Kaidanov To Wabash: Checkmate

Adam Hawkins
stuff editor

"Just like a TV commercial with fine print at the bottom much of chess involves subtle moves," Gregory Kaidanov, a chess grand master said Feb. 7 at his lecture in the Goodrich room of the Lilly Library.

International chess Grandmaster Kaidanov visited Wabash Feb. 7 to demonstrate his amazing chess skill and dexterity, and also to give a short lecture on the fundamental principles which underlie his chess strategies.

"The key is to focus on basic concepts," Kaidanov, during his lecture, said, "I see so many skilled players who make mistakes with some very basic strategies of the game."

At 7pm in the Goodrich room of the Lilly Library, Wabash’s Brad Weaver took on Kaidanov in a game of speed chess, however, Kaidanov played the game blindfolded, calling out his moves while visualizing the war on the board step by step.

After Weaver ran out of time and the game finished, Kaidanov reconstructed the game from memory for the audience, showing where mistakes in the game had been made and also explaining the strategic concepts that played into his “chess calculus” during the game.

Following his astonishing performance of blindfolded chess, the audience followed the Russian native into Detchon’s International Hall where the grand master proceeded to take on 30 opponents simultaneously.

Those playing against Kaidanov were a mixture of Wabash students, faculty members, and other interested chess enthusiasts. With the tables set up in a giant rectangle around the hall, Kaidanov moved from board to board, making moves almost instantly while players struggled to keep up with his strategies.

"I made a small mistake, and he enticed me with his knight into a trap," Udayan Chattopadhyay, a Wabash sophomore, said. "In the middle of the game he began pulling out his grand master tricks, and I knew that the game was over." Curtis Eilers, a Wabash junior, was the player to outlast all the others in his match with Kaidanov. As players continued to drop out, students and faculty members alike crowded around Eilers’ board and began pointing frantically in an effort to thwart the grand master’s moves on the board.

Kaidanov became a Grandmaster in 1988. He currently lives in Lexington, Ky., where he teaches chess and tours the country giving exhibitions.


Kaidanov’s appearance is sponsored by the Wabash College Lecture Committee.
Hartnett: Giving Notes Instead of Taking Them

Jesse James
jamesje@wabash.edu

Many Wallies have chosen a career for the future. Some desire to work in government and law. Other Wabash men seek fields in medicine or research. Some Wallies find their future occupations in the business world while others want to teach the young minds of the future.

For former Wabash student Dr. Jeremy Hartnett, the career path led to instructing college courses.


While at Wabash, Hartnett learned from the great scholars of the Classics, Mathematics, and Latin departments and earned a degree with a major in Classics and a double minor in Mathematics and Latin. After Wabash, Professor Hartnett ventured to the University of Michigan to study Classical Art and Archaeology. In 2003, he received his Ph.D.

The Classics major said he hadn’t always intended to become a college professor. Hartnett recollected that as a kid he used to sit over graph paper and design houses. The professor still holds onto that interest today, only in a different fashion. “The research [Roman architecture] component of my job is essentially to reverse-engineer what I was doing as a kid,” Hartnett said.

Hartnett’s research involves thinking about Roman houses and what priorities were involved to lead to their construction, and also how these constructions lead to social interaction.

Dr. Hartnett said that growing up in an environment of college professors and the individual attention he received at Wabash left him with a recognition of the positive impact that professors have on students’ lives. He realized the impact is important both inside and outside the classroom.

One professor who left an impact on Hartnett was former Wabash Classics faculty member, John Fischer.

“On a whim in the spring semester of my freshman year [at Wabash], I took John Fischer’s Roman Art and Archaeology course and found myself captivated,” Hartnett said. “The zeal of John Fischer was magnetic.”

Hartnett remembers the insight he received from Fischer’s collages and lectures. The first semester of his sophomore year, Hartnett went on to study courses in Latin and Roman history, and before he knew it he was on the list of Classics majors.

The New York native said his new exposure to classical style art and architecture was a new subject of study that left him intrigued.

Now as a professor in the same department that Fischer belonged to for years, Hartnett instructs a variety of course levels in the areas of Latin and Greek.

Accompanying his classics repertoire are Cultures and Traditions (C & T) and a Classics-History seminar course focusing on houses and families of the ancient world.

Hartnett says he’s noticed and has been impressed with his students’ passion the subjects and also their willingness to engage each other in serious debates. “I’m glad to see that hasn’t changed since I was a student,” Hartnett said.

Hartnett said that some aspects of the College surprised him upon his return, and none more surprising than its physical appearance.

“Since I arrived here in the fall of 1992, several new buildings have sprouted up and others have been entirely remodeled. I used to host a Saturday morning radio show, for example, in a dank, dark, and dingy basement directly below my current (plush and large) office,” Hartnett said.

Professor Hartnett went on to state that he cannot believe the “relative squalor” he experienced compared to today’s Wallies.

Away from exams, schedules, and syllabi, Dr. Hartnett enjoys cooking, architecture, design, sports and travel. Almost annually, the professor’s research allows him to make visits to Italy.

Having attending the University of Michigan, Hartnett pays special attention to the University’s football and hockey athletics. He has a partner, Jill, who is currently residing in Ann Arbor while she finishes her Ph.D. in Michigan’s English / Education joint degree program.
Wabash Christian Men Come Together for Christ

Nelson Barre
harrer@wabash.edu

Most Wabash men this weekend will be heading to parties after Ben Folds. Most will be raucous parties of all sorts, but one group will come together as a community of God for the Flippin’ After Party. The Wabash Christian Men will be hosting this event after the Ben Folds Concert. Wabash men and their guests will make the event happen right after the Ben Folds concert until 1:30.

David Murphy ’06, former leader of the Campus Crusade for Christ, and Shanner Drake ’06, former leader of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, came together about a year ago to begin working as the two separate entities. Their hope was to cover more by having the two groups work together.

“We felt like we were burning time preparing separate things but with the same goals. The merging makes us more productive and efficient,” Murphy said.

