



## Pactoracles

Class Agent's Letter For The Wabash College Class of 1971  
May 3, 2010



- **Our Fantastic Reunion Is Just 13 Months Away**
  - **Alumni-Faculty Baseball Symposium**
  - **With Our Classmates**
  - **Other News and Information**
- **Print this letter and share it with your family**

## Our 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion: June 2011

Our 40<sup>th</sup> reunion is just 13 months away--the first weekend in June 2011. In the ensuing months, many of us will have to make many important decisions such as whether to have a complete make-over or whether to expect a stimulus package (financial or otherwise). But, one decision we should make now. We should decide to save the date on our calendars immediately.

It may shock some of us to know that some classmates have computers, and some do not; some have e-mail addresses, and some do not. But all of us have a calendar. So, let's get it on our calendars now.

There will be only one 40<sup>th</sup> reunion of our class, and we want as many of us to attend. We have had very enjoyable reunions in the past, and this one will carry on the tradition. To assure that outcome, I will be forming a reunion committee this year. To volunteer, give me a call or an e-mail.



## Wally At The Bat Symposium: There Was Joy In C'ville

*Wally At The Bat—A Liberal Arts Symposium On Baseball* united the Wabash community for a fun weekend of insightful presentations, a banquet, a movie, and a wiffle ball tournament, March 26-27.

The symposium was an alumni initiative organized and carried out by alumni, faculty and staff working together to develop and strengthen the ties between alumni, on the one hand, and the faculty and staff on the other, and to foster stronger ties among faculty and staff, while having fun in a liberal arts field of dreams.

You can view most of the presentations on YouTube by going to the

alumni home page on the college's website and clicking the YouTube channel on the right.

You can hear and see Tobey Herzog, Professor of English, present his personal essay entitled, "Russ Meyer, Soft Porn, Baseball, and Innocence Lost." Meyer, a pitcher for several teams in the 1940s and 1950s, had a successful career with several teams. He was also Tobey's neighbor as he was growing up in a small Illinois town, and Tobey related what it meant to his friends and him to have a major leaguer in the neighborhood.

Other presenters were Dr. Chris Carr '82, formerly the sports psychologist  
(continued on page 2)

**Pactoracles**  
**Class Agent Letter of Class of 1971—May 3, 2010**

(continued from page 1)

for the Kansas City Royals and currently the psychologist for some major league players and other athletes. He gave an articulate discussion of sports psychology and the liberal arts.

Dr. Todd McDorman, Professor of Rhetoric, gave a sampling of a presentation that he will be making at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown this summer. His presentation was entitled "Image (Dis)Repair in Pete Rose's *My Prison Without Bars*." He gave a rhetorical analysis as to why Pete Rose has failed in his efforts to be voted into the Hall of Fame.

Dr. Lon Porter, Professor of Chemistry, explained how chemistry and physics have affected the evolution of baseball bats. He did not make his presentation so sophisticated that it left numbskulls like me in left field or so simple that only some numbskull like me could understand it. It was gratifying to see such a talented teacher in action.

Bob Wedgeworth '59 recounted life in the old Negro Leagues and its impact on the African-American community. His brother-in-law had played for the Kansas City Monarchs.

Steve Klein, Dean of Admissions, and Dr. Warren Rosenberg of the English department, recounted what being a Mets fan growing up meant to them. Steve is a cousin to Sandy Koufax.

Dr. Steve Morillo, Professor Of History, addressed baseball and the teaching of American history.

Dr. Dennis Krause, Professor of Physics, discussed the physics of baseball.

A banquet followed the presentations where Will Carroll of *Baseball Prospectus* wowed the crowd with an articulate, humorous, and thought-provoking discussion about the limits of or the questions arising from a baseball world full of statistics.

Later, there was an all-campus showing of *Field of Dreams*, after which President Pat White led a discussion. I took away two principle things from the movie—a greater understanding of the movie and a greater understanding of our president. I could see why he was such a talented teacher and why he cares so much about teaching.

Saturday morning was the first Wabash College Wiffle Ball tourney. The Lambda Chi mercilessly defeated a team of faculty and alumni, 11-1. Below is a photo which helps to explain why our team scored only one run.

Brad Johnson '71 and I were on the *Wally At The Bat* committee.



