



# Cross & Crescent

a LAMBDA CHI ALPHA FRATERNITY publication



**HALL OF  
FAMER,  
SUPER BOWL  
CHAMP,  
RECORD  
HOLDER...  
RON SELLERS**

**FROM FIELD  
TO FAMILY  
STEELERS STAR  
JOHN FIALA  
SHINES**

September 2008 · XCVI · Issue 9



**PLUS  
COLLEGE/PRO FOOTBALL GREATS**

# Cross & Crescent

a Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity publication

## Features

### Fraternity News

- 3 **Council of Presidents Update**

### Chapter News

- 4 **Chapter and Alumni News**

### Centennial

- 8 **Why It's Great to Be a  
Lambda Chi**

### True Brother

- 9 **John Fiala on Loyalty, Family.**

### History

- 10 **Former Lambda Chi Football  
Greats**

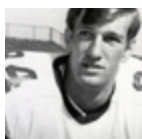


13

### TENNESSEE STUDENT ATHLETE

A third string defensive back for the University of Tennessee, Brent Freeman exemplifies the student in student athlete. As a journalism major, he was named to the 2007 SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**By Chris Barrick**



14

### HALL OF FAMER, SUPER BOWL CHAMPION

An All-American wide receiver at Florida State, Ron Sellers was later inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in addition to playing on the 1973 Super Bowl champion Miami Dolphins. Today, he is president and CEO of Ron Sellers & Associates, Inc., providing life insurance, employee benefits, and retirement plans to Floridians.

**By Tad Lichtenauer**

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# Council of Presidents Update

New chairman details plans to increase council's effectiveness for 2008–2009 school year.

By Joey Katz (Florida 2009)

**THOSE OF US WHO HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE** as chapter presidents during our undergraduate experience know that it is not an easy task. Regardless of chapter size, every chapter president has experienced those moments when he wished it was a 40-hour work week with nights and weekends off.

In reality, the position of the chapter president requires more than knowledge of chapter operations. It requires strong leadership when chapters need it the most, and it requires steadfast personal convictions and resolve to make the difficult decisions that no one else wants to make.

Established by Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity in 2004, the Council of Presidents was created to assist chapter presidents in becoming better leaders for their chapters through a network of their own peers. There is no better resource for these men than the brothers who are working toward the same goal of success for their chapters and members.

The Council of Presidents is comprised of the chapter president from every chapter, as well as an elected chairman (Grand High Nu) and vice chairman (Grand High Psi) who represents the Council on the board of directors, and also an appointed executive committee comprised of four chapter presidents.

## Undergraduate Resource

As the chairman, I truly hope to make the Council of Presidents a tremendous resource to members of the board of directors, as well as open the opportunity for chapter presidents to strengthen communication between chapters.

The Council of Presidents has been recently gaining momentum in reaching out to chapter presidents and creating new ways to seek input from each other.

Throughout the fall semester the Council of Presidents will distribute a brief electronic survey to all the chapter presidents with questions regarding expectations for 2008–2009.

This will serve to provide feedback on distinguishing leadership traits that could be shared with all chapter presidents. We will also be launching a website specifically dedicated to disseminating pertinent information to chapter presidents regarding creative programming ideas of the True Brother Initiative, as well as highlighting specific conclaves for the Centennial Celebration.

## Chairman Profile

**Name:** Joey Katz  
**Chapter:** Epsilon-Mu Zeta  
**School:** University of Florida  
**E-mail:** ajkatz@ufl.edu

**Favorite Lambda Chi Memory:** One of my favorite memories in Lambda Chi Alpha was jumping/getting thrown in the Watermelon Pit after coordinating Watermelon Bust 2007. The field events went flawlessly and the turnout for our philanthropy was greater than ever before.

## Vice-Chairman Profile

**Name:** Andrew Visser  
**Chapter:** Zeta-Alpha Zeta  
**School:** Coe College  
**E-mail:** acvisser@coe.edu

**Favorite Lambda Chi Memory:** Participating in Walk-A-Mile In Her Shoes, a philanthropy we put on last spring. We purchased high heels for all of the brothers and walked one mile to raise money for a family services shelter. All of the brothers had a blast!

## Executive Committee Members

- Will Vanderzant (Vanderbilt)
- John X. Holmes (Wabash)
- Bill Norton Jr. (Louisville)
- Tony Seibert (Cincinnati)

## Increased Communications

Chapter presidents also can look forward to receiving a quarterly bulletin, with the first being released mid-October concerning topics of discussion that will be brought up at the board of directors meetings.

The Council of Presidents has a great executive committee that will be working closely with the chairman and vice-chairman to ensure that this year will be nothing short of phenomenal.

It is my belief that every chapter president should be given the opportunity to listen and assist his fellow presidents in their chapters' daily struggles.

