WABASH COLLEGE



Class Agents Letter Office of Alumni Affairs P.O. Box 352 Crawfordsville, IN 47933 Web site: <u>www.wabash.edu</u> Email us: <u>alumni@wabash.edu</u> Phone: (765) 361-6369 Class of 1994

<u>Class Agents</u> Thomas A. Welch tomwelch@comcast.net Kevin R. O'Reilly kevore@gmail.com

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Hello all,

It is hard to believe that yet another year is almost past. You will find this letter filled with somewhat disjointed snippets. Please send us updates and pictures. Kevin and I will be sending letters with better frequency, and would love to hear from you.

EJ Becker stumps David Letterman

EJ sang the Wabash fight song for David Letterman on June 25, 2006. Dave was playing "stump the band," and EJ stumped them with part of the chorus from "Old Wabash." I hear a clip exists....but I know not where. EJ and his wife, Eve, then celebrated (on Dave) the 4th of July at Ruth Chris', and received a CD of Late Show music AND some Explode-O-Pop, (America's only atomic popping corn) as additional prizes for stumping the band. Eva is from Vienna, Austria and studied Medical Illustration and Industrial Design while EJ was working for Clear Channel Communications in Cleveland. EJ met her while across the pond studying and they were married in Europe in 2001. I had a chance to catch up with EJ and meet Eve a while back at the Great Lakes Brewing Company in Cleveland. EJ joined the Kansas City station KMBZ-980 AM morning news team in May.

Here's some (old) news from Jon Mellette:

"I too am doing my part to bump up Wabash's "alumni with advanced degrees" percentage, and am currently enrolled at the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas getting my Masters of Divinity. (Well, I'm doing it for reasons other than increasing Wabash's numbers, too.) On September 1st [2006], I was officially appointed by the Bishop of the Central Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church as the pastor of Frost United Methodist Church in Frost, Texas.

(On a humorous side note, the guy that I did "Of Mice and Men" with our freshman year, Patrick Bidleman, is a Catholic priest now. Must've been something in the water at the cast party.)"

Since Jon sent me the email above, he was commissioned as a Probationary Elder of the United Methodist Church in June of 2007. He is currently serving as the pastor of Frost United Methodist Church, and lives in Frost, Texas, with his wife Megan; his children, Matthew and Grace; and his step-daughters, Sarah and Annie. Jonathan can be reached at jonathan@mellette.net.

Darnell Frazier's Road Trip

Another Clevelander (sorry 'bout those Indians), who is now on the east coast, was in C-ville back in July and caught up with our Kappa Sig cook, Dee Long.



Matt Deleget

If you want to see some of Matt Deleget's art, check out his website at <u>http://www.matthewdeleget.com/work.htm</u>

Say it isn't so, Tommy

In a bit of sad news, Tommy's was burned to the ground in the wee hours of May 8, 2007 by an arson fire that left a large hole in downtown Crawfordsville.



See more pictures at <u>http://www.wabash.edu/photo_album/home.cfm?photo_album_id=1208</u>. Todd Barton, Wabash '00, is the C-Ville fire chief. Read some reminisces (including one by Delt Mike Thibault) at http://www2.wabash.edu/blog/pa/2007/05/wabash_men_share_dollartommys.html His daughter Sophie (on the right) and my daughter Katie (on the left) have been playing soccer in Pike Soccer League the past few years. Mike has been coaching his daughter's team since she tied on her first pair of cleats – here's a picture from earlier this year after a match between their two teams:



Mike and his wife, Lisa, also had baby girl number 3 in July '06. Lucille joined Genevieve (holding Lucille) and Sophie in the Thibault household.



Jack Littrell

Jack Littrell and his wife, Kathy, (DePauw '92) have a blog for 19 month old Lily. Follow Lily's antics at <u>http://lilykae.blogspot.com/</u>

Here's a wedding picture:





And a picture of Lily:

Monon Bell 2007

Can't make it back for the Bell game Nov 10th? Check this link for telecast sites: <u>http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/news.cfm?news_ID=5124</u>

From Tom Runge's Blog, should you be planning a trip to Greencastle...

"As everyone begins to look forward to the **Monon Bell** game, I thought it might be important for everyone to understand why **the parking lots at DePauw will not be open until 9:00 AM the morning of the game**. Here's the response I received from the DePauw Alumni Office when I asked about tailgating opportunities.

'The "tailgating" issue is one we have considered carefully during our ongoing Monon Bell planning process. As you may know issues of alcohol and tailgating are concerns widespread throughout campuses across the country. Our primary concern and effort is to ensure that we are addressing foreseeable risks in our parking venues outside the stadium.

With this in mind we hope that placing reasonable parameters on the availability of the tailgating areas will be one step in helping us create a safe and responsible environment before, during after the game [sic].

The Blackstock parking lot will open at 9:00 AM on Saturday November, 10.

Parking in the Blackstock lot will be on a first come, first served basis when the lot opens that morning."

Please keep this in mind as you make your Monon Bell game plans."

Patrick J. Woehnker '11 dies in fall from Goodrich.