## I'm Much More Than A Number, And So Are We

A high school senior, the salutatorian of his class, recently sent me an e-mail. He wrote with a little editing: "It is official: I will be attending Wabash this fall semester, and I do intend to write for the Bachelor...[I am] assured...that I am much more than only a number and a name and that Wabash truly commits to the lives it becomes involved with." He had choices, but he chose Wabash because of his confidence, rightly placed, that he will be valued as an individual. He knows what we know: college is not just about books.

Wabash remains a great place for young men because they are valued and trusted. That high school senior felt what we felt—we are much more than a number. Let's refer good high school students to Wabash. It is easy, important, and rewarding. We can refer a student—especially juniors, sophomores, and younger--by mailing information to the Dean of Admissions, P. O. Box 352, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, IN 47933 or online at [wabash.edu/alumni/alumni/refer](http://wabash.edu/alumni/alumni/refer).

## News From Campus...

**Renovation of Athletic Fields.** Wabash will undertake a major renovation of its baseball, football, and soccer facilities.

The downturn of the economy in 2008 put the brakes on the plans, but the improvements are needed, and the brakes have been released.

I recently visited the baseball field. Coach Corey Stephens invited me to throw out the first ball at the Wabash v. Wittenberg game, March 27. As soon as I took the mound, I knew that I was over the hill. I looked serious. I shook off a couple of signs. I wound up and threw the pitch low and away. It was so low it bounced at least once, and it was so away that the catcher had to scramble to get it.

It is clear that our field is lacking. It is in a poor location, and the drainage around the field is poor. The dugouts are inferior.

The football field will be improved, too, with the addition of synthetic grass-like turf and a new scoreboard.

The soccer field will be in Mud Hollow. It will have synthetic field, permanent seating, a press box, and restrooms.

These changes will not only improve the competition and the enjoyment for the athletes, but they will undoubtedly assist in admissions. They also will cut down on maintenance. All improvements are expected to be completed by the fall of 2011.

**Fraternity & Skype.** Tau Kappa Epsilon recently held elections. There is nothing new there. However, two candidates for office were studying abroad, one in France and the other in Italy. They attended the chapter meeting via Skype and made their campaign speeches. The student in Italy was elected president.

**Chinese.** The college will begin to offer Chinese as a language course this fall. The college is developing relationships with China.

**1832 Brew.** The coffee shop in the library is selling 100% Whey Protein. Why I am willing to tell you this? Where there is a willing there is a whey. I just wanted you to be some of the first alumni to know of this development. The coffee shop will soon be operating under the name 1832 Brew. The coffee is good; stop in when you are on campus.

**Pole Vaulter Clears Martella, Dill.** Freshman Matt Knox cleared 15 feet, 2-1/4 inches to break the 23-year-old school record in the pole vault of 15 feet. If Tom Martella would stand on two cases of beer and Mike Dill would be standing on Tom's shoulders (or any combination of the foregoing), Knox would have sailed over them.

**Slugger Hits Three Homers.** This is more than amazing. Amazing it is when a college player hits three home runs in a game. John Holm, a sophomore, accomplished this feat off of three Alleghany pitchers April 30. Why is this more than amazing? Baseball is Wabash's oldest varsity sport, dating from 1866. No Little Giant had done it before in 134 years. He holds seasonal records including most homers and most runs batted in.

**Baseball Team Loses To Purdue.** The baseball team finished 19-23, a misleading record, which includes a 3-1 loss to Purdue, a winning record in conference play, and several early season losses to southern college in March.

**Three Trackmen Make All-American.** Senior hurdler Emmanuel Aouad and sprinters sophomore Kevin McCarthy and freshman Jake Waterman became All-Americans. The track team finished second in the conference meet. Several Little Giants achieved success including junior Wes Chamblee who set a conference mark in the high hurdles of 52.86 seconds. He is a wide-receiver on the football team.

## ***With Our Classmates...***

**Bob Bogigian** is still practicing law in Greenfield, IN. He and I bumped into each other as we were getting some culture at a local production of *The Man Who Came To Dinner* a few weeks back.