As High Alphas, we have an incredible opportunity to do something truly great and rewarding for our chapters that can shape the future generations of Lambda Chi Alpha. ➕

# Chapter News

Chapter news, alumni news, and reports of death

## Akron (Gamma-Alpha)

**Harry W. Case Sr. (1950)** died August 20, 2008. A World War II and Korean War veteran, he later worked in sales at Goodyear Tire, General Tire, and Gravelly Tractor Corp. He owned Howard Equipment in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and was a member of the Christian Business Men.

## Alberta (Epsilon-Rho)

**Gabriel Gonzalez (2001)** has left Citigroup as an equity research associate and joined HSBC Global Banking and Markets as a senior equity analyst covering Latin American industrial, mining and steel.

## Alfred University (Kappa-Sigma)

**Francis W. Stanton (1959)** died December 12, 2007.

## Auburn (Omega)

**John Gilder (1946)** died October 2007.

**Mitchell Bradley (1957)** died July 2007.

## Ball State (Iota-Alpha)

Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity is returning to the Ball State University (campus this fall as the Greek community implements new recruiting changes. Cara Luyster, the assistant director of the Office of Student Life, complimented Lambda Chi Alpha's established reputation among the Greek community.

## Bowling Green State (Phi-Mu)

**Kimbal L. Fatica (1985)** was appointed to represent the National Press Photographers Association in a safety inquiry by the National Transportation Safety Board regarding helicopter news gathering practices. A 25-year veteran of TV and helicopter news gathering in Cleveland,

Ohio, he is currently the director of local news operations for WOIO-TV, a post-game coordinator and camera operator for NFL Films, a multiple Emmy Award-winning photojournalist,



and a long-time member of the National Press Photographers Association and National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. This past spring Fatica was appointed vice president of the Journalism Alumni Board at Bowling Green State University. An Eagle Scout, he also serves the Boy Scouts of America in the Greater Western Reserve Council as an assistant scoutmaster, a venture crew leader, and is his district's camp promotions chairman. He is a former chapter founder, chapter officer, and alumni association president.

## Bradley (Kappa-Upsilon)

**William A. Linsley (1956)** died October 24, 2006.

## Central Florida (Beta-Eta)

**Phil Dalhausser (2002)** and teammate **Todd Rogers** won the beach volleyball Olympic gold medal in Beijing. Currently ranked No. 1 in the world, the team was upset in the opening preliminary match



of the Olympics by the Latvian team but regrouped to finished second in pool play. Dalhausser and Rogers won their first two matches in the medal round in straight sets. They won the gold medal match against Brazil 23–21, 17–21, 15–4. Dalhausser, known as the “Thin Beast”, was selected as the AVP’s Best Offensive Player for the past three seasons, the FIVB’s Best Blocker the last two years, as well as the Best Hitter in 2007. He was chosen as the AVP MVP in 2007.

Sean Dolan died June 18, 2008.

### **Cincinnati (Gamma-Gamma)**

The chapter launched its new website.

### **Clemson (Delta-Omicron)**

As a result of a job promotion, former chapter adviser Richard Coblens (Georgia Tech) is relocating his family to New York. He was very highly regarded among both undergraduate and alumni brothers. Sid Rampy (Ferris State) will serve as the new chapter adviser. He is a successful contractor and business owner in the Clemson area and his increased commitment will surely yield significant benefits.

The chapter Housing Committee has become aware of potential property and is in the process of seeking local and national alumni investors to become part of a brand new chapter House Corporation. The eventual goal will be to secure the identified property as the chapter’s first official house, an objective that has been sought by the chapter for decades. Please contact Josh Woodward at [jwoodwa@clemson.edu](mailto:jwoodwa@clemson.edu) for more information.

### **Connecticut (Zeta-Lambda)**

William F. Klein (1951) died July 7, 2008. A World War II veteran, he was a sergeant in the U.S. Army and later was recalled for duty as a lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. In the 1950s, he was co-owner of three Flying Dutchmen Service gas stations. He began a career in sales starting with W.R. Grace Vestal Laboratories and later became a realtor opening W.F. Klein Realty. After retiring, he and his wife created Nostalgia Unlimited, specializing in Royal commemorative and memorabilia.

### **East Tennessee State (Iota-Omicron)**

Scot Thomas (1991) currently serves as the women’s softball coach at Virginia Tech University. During his 15-year tenure, he has guided Virginia Tech to an overall record of 483–307. Thomas has also guided the Hokies to four consecutive NCAA Regionals since 2005, including the program’s first-ever appearance in the Women’s College World Series this past season.

### **Elon (Delta-Pi)**

The chapter increased its community service hours by 91 percent from 2007 to 2008. This included 100 percent participation by the members of the chapter.

### **Eureka (Theta-Chi)**

Mark Darnall (2009) was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Honors Court for the 2007-08 season. The NABC Honors Court recognizes the talents and gifts that men possess off the court, and the hard work they exhibit in the classroom. Darnall led multiple teams in points during his junior year at Eureka, netting five points for the soccer team and averaging 13.3 points in basketball. At the conference level, he was a two-time SLIAC Player of the Week in basketball, posting a team-leading 41.4 percent mark from three-point range. A sports management major, Darnall is a three-time Academic All-SLIAC honoree and president of the EC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. His father, Bruce Darnell (Eureka 1965) also is a brother.

