

## **Class of 1997**

Grant Comer

Craig Miller

Parker Lyons

Class Agents

February 10, 2004

Dear Classmates,

Hello again. Here we are in mid-February, and there is no sign of spring, yet. I have my golf clubs poised by the front door, waiting for the first 50 degree day. I guess I should wait until it is at least in the 70's, but I'm going stir crazy in my house. Thank god for satellite television, although I've noticed lately that all of my favorite shows are animated. I'm not sure what that says about me. Write this down: Toon Network's "Adult Swim" is the best invention ever. Well, that and gravity.

Anyway....

### **The News**

- Admissions received over 1,000 applications this year. That's pretty phenomenal. Congrats to Dean Klein and staff.
- The Campaign for Leadership has increased its total by more than two million since November. The total is now at the \$127 million mark. That...is a lot of money. Yeesh. How about a program to benefit lazy alumni who don't want to work? Just kidding. Actually, the money is going to do some great things for the students, check out the Wabash website to learn more about what The Campaign for Leadership is doing.
- Dean of the College Mauri Ditzler '75 has reported the awarding of tenure to 6 faculty members following a review process during the fall semester. Scott Feller (Chemistry), Dennis Krause (Physics), Todd McDorman (Speech), Dan Rogers (Modern Language), Ann Taylor (Chemistry), and Peter Thompson (Math) will each be promoted from Assistant to Associate Professor on July 1.
- Check out the newly designed alumni page on the website at [www.wabash.edu/alumni](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni). From there you can keep up to date on all upcoming **Alumni Activities** on the events calendar.
- And in some sad news, Professor Paul McKinney passed away on December 20<sup>th</sup>, following a bout with cancer. Jim Amidon wrote a nice little tribute to him on the college website. Here is an excerpt:

Paul McKinney was that way. He always brought out the best in Wabash men, for many of us aspired to be a man of his ability and character, knowing full well we could never achieve his intellectual status. Still, he gave us the best possible model for a liberally educated man.... Paul McKinney kept a lot of Wabash students up at night, striving to be their best; challenging existing ideas; trying to figure out the forces that bind the universe and the equations that explain our existence; and listening for subtle nuances in symphonies that otherwise would

have gone unheard. I'm thankful, like so many Wabash men before me, to have known and studied under Paul McKinney.

To read the rest of the article, go to  
[http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news\\_ID=1323](http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=1323)

### Email

The College is going to start experimenting with Email Class Agent Letters. So please send your email address to me at [parker.lyons@covance.com](mailto:parker.lyons@covance.com). Just so you know, if you don't send me your email address, you will still receive your letter in the mail.

### Class Notes

Here is the latest and greatest. Keep those emails coming!

- **Matt Guntty** – I have recently moved to Arizona from my temporary stay in Virginia. Here is my new contact information:  
  
4250 E. Busby Drive, Apt. 308  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635  
812-320-3349
- **John Castro** - I just want to remind everybody that I am playing drums in a hard rock/metal band called LoopHole (our sound has been compared to stuff like Disturbed, Godsmack and System of a Down). On January 30, we played our first gig at the Metro (something along the lines of the Vogue in Indy, or the Rave in Milwaukee) and had a bigger draw numbers wise than all other bands combined. We are really trying to make a push towards establishing a strong Midwest and national presence. Please check out our website for band info, upcoming shows, and a chance to hear our music. Feel free to sign up for our mailing list and receive a free 3 song demo cd. ([www.loopholechicago.com](http://www.loopholechicago.com)) If anyone has any thoughts or info on playing shows outside of the Chicago area, please let us know.
- **Lt. Dustin Hendrix** - On December 21 my wife gave birth to our twins girls, Keagan Nicole and Emily Rose at the Naval Hospital Jacksonville. All three of my ladies are doing great! I have also recently returned to the States after completing another six month deployment to the Mediterranean. It is truly great to be home.
- **Chad Routh** - It's not really news but if anyone is passing through Paris be sure to look me up. Nemone and I have just purchased a house so I think we'll be here for a while. We are about 20 minutes North of Paris near Chantilly. Our new address is:

Chad and Nemone Routh  
Le Petit Verger  
21 rue de Luzarches  
60580 Coye la Forêt  
FRANCE

Take care,  
Parker Lyons

Dear Classmates,

I hope this note finds you all well. This will serve as your regular Greater Wabash Foundation update for the class of 1997, but please do not stop reading based on my purpose, as you may witness a wardrobe malfunction.

When I last wrote to you two goals were established for us to work toward before the end of this financial year, June 30, 2004.

- Number of Donors: Our goal is 97 donors for the class of 1997. 14 of our class mates have given as of 12/31/03, which is 14.4% of our overall goal
- Total Dollars: In order to be in the top 5 of Total Dollars, we would need to give approximately \$15,000 as a class. \$1,380 has been given as of 12/31/03, which is 9.2% of our overall goal.

Many of you have already made a gift to the college, and I want to say thanks for the generosity. The names of those who have given as of 12/31/03 are listed below.

Dr. Grant Comer	Mr. Brent Eaton	Mr. Trevor Grove
Mr. John Jefferson	Mr. Patrick Kimbler	Mr. Chad Lovelace
Dr. Deon Miles	Mr. Craig Miller	Mr. Todd Perkins
Mr. Brian Samuels	Mr. Matthew Stockton	Mr. Matthew Swift
Mr. Micah Tragesser	Mr. James Walworth	

For those who have not given, please consider making gift prior to June 30, 2004. There are many reasons to justify giving a portion of your personal budget to Wabash. Personally, I will always be thankful for the generous financial aid I received from Wabash. Without the benefit of that financial assistance, I would not have stepped one foot on our Campus. I now view my yearly gift to the college as some small way to say thank you, and most importantly I know that I am making a contribution that will directly benefit a current or future Wabash student.

Each person's experience at Wabash was different or unique in some way. If you have not considered a gift, or have been struggling with the justification of a financial donation, think through your life on Campus, the personal relationships you have because of that time, and the life you now lead because of your experience with Wabash and its people. I trust that you will find something during those thoughts that will help with your decision.

Finally, remember that making a gift to the Greater Wabash Foundation can be done by

- logging on to [www.wabash.edu](http://www.wabash.edu) and "clicking" on Make a Gift
- calling 877-743-4545

Many companies offer matching gift programs, where they match an employee gift to an educational institution dollar for dollar. Contact your company's HR department to find out if your company has such a program, or call the GWF office at 877-743-4545.

If you have any questions please feel free to call or email me. My contact information is below.

Regards,

Justin Castle  
GWF Class Chair  
[jcastle@covad.com](mailto:jcastle@covad.com)  
303-667-2767