The merge was a three week process that culminated this past weekend with the official announcement of the groups uniting. Everyone wanted the union to be completed because of the common goal of spreading the message of Jesus Christ.

“The Bible calls for a united body of Christ and so those with a Christian view seem to have embraced this,” Drake said.

All members saw the fruits of the merge and decided that it would be for the best. It was not a single pair of leaders that got together, but rather a group choice.

So far, the change has been a major success. There has been an increase in membership more than who would have been just the FCA added to the CCC. This pairing has brought out more Christian men than either of the groups had done as the two separate factions.

“There’s a general consensus of excitement among the majority of people and we’re already starting to meet goals,” Drake said.

“We want to be a blessing resource to the Christian men at Wabash. They do not wish to force their beliefs upon anyone, but they do want to be open to everyone who wants to have a relationship with Jesus Christ.”

David Murphy

The Commentary Office Burglarized

Patrick J. Smith
smithp@wabash.edu

On Friday, February 4, between 6 am and 12:30 pm, the offices of The Wabash Commentary were burglarized. Some computer equipment and personal effects were taken in the robbery. The controversial publication has never been robbed before on this scale.

The magazine lost some of its essential layout and publication equipment in the robbery.

However, the group released the most recent issue on time and distributed it on campus on February 9. The publication intends to continue producing journals on schedule for the rest of the year.

With the controversy swirling around campus over The Vagina Monologues, the Commentary has received more notoriety. A recent e-mail exchange developed into a vigorous debate on the value of the play at Wabash.

However, there is no indication that the robbery was related to the discussion.

This is not the first time that the magazine, a conservative opinion journal, has been in the center of events.

Some time ago, the Student Senate de-funded the Commentary for remarks they found offensive. There have even been protests at Commentary events.

Anyone with information about the robbery or the stolen equipment should contact Ken Rudolph, the editor, at 362-5624.

Billing

From 1

“We will not control budgets, but we want to make sure each fraternity collects enough money to pay its bills,” Ford said. “We are going to work with each fraternity to see to it they set a price that works for them.”

Brown remained skeptical despite the College’s explanations. For him, the new policy is preferable, of course, if each fraternity collects enough money along the way.

“While I understand the College’s motives for fraternity house bill collection, I am concerned the College may be hurting some fraternities that would have been fiscally responsible,” Brown said. “For example, some fraternities have been making timely debt payments to the College for many years, and I feel these fraternities will lose some of their autonomy when the College moves to collect house bills.”

Ford maintained that fraternities will not lose their autonomy under the new policy; rather, the College will help each house maintain financial stability.

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The Bachelor’s Opinion

your voice, your story, your paper

Timothy Flowers
editor in chief

Travis Ross
opinion editor

Allen Chatt
Managing Editor

EDITORIALS

Nick Gregory
news editor

Adam Hawkins
stuff editor

Andy Cartwright
sports editor

Respect The Email System

The Bachelor would like to remind the members of the Wabash Community that the campus email system is not an effective or appropriate location for debates of ideology. The Blackboard service on campus offers everyone a common location for discussions of all sorts of ideologies. Many students lament that it is an ineffective place for such debates because so few students check these boards. Perhaps these boards are not visited by the majority of the Wabash Community because the majority of campus does not care to engage in said debates.

All that email wars manage to offer are poorly conceived retorts to emails which were probably only halfheartedly glanced through by those replying to them. If members of the community truly want to share an educated opinion with the whole campus, then they are urged to take some time and submit a carefully worded piece to The Bachelor. No one benefits from being forced to delete an email that resulted from the student who fancied himself particularly witty at 3 AM while procrastinating a Political Science paper and going off half cocked. Take some time. Let cooler heads prevail. Quit hiding behind emotional arguments filled with epithets while nitpicking the grammar of your opponent who likely also wrote his reply in the heat of the moment.

If Wabash men are Gentlemen, then they will take their mouse pointer off of the “Reply All” button and actually speak to someone face to face about it. If it is truly important enough for the entire campus offers everyone a common location for discussions of all sorts of ideologies. Many students lament that it is an ineffective place for such debates because so few students check these boards. Perhaps these boards are not visited by the majority of the Wabash Community because the majority of campus does not care to engage in said debates.

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If Wabash men are Gentlemen, then they will take their mouse pointer off of the “Reply All” button and actually speak to someone face to face about it. If it is truly important enough for the entire community to be your “friend”. She notes, “You don’t want to ask too many people, because then you will appear desperate, but you don’t want to ask too few people and then you look like a loser”. Given that she is an education major, she clearly is participating in the liberal arts, learning about notions of best responses normally reserved for advanced mathematics and economics courses.

The Student body also recognizes that it is time that Wabash remove itself from the Jurassic epoch and join the chorus of Western civilization. As Alex Harrington regularly laments in between his intense comparative politics studying, “This is a travesty, a mockery, god damn it, this is a traveshamockery”. Clearly, the student body will not allow this continued assault on our communal values to stand.

There is a clear catalyst of the Liberal Arts experience (Cue American Flag back drop, with busts of Caleb Folds, and none offering extra tickets to the show, that the supply and demand ratio is now ruined. Tickets are not available for face value. They’re not available at all. Please stop asking.

Henceforth, The Bachelor reminds students that the legitimate purposes of all-campus emails are as follows: announcements of events concerning students such as cookouts and TGIF. Humorous club call-outs, whether real or fake, are also acceptable, as is anything by Terry Giovanni Archambeault. Announcements of nightly gatherings at Tommy’s are encouraged. Beyond this, give the server a break.

An Indecent Proposal: Wally Facebook

This institution has flourished for 172 years in its current form. It’s time to adopt the model of other successful schools around the country, such as West Point, Rose Hulman, Harvard, Yale, and even The Fashion Institute. Wabash Students are at a severe pedagogical disadvantage. Across America’s campuses there exists something that our campus noticeably lacks. While controversial, I believe that it is time that our campus again seriously enters into a dialogue to discuss this always controversial issue. Even though we are apoplectic to fundamental changes in our modus operandi it is time to consider a serious revision. We are one of very few institutions in this great nation that has yet to adopt this practice, leaving us as an arcane example of a bygone age. To fill the void that is left from the absence of this essence of life, students are forced to drive hours to other campus. We can even appeal to great philosophers, from Aristotle to John Rawls for logical arguments in support of this move.

