

# ***GAMMA-KAPPA OF KAPPA SIGMA***



## ***SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER***



**SPRING 2021 HAS SHOWN US THE BEGINNING OF THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL. THE MAJORITY OF OUR BROTHERS HAVE STARTED TO RECEIVE THE COVID-19 VACCINE, AND HOPE CONTINUES TO GROW ACROSS THE GLOBE. WITH REGARD TO OUR CHAPTER, WE HAD SEVERAL MEMBERS ACHIEVE GREAT INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OUR FALL NEW MEMBER CLASS WAS INITIATED, AND WE SIGNED A SPRING NEW MEMBER CLASS THAT APPEARS TO BE LOADED WITH POTENTIAL.**



## ***SPRING NEW MEMBER CLASS***

Due to the ongoing pandemic, conditions for Spring Recruitment were just as odd as they were in the fall. As one could expect, it was once again conducted virtually through Zoom. Despite the continuously challenging conditions, a very quality Spring New Member class of 13 potential new members was signed. Sophomores Derrick Doggett, Sean Doherty, and Nick Tobias spearheaded the chapter's efforts.

Sean Radley, one of the new signees, was asked a few questions about the recruitment process and his experience with the chapter so far.

When asked why he chose to sign with Kappa Sig, Radley said, "I chose to sign with Kappa Sig because of how genuine the guys rushing me were. The guys made an effort to make me feel comfortable and welcome, and I knew this was the place to be."

Radley went on to talk about his experience with the members of the chapter so far: "I've enjoyed simply talking and getting to know the guys because of how diverse the house is. You can walk into the house and find different types of guys with different interests, and I think it's a perfect balance."

Radley was also asked about his experience with the rest of the New Member Class: "My experience with my New Member Class has been great so far. It's crazy to me that you can come sign without knowing the other guys at all, but you instantly grow a bond and get close with them."

We look forward to seeing what Sean and the rest of the potential new members bring to the chapter.



## ***BROTHERS IN THE WORKFORCE***

One of our brothers experienced quite the transition this year. Beau Baggett ('19) spent his fall semester living in the Kappa Sigma house and is now spending his spring working in the life insurance business. Although he was initiated with the Fall 2019 PC, he was able to graduate this past December after giving himself very heavy workloads in the semesters leading up. Upon graduation, Baggett was then hired on to work as a Life Insurance Agent as well as Financial Services Agent for New York Life.

Baggett was asked about how the transition from living in a fraternity house to working in a full-time career has been. Baggett answered: "The transition from living in a fraternity house last semester has not been as bad as I thought it would be. It was hard to leave all of my friends, but I will say things have been significantly quieter.

He went on to talk about how his time in the fraternity has helped him in the career field: "Being a part of this fraternity has taught me many valuable skills that I have been able to use in my career. Some of the skills that I find most valuable and useful are that I learned how to socialize with just about anybody and build relationships and friendships beyond the profession. I also learned self-discipline, time management, and the ability to hand myself in professional settings. I am looking forward to working and reaching out to a lot of our alumni to further help them with their life and financial needs."

For anyone who wishes to contact Baggett about his services, here is his contact information:

**Email:** [beaubaggett4@gmail.com](mailto:beaubaggett4@gmail.com)

**Cell:** 530-913-2553





Steven Plaisance ('18)

## ***WINNING RINGS IN SPORTS ANALYTICS***

Brother Steven Plaisance ('18) has always been an avid fan of sports analytics. Since enrolling at OU, Plaisance has been especially involved in reporting on OU football. Those who follow him on Twitter may be familiar with some of the graphics he posts, which help to put into perspective how well OU is performing in certain categories relative to other teams in the country. Plaisance was able to truly put his analytics skills to the test by entering into a competition against schools from across the country. He and the rest of his teammates represented the University of Oklahoma well, winning first place. Plaisance spoke on this in more detail:

"Our team placed first in a national quantitative research competition focused on football. We worked on our project for a week, developing a simulation that modeled real NFL games and situations. We took first place over Penn, Carnegie Mellon, Michigan, Notre Dame, Villanova, Syracuse, and other prestigious schools."

When asked what this helped teach him about working with other people on large team projects, Plaisance answered: "I was the team captain for our group, meaning I assembled the team and took final say in the direction of our project. I did my best to let everyone work within their skill set and found good results. I would definitely classify it as a team effort more than anything."

**(Continued)**

**(Continued)**

Plaisance also elaborated a bit on what he learned from this competition that he feels he could take with him going forward: "The experience of working alongside a talented team and presenting to real NFL professionals in a formal setting was invaluable. It was also a lot of fun working to solve a complex problem in a creative way."

Plaisance has also used his strong academic background to help better the chapter, serving as our Scholarship Chair for the Fall 2019 semester.

His team's presentation can be viewed in two different formats:

- To view the live presentation, click [here](#)
- To view the PDF version, click [here](#)

To contact Plaisance for further details on this great accomplishment, he can be reached through:

**Email:** srplaisance@ou.edu

**Cell:** 918-260-5202



## ***DANCE MARATHON***

Another University event that was greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic was OU's Dance Marathon fundraiser for the Oklahoma Children's Hospital Foundation and Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Despite having to conduct all meetings either virtually or socially distanced and finding even more difficulty gathering donations due to the economic recession, the Dance Marathon executive committee once again did an outstanding job—raising a total of \$775,268.21. One such member of the executive committee was brother Sam Kennemur ('19), who also served on the executive committee last year.

Kennemur was asked what makes him want to come back each year. In response, he stated, "I come back year after year because I know all my time and energy is going towards an amazing cause that makes families' lives easier. It's already difficult enough to be parents, let alone parents to a sick child and what we work for is to lessen the burden for them."

He was also asked about how different the experience with Dance Marathon was this year, as his experience last year was prior to the pandemic shutdowns. Kennemur answered, "OU Dance Marathon did a phenomenal job to create a memorable experience this year, despite all of the global circumstances. It was well organized and well-executed and we were one of the most successful Dance Marathon fundraisers to occur this year, raising over 3/4 of a million dollars."

The passion of those who partake in Dance Marathon is truly admirable, and one could not ask for a better group to lead an event through the circumstances this year's group led them through.

***A.E.K.Δ.B***



**Creator: Will Walton**

*Chapter Editor*

Email: [willwaltonou@gmail.com](mailto:willwaltonou@gmail.com)