



# Pactoracles

Class Agent's Letter For The Wabash College  
Class of 1971  
June 17, 2020



## ***The Spirit Of '71*** ***Our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion: June 4-6, 2021***



***Here We Are At Our 25<sup>th</sup>***

In this photo, the Class of 1971 celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> reunion. Sadly, a handful of classmates in the photo have since passed away.

Our reunion will run from June 4 to June 6. We graduated on June 6, 1971. So

our 50<sup>th</sup> will end on the anniversary. Our class always has a good turn-out of classmates and their ladies. And, this reunion will even be more special. Plan to attend, and stay tuned for more details

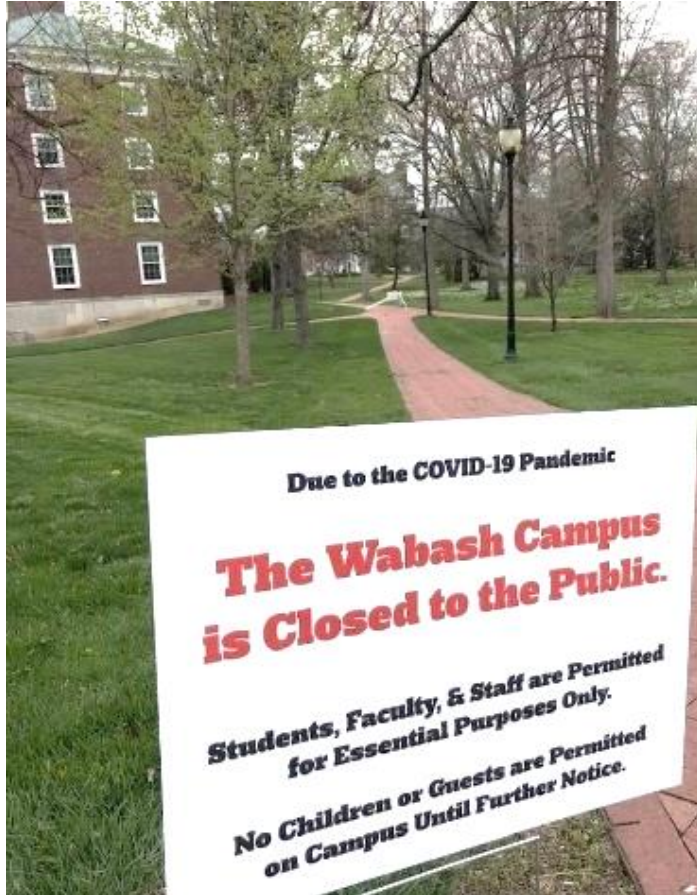
## **Corona Virus Shuts Down Campus; Wabash Makes Big Adjustments To Re-Open For Fall Semester**

The corona virus has proved to be a more ferocious opponent than DePauw University. Admittedly, that is a low bar, but the corona virus is no low bar. It closed down the campus, but not the school. Students had to leave campus abruptly at the end of spring  
*Continued on page 1*

## **Campus To Re-Open With Adjustments**

*Continued from page 1`*

break, and classes were taught online for about the last two months of the spring semester. Some students remained on campus because they could not get home, or they lacked good computer access at their rural homes to take online classes remotely.



The corona virus deprived Wabash students of the daily value of college life such as in-person classes, spring sports, fraternity events, theater, Glee Club, intramurals, and jags.

The virus also disrupted the eyeball-to-eyeball teaching of Wabash faculty, but the dedicated faculty rose to the challenge. Kudos to faculty, students, administrators, and staff, who carried on Wabash education at a high degree during the crisis.

"Looking at how Wabash has handled the transition to online, I feel like they've kept up their promise of giving us a quality education," one senior said to me.

The college held a virtual commencement on May 17. Artie Equihua '21 delivered an uplifting, robust commencement speech but in the vacant Chapel.

President Greg Hess announced in March that he would be leaving Wabash at the end of June. The college named Dean Scott Feller as the new president. Dean Feller is a good

choice. He has been an excellent professor of chemistry and dean of the college. Kudos to him for taking on the awesome responsibility of the Wabash presidency in this critical period.

