

SUMMER 2004

The Black & Gray

A NEWSLETTER UPSILON XI ALUMNI

What is Upsilon Xi?

Upsilon Xi of Lee University is a social-service fraternity initiated in 1961 and officially recognized by its alma mater in 1962. It is a band of brothers united by the desire to encourage Christian fellowship, excel in academics, devote service to the campus and community, and develop Christian character.

Since its founding, more than 700 men of widely differing backgrounds, temperaments and convictions—joined by an elect group of Little Sisters—have formed the long Black and Gray line. The rallying cry of Upsilon Xi, "Hickory," represents the commitment every member makes to help every other member in whatever way he can, an indispensable quality of lasting friendship.

The spirit of hickory is something every member of Upsilon has in common; it helps bond us, providing the glue that holds us together. Once a Upsilon man, always a Upsilon man. After leaving Lee, each member becomes part of the alumni chapter until he graduates to the chapter eternal.

— Bill George
The first Alumnus of the Year 1985



PRIDE
THAT LASTS A
LIFETIME

A Look Inside

"UPSILON"
BY SETH LAMAGNA *pg 2*

"THE STRENGTH OF UNITY"
BY JOHNNY MOORE *pg 3*

Can you name all of the gentleman on the right?





UPSILON

When going through induction, I can remember hearing guys tell me that 40 years of tradition was watching me. That really made me think about what I was doing out there. Was it all for the letters, or was it something inside?

Here I am, eight semesters later, and I see how the club has changed, and wonder what those years of tradition would say? Would they be proud of the reputation we have maintained on campus? Would they brag about the fact that our athleticism is unchallenged? Would our grades convince them that we were still striving for scholarly pursuits? Lastly, would they look at our involvement in the community, and still sense the true meaning of service?

In the movie *Gladiator*, they talked about an idea that was once Rome, and how at one point it was a mere whisper. Hickory is the same thing; it started as an idea, and has been the driving force of our club for 40 years. It doesn't stop once we graduate, but is put into action in different areas of our lives. We say Hickory when we win a softball game, at the end of meetings and many other times. However, it's when one of our brothers is hurting, or when one of their loved ones is sick, or when one of them needs prayer that Hickory is best displayed.

God has granted me eight amazing semesters in this club, and as I go through different struggles, I wonder what lies ahead, and I hear that still small whisper saying, "More mountains yet, my son, more mountains lie ahead." The length of a Upsilon man's journey is never quite certain, and he is never complete till he is made perfect in Christ. As my time in Upsilon comes to a close, I still find myself saying, "Thank God I am a Upsilon man, almost."

— Seth LaMagna

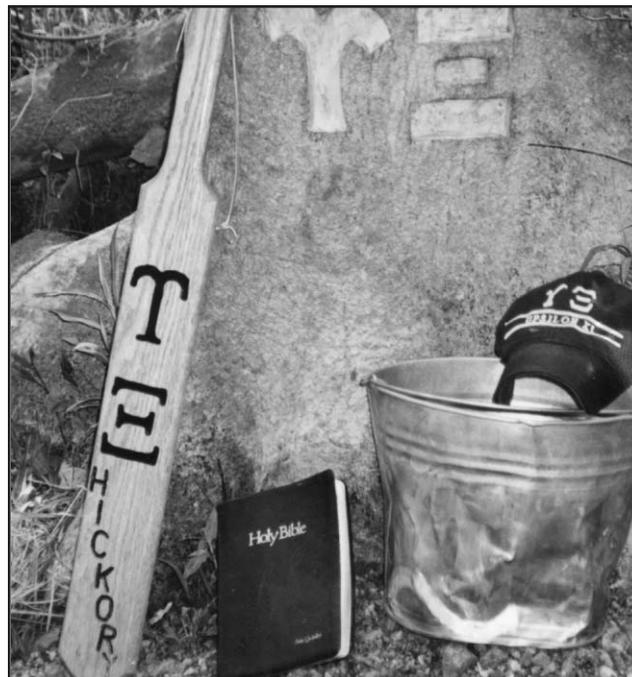
KEVIN AND KIM BROOKS WERE TAPPED AS HONORARY MEMBERS

Kevin, a long time supporter of Upsilon since his days at Lee as a student, then later as Alumni Director of Lee University, and now working for the Communications Department of the Church of God, was honored as an honorary member of Upsilon Xi. His wife Kim, who works at Lee University as the Director of Special Events, was also inducted. She stated that she was honored to be a part of this prestigious organization. She also noted that if Upsilon needs anything for special events she would be ready and willing to assist.

