Speech, March Remember MLK

ASHLEY STEPHEN
WABASH ’07

On the day dedicated to honoring the memory of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies sponsored several events to encourage the Wabash community to not only remember the efforts of King and the numerous others involved in the civil rights movement but also to prevent Americas from believing that the country has reached King’s Promised Land.

The events of the day began with a March on Wabash at 7:00 a.m. when about two dozen members of the Wabash community marched from the Chapel to the steps of Trippett Hall carrying placards and singing songs from civil rights marches. The march was not in protest to anything specific but was instead meant to serve as a reminder that the goals of the March on Washington have yet to be fully achieved.

Once at Trippett Hall, which Professor Emeritus Peter Frederick fittingly mentioned was the site of the original home of the Malcolm X Institute, the marchers heard Professor Tim Lake provide some history on the March on Washington before Professor John Aden gave his remarks.

Calling on his background in West African history, Aden urged those present to be aware of the trickster who appears at the crossroads and attempts to prevent the traveler from completing his journey. Aden said he believes society is approaching a crossroads and he insisted that in order to fully achieve equality among the races people must remain vigilant and push forward, avoiding the efforts of the trickster to delay us.

The MXI continued its celebration with a “Freedom Exhibit” in the Caleb Mills House. At noon, Professor Emeritus Hall Peebles gave his Midday Reflections.

To conclude the day, the MXI, through the assistance of Wal-Mart Optical, presented King scholar Drew Hansen. Hansen, a Rhodes Scholar, lawyer, and author, gave a speech that went beyond the traditional view of King as a successful civil rights leader and a martyr for his cause.

Hansen admitted that his views with Dr. White, his wife Chris, a schedule of inauguration events, an overview of past Wabash presidents, and much more. In addition to appearing in the Bachelor, this special insert will also be printed in Crawfordsville’s local paper, The Journal Review, on Thursday, January 25th. Be on the lookout for this important and entertaining inauguration information as Wabash’s celebrates the burgeoning career of its fifteenth president.
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Hansen covered the many sacrifices King made during his life, which were financial, familial, and mental. He gave up his guarantee of a stable income by taking a position with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. In becoming the face of the civil rights movement, King also sacrificed time with his family.

By the time of the campaign in Chicago to end housing discrimination, Hansen claimed that King was “close to losing it” completely because he had been worn down by the numerous hassles and little troubles that he had faced throughout his efforts.

In concluding his speech, Hansen argued that King was a gentleman because the “true life of a gentleman pays the cost in sacrifice,” and King had undoubtedly made many sacrifices throughout his life.

After his speech, Hansen opened the floor for questions. He received a number of questions from a broad range of the audience about his research and his own personal thoughts on King, which he considered quite difficult to answer.

Josh Bellis ’08 felt the speech was good but was more pleased by the question-and-answer session. “I got a lot out of the question-and-answer period because I had some questions about his research,” Bellis said. “I was glad to learn more about the research he had done.”

A number of the audience members found Hansen’s speech to be very informative. Many approved of Hansen’s effort to move beyond the traditional view of King.

“The speech was challenging,” Trey Chinn ’06 said. “It shed a new light on King that is not usually acknowledged but needs to be.”

“I found it inspirational as well as a beneficial perspective not known to many,” MXI Chairman Charles Jackson ’07 said. “He challenged us to look at Dr. King from every aspect, not just the ones we know from.”

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Outgoing Treasurer Ross Dillard was concerned about the nominees and the fact that others who had made the effort to run for student offices were not considered. However, James did not nominate Andrew Rodenbarger ’08 as a class representative, despite beating Rodenbarger in the Student Body President election last month.

Dillard encouraged the Senate to reject Harris’ nominations so that James might nominate Rodenbarger, but the Senate confirmed Harris by one vote. Boarman, as Chairman of the Senate, refused to bring the vote to a tie.

As senators debated the matter, Patrick Smith ’08 gave his view. “Student Senate seats aren’t consolation prizes,” Smith said. “Pazour did that out of the goodness of his heart.”

“I just think it’s a shame that others aren’t getting the same opportunity that I had,” Dillard said. Dillard ran for Student Body President last year and lost. Pazour then nominated him for a vacant Senate seat.

James explained that the early results of his consultations led him to the decisions he made. The student senate eventually confirmed all of James’s nominations.

The nomination of Chairman Pro Tempore was moved to the next meeting. John Moton ’09 was elected the new Secretary and Ross McKinney ’09 was elected as the new Treasurer.

Next, James discussed the goals of the administration, which include strengthening ties between students, student representatives, and faculty as well as promoting fiscal responsibility.

Dillard commented on the fiscal health of the organization, referencing the 12% increase in budget utilization from Fall 2005 to Fall 2006. “Students are becoming more active,” said Dillard, as he congratulated the Senate for taking the time to seriously consider appropriation requests.

