

Class of 1985
Class Agent Letter
November 2024



Dear Class of 1985:

First a few notes directly related to our class:

- **Greg “Z” Zorich** passed away on August 3. He played football at Wabash and later coached in Whiting where he did much to “spread the fame of Wabash’s honored name” over the decades since graduation. You can find his obituary and a slideshow including some pictures from Z’s Wabash days at:
<https://www.baranfh.com/obituary/Gregory-Zorich>
- As he noted in his final Class Agent letter this summer, **Kyle Carr** has stepped down from serving as a Class Agent. We are still looking for a volunteer to help me out. One advantage of stepping forward now, is that you probably won’t need to match Kyle’s 39 years of service. If you are interested, please contact the Alumni Office at: alumni@wabash.edu It would be best for the class to have more than one agent. Otherwise, all our Class Agent letters would be written by Mike!
- Our next “**Big Bash**” class reunion will be Friday June 6 through Sunday June 8, 2025. Mark your calendars. Let’s party like it’s 1985!

So what about **YOU**? Please feel free to share news of your life with me at: < milgils@sbcglobal.net >.

News from Wabash:

- On August 17, 2024, President Scott Feller rang in 267 members of the Class of 2028 to the ranks of Wabash men, and all of them probably are better students than I was. They came from 18 states and 14 countries. Importantly, 47 of the freshmen were Wabash Legacies! If you know a curious and bright high school student, please refer him online at: wabash.edu/refer.
- The official total enrollment this semester is 882 students. This was helped by an excellent freshman-to-sophomore retention rate of 93%. Given the tough times that many small colleges around the country are having staying open, our strong retention rate is critical to our long-term success.
- The 130th Monon Bell game is this Saturday (November 16) in Greencastle at 1:07 EST. Both teams are undefeated in conference so far this year, so the winner will be the NCAC champ and advance into the NCAA D3 playoffs. In true W.A.F. fashion, our team came from behind against both Denison and Wittenberg the past couple weeks. All the tickets are sold, but the game will be streamed live on the ISC Network (<https://www.iscsportsnetwork.com/>). The Wabash College Video Network will also broadcast the ISC Network feed.
(<https://sports.wabash.edu/wcvn>)

- Speaking of bells, in the next Wherever Whenever Wabash “After the Bell” online lecture, Economics Professor Eric Dunaway and Univ. of Mississippi law professor Ron Rychlak '80 will discuss **Sports Betting at Home, on Campus, and in the Classroom**. Their online talk is scheduled for Monday December 9 at 7:30 - 8:30 pm EST (finishing just in time to check your bets on the Bengals-Cowboys Monday Night Football game)! You can register at: <https://www.wabash.edu/events/afterthebell-dunaway-rychlak/>

- As I mentioned in my April letter, Wabash is replacing the Sparks Center with a new “Campus Center.” The project was delayed, but here is an update from the Alumni Office:

On Monday [Nov. 11], the campus transitioned from Sparks over to the temporary dining facility, which has already met with a very positive reaction from student, faculty, staff, and visiting diners. Dubbed “Grub Hollow,” a dozen mobile units, each 12 feet wide by 60 feet long, have been connected on one set of the outdoor tennis courts beside the Collett Tennis Center.

Demolition of Sparks and construction of the new Community Center has been delayed because of a unique funding opportunity through a USDA Rural Development Loan. With a 40-year fixed rate, the loan will help fund the Community Center and infrastructure improvements. Wabash has filed the paperwork and successfully met each step. We’re waiting to hear final word before we put shovels in dirt.

More Wabash news is available at www.wabash.edu or the Class of 1985 Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/206066189687/>

Mike Gilvary

414-486-9011 (home)

milgils@sbcglobal.net

p.s. Let’s make our 40th Reunion a record setter for the Big Bash era! The Alumni Office says that one of the keys to getting a good turnout is having a good committee of class members contacting their friends to ask them to come to the party. I would like to have an overall coordinator plus at least one committee member from each housing unit plus maybe additional members to reach out to various affiliate groups (sports teams, clubs, ...). Please contact me if you are available to help in the outreach plan. :-)}==