

Class of 1977

Class Agents

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BIG BASH + MORE PLUS

END OF FISCAL YEAR REMINDERS

Hi Fellow Class of '77ers. Kathy and I are very much looking forward to having some of our classmates visiting with us in July. We know that BILL CATUS and PAUL (& CHRISSY) FERGUSON will be in Northeast Ohio next month, and we're pretty excited about hitting the Earth, Wind & Fire and Chicago concert with the Fergusons on July 16. If your summer travels are bringing you to or through Northeast Ohio, let me know! Let's try to link up while you're here.

We had about 10 members of our class at the end-of-May/beginning of June BIG BASH at the college. Someone snapped a photo of us three PLUS our honorary class member ROB JOHNSON at the affair. One of us looks a lot like we did back in 1977 (and it's not me). See for yourself!

But even before the Big Bash, our class members have been connecting with each other and with the men of Wabash. PAUL VAN NESS had a cook-out and planting session with about 16 seniors from Phi Gamma Delta in April at Paul's farm in Waveland. KEVIN O'SHAUGHNESSY joined in the festivities.

Paul is offering to host a big event for members of the Class of '77 in conjunction with this year's MONON BELL game. (See picture on next page.) Watch for some details in our next class letter.





11 Wabash College Class of 2024 seniors, all members of Phi Gamma Delta, at Paul Van Ness's farm in Waveland in April.

After the Big Bash, Greg and Carroll Birk arranged to take Coach Rob Johnson (H '77) out to the NCAA Division I Track & Field Championships at Hayward Field at the University of Oregon. Rob had competed there when he was a student at the University of Idaho. It was a great time for everyone involved. Rob met more Wabash connections there, and everyone got to pose for photos with a lot of track greats.



At left: Coach Rob Johnson with Carl Lewis.

At right: Laura Bowerman, track coach at U.S. Air Force Academy, her father Richard Bowerman Wabash '72, Coach Johnson, and Greg Birk.



END OF FISCAL YEAR REMINDER

If you haven't given yet to Wabash College, the fiscal year for the college ends June 30. It has a streak of 40% alumni participation for the past 10 years, so even a gift of \$50 or \$100 can make a HUGE IMPACT in helping the college meet this goal. As of today, the college was short by 367 alumni. Please consider supporting Wabash Nation and Alma Mater with a gift between now and week's end, June 30. You can:

- **VISIT** the website wabash.edu/give to make a gift online with a credit card
- **SEND** your gift to: Wabash College – 301 W. Wabash Avenue, Crawfordsville, IN 47933

- **CALL 877-743-4545** to speak with someone who can help you over the phone

Herm, Greg, Wabash College and I all thank you for your support.

REMINDERS:

Bookmark the Whenever. Whatever. Wabash. page for virtual engagement opportunities. There's usually at least one event a month there. It's at: <https://www.wabash.edu/www/>

Bookmark The Bachelor website, as you can read the paper online. It's at: <https://www.wabash.edu/bachelor/>

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BACK IN THE SUMMER OF '74!

FIFTY YEARS AGO

- Famed Russian dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov defected while the Bolshoi Ballet was touring in Toronto. He requested political asylum in Canada.
- Simon & Schuster released "All the President's Men," Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein's definitive book about the Watergate scandal, crimes which eventually would force President Richard Nixon to resign from office later in 1974.
- Muhammad Ali and George Foreman agreed to fight for the World Boxing Association's heavyweight title in Zaire. Entertainers James Brown, B.B. King, the Spinners, Bill Withers, and the Crusaders were among the musical and singing groups performing in Kinshasha, Zaire, as part of the build-up to the fight.
- In Major League Baseball, the Oakland Athletics and the Baltimore Orioles were leading their respective divisions in the American League, while the L.A. Dodgers and the surprising Pittsburgh Pirates were topping the National League.
- Gordon Lightfoot's "Sundown" was one of the top popular music songs in late June 1974, as was William DeVaughn's "Be Thankful for What You've Got." A new singer named Olivia Newton-John had "If You Love Me Let Me Know" on the pop charts, and Paul McCartney and Wings were the "Band on the Run" as well. BTW, want to hear every No. 1 song in 1974? You can do that thanks to YouTube and an old friend for some of us, Casey Kasem. Check out this link: <https://youtu.be/pgkIDcUPzjI>

- Most of us were at work at summer jobs, earning money to help pay tuition and fees for our sophomore year at Wabash. (I was sweating my butt off at a greenhouse in suburban Cleveland, picking tomatoes. It was a hot, humid, sticky, ugly job.)

Watch for a longer update in August with information/news about the Fall 2024 semester at the college and other information.

Long Shall We Sing Thy Praises,

John

John Kerezy '77