

**Class of 1998
Class Agent Letter**

Class Agents
Beau Barrett
Kevin Gearheart
Jonathan Walsh

September 2010

Dear Class of '98,

Another school year kicked off at Dear Old Wabash and as I look back, I can't believe it has been 13 years since we started our last year of college. If you are like me, it hits you that we are getting old! If you ever get nostalgic and want to remember what it was like, check out one of the many blogs that some freshmen are posting. Below is an excerpt from John Decker, class of 2014:

The Big Move

Posted on August 28, 2010 by jsdecker14

"I've already spent a crazy week at Wabash College, and I wouldn't want to be anywhere else. Somehow after all these meetings and lack of sleep, I find myself transitioning fairly well.

Freshmen Saturday came and went, followed by a few days of meetings, and even community service at the Lew Wallace museum with my freshmen tutorial group. Every chance I got, I found myself ducking down to my room in the Lambda Chi house catching up on some much needed rest.

Finally, classes started Thursday... and unfortunately for the freshmen class and I... at an early 9:45 am. My tutorial is about the one and only Theodore Roosevelt, one of my favorite people in American history. The class, taught by Dr. Vasquez, promises to be very interesting and detailed over the life and the rise of a modern day renaissance man.

Thursday night, my Lambda Chi Associate class and I worked all night painting the senior bench. Every fraternity on campus takes a night to paint the bench, which is a staple at the college. The Lambda Chi brothers kept us company through out the night, sharing their bench painting stories along with stories of their years at Wabash."

To check out blogs of other freshman, go to <http://www.wabash.edu/class2014/blogs.cfm>.

Little Giant Stadium Gets New Look, New Turf

Hollett Little Giant Stadium started off the football season with a new look and a new turf. This was part of a \$6.2 million project to upgrade the football, baseball, soccer, and intramural facilities at Wabash College. The improvements show a continued commitment by Wabash College to provide first-class facilities. For those of you who used to spend time in the dungeon.... I mean weight room... when we were there, you can surely appreciate the incredible improvements that have been made to Wabash's athletic facilities since we graduated.

Mud Hollow, where baseball has been played for 50 consecutive years, is the new playing field for the Wabash soccer team and will have synthetic turf, permanent seating, a press box, and restrooms for the 2011 season. The Hollow will also have two additional fields to be used for practice for the football team, as well as intramural sports.

Baseball will compete this season in the grassy lot on the southwest side of the Allen Center. Formerly the site of practice football fields, the baseball stadium will include permanent seating, batting cages, bullpens, a press box, a concession and restroom complex, and new scoreboard.

What's great about the project is that Media Services Specialist Adam Bowen and his summer interns Adam Phipps '11 and Chris Sidebottom '11, working with Public Relations intern Kyle Bender '12, made a remarkable video of the entire football field project and kept us current with many web site updates. They stationed a time-lapse camera in the press box to create this really cool video of the project. Phipps would go to the booth almost every day to check on the camera and make sure there was enough tape to keep the recording going.

The camera went up July 21 and was taken down Aug. 23. It recorded one second of video every five minutes. The final product was edited for over nights and down time.

http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=8260

Another Great Value of a Wabash Education

We are all aware that one of the great benefits of getting an education at Wabash College is the great network of graduates we have. We are always willing to help out a fellow Wally in terms of mentoring, best practice sharing and also in finding a job. For those of you on LinkedIn, Tom Runge started a discussion entitled, "With alumni contacting us every day looking for work, we'd like to reverse the trend by asking you Wallies out there to let us know if your company is searching for new people."

This is a great idea and I encourage anyone who is on LinkedIn and might have an opportunity available at your firm to join in on the discussion and continue to strengthen the Wabash Network.

Class News

WTSC - Papachronis Named North Central High School and Washington Township's Head Swim Coach

Washington Township Swim Club has hired award-winning Indianapolis coach Matt Papachronis as its new Head Coach, where he also will serve as Head Coach of the North Central High School swim team.

Papachronis joins WTSC from the Southeastern Swim Club in Fishers, where he was Head Age Group Coach, Senior Team Assistant and Assistant Coach for the Hamilton Southeastern High School swim team.

``We're thrilled to have Matt join our club," said WTSC President David Krahulik. ``He has the right combination of experience, energy and enthusiasm to bring our club to the next level. We're looking forward to Matt's leadership as we increase our membership and expand the aquatic programming in our new 50-meter pool."