The Bachelor” provides students with the opportunity to invest countless hours in creating networks of friends and to join meta-groups that exist only online, like the girls at a TKE party. Further, as a student from DePauw has noted, it teaches students about optimization when asking individuals to your “friend”. She notes, “You don’t want to ask too many people, because then you will appear desperate, but you don’t want to ask too few people and then you look like a loser”. Given that she is an education major, she clearly is participating in the liberal arts, learning about notions of best responses normally reserved for advanced mathematics and economics courses.

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On that note, it doesn’t take an Economics major to figure out that if there are seventy new emails asking for multiple tickets to Ben Folds, and none offering extra tickets to the show, that the supply and demand ratio is now ruined. Tickets are not available for face value. They’re not available at all. Please stop asking.

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“...and now, because you ignored my letter a few weeks ago—how to respond, in three easy steps...

STEP 1: OFFENSE

On fack!! This email was disproportionately offered by delicate femininity. Whatever shall I do?

STEP 2: DEFENSE

Surely my letter was obnoxiously offered by humility and inanity. I had no choice. I must use the reply-all button to get certain it reaches everyone.

STEP 3: SATISFACTION

My e-paper is made. F*** this faidy, try and get your point across again to the Bachelor, where they might be able to do something like this. Do not worry about the damage you did here. It’s over—end now

Justin Grimmer
grimmerj@wabash.edu

PAGE 4 • THE BACHELOR

FEBRUARY 10, 2005

OPINION
Dear Editor,

I am writing in an anticipatory response to the objections that might/will/have arisen from the upcoming performance of “The Vagina Monologues” on the Wabash Campus. Many people (male and female) have the impression that the “Vagina Monologues” are plays written by and about “Lesbian, men-hating femi-nazis” and simply turn a deaf ear to the whole thing. In reality, the “Vagina Monologues” are a collection of interviews from more than 200 women about their sexual experiences and memories. The “Monologues” are 200 plus women’s voices rising together to be heard when they talk about the pain, fear, tragedy, joy and ecstasy of being women, and it is their voices being heard. Most importantly, it is not the voices of 200 plus women sitting on stage and “guy-bashing” for a couple of hours—it’s not really even about men and women. It is about women re-claiming their bodies, their dreams, their voices, and their vaginas. “The Vagina Monologues” are part of a huge, global V-day movement to stop the violence against women and girls and if you misinterpret these actions as hostile or abusive towards men, you are terribly mistaken. V-day was not produced to blame men for the “constant oppression of women in a patriarchal society,” but to help bring men and women together to fight against this violence.

One out of every four college-aged women will have suffered from a rape or attempted rape during their college years, and in fact, many of you may have a girlfriend, sister, mother, or cousin who has been in a rape situation. “The Vagina Monologues” are not being brought to Wabash in order to patronize the Wabash Community. We know that the Wabash Men are educated about sexual abuse and violence just because you are an all-male institution, we do not assume that you promote gender violence in any way, shape or form. The women from Valparaiso University are bringing “The Vagina Monologues” to Wabash because it is a message that everyone needs to hear once, twice, a thousand times, until the violence stops.

An Adamant Vagina Supporter,
Amy Huffaker
Valparaiso University Senior

In a “Commentary” interview some ten years ago I predicted that the faculty who were in favor of co-education, which of course represents the large majority, having lost that war would declare a different one, working to alter the nature of the curriculum and College programs that support it in such a way that leftist ideology, the center of which is hatred of orthodox Christianity and embrace of academic feminism, would have a major influence on the experience of Wabash students. The College’s presentation of “The Vagina Monologues” is in my view the latest campaign in that conflict, which the left seems to be winning virtually unopposed. And what a tired, predictable left it is. Camille Paglia has called “The Vagina Monologues” a product of the “hysterical desperation of aging women who have never come to terms with the cruel realities of nature,” that communicates the “psychological poison of Ender’s archaic creed of victimization.” One might leave it at that and simply ignore these whining genitalia, but the affair is important to the College for two reasons.

First, the Gender Committee has now twice demonstrated this year that the way it wants to present the experience of women to our students is through the vulgar, the obscene, and the ugly. I cannot imagine any better way to provoke misogyny in the student body than by bringing to campus the “Guerrilla Girls” and “The Vagina Monologues.” The spiritual and artistic bankruptcy of gender feminism is being communicated to Wabash men as they need to know about women. So much for Sappho and Clara Schumann.

The second issue is one of honesty with our alumni, prospective students, and donors. We need to be clear about the fact that Wabash is now a place where faculty encourage their students to attend plays in which the cast and audience chant the word “cunt”, and publicly ridicule any young men who object; a place where “Vogelgesang at the Counseling Service.”

Department students’ personal faith in the Scriptural Jesus Christ is deemed naïve; a place where a new faculty member can tell a student “I don’t really believe in morality; a lot of cultures get along without it”; a place in which every year more classes are added to the curriculum which state as a given that gender is a product of the “hysterical desperation of aging women who have never come to terms with the cruel realities of nature,” that communicates the “psychological poison of Ender’s archaic creed of victimization.” One might leave it at that and simply ignore these whining genitalia, but the affair is important to the College for two reasons.

But if you can’t beat ‘em join ‘em. Let me suggest that some student authors compose and produce “The Penis Dialogues”. You could also collect money for the legal expenses of fathers who are being denied parental rights by their former wives. Plato would be very pleased.

David Kubiak
Professor of Classics

Attention:

Being gay, bisexual or transgender in a homophobic world is a challenge. Join us for support and discussion from 11:10AM ‘til 12:30PM, Tuesday, February 15, at the Student Counseling Service office, Chapel Basement. We’ll see what topics are of most interest for future discussion, too. Questions? Call x6252 or see Susan Vogelgesang at the Counseling Service.
Charo Lives Up To Reputation, Abilities

While I’ve been writing this column, I have often commented on a song’s ability to capture both the majesty and attitude of Spain. I have not, however, commented on a song’s ability to capture the history of Spain.

