

Class Agents Letter

Class of 1976

Class Agent Fred Miller Richard Sword Alumni and Parent Relations Office 301 W. Wabash Ave. Crawfordsville, IN 47933 765-361-6360 alumni@wabash.edu wabash.edu

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Dear Men of the Great Class of 1976:

Greetings from Fred and me, and Happy 2023 New Year to each of you. Lots of good news from Crawfordsville.

The Wabash Football Team had a successful fall finishing 7-3 highlighted by a resounding 52-48 win over Hampden-Sydney in the season opener. As you would remember, H-S is the only other all-male school in the Nation (non-sectarian, non-military). Wabash and Hampden-Sydney (located in Farmville, Virginia) play football together in games referred to as the "Gentlemen's Classic." A great tradition.

Football ended the 2022 season unceremoniously with a 49-14 loss to our friends in Greencastle. The 129th Monon Bell Game will be in Crawfordsville on November 11, 2023. Please include this in your fall 2023 plans.

Likewise, the Soccer Boys enjoyed a successful fall finishing with a 12-6-1 record. Interestingly, frequent Wabash opponent University of Chicago won the National D3 Soccer Championship Tournament this year. Chicago's Coach Julianne Sitch became the first female Coach to win a Men's NCAA Championship.

The current Giant Steps Campaign is winding its way toward a successful completion later this year. Due to conclude on June 30, 2023, the Campaign has thus far raised some \$238M.A wonderful showing for our small, midwestern Men's College. The stated endowment value is at \$340M as of the end September 2022.

Our Class of 1976 John P. Collett '24 Fund reported assets of \$155,000 at the June 2022 fiscal year end. Gifts to the Collett Fund may be transmitted through the College website (wabash.edu/give) and are warmly accepted.

A wonderful honor has been received by Wabash undergraduate Cooper Smith W'23. Smith was honored a year ago with the very prestigious Truman Scholarship which provides a cash grant to be used by the awardee in his field of interest. A tuition-based grant is also part of the fellowship for Graduate School. Fifty-eight Truman Fellowships were awarded nationwide in 2022.



The very same Cooper Smith '23 has recently been awarded the prestigious Marshall Scholarship. The Scholarships are given by the United Kingdom to American Graduate School students and are named in honor of US Army General George Marshall whose Service in the Second World War was of utmost importance to the Allied success. This Scholarship provides for two years of UK-based graduate school study.

On campus, planning work continues on the replacement facility for the Sparks Center. This seems to be the next major capital project for Wabash. I hope the planners do not replace the wonderful Sparks Center ceiling in the Main Hall. American Cypress wood given by longtime Wabash Trustee Parish Fuller '15 with the timber taken from a Fuller family timber plantation in Oakdale, Louisiana.

A reminder to all that our Annual Gifts to the College are always appreciated. The College Giving Year ends on June 30 so no huge hurry on giving but all gifts gratefully appreciated. Online giving is the easiest avenue for gift transmission.

Cheers to you all and Happy New Year.

Dick

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