



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Office of Alumni Affairs

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Class of 2000

Class Agents

Mike Biberstine

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Pat East

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Gentlemen,

I made the annual trip back to Wabash the weekend of Sept. 15/16 for the Class Agent Forum. I parked in the space behind the FIJI house at 213 West Jefferson that I have been parking in for years. I walked in through the trashed kitchen to the dining room and then to the back room where all the composites are. I didn't see any students, so I started to look at the composites... Wait, that composite says Phi Kappa Psi... This was no longer the FIJI house.

I quickly remembered that I will be back on campus next week for the rededication of the new FIJI house next weekend. I would probably find the FIJIs next door in the new house. As I walked through that back door of the new house, I saw a couple students in the green pots that the Phi Delt freshmen were always famous for. Something was a-miss... As it turns out, all freshmen on campus are wearing pots again. You can read about it in the front page article in this week's bachelor: <http://www.wabash.edu/news/3810>. Long story short, the bookstore had 100 left over from a reunion order, and the pledge trainers from most of the houses thought it was a good idea. In fact, the independents are now taking to wearing them. As some traditions are being lost, older ones are coming back.

The rest of Class Agent Weekend was pretty typical: "you need to communicate better with your class," update on this college office and that, this is how to communicate better, meet this new person from the school, this is who is communicating really well, and so on and so forth. So before I give you all of those updates, Mike, Pat and I (your Class Agents) have been guilty of neglect for the last year plus, sorry. Things are turning around. Expect to get Class Agent Letters from us more regularly.

The biggest news on campus over the last year has been the departure of President Ford. He announced in the Spring of '05 his intention to step down after the Class of '06 graduates to spend more time with his family. An exhaustive search took place last year, and the school, alumni, and students welcomed Patrick White this summer to the school. Dr. White had most recently been the Vice President and Dean of Faculty at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame. In addition to his duties as the President of the college, he is a professor in the English department. I have met Dr. White a couple of times over the last couple of weeks. He truly seems thrilled to be at Wabash and is beginning to understand what the college is all about. I think we have made the right decision and we have some exciting years ahead of us. Any time there is a leadership transition, I know I get worried about changes in the all-male education. Coming from a single-sex institution like St. Mary's, I think this ideal is safe with Dr. White.

The admission department continues to encourage recommendations of new students. It is never too early to recommend someone. When put on the list, the admissions office has three plus years of materials ready to send out to a prospective student. Students can be referred at <http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/student/refer>. Over the last five years, the number of incoming freshman that have been recommended by an alumni has almost reached 50%!

The football team is off to a 2-1 start with the only loss coming in double over-time to Franklin, at Franklin. Monon Bell tickets are on sale now. The game is at home this year. Tickets can be purchased at the bookstore on campus, or through the on-line bookstore at <http://www.wabash.edu/bookstore>. If you are in or around Indianapolis, be sure to look for details about the Monon Bell Stag the Thursday beforehand, always a good time.

The 2nd Annual WABASH Day is October 14th and 15th. Hopefully this letter gets out in time for you to go to the website and find details about volunteering. You can find details at <http://www.wabash.edu/news/3834>. This is a great chance to meet alumni in your area, increase awareness about Wabash and help the community.

The best part about the Class Agent letters should be the updates on people. I would like to find time to call and interview people for longer features on classmates and “Where are They Now?” If this interests you, please contact me and/or send a short note to the school about changes in your life. Here are some of the notes since we last wrote:

Han Ong says “Laura and I are delighted to announce the birth of our son, Noah Ting-Wei, on June 29. We are all enjoying our new home in Seattle.”

“I received my doctoral degree in Molecular Biology and Genetics from IU in May and am now working as a postdoctoral researcher at University of Washington, Seattle. My wife and I are expecting a baby boy in a few days! “

Jeff Rice says “I recently was married to my longtime girlfriend Courtney Watterson on June 17th, 2006. We live in Milwaukee, WI where I am a Manager of Executive Benefits, Sales for CUNA Mutual Group.”



Cary Richey says “My wife (Syndy) and I were recently blessed with the birth of our first child. Abigail Nora Richey was born on Friday, February 17 at 3:52 PM weighing 6 lbs. 7 oz. and measuring 19.5 inches long. She was born on the coldest day of winter here in Minnesota (-15 air temp.; -40 wind chill). Both mother and daughter are doing very well.”



Miki and **James Hamstra** joyfully announce the birth of their son. Here are the details:

Name: Will Raymond Hamstra
Time of birth: 6:27pm on February 13, 2006
Weight: 7 pounds, 10 ounces
Height: 20 and 1/2 inches

James says "Everyone is doing well and we should be headed home from the hospital tomorrow evening. Feel free to send Will a letter at this account (with a minimum of embarrassing stories about his parents), or the proud parents at the following addresses (Miki: mhamstra@mac.com and James: jhamstra@mac.com).

Lee Sutton got engaged to Anmarie Russo of Brownsburg at Pointe Betsie Lighthouse in Frankfort, MI in June. We are now in the process of planning a wedding back in Indianapolis for next April. I was also recently promoted to the Denver Regional Sales Office of OneAmerica after serving for 6 years as a Retirement Plan Consultant in the Indianapolis home office. I am now living in Parker, CO and can be reached at lee_m_sutton@hotmail.com.

Pat East one of the other Class Agents says "Jamie and I welcomed a baby boy into our family on February 16. Poor thing was so big, the doctors had to break his collar bone because he got stuck! He's doing very well now though...no nerve damage from the break (which is the most common side effect), he rolls side-to-side to chase the cats around the living room, and he's even starting to talk now (OK...he's just saying, "ba da da da" but he's doing it *all the time*). We finalized his adoption just over a month ago, so he's officially and legally ours. Just have to wait for his social security papers to come through the mail!"

Pat's son's name is "Alexander Calder...we saw the name in a "cool baby names" book, we both liked it, and then she remembered his name from her art history classes. He even has a few sculptures on IU's campus. I think there's a big one in Chicago too."

Pat started a successful marketing company called Hanapin Marketing. Be sure to check out their website: <http://www.hanapinmarketing.com>.

I got married on July 16, 2005 to Buffy Hoyt in Indianapolis. I was thrilled to have my entire pledge class from the FIJI house in attendance as well as some of the guys from the rugby team. **Jason Harvey, James Hamstra** and **Raul Salinas '02** were some of the many groomsmen (my wife has 5 brothers!). Buffy and I live in Broad Ripple. She teaches English at Cathedral, and I sell commercial real estate for Trammell Crow Company. Instead of playing rugby, I travel the state on weekends reffing high school, college, and men's club matches. I am the president of the Indiana Rugby Referee Society.

Hope this finds everyone happy and healthy.

Wabash Always Fights!

Tim Craft