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Zuber and Tahir Ahmed never set out to be national humanitarians, but an idea hatched at Wabash spurred other campuses across the country to follow their lead.

When news of the tsunami that hit India and more than sixteen other countries broke on the dawn after Christmas, the Ahmed twins reached for the phone to call home. Their mother confirmed CNN reports: things back at India were terrible beyond description.

"Millions of people were suffering. It was difficult for us to imagine the devastation," Tahir said.

On the 26 of December 2004, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake occurred off the coasts of Indonesia’s Sumatra Islands, setting off a giant tsunami that hit more than 17 countries on three continents. According the U.S. Geological Survey’s Earthquake Hazards Program (EHP), the earthquake was the strongest since 1964. The death toll from the quake was the strongest since 1961, the agent was produced from 1941 as the Wabash River Ordnance Works to produce a variety of explosive munitions.

In 1958 it was dedicated to the production of the VX nerve agent. After the construction of the VX production facility was completed in 1961, the agent was produced until 1969 when a moratorium was placed on the production of the agent and its shipment across state lines.

The final two batches of the agent, consisting of a couple million gallons of the agent, produced have been stored at the site since.

Kyle Coffey shoots a free throw in the 64-61 victory over Denison, Coffey scored 21 points.

Patrick J. Smith  
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Call it a homecoming for Joe Trumpey. An exhibit featuring the 1988 Wabash graduate opened in the Eric Dean Gallery on January 17. “It’s nice to be back,” Trumpey said.

Taking his Wabash degree in Biology and Art, Trumpey went on to a MFA from the University of Michigan. After receiving his degree, he has become one of the foremost natural and medical illustrators in the country.

His most recent project, the second edition of Grzimek’s Encyclopedia of Animal Life, took almost three years to complete and involved over 5000 separate images. The work from this project comprises his exhibit. His thoughts, though, returned to Wabash.

It was, “especially nice to be in a gallery named for Eric Dean,” Trumpey said. Dean, a long-time Wabash professor, was a major influence on Trumpey. He called his return to campus, “amazing.”

In addition to his illustration, Trumpey is an instructor in the art program at the University of Michigan. Citing accuracy and aesthetics as major concerns in his work, Trumpey cited, “capturing the essence,” as his goal in work. He also noted that he tries to keep his work, “engaging,” for the viewer. Judging by the turnout at the opening, he certainly achieved that goal.

Another artist included in the exhibit was Bloomington, IN-based Betsy Stirratt. The work included in this exhibit is some of her more recent work, dating from 2002-2003. Stirratt, who has shown work throughout the Midwest, works in biological and botanical themes, as well.

Art Professor Doug Calisch noted that this exhibit dealt entirely with the depiction of nature. The exhibit endeavors to show abstract, as exemplified by Stirratt, and the realistic, through Trumpey’s work. Interestingly, Stirratt noted that she was able to work as a medical illustrator before turning to art, a career path she has been able to maintain to this day.

In 1997, the United States ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention. The international treaty called for the disposal of the US stockpiles of Mustard gas and the Sarin and VX nerve agents.

In the modern world of terrorist fears and weapons of mass destruction few students may realize one of the nation’s largest stockpiles of the VX nerve agent is kept down the road in Newport, IN.

The 7,000-acre facility that houses the storage and disposal site is a closed and guarded facility that can be scary and comforting. Wabash’s Women on Campus Committee Wednesday afternoon hosted two representatives of the Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility to discuss the facility and its storage and planned disposal of the VX Nerve Agent.

The Newport Chemical Weapons Depot was opened in 1941 as the Wabash River Ordnance Works to produce a variety of explosive munitions.

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Alexander Shares Thoughts On King, Diversity

John Budnik
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As president of the Malcolm X Institute, Rob Alexander had the privilege of introducing Dr. Lewis Baldwin, who spoke on January 17th about Martin Luther King, Jr’s legacy. After the talk, Rob Alexander talked to Bachelor reporter John Budnik about the lecture, King’s legacy, and what it means for Wabash College.

What were your impressions of Dr. Baldwin?

Before the lecture I was able to have dinner with him. My first impression was that he was really quiet guy. He sat back and listened, but when I heard him speak, he blew my mind. He was a very powerful speaker and his message appealed to everyone in the room. He wasn’t just speaking to African-Americans, he was speaking to everyone. I liked how everyone can learn something from him. He was in gradeschool in Alabama at the time. Like he said, “the movement found me, I didn’t find the movement”. It was interesting to get a perspective from someone who has actually been in it – he was in the hot spot, the heat of it – to hear his philosophies on community and have all of us come together.

What was your reaction to Dr. Baldwin’s message?

What Dr. Baldwin brought out in his speech on King, and what I like, is that King’s philosophies on Black America changed. As the problems evolved, he had to evolve with the problems. Many times that is overlooked. In order to be a good leader, you have to see that. Sometimes they might not like that or agree with you, but you have to do what you think is best. King was perfect – but he set one of the best examples for the 20th century and probable for centuries to follow. As a leader, he made me aware of some of the challenges I have to face, not only on the campus, but when I leave here. I’ll have to face problems like institutional racism and how does one combat that. That is going to be a challenge for the 21st century.

Why do we celebrate Martin Luther King Day, but do not have a Malcolm X Day?

King is an important figure in African-American history, and world history for that matter. As a leader of America, or as you say, the Malcolm X, it’s nothing personal, as though he is less worthy of a figure. I hold them on the same level. You can look at our history as the Malcolm X Institute and our naming of the Malcolm X Institute. We chose Malcolm because Malcolm would not let his name be defined. When you read his book, Malcolm talks about how White America always tries to define who you are. By him taking control of his name, he took control of his identity. That is what the Malcolm X Institute tries to do on campus, take control of our destiny and where we want to go. In doing that you discover yourself.

