Conclave 1995

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On Friday October 20th eight Iowa State Forestry Students and one Staff Member set out on what would be an experience they would never forget. Tony Cline, Gretchen Holstein, Mike Lichter, Cory Levendusky, Monte Pope, Loran Ramsey, Rob Rubsam, Chuck Rodrigues (Staff), and myself traveled to Kennekuk County Park in East Central Illinois to compete in the 44th Annual Midwestern Foresters Conclave. When we arrived at the park it was already dark which proved a challenge in making camp. All of the other teams had arrived and set up camp including the University of Illinois (the host university), Southern Illinois, South Eastern Illinois, Purdue, Michigan State, Michigan Tech., and Missouri.

The competition was set to begin at 8:00 a.m. sharp on Saturday and continue throughout the day ending at about 6:00 p.m. There were about 12 different events for men, women, and coed teams and individuals. The events included tobacco spit, wood identification, log rolling, dendrology, one man buck, traverse, chain throw, two-person buck, match split, speed chop, bolt throw, pulp toss, and a special event. We placed in the top three in log rolling (1st and 3rd), match split (1st), and pulp toss (3rd). We finished 4th out of 8 teams when all was said and done. This ranking was quite impressive considering the average team size of the other teams was about 20 to 25 people. Our equipment from the middle ages added to the challenge of the competition, but with help from Purdue and Southern Illinois of lending equipment and coaching we made it through.

That night we were all treated to an awards banquet and party to celebrate the Conclave and all our accomplishments. Sunday morning was time to pack up and take off back to ISU to hit the books again. The weekend turned out to be a memo-
rable one in which we pushed our physical limits and mental capacities and enjoyed every minute of it. We also made new friends and formed closer relationships with each other. I would whole heartedly recommend the experience to anyone and everyone.

**Xi Sigma Pi**

*by Mark Vitosh*

Xi Sigma Pi, was founded at the University of Washington on November 24, 1908, and is the oldest and largest national forestry honor fraternity. The Alpha Gamma chapter at Iowa State University was created in 1965. The objectives of the fraternity are:

• to maintain a high standard of scholarship in forestry education,
• to work for the improvement of the forestry profession,
• and to promote a fraternal spirit among those engaged in activities related to the forest.

The requirements to become a member as an undergraduate student include:

• junior or senior status in a forest management curriculum,
• having completed a minimum of 74 credit hours,
• be ranked in the upper 25 percent of the class scholastically,
• and completion of a minimum of 10 semester hours in forest resource management courses.

The requirements to become a member as a graduate student include:

• completion of a minimum of 10 semester hours in forest resource management classes,
• an outstanding record in graduate work,