"I remember rushing Upsilon, in 1986, and that was my worst mistake of not joining then. You have fulfilled a dream of mine to join this great organization." - Kevin Brooks



"For 18 years, Kevin has supported Upsilon in different capacities; it is about time that we make him an official part of this organization." — Upsilon Leaders



UPSILON IN PARADE OF FAVORITES

The presence of Upsilon Xi was vividly apparent in the 2004 Parade of Favorites. This year's edition of the showcase consisted of 12 ladies and their escorts, each representing a different club or organization. Upsilon was represented by Sara Hashagen, escorted by T.J. Adeshola. The two proved to be a dynamic duo as Sara was awarded Miss Congeniality and T.J. was named Best Escort.

During the talent competition, Sara delivered a heartwarming performance of the song, "Spinning Like a Wheel" by Susan Ashford. "It has always been a dream of mine to sing on stage for my family and friends," Sara said. "If it weren't for you guys, I wouldn't have had this opportunity. I hope I made you proud."

The men of Upsilon Xi couldn't have selected anyone else to represent the club in a more remarkable fashion.

Hermilo Jasso III also contributed to the Upsilon representation by escorting the representative from Delta Zeta Tau.



THE STRENGTH OF UNITY

To serve as Upsilon's 48th president has been one of the greatest honors I have received since I have been at Lee, and to have the opportunity to serve for three semesters has been even more incredible. Throughout the past three semesters the club has changed considerably, but the all the transition has been for the best.

The 2003-04 school year was great for Upsilon, because as usual we excelled in every area. At the beginning of the year, Upsilon hosted its annual Block Party, where nearly a thousand students crammed into the Pedestrian Mall for an exciting evening of fun, games and music, then followed up with praise and worship.

Of all the Block Parties I have attended, this was by far the best and most attended. Later in the semester, Upsilon hosted its 41st annual Sadie Hawkins at O'Bannon Farm. It was another great event, which included greasy chicken, warm fires, a live band and a spectacular fireworks display to end the evening.

Unlike most years at Sadie's, we ordered enough chicken to feed close to 700 people, so everyone went home happy. In the spring semester the men of Upsilon hosted the third annual March Madness tournament, which was a huge success. This event allowed not only Lee students to compete in a basketball tournament, but also opened the door for members of the community to compete alongside Lee students. We also had a dunk contest and three-point shootout for prizes.

Whenever the school hosted an event, whether a Lee Flames basketball game or a "Midnight Breakfast," Upsilon was well represented. For some reason this school year was different than most. We as a club operated differently. Rather than individuals coming together to host certain events and have fun, we functioned more as a body. Why this is so I have no idea, but perhaps it began at the fall retreat in the woods the last weekend of August. If you were able to attend the Homecoming breakfast this year, you heard me mention it in the State of the Club address. Something was broken that weekend, and I believe it was our pride. In six semesters of being in Upsilon I have never seen guys respond to worship in that way. That last night of retreat young men were on their faces crying out to God, and 11 members asked to be baptized right there where we conducted retreat. It was a marvelous sight to behold, and it was from that moment on I believe the men of Upsilon Xi began to grasp that we are all individuals who are called to function as "one body."

A true test of this newfound sense of unity came on an after-



noon in late October when our chaplain, Austin Davis, got word that his younger brother, Tyler, a Lee freshman, was killed in a motorcycle accident. Within minutes, 40 Upsilon men were right by his side in his time of need. I can say that this was a trying time for all of us, because it felt like one of our very own was taken from us. I look back and can still see the faces of some of the men who were crying out to God for brokenness during retreat just a few weeks earlier, and these same men were right there for a brother when he needed them most.

We also took great pride in the men of Upsilon Xi, seeing them faithfully participate in acts of service to for Lee and for those in the Cleveland community. Following Upsilon's great tradition of service, the men of Upsilon this year took that tradition of service and juiced it with steroids (figuratively speaking, of course).

Since I joined the club I have never seen the guys so passionate about helping others. We participated in numerous service projects, including clean-up day at Mayfield School, the Poiema Project, Big Pal/Little Pal program and also two trips to Atlanta to aid with a building project.

Every time we participated in a service project, there was an enthusiasm and vigor that hasn't been there in the past. Two new projects that we participated in were with Blythe-Bower Elementary School and City of Refuge in Atlanta. At Blythe-Bower we each sponsored a young boy and mentored him each week. This was an incredibly rewarding experience for all the guys who participated. For the City of Refuge project, the men of Upsilon drove down to Atlanta twice during the school year to assist in a massive building effort. We knocked down walls, gutted rooms, pulled tile and even were able to help feed the homeless while were there. This was one of the best service projects we have done together, because it was so helpful to those at the City of Refuge and also rewarding to us because we enjoyed participating and interacting with each other.

Serving as president for three semesters has been challenging, to say the least, but incredibly rewarding. If I could leave any legacy behind it would be that Upsilon was a "unit" committed to each other and those in need. But to say this was my legacy would be a sham because it is nothing that I could have done at all. I was just blessed to serve as Upsilon's president during one of the most awakening periods in recent years; I was just along for the ride.