What is that self that you are trying to promote on campus? What does that look like when you are working with the administration to change?

Right now I am just trying to bring awareness on campus to alot of issues. One of the biggest issues that we have been talking to the administration about is embracing diversity on campus. They bring up the literature about how diverse the students are, but how many are staying? Those are the questions nobody asks. Why aren’t they staying? They do so much to get minorities here. Some students here, but they leave alot of students hanging once they get here. I have seen alot of my friends leave over the three years that I have been here. When you have tenured faculty of color, that is a reflection on the institution. The fact that we have only one tenured African-American professor, I mean we have two Black, but Makubuya is African. But I look at DePauw and they have alot of African-American professors – a good ten percent. As an institution that is always led by their president. The question I pose to the trustees is in preparing Wabash men for the future, how can we prepare men for the future and the world and we don’t question their biases. As a man, we have to respect one another even if we disagree. And when you don’t enforce that, you are propagating the hate. As’sHOUT says, “silence is acceptance”.

Have things improved since the mid-sixties?

Between students, yes. The first two years, I think that you have to but heads. That is part of the growing experience. But I think the problems are more institutionalized in the way Wabash operates. The deans have a rough role to play. They play between the trustees and students. They have to meet the needs of the students, and compare that to the way students want the school to be. I can understand that it is a hard role to play. I really wish for the future of all Wabash men, that they sit down with the students and really see what their needs are.

I need sincerity. The same sincerity that brought me here – contacting me and reaching out to me and showing me the way – I need to see that all four years. When they are really sincere and make a Wabash that is welcome to all students and gets students involved, they will get the Wabash that they want. They really will.

What is the role of younger MXI members?

We have alot of promising members. We have one of the most diverse associate classes in my four years here. We have alot of international students, a few Caucasian students and some Greek students [i.e. fraternity members] as well, which is always a good thing for Greek-Independent relations. I think that one of the biggest acts of discrimination is ignorance, not ignorance in a negative sense, but that people just don’t know. When I see a Caucasian-American joining, I see that they are really trying to understand. As a Black man, I don’t have that option. Anywhere I go, there will be Caucasian-Americans, but if you are Caucasian, you can go your whole life and not worry about it. But I really respect it when someone takes the time to learn about Black history, because that textbook is part of American History; it is just as much his history as it is yours. There are some really good members that I look up to, like Luke Elliot and John Meyer. This is the type of interaction that we need – not only from one or two people, but on a school-wide scale – to make us feel part of the community.

This year we did alot to get people out. We had the all-campus Bar-B-Que right before finals. That was a good time for people to bond and see that we don’t hate the campus, but that there are some issues that need to be talked about. We need to all learn how to take constructive criticism, nobody’s perfect and we are all prone to error. I am not perfect. I came to Wabash with some pretty ignorant thoughts about Caucasians. I learn alot everyday and alot of that learning took place through the MXI.

How can we take the lessons learned from Martin Luther King, Jr. and apply them everyday of the year and not just on the third Monday in January?

As an American culture, we need to embrace all Americans in history books. I hate to open a history textbook and see that African history is slavery, Malcolm and Martin. There is more to it than that. African-American history is a fluid history. History is being made today. There are prominent African-Americans making changes, who are making it better for all Americans.
Ballots have been counted, and the student body has spoken. The result – the election of Greg Mahoney as president. Mahoney, a Sigma Chi fraternity member, has already begun to set his agenda into place, allowing for new goals to arise and be reached.

The first thing on the newly elected president’s schedule: work out the ‘kinks’ in the current student body constitution. Mahoney plans to use the information provided by both sides of the ratification (those for it and those opposed to it), and propose a draft for a newer, more representational constitution. “I would like to take the pros and cons brought forth by the voters to establish a new constitution where the ideas are brought together. For example, those [living units] that felt less represented will have input that will allow for a more unified representation of the College,” said Mahoney. “Those who supported the constitution will bring forth the advantages of the old constitution.”

Also on the agenda, the plan to help the Student Senate Activities Committee (SSAC) while one of its chairmen is unable to attend Wabash this semester. Mahoney was asked by the chairman to “take charge” of the SSAC due to his absence, and like a true leader, Mahoney offered a helping hand. Currently, Mahoney and the SSAC are looking to fill the vacancy of the co-chair position.

Mahoney has also set several goals to accompany his straightforward agenda. “I would like to get goals achieved in a way that students will approve. I would like to do things that students will like.” The process of unifying and bringing Wabash’s students together is also at the top of Mahoney’s priorities. He hopes to make ‘unified’ a major quality of Wabash College’s student body.

Not only does Mahoney aspire to unify the student body with one another, but also strengthen the relations between Wabash’s faculty and students. Demonstrating his concern for his constituents and the College, the president elect has already spoken with Wabash College President Andrew Ford about pertinent issues related to helping the interaction between faculty and students.