The total allocation for Fall 2006 semester was $198,267.36. As of January 16, 2007, the balance on hand for the Student Senate General Fund was $4,160.81. The Senate expects to receive $183,000.00 for the activities fund this semester. The Senate passed the Treasurer’s Report unanimously.

The last major order of business for the night was to pass a formal request to the Board of Trustees in an attempt to name the Wabash Bookstore in honor of the late Michael Bachner ’70, who was instrumental in its creation and continuance. The request passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

After their first meeting in their new roles, members of the student senate were eager to comment on the new experience.

“It was interesting to see the workings of the Student Senate and the priorities they have,” College Hall Representative Forrest Craig ’10 said. “It’s good to see people I know get involved.”

“I was extremely nervous,” said Boarman, who handled the bulk of parliamentary procedures. “I know adjusting to the role will come in time. I’m excited about our goals and want to help usher in a unified vision for Wabash. I really want students to look to the Student Senate for advice. We’re not here to overshadow them.”

V ice President Bob Boarman ’08

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Inauguration Plans Almost Finalized

ROYCE V. GREGERS S N
NEW S EDITO R

As the day of President White’s inauguration grows closer, plans for the inauguration are beginning to come to completion. The formal inauguration is the centerpiece of the celebration, but it is only the conclusion of a whirlwind of activity that will lead up to White’s inauguration on Saturday, Jan. 27 as the 15th President of Wabash College.

Celebrating the Arts

Festivities will kick-off unofficially with Thursday’s Chapel talk. Paul Harter, one of White’s oldest friends, will introduce the Pat White he knows to the Wabash community. The event will help set the tone for the inauguration, situating the inauguration as what White has described as the most important moment in his career.

The first official event will be Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center, “Celebrating the Arts at Wabash: A Student-Faculty Collaboration.”

“This has been in the works for a very long time, and students and faculty have worked hard to kick off the inauguration weekend activities by showcasing the talents of our student and faculty artists,” Jim Amidon, chairman of the Inauguration Steering Committee, wrote.

The event will be ticketed like a Visiting Artist Series event. Beginning today, the box office will take ticket requests by email. Tickets will be available for pickup beginning at 6:30 p.m. the night of the event, and unclaimed tickets will be released at 7:50 p.m. Seating will be limited by the size of Salter Hall and the large block of tickets already reserved for inauguration guests.

The event will feature collaborations between students and faculty. The brass ensemble will perform a piece composed by its conductor, Professor Peter Hulen. Attendees will view works by art students at intermission. The highlight of the evening, though, will be a short play directed by Professor Jim Fisher and written by none other than White, a play described as “riotously funny.”

Celebrating Academics

Friday afternoon classes will be canceled, as they have the past seven years, for the Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work. As always, Trustees and the National Association of Wabash Men’s Board of Directors will also attend during a break between their meetings.

Also significant this year will be the presence of many of White’s colleagues from the broader world of higher education. Professors, deans, and presidents of various colleges will be in attendance.

Celebrating Dreams

The most significant event for students will be the dinner held for them Friday night at 6:00 p.m., titled “Celebrating the Dreams of Wabash Men.” The program will begin promptly at six and include speeches from students and performances from the Jazz Combo and the Glee Club. Simon Hoehn ’07 will give an invocation, Tim Schirack ’07 and Chris Greisl ’07 will emcee, Kyle Cassidy ’08 will give a short humorous speech, Ross Dillard ’07 will speak about the dreams of past Wabash men, and Bob Boarman ’08 and Jesse James ’08, the new Student Body President and Vice President will outline their dreams for Wabash.

It is important that students RSVP for the dinner by tomorrow. The Sparks Center will not be open Friday evening for dinner, and many fraternities will not serve a Friday evening meal. Dress for the event will be business casual (slacks a collared shirt). “This is our turn as students to celebrate the institution we’ve come to love,” Brett Gann ’07, former vice president of the Student Body, said. “It’s really a first. This has never happened before, and it’s not going to happen again any time soon. Students at other colleges do not get this chance. It’s going to be a good time, with good food, and a chance to communicate your dreams for the College.”

A trustee, class agent, or NAWM Board member will be at every table, recording students’ dreams for the College. These recorded comments will form the beginning of the new Strategic Plan, so students will be directly involved.

Celebrating the Past

Among notable guests at the inauguration will be former President Andrew Ford H’03. Ford will attend in order to honor White, but the College will take time out to honor Ford as well. Following the meeting of the trustees Saturday morning, there will be an informal ceremony to unveil Ford’s presidential portrait on the first floor of the Lilly Library. It will begin around 11:15 a.m.

Ford, White, and Joseph Barnette, chairman of the Board of Trustees will talk briefly, followed by the unveiling of the portrait.

Celebrating Athletics

Of course, a celebration of Wabash could hardly occur without recognizing the College’s athletics program. At 1:00 p.m. Saturday the Little Giants will face Oberlin in Chadwick Court. Trustees, Class Agents, NAWM Board members, and many other inauguration guests will likely attend. Despite the fact that he will be giving the most important speech of his life shortly following, Amidon expects White will make an appearance at the basketball game as well.

