



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Greek Alumni Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

FALL 2007

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Keeping You Connected

Greetings alumnae, alumni, and friends of Ball State's fraternity and sorority community. Last year, we decided to adapt an electronic format for the *Greek Alumni Newsletter*. Through this new format we hope to reach more alumni. In fact, this issue of the newsletter is the first issue to be sent to all Greek alumni in the United States. This was possible through the help of the Ball State Alumni Association.

The purpose of the newsletter is to keep alumni connected to the Ball State campus and informed on the status and progress of the Ball State fraternity and sorority community. If this is the first time you are receiving this newsletter, you may view previous issues by going to www.bsu.edu/greeklife/advisors/. We hope you enjoy this issue of the *Greek Alumni Newsletter*.

- Sincerely, The Office of Student Life Staff

Sorority Houses to Make Debut at BSU

In the last addition of the Greek Alumni Newsletter, the closing of DeHority residence hall complex was announced. DeHority is currently undergoing renovations and will reopen in the fall of 2009. When the building reopens, it will house honor students and there are no plans to include sorority suites. The closing resulted in five sororities needing to be relocated: Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Phi, Kappa Alpha Theta, Phi Mu, and Sigma Kappa.

Alpha Phi was selected in a random drawing to move into to an empty suite in Woodworth where the other six sororities are located. After a thorough search of campus, no other adequate space could be located so the university sought viable off campus options. Over the last six months four small university owned houses were identified as alternative space for the sororities. The women will make Ball State Greek history when they move their belongings from the suites to the houses in mid-November. In addition, several members will move into the houses next semester. Alpha Gamma Delta, Kappa Alpha Theta and Sigma Kappa will be



Two of the houses on Riverside Avenue that will serve as sorority houses.

located on the corner of Riverside and Martin directly across from Woodworth complex and Phi Mu will be located on the corner of Riverside and Light just a few blocks down the street. Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Omicron Pi, Alpha Phi, Chi Omega, Delta Zeta, Kappa Delta, and Pi Beta Phi will remain in the sorority suites.

This truly is an exciting time for the Panhellenic community! More information on this exciting initiative can be found on the Greek Life website: www.bsu.edu/greeklife/village.

Upcoming Events

Miss Black and Gold Pageant - ΑΦΑ

December 7, 2007

Date Auction - ΖΦΒ

February 14, 2008

Dance Marathon - ΦΜ

February 22, 2008

5pm – 9am at Irving Gym

Basketball Marathon – ΑΟΠ

March 1, 2008

8am – 8pm at Irving Gym

Shamrock N Bowl - ΚΔ

March 29, 2008

1pm at Clancy's

Greek Week

March 30 - April 6, 2008

Spaghetti Dinner - ΣΝ

March 29, 2008

Grand Chapter Awards Ceremony

April 6, 2008

7pm at Emens Auditorium

Arrowgames - ΠΒΦ

April 7 – 11, 2008

For more events, view the online calendar at:
www.bsu.edu/greeklife/greekcalendar/

Greek Village Update

Last spring a meeting was held to discuss the future of sorority housing at Ball State University. The closing of DeHority residence hall complex and the need for housing for the fraternities that would be colonizing or re-colonizing over the next seven years led to discussions about building a Greek Village near campus. The undergraduate members and sorority alumnae in attendance at this meeting were excited and urged the university to move forward with researching the project.

A sorority housing exploratory committee was formed to gather feedback, conduct research and determine the feasibility of developing the village at Ball State. The committee met several times over the summer. It was determined that surveys should be distributed and focus groups conducted in order to gather opinions from advisors, alumnae and collegiate members. Three electronic surveys were administered in July and results can be found on the Greek Village website.



Kappa Alpha Theta's neon sign is visible from one of the windows of DeHority Hall. ΚΑΘ and three other chapters will move to

Focus groups are currently being conducted and results will be posted online following completion. The committee will complete its report and provide a recommendation to the university administration by mid December. For the latest information on the Greek Village project visit:
www.bsu.edu/greeklife/village.