Student Body President Mahoney originates from Granger, Indiana, a town on the outskirts of South Bend, Indiana. Mahoney is a member of the Sons of Wabash, the Edmund O. Hovey Society, College Republicans, and, as previously stated, a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. Among his likes includes; Porsche, American Le Mans Series car racing, and hunting fowl (pheasant and chucker) with his father. Some things that he dislikes; continuously unmotivated people, mushrooms, and tomatoes. He is involved in coaching soccer for the Girls and Boys Club of America. Mahoney is majoring in Religion and is studying a minor in Economics. After Wabash, he would like to either go to graduate school and study for a Masters degree in Business Administration (M.B.A.) or work in the corporate world to build experience before attending graduate school.
The Bachelor’s Opinion

opinion

your voice, your story, your paper

Timothy Flowers
editor in chief

Nick Gregory
news editor

Allen Chatr
managing editor

EDITORIALS

Adam Hawkins
stuff editor

Travis Ross
opinion editor

Andy Cartwright
sports editor

Red Pack Loses Finest

The epitome of the Wabash man is the scholar and the gentleman, the athlete and the poet, the man who can cheer his heart out at the ballgame, party like no other, and still be able to read and think critically in class on Monday morning. For many students, their time at Wabash is filled with balancing their heavy course load while participating in athletics, writing for campus publications, doing ESH jobs, or taking part in any of the countless extracurricular organizations.

One of those great Wabash men, Jeremy Wright ‘96, certainly left his mark on the Wabash campus, graduating Summa Cum Laude as a Chemistry major and as a member of the famed “three amigos” of Wabash Track. In his time here, Wright was the most decorated distance runner in Wabash athletics history, as a two-time All-American cross country runner, First Team Academic All-American, NCAA Great Lakes Regional champion in 1993 and Indiana Collegiate Athletic Conference cross country Most Valuable Runner in 1993 and 1995. He won a total of seven ICAC distance-running championships, including three in the 10k, two in cross country and two in the 5k run.

Jeremy Wright went on to do great things after college as well. Most recently, Wright joined the Army in April 2002, and was a Sergeant with the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne), where he served as a Green Beret Communications Specialist. Sgt. Wright had been in Afghanistan for two months when he was killed in late December.

Sgt Wright’s contribution to Wabash as a student, and to his nation as a soldier should remind everyone of the importance of giving. With the Jeremy Wright memorial fund being established by the college, efforts to raise money for Tsunami relief, countless charities in town, and blood drives sponsored by fraternities and campus organizations, everyone should have a chance to give to help out their fellow man.

Wabash Brothers Touch The World

While many of us may have been sipping hot chocolate around the living room on December 26, Tahir and Zuber Ahmed were glued to their television sets watching a deadly tsunami sweep its way across Asia leaving death and destruction in its wake. Immediately, the twin brothers phoned their family in India to check on family and friends in the region.

Luckily, both Tahir and Zuber did not know anyone injured in the disaster, still they were still compelled to take action. First coming up with the idea for a t-shirt fundraiser, the twins went to David Clapp for some help bringing their vision into fruition. With Clapp’s idea for the design taken from a jigsaw puzzle, Zuber and Tahir have been successful in spreading their fundraising even beyond the bounds of Wabash college.

These sophomores have been a perfect model of the Wabash attitude towards moments of great tragedy. Despite being away from their families for the holidays, their desire to help others remained strong. Zuber, Tahir, and Clapp’s program has become so popular, that other schools have begun ordering large quantities of our t-shirts to raise funds for disaster victims.

T-shirts are available from the International Studies Office on the first floor of Center Hall (room 112) for $15. If you haven’t checked them out already, go over to Center Hall and help support those less fortunate by buying a t-shirt.

OPINION

PAGE 4 • THE BACHELOR

January 21, 2005

“Peak Oil” And The World’s End

The last 200 years of world progress have been predicated primarily upon one innovation: energy from fossil fuels. When we look around today, it’s hard to see anything in which oil, coal, or natural gas has not played a part. The plastics industry, automobiles, construction, agriculture, lumber, electricity, metallurgy, global trade…everything from the endless garbage we create, to our cell phones, cross-trainers, and condoms, the world as we know rests on a seemingly endless supply of cheap, reliable energy.

Seemingly.

With natural resources, there is a finite amount that can be extracted and utilized. If we graph this over time, typically a bell-shaped curve appears, beginning when the resource was first used, and ending as it becomes too scarce or too costly to obtain. The midpoint, or “peak”, occurs when roughly half the world’s supply is gone. At this point the demand continues to increase, but supplies inevitably dwindle, producing exponentially higher costs over time.

In the case of oil, this is known as the “Hubbert Peak”, after Dr. M. King Hubbert, who first explained these rules in 1949. After predicting that US oil production would peak in the early 1970’s, resulting in a large-scale oil crisis, he was scoffed at and generally ignored.

Because different areas peak at different times, it is difficult to predict a global peak until it has already happened. Many different scenarios exist for the eventual decline of oil production, ranging from 1997-2047, with emphasis placed on the earlier decades. Almost every oil deposit outside the Middle East has peaked, or will peak, within the next few years. There is a saying in Saudi Arabia, “My father rode a camel, I drive a car, my son will ride a camel.”

Oil isn’t being discovered and start buying canned goods now, because it is already a household term. It’s worrisome that peak oil isn’t already a household term, as it may spell the end of modernity, and change our world in dramatic ways. Perhaps the media (or at least their advertisers) don’t want people to panic, and start buying canned goods and bomb shelters, as opposed to the superfluous junk they continually haw.

A fantastic resource on this topic is www.hubbertpeak.com, and there are many books written on the subject, including the award winning David Goodstein’s Out of Gas: The End of the Age of Oil.

It’s irrational to believe that there is an infinite amount of fossil fuels. They will run out, the questions that remain concern when it will happen, and what we can do to save our species, or failing that, ourselves.
Conspiracy In Academia?

