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DKE would like to thank everyone who participated in the tournament either as a spectator, donor, player, or supporter. We'd like to specifically thank the following individuals and businesses for their generosity and remind the community that the foundation is a 501(c)3 organization; all donations are fully tax deductible. Please contact Chris McConnell @ <a href="mailto:commonsering-commons

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Thank You from the Saxes

There really isn't strong enough words to express the extreme gratitude we feel toward all of you for the incredible support you gave Jer during his time at Lafayette, your incredible commitment to honor his life through your continued dedication to his legacy foundation and our family. You are truly remarkable people and we are very proud of Jeremy for choosing Lafayette and pledge brotherhood with DKE.



We remember how much time Jeremy put into his decision to pledge DKE. He worried about fraternity life and whether he could make the necessary commitment. The day he said he was pledging DKE, we asked him what it was that finally compelled that decision. He simply stated with conviction, "it's the guys...I want to be brothers *for life* with these guys"

We thank you for all the love, support and fun times you generously shared with Jer. It is through the support of his DKE brothers that he thrived at Lafayette.

After Jer's tragic death, you have continued your relationship with him through support of his legacy foundation and by outreach to our family. Through close relationships with so many of you and involvement with all of you in the annual tournaments, we feel included in the Lafayette and DKE family and we are deeply grateful for all your love and support.

The choice of this 3 x 3 Basketball Tournament is a perfect way to honor Jer – DKE brothers all know how much he loved playing sports with his friends and brothers. We strongly believe he is smiling down on this event and is thrilled that everyone is having fun at an affordable event while helping make a difference for those less fortunate.

With Much Love and Great Appreciation,

Heidi, Tracy & Ryan Saxe

DKE Philanthropy

The Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity has a long history of civic engagement. Whether that means community service or philanthropic fundraising, DKE as well as all of Greek Life at Lafayette College continues to provide exceptional service to those the greatest in need.

One of the most important aspects of Greek Life, especially at Lafayette College, is our ability to serve others. In a city such as Easton, in a time such as this, one finds no shortage of suffering souls in need. It is an incredible moment when one realizes that a helping hand has the power to bring happiness, and hope, even if just for a day to one less fortunate.

Recently DKE Rho, with the assistance of our incredible faculty advisor Professor Richard Schupp, has begun working with a local food bank, the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. A wonderful organization, St. Vincent opens its doors twice a month to the people of Easton. In order to feed the people, however, St. Vincent de Paul needs the food. A local church also working with the organization has urged its congregation bring non-perishables with them for Sunday worship. The brothers of DKE have proven to be excellent transporters of these goods.

The brothers of DKE have committed themselves towards the betterment of many aspects of the community. This past fall we planted trees at the local nursing home. Earlier this semester DKE and Alpha Phi came together to raise money for their

respective charities by holding a pictures with Santa event, during which students could pay to have their picture taking with none other than Santa Claus!

Traditionally, the obligations of DKE towards the community have been as such: 1) Providing community service as often as possible to those in need, and 2) Fundraise through philanthropic events for the purposes of donating to various charities and organizations. Following the tragic loss of Brother Jeremy Saxe in 2008 this model was changed. As you may know by now, Jeremy was a heavily driven individual intent on bettering the quality of life for those he loved. Jeremy was re-born in the village of Pharping, Nepal. He believed the people there needed and deserved all he could give. Unfortunately his mission was cut short.

Jeremy's family, friends, and brothers of Delta Kappa Epsilon refused to let his dream die. *Jiwanko Saathiharu: Jeremy Saxe Foundation for Education and Development, Inc.* was set up in Jeremy's honor. DKE Rho has since committed itself to *Jiwanko Saathiharu*.

Each year DKE Rho hosts the Jeremy Saxe Memorial Basketball tournament. The tournament quickly became an icon in the civic engagement community at Lafayette. Basketball players from all walks of life; some with skills, some not so much, come out in droves to enjoy the company of others and the atmosphere, charged as it is with the loving memory of Jeremy.

Jeremy's Life and Legacy

By Mike Mariani

Jeremy Saxe is the inspiration for the foundation that bears his name, Jiwanko Saathiharu (Friends of Jeremy, Friends of Life). Through his example—his passion, his warmth, and his rare social conscience—all who knew him are moved to believe in positive change in the world.

