



## **WABASH COLLEGE**

### ***Class Agents Letter***

Alumni and Parent Relations

P.O. Box 352

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Web site: [www.wabash.edu](http://www.wabash.edu)

Email us: [alumni@wabash.edu](mailto:alumni@wabash.edu)

Phone: (765) 361-6369

---

### **Class of 1961**

#### **Class Agent**

JB Bachman

[jb61@bellsouth.net](mailto:jb61@bellsouth.net)

(615) 351-0900

December 2018

## **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

Dear Many Miler:

Wabash College greetings to you and yours. Best wishes for the coming holidays and the New Year. Wishing everyone good health and joyful times.

The Wabash Trustees have just announced a \$225 Million Giant Steps Forward campaign to prepare for the third century of our dear college. This is the largest campaign ever, and they have already raised (through “silent” efforts) \$150 million. This is an incredible effort. President Greg Hess and his team have been diligently working to ensure the future. Major decisions will be coming: What to do with crumbling Sparks Center, If CSX can rip up the tracks along Jennison Street, do we reposition the football field and replace the crumbling bleacher concrete stands as well as the nine-year-old “turf” on the field (average life is 10-12 years), reconfigure the intersection of Grant and Wabash Avenue? I may not have all the priorities in order. And, the strong need to boost up the endowment which now stands at \$333M. These are big numbers! But when you look closely at the Wabash student experience of today, you can easily see that sending well prepared Wabash men into the world to lead effectively and live humanely is not an inexpensive proposition.

# DePauw to Hell; We kept the Bell!!!

Monon Bell Day dawned a cold 22 degrees in Crawfordsville. By game time it rose to a crisp 33 degrees! The sun was bright without a cloud in the sky. The tailgating was vigorous and at game time all the extra bleachers seemed overkill. But, just minutes into the game the crowd of 9555 fans filled extra bleachers all around the field. On the third play from scrimmage, QB Jake Reid (a Mount Union transfer) uncorked a 79- yard TD pass. 18 seconds into the game, W 7 -DePauw 0. Shortly later, a W linebacker scooped up a fumble and rambled 54 yards for a TD. Wabash fairly dominated the first half 24-14. Yet the Dannys didn't go away. They even made the last few minutes a little tense, but Wabash kept the Bell (9 of the last 10 years!) winning 24-17. Obviously, the Wabash Defense stepped up Big Time.

This year was marred by the suicide death of the Wabash senior defensive captain, Evan Hansen. He was a star at Carmel Bishop Guerin HS along with the DePauw star QB, Matt Labus. Matt had torn his ACL in DePauw's first game. He chose to rehab his knee and put off surgery until December in hopes of being able to play in his last Monon Bell game, speaking to how much this game means. Matt ran on to the field for the first offensive series wearing Evan's #32 to honor him. He competed like a champion for as long as he could. He threw passes, took hits, and yes, ran the ball into the vaunted Wabash defense as long as his knee would hold up. It was a stirring tribute to this intense rivalry now 125 games old. (Note: this commentary is thanks to Scott Smalstig '88.)

Wabash dressed 136 players. Coach Don Morel won North Coast Athletic Conference Coach of the year, though Denison got the wild card playoff nod as they were Wabash's sole defeat. Morel is 25-5 in 3 seasons as head coach. The W Offensive line allowed fewest sacks (6<sup>th</sup> in Div III), averaged 431.7 yards offense per game. Another grand season for Wabash! *Both Jake Reid QB and Isaac Avant (36 carries 150 yds) will be back next year!*

From *The Bachelor*:

Sigma Chi took home their third consecutive Chapel Sing this year @ Homecoming.

"Blue Rugby Balls" The Wabash Rugby team was left with some blue rugby balls when they drove five hours for a match against Ashland University only to find out Ashland had canceled the match but never contacted Wabash about not playing. Although it was disappointing to drive that far to not play, technically, Wabash still won!

9 Rhodes Scholars from Wabash; Butler, Purdue, DePauw, Earlham and Hanover have 8 combined!

13 Fulbright Scholars since 2014!

Wabash men have 84% acceptance to Medical School; 80% acceptance to Law School.

2018-2019 Tuition: \$42,800. Room & Board: \$9,800. Fees: \$800

Musings from Many Milers:

Paul Olexia: Thanks for good wishes. I can resonate since I really enjoy still walking my dog a few miles each week. All things considered, life isn't beating me up too badly – considering this age. Hope all's well with you. Paul

Norm Beesley: Re: Tim Conlon. His note reminded me... When I got off after nearly four years of active duty in Japan, we sailed back on an old Liberty ship to Oakland. After a very long and foggy trip, we checked into a motel in Oakland. Being long overdue for a cold beer, I went down to the bar after registering – probably around 2 in the afternoon. I walked in and ordered from the bartender. After a minute or so, the only other patron in the bar turned to me and said “Aren't you Norm Beesley?” I about fell off the stool! This was the first civilian I had run into other than the people at the motel! It was Tim Conlon!