Charlie Lopez
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After winning the November elections, conservative victims of liberal bias in academia can take comfort in the fact that the Democrats’ indoctrination scheme called “education” has failed miserably. But danger lies in becoming too complacent. Fortunately, liberal-turned-conservative activist David Horowitz will be presenting an Academic Bill of Rights to many state legislatures this year. The Academic Bill of Rights is designed so that states can withdraw public funding from schools that fail to promote ideological diversity.

Why is ideological diversity needed at our public universities? Are our current PhD students in academia with their liberal beliefs? charlie_lopez@wabash.edu

Students, Quit Complaining

Part of the blame also rests squarely with our administration, which fails to lift a finger to help students manage the high cost of books. Why are there no book sharing programs at Wabash? Instead of turning our used books back into the bookstore for a small fraction of what we paid for them, we donate them for other student use. I’m sure the library could clear a small room in the back for these things and then in turn donate them to the poor when they become relatively obsolete. Sounds like a good idea to me, so why doesn’t anyone (cough, Student Senate, cough) follow through?

Instead of whining, with a little time and energy, students can end up saving a lot of cash and hassle. The bookstore will still cash in on our parents buying up ridiculous amounts of Wabash memorabilia and we, students, can devote our time to more important things: like bringing back TGIF.

“Rather than complain, find a way to operate within the system. All the time you spend waiting down there the day before classes could be better spent buying books at the dozens of online retailers that sell them for a lot less.”

“Public universities are supposed to pursue and promote ideological diversity.”

book about the Qu’ran! With horrendous incidents like this becoming more commonplace, many conservative students have been quietly forced to adopt a “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy about their political orientation. However, it is time for conservatives to finally come out of the closet. And the way to avoid more egregious episodes of liberal intolerance in the classroom is to pass legislation prohibiting universities from discriminating against conservative PhDs! There are literally thousands of highly conservative college graduates who go on to earn their PhDs. These candidates are currently applying for professorships in the fields of philosophy, English, and special education, just to name a few.

Liberals have tried to disenfranchise conservatives by telling them that earning a dissertation involves anywhere from four to ten years of graduate work. They have also tried to tell them that they would be living off of loans, beans, and Easy Mac while in graduate school. To top it all off, liberals have even told conservatives that by the time they earn their doctorates, they would still not have tenure-track professorships. Despite the liberal lies, thousands of conservative college students have earned their doctorates. They have not been deterred in their goal to condition academia, just to name a few. Liberals fear that academic departments will become overrun by conservatives if they do not discriminate against them first.

How are liberals discriminating against categories of conservative PhDs? Simple. There are different cure rates for malignancy depending on whether or not the person has health insurance. Liberal media doesn’t report on this.

For example, three incoming freshmen at the University of North Carolina were required to read a Christian belief in the Catholic Church. The study of the people of the Bible, as we know it, was taught by a Christian historian. The study of history in and of itself is divined equally blasphemous.

Public universities are supposed to pursue and promote ideological diversity. Unfortunately, many academic departments do not reflect ideological diversity and thus, legislation such as the Academic Bill of Rights is necessary to stem our country’s increasingly liberal mindset. Critics of a high-paying conserv afive PhDs from professorships. Consider: dissertation titles like “Capitalism and its Contents” would ensure one being labeled a conservative. Another example: a dissertation title such as “Can Zoroastrians be Mathematicians?” would be deemed equally blasphemous.

Public universities are supposed to pursue and promote ideological diversity. Unfortunately, many academic departments do not reflect ideological diversity and thus, legislation such as the Academic Bill of Rights is necessary to stem our country’s increasingly liberal mindset.

Dissertation titles are also another common litmus test that liberals use to “smoke out” conservative PhDs from professorships. There are different cure rates for malignancy depending on whether or not the person has health insurance. Liberal media doesn’t report on this.

Professor Webb, in the most recent edition of The Wabash Commentary, claims in the last sentence of his opening paragraph that an atheist historian only sees those who have come before us as dead. I take exception to that, as the study of history in and of itself is the study of the people of the past and their actions.

Within the essay itself, Dr. Webb notes that “Marxism is all but dead in the world, but traces of it are found everywhere.” I know this sounds blatantly obvious to anyone with enough intelligence to get in this college, but you’d be amazed about how many people still are not able to solve the puzzle.

If historians are to judge the actions of the past, what lens are they to use?”

Greg Stroudman strodimg@wabash.edu

“The exact same book at the same time every year? Friendless? There’s a small building on campus, called the Lily Library, which has thousands of the things just lying around collecting dust. Surprisingly enough, Crawfordsville also has a library (irony at its finest). I know this sounds blatantly obvious to anyone with enough intelligence to get in this college, but you’d be amazed about how many people still are not able to solve the puzzle. The exact same book at the same time every year? Friendless? There’s a small building on campus, called the Lily Library, which has thousands of the things just lying around collecting dust. Surprisingly enough, Crawfordsville also has a library (irony at its finest). I know this sounds blatantly obvious to anyone with enough intelligence to get in this college, but you’d be amazed about how many people still are not able to solve the puzzle. The exact same book at the same time every year? Friendless? There’s a small building on campus, called the Lily Library, which has thousands of the things just lying around collecting dust. Surprisingly enough, Crawfordsville also has a library (irony at its finest). I know this sounds blatantly obvious to anyone with enough intelligence to get in this college, but you’d be amazed about how many people still are not able to solve the puzzle.

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See History, Page 9
Beer Can Be Warm, Too

In case you haven’t noticed, it’s cold outside. Really cold. The kind of cold that makes you want to come home from class, wrap up in a blanket, and warm yourself up with a nice glass of ale. If this seems counterintuitive to you, if you think beer is something that is served ice cold, something to be enjoyed on warm summer days but not in the dead of winter, you’ve got some learning to do.

