Dr. Donald N. Bowdle
Veteran professor retires after record 50 years
Opening Thoughts
from Dr. Paul Conn

Athletics has played a big role in “life at Lee” for half a century or longer.

In the earliest days, sports was strictly an intramural affair. Vindications from the early 1950’s include team photos and the occasional action shot from softball and basketball. The rivals were all among friends: Bible College vs. Junior College, freshmen vs. seniors. Amazingly, in those years before intercollegiate athletics, Lee College even had football – not flag football, but the full-contact tackle version, with pads and helmets.

When intercollegiate sports finally arrived at Lee, it was limited to men’s basketball, playing against nearby Christian colleges. Tennessee Temple, Bryan, Covenant, and Emmanuel were the most frequent opponents. Continuing through the 1960’s, Lee basketball teams looked almost comical, wearing the prescribed pants suit and playing at a time when the Church of God denomination, which prohibited shorts as “indecent apparel,” controlled the daily activities of Lee students.

But those funny-looking uniforms couldn’t hide the fact that some outstanding athletes played for Lee. Lee teams became respected across the country in the small but fiercely competitive NCCAA (National Christian College Athletic Association). Lee stayed in that organization until 1975, when the Vikings/Flames decided to test themselves against the larger, more challenging teams of the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics).

For 37 years, Lee teams have competed in the NAIA, an organization of 300+ colleges and universities. We gradually expanded our program from basketball only to a wide range of sports for women and men, adding soccer, volleyball, baseball, softball, cross-country, tennis, and golf. Lee began qualifying for national tournaments in 1998, and by 2012, it has become commonplace for Lee teams to earn national rankings in the NAIA top ten. In fact, in 2012, for the third year in a row, our overall athletic program has been ranked among the Top Twenty schools nationally.

Now it is time for Lee University athletics to move up. We have now set our sights on the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Division II – the next higher level of competition which includes most small-to-medium-sized universities like Lee. Already, many of our Christian college counterparts of similar size and athletic stature (such as Azusa Pacific, Abilene Christian, and Southern Nazarene) have made this move, joining mostly mid-sized universities like Lee. When intercollegiate sports finally arrived at Lee, it was limited to men’s basketball, playing against nearby Christian colleges. Tennessee Temple, Bryan, Covenant, and Emmanuel were the most frequent opponents.

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Lee University has thrived on new challenges. This is a big one. Stepping up to NCAA Division II, whether this year or later, is our logical next move, and we are ready to take it.

@PaulConn
Hear the latest by following Paul Conn on Twitter
1. Type twitter.com/paulconn into your internet browser
2. Click Follow
3. Log in to your Twitter account, or sign up for a new account.
Donald N. Bowdle is first and foremost, a teacher. He is the best example of what an excellent teacher should be. He started out his career that way and has maintained that level of achievement throughout his 50 years of full-time teaching.

A confluence of several things has produced the teacher that is Dr. Bowdle. He has a natural giftedness for relating to people and communicating with others. He possesses a deep love for God and genuine Christian character. He has an insatiable thirst for learning and a passion for sharing that knowledge with others. The matrix of natural ability and divine enablement discovered a fertile place to grow and blossom when he came to Lee College to teach in 1962.

Don Bowdle brought a rich diversity of knowledge to the college. He was perhaps the best educated faculty member at Lee College at the time. He held four degrees: B.A. in biblical education and history from Lee; M.A. and Ph.D. in New Testament text and theology from Bob Jones University; and a Th.M. in ancient and medieval studies from Princeton Theological Seminary. But he would not be content with the degrees he had, for he earned a Th.D. in American Christianity from Union Theological Seminary in 1970. In the 1980s, he was awarded two postdoctoral fellowships—one from Yale University and another from the University of Edinburgh.

The fruit of Dr. Bowdle’s half century of teaching is the many disciples of Jesus Christ that he has been instrumental in mentoring. Literally, thousands of men and women are engaged in vocational ministry today as a result, in part, of the preparation that they received in his classes. Dr. Bowdle is best known for teaching New Testament Greek, systematic theology, history of Christianity, and biblical book studies.

Donald N. Bowdle, distinguished professor of history and religion at Lee, is one of the most colorful and respected teachers in the 94-year history of Lee University. He has been a member of the faculty since 1962, and closed out 50 years with his retirement following spring graduation in May. The following is a tribute written by a former student, and now veteran faculty colleague, Dr. Jerome Boone.

Donald N. Bowdle: The “Quintessential Teacher”

Four decades later, nothing has changed that opinion.

A fresh-faced Don Bowdle around 1954.

Donald N. Bowdle

The “Quintessential Teacher”

He was my Greek professor when I was an undergraduate student in the 1960s, and I thought then he was the finest classroom teacher I knew.

Four decades later, nothing has changed that opinion.

- President Paul Conn
preached in many churches over the years in a variety of faith traditions. He has served other academic institutions in the role of adjunct professor. Most notably, he has taught at the Pentecostal Theological Seminary, Georgia State University, Virginia Commonwealth, and University of New Haven. He has also served as a visiting lecturer at Berea College, University of Edinburgh, Yale University, and Han Young Theological University of Korea. His research has been published in numerous academic publications; and through the years, he has presented papers at seminars and association meetings.

Dr. Bowdle has been recognized by both Lee University and the Church of God with awards that, in reality, are lifetime achievement awards. President Paul Conn announced to the university faculty on January 7, 2004, that Dr. Bowdle had been promoted to the status of “Distinguished Professor.” The rank is a recent addition to the Lee University campus, initiated in the 2001–2002 school year. Dr. Bowdle was only the second person to be awarded the title. The Church of God Division of Education, in a similar recognition, awarded Dr. Bowdle the “Distinguished Educator Award” at the 2010 International General Assembly. On campus, a men’s dormitory was named in his honor in 2002 after 40 years of service. He was also a founding sponsor of the men’s social service club Alpha Gamma Chi in 1963. In the past, the club has honored him with a scholarship in his name and a fountain plaza which was first built in 1993 and later rededicated following the reconstruction of the Paul Dana Walker Arena in 2005.

President Conn, commented: “To know Don Bowdle through these 50 years has been one of the special pleasures of my life at Lee. He was my Greek professor when I was an undergraduate student in the 1960s, and I thought then he was the finest classroom teacher I knew. Four decades later, nothing has changed that opinion. His lifetime of sharing that enormous talent with Lee students has been an incalculable gift to the institution.”

Donald Bowdle has lived a life of confidence in the sovereignty of God as a witness to all of us who have shared the journey of faith with him. His motivation in all that he has done has been the desire to serve Jesus Christ faithfully. In Dr. Bowdle’s own words: “It has been a tremendously rewarding experience to have had a part in making Lee University a Christ-centered liberal arts institution of significant stature, both locally and in the wider context of higher education.” Clearly, Donald Bowdle’s greatest contribution to Lee University has been the gift of his life.

Don and Nancy at their Lee graduation in 1957.

Nancy Bowdle

Dr. Bowdle’s late wife, Nancy, died of ALS, or Lou Gehrig’s disease, in February 1992. The year before her death, she proudly earned a bachelor of science in history from Lee. As she was nearing the completion of her degree — and the end of her life — it was discovered she was one class shy of the required number of academic hours. Due to the progression of her disease, it was unlikely she would be able to complete any further studies. Without a special exemption, her degree was thus incomplete. Upon learning of the dilemma, Lee’s registrar at the time, Veva Rose, scoured Nancy’s past transcripts and class records to discover a class taken years earlier for which she never received credit. An unrecorded instructional class in accordion placed Nancy Bowdle with the appropriate amount of credits for her to become a member of the Class of 1991, shown here accepting her degree with Don at her side.

Dr. Jerome Boone is professor of Old Testament and Christian Formation, and chairman of the Department of Christian Ministries in the School of Religion at Lee University.