### **Evansville (Iota-Mu)**

Gregory F. Hahn’s (1971) law firm, Indianapolis-based Tabbert Hahn Earnest & Weddle, LLP, has launched Tabbert Hahn Ping Global Strategies, a lobbying and consulting firm.



### **Florida State (Zeta-Rho)**

Since January 2007, John Culver (1983) is the president of Starbucks Asia Pacific and a senior vice president of the parent company. Based in Hong Kong, he also has responsibility for the Starbucks brand in Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand. Prior to joining Starbucks in 2002, Culver was with Nestlé USA, where

he served as a vice president responsible for more than \$1 billion in annual foodservice sales, and managed 30 brands.

**John H. Sytsma** died August 5, 2008. A military veteran, he was a practicing attorney in Apalachicola, Florida.

**Georgetown (Kappa-Omega)**

**Bobby McDowell**, master steward and Kentucky's chapter adviser, received the Order of Merit



during a small ceremony on August 1, 2008, in Louisville. He had been unable to attend the General Assembly in Phoenix to receive his award.

**Kansas (Zeta-Iota)**

**Jay A. Kenyon** (1994) was named a 2008 Super Lawyer "Rising Star."

**Dr. Lawrence A. Mayer** (1957) died August 14, 2008. He had been a local dentist for 38 years and had been very active in a wide variety of professional, social, church and civic projects. He served as a U.S. Navy dental officer in California from 1960 to 1963, and later retired from the Navy Reserve as a lieutenant commander. He retired from private practice in 2001.

**Maryland-College Park (Epsilon-Pi)**

**Roger L. Barker** (1960) died November 11, 2007

**Miami-FL (Epsilon-Omega)**

**Dr. Michael Mitchell** died July 28, 2007.

**Miami-OH (Zeta-Upsilon)**

**Wayne Howland** (1951) died July 22, 2008. A chapter founder, he served as the first chapter president. As 30-year U.S. Marine Corps officer he served in the Korean and

Vietnam Wars, rose to the rank of colonel as a manpower specialist, and retired in 1981. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Joint Service Commendation Medal and the Navy Commendation Medal. He also received the Bronze Star for rescuing members of his tank platoon from a burning tank in Korea. He spent the next 15 years as chief operating officer of several



Northern Virginia Realtor associations. He was interred at Arlington National Cemetery on August, 22, 2008.

**Murray State (Lambda-Eta)**

**Michael Taylor** (1992) died December 5, 2007.

**Nebraska-Omaha (Iota-Delta)**

**Michael Bonner** (1979) died December 2006.

**Northeastern State (Delta-Beta)**

After joining Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity and earning their bachelor's degrees, **Dr. Shane Claborn** (2004), **Dr. Ryan Fenska** (2004), and **Dr. Brett Howell** (2004) have now graduated together from Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry. Eight years ago, the three men traveled together to Northeastern State University knowing they wanted to become optometrists. Since graduating in May 2008, Claborn has joined The Vision Source and Dr. Ronny LaQuey in Duncan, Oklahoma; Fenska has joined Nietling Optical in Denison, Texas as an associate doctor of optometry; and Howell has joined the NSUOCO faculty working with patients and optometry students at the Wilma Mankiller Health Center in Stilwell, Oklahoma.

**North Texas (Iota-Zeta)**

**Clarence Oliver** (1945) died October 17, 1993.

**Oklahoma (Gamma-Rho)**

**William R. "Bill" Hogge** (1950) was posthumously

inducted as an honoree into the Plainview, Texas, Centennial Circle of Honor on August 28, 2008. From 1956 to 1994, he served as the city's engineer and director of public works, where he prepared the city's land development and infrastructure plans. He died in 2007.

### Philadelphia Area Alumni Association

The Philadelphia Area Alumni Association named its inaugural officers, which are the following: **Jeff Glauser (Jacksonville 1999)**, president; **Chuck Persing (Drexel 1981)**, recruitment chair/treasurer; **Scott Reikofski (Northern Colorado 1981)**, communications chair/local chapter liaison; **Jim Revello (St. Joseph's 2002)**, social chair; **Sean McLaughlin (Kutztown 2003)**, philanthropy chair; and **Dave Moore (Gettysburg 2008)**, webmaster. Collectively, these individuals have extensive experience pertaining to advising, Greek Life, and overall General Fraternity relations and involvement.

In July 2008, the alumni association members attended a Camden (New Jersey) Riversharks minor league baseball game. The event was also in conjunction with a fundraiser for the Mothers Matter Foundation, an organization focusing on assisting single mothers in hardship.

For more information about upcoming events or to find out how to become involved, please visit the association's new website: <http://www.lcaphillyalumni.com/>.

### Rhode Island (Eta)

The chapter launched an online alumni brother newsletter (<http://lambdaurialum.blogspot.com>).