Greek Strategic Plan Moving Ahead

In March, the 2007-2012 Greek Community Strategic Plan was unveiled to undergraduate members, alumni and university administrators. The plan outlines 8 goal areas, 19 objectives and 68 action items. This ambitious plan will pave the way to a more vibrant, healthy and larger Greek community at Ball State. It focuses on 8 major areas including academic achievement, alumni and advisors, chapter achievement, chapter housing, leadership development, recruitment, risk reduction and vision, values and relationships. University staff, students and alumni have been hard at work meeting and planning to ensure that the goals outlined in the plan are fulfilled. Some of the more notable projects include sorority housing and the Greek

Village which were discussed earlier in this newsletter, market research to determine why students are not joining fraternities and sororities, the work of the implementation teams to revise IFC and Panhellenic recruitment and the creation of a Greek alternative spring break.

A team of students from the Journalism 382 Market Research class is currently conducting market research to determine why students are not joining fraternities and sororities. The team has conducted focus groups and distributed surveys. They will present their findings and provide recommendations on how to improve the Greek marketing plan in December. This is the first time the Greek marketing plan will be based on actual market research.

The IFC and Panhellenic recruitment implementation teams have met several times over the last few months to evaluate the current recruitment styles and formats. These evaluations will assist with developing long term plans to increase growth of the Greek community and improve retention.

The Greek alternative spring break is new at Ball State. For the first time next spring, members of the Greek community will have the opportunity to spend their spring break giving back to a community in need and exploring the concept of service in fraternities and sororities.

To learn more about these projects visit the Greek Strategic Plan at
www.bsu.edu/greeklife/stratplan.

Feedback wanted: Please complete the Greek alumni survey at www.bsu.edu/alumni/survey/greekalumni

Council Updates

Panhellenic Council



A member of Alpha Omicron Pi welcomes a new member to her sorority during the 2007 bid day celebration.

It has been an exciting semester for the Panhellenic community at Ball State University. The semester was kicked off with formal recruitment. One hundred and seventy women joined one of Ball State's eleven Panhellenic

sororities during formal recruitment. The Panhellenic Council Executive Board, the recruitment counselors, the Office of Student Life staff and all of the members of the eleven sororities welcomed the new members to Greek life at Ball State through a bid day celebration held at LaFollette Field. All of the new members were excited to interact with their new sisters. After formal recruitment had ended, an additional 54 women joined sororities through continuous open bidding, an informal recruitment process. As Sorority recruitment was once again successful. Aside from recruitment activities, the sorority community has also been busy promoting academic achievement and serving the Muncie community.

To recognize women for their

academic achievement, the Panhellenic Council held a Scholarship Dessert to honor those sorority women who made the Dean's List last semester. Dean's List members were invited to a reception with cookies and punch. All of the women who excelled academically received a certificate.

Through various service projects and philanthropies, sorority women have been actively engaged in serving the Muncie community. On November 3, 2007, the sororities were invited to participate in a Habitat for Humanity service project. Several sorority women, representing most of the chapters at Ball State, worked on two homes for families with financial hardships. The women enjoyed the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of a few Muncie residents.

Interfraternity Council

Several of the fraternities at Ball State University have been busy positively impacting the Muncie community. On September 8, 2007, the Theta Chi fraternity hosted its annual Waterdaze philanthropy. The event brings fraternities and sororities together to compete in various relay races. Through the event, the members of Theta Chi were able to raise \$1,500 for the Riley Children's Hospital. Other philanthropy events held during the semester included Watermelon Bust, Grill-Off, the Miss Greek pageant, and a haunted house. These events were organized by Delta Tau Delta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Nu, and Sigma Phi Epsilon, respectively.



Paul De'angelo Best, Leroy Smith, and Cleophas Hall III (left to right) march in the homecoming parade.