Don and Jean are now both enjoying retirement.

Dr. Bowdle’s family includes many Lee graduates, including his son Dr. Keven Bowdle ’82 (back row, third from left) and daughter Karen LaBelle ’84 (back row, second from left); wife Jean (to his right); stepdaughter Diana Cooley Pate ’98 (back row, fifth from left); daughter-in-law Karen Kel- ley Bowdle ’82 (top row, fourth from left); son-in-law Shawn LaBelle (top left); and six grandchildren.
It was another record year as more than 440 graduates received diplomas during Spring Commencement exercises on May 4 and 5. It was the 155th time Lee University had staged a graduation ceremony in its 94-year history, which began in 1918 as Bible Training School (BTS). The traditional spring ceremony, the largest of three held each year at Lee, included a Friday evening, May 4 Commissioning Service where the highlight of the ceremony for both undergraduate and graduate students was the presentation of a Bible personally signed by Lee President Dr. Paul Conn.

Also during commissioning, six students shared about their Lee University experience with the audience of approximately 2,000 seated on the university’s soccer field. The six students were Daniel Diffenderfer of Carthage, Tennessee, a political science major; Erica Leung, a piano performance major from Trenton, Tennessee; Richard Yeakley, of Longview, Texas, who majored in journalism and was managing editor of the Lee Clarion; Megan Cook, originally from Lawrenceville, Georgia, and a special education major; Jonathan Etienne, music business major, from Flowery Branch, Georgia; and Arika Trim from Oxon Hill, Maryland, who graduated with a bachelor of arts in public relations.

Three graduates were introduced during commissioning as having received the top three student awards: Jamie Achten, F.J. Lee Award; Laura Sherwood, Zeno C. Tharp Award; and Megan Schertzler, Charles Paul Conn Award (see related article in this issue).
On Saturday morning at 9:30, the threat of inclement weather moved the commencement ceremonies indoors to the Paul Dana Walker Arena. While thousands were able to pack the field house, an overflow crowd of hundreds more watched the ceremony via live feed in the Dixon and Conn Centers across campus. The event was also available through streaming on the Lee University website.

President Conn welcomed the graduates’ families and friends, many of whom had spent days traveling to Cleveland, Tennessee, to see their loved one cross the stage.

Delivering the commencement address this year was Dr. Donald N. Bowdle, distinguished professor of history and religion at Lee, who had previously announced his retirement from the Lee faculty after a record 50 years (see feature article in this issue). Following the awarding of degrees to the Class of 2012, President Conn introduced the three highest awards given to faculty at Lee: Excellence in Scholarship, Excellence in Teaching, and Excellence in Advising.

Dr. Kevin Brown, professor of English, was selected the 2012 recipient of Lee University’s Excellence in Teaching award. The award is considered the most prestigious of the three honors presented to Lee faculty each year: Teaching, Scholarship, and Advising. Brown is the first person to receive all three of these awards.

Nominated from the faculty at large, they are selected by a committee of six representatives, three professors, and three seniors from different academic departments.

Brown’s poetry and scholarly articles have appeared in numerous journals. His essays on teaching and education have appeared in such publications as The Chronicle of Higher Education, Academe, and The Teaching Professor, among others. His first full-length collection of poetry, Exit Lines, was published in 2009 by Plain View Press, and a chapbook, Abecedarian, was published by Finishing Line Press last month.

Brown serves as the sponsor for Lee’s English Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta, where at the 2011 Sigma Tau Delta International Convention, Brown received the Outstanding Sponsor award for the Southern Region.

Brown received a Ph.D. in English from the University of Mississippi with a dissertation on Mark Twain’s influence on Kurt Vonnegut. He also has a master’s degree in English from East Tennessee State University, a master’s degree in library science from the University of Alabama, and a bachelor’s degree from Milligan College.

Dr. Lisa Stephenson, associate professor of systematic theology, is the 2012 Excellence in Scholarship Award recipient.

Since coming to Lee in the fall of 2007, Stephenson has taught introductory courses in Christian theology, as well as upper level theology courses for department majors and graduate seminars. In 2010, Stephenson and her husband, Dr. Christopher Stephenson, led a study abroad trip to Cambridge for a semester.

She has presented several papers at various conferences, as well as published articles in the Scottish Journal of Theology, Journal of Church and States, Religions, and Pia Pneuma.

Stephenson received a doctorate degree (Ph.D.) from Marquette University in religious studies. Her dissertation, titled, “It Seems Good to the Holy Spirit and to Us: A Feminist Pneumatological Approach to the Role of Women in the Church,” was accepted for publication in Brill’s Global Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies. It was published in 2011 titled, Dismantling the Dualisms for American Pentecostal Women in Ministry: A Feminist-Pneumatological Approach.

Stephenson’s scholarly interests include theological anthropology, ecclesiology, political theology, and feminist theology.
Jenkins Awarded Excellence in Advising

Dr. Skip Jenkins, director of graduate studies in biblical and theological studies and associate professor of historical theology, is this year’s recipient of the award for Excellence in Advising.

Jenkins joined Lee in 2004 as an assistant professor of historical theology. Since then he coestablished an open discussion forum on campus called “Conversations on Apologetics,” and founded, with his wife, a student-oriented mentoring house whose stated purpose is spiritual, academic, and social accountability.

Additionally, he has also participated in numerous retreats with students who are exploring ministerial vocations. Most recently, Jenkins taught a week-long graduate course on contemporary theology at the European Theological Seminary, a sister institution of Lee with a joint program in Kniebis, Germany.

Jenkins received his doctorate degree (Ph.D.) in systematic theology at Marquette University and two master’s degrees at Duke University Divinity School. He earned his bachelor’s degree (B.A.) in Bible and theology at Lee.

Top Student Honors:

Megan Schertzer—Recipient of the Charles Paul Conn Award—Established in 1996, this award is given to the senior who shows the greatest promise of intellectual and academic achievement beyond the undergraduate level. It is named in honor of the sixteenth president of Lee whose tenure began in 1986. Megan Schertzer is a summa cum laude biochemistry major originally from Chattanooga, Tennessee, though she came to Lee from Scottsdale, Arizona. Megan was a Kriatos Scholar, served as president of Gamma Sigma Epsilon Chemistry Honor Society, and was involved in several other honor societies. After graduation, Megan will be completing a three-month internship in the Structural Biology Department at St. Jude in Memphis followed by a six-month internship working at a hospital in Honduras. She plans to apply for her doctorate (Ph.D.) in biochemistry beginning in the fall of 2013.

Laura Michelle Sherwood—Recipient of the Zeno C. Tharp Award—Established in 1955, this award is given to the senior who shows the greatest promise of making a significant contribution to the church. It is named in honor of the sixth president of Lee who served from 1935–1944. Laura Sherwood, a summa cum laude graduate from Ooltewah, Tennessee, is a double major in biochemistry, premed emphasis, and theatre. She is a member of Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, Gamma Sigma Epsilon Chemistry Honor Society, and Alpha Chi National Honor Society. While at Lee, Laura traveled abroad on missions trips to Israel, Guatemala, and Uganda, and she performed in theatre productions and with the Lee University Symphonic Band. After graduation, Laura will be attending the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine.

Jamie Lynn Achten—Recipient of the F.J. Lee Award—Established in 1968, this award is named in honor of the second president of Lee who served from 1922–1923. This award is given to the senior with the overall most outstanding record of student achievement. Jamie Achten is from Franklin, Tennessee, and graduated with summa cum laude honors in December of 2011 as a communication major with an emphasis in advertising. She played on the Lee University women’s soccer team and led them to four consecutive national NAIA championships. Jamie was also chosen as the NAIA National Player of the Year for 2010 and 2011. While at Lee, Jamie was active in Delta Zeta Tau Greek social service club and Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society. Her future plans are to move to Nashville and pursue a graduate degree.
Plans Progress for Former First Baptist Property

It has been two years since Lee University acquired the property of what was the historic downtown location of First Baptist Church of Cleveland. The primary assets of the purchase included a 1,200-seat main sanctuary, two-story educational building, a one-story adult education building and offices, and a massive parking lot. The transaction also included several smaller lots contiguous to the property. First Baptist moved to a new campus on the northern side of town in September 2010.