### Rose-Hulman (Theta-Kappa)

More than 130 undergraduate and alumni brothers completed the latest renovations to the chapter house, including a new façade and entrance to the chapter house and new study rooms. Over the past three years, the Lambda Chi alumni brothers have donated more than \$150,000 to the chapter.

### San Antonio Alumni Association

The San Antonio Alumni Association held its monthly alumni brother reception at The Cigar Bar. There were more than 20 alumni brothers in attendance representing

four different chapters. In addition, the alumni association is currently planning its third Lambda Chi Alpha Open golf tournament to be held on October 4, 2008, benefiting all three local chapters. For more information, send an email to [lxa\\_saaa@yahoo.com](mailto:lxa_saaa@yahoo.com).

### Southeast Missouri State (Delta-Phi)

**Neal E. Boyd (2001)** appeared on NBC series "America's Got Talent" on August 26, 2008. This live show was the first airing of the series after its Olympic hiatus.

### Tennessee-Knoxville (Epsilon-Omicron)

**Bud R. Irvine, Jr. (1955)** died April 29, 2008.

**H. Powell Winn (1941)** died January 26, 2008. A former chapter president, Winn and his three brothers were initiates of the Tennessee-Knoxville chapter. As a World War II veteran he was assigned to the Naval Air Station in Millington, Tennessee, and studied aeronautical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He retired as a lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserves. After the war he and his brothers formed Winn Brothers Engineering Co. where he worked until retirement.

### Western Carolina (Beta-Zeta)

**Dr. H. Lee Cheek Jr. (1983)** received Western Carolina's 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award for Academic and Professional Achievement. He currently serves as Mary Powell Sikes Professor of the Social Sciences; chair, division of Social and Behavioral Sciences; and professor of political science and philosophy at Brewton-Parker College. Alumni Brother **Kevin Vasquez (1979)** received the same award in 2007.

### Wisconsin-Whitewater (Lambda-Iota)

Named the associate of the quarter, Juan Paz Jr. was awarded the Kohl's Corporate Award. Each quarter the company selects one employee as Associate of the Quarter based on superior performance, positive recognition among fellow associates, and, most importantly, the ability to act with the utmost integrity on a daily basis.

### Wittenberg (Nu-Zeta)

**Rev. M. Paul Paetznick (1930)** died 2001.

# Why it's Great to Be a Lambda Chi

As the academic year begins, our brotherhood has a variety of events and programs to champion and celebrate.

By Dan Hartmann (Truman State 2007)

Over the course of the past few summer conferences, the undergraduate brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha have had a chant that is shouted for all to hear. That chant has been resounding in my head over the past month and it goes something like this, "Lambda Chi (hell yeah), Lambda Chi (hell yeah), aaaaawww yeah... I said it's great to be a Lambda Chi, I said it's great to be a Lambda Chi..." What better time could one ask for to be a member of Lambda Chi Alpha!

As our undergraduate brothers begin another academic year we are reminded of the excitement and vigor they must have as they usher in another year of friendship and fellowship with their brothers.

However, this year is different. This year, our undergraduate brothers have much more to look forward to when they return. Not only is this the year we celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, it's also the year in which brothers begin to work not only within but also between chapters. A revival of conclaves is on the horizon for the spring semester. Many opportunities exist for new friendships and ideas to pass from chapter to chapter.

## True Brother Initiative

Another opportunity for our men is the development of the True Brother Initiative on the chapter level.

Since rolling out the True Brother Initiative over a year ago in Memphis, Tennessee, this values-based approach to brotherhood development is already having positive effects on both undergraduate and alumni brothers. At the international level, where more than 700 brothers have attended our last two summer conferences, as well as the local level, where Master Stewards and ELCs incorporate specific pieces of the initiative into chapter development, the light of Lambda Chi Alpha is burning as bright as ever.

As we enter into another century of Lambda Chi Alpha the entire brotherhood should be excited as we see our values, ideals, and ritual teachings inspire today's and tomorrow's leaders in Lambda Chi Alpha and throughout the rest of the world.

An exciting outcome of the True Brother Initiative is our ability to quantify if we are, in fact, developing our brothers along the right path to truly lead, the Lambda Chi Alpha way. Early results from the survey and assessment component of the True Brother Initiative indicates that chapters utilizing all components of the initiative score above the national norm in the developmental maturation related to self-esteem, self-awareness, empathy, altruism, and intimacy.



## A CENTURY OF TRUE BROTHERHOOD

It is important our undergraduate and alumni brothers understand that the True Brother Initiative is promoting positive growth in the lives of our active brothers. These early outcomes are extremely encouraging and provide the brotherhood with affirmation that we are on a course that truly makes brothers better men.

### Centennial Alumni Receptions

Lastly, as has been mentioned before, we will be holding 30 Centennial Celebration receptions across North America. September includes stops in Seattle, Portland, and Toronto, while October consists of visits to Philadelphia, Boston, Denver, Indianapolis, and Dallas.

