

**What a Thrill!**  
**by Ross Barbour**

We took a trip around the Indianapolis Speedway! It was just part of this spectacular 60th Reunion.

Then the 5 bus-fulls of us went up to the "Press Room" for a box lunch.

That great big press room had maybe twenty rows of 30-foot-long desks with multiple places to plug in electronic gizmos all along them.

There must have been a hundred large-screen TV sets hanging from the ceiling.

The man who addressed us, Donald Davidson, remembers all kinds of stuff about the race track---stuff like---who finished eighth in 1972, and the number on the car, and the horsepower, and the middle name of the Pit Crew Chief's son. He is phenomenal.

He told us some track facts, and then started talking about being a Freshmen Fan, and about meeting Ross Barbour years ago. And how Ross signed an album with "Best Wishes Four Freshmen". He said "Ross didn't even sign his name".

Well- - about that time I took the big Sharpie out of my pocket, and started walking toward him from row 19, I was holding that big pen above my head.

As I passed each row, they began to laugh, and I just kept walking.

Of course, when I reached his podium, he had nothing to sign, so we shook hands and all laughed together. It was such a good time!

**"A Special Thanks"**  
**by Christian Rank**

If you attended the recent FFS Convention in Indianapolis, then you are aware that Yas, our esteemed Pacific Rim representative very graciously gave me his copy of The Four Freshmen's "Live in Tokyo '68", the holy grail of Freshmen albums. As you also may know, when I went up on stage to accept the album, my mind drew an emotional blank and all I could muster up was a teary eyed "Thank you." Now that I have collected my thoughts, I'd like to take this time to give Yas and the society proper thanks for this wonderful gift.

I first met Yas at the 1992 Convention in Columbus, Ohio. From our first meeting I knew that Yas was a special person and shared the same passion for the Fresh that I did. The only difference is that he has musical talent! Through the coming years we developed a friendship keeping in touch between conversations via mail (later e-mail) and exchanging music on cassette (later CD). Throughout the years it's been no secret that I desired to own a copy of "Live in Tokyo '68", but NEVER did I think I would obtain it in this manner. Yes, I want to thank you for that wonderful moment, but mostly thank you for your friendship and may it continue for many more years to come.

I'd like to take a moment to reflect on two FFS members who we lost this past year, who would have loved so much to see this moment. Tom Gallaway was one of the most devoted Freshmen record collectors I ever met and I believe knew more about the Fresh than me! I always enjoyed talking "shop" with him at conventions and concerts. Beverly Wantin hasn't been to a convention in some time, but her love for the Freshmen never faltered. She always said she thought of me as one of her own. I miss both Bev and Tom and think of them often. I'd like to dedicate my new gift to both of you.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Atlanta next year.