Jeremy grew up in Orange, CT, where he matured into a well-rounded student athlete at Amity High School. In addition to his exceptional academic achievements, Jeremy was a co-captain for the soccer, volleyball, and ski racing teams. In his senior year, he was voted MVP by his teammates in all three sports.

In his college essay, he accurately described himself as a young man who strove to balance schoolwork and athletics with a social life. He even referenced a sine wave, or "sinusoidal graph" as he put it, to illustrate the drastic ups and downs such a busy, hyperfunctional life could bring. He expressed a desire for college to give him an opportunity to find a single, overarching thing to be passionate about. In High School his passion was distributed between so many different endeavors. He felt that if he could just find one single pursuit, whether it be in math, physics, politics, or some other discipline, he could channel his energies and carve a path for his future. During his time in college Jeremy hoped to find something specific and meaningful that he could commit the fullness of his incredible spirit to.

Jeremy began his freshman year at Lafayette College in the Fall of 2005. By anyone's account—close friends, classmates, professors—he was an energetic, indefatigably positive college kid. Perhaps "buoyant" might describe him best. Jeremy went to

class, hung out with friends, and volunteered in the Easton community all with the same bouncy enthusiasm. He was like a happy kangaroo. Everything he did physically galvanized him; you would be hard-pressed to ever catch him dragging his feet at anything.

During his time at Lafayette Jeremy volunteered for two initiative programs in Easton, PA—Kids in the Community (KIC) and Teens in the Community (TIC). After classes a few days a week Jeremy would travel into Easton and spend a few hours with underprivileged children and teenagers. In KIC, he helped kids with their homework, played sports with them, and guided them through different arts and crafts activities. While volunteering for TIC, Jeremy led teenagers in exercises that facilitated discussions about serious issues inner-city adolescents faced. He listened sympathetically as kids talked about single-parent households, dangerous urban influences, and the adult responsibilities that were foisted on them. To watch Jeremy participate in these two programs was to see someone at ease with other human beings. His different background never created a divide between him and the young people he spent time with. He was charismatic and playful with the kids, throwing the football or joking around, and sincere and earnest with the teenagers. What these Easton kids knew was that Jeremy wasn't faking it: he wasn't just putting his time in, feigning compassion and interest so he could put volunteer work on his resume. He was really there, with them. He didn't have the selfish motivations that keep people from disparate backgrounds alienated from one another even when they're physically side by side. His time in KIC and TIC marked the early stages of a compassionate social awareness, as he would become increasingly mindful of the economic injustice in the world.

While at Lafayette, Jeremy maintained a 3.84 GPA as a Philosophy major. Although he studied a great deal of Western philosophy, by his junior year he was drawn to the possibility of

learning about Eastern ideologies and beliefs, specifically, Buddhism and its ontology. This nascent fascination led Jeremy to a transformative experience that would open up his mind and heart and show him a greater purpose: his abroad trip to Nepal.

During the Spring of 2008, Jeremy lived with a host family in the Nepalese city of Pharping. He originally set out to explore Tibetan Buddhism and how it shapes the personal identity and philosophy of its followers. In other words, he was passionate about branches of knowledge—religion, philosophy, spirituality. While Jeremy would continue to be fascinated by the Buddhist ideas of dharma, karma, and the moral complexity that comes from a spiritual reward system, his time in Nepal put him in touch with a humanity that college coursework never could. On his first full day in Pharping, he wrote in his journal about how paralyzed he felt by all the poverty around him. He wrote that it wasn't fair that he should be born into wealth and privilege while these children had to suffer and beg. This indignation at the suffering of others became a through-line in Jeremy's life. He realized with perfect clarity what so many others fail to: that human beings have no control over the circumstances they are born into, and there is a heartrending injustice in the unequal distribution of suffering through birthright. This realization, something Jeremy had felt beneath the surface for much of his life, was fully awakened in Nepal.

But of course Jeremy was not content to feel idle compassion during his time abroad. While in Nepal he worked arduously studying the effects of Buddhism on development and civic engagement. He strove to understand how Buddhism and the personal beliefs it fosters could motivate people to change their circumstances and better the world around them. He specifically objected to the ideas set forth in the acclaimed non-fiction book *Fatalism and Development*, which posits that Nepal's people have a resigned, fatalistic outlook on their lives, thereby making attempts

at development nearly impossible. Jeremy felt strongly that the Buddhist doctrine of karma could motivate the Nepalese to improve their station and assume agency over their lives.