On average, Americans drink their beer way too cold. We even have mass distribution beer companies advertising their product as the “coldest tasting” beer. Last time I checked, cold was not a taste. It’s a temperature, and when it comes to beer, temperature is of the utmost importance.

At your standard American bar, beer is served from the tap at anywhere from 38-45 degrees Fahrenheit. At this temperature, the flavors and aromas of the beer are subdued, and the head retention is terrible. More importantly, the taste buds are dulled by the icy temperature of the liquid, and unable to taste the true flavor of the brew. Maybe this is why mass produced domestic lagers are always served so damn cold: the brewers wouldn’t anyone to actually taste their products.

But what is a drinker to do? The only alternative to the ridiculously cold American draft, according to American bar legend, is “warm” beer. At some point in our lives, we’ve all been told that the British drink their beer “warm.” How disgusting.

But it’s actually all a myth. British beers, especially traditional cask ales and bitters, are served at much warmer temperatures than American swill, but not warm. Cask ales are traditionally pumped directly from oak casks underneath the tavern floor in the cellar, and are thus served at cellar temperature, usually around 50-55F. While not ice cold, the beer is not warm.

While the British generally keep their beer least cold of anyone, even drinkers on the continent recognize the importance of serving beer at moderate temperatures much warmer than those in the states. Ales on the continent are generally served between 50-60F, depending on the style and amount of alcohol, and even weizen beers and lagers are rarely served colder than 45F.

At warmer temperatures, the beer has a more complex taste and mouthfeel, and the nose (aroma) becomes remarkably more pronounced and enjoyable. Furthermore, if you follow the general tradition of drinking darker, heavier, stronger beers like bocks and strong ales in the winter months, it means you can drink a beer to warm you up, not cool you down, and nothing warms the spirits of the thirsty scholar like a good strong pint.

As a general guideline, the stronger and heavier the beer, the warmer it should be served. While lagers are not ideal at 55-60F, Belgian triples or barley-wines cannot be properly enjoyed much colder than that. IPAs and most craft ales should be served around 50F and even light lagers and wheat beers should never dip below 40-45F, even for cheap American beer. Stouts are a matter of preference.

Guinness recommends serving very cold, but many (myself included) prefer to drink their stouts and porters at traditional ale (50-55F) temperatures.

Most importantly, you should drink your beer at the temperature that suits you, but don’t be afraid to experiment with warmer temperatures. Try taking the beer out of the fridge and letting it warm a bit before serving; you might actually be able to taste its full range of flavors. Depending on the quality of the brew, it could be a disgusting or a delicious experience. Either way, at least you’ll get the true taste of the brew. Cheers.
“All alone in my white boy pain, shake your booty while the band complains,” Ben Folds ironically yells in one of his most famous songs, Rockin’ the Suburbs. This artist, known for catchy tunes and clever lyrics, will be performing at Wabash for this year’s National Act in February.

On the music scene today, rarely is it possible to find instrumental trios that stay true to the essence of rock. Underground jazz artists such as Medeski, Martin, and Wood, in addition to other independent bands may have brought to art of the trio back into the music scene, but few besides the famous Ben Folds have brought the essence of rock back into the realm of popular music.

Ben Folds, who is to perform in the Chadwick Court on February 12, first became famous with his Ben Folds Five trio. Following the group’s breakup in 2000, Ben Folds continued a solo career, including such projects as producing an album with William Shatner entitled Has Been, which came out last fall.

When he’s not banging out chords with the captain of the Enterprise, Ben often is at work mixing creative jazz styles into the upbeat and catchy rhythm of pop music. With hit songs such as Rockin’ the Suburbs, and Brick, it is not surprising that many students here on campus eagerly await the upcoming artist’s performance.

Prior to this semester’s selection of a National Act, the SSAC posted a poll on blackboard for students to voice their musical opinions. As usual, votes for pop music outweighed the other categories, and the result seems to have left students with some mixed feelings, “I’m excited about Ben Folds coming, but I’m disappointed that we couldn’t spring for Shatner as well. Common People rocks my socks,” James McKinnon said. “Probably better than Chevelle,” Devin Chalmers said.

In addition to his old hits, students eagerly anticipate some songs from Ben Folds’ new album Super D. Also, joining Ben Folds for his performance, the campus is lucky to receive Ben Kweller, an artist who has recorded several songs with Ben Folds, and uses a similar style in his own recordings.

Tickets for the performance will go on sale from February 7-11, from noon to 1pm, in the Allen Center, where Wabash students may pick up their free ticket. Tickets will also be available at the door and will be $10 to all non-Wabash students.

Here at Wabash students have the privilege of bringing well-known artists right to their proverbial backyard. Don’t miss this chance to experience rock as it should be, go see Ben Folds this February.
Establishing a relationship is much like buying a new car. You go into the show room with standards in mind, you analyze the merchandise, and after possibly falling in love, you negotiate.

Everyone has their price. Everyone has their deal breakers. When you really think about it, aren’t relationships the same?

A personal bottom line is inevitable. People expect the best and deal with the worst as they progress through relationship.

We push our hearts to the limit when we truly care about somebody. We are willing to change aspects of ourselves to appease someone else’s idea of what will make things work, but through it all, cowering in the back of our psyche lies the bottom line—the deal breaker.

For some, cheating is “the end all, be all” of any commitment. Others might be unable to tolerate lying, distrust, or commitment phobias. Sometimes, simply the loss of a certain degree of chemistry can dissolve a once blissful couple.