The Spanish comedienne, dancer, singer, and guitarist Charo managed to do just this with her song “Dreams of Spain.”

Born in Murcia, Spain, in either 1952, her first true experience with the classical guitar came when she studied under Andres Segovia until he considered that she had mastered the instrument.

When she finally struck out on her own, she was quickly discovered by the famous Spanish band leader Xavier Cugat.

She now lives in Los Angeles and performs at a number of different white-collar venues.

“Dreams of Spain” is a moving piece that is very hard to play. It features a background half-arpeggio with a foreground slide melody. That is, on the low E, A, D, and G strings, she uses an ascending pick pattern followed by a descending pick pattern. Normally, this would be called a full arpeggio, but she takes a small break between the ascending and descending segments.

The reason I say that it captures the history of Spain lies in its title and adherence thereto. The older people I met in Spain all seemed to ponder the same question… “What if?” They asked, “What if I had been born later in history with the chance to grow up under a free government?”

At the same time however, they knew that no one could happily live a life in the subjunctive, so they moved on with life.

The government they saw as children and young adults was one of the most oppressive governments in the history of the world.

Franco forced thousands of Spaniards to build the Valle de Santa Cruz to serve as his tomb when he died. At the time the Spanish government didn’t reveal the massive number of people who died during its construction.

Charo’s song passionately conveys the feelings of the time when her parents would have been newlyweds. No matter the critic, nobody can dispute this song’s stance as one of the most beautiful ever written. The only drawback to this song is that to truly appreciate it, one must have a working knowledge of the history behind it. For this reason, I give it three and a half notes.

Bart Ludy
ludyb@wabash.edu

Culture Notes

SUBMISSIONS WANTED!

The Wabash Review, a national undergraduate literary journal, wants to print your work. We publish the best poetry, fiction, drama, and creative non-fiction produced by undergraduates all over the United States. Many of our highest quality submissions come from right here on campus. We also accept high quality black-and-white printing friendly artwork and photography. We are especially interested in submissions that incorporate both literature and visual representations. Please consider submitting your work. All submissions must be received by the Friday before Spring Break.

Feel free to invite writer friends from other campuses to apply as well. Submit all pieces as word attachments, along with a short bio and contact information, to editor Jacob Rump (rumpj) or associate editor Denis Farr (fard). Let your voice be heard.
With the wide range of beer “adjuncts” (flavoring ingredients other than the traditional water, yeast, grains and hops) now being used by small breweries around the world, definitive new styles are emerging for the beer connoisseur.

Though often overdone and sometimes relying far too heavily on flavoring in place of quality brewed essential ingredients, some micro/ regional breweries are starting to produce a wide range of tasty, eccentric, and balanced adjunct beers that can be a nice change for the bored palette. One of the most interesting and widely recognized of these new “microbrew styles,” and one of my personal favorites, is the coffee stout.

People have often commented that certain stouts, especially those extremely high in black (i.e. extremely dark, virtually burnt) malt have a certain coffee-like taste, one that can often be quite enjoyable if correctly balanced by other tastes. Guinness, Mackeson, Coopers extra best and, for my palette, Beamish are all stouts that have a little bit of that natural coffee taste imparted from the malt. For people like me, who often like their coffee and their beer equally strong and heavy, sometimes that’s not quite enough. Many microbreweries are now producing different styles of coffee stout, beers brewed with coffee, espresso, beans, or coffee extracts directly in the wort.

By adding the coffee during the brewing process, instead of at the end, brewers can impart an even coffee character to the drink that is not as overpowering as a simple flavoring added before the bottling process, which tends to impart a strong “additional” taste rather than tasting like it is part of the beer itself (take for example J.W. Dundee’s, Sickeningly Sweet Honey Brown).

Since dark, heavy ales seem to taste best with coffee, the majority of the new coffee beers are in the porter and more specifically the stout style. However, a few microbreweries have even begun pairing coffee adjuncts with brown ales, producing a distinct, slightly bitter, less-filling alternative to their often “thick and heavy” cousins. Though the strength of the coffee taste can vary from almost overpowering to extremely subtle, it is the marriage of tastes between bean and malt that make for a good, drinkable example of this micro-style. There are some very strong tasting coffee stouts that get away with it by being paired with huge, chocolatey bodied brews, but there are also some strong java brews with nothing to balance out their edge. Equally, while some of the brown ales can be a subtle addition to the brown ale style, many others seem to take away the distinctive crispness that otherwise marks the style.

While coffee brews may be a little hard to find, they’re worth your while if you find yourself in the “big city” (basically anywhere but rural Midwestern towns).

This fall, Bell’s released this year’s Java Stout, a nice but extremely strong (7.5%) and dark example of the style, which has a nice balance but a strong coffee finish/aftertaste that may be a bit much for the non-espresso lover. Stone Brewing Company also usually makes a very drinkable Coffee Stout, although I have not had it this year. If you can’t get your hands on the real deal, at least try to taste the black malt/coffee next time you pick up a Guinness or better (in my opinion) Beamish, both traditional Irish stouts readily available at Southside. If you’re not a coffee drinker, this style may not be for you, but give it a try anyway; the results might leave you less bitter than you think.

Cheers.
Several weeks ago, my roommate was the delighted recipient of a Christmas miracle—a successful blind date! So successful in fact, that she is still dating this man and on the brink of those three big words.

She couldn’t wait to tell us when we all reconvened in our frigid, powerless home, but she had a handful of reservations.

She invited him to come and meet us the following weekend.

She wasn’t wasting any time, and we knew what she was looking for—she needed our seal of approval.

Why do we care about our friends’ opinion when it comes to who we date?

As women do, the second he left for the bathroom, and keep in mind this is how it works, we were gushing with rave reviews.

From that point on, we never heard about her reservations again. Hypothetically, what if I hadn’t liked him?

