

THE DELTAN

A publication of the Tennessee Delta Chapter of Phi Kappa Psi at Vanderbilt University | Fall 2025



"A large group of my pledge class and I together after we beat Missouri in OT to punch our ticket to March Madness" (Left to right: Kyle Chambers '24, Conor Weasler '24, Cameron Woan '24, Jackson Heis '24, Nick Roddy '24, Michael Griff '24, Brock Taylor '24, Coleson Messer '24, Gus Collins '24, Payne Daniel '24, Finn O'Brien '24, Oliver Orr '24, Jack Bijur '24, Patrick Schwartz '24)

WHERE THE NOISE FADES AND THE BONDS FORM

Coleson Messer '24

What made you want to join Phi Psi?

I wanted to join Phi Psi because I wanted a way to get involved with campus activities outside of athletics. I originally saw it as a way to escape the basketball world and have something to do on weekends. I didn't realize I would make lifelong friends or become part of something much bigger than a fraternity. When I started the New Member Education process in spring 2024, I didn't know most of my pledge class, but that changed quickly. As the process went on and I grew closer not only with my pledge class but also with the entire Fraternity, I realized how grateful I was that I decided to join and meet such amazing guys.

What role have you taken in the chapter, and what have you learned?

I don't have a specific role inside the chapter, but I do lead a Bible study with our Chaplain, **Payne Daniel '24**, for guys in the Fraternity and it is easily one of my favorite parts of being in Phi Psi. It has been awesome to see so many dudes come together every Monday night and get in the Word. It has taught me that a lot of my Fraternity brothers wanted to talk about Christianity and their faith, but never saw an opportunity or an outlet. The Bible

study has given the opportunity for us all to connect on a deeper level and discuss not only the Bible, but also ways we can strengthen our Fraternity and be leaders for the entire university.

What are you studying, and what are your career goals?

I am studying Human and Organizational Development (HOD) and pursuing a minor in Business at Vanderbilt. I am not entirely set on any specific career goals, but I am interning with McKinsey & Company this summer in Dallas and plan to continue in the consulting field after graduating. I am also considering doing a JD/MBA program at some point down the road. One thing I have learned from my Phi Psi brothers is that there are many different paths we can take through life and it is important to be open to whatever comes next.

How has being in Phi Psi shaped your college experience so far?

My college experience would not be the same without my time in Phi Psi. Although athletics demands the bulk of my time, I am closer with my Fraternity brothers than any of my basketball teammates. Phi Psi provides a great escape from the busy

basketball world and allows me to cherish true relationships. There is nothing better than ending a long practice and getting to go play golf with some Fraternity brothers or going to grab a big group dinner.



Coleson Messer '24 post-basketball game dinner with brothers for delicious food.

It allows me to re-enter my mind on what is important and remember that there are so many blessings in my life outside of basketball. I love when the Fraternity comes to support Miles and I in our basketball game (even when they cheer obnoxiously loud right behind our bench), and then we can go to the house right after and hang out with everyone. Hearing cheers like "put 15 or 25 in" in the middle of a tight Southeastern Conference (SEC) game never fails to leave me thankful for our Fraternity.

NEWS FROM VANDY PHI PSI

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What has been your favorite Phi Psi memory so far?

Due to our busy basketball schedule, I miss out on a lot of memories with our Fraternity, such as travel trips for fall and spring break, so a lot of my favorite memories are just late nights at the house, spending quality time with everyone. If you ask anyone in my pledge class, they will say that my favorite thing is simply going out to eat. I will forever cherish bringing all of our friends into the athletic dining hall, or going to Sushi 88 together and taking everyone's phones so we can all just have a great conversation.

How do you stay involved on campus outside of the Fraternity, particularly regarding your basketball experience?

Vanderbilt is a very unique place because even the athletes can stay highly involved on campus. Initially, I thought basketball would take up all my time, but I soon realized I could join a social fraternity and explore many other opportunities. While the Vanderbilt Men's Basketball Team and Phi Psi are a big part of my Vanderbilt experience, I am also involved in a co-ed business fraternity called Phi Chi Theta with many other Phi Psi members, and I spend time with a campus ministry known as RUF (Reformed University Fellowship). Additionally, a Phi Psi brother, **Jackson Heis '24**, and I started a business organization for college athletes interested in business called "Athletes In Business." Though it might seem like I have a lot going on all the time, Vanderbilt does a great job of making it all possible, and my Phi Psi brothers do a great job of supporting each other through all of our extracurricular activities.



Gus Collins '24, Kyle Chambers '24, Payne Daniel '24, Chris Fonseca '24, Todd McPherson '24, and I at the Theta Formal in the fall of 2024."