Tim Conlon: Yesterday I got the Wabash College mailing: “Little Giants' Legacy.” It featured a photo of Bev and Fred Ruebeck and a story featuring Fred, his acumen in investment management and his generosity to the College. We have quite a class, JB! CEO's, Investment Guru's, Doctors, lawyers and community leaders throughout the nation!



Don Engler: Don: great photo of you! Who is the pretty blonde holding you up? That would be Jan & she probably should hold me up. This was our granddaughter Kelsey's wedding held in Dripping Springs, TX. We returned home yesterday & looking forward to the Spartans game here tomorrow. Our Wabash QB is from Lutheran High in Indy & our grand kids attend there also. I think we'll have another LuHigh guy come to Wabash next year, Mark Caster, now 6'3" & 255#. Very intelligent kid. Jan just came by & said to tell you-Platinum blonde. Thanks for the class letter, always enjoy reading them.



*Don Weddle:* Vicky holding our Great Grandson 9/25/18.

## Former 66er has golden legacy

*By Mike Tupa [mtupa@examiner-enterprise.com](mailto:mtupa@examiner-enterprise.com)*

*Posted Oct 21, 2018 at 12:01 AM*

Contrary to Indiana legend, Charles Bowerman was not born with a basketball in his hand.

But, the Indiana legend played the game like it had been invented with him in mind.

While at Alamo High School, he set a county record with a 45-point game.

Later, during his time at Wabash College, the Hoosier hoopster rang up 53 points in a five-overtime game to power his team to victory.

But, that proved to be just a career warm-up to his 63-point output in a 118-60 victory against the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Destiny's path for this remarkable hardcourt hero eventually led to Bartlesville, where he settled down with his lovely wife Coralea to carve out a local legacy that continues to shine.

What enticed Bowerman from The Crossroads of America to the City of Legends?

Simple.

A job.

And, a chance to continue to play high-level amateur men's basketball — for the Phillips 66ers — after college.

It was another Indiana roundball icon — named Bobby Plump, but many of you might know Plump better by his quasi-alter ego Jimmy Chitwood from the movie “Hoosiers” — who helped convince Bowerman that life in northeastern Oklahoma could be pretty good.

“He (Plump) came to see me play in the last part of the (college) season,” Bowerman recalled during a recent interview. “Some other people had written to Phillips about me, so they sent Bob Plump to take a look at me and see if I would fit into their program.”

Bowerman pumped in 39 points in that next-to-last battle of the regional tourney.

But, Wittenberg defeated Wabash the next night — despite another exceptional effort by Bowerman.

Plump had seen enough. Promoted to the position of assistant coach of the 66er's for the 1961-62 season, Phillips then offered Bowerman both a full-time job and a chance to play for the 66ers.

But, it wasn't just basketball — in fact, that played a secondary role — that reeled Bowerman into Phillips employment.

"I was excited about an offer to go to work," said Bowerman, who in 1960 had married Coralea.

Bowerman had already turned down a chance to play in the NBA after the New York Knicks drafted him in the fifth round of the 1961 draft.

He said he consulted with his dad, who was a coach, "and we thought the opportunity to have a job and work, with a chance to play basketball, was superior to playing in the NBA," Bowerman said.

He arrived in Bartlesville in mid-April 1961, to interview along with prospects from Duke and Eastern Kentucky.

"What I thought was an interview turned out to be a basketball tryout," Bowerman chuckled. "I scrimmaged with the team for two or three days. At the end of that time, they asked if I would be interested in joining the team."

Another two months passed prior to Bowerman becoming a company employee.

He rose rapidly in rank during his years at Phillips.

"I was the executive vice-president, the No. 3 guy in the company," he said about his highest position.

But, Bowerman's impact on sports in the community rivals what he contributed at Phillips.

Throughout the 2000's, he served as the co-chairman, along with Debbie Mueggenborg, of the Bartlesville American Legion World Series Committee.

Their leadership played a pivotal role in bringing the ALWS — a tournament for 19-and-under teams throughout the nation — twice to Bartlesville, in 2003 and in 2007.

He and his wife also helped found the Bartlesville Community Foundation.

