



**Pactoracles
Class Agent's Letter
For The Wabash College Class of 1971**

November 7, 2022



Winner Of Monon Bell Will Go To Play-Offs

DePauw University, smarting from blowing a 21-0 lead to lose 42-35 at Crawfordsville last year, apparently wants to suppress Wabash attendance in Greencastle on November 12, as this year's Monon Bell battle will determine the conference champion and the automatic qualifier to the NCAA Division III play-offs. Kick-off is 1:07 p.m., November 12.

DePauw has jacked up the ticket price to \$35. As tickets are being sold only online, the price nears \$40 with add-ons of tax and service charges. This price is a tough nut for students to crack. It about doubles the price. It further discourages Wabash alumni who often are treated discourteously at DePauw's Blackstock Stadium. To soften the blow of the high price, a fan gets a hot dog, chips, and a drink. This overture certainly appeals to diabetic fans and others who monitor their consumption. As of November 5, 700 tickets for Wabash fans remain unsold. No tickets will be sold at the gate.



Liam Thompson, a junior, passes during a recent game. Photo by Tom Runge '71.

The game should be a good one. DePauw is 8-1 overall, and Wabash is 7-2. One Wabash loss came from North Central College, 56-12, early in the season. That thrashing was no fluke. North Central was the national runner-up in 2021 and is #1 this year. Only Wheaton has scored more points against undefeated North Central than Wabash this year.



My Monon Bell button for 2022.

DePauw and Wabash have the same conference record, 6-1. All other conference foes have at least two losses, so the Monon Bell winner goes to the play-offs. Both schools mercilessly overwhelmed Hiram, Oberlin, and Kenyon. Wabash gives up more points than DePauw, but Wabash scores more points. The Little Giants have scored at least 41 points in every game except against mighty North Central. DePauw has had three games in which they scored 22 or fewer points.

Wabash is led by a superlative player Liam Thompson at quarterback. He can throw short, he can throw long, he can throw very long, and he almost always throws accurately. He can run, too. He threw a school-record seven touchdown passes against Oberlin while playing only three quarters. He leads the NCAA Division III with close to 370 yards passing per game. The Wabash defense gives up too many points, and the team's punting game ranges from poor to mediocre. Scoring a lot of touchdowns, however, reduces the number of punts.

So, this could be a high-scoring game, and Wabash should make DePauw pay a high price.

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Classmate John L. Ryder Passes Away

John Ryder, a campus leader, successful lawyer, Republican advisor, a gentleman and responsible citizen, passed away after a battle with cancer in his hometown of Memphis, TN on May 15, 2022.

John was a Lambda Chi. He earned his J.D. from Vanderbilt University. He was a law partner of Harris Shelton in Memphis. He had an accomplished career in two seemingly different areas of law—bankruptcy law and election law. He taught a short course on election law as an adjunct faculty member at Vanderbilt and taught election law at the Belmont College of Law.

Politically, he was active at the grassroots level and at the top of the Republican party. He managed campaigns for some state legislators and worked in campaigns for such notable politicians as Lamar Alexander and Fred Thompson.

He was known for fair play and his ability to keep political differences civil. Said former U.S. Senator Alexander on the occasion of John's death: "He had good manners, and good taste so as society grew increasingly uncivil and coarse, John continued to have his pleasant disposition. He didn't raise his voice. He showed respect for his opponents, and he enjoyed fine wine and the opera."



John L. Ryder '71 and his father John P. Ryder '40 chat in the chapter room of Lambda Chi Alpha in March 1968.

He began to assume leadership roles in the Republican Party with his election as chairman of the Shelby County Republican Party in 1987. He became an active member of the state party's Executive Committee and later was a representative on the Republican National Committee. He was General Counsel for the Republican National Committee from 2013 to 2017. He was also a delegate or an active participant at every Republican National Convention between 1984 and 2016. He cast votes for President and Vice President as a Tennessee Presidential Elector in the Electoral College in 1988 and 2004. He was chair of the Republican National Lawyers Association from 2017 to 2018. In 2016, he was selected as the RNLA Lawyer of the Year.

