

Wabash '91

CLASS AGENTS

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Dear Fellow Classmates,

Greetings. I hope this winter has been productive for everyone of you. Spring means that the College is busy trying to land the best and brightest and is also gearing up for our big reunion this summer. Here's the latest...

Sign Up! Our [Big Bash 15th Year Reunion](#) weekend approaches on **June 2-4, 2006**. You can access the full schedule for [Friday](#), [Saturday](#), and [Sunday](#) online. Checking the Web site, the early bird awards go to **Brent Bolick** and **Jeff Grabill**, who are the first two to [sign up](#) with 11 more of us planning on attending. To answer a question posed by **Mark Koshior**, yes, your wives (and children) are certainly invited. The College is doing a great job planning the big event, so I hope you all can make it.



To help boost attendance, we have contacted guys in each living unit to serve as reunion reps:

Beta	Lance More
	Tim Oliver
Delt	Brad Graden
	Mark Kosior
Kappa Sig	Tom Fisher
Lambda Chi	Jeff Marlett
Phi Delt	Mike Langford
	Hugh Vandivier
FIJI	Franklin Breckinridge
	Brian Burdick
	Doug Welp
Phi Psi	Matt Hanson
Sigma Chi	Brent Bolick
	Chris Cotton
TEKE/Theta Delt	Dennis Wilson
Independents	Kip Aitken
	Omar Hyat
	Brian Lane



These reps should have contacted you about attending. We're working on a prize for the best attendance. Also, if you have any questions or special requests for the weekend, be sure to let us know.

Keep on Bloggin'. As your class agents, we've long felt that we have always been proactive in exploring the most innovative ways to keep you, "the largest class to ever matriculate and graduate from Wabash College," informed, engaged and up-to-date on goings on with your alma mater and your classmates. We don't mean to brag, but we were the first class to attempt a Web site, although we admit that it was rather a chore to keep up to date. We pioneered info-gathering from you all with the "Where Are They Now?" form, which the College has adopted in an [online version](#). With the aforementioned Reunion looming this summer, we thought we'd go ahead and pull the trigger and launch a blog:

→ <http://wabash1991.blog.com/> ←

Once again, we're the first class to take this step. The great thing about this concept is that Kip or Lance or I can post updates as we receive them from either you guys or the College. This way, we don't sit on them and risk misplacing news when it comes time to sit down and assemble a Class Agent Letter. The other great thing about this is that you knuckleheads can comment on any of our posts, correct any misinformation or elaborate, or offer congratulations or scorn, depending on your whim. And knowing you guys, we anticipate plenty of good feedback! So enjoy yet another first for a Wabash College class. We hope you'll check it often and find it a good resource.

Do you have a blog that we can link to? Let us know, and we'll add your link to our site.

Spring Cleaning. My company has been working on a film about Wabash's Malcolm X Institute, so over the past six months I've had several opportunities to drop by Lilly Library and sift through the historical treasures of the "Archives" (more formally named the Robert T. Ramsay, Jr. Archival Center). It's a rich trove of history of our fair alma mater.

Johanna Herring has retired, and Beth Swift ably carries on her duties as archivist. In one conversation, Beth mentioned that a student was researching the Co-Ed Study and couldn't find the bound edition of Bachelors from that era. The Archives routinely collects two copies of each edition of the school newspaper and binds them. Both copies from our era are missing! We're talking Fall 1990, Spring 1991, Fall 1991, and Spring 1992. So, I ask all of you as you partake in the annual ritual of Spring Cleaning to help locate any editions of Bachelors. It's a crucial part of the school's history that needs to be restored.

Beth also told me that this is a Wabash tradition. Former professor and college registrar Bob Harvey used to send out letters to alums asking for old copies of "The Caveman" and the Bachelor to donate to the Archives. So, you'll be carrying on yet another proud Wabash tradition. Here is the contact information for Beth Swift:

Lilly Library
Wabash College
P.O. Box 352
Crawfordsville, IN 47933-0352

Email Address: swiftb@wabash.edu
Phone Number: 765-361-6378



Meet the New Boss. My three-word quote about the Presidential search in the *Details* magazine November 2005 profile of Wabash—"that causes anxiety"—turned out to be an exaggeration as the Board of Trustees chose **Dr. Patrick White** as the 15th President of Wabash College. He starts the job on July 1. The new president-elect has big shoes to fill with the retirement of Andy Ford, but he comes with very good credentials ([Story](#) and [Interview](#)). As Dean of Faculty at Saint Mary's College, he has experience working in a single-sex environment. That said, I just can't wait to see what he thinks of Chapel Sing!