Since the June 13, 2010, purchase of the 6.5 acres for $5 million, Lee has acquired several more parcels, opening more options for long-term and large-scale development. Many options have been considered for the influx of classroom, office, and meeting space. Within the first few weeks after the property changed hands, two Lee programs that deal primarily with children—the Lee University Developmental Inclusion Classroom (LUDIC) program and the Early Learning Center—found new homes in the spacious and “kid-filled” children’s wing of the church. Campus Safety relocated to a former house near the church. The sanctuary was renamed Church Street Annex and has functioned well for several events. The sanctuary’s primary use the last two years has been a temporary worship facility for Waterville Baptist Church, which is in the last stages of a building program. The congregation is scheduled to move out in early summer.

Across the street, First Baptist maintained their primary offices in the former adult building until mid-April. The multipurpose facility, which was the home of the downtown location of J.C. Penny several decades ago, has served a number of temporary purposes in the last 18 months. Most recently, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) opened a claims office for victims in Bradley and surrounding counties who suffered property damage in tornadoes that swept across the region on March 2. Now, plans are underway to move Lee University’s Division of Adult Learning (which will include Lee Online) into the offices previously occupied by First Baptist.

When Waterville vacates the sanctuary, there will be no outside entities on the premises, leaving the stage (which will include Lee Online) to Waterville Baptist until they relocate to new facilities south of Cleveland.

Campus Cola War: Coke Edges Pepsi

An increasing percentage of pastors are bivocational because of finances of smaller churches,” Daffe said. “This new vocational major would provide job market skills students can apply to a career outside of ministry.”

The track will include traditional pastoral ministry major requirements, as well as Bible and theology requirements, but will adjust some electives to provide for an 18-hour vocational minor.

“Students who want to work with parachurch ministries will find this major enables them to better meet organizational as well as state requirements,” Daffe said. “Students with other majors can strengthen their degree program with the vocational minor as well as expand their ministry possibilities.”

Vocational Track to Be Added to Pastoral Ministry Major

Beginning this fall, the School of Religion’s Department of Christian Ministries will offer a new pastoral ministry degree with a vocational track. It is the third pastoral ministry major offered in the department along with the traditional bachelor of science and bachelor of arts degree programs.

Dr. Jerold Daffe, coordinator of the pastoral ministry major and professor of pastoral studies, describes the addition of the major as an advantage for students wanting to enhance additional career skills.

“An increasing percentage of pastors are bivocational because of finances of smaller churches,” Daffe said. “This new major will provide job market skills students can apply to a career outside of ministry.”

The track will still include traditional pastoral ministry major requirements, as well as Bible and theology requirements, but will adjust some electives to provide for an 18-hour vocational minor.

“Students who want to work with parachurch ministries will find this major enables them to better meet organizational as well as state requirements,” Daffe said. “Students with other majors can strengthen their degree program with the vocational minor as well as expand their ministry possibilities.”

FEMA set up shop to accommodate victims of a tornado that swept through the county on March 2.

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When Waterville vacates the sanctuary, there will be no outside entities on the premises, leaving the stage main sanctuary, two-story educational building, a one-story adult education building and offices, and a massive parking lot.

Lee has leased the sanctuary of the Church Street Annex to Waterville Baptist until they relocate to new facilities south of Cleveland.
Great Strides Surpasses Half-Million Mark Raised to Fight Cystic Fibrosis

On what became a sunny Saturday morning, March 31, a record number of participants gathered at Lee University to celebrate the university’s 12th annual Great Strides event. This year, the 12-year total for the walk surpassed the $500,000 mark, bringing the all-time total to $582,917 raised for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The amount raised for this year alone was $70,300.

All donations from the fund-raiser go toward the CF Foundation’s research and care programs to help find a cure for cystic fibrosis. “The huge crowd and energetic participation was a wonderful source of support and encouragement to the many families and individuals who are directly affected by cystic fibrosis,” said Vanesa Hammond, CF parent and co-chair of Great Strides.

This year’s Great Strides included the 10th annual 65 Roses 5K, with 855 runners registered and the 12th annual Great Strides walk, bringing out over 275 walkers on 26 teams.
The road race was directed by Dr. Bill Estes, department chair in the Helen DeVos College of Education.

“This year was a big step up in everything, from money raised, to number of runners and walkers, to community and corporate sponsor involvement,” Estes said. “If you consistently put on a quality event, you gain a lot of traction in a community. I think this year we saw these pieces come together.”

Run and walk sponsors for Great Strides included Garden Plaza/Life Care Center of Cleveland; Ralph Buckner Funeral Home; Ed Jacobs & Associates; Easy Auto; First Tennessee Bank; Tri-Com, Inc.; People for Care & Learning; Caldwell Paving & Grading, LLC; Crawford’s Pharmacy; SouthEast Bank & Trust; Brown Stone Works, Inc.; Ridge Medical Center; Southern Heritage Bank; and Paul & Darlia Conn. Media sponsors included Cleveland Daily Banner and Mix 104.1 FM. Community sponsors were Kim and Brian Beard, Center for Cosmetic Dentistry; Cleveland Utilities; Hardie’s; Don Ledford Auto Park; Logan-Thompson Law Firm; Mars Chocolate; Regions Bank; Restoration Bible Church; Scenic City CrossFit; Tennessee Valley Urology Center; Jim and Sue Sharp; and Dale and Brenda Hughes.

In-kind sponsors included Panera Bread; Crystal Geyser Water; Mars Chocolate; Lookout Mountain Tomato & Banana Co.; and Merck.

Charts the growth of giving in the 12 years of Great Strides. (Information Courtesy of the Lee Clarion)

The “Anti-Fun” Club

By Claire Brown

One of Lee’s most influential student development programs is marketed as anything but fun. There are no big prize give-aways, no Friday night events, very little free pizza, and they don’t bill themselves as the place to come and have a good time.

In fact, you’re much more likely to find hard work, tears, accountability, and ordinary life. But in the past eight years, this tiny, experimental group at Lee University has exploded into one of the largest organizations on campus, pulling in over 500 participating students. They plan campuswide events, take over chapel twice a year, and have infiltrated Lee’s campus culture.

Who are they, and how are they doing it?

The answer is SmallGroup, where fun and games are remarkably absent from successful student development. The basic structure of the program is straightforward enough: every dormitory on campus is assigned one resident chaplain (RC) and volunteer floor leaders who conduct small group discussions on Thursday evenings. The groups take on a Socratic method of asking questions together in their discussions about God, life, relationships, and calling.

That sounds serious for college kids, but SmallGroup is not serious? Good. Here’s how you can do that, “according to Jason Steffenhagen, the Discipleship Ministries Coordinator at Lee. Steffenhagen joined the new program, then called HYPE, in 2005 to bring more structure and support for the student staff members. He says, “Our experience has been that college students will wrestle with their faith. We work to provide a safe environment for that to happen, where mature and loving peers [the RCs and floor leaders] can come alongside students to seek answers.”

What exactly is a RC? According to Jaime Butler, former RC and current Auxiliary Housing manager for Residential Life and Housing, chaplains are first and foremost “people who have a passion for students, who are able to help them navigate the tough terrain of spiritual life.” RCs work closely in residence halls with resident directors and assistants to encourage student development.

The Residential Life staff, particularly RCs, offer a link between administrators and student services and the students themselves. They make referrals to Campus Ministries, the Counseling Center, and other resources, and offer a listening ear with more consistent and careful student contact.

