

ZETA THETA

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF PI KAPPA PHI AT TEXAS-AUSTIN

FALL 2024 EDITION

FOUNDING FATHERHOOD

By Douglas Chaiken

I was asked to write a little about why I decided to be a re-founding father of Pi Kappa Phi, especially in the face of many other options and paths. Upon joining, I had doubts about starting something from the ground up, especially because I didn't know if I would be enrolled at the University of Texas long enough to see this project come to fruition. I have never been more satisfied with this semi-impulse decision.

I didn't join a social fraternity freshman year because I was unsure of the time commitment at this critical point in my life. Coming into sophomore year I knew I wanted to join a fraternity, or a spirit group at least. I didn't know where to start, and then, upon doing my research, I came across the Pi Kapp Instagram by pure coincidence and filled out the interest form. Shortly after, I received a text from the Pi Kappa Phi leadership consultants asking me to grab lunch. The day we met, I was hooked on this idea, and later that day, I signed my bid. What has followed has been one of the most fulfilling periods of my life so far: memories, friendships, football games, recruitment, hard work and something new to be done every day.

I was offered the position of treasurer, and my preliminary finance education experience has allowed me to navigate the tricky path of chartering. I am grateful for the ability to manage the chapter's finances, and I believe I have set us on a plan to succeed.

Brotherhood isn't just an intangible thing, it's something realized through the experiences with the brothers I have met, the opportunities I have gained and the responsibilities I have taken. I know the bonds I have made in the past few months will only continue to strengthen, and new ones will form as we continue to grow into a competitive chapter. I trust my brothers; I know they would do anything for me and I hope they know I would do anything for them.



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PI KAPPA PHI'S RETURN TO TEXAS

The Zeta Theta (Texas-Austin) expansion has been going well! We have recruited 46 members to be the next generation of Zeta Theta. We aim to double our membership next semester to reach a competitive chapter size for the campus.

Meet those instrumental in planning our success: Leadership Consultants Jett Willmann (Colorado-Colorado Springs) and Hunter Palatini (Kennesaw State). They have helped handle recruitment, associate member education and the re-chartering process. Hunter Palatini is no longer on campus with us but continues to help spread the brotherhood of Pi Kappa Phi at Boise State University. We would like to extend a huge thank you to Hunter for his efforts and encouragement.

How Alumni Can Support Us

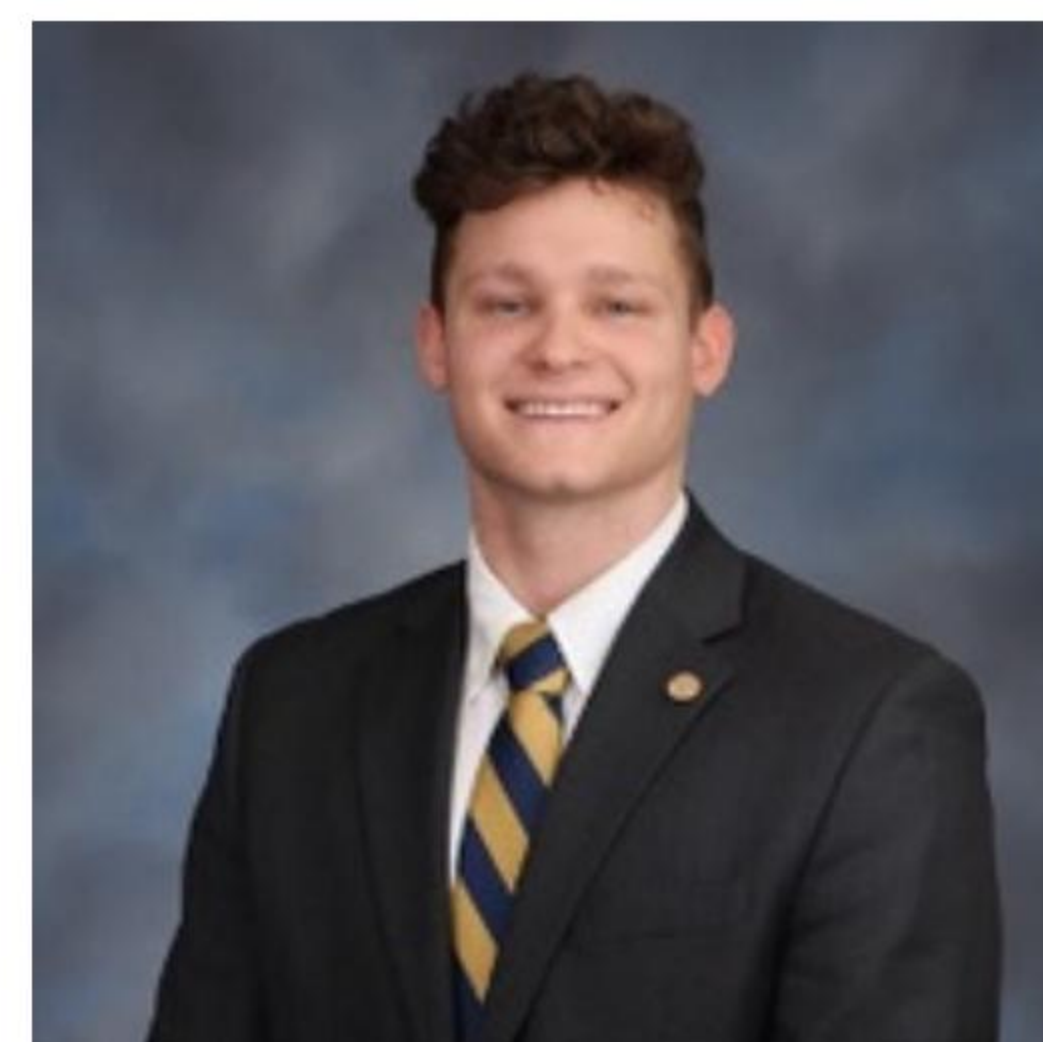
- Recommend a member
- Follow the chapter's Instagram to stay updated on our progress: @texaspikapps
- Serve on the Council of Advisors
- Sponsor or host an alumni event
- Contact Historian [Ishan Singh](#) to connect with the chapter