In his steps,
Jonny Moore



THE NEW GUYS AND BROADS 2003-2004

TAP 82

Upsilon's Fall 2003 tap was a solid one including nine men and four beautiful Little Sisters. Diverse is the best word to describe the club's 82nd semester tap. There could not have been nine men more different than these.

The new Little Sisters include four gorgeous young ladies that make tap 82 one of the most beautiful thus far. Christine Braden, 22, Delta Zeta Tau, is a telecommunications major from Atlanta, Georgia. Katie Buntain, 21, Sigma Nu Sigma, is a special education major from Sacramento, California. She plans to remain in Cleveland after graduation and work full-time in the Department of First-Year Programs.

Lindsay McCalister Sluder, 20, Sigma Nu Sigma, recently married Craig Sluder (tap 79). Lindsay, an elementary education major from Cleveland, Tennessee, wants to teach elementary school and live a happy life with her husband. Courtney Hindman, 22, is a history major from Chattanooga. Courtney, a Lee University basketball phenom, has had tremendous success both on and off the court at Lee. She is currently engaged to marry Matt Glass (tap 77) in August and plans to become a teacher/coach in the future.

T.J. Adeshola, 21, is a journalism/telecommunications major from Greenbelt, Maryland. T.J. is undecided about what he wants to do after Lee. Bryan Burger, 25, is a physical education major from Cleveland. Burger plans to become a teacher and coach. Michael "Bone" Delbonis, 21, is a business administration major from Cincinnati. Graduating in May, Bone is on his way to New York to go to acting school in the fall.

Andy Elrod, 21, is a history education major from Nashville. Elrod, who transferred to Lee from the University of Tennessee, wants to become a high school history teacher in the future. David Hicks, 20, is a business administration/computer information systems major from Cleveland. Hicks is an aspiring corporate attorney with plans to enter law school at Vanderbilt or UTK after Lee. Mario Hood, 19, is a Christian education major from Anderson, South Carolina. Hood, who is undecided about his future plans, will most certainly succeed in life, as his confidence and outgoing personality have already made him a favorite on the Lee University campus.

Sam Kidwell, 22, the Highman, is a youth ministry major from Seymour, Indiana. Sam is currently involved in his home church youth group, and he wants to continue working with youth as a pastor in the future. Brad Sedgwick, 20, is a business administration major from Elkton, Maryland. He plans on becoming a banker in the future. Last, but certainly not least, the energetic and sometimes spastic Jared Sparks, 20, is a youth ministry major from



Marion, Illinois. Sparks, who currently works youth camps during the summer, plans to become a youth pastor.

Tap 82 is the Fall 2003 addition to Upsilon's long line of excellence.

TAP 83

Upsilon Xi's Tap 83 has recently expanded the club by adding a total of 18 new members (15 guys and 3 girls).

Thomas Fields took this semester's Highman position while the Lowmen were Chuck Evans, James Ford, and Zack Martin. Fields is a business major. Evans is planning on going into ministry and getting a degree in computer information systems. James Ford, the oldest member of Tap 83, is 27, married, has a son, and wants to coach. Martin is from Saginaw, Texas and is pursuing a future in ministry.

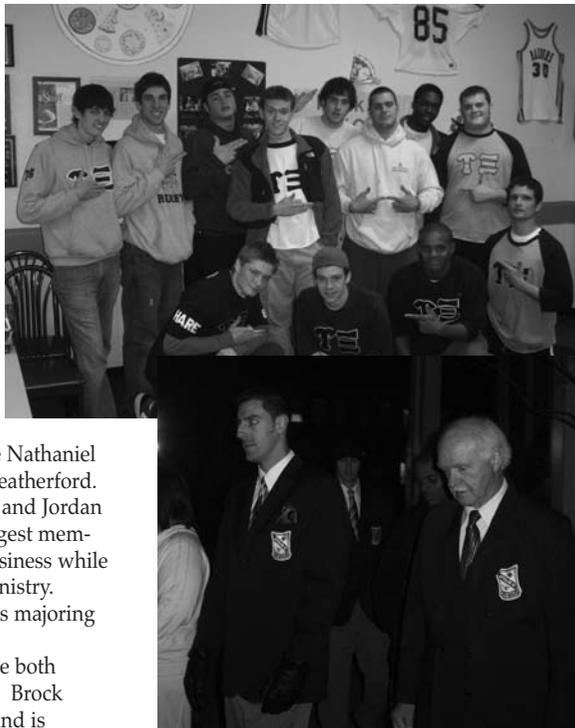
Jonathan Adams and Quentin Wright are both aspiring to become a part of the ministry. Nineteen-year-old Rex "Rocky" Culbertson was one of this semester's four freshman taps. The other three were Nathaniel Dycus, Jordan Sharret, and Aaron Weatherford. Eighteen-year-olds Nathaniel Dycus and Jordan Sharret are now Upsilon's two youngest members. Dycus is majoring in music business while Sharret is looking into a future in ministry. Weatherford is from Cleveland and is majoring in psychology.

