

Wabash.

Class Agents Letter

Class of 1977

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August 7, 2026

Hi Classmates,

LOTS OF IMPORTANT NEWS as we approach our 50th reunion and the Big Bash 2027. First off: Greg, Herm, and I, with a gracious offer from PAUL VAN NESS and his wife Debbie, will be holding a Remembrance Memorial to begin our reunion activities. This will be on Thursday, June 3, at the Van Ness farm in Waveland. Details are coming. But the important part of this is that we will pay remembrance tribute to deceased classmates and also to deceased spouses of classmates at this event.

If you know of a deceased classmate and want to pass along an obituary or remembrance, do so by contacting either ROBIN STOUT at rst5984@aol.com or BILL CATUS at wcatus3@gmail.com. They will be assembling and editing these tributes.

If you know of a deceased spouse, STEVE HEIMANN is assembling and editing these tributes. You can reach Steve at heimann.stephen@gmail.com.



Thanks, and special thanks to Robin, Bill and Steve for help with this.

NEXT: With much thanks to my co-agent HERM HAFFNER, we're setting up some "reunion reps" to help us with getting as many of our classmates back for the Big Bash as possible. So we want to do a "shout out" to those who are helping us with this process. This includes:

RICK BATCHELDER and JIM EVANS
DICK MCCOMBIE
RICKY BEYERS
PAUL VAN NESS
DAN BROUGHTON

GREG GABET
JERRY SHONKWILER
TOM BOYER
RHENNIE YOUNG
GARY REAMEY

So, if you hear from one of more of these classmates, do respond right away. For now we're just re-establishing connections. Thanks!



HOMECOMING AND OTHER NEWS FROM THE COLLEGE

Homecoming is September 25-26, 2026 Everyone is welcome home to where the Scarlet flag proudly flashes. This year, Wabash is celebrating the color we love so well with the following events:

- Friday evening, **Athletics Hall of Fame Induction:** The NAWM will enshrine the 2011 Wabash football team along with Coach Brian Anderson, Matt Dodaro '09, Seth Einterz '11 son of BOB EINTERZ '77, C.J. Gum '12, Weston Kitley '13, Tom Martella '71, Garrett Tallman '87, and Jake Thomas '09. [Register for the Athletics Hall of Fame dinner here.](#)
- Saturday morning, **Alumni Chapel:** The NAWM will raise the banner high and recognize the accomplishments of GREG BIRK '77, Eric Hiser '86, Eric Rowland '86, Andy Walsh '14, Jennifer Evans P'15, Vic Lindsay, Kevin Egan '89, and Isaac Myers '21.
- Saturday noon, **Homecoming Luncheon:** Get your photo taken with Wally and enjoy a tailgate-inspired menu. Kids will receive a free bag with Wabash swag. All attendees will receive a general admission ticket to the football game as the Little Giants take on Wooster. The Homecoming luncheon is free, but please [register by September 16.](#)
- Saturday 2 p.m.: **Football vs. Wooster**, Frank Navarro Field, Little Giant Stadium
- Saturday 5 p.m.: **Soccer vs. Principia**, Fischer Field
- Saturday 7:30 p.m.: **Glee Club Homecoming Concert**, Salter Hall, Fine Arts Center
- **Senior Bench Coloring Contest:** For kids 4-12, enter for their chance to have their design painted on the Senior Bench. [Details and submission here.](#)

Community Center Update

Additional work on the Community Center (successor to the Sparks Center) is underway again! You can find more information on the community center at www.wabash.edu/communitycenter.

Other Campus Projects

- Work is wrapping up on the \$18 million cooling plant with utility improvements. The new parking lot adjacent to Mud Hollow is being completed as well.
- Fischer Field has received a new turf field for the soccer and lacrosse teams and should be wrapped up this week.

- Demolition is underway at Detchon Center, and a new concrete entryway is being constructed.
- The International Center (in the former home of Dr. Peebles) is undergoing exterior work that will include ramp access on the East side. Interior improvements, including an accessible bathroom, new lighting fixtures, furnishings, and paint and wall covering, will then commence with most of that work completed by the start of the school year.

Also, Hunter Magdanz is the new broadcast engineer and livestream director at Wabash, a role he stepped into this past month. I'd suggest you save or bookmark www.wabash.edu/live on your devices, as we're probably going to be witnessing an increase in live events broadcast from the college.

Knowling Fieldhouse is in the final stages of renovation. We're told it will be all nicely renovated with a new surface and sound system for our 50th.

The biennial Athletics Hall of Fame is always a great event. It will be held on Friday, Sept. 25. It would be great to see several classmates there. Here are details: <https://sports.wabash.edu/news/2026/7/15/main-athletics-nawm-announces-2026-wabash-athletics-hall-of-fame-class.aspx>

Due to construction in Greencastle (is that an oxymoron?) DePauw University has moved this year's Monon Bell Game to Muncie. Here are the specifics: <https://sports.wabash.edu/news/2026/7/10/football-132nd-monon-bell-classic-moves-to-ball-states-scheumann-stadium.aspx>

WALLY'S BOOKSHELF: Professor of Rhetoric Dr. Sara Mehlretter will host a Wally's Bookshelf virtual session on Sept. 16 entitled "I Never Thought of It That Way: How to Have Fearlessly Curious Conversations in Dangerously Divided Times." I highly recommend this! Here's the link: <https://www.wabash.edu/events/wallysbookshelf-mehlretter>

BACK TO AUGUST 1976:

As we were preparing to return to classes for our senior years, top songs playing on the radio included "You Should Be Dancing" by the BeeGees, "Let 'Em In" by Wings and "You'll Never Find Another Love," by Lou Rawls. "The Outlaw Josie Wales," "The Omen," and "All the President's Men" were big at the box office. The Republican Party held its convention, with President Gerald Ford holding off a challenge from Ronald Reagan to become the party's nominee and to square off in the 1976 presidential campaign vs. former Georgia governor Jimmy Carter. In a column in *The Bachelor* in September, political science professor and ABC News commentator Phillip Mikesell presciently predicted that Carter would win the general election.

On the small screen, “Happy Days” “Laverne & Shirley” and “M*A*S*H” were among the top television shows. The college admitted 238 freshmen and 13 transfers to campus in August, and offensive co-captain GARY NONDORF and defensive standout GREG BUSSARD and other seniors were helping lead pre-season workouts for a Little Giant football team determined to reverse the squad’s 3-7 record the year before.

FINALLY – If your travels bring you to Northeast Ohio, Kathy and I will be glad to make the guest bedroom and invite you to our place. We’re in Cuyahoga Falls, one of the communities which calls the Cuyahoga Valley National Park its home. We have phenomenal hiking/biking trails, waterfalls, the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, and other attractions (including Blossom Music Center, summer home of the Cleveland Orchestra) all pretty much in our backyard. We’d love to have you for a visit.

Best for Wabash Always,

John Kerezy ’77 johnkprof@gmail.com or 440-364-1133

PS – 300 Days to when our BIG BASH reunion begins!