Through studying non-governmental organizations and the social infrastructure of Nepal, Jeremy came to realize the extraordinary potential that education had in these people's lives. He believed education to be perhaps the most important thread that must be woven into the social fabric of the Nepalese's lives. If people received adequate educations then they would have a more complete grasp of their natural freedoms. Jeremy believed that it is not fatalism and a resignation to bleak fates that kept so many Nepalese poor and troubled; it is a lack of education and opportunity.

This conviction became the driving force of Jeremy's life. He was very passionate about Nepal and its people, and he cared for them deeply. During that semester of his junior year he found that one, overarching thing that he could give himself to completely. It was his dream to return to Nepal, to devote his professional life to ending the burden of poverty and misfortune that he knew, in his heart, was not the fault of those who carried it.

We may not think about it every day, or even every year, but we all know instinctively that dreams never die. They are in many ways our one great reason for living. To make better lives for the people, especially the children, of Nepal was Jeremy's dream. And through those who carry his memory and the Jeremy Saxe Foundation, it will never die.

When we think about Jeremy, one thing that is so striking is why he became so interested in Buddhism and Nepal in the first place. People embrace religion during their lives for a variety of reasons: personal salvation, the desire for reform and discipline, self-discovery. In almost all cases people find religion to cure their

own ills or to reach a deeper understanding within themselves. What makes Jeremy so unique is that he embraced Buddhism so that he could better understand *others*. His journey—towards Buddhism, Nepal, and his own sense of global justice—was astonishingly, beautifully selfless. Among many other things, he will always be remembered for that.

The passage of time will never pry Jeremy from our hearts. To this day, his Delta Kappa Epsilon brothers still talk about him in emails, at reunions, and of course, at each of his annual basketball tournaments. Although Jeremy was clearly a deep and layered person, some things are recalled over and over: how easy he was to be around, his kindness, that ear-to-ear grin. DKE friends remember playing catch with him on March Field, playing basketball at Kirby Sports Center, and dancing with goofy abandon at Brothers Bar parties. Others still cherish his courage and openness with those around him. However, we are all unanimous in our memory of Jeremy as someone with an easy way with people and a big heart for them.

Mike Mariani is a 2008 graduate of Lafayette, a former KIC counselor, and a Delta Kappa Epsilon brother of Jeremy. Mike is currently a Writing Specialist and English Professor at Mercy College and a freelance writer.



DKE Jeremy Saxe Basketball Tournament (founded 2009)



The tournament founders include: Chris McConnell, Mike Mariani, George Vrachimis, Dom Cimorelli, Christian Garelli, Nick Graham, Sander Rose, Matt Zamore, John Crerand, Joe Nam, Tom Gallo, Pete Heart, Ross Burlingame, Steve Smagula, Jon Shimmel, Mike Bellantoni, Brian Hu, Josh Kambour, Jason Siegel, Jon Jay, and Ezra Tischler

Chairs

2009 Chair: Stephen Smagula

2010 Chair: Greg Baldwin/Brent Sounders

2011 Chair: Jared Piette
2012 Chair: Tierney Clark



Jiwanko Saathiharu: Jeremy Saxe Foundation for Education and Development, Inc.



Our Inspiration

Jiwanko Saathiharu honors the life of Jeremy Saxe who experienced a transforming semester abroad in Nepal through the School for International Training/Nepal Culture and Development. He fell in love with the spirituality of the culture, and the warmth and generosity of the Nepali people, but as his eyes bore witness to the gross disparity in resources that exist in our world, he became "livid." This powerful experience propelled him to commit his future to help level the playing field for the disadvantaged and work toward alleviating poverty and injustice through international development.

Tragically, on September 4, 2008, Jeremy died suddenly and unexpectedly of an undiagnosed heart condition, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

A natural leader with abundant positive energy, tremendous integrity, insightful intelligence, compassion and good humor, Jeremy inspired all who knew him. Jeremy's spirit, inspiration, and mission live on through the work of his legacy foundation: providing quality education and development initiatives in Nepal. In Nepal, Jeremy is known by his Nepali name, Jiwan ("Life"). Jiwanko Saathiharu means "Friends of Jeremy/Friends of Life.