John also served on the board of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Wabash College recognized John's legal career when it awarded him the prestigious David W. Peck Medal in 2019. In his acceptance written remarks for this award, he said to students, administrators, and alumni:

"...When I was a student, Thaddeus Seymour was President of the College. He used to say that our school motto *Scientiae et virtuti* should be translated as 'knowledge and guts.' It is appropriate to quote President Seymour, since David Peck was Chairman of the Search Committee which recommended Seymour to the Board of Trustees. David Peck was born in Crawfordsville, graduated from Wabash Phi Beta Kappa, received his law degree from Harvard, was a distinguished judge and a partner at Sullivan & Cromwell. He was also a political activist, working diligently for Thomas Dewey in his Presidential campaigns. It is an honor to receive an award that is given in the name of David Peck.

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"If you will indulge me, I want to take a moment to remember another Wabash alumnus: my father, Jack Ryder, class of 1940, who throughout his life exhibited the qualities of knowledge and guts. Dad graduated in 1940. On December 8, 1941, he joined the US Navy.



John Ryder speaks to students and others for his Peck Lecture in 2019.

Photo by the college.

On March 19, 1945, 74 years ago tomorrow, he was serving aboard the aircraft carrier Franklin. On that day, the Franklin was attacked by a Japanese dive bomber, which dropped an armor piercing bomb on the ship. It penetrated the flight deck and exploded in the hanger deck, along with the fuel and ammunition. Over half the crew of 1300 men were killed in the ensuing fire. That was a situation which called for knowledge and guts.

"Throughout his life, my father provided me a living example of *scientiae et virtuti*.

"The liberal arts education that Wabash provides gives the student a base of knowledge—about subjects, but also about the process of learning new subjects. The virtue that one learns at Wabash, epitomized by the gentleman's rule means having the guts to do the right thing.

"These are skills and abilities which the law demands. Knowledge and the knowledge of how to obtain knowledge are critical as each case walks through the door presenting a new range of facts and problems. We are called upon to learn quickly the nuances of a field of business or human endeavor previously unknown to us. We are called upon to master a set of facts surrounding an event, a transaction, or a relationship.

"*Virtuti* is not just the sum of the ABA Code of Professional Responsibility. It is the spirit of that Code. It is having the guts to do the right thing—maybe firing a client who fails to tell the truth or refuses to comply with orders of the Court; maybe accepting engagement in a case which puts you at odds with powerful forces or social prejudice; maybe declining a case in which you cannot in good conscience seek the result your client wants, even though he is willing to pay substantial money to get that result.

"When I started the practice of law, I was mentored by an older lawyer who liked to say he was 'called to the bar.' It is a lovely phrase.

"The implication is that law, like the priesthood, is a calling. It is a vocation. It is not just business.

"We are called to make ourselves available to use the knowledge and training we have received to help others.

"The symbol of the law has always been Lady Justice, blindfolded, holding the scales of justice. I think that the symbol of lawyers should be Duct Tape. We are called upon to deal with things that are broken and need mending—broken contracts, broken laws, broken hearts.

"To mend the broken things in our society effectively requires knowledge and guts, *scientiae et virtuti*. Knowing what to do and doing the right thing.

"When you find yourself on the border of structure and chaos, as we discussed earlier, whether it is in trial, in the operating room, in the classroom, in a convention, or on the

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deck of a burning ship, what will guide you through is scientiae et virtuti, knowledge and guts...”

“I am honored to accept this award and I am proud to be a lawyer.”

John was active in his church. He supported the opera and was a board member of the Memphis Opera. He was the attorney for the Memphis and Shelby County Film Commission. He enjoyed reading, baseball, duck hunting, wine, and conversation.

Melita Lain Whitaker, his high school sweetheart and wife of 49 years, and two daughters survive him.

Classmate Timothy J. Shickley Passes Away

Tim Shickley passed away on September 21, 2022 from complications from a seizure. He lived in Ridley Park, PA. He was born in Elwood, IN. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi.

Tim became a research scientist. He received a Masters in anatomy from the University of Maryland School of Dentistry and a Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He taught gross anatomy at Johns Hopkins Nursing School in the 1970s, taught pathophysiology and toxicology at Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science from 1986 to 1991, and taught gross anatomy and oral and general histology at Temple University Dental School from 1992 to 1998. He served as president of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Society of Neuroscience in the 1990s.

Tim was a talented artist and enjoyed drawing and painting in oil. He was an officer of the Sketch Club in Philadelphia and entered his works in juried shows there. He was the Interim Director of Continuing Education at Delaware College of Art and Design.