What if I overlooked all of his positive attributes and told my roommate he wasn’t right for her?

It’s frightening to think of how much we depend on our friends’ insight to guide us in our life’s decisions, especially personal relationships.

If you are getting ready to skip this article and move on to sports, humor me. Think about the last time you discussed one of your friend’s girlfriend or boyfriend.

You probably have, and it probably wasn’t that long ago.

I used to think women were alone in their quest for complete approval, but then I grew up and realized what a stereotype was. You can deny, deny, deny, but gossip knows no gender.

As friends, we feel obligated to protect their well-being. We hope we can divulge opinions that are helpful and possibly help motivate them to make healthy choices for their lives.

That, or we just don’t like their significant other and we abuse our influence.

Whatever the reasoning, no one wants to choose between a friend and a lover.

We try to avoid those devastating situations by entertaining our friends’ opinions before we get too heavily involved with our partner.

We try to navigate through those obstacles before they truly hinder our lives.

But should we care? Do we put our significant other in a helpless situation by gathering opinions from other people?

Is it ever fair to put potential love at the mercy of the court?

The truth is (prepare for the cliché) when it’s right, when it’s the person you’re supposed to be with, no one’s opinion matters.

Your closest friend, although it might hurt you if they disapprove, can’t competes with your desires.

If a relationship comes down to weighing and measuring the approval of others, and you’re on the fence, take every review with a grain of salt and try not to forget the most important critic of all…yourself.

--Courtney Hupe is a senior journalism student at Ball State University. Please email her with questions and comments.

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**Value Friends’ Opinions, But Mostly Your Own**

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**“I used to think women were alone in their quest for complete approval, but then I grew up and realized what a stereotype was. You can deny, deny, deny, but gossip knows no gender.”**

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**CARTOONING 101**

**A FULL CREDIT COURSE IN FOOLISHNESS BY MORILLO**

To: everyone@wabash.edu
My blind arthritic grandmother is fading fast from this veil of tears...

To: God@Heaven.org
...and she loves Ben Folds. PLEASE DOES ANYONE HAVE TICKETS?!!

To: dieties@cosmos.all
Subject: Need tickets

**YOU DON’T HAVE A PRAYER**
If A Majority Of People Disagree, Then It Must Be Wrong

Sam Brozman

I have a confession to make which I am sure will not endear me to a percentage of the population: I do not agree with homosexuality.

It’s not that I discriminate against gay people, feel uncomfortable in any way about my sexuality, or even have issues with anyone who is gay; it’s just that I do not like it.

That’s all.

Unfortunately for me, according to some circles, this statement condemns me as a homophobe.

I understand that there is and has been a history of persecution against homosexuals in this country and around the globe and I do sympathize. Everyone should be treated and respected as a human being first and foremost and I’m a big believer in equality for all people.

With that said, can’t I simply disagree with gay marriage and gay segregated high schools peacefully without being labeled a homophobe?

I’m sorry but the fact that there aren’t gay high schools in America doesn’t really strike me as a human rights violation.

However, regardless of what everyone may think of my position, why am I made to feel in the world (some say as high as eleven percent), in many communities it is frowned upon, discouraged, and even punished within the bounds of honoring human rights, either.

For example, in this country we have strong laws against and punishments for polygamy, but in other societies it was perfectly socially acceptable not too long ago.

I don’t agree with polygamy either, but am not going to sit here and try to deny that a man cannot love more than one woman in the same way that I am not going to deny that two people of the same sex can be in love.

However, I can decide with a group of like minded voters that polygamy is not right for my community and that I do not want people in my city/state/country who practice it.

All of this can be achieved without hating polygamists. It is the exact same thing with gay marriage.

Homosexuality in this place and time is undoubtedly countercultural and therefore a majority of people are not going to like it and will probably pass laws against it. “

“Homosexuality in this place and time is undoubtedly countercultural and therefore a majority of people are not going to like it and will probably pass laws against it.”

That’s just the way it is. So, deal with it.

Homophobia may exist in our little sexually repressed society, but it’s not as widespread as many would have you believe.

Aside from the recent email war (again don’t you all have better things to do), I’d say we go through our days with little fanfare and manage to live in relative harmony.

We don’t necessarily have to agree here, but we do have to respect each other.

There may be two sides to the fence on this, but let’s not forget that we are all gentleman here.

That my opposition to these issues somehow makes me insensitive to the gay community?

But if we are ready for some honest and open discussion then let’s not beat around the bush here.

Fact: Homosexuals engage in a practice which most people in this country either don’t agree with (like myself) or would consider sexual deviancy.

I don’t mean to rub that in anyone’s face, but it is a little hard to argue that after gay marriage was defeated across the board in 2004.

While there certainly are staggering numbers of homosexuals against it.

That’s just the way it is. So, deal with it.

Homophobia may exist in our little sexually repressed society, but it’s not as widespread as many would have you believe.

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There may be two sides to the fence on this, but let’s not forget that we are all gentleman here.

In their February 3rd letter to the editor, the men of the Malcolm X Institute raise important issues regarding ethnic and racial diversity of the faculty generally and the science faculty in particular. The recent tenure decision in biology has caused many of them to question the seriousness of the Biology Department’s commitment to improving the representation of women and minority ethnic and racial groups. Although we cannot comment on the recent tenure decisions, we can say something about the Biology Department’s and the Division’s commitment to increasing the diversity among our faculty. Let us begin by identifying two challenges that we face.

First is the small number of potential applicants. In 2001, blacks and Hispanics constituted 2.8% and 2.7% respectively of science doctorate holders, whereas 82.3% were white (the remainder were largely Asian and Pacific Islanders) (www.nsf.gov/statistics/pubsersi.cfm?TopID=14&SubID=45&SerID=6ftp). In recent years, the applicant pools for positions in Division I have been small; fortunately there have also been several highly qualified individuals in those pools. While there are several reasons for the smaller sized pools (e.g., employment opportunities for spouses), the hard truth is that the combination of small applicant pools and a low percentage of minority science doctorates make it unlikely we will have minority applicants for openings in the Division. A second challenge we face has to do with the nature of the hiring cycle. There is not a lot of turnover in faculty, and thus academic departments are dipping into applicant pools sporadically. There is every reason to believe that we miss good applicants simply because the timing is not right, and since minorities make up a smaller fraction of the potential applicant pool, we are more likely to miss good minority prospects.

