

# SigEp Circle

February 2025



## A Full Month of Updates, Successes, and Insights

Welcome to the second edition of our monthly newsletter written by our active brothers! We are thrilled to share with you the latest developments in the fraternity and how we are constantly growing as balanced men!

For starters, we would like to apologize for the late arrival of this month's newsletter, as midterms and springbreak proved to be a challenge to overcome with writing and publishing this edition on time. Also, please note that our 57th annual SigEp formal is approaching on March 22nd! More details on that later...

As far as recent events go, the executive board has been working to learn and grow through the beginning of their term, with the help of the annual Carlson Leadership Academy. We also saw our very own brother, Michael Nawrocki, named Mr. Pink Ribbon during BMOC. You'll also read on about how one of our proud alumni is making his mark on a local high school football program!

Additionally, the active brothers have founded a LinkedIn Group for all alumni and active members of the Indiana Theta chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon to join, so they can stay connected and use the group for job/internship connections! Please take a moment to join the LinkedIn Group using the link [here](#), in the email body, or at the end of this newsletter.

From the writers, we hope you enjoy this month's newsletter and all the amazing stories it brings!

### In this newsletter you can expect:

Mr. Pink Ribbon named in 25th annual BMOC!

E-Board Takes on the windy city!

SigEp Alumni rising from player to coach

Celebrating 57 years of SigEp IN-THETA!

Attention Alumni: We want to hear from you!



## Nawrocki dubbed 'Mr. Pink Ribbon' in 25th Annual BMOC

Sigma Phi Epsilon representative Michael Nawrocki, a computer science and information technology major and current Vice President of Communications, was named Mr. Pink Ribbon during Trine University's 25th Annual Big Man On Campus (BMOC). "His passion, comradery and dedication to the cause was evident and this award was very well deserved," said Grace Dubec, BMOC Chair for Theta Phi Alpha. Overall, the 25th annual BMOC, orchestrated by Theta Phi Alpha, was a resounding success! Through his fundraising efforts, Michael Nawrocki contributed approximately \$3,000, helping add to the grand total of \$40,000 raised for breast cancer research this year. This achievement would not have been possible without the tremendous efforts of Nawrocki, the other contestants, and the dedicated members of Theta Phi Alpha, who coordinated the event.

The competition featured Nawrocki, representatives from the seven other fraternities on campus, and a representative from Student Government and the Christian Campus House. With last year's historic winning performance by SigEp's Joe Keefe ('24) setting the bar high, Nawrocki had big shoes to fill.

The male pageant night, held on February 7th, marked the culmination of the competition, featuring contestants performing a group dance, showcasing their formal wear, answering random pageant questions, performing a talent, and delivering a speech about a personal hero. During the talent portion, Nawrocki delivered a remarkable cover of Billy Joel's "Piano Man" on the harmonica and piano. As he played, audience members waved their phone flashlights in unison, and a thunderous applause erupted after his performance, solidifying it as a crowd favorite.

The night also took a more somber turn as contestants shared stories about their heroes. Nawrocki honored his late grandfather, Paul T. Nawrocki, who passed away from Stage IV Pancreatic Cancer in 2018.

After a long and eventful evening, Nawrocki was ultimately crowned Mr. Pink Ribbon. He narrowly missed a first-place finish in the overall BMOC competition, landing himself in second place overall. Nawrocki went on to say, "Regardless of the outcome, it was an honor to be part of this event, fighting on stage for breast cancer survivors like my 84-year-old grandma, who was in the audience, and other cancer survivors in my life who made it there too. With the number of family members and friends I have watched battle cancer, some even losing their battles... it was a motivation like no other to pour my heart out into this contest and do everything I can." For anyone interested in viewing his parts of the contest, you can watch them all [here](#).

The Mr. Pink Ribbon award, voted on exclusively by the contestants, is given to the participant who demonstrates the most enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the competition. With this honor, Nawrocki will return in 2026 to crown the next recipient of the award.



Michael pictured with his 84-year-old grandmother, a breast cancer survivor.





## Executive Board Members Take on Chicago

CHICAGO – On the weekend of February 14-16, all of the officers from Indiana Theta's Executive Board made the trip to the Carlson Leadership Academy. The retreat was hosted by facilitators from SigEp Nationals and took place at the Marriott Chicago O'Hare. The retreat featured meetings and workshops with other executive officers from their respective chapters.

Carlson Leadership Academy is a regional conference hosted by Sigma Phi Epsilon. Several cities across the United States are chosen to host the retreat, and chapters attend based on regional proximity. Chicago's Carlson Academy served as a weekend getaway for chapters from Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, and Kentucky, among others.