Questions remain going forward. The incoming class is a strong number, and the construction of the new football stadium is proceeding on schedule. Whether there will be inter-collegiate football is not known.

On June 11, outgoing president Hess and incoming president Feller issued a joint letter to students, faculty, and staff.

"Ours is a unique culture that places the highest value on the relationships our students form with their teachers and fellow students," they wrote, "and all of our plans reflect this important, high level of engagement and support. We know that this year will be very different for all of us, but by working together – and trusting one another – we are confident we can deliver an exceptional education for all of our students."

Following plans of Notre Dame and other schools, Wabash will start the semester sooner, eliminate fall break, and finish the semester by Thanksgiving. Housing and feeding students will be a challenge. Freshmen week seems to have been eliminated, which will affect the fraternities in particular and housing in general. Cold dorms, which some fraternities have, will be eliminated. Bunk beds will probably be

*Continued on page 3*



Scott Feller

## **Campus To Re-Open With Adjustments**

*Continued from page 2*

eliminated, too.

The college will have protocols for monitoring students, faculty, and staff for Covid symptoms. Plans also include some Covid testing, isolation, contact tracing, wearing of masks, and distancing.

Many classes will be taught in larger rooms to allow for physical distance between students and faculty. Other classes will be taught in spaces other than traditional classrooms. In some classes, students will alternately attend class in person while others participate virtually from their living units. That scheme will accommodate students who cannot attend in person if they are ill or if they are in self-isolation because of Covid.



*“Times Change” reads the student’s shirt in Dr. Eric Olofson’s class last fall. No one in the class foresaw the upcoming changes.*

Extra-curricular events will be canceled, or the attendance to them will be limited.

“While everyone craves certainty and a return to the familiar,” the presidents said in the letter, “the best advice from experts is that both will be in short supply over the coming months. Thus, we ask for your patience as things come together. . . All of us at the College are excited to welcome our new students to campus and to catch up with our returning students. As we have prepared for the fall semester, we have been reminded of a marketing slogan the College once employed: ‘Wabash. It won’t be easy. It will be worth it.’ Indeed, bringing our roughly 1,200 students, faculty, and staff back to campus won’t be easy. But as we all know, our hard work and sacrifices will be worth it because we will accomplish so much together.”

### **Wabash Alumni Ranked #1 In The Nation**

The Princeton Review rated Wabash’s alumni network as #1 in the nation in its annual college guide, *The Best Value Colleges*, this January. Wabash was also ranked #1 for Best Internship Opportunities, #22 in Best Schools for Financial Aid, and #26 out of 200 of the nation’s Best Value Colleges. In the fall the *Princeton Review* listed *The Bachelor* as #10 for Best College Newspaper.

[Share this letter with your family.](#)



## A Goodbye To Wabash by Ian Little '20

*Ian Little, a senior, recounts the abrupt departure from campus right after spring break. He wrote it for a newsletter of his fraternity.*

There were a lot of ways I thought this semester may end. A heartfelt senior chapter. Walking under the arch and failing a course. More late night beers with brothers talking about how their classes have kept piling on work. Rants about sheepskins and facelifts from the college. But never did I expect the semester to just end without the chance to say a goodbye to all my brothers in person.



Ian, second from right, enjoys friendship at a computer game with his brothers.

I, like many of my brothers, come from out of state. Gautier, Mississippi to be exact. As flights were cancelled, quarantines were enacted, and e-mail after e-mail was sent about the situation, I found myself at a loss. Do I hug my brothers goodbye? Is that selfish for me to do when everyone of them has to go back home to their own families? Should I go home? Can I go home? I didn't quite know what to do, but a sophomore brother, Gordon Harman-Sayre, offered me a place to stay.

Once I left my quarantine from London, Gordon drove from Indy and picked me up with my four years of belongings to stay with him for a few days while I waited for my flight home to Mississippi. Once I got there, I was

greeted by his girlfriend, Makenzie, who I consider a sister to me at this point, his kind mother, my first pledge son Jose Marquez Franco, and their little dog Wanda.