Expansion Timeline

An expansion has three main phases: recruitment, education and chartering. While our focus has shifted from recruitment to education, the ability for new members to sign has not ended, and every brother is putting forth their best effort to find men who fit the values of Pi Kappa Phi. The chapter's foundation has been established, and we continue working together to complete the chartering checklist. We've already made progress! By completing this checklist, the newest members of the Zeta Theta Chapter will demonstrate our ability to function as an active chapter. If all goes well, we will receive a charter pending the approval of the National Council.



Jett Willmann
Leadership Consultant



Hunter Palatini
Leadership Consultant



Fostering Brotherhood

Beyond recruiting new members and working to complete chartering requirements, we recognize the most important part of fraternity is the bonds of brotherhood we share. In a typical week, we have one to two brotherhood events. Some of our favorite activities together include study groups in the library, getting Cabo Bob's and gathering at our archon's house to sit around a fire and unwind.



FALL TEXAS SPORTS RECAP

As the year ends, Texas has once again shown why it is the best overall school in the nation. Texas football occupied the AP #1 rank for multiple weeks, running to 6-0 before our unfortunate loss at home to Georgia. We then regathered and stayed strong before losing to Georgia again in the SEC Championship. The path to the championship is challenging but manageable, starting with a home game against Clemson on December 21.

Texas volleyball, the back-to-back national champs, have unfortunately struggled this season, with the most notable loss to Texas A&M in the fifth set at Gregory Gym. While receiving a bid to the national championship bracket, their season came to an end with a 1-3 loss against Creighton in the third round. They finished ranked 13th and have a record of 18-6.