But when we hit our breaking point, and realize that we have come face-to-face with the bottom line, what happens next? Should we take the offer off the table, and go to the next lot with the risk of losing something we truly wanted, or should we stay and try to negotiate, knowing we might have to sacrifice some of our options?

Is it possible for us to abandon a relationship filled with positive attributes to satisfy personal standards? Sometimes, when staring opposition in the face, we cut our losses and start over. Sometimes we work for it. Couples have the ability to cooperate and save what they have...if it can be saved.

We all have one thing that we hope never to eliminate from our future—something we’ve always wanted, or planned on, or hoped for. But sometimes unexpected people come into our lives and disrupt plans. Sometimes that’s a good thing.

But only we can step outside of what we share with another person and assess potential damage. Only we can stare at our pre-conceived ideals and make a decision.

When I was in high school, I desperately wanted to leave Indiana. I vowed I would never marry a man determined to stay in this horrific state. Then I grew up. I got two nieces, a nephew, and a much stronger sense of family. My bottom line was different.

That’s the thing about standards. They can always be changed.

They can change to serve who we’ve become, and they can change to accommodate someone worth accommodating. Only we can alter our desires, and sometimes making a change means breaking the deal.

In business, the bottom line is what it is. In relationships, the bottom line is personal, and each person stands to lose much more.

Dating is not contractual, though it is an intimate agreement. People don’t always state what they want up front, and there is no clause to protect your heart. There will be those times a deal breaker does just what it says. But then there are others, when we take a second look at our bottom line, and decide it’s worth another trip around the block.

Love Is Not Contractual, But Never Forget The Bottom Line!

from the hip
Courtney Hupe
jhupce@bsu.edu

CARTOONING 101
A FULL CREDIT COURSE IN FOOLISHNESS
BY MORILLO

...MY TOES ARE FROST-BITTEN...

...I'VE GOT SEVEN LAYERS OF CLOTHES ON AND HAVE TO PEE...

...AND MY CAR IS DEAD.

AND WE'RE JOINING THE VIENNA BOYS CHOIR!

NOW! MISS HAWAII!

...THERE ARE SNOTICLES IN MY NOSE...

AUTO-BIOPGRAPHICAL CARTOON: THIS IS ME

NOW! MISS HAWAII!

BRASS MONKEYS
History

From 5

Their own, or the lens of truth of the men who were there? If one wrote the British history of the American Revolution, I would certainly look upon the actions of the colonies with a different light than any American would.

This is one of the things that history has taught me; to truly understand any situation, we must first understand all points of view, which is admittedly difficult.

The Phoenix Park attack during the times of Parnell and Gladstone was certainly viewed by a great number of the English as an act of terrorism, but what of the Irish? Did they think of it as an act of patriotism? As you say, “all societies believe in an absolute difference of good and evil” [my emphasis].

Do we really? If we do, then there is no gray area, as an action can only be good and evil.

For instance, according to this absolute difference, killing is wrong.

However, I did not hear a cry of anger rise up against the young man serving in Iraq who ending the suffering of an Iraqi who was probably going to die a long, slow, painful death.

Our society, it would seem, views all actions within the spectrum of activities. Almost all modern societies have outlawed the execution of minors, and yet we in America have not.

If killing people is wrong, is it right to kill people for killing people? If you respond in the affirmative, we seemed to have decided that the absolute difference of good and evil is not what you say it is. Instead, just like modern historians who strive to look upon issues from all viewpoints, we the people of America define what is right and wrong based upon what else is going on in the world surrounding the event.

Just because I might be a liberal and willing to look at an issue from a variety of standpoints, does not make me a bad historian.

You choose to push Christianity as “the only truly global community.”

What then of other religions whose practitioners ring the world? You say the “Church is a community that honors the dead, prays for the dead, and tells their stories.”

Other than the praying for the dead, how is this different in anyway from historians reading, writing, and talking about the dead?

The ancient Greeks thought that for them to achieve immortality their names must be said aloud.

Thus, the statues and epicurean poems which we have found today nearly always have the name of the dedicate on them, thus they are remembered.

If we are only to follow your one global community, the Christian Church, what happens when historians stop telling the stories of the oppressed, the disenfranchised, and the non-Christian?

If they are not remembered, does it matter that their spirits, as you say, are still with us?

If we are to leave the remembrance up to the Church, what happens, Professor Webb, when the church forgets?

The Senior Thesis: The Case Against Comps

As I commit Wabash heresy, denigrating the hallowed institution of the comprehensive exam, I insist that my aim is not to infuriate. Rather, I want to create a dialogue, which hopefully can lead to fruitful reform. I believe that the comprehensive exam remains as an anachronism from a bygone era, and the move towards a year long senior thesis would provide a more productive means of distributing honors.

First, let’s deconstruct the Wabash comprehensive exam. The timing of the exam contributes to what is known as the “senior slide”. As my fellow comprehensive exam veterans can attest, there is a feeling of completion when one finishes the exams, and a feeling of time at Wabash is complete. A year long senior thesis would tie the Wabash student to his work, and help to prevent the apathetic second semester senior.

Related to the timing of the exam, comprehensive exams remove students from their families during the holiday season. In order to properly prepare for the written exams, one must spend an inordinate number of hours studying over Christmas break, one of the last times many of us Wabash seniors have had an extended period of time to spend with families before we start our careers. Therefore, comps leave seniors with an impossible choice, perform well on the exam or participate in family activities.

Of course the change in timing could solve the aforementioned problems. And I do think that comprehensive exams should be moved to March, if they are to be maintained. However, my problem with comprehensive exams runs deeper than simple timing.