At each reception a few unique Centennial Celebration touches have been added and will be on display throughout the events. Artifacts will be available for your viewing pleasure, along with three particular pieces that have not left headquarters in over a decade.

You can find out more about the Regional Centennial Celebrations by visiting [www.lambdachi.org/regionalcelebrations.aspx](http://www.lambdachi.org/regionalcelebrations.aspx) or by sending an e-mail to Associate Director of Alumni Relations Dan Hartmann, at [dhartmann@lambdachi.org](mailto:dhartmann@lambdachi.org).



# Former Pittsburgh Steelers Star

John Fiala shares his views about loyalty and priority of family.

By Tad Lichtenauer (Denison 1987)

**CORE VALUES FORM THE FOUNDATION** of Lambda Chi Alpha's approach to brotherhood. As a part of the True Brother Initiative, our Seven Core Values — Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Service and Stewardship, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage — once learned and internalized, equip each Lambda Chi Alpha undergraduate brother and associate member with a clear moral compass, always orienting him, no matter the environment or consequences, toward making ethical decisions.

For Lambda Chi Alpha, it is not enough simply to know how to do things the right way; more importantly, it is to do the right things, for brotherhood and leadership are ultimately about action, about doing.

## Core Value in Action: Loyalty

In 2003, **John Fiala (Washington-WA 1995)** retired from the NFL. Drafted from the University of Washington by the Miami Dolphins in 1997, he played his last four seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers where he was a linebacker and special teams captain.

Fiala chose retirement instead of signing with another NFL team because he wanted to make his family a greater priority. Today, he lives in Seattle with his wife and two sons, ages 4 and 2, and they are expecting their third child in December.

"I made the decision to hang up the cleats and come home to Seattle with my wife and start a family here," he says. "Football does do some wear and tear on the body and I understood that. I had six years in the NFL, a successful college career but I was ready for another chapter, another journey in my life. The one I'm in now is better than the one I had then."

From very early on in his life, Fiala found loyalty to be one of the most important core values.

"Well, I think whether it be football, or through the Fraternity, or just with life, something I've always tried to live by is loyalty," he says. "I'm very loyal to my family, my wife, and to Christ. Those things are very important to me."

When asked about a critical time in his football where loyalties were tested the most, he says it was during his freshman year at Washington when the program went under NCAA sanctions. They lost scholarships and were placed on a two-year bowl ban.

"That was a time in my life when I knew how much I loved the University of Washington and I loved the program," he says. "I understood what the foundation of the program was about. I respected the values that they had."



Many of the other players were questioning if they wanted to stay and be a part of that football team because of the adversity.

"That was a time for me when it wasn't even a choice about which way to go," Fiala says. "I think the thing about loyalty is if you have to make a decision where you're going to go, it's not very loyal. If you truly believe and you have no other vision except what you believe, then you're truly loyal to that cause."

Ultimately, loyalty is shown through actions, not through just words. Washington did lose a few players and suffered through a couple of hard years. But Fiala stuck it out and helped turn the program around by the time he graduated.

## The Future

Fiala was asked to help the Washington Lambda Chi Alpha chapter during some tough times too, as they did some member reviews to ensure the chapter's ultimate success.

"It was a difficult decision, but I felt honored to be a part of it," he says. "I believe I understand the commitment of brotherhood and what it can be and what being a good Lambda Chi does and what it can do to others."

He would like to continue to be a positive influence on the undergraduate brothers. One day a few years from now, Fiala also would like to be involved with high school football.

"I believe I wouldn't be in college or the professional aspect of it. It's such a commitment away from family," he says about coaching some day. "My family is my priority. I'm definitely loyal to them."

He also tries to stay in touch with other chapter alumni brothers.

"I found a good core group of guys who shared the same core values and were motivated," he says. "Those are my true friends that I know I can always rely on." ➕

## Former Lambda Chi Football Greats

These brothers have stood the test of time in their achievements on the football field.

By Jon Williamson (Maryland-College Park 1965)

**A FEW WEEKS BACK** my son Richard set the date and time for our annual fantasy football draft. Although the temperature was in the high 80s, it felt as though autumn was in the air and I could already picture the frenzy of crowds cheering endlessly for their favorite teams.

And it doesn't matter whether we are talking college or professional, American or Canadian, passions run deep. Discussions always gravitate to arguing who is the better team, and of course, who is the single best player now and back in the day?

I can only imagine the excitement that must have rippled through the Lambda Chi and Theta Kappa Nu chapters in our early years as we "rushed" varsity men, especially those who played football. Football unites schools into believing that they are invincible, at least until they lose that first game.

I still marvel at why a gifted athlete and top academic student would have joined our two fraternities in our formative years. But join they did! That is what makes an article about prominent brothers so challenging and it doesn't matter what occupation we focus on because so many have gone on to achieve considerable success in their chosen field; the question becomes, "How do we boil it down to a handful?" And I'm speaking of all career occupations, not just sports.