Saturday, February 15, was the main part of the experience, featuring an all-day workshop for the officers. The attendees were split up by position and sent into breakout rooms. There, they spent most of the day conversing with facilitators and other officers who shared their respective positions. This format allowed each officer to converse with other officers in their same position.

We spoke to brothers Andrew Spirrison (Vice President of Member Development) and Korbin Lawson (Vice President of Programming) about their personal learning experiences from Carlson, and here is what they had to say:

"The thing that I learned and enjoyed the most was the opportunity to learn from other chapter members and possibly apply those concepts to our own chapter for our growth and success." - Andrew

"The biggest takeaway I had from Carlson was the ideas I learned from other Vice Presidents, specifically on chapter involvement and improving the experience of the events we host. I used the conference as a chance to improve my knowledge of how a successful Vice President operates." - Korbin

As many of you know, last month we touched on the topic of our own Cam McCarver being in the selection process for the Tragos Quest to Greece. Unfortunately, Cam was not one of the few selected to attend the trip this summer. "I was very honored to make it as far in the process as I did. All of the men selected above me are more than qualified to attend the trip. As the only finalist from our chapter to ever advance that far in the process, I am grateful for the opportunity to represent Trine and put the Indiana Theta chapter of SigEp on the map." - Cam McCarver (President)

All in all, the Carlson Leadership Academy was a huge success. The E-Board is eager to apply what they learned from the academy to some of their initiatives throughout the year. It's safe to say that IN-Theta will be making another appearance in Chicago next February.



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## Leading the Charge: Jacob Chesney's Rise from Player to Coach



This month, we're proud to highlight alumnus Jacob Chesney (pictured on the left), a Spring 2020 graduate of Trine University and a dedicated member of SigEp and the Trine University football program.

Born and raised in Sheridan, Indiana, Jacob grew up playing football and went on to play Wide Receiver for four years at Trine. During his time in SigEp, he served on the Executive Board as VP of Recruitment, embracing the brotherhood as a second family. He credits SigEp with teaching him the importance of relationships, a value that has greatly influenced his coaching career.

In January 2024, Jacob was appointed Head Football Coach at Sheridan High School, stepping into the role held by his former coach, the legendary Larry "Bud" Wright, who led the football program for an incredible 59 seasons. Prior to this, he served as assistant coach for two years.

His selection did not come easily, stemming from a lengthy interview process of several outstanding candidates who applied and were reviewed by a committee that consisted of teachers, administrators, coaches, community members, and former players. Chesney was ultimately selected after the committee unanimously recommended him to the Sheridan High School administration over all other candidates. With a talented and promising team, Jacob aims to modernize the program and elevate Blackhawk football to new heights.

"When it comes to leadership, own it. You are where you are for a reason—stick to your gut and attack it every day until you're raising a trophy." – Jacob Chesney

We're excited to see Jacob's impact on the next generation of athletes and wish him the best in his coaching career as he looks to fill some big shoes!

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## 57th Annual SigEp Formal is just around the corner!

It's that time of the year again! Formal is coming up quickly and will take place on Saturday, March 22, at the beautiful Glendarin Hills Golf Course clubhouse. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., with dinner served at 7 p.m. [[Click here to register for Formal.](#)]

Be sure to register **EARLY**, as the price of tickets will increase by \$10 for students and \$15 for alumni on March 16th. If you have any questions about registering, reach out to the Lambda House via [LambdaHouseCommunications@gmail.com](mailto:LambdaHouseCommunications@gmail.com)

We hope to see you there!

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## Attention Alumni! We want to hear from you!

As members of this lifelong brotherhood, we are committed to keeping you all connected and sharing newsworthy stories from your lives! Just as we did with Brother Chesney this month, we want to hear more from our alumni about what SigEps from Indiana Theta are accomplishing in the world. Additionally, we are looking for alumni to provide testimonials about how SigEp has changed their lives, which we can use as part of our recruitment strategy.

Please reach out to [vpc.intheta@gmail.com](mailto:vpc.intheta@gmail.com) with any stories you would like to share for the newsletter or testimonials you would be willing to provide. Our VPC will coordinate with you to help share your story!

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Thank you for Reading! Below are some helpful links that were mentioned through the newsletter, as well as links to our social medias. We look forward to seeing you back for next months edition!

SigEp Trine/Tri-State Alumni & Actives Connect - LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/10048121/>

Videos from BMOC:

[https://youtu.be/p0U0-lo4lIs?si=6hNwW\\_c040eUodQ7](https://youtu.be/p0U0-lo4lIs?si=6hNwW_c040eUodQ7)

Get your Formal Tickets!

<https://tinyurl.com/yxubtam5>

Follow Us On Instagram!

<https://www.instagram.com/trineusigep?igsh=dWlly3BxbzM4NzU4>