“A frequent Lee motto is, “the campus where Christ is King.’ If we’re going to take that seriously,” says Steffenhagen, “it’s not just about a transformational moment, but a life of daily devotion, worship, and service as we strive to live in the kingdom of God.” SmallGroup facilitates this consistency and discipline in a context of community, bringing Christianity from chapels and classrooms into the residence halls.

—Originally published in Burgundy and Blue

Phi Mu Alpha Inducts Conn, Presents Check

Phi Mu Alpha (ΦMA), a nationally-affiliated social fraternity with a philanthropy that uses music as a basis for service projects both on campus and in the community, recently inducted Lee President Dr. Paul Conn as an honorary member and presented a check for $1,000 to the Build A City project to build a home in Cambodia.

“Music is such a big deal here at Lee, and Dr. Conn has, during his tenure as president, placed a great emphasis on advancing music on many different fronts,” said Alex Sturgill ’08, alumni coordinator for the fraternity. “Dr. Conn embodies what our fraternity actively promotes—leadership, service to others and using music to better our world—it just makes sense to have him as a member of Phi Mu Alpha.”

According to Sturgill, the club chose “Build A City” as their service project this past semester because they knew every dollar donated would be significant in changing someone’s life for good. “It’s easy to give to a cause so great and one that’s backed by a great organization like People for Care and Learning,” Sturgill said. Phi Mu Alpha hosted two events to raise the donation, including a dodgeball where nearly a dozen teams battled for first place. The fraternity also hosted the inaugural “Connaroo” Music and Arts Festival in Alumni Park at Lee. Named for President Conn, the event featured more than a dozen acts ranging from soloists to bands with a prize going to the audience favorite. There were food vendors, crafts, and raffles that added to the festival experience.

Phi Mu Alpha (ΦMA) was founded nationally in 1898, but the Phi XI (pi-aii) chapter was chartered at Lee University on November 13, 2004. Since that time, the chapter has become increasingly involved with student life on campus. Membership is open to all college-aged men regardless of their chosen area of study.

Luke Utter, Aaron Murphy, Dr. Fred Garmon, Director of People for Care and Learning, Jonathan Brissett, Derek Fifer, Robert Bart, President; Don Ledford Auto Park, and Nick Prihoda.
Lee University’s first Greek letter social service organization is planning a celebration of the club’s golden anniversary at Homecoming the first weekend of November.

Plans have been underway for the last 18 months as the Upsilon Xi Alumni Association (UXA), along with the current club members, have been preparing for the milestone. Upsilon was formed with a small idea between Jim Hubbard and Dr. Dayton Palmertree in April 1962, and later joined by Dale Huff and Duane Lambert. The four men developed a proposal that would change the face of Lee’s social life. Upsilon became an official organization on September 26, 1962, following the signature of a charter by then President Ray H. Hughes. It was designated as an all-male organization, with provisions to induct female Little Sisters and a Sweetheart. It was also established that the club would meet on Monday nights. Today, the Upsilon Xi club celebrates its 50th anniversary on November 3.

Much of the correspondence will be taking place via social media, particularly a Upsilon Facebook page. Those on Facebook are encouraged to join the Upsilon page where regular updates will be posted.

Lee Launches Into Next Era of Online Degrees

The growing and changing market of online degrees has resulted in the latest evolution of the original Continuing Education Program, founded on the Lee campus in 1976. What has been the Center for Adult and Professional Studies (CAPS) is now the Division of Adult Learning.

At the beginning of the year, the Center for Adult and Professional Studies added an online delivery model through E-College. Upsilon returning from the U.S. Air Force, Dr. Ben Pérez moved from the New England area to become the third full-time director of the college's correspondence program that had now evolved into an online program. In 2005, External Studies reorganized under a new name, the Center for Adult and Professional Studies (CAPS), and a degree completion program, the bachelor of science in Christian leadership, was initiated.

In April of this year, President Conis announced the latest reorganization of online learning into the Division of Adult Learning. One year ago, Lee again partnered with the Church of God, this time through the Internet Degree Program (IDP). The new Division of Adult Learning merges the IDP with CAPS.

“Over the last year, we have been preparing to combine the best of both programs,” Van Hook said. “Our primary focus in this new endeavor will be Lee Online, which will include our adult learning programs offered exclusively through Internet delivery. We will also continue to offer instruction in our distance learning centers, primarily on the Lee and Charlotte Center campuses.”

The new division serves over 700 adult learners who study literally around the world online or in one of Lee’s education centers.

“In this transition, we will be re-organizing the leadership into four areas under a single Division of Adult Learning,” stated Dr. Jayson Van Hook, vice president for information services and CIO. “Dr. Black will be joining us as our new executive director of this division. He is a Lee alum and has been serving as the associate dean in the School of Liberal Arts for the Adult College at Indiana Wesleyan University.” Van Hook also introduced others who will have leadership roles in the new division: Dr. Ben Perez will serve as the director of Curriculum Development, Dr. Delton Alford as director of Adult Learning.

“We are extremely excited to have Dr. Black joining us as the executive director in this new division,” Van Hook said. “He brings with him a wealth of experience in adult learning and a deep commitment to the mission and values of Lee University.”

As to the future, Van Hook stated, “We are looking at aggressively adding new programs of study over the next few years in the Division of Adult Learning. We will continue to offer high-quality programs in various areas of religious studies, but we are also looking at expanding our programmatic offerings to include professional and degree completion programs in other areas as well.

Over the summer, the new division will be relocating from the Watkins Building to larger quarters down the street in the Ossice Street Annex, the former administrative offices for First Baptist Church.
Twelve Faculty Receive Promotions

Twelve members of the Lee University faculty were granted promotions in rank by the Board of Directors when they met in session the first week of May:

**From Associate Professor to Professor:**
- Kristie Kleinmann, Ph.D. – Communication
- Hermilo Jasso, Ph.D. – Music
- Austin Patty, Ph.D. – Music
- Lori West, Ph.D. – Biology

**From Assistant Professor to Associate Professor:**
- Caroline Boulis, Ph.D. – Mathematics
- Shane Griffith, Ph.D. – Business
- Brad Moffett, Ph.D. – Music
- Patty Finch, PhD – Communication

Kleinmann Awarded Page Legacy Scholar Grant

Dr. Christie Kleinmann, assistant professor of communication at Lee, was recently awarded a Page Legacy Scholar Grant for the 2012 academic year from the Arthur W. Page Center for Integrity in Public Communication at the Penn State College of Communication.

Kleinmann’s project is titled, “Exploring the Role of Corporate Responsibility in Sports Public Relations.” Its purpose is to establish a case study approach to corporate social responsibility (CSR) in sports, become familiar with how CSR practitioners define it, and incorporate those findings into the course curriculum offered at Lee.

“Students are now able to partake in the case study’s exploratory process,” Kleinmann said. “Our results will be submitted to the center in hopes that the information will serve the public relations community in the best possible way.”


Lee Welcomes Three New Faculty Members

Lee University added three new faculty members this past semester. They are Michael Finch, Sarah Schlosser, and David Smartt.

The Department of Communication and the Arts welcomed Finch as the student media advisor and communication instructor. Before coming to Lee, he taught journalism and media courses for the graduate and undergraduate programs at his alma mater, Regent University. Finch is working on his dissertation for a doctorate (Ph.D.) in communication at Regent University where he received his master’s degree (M.A.) in journalism. He also holds a bachelor’s degree (B.A.) in Biblical studies and missiology from Elim Bible Institute.

Schlosser joined the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics as an assistant professor of chemistry. She received her doctorate (Ph.D.) in chemistry education and her master’s degree in chemistry with an emphasis in chemistry education both from Purdue University. She earned a bachelor’s degree (B.A.) in chemistry and a teacher licensure in chemistry and physical science from Lee University. Prior to Lee, Schlosser taught high school chemistry for five years at Noblesville High School in Indiana.