This fall we will have many brothers playing varsity football and perhaps one or two will join our more than 145 brothers who have played professionally. Electronically, we can now pull up statistics for every athlete, so I'll leave that to you. I will concentrate on what brother **Paul Harvey (Culver-Stockton 1939)** references as "...the rest of the story."

### Arthur Poe, Coe College

The history of our great Fraternity is so very rich that periodically it allows us to uncover a diamond, not in the rough, but one that is already brilliant. Our chapter at Coe College was installed on March 2, 1946, and was featured in the early spring 1946 issue of the *Cross & Crescent*.

The article includes a picture of the president of the Coe College Board of Trustees and identifies him as **Arthur Poe (Coe HON)**, Princeton class of 1900, who was initiated on that date. Lambda Chi Alpha has never had a chapter at Princeton University so I probed a little more deeply to find that Arthur Poe did indeed graduate from Princeton, class of 1900, and was a member of the Ivy Club, one of the preeminent eating clubs.



Arthur Poe was one of six Poe brothers to graduate from Princeton and they all played football. His father was the attorney general of Maryland and he was the grandnephew of Edgar Allan Poe, the poet and author.

After Princeton he moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he would become the assistant plant manager and then the plant manager for the Quaker Oats Co. He was known as the "most useful citizen" of that city.

At one time or another he served as director of the Red Cross in Cedar Rapids; chairman of all Liberty Loan drives; president of the Princeton alumni class of 1900; president of the Cedar Rapids' Chamber of Commerce; president of the Coe College Board of Trustees for 18 years; vice president of St. Luke's Hospital; member of the International Board of Directors of the Y.M.C.A.; trustee of the School of Religion at the University of Iowa; chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the Diocese of Iowa and also trustee of Iowa Episcopate Funds; and vice president of the Morris Plan Bank.

He was honored after his death in 1951 by the Quaker Oats Co., who erected a non-denominational chapel on the Coe College campus, the Poe Chapel, in his memory. If we stopped here we'd have a great story of a brother who dedicated his life to the greater good of his community and who helped so many people. But this article is about football!

In 1898, Arthur Poe, a junior at Princeton, was 5'7" and weighed 145 pounds. Although not a large man, he must have been quick and fast.

In 1898 and 1899 the Princeton Tigers won 23 games, lost 1 and tied 1. To say the least they were a powerhouse.

The Ivy League was filled with rivalries, but none bigger than Princeton vs. Yale. In the 1898 game, Poe recovered a fumble and returned it 95 yards for a touchdown to defeat Yale 6–0. In 1899, I'm confident that the Yale faithful were supremely confident as the clock wound down to under a minute to play. Princeton held the ball at the Yale 20, but Yale held the lead 10 to 6.

Today, **Mark Brunell (Washington 1992)** would try to hit a tight end over the middle, but back then grind it out football would eat up the remaining precious few seconds. After a quick huddle, it was decided to let Poe try a field goal. Now there are a couple of things you need to understand: Poe had never attempted a field goal before, and a field goal was worth 5 points in 1899.

Well, you guessed it, the kick was good and Princeton won the game 11 to 10.

Art Poe's life ended in 1951, and by any measure it was a very full life. He was an All-American end on Walter Camp's 1899 All-American team; retroactively selected as the "Player of the Year" by the Helms Athletic Foundation; and in 1969, he was posthumously elected into the College Football Hall of Fame.

### Leonard Charpier, Illinois

Our first brother to play football professionally was **Dr. Leonard Charpier (Illinois 1921)**. His brother **Melvin Charpier (Illinois 1924)** was also a Lambda Chi.

Leonard played for one year with the Chicago Cardinals while attending medical school at the University of Chicago. He became a surgeon and in the mid-1930s, prior to the modern system of blood banking, pioneered a process of cadaver-blood transfusions.

### Washington

A couple of our chapters have produced a number of outstanding football players. The University of Washington's **Steve Pelluer (Washington 1984)** played quarterback for both the Dallas Cowboys and the Kansas City Chiefs.

What makes him special is that he served his chapter as ritualist. When I asked why he had volunteered for that position, he responded with, "Everything in life begins with values and commitment and that is what the Ritual of Lambda Chi Alpha is all about."



### Canadian Football League

Lambda Chi was not limited to the United States in football success. **Greg Kabat (Wisconsin 1933)**, the captain of the University of Wisconsin team, was the first Lambda Chi to achieve kudos in Canadian Football. He played in the 1930s for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers as a player and a coach as his team won two Grey Cups in 1935 and 1939.

**Don Sutherin (Ohio State 1958)** kicked the winning field goal in the 1958 Rose Bowl and later signed to play with the Giants and Steelers; however, his greatest successes were with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats and the Ottawa Roughriders from 1960 through 1969 as he played on four winning Grey Cup teams.