Papachronis is an Indiana native with a history of success in the pool, both as a coach and as a swimmer. Indiana Swimming named Papachronis as Age Group Coach of the Year in 2010. In March, he led the Southeastern Swim Club to win the Indiana Swimming Age Group Championship Title for the short-course season. In 2009, he coached the fastest girls' 11-12 200- meter freestyle relay team in the nation.

Papachronis was captain of the Wabash College swim team in 1998, where he graduated as the fifth highest career point earner ever. At Valparaiso High School in the early 1990s, he was team captain and an eight-time state finalist. He is a 10-time Indiana Swimming champion in freestyle and butterfly events.

Located at the new North Central High School Natatorium, Washington Township Swim Club offers a popular learn-to-swim program as well as a year-round competitive swim team for every age group and ability, from kindergarten through college. The club's motto is "Superior swimming in a supportive community."

Charles Boley, MD MED/PEDS Washington - My wife, Sarah and I live in Peoria, IL with our 6 children - Ethan, Jacob, Meredith, Joshua, Catherine and Francis. I am in an Internal Medicine/Pediatrics practice in Washington IL.

Jake Gilbert - Christina and I are still official townies. I call the defense for Wabash's football team. Awesome job to have! Blessed with three future Little Giants: Logan (6), Jackson (5), and Tyson (2).

Kristofer Monson - My wife, Beth, and I would like to announce the birth of our son, Henry Kristofer, in November 2009.

G. Matthew Stearley, MD – “Hey guys, I finished Anesthesiology Residency in June 2006. Finished my Cardiac Anesthesiology Fellowship in July 2007. Married Sarah Hall in August 2007. Had a Daughter, Hannah Maree Stearley, in December 2008. Took a job, where I currently work, as Chief of Cardiac Anesthesiology for Reid Hospital in Richmond, Indiana in January of 2010 after working in New York for 2 1/2 years. Love to hear from any former residents of the I-House”

Carl Drew and Heather Folke were married June 20th 2009 in Nashville, IN. Their ceremony took place in a grassy orchard with a “Barn Dance” reception following. Norman Carrico ‘62, Reid Embrey ‘98, and Ryan Rapp ‘98 were in attendance. Heather is a National Coordinator for Vector Marketing. Carl has been appointed as the Director of Development for Angel Wings International. He is responsible for the funding and construction of their medical clinic in Jacmel, Haiti.

Ryan Neth – “I work for Republic National Distributing Company of Indiana as a district manager in the wine division I live in St. John, Indiana. I am married to Pam and we have a beautiful 2 year old daughter, Bayless. She was born in August of 2008. I volunteer at Lake Central High School with the Theatre Department. My wife is the drama teacher and runs the program. I run an alumni improv troupe during the summers with some of her former students.

Jeff Cromer - I hope all is well. As for an update, I am an attorney at Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP in Indianapolis. I am married to Stevie and we have three kids - Will, 6; Emily, 4; and Charlie, 2.

Dan Bartnicki “It has been some time since I wrote any update for a class agent letter. I reside in Portage, IN with my wife, Anna, and we have two kids, Aidan age 7 and Leah age 2. In 2007 I left the private practice of law and began working for a Federal Agency, the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board in the Office of General Counsel located in Chicago, IL. I have worked my way up “the ladder” in the agency and was selected for the GS-14 level in late 2009. Outside of work I coach the 7th/8th grade soccer team at my son’s school and I still sing with my church’s choir. The past two Good Fridays, I appeared as the “narrator” in a sung version of the Passion. My personal email is Quixote_75@netzero.net – please feel free to drop me line.”

Michael Burns – “It's been 4 years now since I moved to Saint Augustine, Florida. I've been keeping busy as an in-house attorney with CSX Transportation and continue to focus on labor and employment law, although my practice seems to expand each year into new areas. My wife Brittany and I now have three children: Noah (5), Paige (3), and Addison (1). They occupy most of my nonworking hours but my wife and I are enjoying every minute. The beach and Disney seem to make any toddler happy. We do make it back to Indiana a few times each year to see friends and family. Hopefully I can make it to the next reunion as I would like to show my son Noah where he will be in 13

years. Thanks again for putting out the letter.”

Pete Logan and wife Stephanie recently gave birth to their 2nd child, Braylon Asher Logan. Along with their eldest child, Chase, the Logans still reside on the west coast of Florida just outside of Sarasota.

For our next letter, we would love to include more news about you and what is going on in your life both personally and professionally. Send any one of us an e-mail with some details and we will share with the entire class.

Yours in Wabash,

Kevin Gearheart

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