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UA77/1 The Refrigerator Review

WKU Alumni Relations

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The Refrigerator Review



September 2002

'52 Football Reunion Update

The Alumni Association and Alumni W Club continue to work on plans to honor the members of the 1952 Ohio Valley Conference and Refrigerator Bowl Champions at the 2002 Homecoming on October 25 and 26. The Courtyard by Marriott will serve as headquarters. For reservations please call 1-270-783-8569 and identify your reservation as "WKU Alumni Association." This is the same property that you have used before as a headquarters.

1952 7-1 team

Friday, October 25

For those of you who would like to attend van transportation will be provided from the hotel after check-in to visit the football practice Friday. Feix Field has a new state-of-the-art artificial surface that we're sure you'd like to checkout.

The Homecoming Parade is back for the second year and we are pleased to announce that the 1952 Ohio Valley Conference and Refrigerator Bowl Championship team members and their spouses will be the Grand Marshals for this year's parade.

The Alumni Association will provide a private team dinner for team members and their spouses Friday night at the Craig Alumni Center (the president's home during your days on "the hill"). Dinner will cost \$25.00 per couple. Please make your check payable to the WKU Alumni Association. After dinner, the team will walk over to the colonnades (your old football stadium) for Big Red's Roar, a pep rally, where you will be introduced as a team.

Saturday, October 26

The Annual Alumni W-Club membership brunch and the 2002 Athletic Hall of Fame will be Saturday at 11:00 a.m. and the 1952 football team members and their spouses will be the guests of honor. The brunch will be held at Carroll Knicely Institute for Economic Development South Campus (the same location where Max Stevens was inducted in 1999). Transportation will be provided and there's no additional cost for the brunch.

The Hilltoppers will take on Indiana State at 4:30 p.m. Game tickets and transportation will be provided.

Reservations for the post-game dinner have been made at the Hartland Café located in the Holiday Inn (across the road from the Courtyard). Please let Botts know if you plan to attend.

Enclosed is another updated team roster. The names in bold are the players who have already made reservations. Player information forms have been mailed to those who haven't responded. We appreciate you contacting your teammates who haven't responded and encourage their attendance to this once in a lifetime experience.

If you are unable to attend Friday's events and would like to attend Saturday's events, please let us know. Arrangements can be made for you to meet up with the team.

Closer to the reunion you will receive a schedule of events in the mail. Transportation will be provided for Friday and Saturday's events. If you have any questions or need assistance please contact Andrea Haynes in the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving at 1-888-WKU-ALUM (958-2586) or andrea.haynes@wku.edu.

Notes from the Grid Iron...rusty but not broken

- The biggest news is the election of another member of the 1952 Refrigerator Bowl Champions into the WKU Athletic Hall of Fame. Fullback Gene "Knotty" McFadden will be inducted during the ceremonies at the W-Club Membership Brunch Saturday morning. This highly deserved recognition will recall many highlights of Gene's outstanding career. His 96-yard touchdown run vs. East Tennessee (September 26, 1953) still ranks as the second longest run from scrimmage in Western's football history.
- Another of the highlights of Homecoming 2002 will be The Whitey Sanders Collection at the Kentucky Building. The exhibit will showcase 40 editorial cartoons. The exhibit begins with a sneak preview and reception Tuesday, October 22, 2002 at 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. The official opening of the exhibit is Saturday, October 26th from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in Gallery A of the Kentucky Building. This will give you a chance to visit the exhibit Saturday morning before the W-Club's Annual Brunch.
- We had a great time at Will and Pat Price's Derby Party. Teammates present were: Bylieu, Feix, Goodman, Newcom, Nutter, Oaken, Patterson, Passafiume, Sanders, and Sauer along with "Coach" Eimer. Passafiume didn't win all the money for a change.
- Several teammates attended the opening of "The Hilltoppers" exhibit and had a chance to visit with Jimmy Sacca and Don McGuire. That exhibit will also be open at Homecoming.
- Congratulations to Bill Ploumis and Alena, who were married this past June before their trip to Europe with Bobby and Jan Hensley.
- Raye and Max Stevens received great news; Raye's cancer is in remission. They also celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary August 24, 2002.
- George Sauer had an angioplasty and stints to correct two arteries with 80 percent blockage.
- Carole Worley had knee surgery and is also recovering from a broken hip.
- Alta Sowders informs us that John has Alzheimer's. He is still at home. They have three daughters who live close by. John and Alta who were high school sweethearts celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary August 14, 2002. They were married just before John left for pre-season football camp for the 1952 season.