

Class of 1977

Class Agents

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Fellow Class of 77ers – Just 500 to 50

Believe it! It's now just 500 DAYS until our 50th class reunion in June 2027. Yes, **June 4-5-6, 2027** are the dates when Herm, Greg and I would love to see as many of our classmates as possible back at Wabash. Please save the date NOW on your calendar. You'll hear, read and see more about this special Big Bash reunion as the occasion approaches.



Living Units – Co-class agent HERM HAFFNER is finalizing plans to have representatives from all the fraternities and living units assisting us with communications between now and the 2027 reunion. You'll hear more about this in our next class letter, but our classmate PAUL VAN NESS is 100% “on board” in helping us with this process. Paul has developed his own Wabash Arboretum on his Deer's Mill Farm in Waveland! In this arboretum, he's



planted 12 trees in the shape of a “W” – one for each living unit/fraternity which was on campus when we were students. You'll see a photo of this in a future class letter. Thank you for doing this Paul! Paul and his wife Debbie split time between their places in Colorado and Indiana. They are currently back in Waveland after a hunting trip to South Dakota earlier in the month. KEVIN O'SHAUGHNESSY is coming over to watch the IU versus Miami national championship game tonight. (More on this below.)

CAMPUS NEWS

- Mom Hugs – The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County and Wabash Moms teamed up to provide hugs and pets time for Wabash students entering final exams last month. Cute idea! Here's a link to some of the details:

<https://www.journalreview.com/stories/youve-got-this,373346>

- Today, Jan. 19, the Spring Semester begins at Wabash. The college's 206 seniors took their comprehensive exams last week. Senior Comps are two days of written exams and an oral exam on the third day, just like when we seniors in 1977. Here's a link to a funny video about comps: facebook.com/reel/890687830010377
- The College is constructing a new cooling plant just south of Martindale Hall.
- Admissions reports that 144 high school seniors attended Scarlet Honors in December. Close to 100 are signed up for Scarlet Honors on February 15-16.
- **Family Day is Saturday, February 7**, with an open house at Chick's Cage, the new equipment room dedicated to our honorary classmate **Chick Clements**, before the basketball game against Wooster. (click here for [more](#)) Thanks to all those in our class who contributed to this project!
- The Wabash Club of Indianapolis will honor retiring professor of history Rick Warner H'13 as its Man of the Year. Dr. Warner has taught at Wabash since 1999. If you wish to attend, here's a link: ([registration](#))
- Dedication of the new Birdzell Baseball Field is set for **Saturday, March 21** before the doubleheader against Adrian College. ([story](#) on the gift from John '61 and JoAnn Birdzell)
- **BIG BASH 2026 will be on Friday-Sunday, June 5-7.** Program is in the works. Here's a link: <https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/reunion/schedule> Hope to see you there!

FIFTY YEARS AGO THIS MONTH:

Former Georgia governor Jimmy Carter won the Iowa Caucus, making him a front-runner for the Democratic Party's nomination for president. The supersonic Concorde began commercial flights. The Pittsburgh Steelers won Super Bowl X, defeating the Dallas Cowboys. Filming began on the movie *Rocky*. Top popular songs include the Ohio Players "Love Rollercoaster," Barry Manilow's "I Write the Songs," and "Theme from Mahogany" by Diana Ross. Al Pacino starred in "Dog Day Afternoon," the bank heist film which was atop the box office.

GO IU! FIGHT! FIGHT! FIGHT! AND DID YOU KNOW?

Wabash alumni everywhere are rooting for the Hoosiers in tonight's CFP national championship game. Sure that our TED FERGUSON and many others from our class will be in Miami tonight to see the game. If you're still visiting bars and tossing about bar trivia, you'd win a lot of discussions by knowing how many times Wabash College beat Indiana University in football. (The answer is seven.) BTW, which college's alumni has scored more points in the Super Bowl, Wabash College's or Alabama's? (You know the answer is Wabash. PETE METZELAARS '82)

AT END

Kathy and I are hoping to link up with PAUL FERGUSON and RANDY RIPPY while we're down on Florida's Gulf Coast this winter. Greg is expecting RAY SWISHER and Paula to visit them in Switzerland in early March.

Herm and Kitty, Greg and Carroll, and Kathy and I are expecting to see more of you in 2026. If travels take you Florida way this winter, or to Northeast Ohio this spring, summer, or fall, we'd love to connect! You can reach me at johnkprof@gmail.com or at 440-364-1133.

Best for Wabash Always,

John

John Kerezy '77