In addition, Bowerman involved himself in the Bartlesville Sports Commission — which began in 2007. During the past 11-plus years, the BSC has created unmeasured goodwill, as well as astronomical economic benefits, to the community.

More in the out-of-sight range, Bowerman during the past few decades helped arrange multiple reunions for the retired 66ers, which brought dozens back to Bartlesville to reminiscence at the sight of their former glories.

He invested three grueling, exhausting and exhilarating seasons with the 66ers.

During his rookie campaign (1961-62), the team surged to a 45-8 record and won the National AAU championship.

Some others on the roster included Plump, future 66ers' head coach Gary Thompson, future Pan-American team members Jerry Shipp and Don Kojis, Al Bunge, Jim Hagan, Tom Robitaille, Wally Frank, Charlie McNeil, Ron Altenberg and Carl Cole. Bob Browning served as head coach.

Bowerman's "sophomore" year as a 66er, 1962-63, was one of the greatest in team history.

The squad squashed almost everyone that got in its way while steaming to a 40-3 record and another National AAU title.

"It was up-tempo," Bowerman said about the playing style. "Gary and I were the two point guards. Jerry Shipp was a forward, Wally Frank was a forward and Al Bunge and Tom Robitaille were the centers, along with Jim Hagan. ... I handled the ball in the middle of the court most the time, and when I brought it down I would hand it off to Gary or to the forwards."

Along with many of the same teammates from the previous season, Bowerman also played with Denny Price, who became the father of former NBA superstar Mark Price and 10-year NBA veteran Brent Price.

Bowerman finished up his 66ers' career with the 1963-64 crew — and earned a spot on the AAU All-American roster. The team slugged its way to a 41-7 record, but came in second in the National AAU Tournament.

The numbers of 66ers' success during Bowerman's era are staggering — a cumulative 126-18 record, two national championships and 10 AAU All-Americans.

One of his teammates that final season was former Texas Tech prodigy Del Ray Mounts.

That 63-64 grinder also would be the final hurrah for Browning as head coach.

"Bud was a hands-on coach," said Bowerman.

With increasing competition from the American Basketball Association for college talent, the premier AAU teams — which at one time rivaled the NBA for both star power and quality — began to fade.

The 66ers would endure just four more seasons after Bowerman stepped away, with Thompson coaching them all the way to their bittersweet end.

Bowerman was able then to turn his total focus to his Phillips career as it blossomed.

But, so many of the values and strong character traits he possesses go back to those teen-age and college years playing basketball.

He said as a youngster he was aware of the Milan High School miracle, in which Plump played a major role, which became the basis for "Hoosiers."

“There were not classes in high school basketball,” Bowerman said. “It was all one organization. When Milan won the Indiana championship, it was well known throughout Indiana.”

Bowerman also feasts on the memories of his time with the 66ers.

“I think the fact we won the national championship two years out of three was certainly a highlight,” he said.

In 1964, the 66ers won the AAU championship in the U.S. Olympic basketball trials; Shipp ended up playing in the Olympics.

One of Bowerman’s fondest recollections is being part of an AAU team that, in 1964, toured the Soviet Union, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

He retired in 1999 from Phillips, completing 38 years of service with the company.

A few years earlier, in 1995, the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame inducted him into its ranks. According to the HOF information, he averaged more than 20 ppg all three years of college — including a school-record 25.4 ppg as a senior, and averaged 26.3 ppg as a high school senior.

Contrary to Indiana legend, Charles Bowerman was not born with a basketball in his hand.

But, he was born with a big heart — and he’s added to its stature during a life of service.



Jay Moore: Challenging the golf course with his son 10/26/18!

Denny Sheridan: Denny & Sue’s grandson, Kevin Phi Delt ’20 will spend next semester at Budapest University studying math. He will be back in time to swim at season end. He speaks fluent German, so will also learn the local language!

Rusty Cleland: Tina says she is having withdrawal symptoms as she gives up her daily 5 am rowing sessions on the Potomac! Rusty is now with a new agency under the USDA umbrella. (National Insecure Food Agency) He is doing much the same as he has for many years traveling around visiting small businesses to offer help. They joined Austin & Lucy Brooks recently in New Orleans (Tina’s home town) working on houses with Habitat for Humanity. (Sure has kept Jimmy Carter going!!!)