A teammate on two of those winning Grey Cup teams was **Dave Viti (Boston 1962)**. Viti was also on the Tiger-Cats winning 1967 team. Kabat and Sutherin have been inducted into the Canadian Football League Hall of Fame.

One of Pelluer's chapter brothers, **John Fiala (Washington 1996)**, played linebacker with the Pittsburgh Steelers for five years, and has recently become the chapter adviser. **Blair Bush (Washington 1978)** played center for 17 seasons with the Bengals, Seahawks, Packers, and Rams, and played in Super Bowl XVI.

### Georgia

Our chapter at the University of Georgia has a storied history when it comes to football thanks in large measure to **Judge White (Georgia)** who recruited most of the men.

Of course Georgia football is synonymous with **Charlie Trippi (Georgia 1946)**, a No. 1 pick in the football draft and the winner of the Maxwell Trophy, which is symbolic of the outstanding football player in the country. What you may not know is that he served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and chose to return to college rather than turn pro immediately after his discharge.



In addition to his professional success, highlighted by scoring two touchdowns as the Cardinals defeated the Eagles in the 1947 championship game, in 2007 ESPN chose Trippi as the No. 20 top college player of all time.

**John Rauch (Georgia 1949)** achieved All-American status as a quarterback and led the Bulldogs to four consecutive bowl games, including an undefeated 1946 season, but he is best known as a coach, leading the Oakland Raiders to Super Bowl II and was named AFL Coach of the Year. Rauch became a member of the Georgia team after the coach spotted him playing an intramural game for Lambda Chi Alpha.

#### Washington State

**John Hurley (Washington State 1931)** and **George Hurley (Washington State 1932)** were biological brothers who played at

Washington State University. George Hurley later played in 1932 and 1933 with the Boston Braves who later became the Boston Redskins.

John Hurley joined the Cleveland Indians as a tight end after playing in the 1931 Rose Bowl. John was killed in action during World War II while leading his men to safety through a minefield. For this and other actions he was awarded the Silver Star Medal for bravery.

#### Honorary Brothers

We began this brief glimpse of our brothers in football with the discovery of Arthur Poe. Poe isn't the only notable athlete to join Lambda Chi as an honorary member after his college career ended.

**Vaughn Mancha (Florida State HON)** was an All-American center at the University of Alabama who played in three bowl games. Following one year with the Boston Yanks he turned to coaching and teaching at Florida State as the director of athletics and as a teacher in the College of Education and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

**Frank D'Agostino (Parsons HON)** was an All-American at Auburn University before playing for the Eagles and then the New York Titans during their inaugural season in 1960, playing alongside **Al Dorow (Michigan State 1954)**.

**Chester Gladchuk (Massachusetts HON)**, was an All-American center at Boston College before joining the New York Giants and, like several other Lambda Chi players, had his career interrupted by World War II. He was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1975.

These brothers have stood the test of time in their achievements on the football field. I hope they will be joined this fall by other brothers on the gridiron. ➕

# Tennessee Student Athlete

A third string defensive back for the University of Tennessee, Brent Freeman exemplifies the student in student athlete.

By Chris Barrick (Butler 2004)

*“South Forsyth High School in Cumming, Georgia is home to one of the most fundamentally sound cornerbacks in the state. Today we take a look at Brent Freeman, one of top juniors in the defensive backfield in 2003.”*

— Scout.com, April 22, 2003

Through high school **Brent Freeman (Tennessee-Knoxville 2009)** was a standout defensive back. Though recruited by ACC and SEC schools like Vanderbilt University and Duke University, he decided to sign his letter of intent to play college football at the U.S. Naval Academy.

During the eighth game of his freshman season, Freeman sustained an injury. It led him to transfer from the Naval Academy. He eventually decided to walk on at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville three years ago.

Though a member of the football fraternity, Freeman decided to become Greek upon entering Tennessee.

“I felt I related to Lambda Chi more than others,” says Freeman. “They represented what I wanted in a fraternity.”

Football and fraternity are two important brotherhoods for Freeman and he sees both groups as systems of support.

“I am very proud to be a part of Lambda chi Alpha,” he says. “I know if I’m ever struggling, my Fraternity brothers or teammates will be there to help me along the way.”

Following a 10 – 4 2007 season, going 6 – 2 in the SEC and winning the Outback Bowl, the Tennessee Volunteers enter 2008 with high hopes. The ESPN/USA Today pre-season rankings have the Volunteers ranked 18th. The team is predicted to compete with Florida for the top spot in the SEC East and a trip to the SEC Championship Game.

Now as a senior, Freeman is a third string defensive back for the team,

but he more importantly exemplifies the student in student athlete. As a journalism major, he was named to the 2007 SEC Academic Honor Roll.



“There is no greater honor than being a student athlete at UT,” says Freeman. “My experience on the field, in the classroom and within Lambda Chi Alpha have helped me establish guidelines by which to live my life. Words like love, faith, hard work and brotherhood come to mind.”



# Hall of Famer, Super Bowl Champion

An All-American wide receiver, Ron Sellers is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame and a Super Bowl champion.