Smartt joined the Department of Business as an assistant professor of business. Prior to teaching at Lee, he served as an active chaplain at the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army.

Smartt holds a doctorate (Ph.D.) in management from Northcentral University and a master’s degree (M.S.) in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College. He earned his master of business administration (M.B.A.) from Syracuse University and his bachelor’s degree from Lee University.

Roland McDaniel Passes Away

Former Lee math professor Dr. Roland McDaniel passed away March 4, 2012, in Cleveland, Tenn. He was 89.

McDaniel joined the Navy after the Pearl Harbor attacks of 1941 and served on the USS St. Louis and the USS Alpine. After World War II, he graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in mechanical engineering. He married Betty Ingram in 1948, and they were married for over 60 years until her death in 2010.

In 1955, after being called to preach, he pastored the Covington Church of God, and while there, graduated from Emory University in Atlanta with a master’s degree in divinity. In September 1964, Lee College contacted him and offered him a teaching position. In 1973, he graduated from the University of Tennessee with a doctorate of education in mathematics. As a faculty member, Dr. McDaniel traveled to several foreign countries, and had a heart for the Southwest areas of the United States, ministering to the American Indian tribes, where he would preach revivals, help with Bible schools, and further spread God’s Word.

For those who wish to honor his memory, the family established the Roland McDaniel Scholarship Fund. Donations may be directed to Lee University, Attn: Central Gifts, 1120 N. Ocoee St., Cleveland, TN 37311.
Music Professor Passes Away

Paula Wyatt, a special adjunct instructor of music, died on May 12 of a stroke suffered several days earlier. She was the wife of Alan Wyatt, assistant professor of music at Lee.

Known for her vocals and original music, Paula Archer-Wyatt recently completed a jazz CD of her original tunes performed by her jazz quintet and endorsed by the legendary jazz bassist, Rufus Reid. She has performed with Donald Brown, David Baker, the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, and did a season at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, where she holds the distinction as be-

Dected sending a letter to the NCAA Division II (DII) leadership, indicating that they will act favorably, although that in fact from a sure thing...”

Conn added, “Lee’s trajectory for the past two decades has been to "become better and to operate at a higher level in every way, including athletics, and moving to the NCAA DII is the natural way for us to do that.”

“This move will be a big challenge for all of us. We will be competing against some very strong institutions. I believe our athletes and our coaches have earned an opportunity to test themselves at this level.”

A look back at the athletic history shows Lee being a member of the NAIA since 1975, competing first in the TVAC conference, then in the TranSouth, and for the past several years in the Southern States Athletic Conference. After gaining final approval from the NCAA, Lee will compete in the NAIA and the SSAC for the upcoming 2012–2013 year then begin competing in the new conference in the fall of 2013.

Under the leadership of Athletic Di-rector Larry Carpenter, Lee has won the Commissioner’s Cup, for the best overall athletic program in the SSAC six out of the last seven years, including the last three years in a row.

“We have been discussing the move to NCAA DII for the last two years, and very intently for the past year,” pointed out Conn. “I discussed it with the Board of Directors in its January 2012 meeting, and in its meeting on May 4, I recom-mended that we pursue DII membership in the Gulf South, and they voted to authorize me to do so.”

Carpenter, who has been part of Lee athletics for 37 years and witnessed many historic events during that time as a player, coach, and athletic direc-tor said, “The invitation to join the Gulf South Conference marks yet another event. We’ve enjoyed a tremendous amount of success in the SSAC and NAIA but understand the challenge that comes by playing in the most competitive con-fERENCE in NCAA II. My staff and I are excited about what the future holds for Lee athletics.”

Lee Gets Invitation to Join Gulf South Conference

Lee’s athletic program is taking what University President Dr. Paul Conn terms as the beginning of a process that “we believe will raise the level of athletics at Lee.”

Gulf South Conference Commis-sioner (GSC) Nate Salant announced on May 25 the GSC Executive Committee’s unanimous approval of an invitation to Lee University to apply for membership. The approval comes on the heels of a recommendation from the GSC Expansion Committee, which visited Lee’s campus in May. The Executive Committee also endorsed sending a letter to the NCAA Division II (DII) leadership, indicating that the GSC would endorse sending a Letter of Acceptance to the NCAA, Division II (DII) leadership, indicating that they will act favorably, although that in fact from a sure thing...”

Conn reported that the application has been filed and said, “We are optimis-tic that they will act favorably, although that is far from a sure thing.”

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Football at Lee University: More Than Just Intramurals?

President Paul Conn recently initi-ated renewed buzz about Lee’s football future via Twitter by tweeting: “Are we ready for football at Lee? I’ve always said ‘no’, but maybe it’s time to take a fresh and serious look at the question.”

According to Conn, the tweet was used to indicate that actions are being taken to discover what might be involved in making football a part of Lee athletics in the future.

“It’s never actually been on the table. I haven’t been open to it,” Conn said. “I’ve decided the time has come to take a good hard look and to actually [do the research], and then decide if it’s a good fit for Lee.”

Lee currently belongs to the National Association of Inter-collegiate Athletics and is a member of the Southern States Athletic Conference. Since the SSAC does not include football, Conn is considering other options that would better serve the university’s needs, should it choose to begin a football program.

That’s even if that decision means advancing the school into the National Collegiate Athletic Association. (see story above)

One of the reasons for reconsidering the issue of football was that schools similar to Lee have acquired football programs in recent years. Conn said:

Many schools, including Shorter University (Ga.), Berry College (Ga.), Brenau University (Ga.), and Lindsey Wilson College (Ky.) have implemented successful football programs in their athletic departments within the past seven years.

“We need new goals, new aspirations...football would be a big project for us,” Conn said. “So why not put it out there, and let’s decide. Maybe I’ve been wrong all these years, or maybe I’ve been right all these years, but now its just time [to say yes to considering].”

The timetable for setting football in motion has not been decided, but Conn seems to be adamant on making a decision by the fall semester of 2013.

“It would take a year, and maybe might take more than that,” Conn said. “I don’t think we need to prolong the discussion.”

—Taylor Hoffman, Lee Clarion

FACULTY FACTS

Five members of the faculty were highlighted during commencement for the milestone of 25 years of continuous service on the Lee faculty. All arrived at Lee College in the fall of 1987:

1. Dr. Jerald Daffe
   Professor of Preach Ministry
2. Dr. Danny Murray
   Director, Voices of Lee
3. Dr. Doyle Gough
   Professor of Psychology
4. Dr. Hermilo Jasso
   Associate Professor of Business
5. Dr. Mark Wickham
   Professor of Health and Exercise Science

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Honors Continue for Lee Soccer, Achten

Soccer standout Jamie Achten and the Lee University women’s soccer teams have dominated most of the awards passed out by the NAIA over the past four years, but nothing can compare with the latest honors bestowed on the All-American and her teammates.

On May 19, at the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame annual banquet, Achten and Jenny Connolly (University of Tennessee-Knoxville All-American swimmer) were saluted as the Tennessee Female Amateur Athletes of the Year. They were joined by Vanderbilt basketball star John Jenkins, who is the Male Amateur Athlete of the Year. Coach Matt Yelton’s Lady Flames also received their highest recognition when they joined the Vanderbilt baseball team as the Amateur Teams of the Year.

The TSHOF named University of Tennessee’s Coach Pat Summit as Tennessean of the Year. Summit recently stepped down from coaching after logging nearly 1,100 wins in her career. Several other awards, including the Male and Female Professional Athletes and Teams of the Year, were presented during the annual banquet at the Renaissance in Nashville.

Achten was named the NAIA Player of the Year in both her junior and senior seasons, the first NAIA player to accomplish this feat. She is also an Academic All-American.