I debated whether to put this tragic story in this letter. But, I have come to believe that not including a note on an accident that has affected not only Patrick's family, but that has had such

an effect on the College at large these past few days, would be a disservice to this young Wabash man. A swimmer and member of Lambda Chi, Patrick fell from the roof of Goodrich Hall and died early Sunday, October 28, 2007.

http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=5177

2008 Big Bash at Wabash

SAVE THE DATES... June 6-8, 2008. This is the reunion weekend for Wabash, known as Big Bash at Wabash. It's hard to imagine, but our 15th reunion is around the corner in 2009. Please plan on coming back to the college to see what has changed and to see old friends and families. Please register to "plan to attend" for the 2008 Big Bash at <u>http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/reunion/intend</u>

Scholars Call Campus Meeting Historic

"For the first time ever, scholars in the fields of Black Studies and Religious Studies have come together to discuss the role of Africa in teaching and learning about African-American religious traditions in the United States....

'To my knowledge this is the first time in the history of the United States that African-American Religious Studies scholars and African-American Studies scholars have come together formally," said Dr. Dwight Hopkins, Associate Professor of Theology at the University of Chicago. "People will be reading about this for the next 10 to 15 years."

Read more today at http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=5128

Here's a recent picture of the new MXI, located behind Wolcott and Morris.



Wiesehan now at Syracuse

Chris is now the offensive line coach for the Orange program:



Read about his accomplishments at: http://www.suathletics.com/Sports/Football/2007/wiesehanchrisbio.asp

Wabash Day 2007

Thanks to Curt Johnson for being the team captain Wabash Day in Shelbyville Indiana. (Yes, that's Curt holding the sign).



See more pictures from his group's work on their Habitat house: http://www.wabash.edu/photo_album/home.cfm?photo_album_id=1337

My daughter, Alyssa, and I worked at The Villages, an organization that works with foster families, adoptive families, and helps promote nurturing homes for children in Indianapolis. It was an eye-opener for her. Before we went, she looked at their website at http://www.villages.org. I wanted her to know where we were going and why it was so important to help out. It must have sunk in. As we were leaving, Alyssa was talking to a representative from The Villages. "I can't believe that parents would abandon their children;" she exclaimed, "that's just disgusting!" I believe she now understands why it is so important that we were there.

I spoke with other Wabash men and wives from our class about helping out at sites across the country, and unfortunately, many had schedule conflicts. Watch for the date next year. It should

be late July/early August. I believe it's important we give back to our communities, and the college needs you and your families as ambassadors!

Another Welch girl...

Lizette joined Alyssa and Katie in April 06. Here's a picture:



Thank you

A BIG THANK YOU to all that gave to the college this past fiscal year. President White has announced the Hays Challenge for giving. If, by the end of the fiscal year 2009, alumni, family, and friends of the College can raise the unrestricted giving to the Annual Fund to \$3,000,000, Tom Hays '55 will make an additional gift of \$1,100,000! If you haven't given to Wabash, please consider doing so. If you have already given, thank you again.

Alumni Glee Club

At this year's homecoming, more than 120 current and past Glee Club members gathered for a special reunion. See pictures: <u>http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=5008</u>

New houses!

The College is almost done renovating the fraternity houses. The TEKEs are currently living in the old FIJI house; the new TEKE house should be done shortly. The Kappa Sigs are scheduled to move into the old FIJI house this next year, with construction starting after graduation.

Blogs

If you are interested in what life at Wabash is like today, please visit the college's blog listing: <u>http://www2.wabash.edu/blog/</u> there are three blogs by freshman and a few by upperclassmen as well. Swimmers, read the blog entry from Coach Pebworth here: <u>http://www2.wabash.edu/blog/lanelines/2007/10/a_message_from_gail_pebworth.html</u>

Swimming

The swim team started the season by taking 3rd place in the NCAC relays behind perennial powerhouse Kenyon and Denison. Read about what Swimming World Magazine called one of the dual meets of the week at <u>http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=5117</u>

Football

As I write this, our Little Giant football team is 9-0 and has assured themselves a spot in the NCAA Division III Playoffs. They beat Denison 42-0 to claim the NCAC title. If you want, you can follow the team via webcast from the college website.

Cross Country

Wabash captured the Great Lakes Colleges Association Men's Cross Country Championship title for the first time since 1998 with a seven-point victory Saturday morning (September 8th) in Gambier, Ohio. Read more at: http://www.wabash.edu/sports/home.cfm?pages_id=123&news_ID=4937

Basketball

Basketball? Preseason news? Yes, we have some. Senior Andrew Zimmer has been named to the 2007 Sporting News Pre-Season All America Honorable Mention team. Read about it at http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=5127

Caleb Mills' Glasses

Interested in history? Check out these pictures of 175 years of faculty excellence: http://www.wabash.edu/photo_album/home.cfm?photo_id=4153&photo_album_id=1350

Recent Pics

Here are a few pictures of some of the construction at the College from Homecoming weekend. This will be the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion. I was standing about where the old Kingery Hall steps were when I took this picture.



This will be Crawford Hall, a dorm across from the Delt and Phi Psi houses.



And, of course, I had to get a picture of the Chapel.



In Wabash,

Tom