May 1, 2005

Greetings Classmate!

Just a month remains before our class’ 25th reunion at this year’s Big Bash on June 3-5th in Crawfordsville. I’m certainly hoping you are planning to attend, and that our registration numbers will dramatically grow in the next few weeks.

By now, hopefully you have received a number of promotional mailings about the Big Bash and the official registration form from the College. **The deadline for RSVPs is May 24, 2005**, so I encourage you to contact the College to let them know you are coming. You can register by returning the reservation sheet included in the invitation package you received in March or by going on-line at [www.wabash.edu/alumni/reunion/signup](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/reunion/signup). You can also view the entire schedule for the Big Bash online at [www.wabash.edu/alumni/reunion](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/reunion).

It is my understanding that just a few rooms remain available at the Holiday Inn, Comfort Inn and Lew Wallace for reunion weekend. If you’re planning on attending, I’d call ahead and book the overnight stay. The local phone numbers for the hotels are: Holiday Inn – (765) 362-8700; Comfort Inn – (765) 361-0665; and Lew Wallace (765) 362-8400.

**News from Our Class**

In the past few months I’ve heard from several of our classmates – some to discuss the Big Bash, while others are interested in what’s occurring on campus. Fijis Jeff Garbers, John Gilbert, Greg Rose and Jud Scott all inquired about the new Fiji house and the groundbreaking ceremonies held in early April on the site just to the south of the existing fraternity house.

Jeff Garbers and his family live in Atlanta. He regrets that he won’t be attending the Big Bash as an early summer trip to Wisconsin with his three kids conflicts with reunion. Jeff, one of the original and ongoing “giants” in computer technology, can be reached at [jgarbers@mindspring.com](mailto:jgarbers@mindspring.com)

John Gilbert resides in Maryland, just outside of the District, with his wife Janet and three children – Patrick (16), Laura (14) and Brian (11). John works for Verizon as its state director of regulatory affairs. He can be reached by e-mail at [john.r.gilbert@verizon.com](mailto:john.r.gilbert@verizon.com)
Greg Rose continues as our class’ ambassador to the Far East as he lived in Japan for nearly two decades – truly an amazing story for a kid who grew up in the cornfields of New Castle, Indiana. Greg reported in April that he and his wife hosted Laurent Kahl (Wabash ’82) when Kahl visited Tokyo recently as part of a worldwide tour. Greg can be e-mailed at ggrose@ctgtokyo.com Just remember the vast difference in time zones when you receive a response back at a very strange hour.

And Jud Scott, who owns and operates a tree maintenance business just north of Indianapolis, recently provided some startling statistics comparing today’s college students with us from 25 years earlier. Needless to say, communications and technology have improved a bit since our days in Crawfordsville. Jud can be reached at treeconsultant@aol.com

Finally, I heard from Ross Strodel in mid-winter. Ross reports that he continues to enjoy his work – now in his 18th year -- as the Internal Audit Manager for Virginia’s Housing Financing agency. Ross proudly noted that his son (age 12) and daughter (age 4) keep things hopping at the Strodel household. Ross can be contacted at ross.strodel@vhda.com

**News from the College**

If you haven’t checked out the College’s web site recently, do so at www.wabash.edu. The public relations and computer services staffs combined efforts to unveil a snappy new homepage.

Veteran basketball coach Mac Petty garnered his 400th career win this season when the Little Giants defeated Ohio Wesleyan in the opening round of the NCAC Tournament. It’s hard to believe Petty has been coaching at the College since our freshmen days.

For the fourth consecutive year admission applications to Wabash surpassed 1,300. Many thanks to you and other alums who contributed to recruitment to reach this mark! The College is actively seeking referrals for the Class of 2010 at www.wabash.edu/alumni/alumni/refer

David Blix (Wabash ’70), assistant professor of philosophy and religion, recently was selected as a 2005 Carnegie Scholar -- another prestigious award for a member of Wabash’s faculty.

The search continues for the new Director of the Schroeder Career Center. The current director, Rosalind Lister, is leaving that post at the end of the spring semester. If you know of someone who might be interested in this position, a job description and application is available at www.wabash.edu/aboutwabash/employment.cfm#job2.

Nearly 3,000 alumni, parents and friends have contributed to the Wabash Annual Fund in the current fiscal year which ends June 30th. Those contributions, totaling about $2.0 million, have a direct impact on students through scholarships, technology, learning trips, and facility upkeep

**Class Giving Update**

Through April (and with just two months left in the current fiscal/giving year), our class has made 57 separate donations to the College, totaling $18,380. The Honor Roll of Giving for the Class of 1980 consists of Paul Atkenson, John Barry, Dan Bohn, Bob Cebul, Bruce Cook, Jim Craft, Brian Dickson, Brian Dinges, Terry Fox, Brent Fulton, John Gilbert, Bill Goebel, Hugh Goodman, Tim Grimm, Mike Gullifor, Charlie Hartford, Tom Hastings, C. Hendon, Doug Highsmith, Curt Keller, Tim Kennedy, Larry Klee, Alex Klefeker, Mike
Thank you, Gentlemen, for your continued support of Wabash!

For you Hoosiers who continue to be appalled at the look of the current Indiana license plate, may I recommend that you purchase a Wabash license plate through the BMV? I’ve done it for the past couple of years. The cost is just $25, and it’s a gift to the Annual Fund. Check out information about this at www.wabash.edu/alumni/plates.

Until next month, when I hope to greet many of you at the Big Bash . . . .

Yours in Wabash,

JIM
Jim Miller
Class Agent ‘80