



Pactoracles
Class Agent's Letter
For The Wabash College Class of 1971
November 11, 2019



Wabash, DePauw To Vie For Monon Bell

Win or lose this Saturday's rivalry game with DePauw, the Wabash Little Giants will head into the Division III play-offs. So, the underdogs of DePauw cannot be motivated, as in past years, with the role of the spoiler.

Wabash, 7-2, lost its opener to non-conference foe, University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, and suffered a disappointing conference loss at Wooster. The Wabash defense has improved as the season has progressed, holding high-scoring Denison to 20 points and low-scoring Hiram to no points.

A freshman quarterback, Liam Thompson, leads the offense. He hails from North Central High School. That is the same high school as Skip Adams, John Hubert, Jim Bromley, and Trey Holland. The comparison stops there.

Thompson has started every game, demonstrating a remarkable combination of composure, intelligence, and skill. Isaac Avant, a senior, is an exciting speedster in the backfield who can also catch a pass. Unfortunately power runner Ike Jones may be out for the season.

DePauw, with one home loss, is 5-4 for the season and 5-3 in the conference.

This contest will be the 126th football game between the two schools, but it is not the 126th Monon Bell game. The trophy of the Monon Bell started in 1932, the same year that comps started. It was also the 100th year of the founding of Wabash College.

Class of 1971 Mourns Thaddeus Seymour

As we moved toward our 50th anniversary of our graduation, we remember with fondness and friendship, Thad Seymour, 91. He passed away on October 26. He served as Wabash's president for nine years, including our (continued on next page).



Thad Seymour, Wabash President, 1969-1978

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junior and senior years.

One unifying part of our Wabash life is that everyone knew who Thad was. He arrived and almost like magic, the students bonded with him. He was tall and friendly. He performed magic tricks. He had been a college drop-out himself. He helped the college and ourselves get through some challenges—end of required chapel, the "student strike," co-education controversy, foundation of Malcolm X Institute, Kent State tragedy, and campus turmoil around Viet Nam.

Here is an excerpt from his inaugural address: "I want to see Wabash continue to excel as a small, independent, undergraduate, liberal arts college for men. That forthright definition will be the text for my remarks this morning...the convictions of one who believes with all his being that our type of college, that our own College, continues today the special mission of service which motivated its founding; that Wabash will best serve by producing men of balanced judgment, broad knowledge, and good character – 'Scientiae et Virtuti,' know-how and guts."

As we look to celebrate one half century since our graduation, I think that Thad would be satisfied of the Class of 1971 as "men of balanced judgment, broad knowledge, and good character."



This is the new signage at Wabash and Grant avenues on the northeast part of the campus. The traffic light at the intersection is gone. Part of the city's cultural trail is being built along Grant Avenue.

With Our Classmates. . .

Richard James Jaffke died unexpectedly on September 15. He was 69. He was an independent. He began working with computers during college and was fascinated with the new technology. He became an actuary and moved to Los Angeles in 1976 when he received a job offer from KPMG Peat Marwick. He worked there for many years and later went to AON Corporation where he worked until he retired in 2012. His wife Pam and he lived in Valencia, CA. He enjoyed many outdoor activities, especially hiking in Towsley Canyon and other hiking trails in the Santa Clarita area. He loved to dance and continued to take ballroom dance classes for many years with Pam. In 2000 he co-founded the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Clarita Valley. He served as president twice and had been chair of the worship team for many years at the time of his passing. He is survived by his wife, two stepsons, and five grandchildren.



Here Is A Story To Make Wabash Men Proud

Wabash has strong academics. Wabash has strong theater. Wabash has strong football. All require a lot of time whether it be called study, rehearsal, or practice. This year Artie Equiqua, a senior has as #26 starred as the starting defensive back and captain on the football team and, in the midst of football season, performed a major role as Joseph Wykowski (center) in the fall play, *Biloxi Blues*.

Think about it. You have to have a multi-talented student with tremendous time management skills. You have to have a dedicated football coach and a dedicated theater professor who are student-focused and not rigidly territorial. You have to have a college that does not put limits on what a man can try to do but has open opportunities for students to try and to excel. By the way, Artie is planning to go to med school.



Our 50th Anniversary: June 2021

News From Campus

Sheepskins Are No More. The college will no longer use sheepskins for diplomas. Some students are upset about it, but the sheep are not complaining. Apparently procurement of quality sheepskins had become a difficulty, and according to public reports, Virginia Military Institute may be the last to be using sheepskins. It would be more of a change, and a less defensible one, if Wabash would switch to English from Latin on the diploma.

Unabridged Dictionary. The library still has an unabridged dictionary in traditional form. We cannot be sure that current students know what an unabridged, paper dictionary is.



Wabash To Get New Football Stadium. Construction will soon begin to replace the current football stadium, which was new in 1966. We were new in 1967. The stadium and we show the effects of aging. But, we can't be replaced. The new stadium will have several restrooms for women, better accessibility for disabled people, no permanent seating for visitors, and a reconfiguration so that special events can be hosted. The stadium is expected to be ready for the start of the 2020 football season.

Professor Vern Easterling Dies. Emeritus Professor of Physics Vern Easterling passed away on November 5. He taught physics from 1962 until his retirement this century. He was 85.

Moot Court. Cooper Smith, a freshman, won the 26th annual Wabash College Moot Court before a panel of distinguished judges: the Hon. Geoffrey Slaughter of the Indiana Supreme Court; Hon. Edward W. Najam, Jr. of the Indiana Court of Appeals; alumnus Greg Castanias '87, a veteran of arguments before the U.S. Supreme Court; and Dr. Joyce Burnette, Wabash professor of economics. The finals occurred on October 23.

Cross County Finishes Second. Led by Sam Henthorn who took first place, the Little Giants finished second in the conference meet. He won the conference's Men's Runner of the Year Award.

Soccer Succeeds. The Little Giants soccer team finished their season at 10-6-3. The team, seeded #3 in the conference tourney, fell to the #2 seed, Ohio Wesleyan, 1-0, on November 6.

Basketball. The Wabash basketball team starts its season on November 14. The team is ranked 14th in D3Hoops, and conference opponents Wittenberg and Wooster are 5th and 21st. Jack Davidson, a junior guard, was named first team All-American by the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) All-America First Team after last season. Harry Halstrom, 6'8", is a talented, rugged man under the goal. In addition, senior guard Colten Garland and senior wingman Alex Eberhard provided experience and excellent outside shooting. You can watch most of the games via streaming through the Wabash connection. Go to Wabash—Basketball—Schedule on the webpage. Here is the schedule through December:

November 14 Centre College, 7 p.m.
November 19 Earlham College, 7 p.m.
November 22 at Greenville U., 5 p.m.
November 23 vs TBA at Greenville U.
November 26 Mt. St. Joseph U., 7 p.m.

November 30 at Elmhurst College, 4 p.m.
December 4 Ohio Wesleyan U., 7 p.m.
December 7 at College of Wooster, 2 p.m.
December 14 at Denison U., 2 p.m.
December 16 at Rose Hulman, 7:30 p.m.



When you read *Pactoracles*, you get information that you will not find elsewhere. This signage appears in at least one restroom of one fraternity house.

Thanks For Donating To Wabash This Fiscal Year

These gentlemen and ladies have contributed to the annual fund so far this fiscal year, which started on July 1, 2019. 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 June 20. 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.

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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.

If you are receiving this missive electronically, please print it and share it with your family and friends.

Jon Pactor '71
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