltop

By David Fowler

Service Chair

This past weekend (March 20), the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon participated in their first in -person service event this semester. Our philanthropy, Hilltop Neighborhood House, was in need of assistance that consisted of cleaning toys, landscaping, washing windows, stocking their food pantry and performing many other tasks to give their facility a nice spring clean. Maintaining the cleanliness of classrooms and toys is very important to Hilltop Neighborhood House, especially during a pandemic, and we were glad we were able to be the ones to help.

It felt right for the fraternity to finally host an in-person service event again and was satisfying to see our brothers come together after the trials and tribulations we have encountered during these strange times of COVID-19. While we still may have had to wear masks and socially distance, this was an excellent opportunity and experience for the men to work together, gain service hours and

help out an organization in need. We look forward to continuing the tradition of hosting events with Hilltop Neighborhood House and having a positive impact on the children, teachers and parents of their community.



Left: Charlie and Dawson helping out in the food pantry.

Right: Jared and Dyllan cleaning toys in a classroom.



FOLLOW INDIANA ZETA ON SOCIAL MEDIA

If you're not following us on the internet already, it is encouraged to follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and **YouTube** to see everything happening here in Valparaiso. You can find us here at:

@valposigep — on all three social media platforms

Valpo SigEp — on YouTube

Final Thoughts: Words from the Editor

Okay, okay... this one is a little late. However, both my brothers and myself were able to enjoy a restful Spring Break. After ten straight weeks of classes, including quarantines and online classes, we needed it. Nevertheless, we are excited to tackle the last few weeks of the semester before summer break.

Fraternally,

Evan Stock



IN ZETA SLC

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You can unsubscribe to some or all communications by the Sigma Phi Epsilon Indiana Zeta chapter. However, SigEp needs to communicate with you periodically about our chapter or events that may happen in your area, so we encourage you to allow general Fraternity communication through e-mail. SigEp makes every effort to minimize the number of e-mails you receive. To update your contact and/or communication, preferences email us at sigep.externalrelations@valpo.edu.

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