National Pan-Hellenic Council

It has been a successful semester for the National Pan-Hellenic Council at Ball State University. In collaboration with the Black Student Association, the council held a week of events during the first week of classes. The week entailed handing out survival kits to students at the scramble light, hosting a Greek showcase, a luncheon with the minority professors at BSU, a movie night that showed the film Stomp the Yard, and other fun events. The board also planned and

successfully held its first body meeting during that week. At the meeting, the NPHC body decided to do something NPHC had not done in almost 10 years—participate in homecoming.

During homecoming, while BSU Rolled out the Red, NPHC decided to participate by adding a theme that described the unique style of NPHC Greeks – "NPHC: Steppin' On The Red Carpet." Based on the theme, shirts and banners were made for the 2007 Homecoming Parade. The parade

was the perfect place for the NPHC Greeks to show their support for NPHC VP and Linebacker #21, Chris Allen. People saw the grand display of each organization's letters and heard the loud and spirit-filled chants coming from the voices of the NPHC members as the parade progressed through the Muncie community. Homecoming was an enjoyable event and it was a great opportunity to work closer with the other fraternity and sorority chapters at Ball State.

Sigma Phi Epsilon Breaks Ground

On the Saturday of homecoming week, October 13, 2007, the members of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity held a groundbreaking ceremony for their new chapter house. Around 200 people attended the event. The new chapter house will be built next to the Delta Tau Delta fraternity house on the 1100 block of Riverside Avenue. This will place the fraternity in the middle of what is known as fraternity row. Presently, the Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter house is located five blocks west of the other fraternities at 1515 W. Riverside Avenue.

The new chapter house will include many new features such as a classroom and an office for a faculty member. According to Kevin Miller, the current chapter president, several Sigma Phi Epsilon chapters in the region have classrooms and a teacher's office. The classroom in the new chapter house will be able to accommodate about 20 students. These features allow the chapter to function as a better learning community for its members, Miller stated. In addition to these features, the chapter house will have larger sleeping rooms, as well.



Rendering of the new chapter house of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity. Image courtesy of Dr. Don Park.

The construction of the house will occur during a time of change for Ball State's fraternity and sorority community. Cara Luyster, the Assistant Director of the Office of Student Life, described this as an exciting time for the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity.

The construction project for the new chapter house is primarily funded by alumni of the fraternity. Construction is expected to begin in November or December of this year.

BSU Greek Alumni Feedback Wanted

Alumni involvement is vital to the success of the fraternity and sorority community and Ball State University. The Greek strategic plan calls for increased communication with Greek alumni and the engagement of more Greek alumni in advisory board positions and smaller volunteer opportunities. The first step towards reaching these goals is providing information on involvement opportunities and gauging interest in participation in a variety of volunteer programs/projects. The Office of Student Life has partnered with the BSU Alumni Association to develop a Greek alumni survey. The survey was emailed and mailed in late October to Greek alumni living in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky.

The feedback from the survey will be extremely beneficial in planning new alumni and undergraduate programs and events while enhancing traditional ones. Your valuable input will help us serve you better and ensure implementation of the Greek Strategic Plan.

All BSU Greek alumni living in the Indiana and surrounding states are asked to complete the survey by November 23rd. It can be completed online at www.bsu.edu/alumni/survey/greekalumni.

If you have any questions about the Greek Strategic Plan or the survey, please call Lynda Wiley or Cara Luyster in the Office of Student Life at 765-285-2621 or Ed Shipley in the Alumni Association at 1-888-I-GO-4BSU.

Homecoming 2007

Greek Division Results:

Air Jam

Alpha Chi Omega
Phi Gamma Delta

Bed Races

Sigma Kappa
Phi Gamma Delta

Float Competition

Alpha Chi Omega
Phi Gamma Delta

Ashley Award for participation

1st Place - Kappa Delta
2nd Place - Phi Gamma Delta
3rd Place - Theta Chi

For photos and additional rankings, go to:
www.bsu.edu/alumni/homecoming/