The Big Moment

The inaugural ceremonies will begin in the Chapel at 4:00 p.m. with an academic procession similar to the one done at Commencement. More than 150 people, Wabash faculty and guests from other universities, will process in full academic regalia. Welcomes will be given from the higher education community, the students, the alumni, the faculty, and the College. Professor Tim Lake will give the invocation and benediction, and Professor David Blix ’70 will play the organ, including a piece written by Chris Geggie ’08. The Glee Club will also perform.

Students are encouraged to attend the inauguration. About 250 tickets will be available for students on a first come, first served basis beginning tomorrow. Sherry Ross in the dean of Students’ office will manage ticket distribution. Students who are not able to get tickets may view the inauguration from Hays 104 on a special video feed.
James, Boarman Need To Make Student Government Accessible

The new legislative term opened Tuesday under President Jesse James and Vice President Robert Boarman. Their community-oriented campaign and dedication to the representation of all Wabash men continues the progress made under Kevin Pazour and Brett Gann. In his objectives for student government, James promised to make student government more accessible to students. This was a major campaign pledge, as well.

It is now time for James and Boarman to deliver on their promise.

The Pazour-Gann era brought the Senate out of irrelevance and obscurity into a new era of responsibility and accountability. The rusty and decrepit machinery of student government, frozen by a period of neglect, was polished and oiled. Brett Gann’s effective management of the Senate introduced Wabash College to the right decision is that which is most obvious to people in general and which is most desirable to a considerable body of wise and good men.

Furthermore, students must be kept up to date on the actions of their government. President James outlined his ideas, including a regular update; however, it must go beyond that. The men of Wabash College must be informed on the issues currently confronting their legislators, and they must understand the consequences of those issues. The recent amendment concerning the number of class representatives was, potentially, a major decision. However, there was a great degree of confusion about that amendment. Finally, no government can be said to represent its constituents without an informed populace.

Clearly, a majority of the student body has full faith and confidence in their leaders. The new executives of the student body clearly have big plans that would further integrate student government into the life of most students. Now, is the time to make those plans a reality. It’s time to put the “student” back in the “student government.”

The Issue:
James, Boarman promise to open government up.

Our Stance:
It’s time to bring the reformed government to the students.

John Ashcroft: Good For Wabash

Whenever I get in a moralizing mood, I am reminded of a particularly trenchant line of T.S. Eliot, “The last temptation is the greatest reason: To do the right deed for the wrong reason.”

My reasons, usually inscrutable behind a cloud of drolleries and bons mots, for opening with that deliciously Anglican salvo will become clear in their turn, I hope.

The presence of John Ashcroft on campus in a few months will likely be the source of much controversy. To be entirely fair, much of the opprobrium that has been heaped upon him is undeserved. The craven Congress – in a somnolent fit of jingoism – that gave President Bush his internal security legislation, though, is another matter. However, Mr. Ashcroft’s presence at Wabash is an excellent catalyst for discussions of civil liberties in periods of national emergency and the place of religion in the public sphere.

In what I hope to be a vivid and broad-based debate on the central issues of our beloved war president’s “War on Terror.” Other than, of course, the inanity of a war on an abstract noun. However, this discourse should take place in conversations and discussion forums.

The gentlemen of The Wabash Commentary deserve a measure of praise for making such a challenging contribution to the marketplace of ideas. Controversy is an unavoidable byproduct of an egalitarian society. A college devoted to the vocation of educating men in the tradition of the liberal arts should embrace controversy – provided that it is positive and it will not unnecessarily divide the house, so to speak. The engineers of this event have laid the groundwork for an interesting and engaging debate. It is, ultimately, in the hands of the people to make the most of the opportunity.

Now, I might be a dastardly liberal - and an effete, elite media type to boot - but I can recognize a good thing when I see it.”
Ashcroft

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would worry anyone who would prefer the Republic to stay where the Founders left her, fixing – of course – the monumental injustices visited on women and African-Americans.

The national security state, designed by the fantastic machine politician Harry S Truman, is enough to frighten anyone. The sainted Jimmy Carter’s Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, though, would cause the Framers to shoot steam out of their ears comically. Janet Reno’s abrogation of the Posse Comitatus Act of 1878, too, is by no means a welcome novelty for the Republic. Mr. Ashcroft became the avatar for the concerns of freedom in a time of emergency, and we are still reckoning with our beloved war president’s decisions.

Mr. Ashcroft, too, was an example of a conservative Christian put in position of enforcing legislation and decisions of the Supreme Court that likely grated on his sense of morality. Now, I don’t see the problem, given that the Establishment Clause protects the Republic from the fanatical ambitions of the pathologically pious of any stripe on any front. However, for any believer, there are facts of the American political landscape that will contradict doctrine. Given the increasing religiosity of the officers of state, and the unique place of religion in American society, a discussion on how the faithful reconcile belief with possibly immoral laws of that same state is a good thing.