Achten, a native of Franklin, Tenn., had her Lee University jersey retired this past February. She owns the Lee and NAIA record for most career assists with 91 and was named to the NAIA All-American First Team for four consecutive years.

“I am very pleased for Jamie, and I think the nature of this award just demonstrates the type of career that she has had at Lee,” said Yelton. “But what I think is so unique about Jamie is that not only was she the most successful player we have had in terms of athletic success, but she was also the most successful player we have ever had in terms of academic success.”

The Lee coach added that Achten is truly a unique athlete because she sets extremely high standards for herself and her team. “She then proceeded to accomplish all the goals she set out to achieve. I don’t think I would be out of line by saying, having had Jamie Achten play for me not only made me a better coach, but it also made me a better person.”

Back on campus, Achten garnered two more top awards. She was named the 2012 winner of the Charles Paul Conn Award, representing the top female student athlete at Lee University and the F.J. Lee Award, given to the most outstanding overall student (see related articles in this issue).

Of the TSHOF Award, Achten said, “I am honored and humbled to be chosen. I know the recommendation is largely due to my team’s effort over the last four years and our success on the field. I was privileged to play at Lee with such talented teammates and coach. Though I feel undeserving, I am very thankful. ‘To God be the glory.’

Not only did Yelton and his Lady Flames become the first NAIA women’s soccer team to record four straight national titles, they also won four straight Southern States Athletic Conference regular season and conference crowns. They are 37-0 in league play over the past 10 years and have won 30 straight tournament championships. Before Achten was named the NAIA National Player of the Year, Lee’s Christine Chris-tensen won the same honor in 2008. Yelton said that being placed at the top of the list with great NCAA Division I athletes and teams shows the amazing respect his special players and teams have earned over the past four years. “Everyone around the world knows what Coach Sum-mit stands for,” he noted. “There were many other great athletes and coaches on the same stage that evening. It really hasn’t sunk in as to what this means to our univer-sity and our many gifted players.”

Lanter Captures Coveted Duer Award

Clair Lanter, a soccer student-athlete and political science major at Lee, is the female winner of the NAIA’s Duer Award. She was nominated by the Southern States Athletic Conference.

A three-time captain and three-year starter on a team that has won four consecutive NAIA national championships, Lanter is an outstanding soccer player and is noted for her leadership on and off the field. Lanter also is a ter-rific student and an academic All-American who was selected to participate in a Model United Nations program and to serve as a tutor for the Political Science Department. Lanter volunteers year-round for the Austin Hatcher Foundation for Pediatric Cancer.

“She is a woman who cares about others and the world around her,” said Stephen M. Swindle, associate professor of Lee University. “She sees her intellectual growth as a tool she can use to make the world a better place.”

The award is named for A.O. Duer, who served as executive secretary of the NAIA for 26 years and was well-known for his strong opinions that the NAIA and its member institutions should strive to effectively balance aca-demics and athletics. The award is presented to an outstanding NAIA junior student-athlete who maintains an overall grade-point average of at least 3.75 (on a 4.0 scale). The NAIA Council of Faculty Athletics Representatives selects the two winners, one male and one female.

Achten and Lawson Get Top Athlete Awards

Jamie Achten and Jeremy Lawson, have played key roles in helping Lee University continue to garner a place on the elite list of NAIA college athletics. As a result of their work on the playing field and in the classroom, the seniors were named the 2012 winners of the annual Charles Paul Conn Student Athlete of the Year Awards.

Jamie, the daughter of Jeff and Jolene Achten, is no doubt the most awarded women’s soccer player to grace the pitch at the Lee Soccer Field. She was named the NAIA Player of the Year in both her junior and senior seasons, the first NAIA player to accomplish this feat. She is an Academic All-American and was recently named the Female Athlete of the Year by the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame. As a result of a Lee faculty vote, Achten recently received the prestigious F.J. Lee Award (see related articles in this issue).

A native of Franklin, Tenn., Achten had her Lee University jersey retired this past February. She owns the Lee and NAIA record for most career assists with 91 and was named to the NAIA All-American First Team for four consecutive years.

“Jamie’s recognition as the Conn Award winner is something that is again much deserved to demonstrate the quality of her career as a student athlete at Lee,” said Coach Matt Yelton. “She possesses outstanding character, a first-rate performance in the classroom, and her athletic career will go down as one of the best in the history of the NAIA.”

Yelton added, “Her career will stand the test of time, not just for what she accomplished in her athletic endeavors, but more important because of the character that she demonstrated in achieving her goals.”

Jeremy Lawson is the son of Joe and Kathy Lawson of Hixson, Tenn., and has been a solid member of the Lee golf team for the past four years. He was a key member of the Lee club that won the Southern States Athletic Conference Tournament in April. He is a three-time member of the SSAC All-Academic Team and a two-time All-NAIA Scholar.

“Jeremy is just a high quality young man,” Lee Golf Coach John Maupin said. “He is very deserving of this award, and I know it means a lot to him. He comes from a great family, and I think this award is a credit to his parents as well. Jeremy is the complete package; great golfer, outstanding student, and he does it all with impec-cable character.”

Jamie Achten

Jeremy Lawson
Baseball Flames Reach Sixth NAIA World Series

The Lee Flames baseball team has now reached the NAIA World Series in each year of Coach Mark Brew’s tenure, as the 2012 team earned a sixth straight appearance at the annual event in Lewiston, Idaho. It is also the sixth consecutive season the Flames have registered 50 wins. The Flames, ranked No. 2 in the NAIA national poll going into the World Series, came back in the loser’s bracket to defeat Missouri twice and win the opening round of the National Tournament.

The year 2012 also marked the Flames’ first outright Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) Tournament Championship. The Lee squad has earned eight regular season conference titles and tied for the tournament title in 2010, but they had never earned the outright tournament title until sweeping through the conference tourney.

Lee defeated Faulkner University (Ala.) in the championship of the tournament, though they fell just short, one game back, of the Eagles in the SSAC Regular Season standings. Senior Blake Barber was named SSAC Player of the Year, joined on the All-Conference team by juniors Hall, Samayoa, and Corey Davis.

Lee Softball Bounces Back in 2012

A 12-game 2011 campaign, the Lee Lady Flames softball team returned to their usual form this year, earning the 2012 Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) East Division Championship and a return trip to the NAIA National Championships.

The Lady Flames began 2012 like a shot out of a cannon, winning their first 13 games. They then turned in a strong start of conference play, going 9-1 in their first five doubleheaders.

With one week left in the regular season, Lee was locked in a tight race with Shorter University (Ga.) and Brenau University (Ga.), all three teams ranked in the top 14 in the NAIA. The Lee ladies went 5-1 in the final week, including splitting a doubleheader with Shorter and sweeping Brenau, finishing one game ahead of Shorter for the division title and moving into the top 10 of the NAIA rankings.

Alum Brittany Balough turned in an outstanding season in the circle, earning Second Team NAIA All-American honors, in addition to Second Team All-American recognition. The Santee, Calif., native went 23-5 with a 1.26 earned run average. Balough, a four-year member of the Lady Flames, finished with a career winning percentage of .750 (66-22), tops in Lee program history.

Second baseman Blake Barber comes up big on this play as the Flames hosted the opening round of the NAIA Tournament at Olympic Field.

Sharp Wins Pattison Champions of Character Scholarship

During the NAIA National Championship, Brice Sharp was named the winner of the 2012 Champions of Character award and one of five $2,000 Pattison Champions of Character scholarships.

The award established by Dr. Phil Pattison represents the five core values of the NAIA—respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership, and sportsmanship. Said Pattison, “There is more to this award than the basketball played on the floor. We also look at community involvement, their leadership on the campus, and just kids that we would like our own to hang out with.”