The next morning, we started celebrating Makenzie's 21st birthday. I helped Gordon make French toast with rum soaked bananas while Jose tutored for his math courses. Throughout the day, we spent time working on puzzles and homework. We ended the night with Chinese food, Kings, and Jenga which led to a worn out house still ready for classes the following morning.

The last day ended with a realization that it might be awhile before we saw one another again. We made an evening hike out to a river, tossing stones and letting Wanda roam around. My pledge son Jose did air raids as a proud Rhyne and even forced Gordon to do a few himself. We talked and laughed together while playing Shenanigans, a house favorite. And we ended the night watching *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, a movie dear to Gordon and me.

And then, I left Indiana. It felt like I was leaving home for home.

I had a chance many of my brothers didn't. I had the chance to say goodbye and to have one last good time with my brothers before college finished. I had a normal week. But through this, I realize that being a TKE isn't always about living with one another. It isn't about drinking together, going to class together, or bickering in chapter over the best way to run the house. Tau Kappa Epsilon, at least at the Alpha Alpha chapter, is people caring for one another. Whether they are in the next room, the next state, or the next continent over, what brings us together is a common care for each other. I hope we can all remember that in these hard times.

# THE Wabash Bachelor

The Voice of Wabash Since 1908

63rd Year

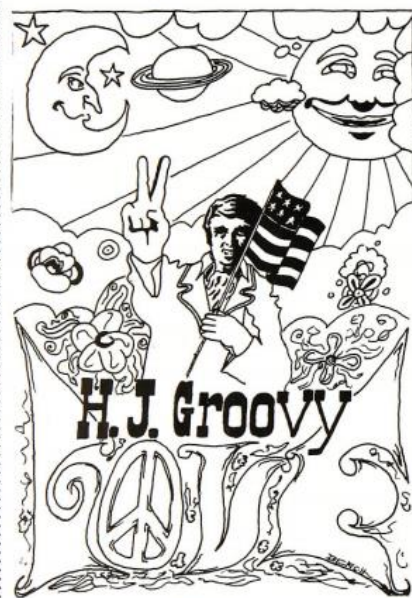
February 27, 1970



Crawfordsville, Indiana

Number 18

## H. J. Groovy Says "Y'all Come"



by Bart Day

Harold J. Groovy proudly announces the schedule of events for his festival this Saturday night in the Humanities Center:

6 P.M.—Open house, sculpture, pottery, and photograph exhibits, along with gypsy violinists and electric egg timers; Einstein's film, "Alexander Nevsky," to be shown at 6:30.

8 P.M.-2 A.M.—Xanadu Music Band, Lady Jane Adams, Yank Rachell Blues Band, Bogus Thunder, and much more.

People are making their own music. Music for freedom and music for unity. We are our own acrobats, clowns, and musicians, and create our own circuses. People are dancing their own dances—massive, mad, frenzied dances, hoodowns. People are learning (once more) how to play together. H. J. Groovy Extravaganza of Razzmatazz, 6 P.M.-2 A.M. Humanities Center. Bring a Friend.

## Senate Elects Messerschmidt

### New Prexy Sees Senate As Faculty-Student Link; Can Serve To Encourage Student Action, Concern

Dave Messerschmidt, a junior independent, was elected president of the Student Senate for 1970 last Sunday night. The Senate business included election of the other officers and discussion of constitutional reform.

The three nominees for the presidency, Gerry Bowman, David Messerschmidt, and John Ryder, first delivered their individual campaign speeches in pursuit of the office. The nominees were then given leave, and the first election took place by secret ballot. John Ryder succumbed after the first count, and Messerschmidt succeeded to the office after the second vote.

(In his campaign speech Messerschmidt promised to make the Senate an effective link between the students and faculty as well as a force in the encouragement of student action. He said that it is important for the senate to lead the way to college involvement in the Crawfordsville community and G.L.C.A. He concluded that the Student Senate must not act as a separate organ but rather as one which involves a large part of the student community.)