We make these observations not as excuses, but to frame the problem we must address. So what are we doing?

First, we have endeavored to increase our connections with people in the field who might help us identify qualified minority candidates. This was part of the impetus for establishing the Owen Duston Visiting Professorship. One of us (DP) was a member of what was then known as the Minority Concerns Committee that was responsible for initiating that program, and the Biology Department hosted the first Duston Professor, Dr. O’Neal Ray Collins. We have had some success. Dr. Roy Scudder (now Scudder-Davis) was a member of the Biology Department during the 1983/4 academic year. Second we have explored ways to increase the number of minority students majoring in science and mathematics. Since we have been at the College, Division I has actively participated in or proposed a number of outreach programs ranging from the Bridge Science Summer Program to a number of initiatives (many unfortunately were not funded by granting agencies) designed to attract minority students to the sciences and mathematics.

But of course, this is ancient history for you, and the only history that truly matters, or should matter to you, is your four years at the College. We assure you that we will continue to do whatever we can to attract minority and women candidates, and we are happy to meet with you to discuss these matters whenever you would like. In the meantime, we welcome all the ways that you help and can help in the hiring process. But we would like to make one other request – consider pursuing a career in academic science. There are a great number of academic institutions that would be interested in your application, including one located in west central Indiana.

David Krohne and David Polley

To the editor:

I share with many faculty and students surprise and disappointment over unexpected (to me, at least) unfavorable tenure decisions.

I agree with the letter from MXI that whatever the merits of a single decision may be, losing a woman color is a setback to efforts to build a faculty that better reflects the world we live in.

Students should know that faculty diversity is an issue discussed in faculty meetings last semester, well before the current tenure decisions, and the discussion centered on whether it is a problem but on how to solve it, with a focus on recruitment of new faculty candidates.

Does alone this imply the college is doing everything it should to enhance faculty diversity? Not at all. But it does mean that the faculty share MXI’s interest in creative, effective solutions to this problem.

The MXI letter speaks of a “disturbing trend” in a way that suggests unfavorable tenure decisions for faculty of color is a chronic Wabash problem.

It also emphasizes the sciences as if the problem lies primarily in Division I. It is incorrect to call one event a trend, and premature to single out the sciences for special attention solely because that event involved one of their faculty. I have insufficient access to the facts of Dr. Selvratnam’s case to render an informed opinion either way as to the correctness of the tenure decision.

Nor do I expect to learn more, given the confidentiality of such decisions. What I do know is that it takes two points to determine a line.

Thanks in part to tenure itself the diversity of the faculty cannot be changed as quickly as the diversity of the student population, making the latter an unfair yardstick to apply to efforts to change the former.

Keep holding Wabash to its word, but recognize that the challenge goes beyond Wabash. Among the thirteen tenure-track physicists at four other schools I’ve visited so far in my job search were one woman and no faculty of color. This must change, but unfortunately cannot change in a few years, let alone overnight.

John Carahan
Dept. of Physics
Jim And Ken’s Excellent IM Debate On The Vagina Monologues

The following is a debate between Jim Stephens and Ken Rudolph that was conducted via Instant Messenger.

Ken: Okay, so should I start or would you like to?
Jim: Sure, go ahead.

Ken: How does reducing a woman to a single part of her body, her vagina, further the cause of equality for women?
Jim: I don’t think it’s actually about reducing her body to a single part; it’s about reclaiming a part or an area of women’s lives, sexuality, that has been taken away from them. This reduction wouldn’t occur if it were not in response to the reduction of women to (male) sexual objects. It is in this way an inversion and a liberation.

Ken: I find it disconcerting that this is being presented in the manner it is because of this inversion, then women are simply playing on the terms of men. This, to me, seems a tacit admission that their argument is not strong enough to stand on its own.

Jim: What argument would that be?
Ken: The argument of objectification and the figurative rape of sexuality (think “The Rape of the Lock” by Pope).

Jim: It is not, in fact, playing on men’s assumptions as men historically have suppressed the expression of women’s sexuality. Our culture and many others have long shamed the outward display of sexuality by women, so to openly embrace female sexuality as represented by its essence is what the vagina is actually reclamation of it.

Ken: Ah, so, then, we (i.e., you) are operating under the assumption that the essence of sexuality is contained in the vagina. Cannot we take women as a whole? I would rather women be celebrated as a whole, and keep sexuality where it belongs—in the private sphere.

Jim: Well, that would be fine and dandy if you didn’t have a history of objectification, shame, denial and self-hatred associated solely with sexuality that you can’t just skip over. It’s something that needs healing alongside the celebration of the entire woman, it doesn’t preclude it. Besides, “keeping sexuality where it belongs” is what led to the male ability to dominate and suppress female sexuality in the first place, so I’d rather have things out in the open.

Ken: Further objectification heals past objectification? So, then, you grant that this is excessive in another extreme so that the past outrages are balanced and the realm will be in balance?
Jim: No, I don’t think it is objectification or excessive.
Ken: Also, I cannot accept Michel Foucault’s theory of sexuality as the a priority notion. If you want to discuss the postmodern view of sexuality, we need to do so before we continue.

Jim: To examine one part of someone does not inherently objectify it. That’s quite an assumption, anyway, summing up a woman by her sexuality, and then summing the sexuality up with a vagina. A sign of a sign, how delightfully Derrida of you!
Ken: What is “quite an assumption”?
Jim: Theory-heads may appreciate the references, but I’m not sure if they are helpful here.
Ken: Do you?
Jim: I think that the references are essential here—so that we might valid our biases explicit. It helps everyone.
Ken: The examination of one part of someone, a woman, especially something that has been shamed and suppressed, is not objectifying...it’s just taking a closer look at one particularly important part given the cultural and historical context.