Sharp’s community involvement included last summer when he spent several hours visiting bedridden senior citizens at the local rest home. He volunteers with Meals on Wheels, both in Cleveland and in nearby Dalton (Ga.). He volunteers weekly with the local Boys and Girls Club, and participated in the Salvation Army tornado relief when tornadoes hit Bradley County. Sharp is a member of 100 Black Men of Bradley County and teaches basketball to underprivileged kids in summer camps.

Flames Get Seventh Straight 20-Win Season

The Lee University men’s basketball program was well-represented on and off the court throughout the 2011–2012 school year. On the court, the Flames finished with a 20-9 record to log the program’s seventh straight 20-win season. The last time the Flames did not hit that mark was the 2004–2005 season, the year prior to Head Coach Tommy Brown’s being hired to take over the Lee reins.

The Flames also ran their streak of consecutive trips to the NAIA National Championship to seven as well. The unseeded Flames lost in the first round to No. 14 seed Georgetown College by a 70-62 margin.
Westbrooks Headlines Postseason Honors

Ryan Westbrooks led the Flames’ postseason honors by earning a spot on the NAIA All-American Second Team. Westbrooks was also named SSAC All-Conference and was the conference’s 6thMan Award winner. Tyrone Caldwell was SSAC All-Conference and was the conference’s Tournament MVP. Westbrooks was also named SSAC Coach of the Year.

The Lady Flames basketball team posted its fourth 30-win season in the past five years and the fifth all-time with a final record of 30-4. The Lady Flames showed their commitment to class work with nine players named to the SSAC All-Academic list. Eldridge, German, and Latyshava were joined by sophomore Jeremy Lawson, and Hunter Vest on the All-Conference squad. Emery and Vest were also named SSAC All-Tournament team.

The annual Stanley Butler Shootout was staged at the Chatata Valley Golf Course, and another strong team consisting of Gene Rice, Bob Rice, Jerry Rice, and Craig Lee came in third with a 58. In the first flight, Richard Cribbs, Thomas Brown, Phillips Caines, and Mason Brown took first place with a 61. Second place honors went to Tarry Walker, Gary Rominger, Harry Ledford, and Tim Watlenbarger (63), while Jerry Puckett, Tipp Bettis, Ty Parker, and Larry Moore were third (64).

J.B. Eksteen was the Flames’ top player in 2012, earning SSAC Player of the Year honors, joining Matt Emery, Jeremy Lawson, and Hunter Vest on the All-Conference squad. Emery and Vest were also named SSAC All-Tournament team for the performance in the Flames’ win. Now in his fourth season, Maupin was named SSAC Coach of the Year. This season also marked the second time the Flames have hosted the Lee University Spring Invitational. After finishing third in the 2011 event, Lee climbed to second overall, with Eksteen running away with medalist honors. The junior turned in a pair of red-hot rounds of 67, finishing 10-under par, a nine-stroke victory.

For his performance, Eksteen was named SSAC and NAIA Golfer of the Week after the Lee tournament, earning the conference honor one other time later in the season.

Golfers Make Second Trip to Nationals

The Lee University men’s golf team followed a record 2011 season with another outstanding campaign in 2012, reaching as high as No. 5 in the NAIA poll, earning the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) Tournament championship and their second consecutive trip to the NAIA National Championships.

The 2012 conference title was especially sweet for Coach John Maupin and the Flames, who have finished second in the tournament the past three seasons. It was a come-from-behind performance as the Flames passed Williams Carey University (Miss.), the 2011 champions, winning by eight strokes over Shorter University (Ga.).

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Rowe and German Lead List of Lady Flames Honorees

Head Coach Marty Rowe was honored by the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association as the WBCA NAIA Region Five Coach of the Year. He was also named SSAC Coach of the Year. Player Hollie German earned a spot as a member of the WBCA Coaches’ All-America Team Honorable Mention and was also selected in the NAIA All-America Second Team. German was selected SSAC Co-Divisional Player of the Year and earned a spot on the SSAC All-Tournament team.

Angela Spann was a NAIA All-American Honorable Mention and joined German on the SSAC All-Conference team. Rally Eldridge and Mary Jackson won spots on the SSAC All-Division squad. Jenn Adams was placed on the SSAC All-Freshman squad and Larysa Latyshava was picked for the Champion of Character award.

The Lady Flames showed their commitment to class work with nine players on the SSAC All-Academic list. Eldridge, German, and Latyshava were joined by seniors Spann, juniors Brooke Hamby and Julia Zimmerman, and sophomores Lauren Browning, Madison Lee, and Karley Miller on the conference list.

Lady Flames Finish 30-4

The Lady Flames basketball team posted its fourth 30-win season in the past five years and the fifth all-time with a final record of 30-4. Lee started the season 9-0 before suffering their first loss at Union University on Dec. 10. From that point, the Lady Flames rattled off 19 straight wins and didn’t taste defeat again until the regular season finale at Shorter University on Feb. 23.

Along the way, the Lady Flames claimed the SSAC East Division title and an automatic berth to their eighth-straight NAIA National Championships. Lee received one of the No. 2 seeds in the national tournament and was pitted against seventh-seeded Biola University in the first round. The Lady Flames trailed by as much as 12 points in the second half, but fought back to close the margin to one before a couple of free throws made 69-66 the final score.

Foursome Takes Butler Tourney Honors

On a near perfect day for golf, the team of Tom Maupin, Al Miller, Jeff Davis, and Jerry Burrell combined to fire an 18-under par 54, and then claimed a scorecard playoff from Greg Rush, Cy Harris, Ron Wilson, and Vince Stone, who also came in with a 54.

The annual Stanley Butler Shootout was staged at the Chatata Valley Golf Course, and another strong team consisting of Gene Rice, Bob Rice, Jerry Rice, and Craig Lee came in third with a 58. In the first flight, Richard Cribbs, Thomas Brown, Phillips Caines, and Mason Brown took first place with a 63. Second place honors went to Terry Walker, Gary Rominger, Harry Ledford, and Tim Watenbarger (63), while Jerry Puckett, Tipp Bettis, Ty Parker, and Larry Moore were third (64).

Rob Howsell won the closest to the pin at No. 2. Jerry Burrell earned the same honor at No. 14, while Ray McDaniel produced the longest drive at No. 6.
Women Golfers Finish 11th

The Lee women’s golf program continued its amazing growth during the 2011-12 season. In only its fourth season of play, the Lady Flames climbed to the No. 2 spot in the NAIA national poll, won the Southern States Athletic Conference tournament championship for the first time and placed 11th in the national event.

The finish at the NAIA Women’s National Golf Championship in Greeneville, Tenn., was not exactly what coach John Maupin and his Lady Flames were seeking. “It was a little disappointing for us all week,” said the Lee head coach. “We all had our sights set very high, which is where we want them, but unfortunately it just wasn’t meant to be this week. The girls gave a great effort each day, but we just made too many mistakes. Our course management and putting have been strengths of this team, but this week those were probably the areas we struggled the most.”

Prior to the national tournament, the Lady Flames claimed eight straight tournament wins, including their first-ever Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) Championship, an NAIA All-American following her success-

Tennis Teams Fall Short of National Tourney

The Lee University tennis teams fell just short of their goals of reaching the NAIA National Championships. The Lady Flames finished the season 9-7 overall and 1-3 in the SSAC East to earn a final ranking of No. 18 in the NAIA. The Flames were 9-8 and placed second in the SSAC East Divi-

Three Flames Invited to Music City Classic

Ryan Westbrooks, Tyrone Caldwell, and Josh Henley each participated in the Fifth Annual Music City All-Star Classic on April 28. The Classic is termed “The Last Showoff of College Talent” and was held at the Curb Event Center on the campus of Belmont University.

If You Attended Lee, You’re an Alum!

