

January 2017

Between the Columns

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Kappa Alpha Order at The University of Georgia • Athens, Ga.



UNDERGRADUATES

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UNDERGRADUATE PROFILE

Gamma Legacy Young Continues Family's Sports Tradition



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Catch the Bulldogs In Action

The college basketball season may be winding down, but it's not too late to see the Bulldogs in action at Stegeman Coliseum. If you're in the Athens area in February or early March, come check out a game.

Feb. 14: vs. Mississippi State, 9 p.m.

Feb. 18 vs. Kentucky, TBA

Feb. 25: vs. LSU, 6 p.m.

March 1: vs. Auburn, 6:30

FOOTBALL

Save the Date For Dawgs Football

It's never too early to start thinking about football! Come join us on Saturday, April 22, at Sanford Stadium for the annual G-Day Spring Game. Admittance is free.

Brandon Young, a well-rounded senior Bulldog basketball guard, is a throwback to the 1950s era of his grandfather – a fellow Gamma Chapter Brother – which means he is buttoned-down with hair trimmed neat and manners that make mothers swoon, an overachieving student-athlete whose priorities are what most adults would prefer all students to underscore.

Brandon gets high marks in the classroom. His coaches sing his praises for his all-around inclinations, which would have made his grandfather proud. Bill Young Sr. grew up with a single mother who worked two jobs to support him and his sister. Austerity hovered about, but positive attitude and due diligence were his partners when he took advantage of a football scholarship at the University of Georgia. The rest of the story is that B.Y., Bill Young senior's nickname, which is also Brandon's, became a highly successful businessman who learned that the value of hard work and the advantage of a degree could be difference makers in his life.

His sons, Bill Jr., Howard and Steve, have followed in his footsteps. All imbued with an overt familial allegiance to the University of Georgia. The family business, General Wholesale, is where Brandon's father and

uncles manage a wholesale beer, wine, and spirits operation.

There would be an opportunity for Brandon, a management major in the Terry College of Business, with the family business, but he has other plans. The National Basketball Association is not in his future, so what is the next best option for a young man with a deep and abiding commitment to his sport? Coaching, like Georgia, has always been on his mind.

Brandon's next move will be to become a graduate assistant and enroll in graduate school for a master's degree. He has been a staff member at basketball camps since he was in high school.

"I have tried to learn from all the coaches I have played for and have seen how they manage players and games. Even though I don't experience that much playing time, I feel very much part of the team," Brandon says. "When I do get into a game, there is a great adrenaline rush. Although I try to focus on what I need to do on the court, I experience the greatest of feelings to be playing for the University of Georgia and to see my parents in the stands; (it) just gives me the most uplifting feeling."

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UNDERGRADUATE PROFILE

(Continued from page 1)

All of this means that he has the coaching makeup to connect with players and his goal is to allow his experience to segue into a coaching career where he can teach young boys that they can learn the benefits of a being part of a team.

“It gives you a foundation to compete, to learn to balance things in your life,” he says.

That balance is confirmed in Brandon’s campus experience. He has always been a serious student and last season’s highlights include being honored with the team’s Most Inspirational Award and being named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll while logging playing time in four games.

One of the most accomplished academic athletes at UGA, he has won the UGA Top Dog Academic Award: The Joel Eaves Scholar-Athlete Award which honors the



Georgia male and female student-athletes with the highest GPA entering the fall semester of his or her senior year. Brandon is the third basketball player to claim this honor since its inception in 1991-92.

It was easy to confirm that the former Georgia athletic director would have had the highest regard

for Brandon’s commitment to excellence on the court and in the classroom. When you played for Joel Eaves, who was the Auburn basketball coach before becoming AD at Georgia, you were expected to, among other things, make free throws and earn a degree. You might not have the talent to compete at the highest level, but practice at the foul line would bring you efficiency. And good study habits, work ethic and commitment would enable you to take home a sheepskin.

Brandon often flashes back to the time

when he was a precocious basketball player at Marist and he would come to Athens for Bulldog basketball games. He got a poster of Jonas Hayes, who signed it to Brandon. That poster, along with one from Jarvis Hayes, proudly hangs at his family home in Atlanta. Now Jonas is a Bulldog coach with whom Brandon interacts on a daily basis. The coaching atmosphere is something that Brandon wants to continue to experience.

Brandon is generously appreciated by the Bulldog coaches. Coach Mark Fox says, “Brandon is quietly one of the most valuable parts of our program. He is extremely dedicated and contributes in practice on a daily basis. He really has become a coach on the floor for us. He is one of the best Bulldogs we have ever had.”

The original B. Y. would be greatly pleased.

