



## **Class Agents Letter**

### **Class of 1972**

#### **Class Agents**

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Gentlemen:

Wow! Soon it will be Big Bash Weekend again! Almost one year ago many of us, in fact virtually half of our numbers, were together for our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion. It seems like only yesterday! Well, in comparison to the rest of our thus-far long lives, it was! And thinking about our Reunion makes me want to reach out to you again and bring you up to date on recent happenings at Wabash.

#### **Student Body**

During Commencement Weekend on May 13-14, 175 young men joined the ranks of the 14,500 or so living Wabash alumni. Unlike our commencement, the rain held off, and the graduates and their families were able to celebrate the big event in glorious Indiana springtime sunshine.

#### **Princeton Review Rankings**

This year's *Princeton Review* rankings have placed Wabash as the 26<sup>th</sup> Best Value College in the nation. This was out of a total of 209 such Best Value Colleges, which represent only 8% of all American four-year colleges. The attributes *The Princeton Review* looks at for a Best Value College are stellar academics; affordability via low costs or generous financial aid; and strong career prospects for graduates. *The Princeton Review* also ranked Wabash No. 2 in Alumni Network and No. 4 in Best Internships. The College also did extremely well in rankings associated with faculty accessibility and interest, academics, financial aid, and return-on-investment.



## Financial Matters

Many thanks to those of you who gave contributions to Wabash for its 10<sup>th</sup> annual Day of Giving drive back on April 19. Check out these facts:

- \$1,679,438 was raised in support of Wabash and our students, which is a new record and the sixth consecutive year in which more than \$1 million was raised in a single day.
- \$2,107 was raised per student, far more than by our peer colleges (see below).
- \$10,338,765 has been raised cumulatively over all 10 Days of Giving.
- 3,573 donors made a record-setting 6,939 gifts.
- 506 have given on all 10 Wabash Days of Giving.
- 435 were first-time donors.
- 586 were current student donors.

By way of comparison, at their most recent Days of Giving, DePauw received 1,567 gifts and raised \$440,891, Wittenberg received 1,424 gifts and raised \$642,728, Denison received 940 gifts and raised \$337,655, and Wooster received 804 gifts and raised \$356,019. In short, Wabash raised almost as much money itself as all four of these schools combined. **WAF!**

## Winter and Spring Sports

Our Little Giant winter sports teams had many outstanding results. The basketball team defended its North Coast Athletic Conference championship by defeating the College of Wooster 81-80. junior Ahmoni Jones and sophomore Vinny Buccilla earned First Team All-NCAC honors for their performances throughout the 2022-2023 basketball season.

Wabash also won its ninth NCAC indoor track and field title. The Little Giants added their 18<sup>th</sup> championship trophy overall, matching the nine outdoor titles already won by Wabash. Two freshmen also garnered significant honors. Freshman. Quinn Sholar received the NCAC Men's Field Athlete of the Year Award, and freshman Haiden Diemer-McKinney capped his first NCAA

Championship experience by earning All-America honors, breaking a school record, and racing to third place in the finals of the 800-meter run.

Senior Wabash wrestler Jack Heldt won the 2023 NCAA Division III national championship at 285 pounds and claimed the NCAA Division III title of Most Dominant Wrestler at the national championship meet. He finished the season 40-0 with a single season record of 32 pins. Heldt then went on to receive the Senior Award of Merit, the Pete Vaughan Award, and the Wabash Club of Indianapolis Scholar-Athlete Award at the College's annual Awards Chapel held in April. Jack Heldt – Some Little Giant!

In spring sports, the Wabash track team placed second in the NCAC outdoor track and field meet, the tennis team got to the conference semi-finals, and AJ Reid, Liam Patton, Kamden Earley, Camden Scheidt, and Sam Phillips were named to the 2023 All-NCAC Baseball Team

## **Keeping in Touch**

There are more ways than ever to stay connected to Wabash. Here are some:

Bookmark these links:

<https://www.wabash.edu/www/> for virtual engagement opportunities.

<https://bachelor.wabash.edu/> to read our award-winning newspaper.

Subscribe to these Twitter feeds:

[https://twitter.com/wabash\\_nawm](https://twitter.com/wabash_nawm)

<https://twitter.com/WabashCollege>

<https://twitter.com/presidentfeller>

Join this LinkedIn group:

<https://www.linkedin.com/school/wabash-college/>

## Final Thoughts

I hope you are all well. Please keep in touch with Rick ([rwfobes@gmail.com](mailto:rwfobes@gmail.com)) Tom ([thomashristine@gmail.com](mailto:thomashristine@gmail.com)), or me ([jbridge@psrb.com](mailto:jbridge@psrb.com)). In the meantime, I wish you all the best!

Yours in Wabash,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John". The script is cursive and fluid.

John Bridge