June 2014

Dear Classmates and Friends:

We lost two classmates earlier this year: Del Willsey and Bill Bolosky.

Del was a member of Sigma Chi. He was with us for two years before returning to Indianapolis where he was a successful contractor/builder. He was living in Chandler, Arizona at the time of his death. RIP. Bill was an Independent who became a clinical psychologist. He lived and practiced in Mechanicsburg, PA. RIP.

Keith Baird '56 passed away a month or so ago. Keith was a Phi Gam and was with NASA as physician to the astronauts, After his stent with NASA, Keith returned to Crawfordsville, set up a general practice and was the College's doctor. He was affectionately called "Dr. Tetracycline" by the students. Keith also gave freely of his time to The Montgomery County Clinic. He was a good man. RIP.

During the 176th commencement, 172 eager young men received their ABs. Three of them are Fulbright Fellows and 34 will enroll in medical, law and other graduate schools. Two of the Fulbright Fellows are going to Spain to teach English. The other man will spend a year in Finland in a master’s program in Learning, Learning Environments and Educational Systems.

The Bachelor was named Newspaper of the Year by the Indiana Collegiate Press Association. There were 8 first place individual awards. The Bachelor had previously been named Newspaper of the Year in 2009 and 2011.

Ground has been broken on new student housing this month. The $15 million project will add 136 beds for Independents. The plan includes two 38-bed units, two 16-bed lodges and two duplex-style townhomes with 12 beds each. The development is located on the west side of Crawford Street, south of where the Crawford mansion had been.

The National Wrestling Coaches Association designated the wrestling team a Scholar Team and five Little Giants Scholar All-Americans. The team's GPA was 3.374. The
GPAs of the five Scholar All-Americans ranged from 3.27 to 3.59. Two of them are biology majors, one is an economics major, another is a rhetoric major and one of the men is a physics major. Impressive!

The College Swimming Coaches Association of America recognized the Little Giant swim team a NCAA Division III Scholar All-American Team. The team's GPA was 3.29.

Senior linebacker Nate Scola played in the 2014 USA Football Bowl. He received the London Fletcher Award as the outstanding NCAA Division III linebacker, was elected cocaptain. Nate led his all-star team to victory.

The 2013-14 basketball team had another tough year losing twice as many games as it won. The young coach resigned. Kyle Brumett is the new coach. A Hanover grad, he had been an assistant coach at DePauw. The past 6 seasons he was the head coach at Defiance College. His Defiance teams posted a 103-57 record.

The wrestlers were not only excellent in the classroom, but also on the mat. The team ranked third in the National Wrestling Coaches Association and sent 6 to the Nationals. A freshman, Riley Lefever, was national champion at 184 pounds. Riley’s brother, Reese, a junior, placed 4th at 157 lbs. He became the second Wabash wrestler to be a back-to-back All-American. The team finished in ninth place overall. There is another Lefever who wrestles at 174 lbs!

The Indoor Track and Field Team was super again. It won the league title for the fourth consecutive year. Great athletes and great coaching! Three went to Nationals where they did well, but just missed All-American status.

The Outdoor Track and Field Team, as you might imagine, was tremendous. The guys repeated as Indiana Div III champs and won the league title for the 4th consecutive year. Eleven Little Giants went to Nationals where the 4x400 relay team placed 7th. They were running fourth when the baton was dropped -- interference by a Monmouth College runner. Our guy picked the baton up and did his best, but couldn’t get back into the mix. Joey Conti, Sean Hildebrand, Cole Hruskovich and Joel Whittington are All-Americans. Derek De St Jean placed ninth in the discus and Adam Togami 11th in the 3000 steeplechase. Through the years Wabash has been blessed with outstanding track coaches: Owen Huntsman, Rob Johnson and now Clyde Morgan.

430 on 4/30. April 30th was Wabash Giving Day. The goal was to have 430 donors to the Annual Fund and win a matching gift challenge from an alum. Ha! There were 2329 donors and $465,000 raised. Fantastic!

If you haven’t made your contribution yet this fiscal year, there is still time!

God bless,

Gordon