December 12, 2005

Dear Classmate:

The distant clang of the Monon Bell was welcomed resonance as Wabash mounted a last-gasp drive against Capital University in last month’s Division III playoff game in Crawfordsville. Unfortunately, the Little Giants’ fourth quarter rally came up short as Capital hung on for a hard-fought 14-11 triumph to end one of Wabash’s most successful seasons in football.

Wabash finished 11-1 overall, but the 10-0 regular season included a 17-14 Monon Bell victory over DePauw and earned the Scarlet its first-ever No. 1 seed in the Division III North Region playoffs. Not only did the win over DPU in Greencastle bring the Bell home after a one-year absence, it enabled Wabash to regain the lead (52-51-9) in the series dating back to 1890.

The Little Giants graduate one of the Division III’s top players in quarterback Russ Harbaugh but, with 14 returning starters, should pose a threat in Division III football next year.

The success of the football team certainly was the highlight on campus this fall, but there’s been plenty of other news of note.

- As many of you may know, Andy Ford announced his tenure as Wabash’s 14th President will end at the end of the current academic year. A national search, headed by Wabash Trustee John Fox, Jr. (Wabash ’64), has met on several occasions and reportedly narrowed the field to five candidates.

- President Ford’s announcement came on the heels of Dean Mauri Ditzler’s (Wabash ’75) appointment as president of Monmouth College in Monmouth, Illinois. Ditzler served as Dean of the College for six years. Wabash emeritus religion professor Raymond Williams is currently serving as interim dean as the search for the permanent dean continues.

- The Class of 2009 has 251 members, including 40 Wabash legacies and 12 students who were either valedictorians or salutatorians of their high school class. Forty percent (40%) of this class matriculated from referrals that came from alumni. In fact, for the 4th consecutive year, the College received over 1,000 referrals from alumni!

- Wabash is listed as one of America’s “hottest colleges” in the Kaplan/Newsweek College Guide, is one of the best 361 colleges according to The Princeton Review, ranked 51st by U.S. News & World Report, and noted as a “Best Buy in 2006” in the Fiske Guide to Colleges.

You can read more about these items and keep up on other Wabash happenings at www.wabash.edu. The College recently updated its search function on its web site and now uses Google technology.

Class of 1980 Notes:
Emmett McAuliffe recently joined the law firm of Spencer Fane Britt & Browne LLP as counsel with the firm. Emmett’s practice is limited to intellectual property, with an emphasis on business transactions, entertainment and media law. Emmett and his family reside in Affton, Missouri.

Karl Feierbacher officially retired as a lieutenant colonel from the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves on Jan. 1, 2005. Karl, who resides with his family in Santa Ana (Orange County), California, is entering the field of Human Resources. He can be contacted at karl_humanresources@hotmail.com

Doug Rogers reports that he is appraising commercial real estate for D.S. Rogers & Associates, Inc. – the family real estate business in Indianapolis. He also referees soccer and basketball and coaches a 5th grade soccer team at St. Luke School on Indianapolis’ northside. Doug notes that his three sons, ages 10-14, all are Wabash prospects.

Class of 1980 Giving News:
For fiscal year 2005, which ended June 30, 2005, our class contributed $25,864 from 64 donations – a 33.5% giving rate. The Honor Roll for 2005 was: Paul Atkenson, John Barry, Dan Bohn, Mike Breclaw, Bob Cebul, Anthony Comella, Bruce Cook, Jim Craft, Brian Dickson, Brian Dinges, Terry Fox, Brent Fulton, John Gilbert, Bill Goebel, Hugh Goodman, Mark Gresla, Tim Grimm, Mike Gullifor, Charlie Hartford, Tom Hastings, C.A. Hendon, Doug Highsmith, Curt Keller, Tim Kennedy, Larry Klee, Alex Klefeker, Mike Lambert, Chris Lanane, Mick Martin, John Maxstadt, Jim McClenghen, Mark Merkle, Jim Miller, Tom Minogue, Todd Moore, Eugene Mszar, Duane Murphy, John Murphy, Dave Olsen, Larry Palmer, John Pea, Mike Perkins, Charlie Pockras, Charles Rea, Dave Reed, Jeff Rensberger, Jim Renshaw, John Reuter, John Ritter, Doug Rogers, Eric Rogers, Charles Routh, Ron Rychlak, Jim Schultheis, Dave Stein, Roger Stoltz, Ross Strodel, Gordon Thrall, Ken Turchi, Bill Tutwiler, Bob Vogt, John White, Clayton Whitney, and Ken Williams. A tip of the Wabash pod to all of you for your generosity!

As of Thanksgiving, our class has contributed $7,375 from 19 different donors. For you tax planners, there’s no better time than right now to donate to the College. Beat the IRS with a donation to Wabash by Dec. 31st.

As a final note, I want to wish all of you, your families and friends the Happiest of Holidays and Best of Everything for 2006. It is indeed a pleasure to serve you as Class Agent for 1980.

Yours in Wabash,

James E. Miller, Class Agent
Wabash Class of 1980
jmiller@blueandco.com