Next, Messerschmidt coordinated the nominations and elections of the vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. The nominees for the vice-presidency were Gerry Bowman and Tom Martella. After a short speech by Bowman, Martella then declined the nomination. Bowman was then proclaimed Vice-President by acclamation.

The single nominee for treasurer was Preston Greene, Jr.; he was proclaimed treasurer by acclamation. The nominees for secretary were: John Hubert (declined), Carlos Armstead, Jon Factor (declined), and John Ryder (declined). Armstead won by acclamation.

After elections were complete, Messerschmidt began discussion on the



The Kammerensemble Niggemann return to Wabash to perform their specialty—baroque chamber music.

## German Quartette To Play

Next Tuesday, March 3, the Kammerensemble Niggemann will play in Yandes Gallery at 8:00 P.M. In November 1966 and again in March 1968 this quartet from Stuttgart, West Germany, played to a capacity audience at Wabash.

The group is recognized as one of the world's foremost exponents of baroque chamber music. They have toured North America twice before, as well as Italy and Germany.

They have given command performances to Chancellors Erhard and Kiesinger. The tour is sponsored by the Goethe Institute, whose charge from the West German government is to "make the best of German thought and culture available around the world."

The Ensemble was founded after

Frederich Milde plays oboe in the quartet. He also teaches in the Stuttgart Academy of Music and is soloist with the Radio Orchestra of Southern Germany. He has been acclaimed as the world's finest oboist. The group's harpsichordist is Siegfried Petrenz.

Deutsche Grammophone Gesellschaft records the group. Tickets for this concert are \$2.00.

## Be Groovy: Y'all Come To Our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion

### The Class of 1971 Faced Hard Times As Part Of Wabash History

Current students, facing a pandemic, are 50 years beyond us. We did not face a health crisis, but we faced the turmoil of Viet Nam, social unrest, and changing traditions at Wabash. And what about the Wabash men who preceded us by 50 years? They had World War I, the flu, and social unrest. Here is an excerpt from *The Wabash*, Vol. XLIII, No. 1, pp. 88-90 (1919), which ends with a good message for The Spirit of '71.

"The present Senior Class —the tattered remnants of the Class of '19—enjoys the distinction of having been in college during four years, which for variety, for ups and downs, and for violent upheaval, can hardly be surpassed in the history of the college. We, now the "oldest inhabitants," love to recall the "good old days before the war" when the Little Giants

## **Trouble Times Class of 1971**

*Continued from page 5*

tied Purdue in football, and walloped the Tigresses 34 to 0; when the Wonder Five romped undefeated throughout all the middle west; when the thunderous chorus of Old Wabash used to shake the chapel, packed to its full capacity. . .

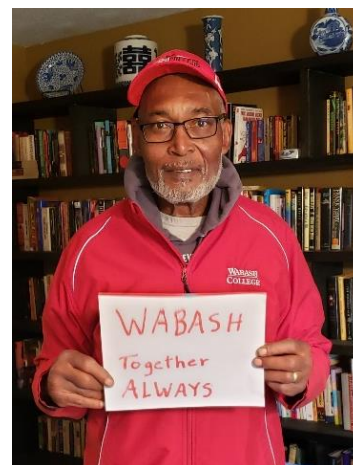
"But troublous times soon fell upon us. The war in Europe which until now had merely furnished the Doctor [President Mackintosh] with themes for his chapel talks, came steadily nearer. The spirit of unrest in college grew, pervading students and faculty alike. Who doesn't remember those famous predictions about the Dardanelles, about war with Mexico, and about "nailing up the doors of the college"? And when fulfillment of the second of these prophecies seemed imminent, and of the third was accomplished in a rather ominous joke, who would have dared predict the future of Wabash? Then came the sudden exodus to [military] training camps in the spring of 1917, the cancellation of athletic schedules, and the early close of college.

"The next year was like a nightmare to those who remembered the old Wabash. The half filled chapel, the lack of the "old time pep," and our own desires to be doing something more definite and real, kept thinning our ranks and sapping our interest in college, till the very college itself seemed about to slip away into oblivion. Then, in a sort of awakening, the few upper-classmen left cast precedent to the winds, rolled up their sleeves, and set about to revise and reconstruct the student's side of college life. . .