He was a talented cook. He followed recipes and had a flair for creating many dishes of his own. He was an avid fisherman, an enthusiastic camper and outdoorsman, and a collector of mineral and biological specimens. He was a voracious reader on a myriad of topics, including history, outdoor activities, mathematics, and science.

Kristina Adam, his wife of 36 years, survives him. His only child, Hannah, predeceased him.

Classmate Laune Mason Passes Away

Laune Mason passed away on August 4, 2022. He was a member of the Beta Theta Pi. He graduated from Purdue University in 1971. He resided in Auburn, IN.

He owned Allen J. Wise, Inc. and was chairman of the Parade of Homes in 1984 and President of the Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne in 1988. In recent years Laune operated as Laune Mason Building Contractor being subcontracted to Real America LLC.

He was a member of New Life Lutheran Church in Waterloo, IN, serving as the Council President for 10 years. His wife Deborah and four children survive him.



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News From Campus

Admissions. The Class of 2026 is the second largest entering class in a decade. This is good news after the dent on admissions that Covid caused. The class includes 265 new students, 25 of whom are international students, 20 come from the Chicago area, and 20 are from Texas. Most students still come from Indiana. The student body is 835 students.

Campus Center. The Campus Center, now known as the Sparks Center, is under serious review. The architect has presented some designs of the proposed campus center project. The focus is on a high-quality building that enhances all students' sense of belonging.

Fraternity Life. About 60% of the freshmen pledged fraternities. This is important for multiple reasons. A chief reason is that fraternities is a method of housing students. The college owns the dorms and the fraternity houses. Low membership in fraternities creates a housing problem. Most fraternities are doing well, but a couple need to step up their recruitment.



Donate To Archives

*Prominently on display in the college archives is the numeral sweater that classmate **Tom Williams** donated this summer. He also donated his letter jacket. Tom lives in Flat Rock, IN.*

You, too, can donate to the archives. Other classmates including Andy Dziubinskyj, Bruce Bradway, Dan Holderbaum, Jim Kamplain, and I have donated artifacts already. I can help with any donations, and the college has a fund to help defray costs.

Wabash's basketball team ended a spectacular year by reaching the Final Four played in Ft. Wayne in March. Three classmates attended. **Skip Adams** of Greensboro, GA took a direct flight to make the semi-final game, which Wabash lost. He joined **Brad Johnson** and me at the game. Skip is at the left, and Brad is in the middle in the photo taken by Andrea Pactor. Though Wabash lost, it was a lot of fun for the mass of Wabash fans for pregame and the game in the Ft. Wayne Coliseum. Wabash won 24 games in a row and finished 28-4.



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News Of Classmates

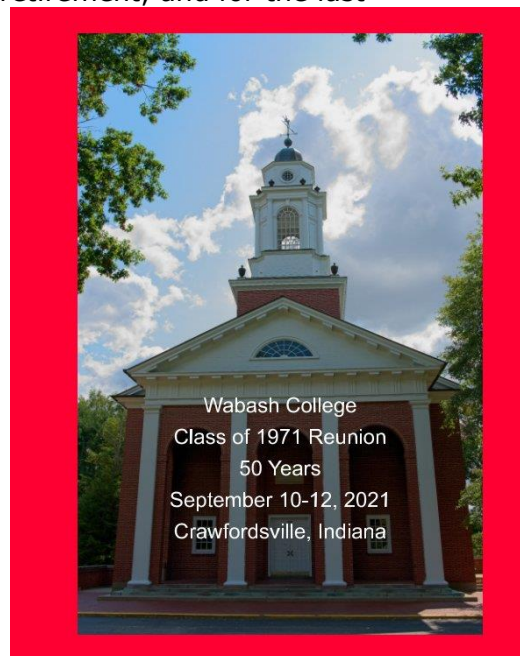
Beck Hannaford is still working. He writes: "I failed retirement, and for the last eight years I have worked for Waggoner, Irwin, and Scheele, a Human Resources Consulting firm specializing in HR Management for city and county government." Beck lives in Muncie, IN.

Brad Johnson served as judge of the preliminary round of the Wabash College Moot Court on October 22, 2022. Brad lives in Fishers, IN.