Jim: But not really, it just makes it harder to communicate because references depend on our individual understandings of these people, which though related, could take us in different directions without even knowing it.
Ken: That context is the context in which we live where we call women sluts, but don’t really have a pejorative for promiscuous males. It’s the context in which women have been told to relinquish their sexuality and be pure, not to mention the context in which they are raped.

Jim: That context is the context in which we live where we call women sluts, but don’t really have a pejorative for promiscuous males. It’s the context in which women have been told to relinquish their sexuality and be pure, not to mention the context in which they are raped.

Ken: These are extraordinarily limited contexts. I think we need to discuss this on a broader scale. We can discuss sexuality within the context of abnormal psychology, but I don’t think that’s essentially appropriate. Most Wabash men do not possess pathologies that would make the rape or scrupulosity arguments valid.

Jim: We are, as you no doubt know, off topic.
Ken: I wasn’t necessarily talking about Wabash men, I don’t think we rule the universe, but I’ve heard ‘slut’ around here more than a couple times.

Jim: I’m sorry.
Ken: Anyway, The Vagina Monologues don’t essentialize or objectify women in any way. It just takes a close look at a neglected subject, neglected being a very soft term here in contrast to suppressed.
Jim: How is glamorized lesbian rape of a minor a necessary way to liberate women from this neglect/oppression?
Ken: There you go, I know we’d make a great team back to that one. I could just copy and paste from the all-campus e-mail, but I’ll try again.

Jim: I refer to “The Little Coochy Snatcher That Could,” of course, that will be part of the performance. I think it deserves an in-depth discussion, don’t you?
Ken: Actually, it’s rather strange that you choose that monologue in light of its context. It is actually introduced in a way that does not celebrate it at all: “I wrote this piece...for the women we do not speak about when we speak of rape” (76). That doesn’t sound much like a celebration of that experience.
Jim: Why? The context is that a sexually abused young minority woman (who has body image issues) was taken advantage of, and I think that her retelling shows that it is not as easily celebrated. In your mind, I thought I would have to work harder than that and I can, but when I read the part before the story I couldn’t really believe you portrayed it as a celebration. It’s quite a stretch to do so. Just because the woman in the monologue thinks it was good doesn’t mean the work does.

Ken: That is the introduction, and is not necessarily part of the play. The italics give it away.
Jim: But anyway, do I really need to explain how the voice in the monologue isn’t necessarily ever the author’s or is that too basic literature 101ish?
Ken: The introduction seems to celebrate it (cf. “the repeated abuse ultimately eats away at their self-esteem, driving them to drugs, prostitution, AIDS, and, in many cases, death. Fortunately, this particular story has a different outcome”).
Jim: We can analyze all the reasons that this woman thinks it was positive and come to the conclusion that it is actually presented negatively by the author.
Ken: I don’t see how.

Jim: The introduction seems to be the author’s, I think I have shown her feelings.
Ken: Come on, Ken, you are taking that out of context—fortunately she does not DIE at the end of it is what she is saying. She’s not saying the seduction was positive at all. That’s a totally weighted reading.
Jim: It is as weighted as your reading, won’t you concede?
Ken: No, my reading is based on the fact that she says ‘DEATH’ right before she says fortunately it wasn’t the outcome. That’s just reading it the way anyone would. Furthermore, the context of the introduction that it is not celebrated...like the part that I cited right before the monologue begins.

Ken: You have effectively danced around my point. If the experience is so negative, and this person is celebrating women and condemning violence, how does this monologue achieve the overall goal of the play?
Jim: It achieves the overall outcome because it makes everything open. It brings all the shameful and hidden parts of female sexual existence out for everyone to see, as well as the glorious and liberating parts of it.
Ken: By celebrating rape? We should be “open” to deviant and felonious behavior? I think not. How can I hold on, I thought this play was about rigorously questioning the definitions of female sexuality (think “The Rape of the Lock”) acceptable and good.
Jim: Because the voice of the narrator is not the voice of the author. To equate the two is to make a costly literary mistake.
Ken: The brutality, then, should be somewhere near the top of the list. But the author chooses what to include, doesn’t she?
Jim: You really don’t get the point, do you? It could, in fact, be a sad thing that the narrator views the experience as liberating in the opinion of the author.

Ken: “She transformed my sorry-ass coochi snatcher and raised it up as a kind of heaven.” This seems to indicate, by inclusion, that the author finds this behavior (i.e., rape) acceptable and good. Anyway, that context is not the point. The author is the point.
Jim: It could actually even show how women have been so suppressed in their sexuality that they view rape (by a woman) as liberating. That is a valid interpretation, at least.

Ken: “Interpretation is the revenge of the intellect upon art”—Susan Sontag “Against Interpretation.”
Jim: But instead you wish to pounce upon the voice of the narrator. So this experience can’t produce the whole work, when it actually just relates the experience of the narrator for the audience to analyze.
Ken: No! I am pointing to the inclusion of the monologue by the author. Who are we to comment on his/her experience if the subject interprets it favorably? There is no need for further interpretation beyond that of the subject.
Jim: The author could have even thought it so painfully obvious that the woman’s sense of liberation is sad (especially after making it perfectly clear in the introduction), that she simply provided the monologue for the audience to interpret.
Ken: So we are portraying the woman as a naive fool, incapable of understanding her own experiences. But I think the experiences that are, in effect, dictating to the woman the value of her experience. That is sexual repression at its worst.
Jim: Because there is nothing here that tries to justify it or say that it is good as you claim.
Ken: Other than the subject’s own words, that is.
Jim: Do you really believe “There is no need for further interpretation beyond that of the subject”?
Ken: To assert that there is such a need is to impose our views upon her. She thinks it was a good experience. Who are we to judge? I am willing to let her decide for herself. Are you?
Jim: No, we can be critical of a person’s view of herself and of this person’s experiences. That’s what having another perspective is all about, and you know about that, don’t you Ken?
A young Wabash College Track and Field team is showing improvements each week, moving toward what promises to be a successful performance at this year’s indoor conference meet in early March.

