

Class of 1969

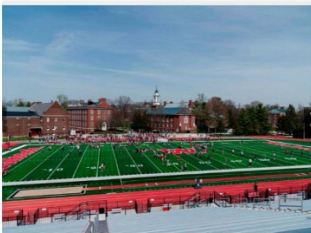
Class Agent
Ken Crawford

Alumni & Affinity Group Engagement Office
301 W. Wabash Ave.
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
765-361-6360
alumni@wabash.edu
wabash.edu

15 April 2024

Gentlemen of the Class of 69,

With the cold weather spring has been late arriving in Indiana but now the weather is finally warming and the red buds and dogwoods are reaching full bloom. Spring in Indiana is always so pretty. On Monday 8 April we were able to see a total eclipse of the sun passing through central Indiana. We had four minutes of darkness here in Bloomington, Wabash had about a minute, with the students watching in the stadium. As someone said, it was a “cosmic event for the ages”. The total eclipse was indeed spectacular! If you enlarge the eclipse picture you can see red dots around the rim of the moon. These are called “Bailey’s beads”, discovered in 1836. This is sun light shining through the mountains on the moon.



And so it goes at Wabash. Only two weeks left before finals start 29 April.

The Wabash College 186th Commencement is Saturday 11 May.

Our 55th Class Reunion - Big Bash 2024 May 31 – June 2, 2024.

Now is the time to begin making plans to return to the Wabash campus for our 55th Reunion. After a successful 50th Reunion in 2019, we look forward to coming together again to join classmates and fraternity brothers in a fun filled weekend with events, colloquia, and excellent Bon Appetit food. This will be the last time you will see the Sparks Center. Demolition is set to begin 3 June. The book store has already moved over to the Allen Center into a racquetball court. The student mail boxes have moved into the armory. Following finals on 3 May the kitchen in Sparks Center closes and Bon Appetit will operate out of the Sigma Chi kitchen.

The following 13 Class of '69 Gentlemen have registered for Big Bash:

John Burrell	Ivan Green	Bill Mabin	Doug Sparks
Ken Crawford	Al Hart	Bob McVicker	
Richard Elson	Terry Harter	Dave Pancost	
Craig Fox	Rik Lineback	Jim Willhite	

You can register for Big Bash by going to www.wabash.edu/alumni/bigbash and also see the schedule of events and who is registered for Big Bash.

Use this link to check on lodging: www.wabash.edu/alumni/reunion/lodging

The Best Western Plus has a special Wabash rate for \$89, non-refundable. Call 765-302-3990

The Best Western special Wabash portal does not now show the \$89 rate. Best to call.

Call the other hotels to check their availability and rates:

Comfort Inn 765-361-0655 Hampton Inn 765-362-8884 Holiday Inn Express 765-363-4575

04.24.24 Day of Giving: On Wednesday 24 April, Wabash College will have its 2024 Day of Giving and will be reaching out to students, staff, alumni, and friends of Wabash to hopefully achieve a new record in one day of giving. Last year's 419 DOG achieved a record \$1.68 million with more than 3,570 donors, of which 435 were first-time givers.

This year's goal is to achieve 5,000 gifts. Join us on 24 April as we Celebrate Wabash for an exciting day of giving! Again, give to the Annual Fund, our Dean Moore challenge, or any of the many affinity challenges. The fraternity and sports challenges always do well.

Dean Moore Scholarships: In October the Scholarship Committee awarded our Dean Moore scholarships to five Wabash men, with \$42k awarded. The following Gentlemen are our 2023-24 Dean Moore recipients:

Avery Beaver '24	Independent	Rogge Hall	West Lafayette, IN
Jacob Irick '25	Independent	Rogge Hall	Tempe, AZ
Andrew Sinkovics '25	Independent	Martindale	Bremen, IN
Evan Stonis '26	Fraternity	Phi Kappa Psi	Naperville, IL
Austin Dalton '26	Independent	College Hall	Pimento, IN

This is Avery Beaver's third year, Austin Dalton and Andrew Sinkovics second year. We wish them well in their studies. This was Avery's fourth year playing basketball helping the team win the three NCAC tournaments. He received second-team all NCAC honors. Some Little Giant!

To all have who have given to our Dean Moore fund over these ten years, and especially on our Days of Giving, we extend a heartfelt Thank You! and a sincere debt of gratitude. Your philanthropy and generous donations to Wabash and our Dean Moore Scholarship fund over these years have been significant and greatly appreciated. Your gifts make a significant impact on Wabash men and their liberal arts education.

Sports: The Wabash basketball team completed a very good 20-9 season with 13-3 in the NCAC and won the NCAC tournament for the third year in a row, going to play in the NCAA Division III playoffs, but unfortunately losing in the first game to Coe College in OT. The Wabash wrestling team finished their season with 6 wins and 4 loses, placed second of 19 teams in the NCAA Div III central tournament, and tied for 20th of 66 teams in the NCAA Div III National championship. Sophomore James Day, 125 lb class, placed third and receive All-American honors. Some Little giant! You can find a good summary of Wabash sports on pages 20-21 in your spring Wabash Magazine.

Kim Johnson and her staff always do an excellent job writing stories, taking photographs, and editing the magazine. The Spring edition is a beautiful piece of their work!

Passing: I inform you with sadness the passing of two of our classmates:

Jeff Torell, Independent, Winchester, TN, passed away 23 March from cancer. After serving with the US Army in Ethiopia he was a consultant in the aerospace industry, loved to travel, visit National Parks and take nature photographs. After his cancer diagnosis, determined to help others, he participated in four clinical trials to aid in cancer research. He was a long-time member of Kiwanis and Mensa.

Larry Biestek, Kappa Sig, Huston, TX, attended two semesters at Wabash, played football and went on to Purdue majoring in industrial management, serving in the Air Force Reserves. He worked for Bank of America and Coldwell Banker as a real estate appraiser. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

New Community Center: Construction preparation has started for the new Community Center

with contractor mobilization, set up of the contractor's trailers and construction yard. On 3 June right after Big Bash a fence will be placed around Sparks Center and demolition of the building begins and will be completely removed within



weeks. Having served the Wabash community and thousands of students for 70 years, since 1954, the Sparks Center and the Scarlet Inn will fade into history and will forever be in our memories. The morning coffees in the Scarlet Inn were always sources of interesting discussions.



The footprint of the Campus Center is essentially the same as Sparks Center but expanded forward to the building line of the Lilly library and Goodrich. The new campus Center is projected to be completed by August 2026, just in time to ring in the Class of 2030.

Again, I thank you for your support to Wabash and your generous philanthropy to help the young men of Wabash to achieve a remarkable liberal arts education. We look forward to hearing from you on 24 April for the big **04.24.24 Day of Giving**. It will be an interesting and fun Day!

Please keep us informed of any change in your contact information. Email Mike Warren at warrenm@wabash.edu, or let me know. We all like to keep in touch with you, and we like you to keep in touch with Wabash! If you have any news you wish to share with our class please let me know.

We look forward to seeing you at **Big Bash 2024** on 31 May and 2 June for our **55th Reunion**.

Remember..... **WABASH ALWAYS FIGHTS!!**

My Best to All!!

Ken

W69