“The Democrats received a mandate from the voters to change how Washington was run. (to use a Bush-like phrase ‘the lovers of freedom and democracy triumphed over lovers of tyranny’).”

This event is one that, in the final calculus, offers myriad opportunities for informed discussion. With the renewed drive toward personal conversation, the campus community should take time out of busy schedules to explore these concepts at length and in a collegial environment. If there is to be controversy, the first major one of the year, then it is proper to apply our new values to it. To do otherwise, well, that is not fair to anyone involved.

In Of Grammatology, Jacques Derrida explored – at length – the problems posed by writing, especially as it serves as a supplement to speech. He makes some analogies to a particular issue in Rousseau’s Confessions. What that issue is, well, I don’t want to get into it here. Ask your friendly neighborhood philosopher. In any event, following Dr. Derrida’s logic – such as it is and such as I understand it – writing becomes a problem when it is used in place of speech. Given some examples from the annals of Wabash, I don’t foresee any serious opposition to that statement.

In my experience, furthermore, writing also becomes a problem when it is used as a sword and shield against backlash. Entering the fray is to make a commitment to debate, and this place holds debate as a central value. The opportunity to explore the crucial issues of freedom versus security, of deeply religious people required to enforce laws that go against their personal beliefs, with a central figure in those discussions is too valuable to waste scoring sectarian points.

I’ll prove my postmodern leftist by directly quoting Derrida for the closer, “Writing is dangerous from the moment that representation there claims to be presence and the sign of the thing itself.”

We’ll find out, won’t we?

Pat M Calister
Wabash ‘10

On Tuesday, the junior senator from Illinois, Barack Hussein Obama, took his first step towards making a presidential run – he formed a presidential exploratory committee. Now an exploratory committee, as defined by Wikipedia “...is an organization established to help determine whether a potential candidate should run for office”. Most of that is flowery politician garbage, as many candidates who form exploratory committees have been contemplating a run for presidency since, oh, the moment they were elected into their current office.

For some, the exploratory committee functions truly as it is supposed to function – determining a potential candidate’s feasibility for the office in question (case in point – Indiana’s Evan Bayh). For others, however, it’s just a token first step. Their decision has been made and they are off and running their campaign under the guise of an exploratory committee.

I know the entire political process is an ongoing, never ending cycle of election after election. Most public officers on the national scene have spent years positioning themselves to get to the positions they now hold. When they attain their office, they need to immediately raise money for re-election. As my high school government teacher so astutely put it, “The first job of a policeman is to get himself re-elected”. With a cycle such as this, there must be very little actual governing going on anymore.

It seems that as one presidential election ends, the next one immediately begins. As far back as December 2004, a mere month after America made a colossal mistake and “Premier Bush” was re-elected, Delaware Senator Joseph Biden all but announced his bid for the presidency. Immediately after the 2006 election cycle, multiple politicians (former Senator John Edwards, Senator Christopher Dodd, and former Governor Tom Vilsack) declared their candidacy and many more equally high level officials (former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Senator John McCain, Senator Sam Brownback, and former Governor Mitt Romney) have formed exploratory committees. And now, Senator Barack Hussein Obama is officially (considering) joining the fray.

The scariest part about all of this is that all of these guys (with the exception of Edwards, Giuliani, Romney and Vilsack) are currently elected officials in other capacities. Now, I am not stupid enough to believe these guys are going to work continuously in their elected capacities without serving on their own political aspirations, but between the fundraisers and glad-handing I sincerely hope they would have time to do a little governing. By beginning presidential campaigns so early these elected officials cut short the already abbreviated time they have between when they do “the people’s work” and when they get ready for that next office.

Politics isn’t the only reason nothing gets done anymore. Scandal has rocked the national political scene to its core. Take the 109th Congress, for example. Amidst scandalous bribery that ousted the feckless Tom Delay from the House of Representatives and the grotesque immoral behavior of Mark Foley, it would have been difficult for this body to do anything, well at all.

After the 2006 election cycle, the Democrats received a mandate from the voters to change how Washington was run. (to use a Bush-like phrase “the lovers of freedom and democracy triumphed over lovers of tyranny”). As soon as the 110th Congress was sworn in, they went ahead with the people’s work, passing (and continuing to pass) more effective legislation for the people than the Republican controlled house could for their lobbyist golf buddies. Although most of these bills have passed or will soon pass the House, it will still need passage from the Senate and override votes if Bush vetoes the Democrat’s bills (which is very likely).

Most of the aforementioned presidential candidates (or quasi candidates with exploratory committees) are leading members in the US Senate. If they spend most of their time gallivanting around the country drumming up support for their ‘08 bids for the White House, the good government started by the Democratic House may not come to fruition. These men do have a right to campaign for the presidency. The people should hear their ideas and get to know the person who will become the leader of the free world. However these people owe it to their state and country to see that some good actually comes out of Congress before they update their resumes.

