

146. Tech XXII: Our Bulldog

Gavin Kelly

Hey everybody, you're listening to Beyond 1894. This is the official podcast of Louisiana Tech University. My name is Gavin Kelly from the Office of University Communications, and our guest for this April 1, 2026, episode is our very own Tech XXII. Known affectionately as "Techie" by the campus community, Tech XXII is our current bulldog mascot and maybe the most loyal and friendly member of the Tech Family. I'm always telling our guests that I appreciate their time during a busy school year, and you, my friend, are no exception. Tech, thanks for being here today.

Tech XXII

[Bark!]

Gavin Kelly

Well I'm glad you could make it, too. So, look, I ask all of our guests to talk about where they're from and how they got here. I know your father was our previous mascot, Tech XXI. You were officially introduced in January of 2018, so you've been at this for a long time. No offense. The lineage of beautiful bulldogs we've had here really is special, and you've spent most of your life as a part of this university. Tell us about those first years being a part of the family here and getting to know the students, faculty, staff, and alumni that love you so much.

Tech XXII

[Dog licking sounds]

Gavin Kelly

Uh huh. Sure. Wowww. Yeah. No, for sure. I can only imagine. Well it's good to know that you felt the love early on, and I hope it's been evident these last 8 years how much you've become synonymous with our institution. Let's shift gears for a little bit, no pun intended, and talk about cars for a second. Despite not being licensed to drive, you own a modest collection of cars, including a blue Bugatti and a red Jeep, and you can often be seen at events driving around while local law enforcement just let you get away with it. Tell us what you love about cars and why it feels so freeing to put the top down and feel the wind in your... uhh... jowls.

Tech XXII

[Dog sniffing sounds]

Gavin Kelly

Yeah that's a good point. No, I believe you. Well, your secret is safe with me. Okay, look, I know you've got places to be and people to be petted by, so I won't keep you much longer. One last question before we let you go, not literally, by the way; we always have a leash on you. You're really a minor celebrity around here. You're in countless photos and videos, and you've had starring roles on screen and stage

and stacked up a following of adoring fans. But at the end of the day, you seem like just a chill guy who loves to just... lie down. So, my question is: how have you managed to stay humble and be yourself all this time?

Tech XXII

[Bulldog panting]

Gavin Kelly

Beautifully said. And that's great advice, too, if you're listening. Well, Techie, I think that's our time, but I'm grateful you were able to come on for this April 1st episode of Beyond 1894. I know we'll see you around. Just want you to know we all love you. And hey. Go Dogs.

Tech XXII

[Two barks]

Gavin Kelly

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