

Class of 1966

Class Agent
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March 2025

Dear Men of '66,

Nine years ago the Wabash head football coach, Erik Raeburn, decided to move on after a very successful career at Wabash. He was moving on to a larger program in a higher division, and so a search would follow to find the new Wabash head football coach. However, before the search was to begin, a number of Wabash football players approached the athletic director and said there was no need for the search-they wanted Don Morel, an assistant to Raeburn, as the new head coach. Wabash guys are smart, competitive, motivated and understand the motto "Wabash Always Fights." So the man they chose to be their new head coach has been called "old school", "tough but fair", "ballsie", "innovative", a "gambler", and "a players' coach".

Don decided before last season that he would retire but ensure the football program would move on uninterrupted with a new head coach. He brought in Jake Gilbert '98 to take his place-but Don's days at Wabash were not over. Don was sought by President Feller and Dean for Advancement Michelle Janssen to continue working for the College in the Advancement Office. Don is a first-class person, and he represents all that Wabash stands for and will represent the College with integrity, dignity and class. Please welcome Don to his new position at Wabash!



Don Morel, Retired Head Football Coach **Wabash College Little Giants (61-21 overall, 54-15 NCAC)**

Hello Men of 66,

I had the privilege of serving the last nine seasons as the Head Football Coach at Wabash. It was completely my honor to lead our historic program and mentor the fine young men who attend Wabash. Being around the students of Wabash has renewed my faith in young men and made me a complete believer of rigorous all male education. I strongly believe in the mission of Wabash College and I have seen firsthand the outcome of four years on our campus and the transformation experience we provide. I will always be grateful for my time as a Little Giant Coach and the wonderful relationships I have developed because of Wabash.

A few years ago, President Feller stopped in my office on a quiet summer afternoon and mentioned someday when I was done coaching, he had thought of a job I could be really good at and very helpful to the college. Three years later I took him up on his offer.

While I understand football is important, my new job at Wabash is EVEN MORE important. The Office for Advancement is the lifeblood of the College. Led by Michelle Janssen our office is responsible for raising 3.75 million dollars towards the annual fund, we lead capital projects such as the new Community Center, we secure research grants for our faculty, and scholarship opportunities that allow us to recruit the best men for Wabash College. We work with our alums thoughtfully on estate planning. We also built a big beautify football stadium!

In my six weeks on the job, I have witnessed my colleagues making daily communications with alums, members of our team have traveled to New York, Florida, Chicago, Texas, Nashville Tennessee and throughout the state of Indiana doing good work for the college. Work that must be done. In 2025 we are learning the longevity of a college is not guaranteed. It's earned through the good work of the students, faculty and the administration working together as a team.

Our work in advancement is also aided by a passionate and generous alumni network. Our per student endowment ranking is consistently in the Top 50 colleges in the United States. The men who attended Wabash College are grateful for the life changing education they received and want only the best for Old Wabash. This is a winning formula.

Our Advancement Team understands Wabash Always Fights mentality and we take it with us as we travel the country doing good work for Wabash College.

It's an honor to be part of this team.

Don

"These fleeting years,,,,,"
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