Courtesy: Loran Smith, The Athens Banner-Herald

ALUMNI PROFILE

Brother Muschamp '94 Closes Out First Year In Columbia

Will Muschamp '94 is no stranger to the border war between Georgia and South Carolina. But back in November, the Gamma alum was on the other side of the field for the annual rivalry game.

Muschamp, a member of the Kappa Alpha Order and the Bulldogs secondary during his time in Athens, just concluded his first year as the head coach for the Gamecocks. His old school defeated his new one, 28-14, at Williams-Brice Stadium on Oct. 9.

Like most football coaches, Muschamp – who was a defensive captain as a senior at Georgia – has spent a good deal of his professional life moving around the country. He’s coached in Alabama, Texas, Florida, and many places in between. During his lone tenure in the NFL, Muschamp served under then-Dolphins head coach Nick Saban.

The University of Florida gave Muschamp his first head-coaching



Will Muschamp took the Gamecocks to a bowl game in his first season in Columbia.

job in 2011. The former Bulldog went 1-3 against Georgia in the rivalry known as “The World’s Largest Outdoor Cocktail Party.”

Following his last season at Florida in 2014, Muschamp – who was the SEC Co-Coach of the Year in 2012 – became the defensive coordinator at Auburn. He held that position for one year before being becoming a head coach again at South Carolina.

Muschamp and the Gamecocks finished the 2016 campaign with a 6-7 record. They advanced to the Birmingham Bowl, where they lost to South Florida in overtime, 46-39.

That game was considered by many to be one of the most exciting games of the recent bowl season.

In the Southeastern Conference, South Carolina was tied for fifth place in the East Division, just one game behind three teams – Georgia, Tennessee and Kentucky – that tied for second.



Do you know of a Gamma alum who has an interesting story to tell?

Email a description to our editors at content@affinityconnection.com (mention KA at UGA), and we’ll consider him for a feature in an upcoming publication.

ALUMNI MILESTONE

Brother Knox '84 Inducted Into Georgia Golf Hall Of Fame

Last month, at one of the clubs Georgia's greatest amateur golfer called home, another career amateur from Augusta took his place in Georgia's Golf Hall of Fame.

Jeff Knox – Gamma Chapter, Class of 1984 – never met Bobby Jones, but the Augusta National co-founder would have approved of the path Knox has blazed in their chosen game. The two-time Georgia Mid-Amateur champion was inducted in the Class of 2017 with former British Open champion Stewart Cink, longtime pro Joe Inman Jr. and late teaching pro Jim Stamps in a ceremony at Atlanta Athletic Club.

"I was shocked to hear the news back in April," Knox said of his enshrinement. "You never really anticipate an honor like that or even think about it really. I didn't, anyway. It was just a real honor for me to be on the receiving end of this nice recognition. I guess it means that I was a consistent player and competitor over a long period of time and had some success over the years."

The 54-year-old Knox is a rare breed in today's world -- a lifelong amateur who never flirted with the idea of making a living with his clubs. He graduated from the University of Georgia in 1984, but only tried walking on to the golf team one semester before quickly abandoning the idea.

"I was not ready for that," he said. "Going to school and living independently for the first time, I was not mature enough to do both."

Knox was a decent junior player, but it wasn't until he reached his mid-amateur status -- players older than 25 -- when he started to



Knox has won five club championships at Augusta National.

make a real name for himself in golf circles. He won his first big tournament at the 1998 Azalea Amateur in Charleston when he was 36. He won consecutive Georgia Mid-Amateur Championships in 2008-09 after finishing runner-up four times from 2001-05, and he was a three-time runner-up in the Georgia Amateur in 1998, 2006 and 2007. He's teamed up with longtime Augusta friend Tripp Kuhlke to win the Peach Blossom Invitational and a pair of Charlie Coe Invitationals in Colorado.

Nationally, Knox has qualified to compete in three U.S. Amateurs (1995, 1999, 2001), four U.S. Mid-Amateurs (1999, 2002, 2004, 2006) and represented Georgia at the USGA State Team Championship in 1999 and 2003. In 2013, at age 50, he earned a three-way share for Georgia State Golf Association men's Player of the Year.

"Fortunately I had a job at Georgia Railroad Bank & Trust in Augusta before I graduated college and made a career out of banking for 15 years or so before moving over to the family business," said Knox, who oversees the Knox Foundation. "That's when I started

putting more time into my game and opportunities opened up because of my good play. Over the last 25 years is when I was able to establish more of my playability."

His playability has lasted a while. At Augusta Country Club, he's won five club championships over a span of 25 years (1991, 1998, 2005, 2012 and 2016).