*Locked in during SEC play, **Coleson Messer '24** finds his rhythm on the court.*

Where did you play basketball prior to Vanderbilt and what was your position?

Despite what most of the college basketball world believes, I have actually spent all my time at Vanderbilt and did not engage with the transfer portal. Prior to Vanderbilt, I played basketball at Highland Park High School in Dallas with **Jackson Heis '24** and **Todd McPherson '24**. We also went to school with **Brennan Storer '25**. I am very grateful for the development that Highland Park provided and for the opportunity to join Phi Psi with many of my friends from high school.

How has being part of the Fraternity shaped you as a leader or student?

Phi Psi has shaped me as a student because it gave me the opportunity to work with my friends and learn about different opportunities at school. For example, when one of us finds an easy class or really likes a professor, we tell each other, and all of us take the class together.

For instance, last year, **Jackson Heis '24, Todd McPherson '24, Eron Chen '24, Jack Bijur '24**, and I all took our business modules together. If it hadn't been for Phi Psi, I wouldn't have had many friends in the class and definitely wouldn't have been as successful. Some of my favorite memories are the late nights studying, working on problem sets, or just messing around with everyone. Additionally, we supported each other in classes, so if any of us couldn't make it or had a conflict, we sent each other notes to stay on track. We sent **Jack Bijur '24** a lot of notes.

NEWS FROM VANDY PHI PSI

SCHOLARLY MEN

Champions of Academic Excellence

Part of the mission of the Fort Flowers Educational & Leadership Fund and the Phi Psi Foundation is to champion academic excellence by providing scholarship funding and support resources. Sometimes, that means celebrating the members' accomplishments. There is not a shortage of champions amongst the current brothers of Tennessee Delta.

For the Spring 2025 semester, TN Deltans had an average GPA of **3.893**, ranking the chapter **#1 of IFC Greeks** for the second semester in a row. TN Deltan New Members came in **#2**, and the Chapter came in **#1 for all Greeks** at Vanderbilt.

CHAPTER MEMBERS RECIEVING 4.0 GPA

Andrew Keller '25

Andrew Navarro '24

Angus Collins '24

Anshuman Parulekar '25

Brennan Storer '25

Campbell Grimes '24

Campbell Klein '25

Charles Knoll '24

Christopher DeCamillo '24

Coleson Messer** '24

Connor Weasler '24

Eron Chen** '24

Harrison Lane '25

Hunter Lane '25

Jack Bijur '24

Jackson Heis** '24

John Sturman '24

Joshua Sweetland '25

Kevin Grunzweig '24

Kevin Phan '24

Kyle Chambers '24

Landon Wells '24

Louis Gorman '24

Maximilian Fisher '24

Michael Griff '24

Michael Varnava '25

Nicholas Burns** '24

Nicholas Roddy** '24

Nick Rinaldi

Oliver Orr** '24

Patrick Schwartz** '24

Payne Daniel '24

Robert Slinkard '25

Russell Petty '24

Tyler Wright '25

STAY CONNECTED

Chapter Website
vandyhipsi.org

Chapter Facebook
Phi Kappa Psi - TN Delta - Alumni

Chapter Instagram
@phipsivandy

Chapter Twitter
@phipsivandy

National Website
phikappapsi.com

Update Your Information

Make sure you stay up-to-date on what is happening at the Chapter and within the organization. Complete the form on the back of this newsletter, place it in a stamped envelope and mail it to the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation. You can also use the link at the bottom of the form to submit your information electronically.

Support TN Delta's Future

Gifts to the TN Delta Chapter Flowers Fund can be made by check, credit card and/or appreciated securities. These gifts are 100% tax deductible through the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation.

You can give online using a credit card at pkpfoundation.org/support-tn-delta



or by mailing a check to:

Phi Kappa Psi Foundation
5395 Emerson Way
Indianapolis, IN 46226

Checks should be made payable to the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation and note TN Delta Chapter Leadership Fund on the memo line.

**Indicates Brothers Earning 4.0 both Fall 2024 & Spring 2025

NEWS FROM VANDY PHI PSI

CHAPTER DASHBOARD**Brotherhood by the Books**

This section provides a snapshot of Tennessee Delta's current standing, academic performance, financial & scholarship resources, housing information, and Chapter Eternal.

**CHAPTER HEALTH****3.89**SPR '25
CHAPTER GPA**1,214**LIVING
ALUMNI**77**CURRENT
UNDERGRADUATE
MEMBERS**CHAPTER
ETERNAL**

We mourn our brothers who have entered Chapter Eternal and extend heartfelt condolences to their families and friends.