A common misconception is that if you didn’t graduate from Lee, you’re not an alumnus [male] or alumna [female]. The truth is, all that is required is at some point to have enrolled in classes, and you’re part of Lee University alumni, no matter when you were here!

Help us hear from you.

Send us your news: weddings, special anniversaries, new jobs, promotions, educational accomplishments, retirements, births, awards… you name it! We would love to showcase your pictures as well. Don’t forget to include the last year you attended Lee.

The easiest way is to visit www.leeuniversity.edu click on the Alumni and Friends link and then “alumni updates.” You can also email your update and photos to @leeuniversity.edu or mail your entry to . . .

Lee University Alumni Relations
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Alumni Participate in Nashville Running Event

More than 150 Lee alumni from across the nation participated in the Country Music Marathon in Nashville, Tennessee, on April 27-28.

This is the sixth year the alumni office at Lee has used the event to bring together alumni. Runners, nonrunners, spouses, and family members attended a Friday night "Pasta Pig-Out" at the Buca Di Bepo restaurant in Cool Springs just outside Nashville.

On Saturday morning, more than 100 runners posed for a traditional group photo before setting out on the course through Nashville. Most opted for the 13.1 mile half marathon, while others, including several members of the Lee cross-country team, ran the full 26.2 mile course in what developed into a warm and sunny morning.

Chuck Saligman '95 lives in San Antonio, Tex. where he is in the CPR program at San Antonio Military Medical Center as an Air Force chaplain. He became Deputy Wing Chaplain at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center in June 2012.

Todd Wright '95 was recently selected girls basketball coach at William Blount High School in Blount County, Tennessee. The move comes after he coached girls basketball at Leonir City, Tenn. - Before taking over at Leonir City, Wright coached for two seasons at Maryville College, compiling a 41-15 record. He also coached at Roane State for three seasons, posting a 56-36 record from 2005-2008. He was recently selected girls basketball coach at Lenoir City, Tenn.

Rudy Burrough '71 was an education specialist in marriage and family therapy at Converse College and a U.S. Army chaplain from 1977-1995. He and his wife, Barbara, are in private counseling practice in Anderson, S.C. They have one son and five grandchildren. Rudy says, "Lee gave me a great foundation to continue my education in seminary."

Don '72 and Linda Medlin Munn '72 have been lead pastors of Restoration Church of God since 1982 in North Atlanta. They have two children and four grandchildren. Don says, "I enjoy fond memories of many hours in the old music building with Dr. David Horton, Dr. Jim Burns, and Doc Alford."

Charles Abraham '73 taught high school biology for 36 years at Burch High School in Delbarton, W.Va. He is now retired, but teaches as an adjunct at Southern West Virginia Technical and Community College in Williamson, West Virginia.

Mickey Blevins '81 lives in Riceville, Tenn. where he is elementary supervisor for McMinn County Schools and will assume the title of Director of Schools for McMinn County, effective July 1, 2012. He has been married for 29 years to Kelly, and they have two children and two grandchildren.

Ric Shrubb '83 puts Torch in harm’s way on a safari in Argentina last February. Dr. Shrubb is president of Minnesota West College in southwest Minnesota.

Greg '82 and Tammy Bilbo Johnson '82 took Torch halfway around the world to China where they trekked along the Great Wall. Tammy is on the education faculty at Lee, while Greg is an IT specialist at the Church of God International Office.

Monica Guerrero Taimano '84 retired from the Air National Guard in 2004 and is presently employed with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection as a CBP officer in Guan. She is married to Alfred, and they have three children.

Alma Phillips Ingle '68 took Torch to the Holy Land in February where she posed with it overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem.

Ralph Morris '89 recently translated the German-language biography of Hertha Sponer. The 193-page biography was launched at Duke University on April 5. Sponer was one of only three women professors of physics in Weimar Germany, and eventually became the first woman to be hired in a budding physics program at Duke and enjoyed a long career there from 1936 to 1966.

Glenn Williams '89 is president of Bell Performance, which on May 1 introduced Ethanol Defense—an alcohol-free commercial grade ethanol treatment designed to solve common ethanol problems, prevent engines from ethanol damage, and improve gas mileage by up to 12 percent or more. Glenn says, "We have created a product that speaks to conscientious drivers looking to protect their equipment, to extend the useful lifetime of their equipment, and give them better performance. Making the choice to use Ethanol Defense will not only benefit these conscientious drivers today, but it will also help to protect their vehicles and equipment for many years to come." Glenn lives in Floresville with his wife, Amanda.

Jay '94 and Olivia Manning Mishalanie '94 are living in Dallas, Tex. with their son.
Jason ’01 and Jessica Palmer Edgerton ’00 and their two children live in La Paz, Bolivia. Jason is serving as the country director for Samaritan’s Purse—an evangelical relief and development organization.

Jordan ’02 and Brandy Lane Paulsen ’02 live in Brooklyn, N.Y. where Jordan is a firefighter in Red Hook. They have two children.

Jacob Horowitz ’05, and his wife, Retay ’05, live in Gladstone, Mo. and have one daughter. Jacob is a CPA currently working for KPMG in their Federal Tax Department. About being a father, Jacob says, “The profound tiredness I experienced as a college student with 8 o’clock classes every semester was decent training for being a new father.”

Connie Coleman Potvin ’08M is living and working in Athens, Tenn. where she is a counselor at Restoration Counseling treating addicts, children, and families. She is married to Dana Potvin, who is a worship leader. Connie received her license as a clinical pastoral counselor and is currently enrolled in a doctorate (Ph.D.) program through Colorado Theological Seminary.

Amber Marie Moore ’09 and Ryan Thomas Bilkie were married on March 25, 2012, at Lover’s Point in Monterey, Calif. Amber and Ryan met in Paris in 2009 while Amber was on Lee’s Cambridge Semester in Europe trip and Ryan was studying in Paris. Currently, Amber is a third-year law student and editor-in-chief of the West Virginia Law Review at the West Virginia University College of Law, and Ryan is serving in the United States Air Force.

James Summers ’09 lives in Charlotte, N.C. with his wife, Denise. James graduated from the Charlotte campus and says, “I had a great learning experience under the direction of Dr. Tom Tatum and Dr. Greg Sloop.”

Andrew Smith ’09 was severely wounded on March 8, 2012, in battle in Afghanistan when an IED exploded next to him. He was awarded the Purple Heart. His injuries, while not life-threatening, were severe and life-changing. He was transported to Walter Reed Hospital in D.C. He is married to Tori Hanson Smith ’09.

Samilynn Joyce ’10 is a United States sailor, and teaches special education when she is home in Cleveland, Tenn.

Katie Ware Kazy ’10 started Lee in 1992, and two years later married Dwayne. After 13 years of raising a family, Katie returned to Lee to finish what she started, graduating in 2010. Katie says, “I made many great friends and enjoyed every minute at Lee. As an older student, I think I appreciated the academics more than I did as a teenager, and I was able to focus better on my education. I pray my daughter chooses Lee, not only because it is a family tradition, but also because it is where God wants her to be.”

Eddie Robbins ’76 has written a book about his transformation from being over 300 pounds for most of his adult life to being a runner. The title of the book is All My Strength—a reference to Mark 12:30. The purpose for the book is to motivate others to join in the battle against obesity and become healthy and fit, especially in our culture.

Lee President Dr. Paul Conn, who wrote the Foreword, says “Eddie’s book is fun to read. It’s honest and personal, and reads like a conversation with a friend. It’s about running; it’s about weight loss; but it’s really about life and goal-setting in the real world. I loved it.”

All My Strength can be purchased on the Amazon website in both paperback and Kindle format. Eddie will be happy to sign a copy and mail it to you. Go to his website for more information: allmystrength.org
Lee University Homecoming

November 2-3

Upsilon's 50th Reunion • EVS's 45th Reunion • Check-In Buffet • Alumni Grand Reunion • Tailgate Party