After good government is (supposedly) why they were elected in the first place.
Diplomacy Seamlessly Blends Strategy and WWI Politics

Last semester I talked about my campaign to eliminate *Monopoly* from the game closets across campus. The game leans heavily on luck and good rolls for victory, as one string of bad rolls early on can spell the end of a player’s chances at victory. This week’s board game is unique in that it has absolutely no luck involved. The result is a game that is so well renowned that it has gathered a hobbyist following all its own.

*Diplomacy* puts seven players into the roles of the Great Powers involved in World War I. The object of the game is to control a majority of the “supply centers.” All powers begin in a position of relative balance, and it is up to the players how much power their respective countries can grab.

*Diplomacy* is governed by simple, easy-to-understand rules. There are only two types of units and four kinds of orders to give to these units. All units can move only one space at a time, and can move into unoccupied territory without a problem. When two units attempt to move into the same space on the board, the unit with the most support displaces the other unit, who must retreat. That’s it; there’s no hit tables, no complicated rule situations to remember.

This is because the game relies heavily on the player’s skills as speakers and politicians to make things happen on the board. Units can support other countries’ attacks, and as such it is nearly impossible to win a game without asking other countries for support. The political nature of the game allows for a great number of strategies that exist outside the game board itself, as players can spread misinformation, play both sides to the middle, and any other number of manipulative tactics designed to put one country in a position of power.

Additionally, no one is allowed to go back on moves after seeing what someone else did. There is no going first or going last; all moves are written down and revealed simultaneously. If a plan falls through because of someone else’s move, tough. That’s part of the game.

The only downside to *Diplomacy* is that a game takes a long time to play. With seven countries discussing each move the diplomacy phase of a turn can stretch on for quite a while. Even with the fifteen minute time limit per turn we imposed on our game, a series of nine moves took approximately three hours. Expect an average game to take four to six hours to complete, more if you don’t impose time limits. Despite this downside, *Diplomacy* is one of the greatest war games I’ve ever played. Its diceless conflict resolution system and emphasis on forming alliances makes for a game that purely tests skill, and this is why *Diplomacy* is one of the best war games ever made. This one is a must-play for war and strategy buffs, or anyone looking for a game that rewards smart politics.
2006 was a both great year for film and a dismal year for film. We got amazing and original films like Little Miss Sunshine, but we also got horrific pictures like Pulse and Superman Returns. The following films are the crème de la crème.

1. United 93
The most controversial film of the year was also the best film of the year. Everyone was debating whether it was too early to release a film about 9/11 when it is still fresh in everyone’s mind. In the end, the film was exceptionally directed, the acting was superb, and the way the film was presented was done in a very respectful and dignified way.

2. Dreamgirls
Yeah, I know…a musical. The only thing is that Dreamgirls is one hell of a movie. Beyoncé can actually act exceptionally well, along with some of the best performances by Eddie Murphy in God knows how long, and Jennifer Hudson of American Idol fame stands out with her “And I’m Telling You I’m Not Going” performance. Don’t think of it in the same way as Ray, but this film is just about the Supremes.

3. Casino Royale
James Bond is back and better than ever. The stunts are amazing, Daniel Craig is one hell of a 007, and the lack of gadgets really humanizes everyone’s favorite double agent, thus making him more interesting and appealing. The story was phenomenal and the execution of Casino Royale was right on the money. No pun intended.

4. The Devil Wears Prada
This was the surprise of the year and Meryl Streep deserves an Oscar nomination for her role as the frigid ice queen editor of Runway Magazine, Miranda Priestly. This film was so much better than I ever thought it would be. I didn’t even want to see it, but I am happy I did. The movie was extremely funny and the interaction between Anne Hathaway and Meryl Streep was one of the best on-screen pairings in years.

5. Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest
This was the most hyped movie and most anticipated movie of the year and it delivered. This Pirates is much darker than its predecessor and this allows it to be more of an adult film, while still appealing to the younger crowd. The special effects are unbelievably realistic and help the film to express itself visually and Johnny Depp is still fantastic as Captain Jack Sparrow.

6. Little Miss Sunshine
The “feel-good movie of the year” award goes to Little Miss Sunshine. Steve Carell from The Office stars alongside Greg Kinnear and Toni Collette, but the real star of the film is Alan Arkin who plays the grandfather. There is some great acting but the best part of the film is the performance at the end of the movie when young Olive does her dance number for the “Little Miss Sunshine” pageant. Priceless!

7. Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan
Sacha Baron Cohen is a genius. The jokes never stop coming and Cohen’s ignorant character learns more and more about how America is so screwed up. Borat is a hilarious movie with some of the most disturbing scenes I have ever seen, single-handedly bringing back the “not” joke, and includes an awesome ending involving Pamela Anderson and a burlap bag. What more could you ask for?

8. V for Vendetta
“Remember, remember the fifth of November.” This is the haunting opening quote to one of the most visually stunning, thought provoking, and water-cooler-worthy movies I have seen in quite a while. V for Vendetta is one of those few films that comes around maybe once a year that not only packs the visual stimulus viewers crave, but a genius plot, characters you care about, and great acting. V for Vendetta is an extraordinary film that really can be related to today and makes you think about the power we may actually have.

