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THE WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF  
SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, #1 2004



Science is built of facts the way a house is built of bricks, but an accumulation of facts is no more science than a pile of bricks is a house.

—Henri Poincare

## Everything's "Wright" about this family

The Hess family of Sugarcreek Township, Ohio didn't set out to be a living, breathing advertisement for the value of a Wright State University education....but it sure turned out that way!

The story started when Tom Hess enrolled at WSU in 1972 to pursue a degree in business. It didn't take Tom long to realize his real passion was for biology and physiology, so he changed his major to biological sciences. After earning his B.S. degree, Tom entered the masters program and became a teaching assistant in the physiology course. During his tenure in the masters program Tom met Joanne Redden, and they embarked together on a new partnership that would last a lifetime—following Tom's acceptance to medical school and Joanne's graduation from nursing school, the two married.

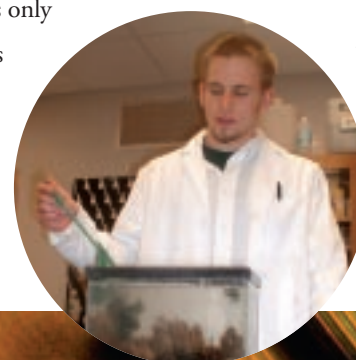
Twenty-three years and six children later, Dr. and Mrs. Hess returned to Wright State a few months ago, this time to attend the Fall 2003 "white coat" ceremony at the WSU School of Medicine. Their oldest son, Matt, was a member of the entering class! "It was a funny feeling," Joanne said, "because Matt had attended his Dad's 'match day' at WSU when he was only two years old." As a psychology graduate, Matt wondered if his undergraduate program had prepared him as well as some of his classmates with degrees in biology or chemistry. Matt quickly learned that his Wright State premedical curriculum was top-notch. He entered the WSU School of Medicine

with all the knowledge and skills he needed to excel as a medical student. Today, Tom Hess is an anesthesiologist at Kettering Medical Center. As a young resident, Dr. Hess quickly appreciated the quality of the undergraduate and medical training he received at Wright State. "You want to be able to measure up with the other residents," he said. "I could tell right away I was heads above in my preparation."

You could say the family has come full circle—a circle that seems to always lead back to Wright State! You see, Matt is not the only Hess child to follow in his parents' footsteps...Mike is a sophomore pursuing a biology degree and planning to go to dental school, and Mark is a freshman theater arts major.

As one of seven siblings who all attended WSU, Dr. Hess had to fund his own schooling, an investment he considers well worth the effort. Joanne, one of nine children, originally wanted to attend Berea College but came to Wright State for financial reasons. When asked how she feels now about her alma mater, she responds with a smile, "I have no regrets!"

The Hesses agree that their family ties are stronger because they chose to go to college close to home. Matt, Mark, and Mike all live at home as they pursue their degrees at WSU. All say that living at home makes sense financially and eliminates distractions. "We'll have time to accumulate plenty of debt



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