New College Dean. Joining Dr. White's tenure will be the new Dean of the College, Dr. Gary A. Phillips. He is currently Professor of Religion and Chair of the Religion Department at The University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. ([Story](#))

And now some news from the guys...

W Tom Fisher (tom.fisher91@wabash.edu) participated in a panel discussion on campus in February discussing the theme "With religion, government, and politics mixing more frequently in contemporary society, what is the proper role of religion in public life?" The panel comprised Tom, the first Solicitor General of the State of Indiana; Mark Rutherford '82, Chairman of the Indiana State Libertarian Party; and Dr. Stephen Webb, professor of Religion and Philosophy at Wabash College. Check out the full story at http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=3280

Then, on March 20, he argued before the highest court in the land, representing the Hoosier state in [Hammon v. Indiana](#), a case that could determine how instances of domestic violence are prosecuted in this country. You can check out more from [Tom Runge's Blog](#) and the [College's blog](#) (excerpted below):

"Ease and confidence"

In November of last year, Indiana Solicitor General Tom Fisher '91 flew in from Indianapolis to watch mentor and "big brother" Greg Castanias '87 present oral arguments before the United States Supreme Court.

And Greg was there to support him.

"Tom was marvelous in a very difficult argument," Greg said after watching his friend's moment on the legal world's biggest stage. "He took on some rather aggressive questioning from Justice [Antonin] Scalia and completely held his own, debating with Justice Scalia (and other Justices) fine points of constitutional and pre-constitutional history, such as the trial of Sir Walter Raleigh."

Fisher had presented the facts of the case earlier in the year to Wabash students, when he was a member of a panel on government and religion. But on Monday his audience was a bit more daunting—at least to most of us.

"From watching the six advocates in the two cases argued today, no one would have known that this was Tom's first argument before the Court, because he seemed like he had done this a hundred times," Greg said proudly. "Tom possesses an ease and confidence on his feet that I can only hope I have on my best day." —Steve Charles

W Rob Hewitt (rob_hewitt26@yahoo.com) has moved to his dream locale of Austin, Texas. He works for the DC-based Corporate Executive Board as an Associate Director of Sales.

W Adam Tavitas (Adtavitas@aol.com) wrote me a quick note recently to say that he's practicing law in Merrillville, Indiana. He's been married for 3 ½ years and lives in Valparaiso. He's looking to get hold of Luke Messer.





W Another of our oft-featured classmates, Dr. Jeff Marlett (marlettj@mail.strose.edu), returned to the Wabash campus to deliver this year's Eric Dean Lecture in Religion entitled "Catholicism and Fascism" in March. The Department of Religion and Philosophy and the Newman Center sponsored the event.

"In Wabash terms, I combine elements of classes taught by Placher, Webb, Blix, Royalty, Baer, John Fischer, and Peter Frederick. I'm under no illusion that I match their teaching skill, though," he said humbly. Marlett became interested in the connections between Catholicism and Fascism while researching for his book *Saving the Heartland: Catholic Missionaries in Rural America, 1920-1960*, published in 2002. "In the process of researching this I came across different perspectives on subjects I thought I understood: the city-country relationship, the changing role of agriculture and rural/agrarian values in American life, anti-Communism in the 1950s, and the stereotypical "stodginess" of Roman Catholicism," Jeff said.

W Roland Morin (roland@morinco.com) writes that after eight years abroad, he's returned from down under and points West to his native shores of Mishawaka, Indiana. He's serving as Managing Director of

Morin & Company (<http://www.morinco.com>), a family firm focused on diverse specialties, including public relations/marketing, construction services, restaurant management, and catering/event management services. Roland writes that he's interested in attending an upcoming meeting in South Bend of the St. Joseph Valley Association of Wabash Men.

Be sure to send us an update of what you're doing, including pictures! Baby pix, travel pix...you name it, we'll print it. I'll start with one of mine. I visited journeyman Dave Ricke and his wife, Kir, in Oahu in December. Vinny Recinto and his wife Vonda flew over from the Big Island for the weekend.

Thanks for your help. Thanks again for your support in the many ways you give it. Keep in touch.

Yours in Wabash,

Thyl Vand...