9. Stranger Than Fiction
Stranger than Fiction really focuses on what we do in our daily lives and how the little things can save or kill us. The film delves into how a constant routine, without any changes or risks, can literally kill us and destroy all chance of a fulfilling life. Stranger Than Fiction is a great comedy, drama, and gets its point across successfully without being too preachy. This is definitely Will Ferrell at his best.

10. Hard Candy
What happens when a young teenager who is preyed upon by an internet pedophile gets her chance at revenge? This psychological thriller is sure to be a great topic starter, due to its plot points and audacious ending. It is the kind of movie that creates furor and changes people’s views on subjects. This film is shocking, terrifying, and just plain genius. Once it grabs you by the throat, it doesn’t let go and that is the reason why Hard Candy tastes so good.
Letters to the Editor

A Concerned Parent Speaks Out For A Traditional Wabash

Dear Editor:

I write to you - Wabash students, faculty, administrators, staff, Alumni, parents and friends - as the wife of an Alumnus of Wabash, Class of ’59, the mother of a current Wabash student and of another son who aspires to follow in the footsteps of his brother and father, and as a Professor of Economics at Canisius College, a Jesuit College in Buffalo, N.Y.

Periodically, as the composition of the faculty body and administrative ranks change, sentiments are expressed that the Gentleman’s Rule be reinterpreted, that the fraternity system be curtailed, and that the all-male composition of the student body be changed, in the belief that the enforcement of a more detailed code of conduct, the prohibition of certain thought and its exposition and of certain behaviors, and the creation of a social environment that more closely parallels the communities that young men will join upon graduation will better prepare leaders. It is argued that not all traditions have value, that some should be discarded.

My concern is that, with this shift, Wabash will risk losing the characteristic of a Wabash education that has most fundamentally contributed to the development of leadership. I believe that leadership is best developed through the understanding, and the ultimate choice, of core values and codes of conduct that are not only in one’s own interest but in the interest of others, learned through freedom of choice. Developed in that manner, leadership is more likely to be characterized by a passion to demonstrate those values in all that one does and to share those values. Passion creates inspiration, inspiration creates change, and change is the essence of leadership. That Wabash Men are filled with passion is evidenced in the individual stories, related in the Wabash Magazine, of the many contributions they make to their communities, and in the amazing generosity that they demonstrate to their Alma Mater.

Perhaps the greatest challenge facing Wabash is a less than desired appreciation of Wabash faculty for their students and level of engagement with them. Within their classrooms and offices, Wabash faculty are providing my son with a challenging education, requiring him to meet exacting standards, and are available and willing to meet with him on an individual basis. For all of that I am grateful. However, the discussion and debate between faculty and students that traditionally and regularly took place outside of the classroom and faculty offices has declined.

Only my son’s freshman advisor, a Wabash Alum himself, has ever asked him to lunch. Few faculty members appear to use the Bachelor or Commentary as a forum to engage students. Only about one-third of faculty members attended the faculty-student dinners that my son has attended. In an interview with the Indianapolis Star, a visiting instructor stated that she and other faculty fail to attend faculty-student dinners because they feel uncomfortable with the “perceived sexism” of Wabash students. One faculty member recently expressed his sentiment that current Wabash students are “like-minded”, and invited other faculty to join him in an effort to bring more “interesting” young men to the Wabash campus?

My response to these professors is this. What is the challenge of educating students who come to us with all of the qualities that we desire in them? Is it not the purpose of education to develop those qualities? Should we not be introspective regarding our own possible failures as educators, if our students leave us with the same “narrow focus” with which they arrive? Is it not possible that some of our “unique visions” have less value than we ourselves attribute to them; that our students hear, intellectually evaluate, and reject some of those visions because they lack sufficient worth?

more productive than that laced with hypersensitivity to perceived intolerances.

The measure of a Wabash Man and of a Wabash education is not the excesses in which Wabash students indulge as they mature, but the citizens they demonstrate themselves to be upon, and in the years after, their graduation. Unless there is some secret shame about Wabash graduates to which I am not privy, evidence suggests that Wabash’s tolerance of a messy, democratic, libertarian educational process that has been its tradition has created community leaders who share qualities of intellectual curiosity, hard work, responsibility for self and to others, generosity with their resources, and a commitment to ideals that are the foundation of American society and its economic and political systems. This heritage and legacy are the envy of innumerable private colleges and universities that struggle to create a distinctive, unique educational experience that will attract students, create good and successful citizens, and build passion and loyalty among its Alumni.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Patricia A. Hutton
Professor of Economics
Canisius College

[edited for length - ed]

Jesse James Not “Douche”

Dear Editor,

I am writing concerning the term “Douche”. A student wrote an essay on the topic of this word and its usage. He asked us to define the term and come up with a more appropriate term. I have asked him to check the dictionary and see what it says. I have sent him an email and asked him to look up the definition of “Douche” in the dictionary and to come up with a more appropriate term.