Joe & Charlene Barnette: We were deeply honored to attend the Indiana Philanthropy Awards luncheon at the Indiana Roof in November. Charlene was nominated by the



Eskenazi Health Foundation on whose Board she serves. She also is Secretary to the Board of the Indianapolis Symphony. Joe was nominated of course by Wabash College. President Hess was there along with Jim & Susie Cumming. Joe has served other associations as well. “We have volunteered in the trenches and chaired black-tie galas (and everything in between), and have thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie, the friendships formed, the working to achieve organization goals and the satisfaction of seeing results. We hope those who follow will continue to contribute to their communities as has our generation”

It was a truly lovely afternoon of recognition. Sun King Brewery was also recognized as a major community contributor.... Founded by Omar Robinson '60 and son Clayton '97



*Dave & Bonnie McAfee*

1660 Gaton Drive, Apt# MO-20 San Jose, CA 95125

Thanksgiving, 2018

Greetings, everyone! This year, we're sending out Thanksgiving letters instead of Christmas cards, and the number one reason is that Thanksgiving is our favorite holiday. Pausing to express our gratitude becomes more important and meaningful as the years go by. And the second reason is we want to get our new address to you before you send out your cards so we can be sure we hear from you. We'll be spending Thanksgiving with Mike and family, and we always pause to share what we're grateful for...and we'll be sure to include you on that list. Mike and Beckie host Thanksgiving every year and invite about 30 friends and neighbors. They put up a big tent on the driveway, everyone brings something, and Beckie cooks and bakes for days. It's a special day for all of us!

We moved in September to an independent senior living facility in San Jose, just four miles from Mike



and family. Our life was pretty crazy for a couple of months before that, and somehow I just never got around to sending out "change of address" cards. Starting about May, David started having some health problems that meant he could no longer drive. I enjoy driving, so it wasn't too much a problem...but it did mean that it was just one more thing that I had to do and it meant that he couldn't help with errands, etc. My health issues haven't improved at all, so we had a "eureka" moment when we turned to each other and said, "We just can't do this anymore." Taking care of the house and yard became a chore, and David wasn't able to work in his workshop much. After talking to the kids, they agreed that it was definitely time to move closer to them.

We won't bore you with all the details, but once we decided to make the move, things happened quickly. We checked out five places close to Mike and Beckie and decided that Atria was where we wanted to be. We had planned on a vacation rental home near Yosemite with Dave and Shannon and the girls in August, so we put the house on the market and left on vacation. I messed up plans a bit when I ended up in the hospital with bilateral pneumonia, but that's how life is sometimes. That moved up our plans to move, though, and on September 13, the moving van arrived with what was left from downsizing, and moved us into 950 square feet here. Quite an adventure. I no longer have to do any cooking or cleaning, David has no yard work or maintenance to worry about, and we have made many new friends. I'm very happy with our move, and David is becoming happier with it.

Our kids and grands are all happy and healthy and busy doing what most young families do. Once we get a bit more settled (it's amazing how much time and energy it takes to find new doctors, dentists, hair dressers, etc etc takes), I'm looking forward to being able to help out with Nana-car-pooling. That will give me more time with Ada and Zoe and give Beckie a little break.

Jim & Jan Wood good to hear from you jbl own health continues to deteriorate, sjogrens disease—incurable autoimmune, 24 hr oxygen, intense joint pain. what the hell? keep on marchin. at the lake house in nc. probably will not go back to orlando. hang in BUD. wood here

> Jan: thinking about you & Jim.... praying for strength & comfort for you both.  
> Another great victory for Wabash yesterday. Monon Bell up next! (Game temps forecast to be in low 30's)

Thanks, John. We're having a pretty good fall in North Carolina. Recently, Jay Moore was here for lunch and Corky and Charlie Bowerman came for a visit. Great fun!

We remember many freezing Monon Bell games. Hope The Little Giants are victorious! Jan

Bill Kilgore: from Tim Conlon: Last week I learned that the Kilgore's did not move to South Bend. They reside in Marin County, north of San Francisco where Linda is taking care of Bill who had a stroke. He has a pacemaker in his heart and is dealing with Diabetes II.



*Fred & Bev Ruebeck:*

Note the smile!!! Fred is battling very hard and doing the very best he can. He has a great attitude and enjoys ever present Zoe (and Bev!)

*Mike & Rosie Hughes: Will be spending 2 weeks in Scotland this fall.*

*JB:* I will be having heart ablative surgery in mid-Dec by the same St. Vincent Doc who performed it on Jim Cumming a couple of years ago. 'Looking forward to good results!!!

Sorry this has gone on so long, but we've had lots of news! For those of you who contribute to Wabash at the end of the calendar year, it is upon us. There are only five Wabash classes who contribute 50% or more. Many Milers are one of those classes! Keep up the good work.

*Many Miles Before the Night.....*

*JB*