"In short, Old Wabash is coming back. Prospects were never brighter than for next year, so let every student and every alumnus get back to the old college and boost. Let's live up to the old motto: ALL FOR WABASH ALL THE TIME

### **More News From Campus...**

**Malcolm X Institute Of Black Studies** will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this fall, Covid permitting. Classmate Keith Nelson, right, was one of the founders of the Malcolm X Institute as were classmates Tony Partee, Carlos Armstead, and Preston Greene. Keith is retired after a long and varied career as a public servant (deputy director or an anti-poverty agency, college instructor, prison warden, and mental health and criminal justice liaison). "My days include housework since my wife of 36 years, Lavon, continues to work. Housework, gardening, church and fishing seem normal activities now. Or as my Uncle "Bub" used to say: 'I'm retired, and I don't do a damned thing!' Like many of us 71ers I look forward to continue spoiling my grandchildren."



**Wabash Wrestling Is All-American.** Four Wabash wrestlers were named All-Americans. Wabash did even better in the Academic All-American category with seven wrestlers and the team itself. The wrestling season ended prematurely because of Covid-19.

**Basketball Star Jack Davidson Named Academic All-American.** The College Sports Information Directors of America selected Davidson, an economics major, as an academic All-American for the second year. The junior led Wabash with a 20.1 points per game average. He finished second in scoring and assists in the tough North Coast Athletic Conference. His 1,647 points rank him in sixth spot in Wabash basketball history.



## Please Donate To The Annual Fund Before July 1

These classmates and ladies have contributed to Wabash this fiscal year as of June 14, 2020. Thanks to each donor. The fiscal year will end on June 30. When we contribute, we say "thanks" for our own good fortune for our great Wabash professors and Wabash friendships. Please contribute by mailing a check to Wabash College, P.O. Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933 or on online at [wabash.edu/alumni/egift](http://wabash.edu/alumni/egift).

Skip Adams  
Greg Allen  
Jerry Anderson  
Jim Ball  
Steve Blau  
Bob Bogigian  
John Brackemyre  
Bruce Bradway  
Jim Bromley  
John Brown  
Rufus Burton  
Kai Chin  
Steve Covey  
Marilyn Dart, widow of  
    Russell Dart  
Bill Davnie  
Shelley Dill, widow of  
    Mike Dill  
Andy Dziubinskyj  
Jeff Eaton  
Kirk Eichenberger  
Nelson Flynn  
Dave Gray  
Rick Gregory  
Fred Haase  
Bill Hausmann

Pete Hawley  
Gordon Hayes  
Steve Hays  
Dan Holderbaum  
Trey Holland  
Ron Israel  
Clark Johnson  
Brad Johnson  
Bruce Julian  
John Kalb  
Jim Kamplain  
Sam Kazdan  
Allen Kepchar  
Gene Kepple  
Sam Kirtley  
Judy Lammering, widow  
    of Dean Lammering  
John Lathrop  
Mike Lemon  
Dave Main  
Tom Martella  
Steve McDaniel  
Alex Miller  
Dick Morford  
Jon Pactor

Garrett Paul  
Jim Peters  
David Pfanschmidt  
Larry Phelps  
Ed Pitkin  
Bob Prentiss  
Mark Randak  
Greg Rasmussen  
Jim Rendel  
Phil Rifner  
Carl Royal  
Carol Runge 'H71  
Tom Runge  
Bill Rydell  
John Ryder  
Martin Schaap  
Orlo Shoop  
John Street  
Peter Toft  
Bill Watson  
Steve Weliever  
Steve Wildman  
Ray Wong



**Thanks for reading *Pactoracles*. It is my honor and responsibility to serve the Class of 1971. Please contact me with news, comments, questions, or beauty tips at [pactorlaw@iquest.net](mailto:pactorlaw@iquest.net), 317-636-0686 (w), or 317-695-2555 (cell).**

Jon Pactor '71 (that's my class and my age)  
Class Agent

Share Pactoracles  
with your family.