Best regards,
R. Scott Medsker ’03

James: It’s All Good

Dear Editor,

I thank you for the kind words in the 13th Issue of The Bachelor. Your recap of the election was well done. I understand that a particular aspect of the staff editorial, the last sentence of the first paragraph, has the possibility to draw some misunderstood context. Knowing the staff of The Bachelor personally, I must say I did get a good laugh from the peculiar word usage. I was always wondering when the staff would finally get at least one journalistic jab at me for the canny jesting the staff and I seem to endure on campus. I would like to let the publication staff and reading public know that no offense was taken in regards to the remarks. It is just part of an ongoing dialogue between old dorm mates and Great Hall-sharing friends. Again, I’d like to thank the staff for the editorial, the reports, and the kind words. No offense taken, and thanks for the good laugh.

Signed,
Jesse James

Pigs As Good As Dogs

Dear Editor,

I saw a poster that asked the question, - “If your dog tasted like pork, would you eat it?” Well, I have eaten dog and it does taste like pork, so it’s a valid question... why don’t we eat dogs? I think it’s a matter of attitude, and our laws both reflect and contradict our affection for dogs. For example, factory farms can raise pigs in filthy overcrowded conditions and club to death the weak and injured. If a dog breeder did that, they would be arrested for animal cruelty.

It is believed that dogs were domesticated about 15,000 years ago and pigs about 9,000. Pigs are just as smart as dogs. They can be taught tricks, to walk on a leash, litter box trained and are playful. They are also sensitive and you can hurt their feelings. Therefore, they are basically the same, so if you are willing to eat one, why not the other? What’s the difference? Think about it... If you are repulsed at the idea of eating dogs, why discriminate against pigs?

Signed,
James Wilson
New Middletown, IN
Dick Page’s Albums Awards of 2006: The Dickies

Best Album Vindicating Rolling Stone Magazine’s Pretensions of Relevance
Bob Dylan – *Modern Times*
Okay, Bob, we get it. You are still awesome. You can still wipe the floor with any of these young upstarts of today. But seriously, stop giving Rolling Stone reasons to rate everything that didn’t originate in the seventies with three stars.

Best Album Released 400 Years Too Late
Joanna Newsom - *Ys*
This is the best baroque pop album since Brian Wilson’s Smile, which was, admittedly, released only a couple years ago, but that’s not Joanna’s fault. She even got Van Dyke Parks to arrange the strings! Sumptuously refined, wondrously quirky.

Worst Prince Album
Justin Timberlake – *Future-Sex/LoveSounds*
I waffled about doing a joke attributing this album to Timbaland, with guest vocals by JT, but I decided that would give too much credit to Timbaland, who is unable to keep a pop song going longer than two and a half minutes, yet insists in doing so.

Best Electronic Album Without Electronics
Holy Fuck – *Holy Fuck*
So this is what it feels like to dance to guitar music! They should send some notes to the Rapture about how to do a faux-tronic album without being incredibly annoying.

Scariest Album Featuring Meat as a Percussion Instrument
Scott Walker – *The Drift*
Warning: Will give you nightmares.

Scariest Album You Can Dance To
The Knife – *Silent Shout*
This is what Ladytron would sound like if they were lost in deep space for twenty years with nothing to listen to but the cosmic microwave background.

Best Bruce Springsteen Album
The Hold Steady – *Boys and Girls in America*
Runner up: Bruce Springsteen – *We Shall Overcome: The Seeger Sessions*
Ha ha. No, seriously, both of these albums are great, but the Boss is the Boss. He just handed off the torch to Craig Finn while he went and did his own thing, which is awesome.

Best Album for Doing Coke To
Ghostface Killah – *Fishscale*
Other approved activities include: knocking over liquor stores, weighing coke, beating your children, dealing coke, and giving amusingly vulgar directions to out-of-towners.

Best Album About Climbing a Mountain... Made of Blood
Mastodon – *Blood Mountain*
It is unfortunate how this album resists being described in words. Instead, imagine a hand held aloft, index and pinky fingers extended, the others tightly clenched, and the head moving rhythmically up and down in a violent manner.

Arcade Fire, has the cojones to use a verb I haven’t heard since third grade. Then he goes and backs it up with an album made entirely of looped violin samples. Awesome.

Best Hardcore Album, Not That Junk that Kids These Days Listen to with Some Combination of “Bullet,” “Wedding,” and “Valentine” in Their Band Name
Blood Brothers – *Young Machetes*
These guys are more “extreme” than either your Doritos or your safety razor with, what, like five blades on it now? Are they up that high? The Blood Brothers are very angry and they would like to read you their poetry.

Best Album About Pooping
Final Fantasy - *He Poos Clouds*
Some people try to shock everybody by using swears in their names, but only Owen Pallett, aka Final Fantasy, aka the guy playing violin with the Arcade Fire, has the cojones to use a verb I haven’t heard since third grade. Then he goes and backs it up with an album made entirely of looped violin samples. Awesome.
Wabash is getting closer to the technological cutting edge with more computers, more cell phones, more I-pods, more gaming consoles, and many other technological enhancements.

