November, 2005

Classmates:

The college hosted its annual Forum for Class Agents in September. This one was special because it marked the 50th anniversary of the Class Agents system. Besides visiting with old friends, it provides a nice flavor of the college in terms of academics, finances, fraternities – housing, faculty, admissions and athletics. Sure the College puts its best feet forward but the enthusiasm from everyone you encounter convinces this class agent that Wabash has the momentum to make its mark among the very best liberal arts institutions. For instance, Dean of Students, Tom Bambrey, remarked about some of the new rhynes and what they accomplished as high schoolers. But he said this class, while statistically good, will probably not match up to last year’s class, 2008, academically. He said it broke all records for grade achievement. He also said over 90% of the class enrolled for their sophomore year. Retention of students in each class is up!

For kicks I toured the new Science Building, Hays Hall, which is really impressive. Blends in well with the campus too. Then I went over to Goodrich. Its fully renovated but I was trembling so much I had to get out of there. Must have seen the ghost of Haenisch!

If there is a potential snag (my opinion) in the future of Wabash, it is replacing Andy Ford. The Search Committee intends to make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees during the first quarter of next year. John Fox, ‘64, and his Committee, are doing their best to find the right candidate but even the best of searches can result in a DUD(S). How can we forget Cook and Wettack? It’s a helluva gamble….much like selecting the “right” pastor at your local church. On the other-hand, we are very fortunate to have Ford on campus until the end of the academic year. Plus he hired Professor Emeritus, Ray Williams, to be the Interim Dean…replacing Mauri Ditzler last May. An outstanding move…..and you would agree if you know him at all.
Hey, how ‘bout our 8-0 Football Team! I saw the opening game against Kalamazoo which we won handily. Now, after defeating Wittenberg and Wooster, we are ranked in the top 25 and even #2 in the north central section of Division III ball. Can we make the Division III play-offs? Yes, if we beat Denison we’ll win the Conference (North Coast Athletic Conference) and possibly get a bid. But first we have to beat a very good DePauw team. If you can’t make it to Greencastle on the 12th (the game is sold-out), try to connect with the telecast at a Wabash-DePauw alumni party. There are parties all over the country and can be spotted on the Wabash website at http://wabash.edu/alumni/mononbell.

Speaking of our website, there are many links to information about the college and alums. Each of us can register into the system by way of a user name and password….pretty easy way to track down someone. Again, contact the Alumni Office if you need any help.

**Schroeder Career Center**
Wabash has re-cycled the Career Center to make it a viable office for students who are looking for employment as well as internship opportunities. A new Director, Scott Crawford, has been hired along with two new staff members. Also, a new software system called WABASH WORKS has been developed to enhance the recruiting process. In short, the office now offers state of the art assistance to all Wabash students, and alumni, who wish to utilize it.

**National Public Radio airs on WNDY**
Wabash is partnering with WFYI, Indianapolis, to simulcast NPR on the student-run college station, WNDY (91.3 FM). The simulcast will occur between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. which means one can hear Morning Edition, All Things Considered etc. by tuning in. The normal student programming would follow including sporting events on evenings and weekends.

How did Wabash and our Class do for Alumni Contributions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005? Just fine! Total unrestricted alumni giving in terms of dollars was $2,276,527. Total gifts, including restricted, was $4,914,449. Our class had 69 donors (including two widows) for a total of $67,248. Especially good was our class participation … 50% (we list 138 on our class role). Many thanks to all of you who contributed! Thanks from Wabash will be even greater this fiscal year! Why? The Lilly Endowment Incorporated (LEI), will match gifts to the college on a $1.25 for $1.00 basis up to $2 million….from now to December 31, 2006. It has the potential to increase funds by $2.5 million. So every new dollar will make a big difference!
Another way to help……know a good High School kid who should be referred to Admissions? His name can be submitted online at http://www.Wabash.edu/alumni/student/refer.

Enjoy November and, hopefully, Thanksgiving with family and friends.

News about Roger Alig.....He enjoys retirement in Princeton, New Jersey after a 35 year career with the Sarnoff Corporation (RCA Labs) in solid state physics and electron optics. His major contribution was the design of computer-aided electron guns and other components for CRT's in the world of TV. He's at 17 Landing Lane, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550.

I’ll enjoy it a lot more after WE BEAT DEPAUW!!

Tom B.

P.S. Wabash clobbered Denison 52-0 to win the NCAC Conference Championship. Great News! But DePauw beat up on Rose Hulman, 61-21 giving it a 7-1 record and a share of its conference title. The game looks like a toss-up….our good defense against DePauw’s explosive offense. I don’t care who wins as long as its US!!

Trb