DePauw University Sigma Chi Fraternity
September 2007

# Eye on Xi

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**Brothers Eades, Wham, Hood, Tubekis, Alward, Roberts ('08) Alford (pictured above), Jennings ('09) Neff, McGuire, and Berndsen ('10) enjoy a day "at the rope**

## Alumni Weekend Honors Prominent DePauw Alum

Percy Lavon Julian ('20), prominent scientist and innovator, was honored at Sigma Chi Fraternity during this year's alumni weekend festivities June 8-10. The ceremony was organized by the 1957 pledge class who thought it was only appropriate to honor the man who once called the Sigma Chi house his home.

Executive Vice President of the University, Neal Abraham, moderated the ceremony, giving the active chapter, alumni, and other guests insight into the Julian's life and the obstacles he was forced to overcome both at DePauw and post-graduation on account of his race. Clips from the PBS documentary about Julian's life were also shown.

The Class of 1957 was recognized as well for their contribution to the Fraternity over the course of their fifty-year membership. Active members who were able to attend greatly enjoyed the company and stories from the past of Brothers who they otherwise would not have met. Alumni weekend was also the inaugural weekend for the now famous fire pit located between the Administration Building and Sigma Chi. Brothers Miller and Tolley are credited with its construction and University approval.

## Back to the Books and Fun

As yet another school year begins at DePauw University, the Brothers of Xi Chapter are looking forward to everything that comes with being back on campus in Greencastle.

Last week, several Brothers took advantage of the last few days of the warm summer by spending time together swimming and floating outdoors at nearby Glenn Flint Lake.

The whole chapter, however, enjoyed nature and each other's company at the annual fall informal: Sigma Chi—Yak.

Brothers and their dates spent the day floating down Sugar Creek in nearby Turkey Run State Park. The informal served a leisurely escape from campus; and though the weather was not as sunny as some would have hoped, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

The start of the new academic year, however, has not been solely fun and games. After the spring 2006-2007 semester, Sigma Chi's chapter GPA is ranked 4$^{th}$ among Fraternities with a solid 3.23. The Chapter GPA is 0.08 points above the all Fraternity average and 0.10 points above the University's all men's average. Academics, therefore, has played a dominant role for many of the Chapter's 55 active members. And as the routine pressures of academic life at DePauw reach a normal level, Xi Chapter's focus will increase as well.