By nature the comprehensive exams enter a strong element of randomness into the honors process, which may result in a sub-optimal measure of who in fact deserves to graduate with “honors” in their major.

Let’s take an example. Assume there are three possible questions for a day one exam. Each exam question will be selected with 1/3 probability. By definition, each student will get two out of three questions.

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a worst performance question (in mathematics, we call this the well-ordering principle). Now, student x may perform better than student y on two out of three questions. However, this means that 1/3 of the time, y will receive a higher score than x, and therefore, the comp may incorrectly measure performance, biasing against the “better” student.

Further, a senior thesis allows every student to emphasize his own best work. In that way, we are comparing student’s best possible performance, and thereby limiting the role of randomness in deciding honors.

Further, anonymity would be eliminated from the honors process with a senior thesis. The role of anonymity in Wabash college exams is, to me, quite troubling. Why shouldn’t a student’s performance over three and a half years matter in the reception of high honors? Rather than allowing the perception that students can somehow correct for laziness in a two week period before a comp, why not reward the sustained effort that would be required of the senior thesis?

Further, a senior thesis would downplay problems associated with the non-identical approach to classes at Wabash College. I think one of the strengths of this campus is that our professors each offer a unique approach to teaching, personalizing the course and creating a more interesting environ-

a department.

However, the most important element of my critique rests on the opportunity cost that the comprehensive exam represents for our college.

Because of comps our institution has failed to create the opportunity for seniors to participate in a year long research project, common at other top institutions.

In these projects, seniors would be exposed to serious research within a field, and would work closely with faculty members honing a project that those graduating could call their own. Undoubtedly, these projects would lead more students towards graduate school and may even spur potential projects for Masters and PhD degrees.

The oral exam would still take place, yet the form would change. The student would face questioning from two professors from his major.

Further, an at large professor would be included that would force the student to provide the conclusions of his research at an intuitive level, as well as situate his work within the liberal arts.

After taking both my comprehensive exams, I have little self-interest in changing the Wabash system. Rather, by proposing this change, I hope to create a reform that would make this college a better institution, and more effectively live by the mission statement.
Tsunami

From 1

one in on this,” Zuber said.
Tahir and Zuber met with David Clapp, Director of Off-
Campus Studies & International Students, to present their idea and from that meet-
ing, the Wabash Earthquake Tsunami Relief t-shirt sale (with proceeds going to the Red Cross) was born.

Fortunately, Mr. Clapp had heard of VisionWear Interna-
tional, a graphics design company that designs t-shirts, mugs, key holders and other items with internationally-
themed motifs. Together with the Ahmed twins, he contacted

“The puzzle-design symbolizes what happened. Everything was destroyed and we are helping out with piecing it together again.”
David Clapp

Eric Speckhard, the company president, and agreed on a t-
shirt with a puzzle of the world map and with the slogan “Peace It Back Together”.

“The puzzle-design symbolizes what happened. Everything was destroyed and we are helping out with piecing it together again,” Mr. Clapp said.

At press time, more than 180 shirts had been sold and another shipment of t-shirts was on its way to Craw-
fordsville.

“We are going to try targeting the Crawfordsville community more, selling at basketball games and at other public functions,” Tahir said.

Their efforts have spurred other tsunami relief money-
raising efforts. A woman from Hoss’s Steak and Sea House, a national chain-restaurant, did a Google search for relief t-shirts and pulled up several links, including a link to a story on the Wabash t-shirt sale. She liked the puzzle design best and now 4 restaur-
ants in the chain now sell t-shirts with the same design.

After Mr. Clapp sent out an email to an international edu-
ca tion list serve about the t-shirt fundraising efforts, he got back enthusiastic replies from everyone across the world. According to him, four or five colleges, including the New York Instit-
tute of Technology, are holding similar fundraising activi-
ties (with the same puzzle design). He estimates that the

many of the myths related to the agent and the construction of the disposal facility.

“Awareness is important,” Lander said. “Awareness is what we’re looking for because the public doesn’t fully understand the neutrali-
zation process. The agent undergoes and all the safety procedures in place.”

Lander participated in the presentation explaining some of the more technical aspects of the neutralization process and the chemical structure of VX.

The neutralization of the chemical agent is done by mixing the agent with water and

“Having heard the presentation, I feel more at ease that the facility is safe and not a hazard to those of us living in West Central Indiana.”
Terri Fyffe

Sodium hydroxide in an 8 per-
cent agent to neutralizer ratio
in the neutralization reactor. Once the process has hap-
pened, the VX agent ceases to be and is left in a variety of chemical parts, the most dan-
gerous of which is the remaining waste water, which is to be shipped to Maryland for fur-
ther neutralization at facilities there.

The disposal of the Nerve Agent itself is at a quandary for the moment as politics have halted the move forward, but disposal of the existing stockpile is expected to get underway in the early part of

Opening

From 1

used old biological and botanical texts for inspiration. It is just this type of book that
Trumpey illustrates on a regular basis.

Stirratt cited clarity as a major concern in her work. She said that making people under-
stand her subjects was the hard part in her paintings. However, this theme has been present throughout her work. In fact, she said that there would be a major change in her style. When asked about his plans, Trumpey noted that he had sev-
eral projects in the near future. However, he could not foresee anything quite as massive as his recent work.

Trumpey’s return provides an interesting balance to the student artwork displayed in the studio hallway. The art of cur-rent Wabash students is shown just a short walk from the work of an alumnus.