Head Coach Rob Johnson is confident in this year’s team, composed primarily of sophomores and freshmen.

In speaking of the past few weeks, marked by successful competition at meets around the state and the country, Johnson sites the team’s mental toughness and engaged coaching staff.

“The guys know that they are getting good instruction and getting the attention they need from our excellent group of coaches this year,” Johnson said.

“I think we just have us a tough-minded group of athletes this year too.”

Heading out of last week’s DePauw University Tiger Invitational in Greencastle, the Wabash team will be idle until February 19 when they compete in the NJCAA Regional at Knowling Fieldhouse.

The team placed ninth out of seventeen teams at the Tiger Invitational last Saturday, beating every Division III team except DePauw, who placed sixth at the meet.

The day was marked by tough competition and with Wallies stepping up to tackle the tough competitors.

“The thing that makes me happy is to watch the joy that the guys have in the way that they compete. We had a number of instances at the DePauw Invitational where guys were challenged,” Johnson said.

“They could have backed off or excelled last week. They chose to excel. They met the challenges from the other opponents very well.”

“If we continue to recruit more guys in and with the present fact that a lot of our starters are young, we can look to be an annual top three team in the NCAC and have a good chance to win it.”

Coach Rob Johnson

Last Saturday’s meet showed many Wallies at their best. Freshman Mike Russell earned the NCAC Men’s Indoor Track Sprints/Hurdles Athlete-of-the-Week Award after taking part in the Little Giant’s winning the 200-meter relay race. Sophomores Keith Clayton and Nathan Bates and freshman Tim Rickard won the event along with Russell with a time of 1:32.62, 4/10ths of a second off the meet record time.

Russell added a ninth place finish in the 200-meter dash with a time of 23.53, his fastest time of the year in the event, a fifth place finish in the long jump, and a sixth place finish in the high jump.

Impressively, freshman Geoff Lambert won the 600-meter run, his first time to ever attempt the event, crossing the finish line in 1:23.92.

Bates added a second place finish in the 400-meter dash with a season-best time of 51.22.

Clayton, Rickard, Russell, and Bates also combined for a fourth place finish in the 400-meter relay, guiding Wabash to its ninth place finish.

“This guys take pride and they show determination in the way they practice and perform,” Coach Johnson said.

“This team’s work effort is better than it has been with past teams. They all seem to be focused and ready to work hard.”

As the Little Giants hunker down for two weeks of practice, the guys can’t help but to look forward to the Conference Championship meet to be held in Bloomington, Illinois.

“The team is now focusing on the indoor conference meet,” Lambert said.

“The meet last Saturday was a way to see how we compare to some top schools in the surrounding area. We went into it looking to run fast and for some good competition.”

Johnson feels the strength of the team this year lies in the fact that many of the solid runners are young and have at least two more years to perfect their skills.

“If we continue to recruit more guys in and with the present fact that a lot of our starters are young, we can look to be an annual top three team in the NCAC and have a good chance to win it,” Coach Johnson said.

“We have a better chance of finishing in the top three this year than we have had in a number of years.”

--Burton covers track for The Bachelor.
SPORTS

Little Choices Have Giant Consequence

Corey Asay
asay@wabash.edu

There may soon be some changes on the Wabash College social scene due to concern over alcohol abuse.

“Alcohol and alcohol related problems are the number one concern for college students all over the nation,” said Brandon Clifton, founder of Wabash Against Drunk Driving.

Clifton, a senior, started Wabash Against Drunk Driving – or WADD for short – because of his nascent concern about the alcohol related problems that many college students face. Also, Clifton had some personal experience with alcohol related troubles and wanted to help others before they placed themselves in bad situations.

“I was tired of waiting around for something to happen,” he said. “As cliché as it sounds, I just wanted to help students to keep from making some of the mistakes others have in the past.”

In addition to founding WADD, Clifton attended the Athletic Prevention Programming and Leadership Education convention in Long Beach, California on January 28-29. He was accompanied by junior Chris Ogden, Associate Dean of Students Mike Raters, and Wabash nurse Carol Lamb.

The APPLE program began 14 years ago at the University of Virginia as a means of getting student-athletes out among the student body to promote good examples of responsible college students.

Trainer Jack Mansfield first approached Dean Raters about pursuing a program that would allow students to model positive behavior in regards to alcohol and drugs.

Dean Raters admits, however, that there is not a burning concern that students are heavily abusing drugs and alcohol on the Wabash campus.

“I wouldn’t say there’s a big concern; what we have right now is a trend towards being more intentional about a lot of the things we do,” he said. “Drinking alcohol is a part of college life, so we want to make sure that if that’s going to occur, then we’re doing it responsibly.”

The APPLE conference, WADD, and those involved all speak in unison when it comes to alcohol use; they are not trying to eliminate drinking from this college campus, but are encouraging those who do use alcohol to drink responsibly.

“In no way shape or form are we trying to say, ‘stop drinking’, said Clifton. “Just be aware of the choices you’re making because they can either have positive effects or negative effects.”

Since those who attended the APPLE conference are not in the business of ridding the campus of alcohol, they have come up with some practical programs to provide drinking awareness. The agenda tentatively includes drink alternatives at parties and student mentors.

“Student mentors would basically work as the medium between the faculty and the students,” said Chris Ogden. “They would be there to identify problems and would be trained in peer counseling.”

In addition, bars would be set up at parties that did not serve alcohol.

Although these students hope that others also see the harm that alcohol can have when not used responsibly, they realize that there are those skeptics who will simply not listen to their message.

“90 percent of the people that you talk to won’t listen, but it’s the one person you can reach that’s going to mean a lot to me,” said Clifton. “I know how that sounds, but I mean it.”

If anyone would like to participate in the new programs or become involved with WADD, please email Brandon Clifton at cliftonb@wabash.edu. WADD meetings are held in the LGR, but times vary according to IM schedules.

Wabash Beats Ohio Wesleyan

Kyle Coffey elevates for a jumper in the 60-53 win over Ohio Wesleyan. Coffey scored 12 points.