By Tad Lichtenauer (Denison 1987)

**Ron Sellers (Florida State 1969)** remains a diehard Florida State University football fan.

“People ask me all the time who’s my favorite pro football team...and I tell them Florida State University,” he says.

This year the Florida State football program is going through some rebuilding but Sellers knows they will be back as a top national contender very soon.



Sellers grew up in Jacksonville, Florida, and played varsity football and basketball, including being a starting forward on a state championship basketball team.

He was awarded a football and basketball scholarship to Florida State but soon realized that he couldn’t continue to successfully play both sports.

“It was really almost impossible in my personal opinion to do more than one sport,” he says. “We went to a bowl game all three years I played varsity football and so the bowl games weren’t over until mid to late December, and the basketball team had already played five or six or seven games.

He decided playing both sports was not possible so he made football his top priority.

“Football was the only sport where I could have gone as far as I did,” he says. “I could catch a football and I could run. Basketball, ‘if you can’t leap, you can’t compete,’ is the old saying, and I couldn’t leap. But I could catch a football and I could run with it and I was very fortunate to be proficient at that.”

## Florida State Record Setter

Of course Sellers is extremely modest about his phenomenal college football achievements. At Florida State he became the greatest college pass receiver of his time.

No man has ever gained more yards receiving passes. In an NCAA record, still standing, he caught 240 passes for 3,979 yards. As a result of his play, he was named consensus All-American in 1967 and 1968. He established the Florida State single-game record of 16 receptions, single game record of 260 yards, and the one game mark of five touchdowns and 30 points.

His best performance came in 1968 against South Carolina with 16 catches. In other games in his career he caught 14 passes (three times) and 13 passes (three times). His 14 receptions against Penn State in 1967 set a Gator Bowl record. Against Wake Forest in 1968 he caught five touchdown passes.

In 1967, Sellers led the nation in receiving yardage while ranking second in receptions. In the 1967 Gator Bowl against Penn State, his 14 receptions broke **Fred Biletnikoff’s (Florida State 1965)** record.

“I was just very fortunate to have some great coaches like Joe Gibbs, who was my offensive coordinator at Florida State for two years,” Sellers says. “I was very lucky and that’s why I still hold like 17 records at Florida State from my days from 40 years ago.”

Sellers has been inducted into seven Sports Halls of Fame, including the National College Football Hall of Fame, which took place in 1987.

## NFL and Super Bowl

After graduating from Florida State with a

bachelor’s degree in risk management, Sellers became the No. 1 draft choice of the Boston Patriots in 1969.



After three years, he was traded to the Dallas Cowboys where he became their leader in receptions in 1972, in addition to catching a touchdown pass in the playoff game with the San Francisco 49ers from Roger Staubach with 30 seconds to play. He was traded to the Miami Dolphins in 1973, where he won a Super Bowl ring for the Miami Dolphins' victory over the Minnesota Vikings in Super Bowl VIII.



"I played my first three years with the Patriots as their No. 1 draft pick in 1969," he says. "I loved Boston and have gone back there many times. For the Dallas Cowboys, I was their leading receiver in 1972 before I was traded finally to the Dolphins."

Even though he played for three different teams, Sellers says he made many good friends at each stop.

"I would really say that I just enjoyed the whole experience of pro football and the different teammates I had," Sellers says. "I loved the guys. Every team, I still have special people that I stay in touch with. It was a great experience, especially being on a Super Bowl team."



**Ron Sellers & Associates**

During his tenure with the Boston Patriots and during the off-season, Sellers was a stock broker with Burgess & Leith, a regional stock brokerage firm in New England.

He started his insurance career with Massachusetts Mutual in 1974. He broke all sales records for first year agents for the 123 year-old company and was named to the Freshmen Five Group.

In 1975, Ron Sellers & Associates, Inc. was established in Palm Beach County, Florida, to provide corporate and personal insurance services, including group benefit products, life insurance and annuities, retirement/401(k) programs, estate planning and wealth preservation, business

succession planning and executive benefits.

"I really love helping people and I also love numbers," he says. "Being able to explain those to people so they can see what they are going to get. Just relationships. Our business is relational, about relationships between the client and also the insurance companies. I love that."

**Lambda Chi Alpha**

When Sellers enrolled at Florida State, some of his friends were Lambda Chis and he was a big admirer of Biletnikoff who had also been a very successful wide receiver at Florida State.



After joining, he developed many lifelong friendships and he also found a way to keep playing basketball by leading the chapter's intramural team.

"I've still got a lot of good friends from Lambda Chi days that I still see or talk to occasionally," he says. My Lambda Chi days were also very nice and rewarding. I had another family...in addition to my football teammates."

A few years ago, Sellers became involved with helping the chapter raise funds for a new chapter house and he thoroughly enjoyed helping them achieve their goal of erecting a beautiful new house.

"It was just great to be a brother and to make friends, and sometimes you appreciate it more after you leave than when you were there," he says. ➡



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