Levi Jennings and Justin Willis are both majoring in business administration. Brock McIntire is from Fort Worth, Texas, and is majoring in psychology. Math major Josh Savage is from Valdosta, Georgia. Seth Poston is majoring in education in pursuit of a career as a teacher and coach.

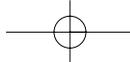
In addition to these men, Upsilon also tapped

three little sisters, all from Delta Zeta Tau. Sara Hashagen is from New York and is looking toward a future in missions. Bethany Lee, from Hamilton, Ohio, is planning on a career in elementary or middle school counseling. And Amanda Harkins plans to be in advertising or graphic design.

These are the 18 new members of the Black and Gray. These are the 18 new members who can proudly say "Hickory" and know what it is all about.



Tap Night Spring 2004, brought the first president of Upsilon, Duran Palmetree, and President of the Upsilon Xi Alumni Association, Joe Giove, to walk.




Upsilon Xi IN FOCUS

Recent Pictures of Upsilon

UPSILON INTRAMURALS

Once again it was an overall successful year in intramurals for the men of Upsilon Xi. We won the intramural points championship in the fall and did equally well in spring.

The fall provided Upsilon with four championships and a couple of top four finishes. One of the championships came in ultimate frisbee. Upsilon fielded a team of raw athletes, many of whom could not even throw the frisbee. Yet the men in Black came out on top; it just shows how good the athletes we have are as we beat teams with a lot of experience on the way to the top.

Upsilon dominated flag football this year, winning both the "A" and "B" league championships. The "A" team's quarterback was Caleb Dawson and the "B" league's was Adam Brown. Both teams had almost flawless seasons, then swept through the semifinals and finals all in the same night, finishing games about two in the morning. Neither the late night nor the cold weather could stop Upsilon from claiming both crowns.

Once again Upsilon also won the top prize in bowling, a sport we have dominated the past two years. Seth LaMagna, who bowled a 300-game at the age of 14, and B.J. Seifrit easily bested the other bowlers and took Upsilon to another championship.

In the spring, Upsilon has one championship and three second place finishes under our belts. The undersized "A" league basketball team finished second, losing in the tournament finals. The "B" league team had an undefeated season and went on to win the championship with ease. Upsilon also finished second place in indoor volleyball. A dramatic finish in "A" league softball saw the men in Black take second place.

Upsilon has a proud history of winning teams. With a campus-wide enrollment of nearly 4,000 and a proliferation of clubs, competition keeps getting tougher, but the Black and Gray continue to make up proud—Tony McLeod



Upsilon hanging out



Service Project



Upsilon Xi at Atlanta Hawks Game



Upsilon Xi at Centennial Park in Atlanta, who says in the winter you can't be around water.

TE FROM THE CHAPLAIN

As the years have gone by, I have seen Upsilon Xi grow up. Growing up can mean many different things, so let me flesh out what I mean. The Bible talks about putting away childish things and growing up. I have seen Upsilon Xi becoming more of a mature spiritual leader on the Lee University campus than ever before.

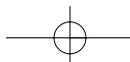
When I became chaplain, God put into my spirit the theme of "stretching." I tried from week to week to challenge each member to be closer to our Lord and Savior. As you know, the process of stretching is quite painful at times, but it prepares you for the strenuous activities to come.

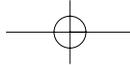
For me these times did come. At the death of my brother, I really found out what it was like to be a Upsilon man. Weeks after I returned to Cleveland, I continually had

cards, flowers and phone calls from my brothers.

I think this taught Upsilon a valuable lesson. They took action when they saw someone in need, and I will thank them for the rest of my life for it. But this action carried over into our daily lives as well. Upsilon has created a name for itself at the City of Refuge Church in Atlanta. The club has made several trips south to help in the reconstruction of a huge warehouse facility that was donated to the church for its outreach and care ministries.

The club has shown diligence in helping the cause for Christ by putting our faith into action and becoming what God has purposed for us, a service club on the Lee University campus. —Austin Davis, outgoing chaplain





Alumni Association

Dues are \$25 annually and may still be paid. Mail to the treasurer, Nick Humble, PO Box 2396, Cleveland TN 37320-2396 or go to the Web site, Upsilonxi.com, click on "Membership in the UXAA continues to increase" and follow the link to PayPal, a secure donor site.



Not an actual card... yet.

Membership has its privileges

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**The
Black
& Gray**
A Newsletter for Upsilon Xi Alumni & Friends

Donors

Thanks to the following Upsilon alumni members who have joined the membership of the Upsilon Xi Alumni Association for 2003-2004.

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