

Wabash.

Class Agents Letter

Class of 1977

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Class Agents

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Hello classmates,

Greg, Herm and I want to begin this with a reminder to circle and save **June 3-4-5** for our 50th class reunion at Wabash. As we indicated in the last letter, we know that for some of us this could represent one final opportunity to gather and reminisce with our classmates. You will be hearing and seeing more about this from others in our class over the next couple of months (including honorary class member Professor GREG HUEBNER), but we very much want to see you again. Make plans now to be back in Crawfordsville early in June. There will be some special spouse activities happening this weekend also (watch for details and a video).



Thanks to those classmates who have already provided updates. If you haven't yet, here's the online form you can fill out: <https://forms.gle/nV3Yqi1rVJodnNLeA>.

It was great to see so many classmates on campus on September 25 & 26 for Homecoming. One of the guys I ran into was DAVID SMITH, who's selling his home in Carmel and then heading back to Central America in retirement. Please stay in touch. Many of us ran into DAN BROUGHTON also. Still involved in real estate investments, Dan came down from Chicago for some of the homecoming festivities. He's assisting us with contacts and connections for the Big Bash.



A highlight was GREG BIRK receiving the college's Alumni Distinguished Service Award at Homecoming Chapel. Here is a photo with (back row) David Brake '89, John Gremer '87, David Radspinner '87, Greg, Coach Rob Johnson H'77, Greg Redding '88 and Martin Kirkwood '89 and (front row) Harry "Mac" McLaughlin '83, and Paul Radspinner '85.

Almost all were cross country

runners whom Greg coached.



Another highlight of course was the Wabash College football team coming through with a 34-7 triumph over Wooster at Little Giant Stadium. The team is 4-1 and heading into a “tough stretch” with back-to-back contests at John Carroll (Oct. 17) and then at home vs. No. ranked Washington Univ (Oct. 24) Do try to take in a game and root for the Little Giants. If you haven’t heard, this year’s Monon Bell showdown vs. DePauw will be at Ball State Univ’s Scheumann Stadium in Muncie. (DePauw is building a new football stadium.)

Gone unnoticed by some is the terrific showing of the Wabash College soccer team this season. As of this writing, the squad is 10-2-1 and 1-0 in the NCAC. They have rival Kenyon (currently 7-2) coming to Wabash on Saturday in a key contest.

Our alma mater continues to draw rave reviews. A variety of media outlets, including Time and U.S. News & World Report, rank Wabash as the No. 1 liberal arts college in Indiana. The Princeton Review rates Wabash as No.2 in Top 20 for Best Internships, No. 2 in Most Active Student Government, and No. 4 in Lots of Race/Class Interaction. Those are attributes which today’s college-attending guys value quite highly.

Some links to news at the college are below:

Construction news: <https://bachelor.wabash.edu/2026/10/fences-block-mall-on-short-notice/>

Soccer news: <https://sports.wabash.edu/news/2026/10/3/soccer-simmons-biggerstaff-kinnaman-lead-wabash-past-oberlin-in-ncac-opener.aspx>

And of course (this is bookmarked on my computer) here a link to the “Whenever Wherever Wabash” site, which include some past events (Such as Wally’s Bookshelf) and information about upcoming activities too: [Whenever. Wherever. Wabash. | Wabash College](#)

NOW ... LET’S GO BACK:

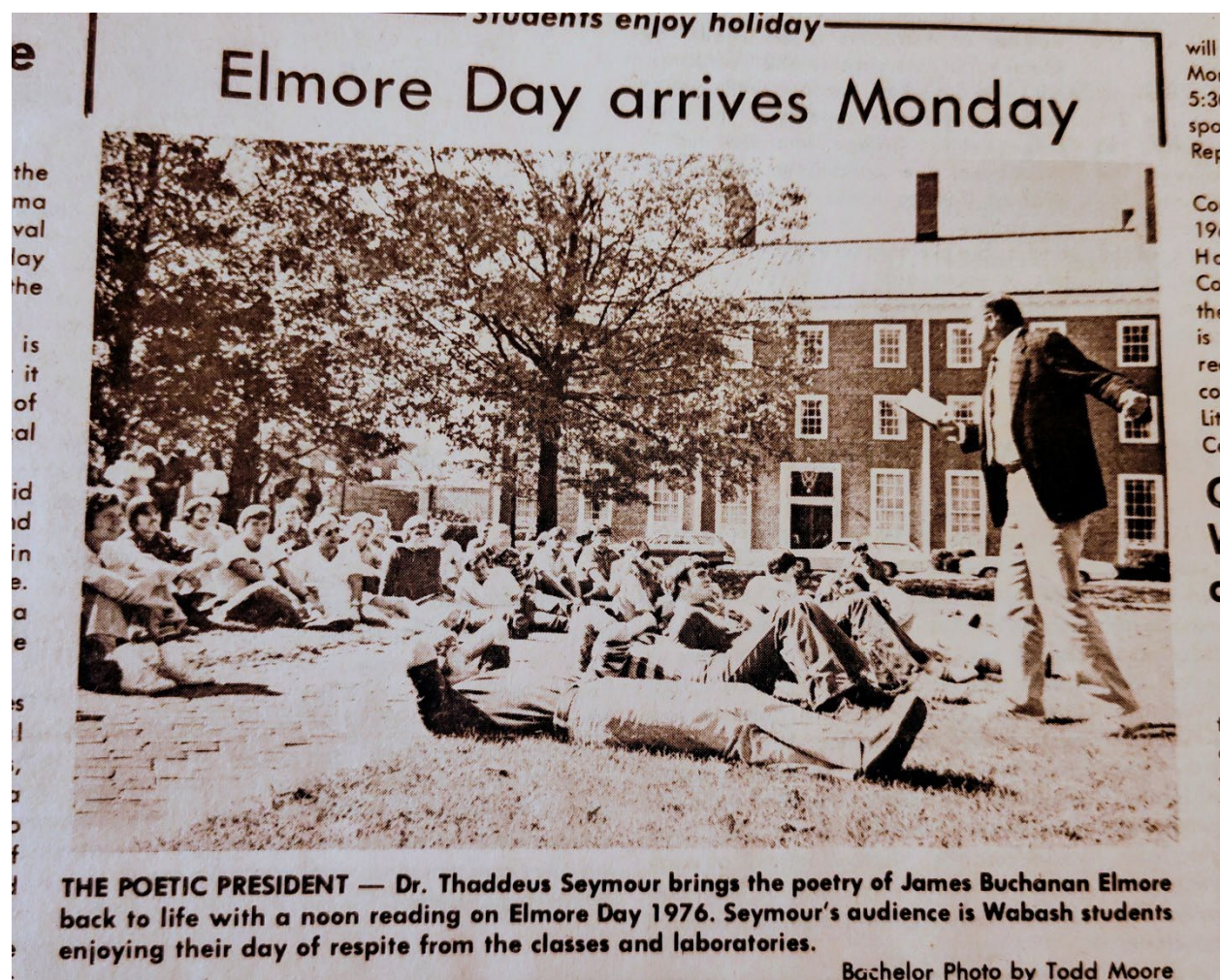
In early October 1976, popular music included Walter Murphy’s “A Fifth of Beethoven,” Wil Cherry’s “Play That Funky Music” and Boz Scaggs “Lowdown.” If we were venturing over to the Strand, with a stop afterwards at Tommy Silver Dollar, we’d be watching Clint Eastwood starring in “The Outlaw Josey Wales.” On the tube, “M*A*S*H,” “Happy Days” and “Laverne & Shirley” were among the top-rated television shows.

In the news, Barbara Walters made the news by becoming the first female co-anchor of the “ABC Nightly News” broadcast. Anti-Castro militants blew up a Cubana de Aviacion plane off Barbados, killing all 73 people on board. The Cincinnati Reds’ Big Red Machine

squashed the New York Yankees in four straight to win the World Series, with Johnny Bench earning Series MVP Honors.

And Americans listened to final appeals from President Gerald Ford and Governor Jimmy Carter before decided for whom to cast ballots in the November 1976 presidential election. There was high interest in political affairs on campus this fall, as due to the 26th Amendment many students (including us) were casting their first-ever election ballots to select a president.

If you had an exam on Monday, October 11, you were quite grateful when President Dr. Thaddeus Seymour proclaimed it to be James Buchanan Elmore Day. Chances are you headed off for Turkey Run or some other spot to enjoy “periodic renewal at the font of nature,” or perhaps you just enjoyed the day in/around Wabash and Crawfordsville (see photo below from *The Bachelor*).



THE POETIC PRESIDENT — Dr. Thaddeus Seymour brings the poetry of James Buchanan Elmore back to life with a noon reading on Elmore Day 1976. Seymour's audience is Wabash students enjoying their day of respite from the classes and laboratories.

Bachelor Photo by Todd Moore

And speaking of the student newspaper, news editor MICHAEL MURPHY made the news by bringing up a topic – mandatory chapel period – with an editorial column in the paper. It read in part:

“I believe a positive step toward a more complete and well rounded education should include the reinstitution of mandatory chapel at Wabash. If a small group such as Wabash men cannot come together at least once a month for a few verses of Old Wabash and get people talking to one another, what in hell’s name will become of this world filled with more problems that need attention by mankind collectively than most students care to admit?” *The Bachelor* October 1, 1976

Michael, the college ought to invite you back to speak – At Chapel of course!

At end: My new biography about Jesse Owens, now titled “OWENS: The Life and Legacy of Ohio’s Olympic Legend” will be published by Kent State University Press in spring 2027. It’s great working with an academic publisher, but the questionnaires and the planning seem never ending right now. I’m told this is the first comprehensive biography of Owens to be written in many decades. Hoping it’ll be well received early next year.

Heard recently from RICK MOLL Mathematics Major and a member of the basketball team and Sigma Chi. Rick has retired from his dentistry practice and is playing golf and tennis in the Evansville area. He’d love to connect with TIM KATHMAN by the way.

PLEASE DROP ME A TEXT OR AN EMAIL with news from you. I’m at johnkprof@gmail.com or at 440-364-1133.

Best for Wabash Always,

John Kerezy ’77, with co-class agents Herm Haffner and Greg Birk