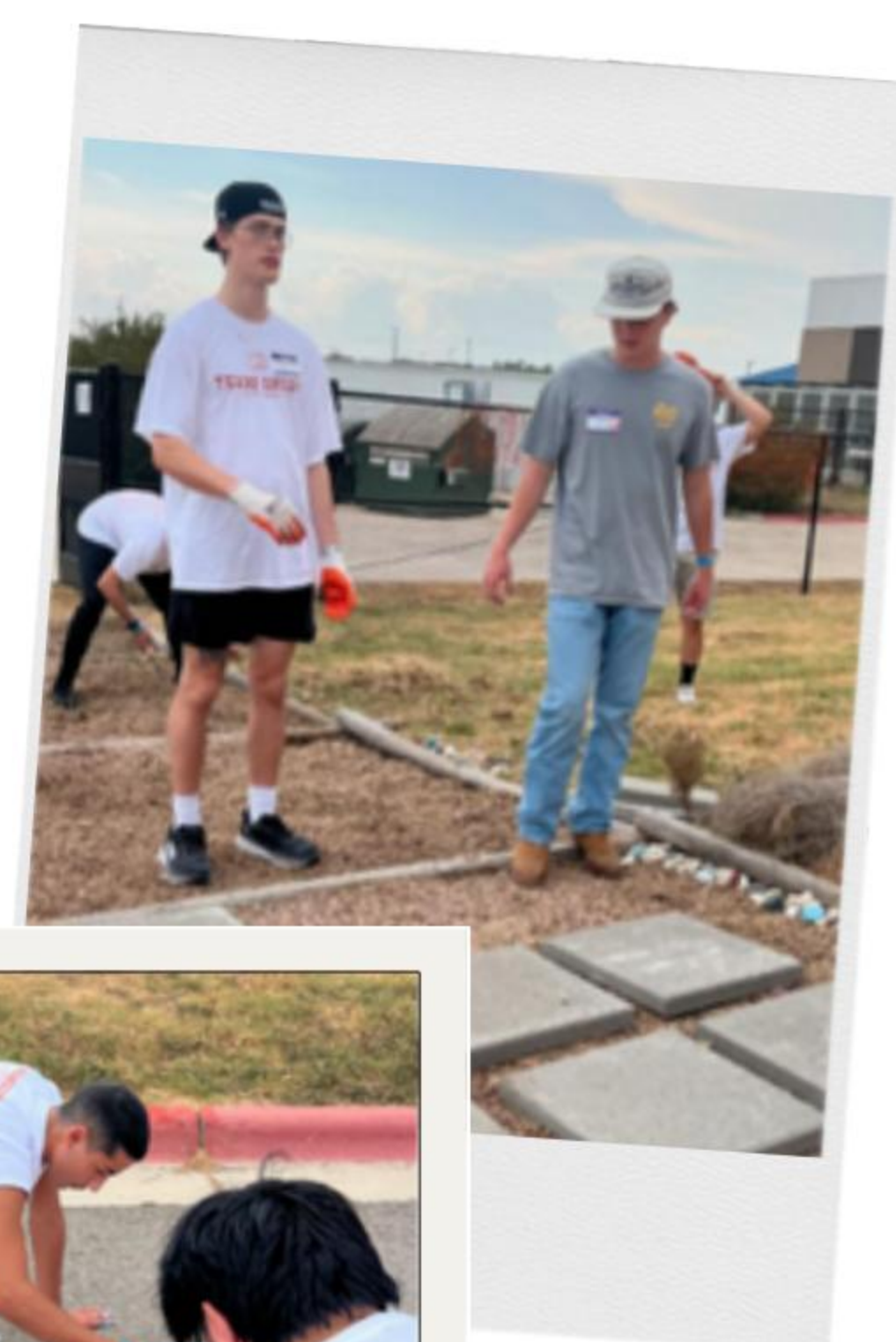
Men's basketball was initially ranked in the AP Top 25, but after two home losses to Ohio State and UConn, Texas fell. On the other hand, our women's basketball team is currently ranked sixth, with the only loss on the road at #10 Notre Dame.

Finally, the women's soccer team became SEC Champions in their 1-0 victory against #14 South Carolina. Despite this, they exited the championship tournament with a 2-3 OT loss against #16 Michigan State in the second round. They ended the season ranked 21st with a 17-4-2 record.



GREEK DAY OF SERVICE

We had a great turnout of 17 brothers who volunteered for five hours on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at the IFC Texas Greek Day of Service! Our efforts helped support three local elementary schools. The work included mural painting, building garden beds, site clean-up and building picnic tables. Our brothers mingled with other fraternities and sororities to help build relationships and our image on campus. These volunteer hours are instrumental in completing our chartering requirements. Thanks to our committed Service Chair Josh Rosenblum for organizing this event!



ALUMNI UPDATES

Have you gotten a new job or moved to a new city? Did you get married or have kids? Would you like to reach out to the current brothers of the Zeta Theta Chapter?

If you have any life updates you'd like to share with you brothers, please let us know by sending your update to pikappaphitexas@gmail.com so we can feature your update in future newsletters.