George T. Armstrong '61

Anthony L. Springman '73

Vernon M. Boyett '51

**FUNDS WITH THE PHI
PSI FOUNDATION****TENNESSEE DELTA H. FORT FLOWERS
EDUCATIONAL & LEADERSHIP FUND**

Net Assets: \$4,312,370

Available Assets: \$100,676

TOTAL DOLLARS DISTRIBUTED (YTD)

\$53,100

TOTAL CHAPTER SCHOLARS

34 Members

NEWS FROM VANDY PHI PSI

HOW FAR WE'VE COME

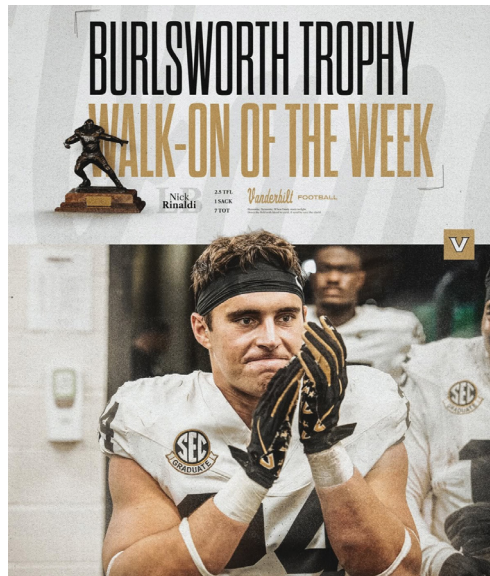
2025 Chapter Update

Check out highlights from other brothers!

Football

Many brothers have played a key role in Vanderbilt Football's 5-1 start. **Nick Rinaldi** was named SEC Defensive Player of the Week and received the Burlsworth Trophy for SEC Walk-On of the Week.

And that's only the start, as our very own **Brock Taylor '24** was named SEC Special Teams Player of the Week!



Football: Nick Rinaldi earned SEC Defensive Player of the Week and Burlsworth Trophy Walk-On of the Week.



Football: Brock Taylor '24 being named SEC Special Teams Player of the Week.

Fall Rush

Nine new brothers were recently initiated into the chapter on October 15. They include a number of transfers from other universities, two football players, and one tennis team member.

Fall Break

For fall break last week, seniors travelled to Las Vegas with a large group of Vanderbilt students, the juniors visited a Tennessee Delta brother's farm in Ohio, and the sophomores travelled to a lake in the mountains of North Carolina.



Fall Break: Nine brothers of the new member class recently initiated into the brotherhood.



Fall Break: A group of Tennessee Delta seniors take a fall vacation to Las Vegas.

NYC Marathon: Hunter Wanamaker '24

Another event that is of importance to our brothers is the NYC Marathon. **Hunter Wanamaker '24**, a senior this year, is running soon to raise money for the Release Recovery Foundation. Adam Nimaga was not a Phi Psi brother but was a good friend of most of this year's senior class.

"This fall I am running the NYC marathon in memory of my friend Adam Nimaga. Adam lost his fight with mental illness last fall, leaving an unfillable void within the Vanderbilt community. The NYC marathon falls, almost to the exact date, on the one-year anniversary of his passing."

- **Hunter Wanamaker '24**

Hunter has seen his community come around him in this effort by fundraising thousands of dollars in support of mental health research.



NYC Marathon: Hunter Wanamaker '24 fundraising thousands of dollars in support of mental health research.



PHI KAPPA PSI

TENNESSEE DELTA
5395 Emerson Way
Indianapolis, IN 46226

KEEP YOUR INFORMATION UP-TO-DATE!

Place this form in a stamped envelope and send to:

Phi Kappa Psi Foundation

5395 Emerson Way
Indianapolis, IN 46226-1415

Name _____

Initiate Year _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (H) _____

Phone (W) _____

Email _____

Save a stamp and update your information online at
portal.phikappapsi.com

Tennessee Delta has partnered with HistoryIT to build a professional Digital Chapter Museum that will preserve and showcase our chapter's rich history for generations to come. *But our history isn't complete without you — help us tell the full story of Tennessee Delta.*

WHAT WE'RE BUILDING TOGETHER

is a fully digital museum that preserves our chapter's legacy. All materials will be professionally digitized, organized into interactive archives with images, timelines, and profiles, and securely stored in both archival and web-ready formats — with ongoing guidance to ensure everything remains accessible for generations to come.

HELP MAKE IT POSSIBLE

Please complete the **inventory form** by listing any items (*books, photos, records, minutes, awards, memorabilia, publications, and any media*) that represent the history of Tennessee Delta.

Deadline extended until **January 31** to submit your personal inventory.



Scan the QR code or visit
bit.ly/tn-delta-artifacts
to fill out the form today!

Have Questions? Contact Brothers Ayerst and Cain.

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