The exhibit is in the Eric Dean Gallery, in the Fine Arts Building.
Moving On As Wabash Men

Andy Cartwright
sports editor

At the Wabash Football Banquet this past Saturday, the twelve remaining members of the football class of 2005 said goodbye to football for the last time. Barring any off-the-street discovery by Colts Coach Tony Dungy or his scouting staff, none of us will again ever see the gridiron as a player. It marked the complete end of our era and the beginning of the next.

Captain and MVP Brandon Clifton was among those to speak at the event. As he reflected upon last season and upon his career, as he made his dozen “thank you’s,” one underlying question was simply “What’s next?” Clifton, a football player since childhood, was left to wonder how life would be without this large piece of his identity.

I have no doubt that Clifton, and the rest of my ten senior teammates, will land on their feet. Beside the fact that they now must move out and away from Wabash, that is in apart due to the legacy of Coach Chris Creighton and his staff, none of us will again ever see the complete end of our era and the beginning of the next. We all have the opportunity to wear many hats. I, for one, am Andy Cartwright, the football player/shotputter/Bachelor editor/poet/Sphinx Club treasurer/world-traveller/Deit/etc...No doubt, you have your own “slash” list of identities at Wabash. Or not. Maybe you’re just “the student.” Whatever and whoever you are, in the end, what you have done during this four-year ride will matter mostly only to you and only you can choose what you do with it.

It can all be simply filed away, under “Activities” on your resume. Or, with a healthy outlook, it can all be used as a foundational cornerstone for the rest of life.

In Wabash, we have all established ourselves and defined our places as Wabash men. As we move out and away from Wabash, we must officially redefine who we are and what we do in our place within the world.

It will be Brandon Clifton the businessman, Draik Hecksel the grad-student, Sean Gerold the teacher and coach, Andy Cartwright the starving journalist.

Sadly, I can never again take my place as a Wabash football player. But, that doesn’t bar me from making an impact in my field of work or even in coaching my kids up someday playing backyard pick-up.

Jeremy Burton
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It’s the spring season again and the Wabash Track and Field team is back in action. The team opened the season with a victory over the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology on Saturday, January 15. The Little Giants defeated the Fighting Engineers 77-66.

Head Coach Rob Johnson, entering his 34th season as coach of the track and field team at Wabash, is approaching the year with “cautious optimism.”

“Our weakness this year is depth. We need guys who are interested in competing with us; we need guys who want to learn about events such as the hammer, the triple jump, and the javelin,” Coach Johnson said. “However, the athletes we have on the team already are good.”

The program has a long history of excellence in distance events and varied success in events like shot put, discus, the javelin, and the hammer. There are 24 events, in all, each of them challenging Wabash athletes in a different way.

“There are so many different events in this sport, each of them having different physiological and psychological demands on our athletes,” Coach Johnson said. “Some events require 16 minutes of sustained concentration and others are very short and precise.”

With a strong squad of underclassmen and juniors this year, as well as seven seniors, the track team has high hopes for the time for talented Wabash athletes to showcase their improvements and their sustained passion for track and field events.

“Our goal for 2005 is to finish in the top three at conference, both indoor and outdoor competition,” Coach Johnson said.

The first home meet will be this Saturday, January 22 as the Wallies host the Wabash Invita-

“Welcome back for another semester, Wabash!”

Jeff Sostak

The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men

Says

Good luck to all Wabash athletics!

Welcome back for another semester, Wabash!

Please buy Tsunami relief T-shirts!

WABASH ALWAYS FIGHTS!
Little Giants Fall To Earlham, Look To Wooster

Corey Asay
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On Saturday, the Wabash College Little Giants host the Fighting Scots of the College of Wooster at Chadwick Court in a NCAC match up. Wabash (8-8) faces arguably its toughest competition of the year in the Fighting Scots (14-1) who are ranked fourth nationally.

Even though the Little Giants have had only a marginal season thus far, they are in the hunt for the top spot in the NCAC conference. They were tied with Wooster and Wittenberg for first in the conference until a 54-59 loss to Earlham last night. The loss drops Wabash into a two-way tie with Earlham for second place in the conference.

The Fighting Scots are coming off of a January 15th loss to Wittenberg, which may allow Wabash in the door to capitalize on any momentum left over from a three-point victory over Denison last weekend.

Freshman Gary Simkus said that to defeat Wooster, Wabash plans to try and control the pace of the game and maintain ball control.

“We’re going to make them play our game and not get caught up in their style of play. We’re just going to come out of the gates and play a full 40 minutes.”
Gary Simkus

To date, Wooster has outscored its opponents 1197 to 963, or an average of 79.8 points per game versus their opponents 64.2. The Little Giants are averaging 63.9 points.

In addition to controlling the tempo of the game, Wabash will have to try and contain Wooster scoring leaders Tom Port (15.2 ppg) and Matt Schlingman (10.4 ppg)

Also, the Little Giants need to work on their shot selection and hit the outside jumper if they hope to keep this a close game.

Adonis Joseph, Wabash’s leading scorer with 9.9 points per game, needs to find his rhythm and take shots that he can hit.

Joseph’s field goal percentage is a low 35 percent due to many of the mid-range pressure shots he attempts. However, if he can knock some of these down, Wabash could stay in the game.

Lastly, the Little Giants need to remain consistent in the areas they have all season. Namely, Wabash needs to hold Wooster to one shot and not allow them to pull down a lot of offensive rebounds.

However, rebounding was a bit of an issue against Earlham on Wednesday night.

The Little Giants have to cut out their mistakes and play to their strengths on Saturday afternoon if they hope to have a chance against Wooster.