**Bill Kovacs** is still practicing investment law in Winfield, IL, a Chicago suburb. His oldest daughter, Wendy is a child psychologist and younger daughter MaeyHelen is an event planner. He and wife Agnes just celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary. Agnes is the educational director at the Brookfield zoo and is excited about getting selected to go on a grant-paid trip to Manitoba this fall regarding work to save the polar bears.

**Allen Kepchar** wrote in reply to the question in the last issue of *Pactoracles* about how many of the Class of 1971 were first generation college students. He replied that he had retired from the State Department's Foreign Service in 2000, "but was rehired due to my skill set as an Arabic-speaking consular manager. Since my retirement, I have worked about half each year in various capacities for the State Department in the Middle East. In 2001 my wife of 30 plus years and I settled in Delray Beach, FL. We have two married children who both reside in Vermont. Our son is an officer in the U.S. Merchant Marine, and our daughter does computer work in Stowe, VT. In the near future, I intend to work/travel less and enjoy life in SE Florida.

"You can count me as a first generation college graduate. My father was an immigrant from the former Czechoslovakia who went to high school in the USA and then had some college courses while in the U.S. Army during WWII. He later worked as a pattern maker for U.S. Steel before becoming a police officer. My mother was the first in her family to be born in the USA and they were immigrants from Croatia. She was a housewife."

### **College Surveys Independents; They Have Thoughts For Food**

The college has recently conducted a survey of the independents. The results are an expected mixture of solid opinions, good suggestions, unreasonable expectations, and whining about facilities and food. I find the complaints of the food puzzling because I have eaten at the campus center now known as the Sparks Center and have found the choices to have been plentiful and the quality high for college food. I do not know whether the following criticisms are valid, but they are intelligent: (a) there are too many offerings of carbohydrates and (b) there should be more flexible hours and access to food throughout the day and night.

A large majority said that they would favor a mini-convenience store located on campus where students could use their meal plan or buy snacks, small food items, and sundries.

## **Important Upcoming Dates This Year**

Freshman Saturday, August 21  
Homecoming, September 26  
Wabash Day, October 9-10  
Monon Bell Stag in Indianapolis, November 11  
Monon Bell Game at Crawfordsville, November 13

**Pactoracles**  
**Class Agent Letter of Class of 1971—May 3, 2010**

## **Join Classmates Who Support The Annual Fund**

When we alumni contribute, we say "thanks" for our own good fortune and demonstrate our belief in the strong liberal arts education of Wabash College. Nearly 60 of us have already contributed so far this fiscal year which will end June 30. If you have not contributed so far this fiscal year, please do so in the next few weeks by mailing a check to Wabash College, P.O. Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933 or by contributing online at [www.wabash.edu/alumni/egift](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/egift). Thanks.

Skip Adams  
Greg Allen  
Jerry Anderson  
Jim Ball  
Bruce Bradway  
Bill Braun  
Jim Bromley  
John Brown  
Rufus Burton  
Ed Corley  
Russell Dart  
Mike Dill  
Andy Dziubinskyj  
Jeff Eaton  
Dave Gray  
Rick Gregory  
Gary Hansen  
Bob Harlan  
Pete Hawley  
Cloyce Hedge  
Dan Holderbaum

Trey Holland  
John Hubert  
Ron Israel  
Richard Jaffke  
Clark Johnson  
Jim Kamplain  
Sam Kazdan  
Marv Keffer  
Steve Kennedy  
Allen Kepchar  
Gene Kepple  
Sam Kirtley  
John Lathrop  
Mike Lemon  
Skip Long  
Dave Main  
Allen Matthews  
Al McElfresh  
Alex Miller  
Richard Morford  
Keith Nelson

Jon Pactor  
Garrett Paul  
Jim Peters  
Larry Phelps  
Ed Pitkin  
Mark Randak  
Greg Rasmussen  
Jim Rendel  
Phil Rifner  
Carl Royal  
Tom Runge  
Bill Rydell  
John Ryder  
Orlo Shoop  
John Street  
Steve Wildman  
Tom Williams

**Thanks for reading *Pactoracles*. It is my honor to serve the Class of 1971.  
Please contact me with any news, comments, and questions.**

Kind Regards



Jon R. Pactor '71  
317-636-0686—work  
[pactorlaw@iquest.net](mailto:pactorlaw@iquest.net)