Jon Pactor was honored by the students of the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law as "Friend of the Court" for the sixth consecutive year. He also gave a Chapel Talk on August 25. Classmates **Ron Flynn** of Cincinnati, **Andy Dziubinskyj** and Marta Dziubinskyj of West Lafayette, and **Jim Kamplain** and Esta Kamplain of Birmingham, AL attended the talk before a lunch with some retired professors.

Tom Martella wrote this summer: "In light of the Supreme Court ruling, I have reflected once again, as I have since the Trump ascension several years back, on Professor Lipsky's discussion in Political Philosophy of the Hegelian dialectic. The "thesis, antithesis, synthesis" evolution seems particularly accurate in light of, first, the liberalization of our post-war (WW II) society's community and culture, which was clearly evident in our time at Wabash; and next, a backlash of more conservative elements, culminating in the Trumpsters' ascent. One wonders whether the "synthesis" will appear -- how, and when? ...

"I have been retired for a while and have been volunteering in several ways. Most notably is my serving on the board of the Camping & Education Foundation, which supports camps focused on intense adventure canoeing throughout Canada, based on the Minnesota border with Ontario. I was introduced to the camp by Phi Delta Psi school in the '70s. I also go up pre-season to the boys' camp (nearly 100 years old) on an island in Rainy Lake, with the 15-year-old girls' camp on shore, to volunteer in clearing up, dock-building, cabin building, painting, etc., all with alums and younger staff. My son went all the way through the camp, starting when we lived in Brazil and he was 8, culminating with his and five others' Arctic trip in 2013 to three Canadian Provinces and winding up after 60 days in the Arctic Ocean itself. I also volunteer as a Docent at Dumbarton Oaks museum and gardens here in D. C. where we've lived for 40 years (outside the six in the Mideast and Latin America). Jana is retired and volunteering on the board of an Early Childhood organization. Kids are out of grad school and working, one here, with her doctorate in physical therapy, and another, a music therapist in Denver.



Jim Kamplain has published a new 68-page book on the 50th anniversary of the graduation of 1971. Jim is an accomplished photographer, and he did a great job in capturing our reunion in photos and text. The book can be bought at https://www.blurb.com/bookstore/invited/9629826/6e389fef5688970a5e3266362bccb45606f2a1de?utm_medium=email&utm_source=application&utm

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Thanks For Donating To Wabash This Fiscal Year

The Annual Fund that ended June 30 set a new record of \$3.9 million. Alumni participation was 40% for the ninth straight year. The Class of 1971 did its part.

The gentlemen and ladies listed below have contributed to the annual fund so far this fiscal year, which started on July 1, 2022.

Thanks to each donor. When we contribute, we say “thanks” for our own good fortune, for our great Wabash professors, and our Wabash friendships. If you are not on the list, join the list, which is current through November 6.

Please contribute by mailing a check to Wabash College, Annual Giving, P.O. Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933 or by contributing online at wabash.edu/egift, or by calling the college at 877-743-4545.



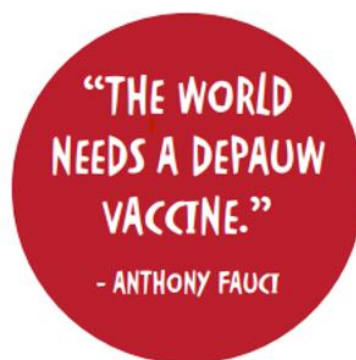
Bruce and Karen Bradway
Steve and Doris Covey
Sue Dart, widow of Russell
Andy and Marta Dziubinskyj
Bill Hausmann
Ron and Janet Israel
Clark and Susie Johnson
Brad and Trudy Johnson
Bruce and Rachel Julian
Jim and Esta Kamplain

Sam and Phyllis Kazdan
Gene and Jan Kepple
John and Connie Lathrop
Dave and Chris Main
Jon and Andrea Pactor
Phil Rifner
Tom and Carol Runge
Orlo Shoop
Tom and Tonya Williams

Thanks for reading *Pactoracles*. It is my honor and responsibility to serve the Class of 1971. Please contact me with news, comments, questions, or aging tips. If you are receiving this letter electronically, please print it and share it with your family and friends.

Your Brother In Wabash,

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I have made Monon Bell buttons since 2005. This button is from 2021.