

# Lacrosse

MAGAZINE



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## From the Ashes

Why UA coach Ted Wolford has a whole new appreciation for his place on the sidelines

March 13, 2007

Ted Wolford brings a new sense of appreciation with him to the sidelines this spring at Upper Arlington (Ohio) High School.

On Dec. 14, a fire, classified as arson and still under investigation, consumed the apartment that he had called home for 13 years. Wolford lost all of his furniture and many of his other personal belongings while being left homeless.

Fortunately, he was not left friendless.

By 10 a.m. the next day, he had a dozen volunteers show up to move boxes containing the remains of his possessions.

Within a week, local friends had organized a fund-raising event at a local bowling alley. Those who came to offer their support included former players and their families, lacrosse officials, coaches from throughout the area and current college players who had returned home for Christmas vacation.

He was provided with more offers for housing than he can recall. The most touching may have been from the younger brother of a player who offered Wolford the top berth in his bunk bed.

In subsequent weeks, he has been continually humbled by the help and support that he has been offered by members of the lacrosse community around the nation.

"The response has just been incredible," said Wolford. "I've received checks, phone calls and e-mails from California, New Jersey, New York and all over the country. I've heard from people who I've never met before. It's been so overwhelming to see the generosity of people."

Wolford is in the process of moving into a new condo this spring. He also has a new motto that he's sharing with his team. He has learned first hand that "it's not the number of things that matter, it's the number of people in your life that matter."

*Note: This appears in the April issue of Lacrosse magazine, an exclusive member benefit of US Lacrosse. [Join today](#) for your complimentary subscription.*

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Upper Arlington boys lacrosse coach Ted Wolford moves into a new condo this spring after his 13-year apartment was set ablaze in December. (Photo: John Strohsacker)