Ironically, it is for not competing that Knox is more widely known to the golf world beyond Georgia. He's gained worldwide exposure in his occasional role as a non-competing marker at the Masters Tournament, where he steps in to help maintain the pace and keep score on the weekend when an odd number of players make the cut.

Since taking over the role in 2003 after fellow club member John Harris turned pro to join the Champions Tour, Knox has teed it up in nine Masters including the last six years in a row. He's played alongside Rory McIlroy, Bubba Watson, Ernie Els, Craig Stadler, Jim Furyk, Sergio Garcia, Miguel Angel Jimenez and Steve Stricker among others. Knox has unofficially won his share of the matchups, including a 70 to clip McIlroy by a stroke on Saturday in 2014. That prompted McIlroy, a few months later after winning the British Open, to say he'd seek Knox's advice in his effort to claim the only jewel missing from his career slam.

"He's the best I've ever seen on Augusta's greens," McIlroy said.

Courtesy: Scott Michaux, The Augusta Chronicle

UNDERGRADUATE UPDATE

After A Great 2016, Gamma Chapter Has Big Plans For 2017

The Gamma Chapter had a proud conclusion to a successful 2016. The final summation of our fundraising efforts for the Muscular Dystrophy Association exceeded \$15,000. This number placed us near the top of all other chapters across the nation.

Recently, we returned from New Orleans having celebrated Convivium. The event was a hit, as we honored our spiritual founder Robert E. Lee close to his birthday. In the coming months, we have some traditional spring events as well as some new additions. The chapter will continue to host the Cowboy Ball on April 22 and invite potential new members to partake in the festivities. This chapter is annually blessed with great legacy gentlemen and we know that

number can only grow as the chapter grows older and larger. We also will celebrate our Founders Day, where we look forward to commemorating the rich heritage that the Kappa Alpha Order is based upon.

Outside of these traditional events, the Gamma chapter will compete in a full-contact football game against the University of Georgia Sigma Nu fraternity. This is our second year participating in this philanthropy event designed to raise money for the charities from the most highly attended sororities. Our chapter is nearing its 150th birthday and we are enthusiastic about the opportunities this could entail.

– Submitted by Morgan Sowell

ALUMNI UPDATES

Brother Demos Still Involved In Sports Industry

We took a look back in our archives and found this interview with Brother **Chris Demos '90**. At the time, Demos worked in player outreach/community relations for the Atlanta Falcons, a position he held until 2007. He's now the owner of a consulting firm, DemoSports Consulting, LLC. Here's a look back at our interview with Brother Demos.

Q: Why did you join the fraternity?

A: I knew a lot of the guys and thought it would be a good way to meet more people from across the state.

Q: Tell us about your favorite memory of the fraternity.

A: There are too many to single out one. Memories include the KA-SAE football game, Saturdays in Athens in the fall, Old South – at the beach and schooling “Chicken” in the Cowboy Hoop Tournament.

Q: Did you live in the house? If so, who were your roommates? Tell us about a memorable time with them.

A: Yes, I lived in the house in the middle room on the third floor. No roommate. **Joe Orr, Blanchard, Footy, Humphrey, David Woodberry** all lived up there at one time or another. ... The third floor was great.

Q: What is your nickname, and how did you get it?

A: No one called me by my first name. It was always by my last name or a version of my last name, like “D” or “Demo.”

Q: What other activities or organizations were you involved with during your college days?

A: Not too many. I was No. III in the Order, and I played a lot of basketball!

Q: What kind of influence has the fraternity had on your life since graduation?

A: It has given me friendships that I will always keep.

LEGACY PROFILE

Brother Manfredi '92 proud his son chose KA



Jack Manfredi, right, is shown with son Dan.

Last month, we shared the news of our 34 new members, which includes nine legacies! We sat down with **Jack Manfredi '92**, the father of one of the new legacies, for a glimpse into what the chapter was like during his time and how he feels about his son pledging KA.

“I chose KA because I felt comfortable with the quality of the guys who were active during my rush period. They were all-around good guys who had developed a good balance of social life, athletics, and academics.

I spent most lunches and dinners at the KA house. I liked the food, but I especially liked our pickup basketball games every afternoon prior to dinner. We had a lot of really good athletes and the games were pretty intense.

Every Wednesday and Friday we had late-

night parties and band parties. We also had the postgame parties after fall football games, which seemed to attract hundreds of people to the house. We had the ideal location sitting along Lumpkin Street.

I loved the socials with our favorite sororities and the Old South weekend was a blast every year.

There were about 45 pledges in our class and I stay in touch with at least 10 guys on a regular basis.

I am glad my son chose KA, but I certainly didn't put any pressure on him. I wanted him to figure out what fraternity he felt most comfortable with so that he could get the most out of his time at UGA. I see that he made a great decision!”

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