The Student Technology Survey, conducted in late November and early December last semester, revealed this scenario. Continuing the increasing interest in technology, 631 students took part in the survey, an improvement from last year’s responses of 535.

“We have been taking this type of survey for last four years to know how students are using technology and how satisfied they are.” Brad Weaver, Director of Information Technology Services, said. “So we can plan for the technological enhancement at Wabash.”

The survey showed 96 percent of the total students have their own personal computer, which shows the increase of 4 percent from last year; among these about 70.7 percent have laptops.

“We found that the percentage of freshmen with laptops is greater than that of upperclassmen, and we expect the increase in this in the upcoming years.”

Similarly, Wabash email account is becoming increasingly popular; above 98 percent of the students check their Wabash-provided email account daily.

Regarding the satisfaction of the students with the technology at the college, 93.9 percent think computer labs are excellent or good. Similarly, 94.5 percent say they are more than satisfied with the overall technology provided by the college.

“One of the scopes of the survey was to find the important potential technology initiatives for Wabash and see if we are deprived of any technology,” Weaver said. “Last year, we increased the internet bandwidth in response to the survey,” he added.

“This year, we took the survey in fall semester, so that we can plan for the changes all this semester to be done in summer.”

“Students were given a list from which they chose five potential initiatives for Wabash in the order of importance and we ranked them after the survey was completed.”

Surprisingly, most of the students showed concerns to expand wireless network access to dorms and fraternities and get commercial software at low cost.

“Students also commented, through the survey, on various other things such as slow printers and the situation of the armory lab,” he said.

IT Services plans to carefully study the result of the survey and continue to work on the issues raised by the survey in the near future.

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Wallies Happy With Technology

**RABIN PAUDEL**

**WABASH ’10**

Peter Post, the great-grandson of Emily Post, is a published author and magazine columnist. He is coming to Wabash today and will be speaking at a dinner at 6:00 p.m. in Trippet Hall and will be giving a presentation in Salter Hall at 8:00 p.m. Stephanie Hopkins, a member of the L.E.A.D. committee and a Career Services representative, helped bring Peter Post to Wabash.

**Bachelor:** What can we expect from the dinner tonight at Trippet Hall?

**Hopkins:** The dinner tonight is basically geared towards the sophomore class and it is a “meet the speaker,” so Peter Post has not prepared any formal remarks. It’s more of a chance for you guys to just ask him any questions you may have. He’s willing at that point to talk about his career and his whole life.

He is one of the lead directors at the Emily Post Institute, so he still does media campaigns and public relations.

“I have seen him present now twice and he is very energetic, very engaging, so I was thinking if there was any way we could get him to come to Wabash.”

**Stephanie Hopkins, Career Services**

“...”

**ROB FENOGLIO**

**STUFF EDITOR**

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Manners Expert on Campus Today

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“...”
Little Giant Swimmers Hold Friendly Meet

ROB FENOGlio

WABASH ’09

This past weekend, the Tankers were supposed to go head-to-head with Washington University (St. Louis) but Mother Nature had other plans. Unfortunately, there were snow storms in the St. Louis area resulting in the Washington University team not being able to leave the area to make it to Wabash. The Tankers, never taking a day off, decided to make the best of a bad situation and hold a Red vs. White meet.

Tony Caldwell ’07 was the captain for the White Team and Kyle Weaver ’07 was the captain of the Red Team. In the end, the Red Team was victorious with a final score of 132 to the White Team’s 85. The standout performers of the day were Elijah Sanders ’10 with the winning times in the 1000 yard freestyle (10:09.29) and in the 500 yard freestyle (4:53.60); Robert Dent ’10 with the winning times in the 100 yard breaststroke (1:00.87), the 200 yard breaststroke (2:21.39), and the 200 yard IM (2:04.31); and Pat Laughlin ’10 with the winning times in the 100 yard backstroke (56.80) and the 200 yard backstroke (2:06.00).

This was also the last home-meet of the season and seniors Kyle Weaver and Tony Caldwell needed to be recognized for their contributions to the team over their four years on the Wabash Swimming & Diving team.

“Saturday morning proved to be disappointing when the team found out that Washington University could not compete due to weather conditions.” Weaver said. “But before the Red and White meet, I looked up into the stands and realized that it did not matter if we were swimming against an opponent or not. The smiles I saw on my family members’ faces were truly the only thing that mattered at that point. I have enjoyed sixteen years of competitive swimming, but more importantly I have loved my family members who have supported me throughout those years.”

Tony Caldwell only had great things to say about being a part of the Wabash Swimming & Diving team.

“Being a member of the team has shaped my life tremendously in terms of the type of person that I am today and will be in the future, and I can’t thank my coaches and teammates enough for all that they have given to me and the sport,” Caldwell said. “Looking back after all these years, my favorite memory is just knowing that I always gave 110% and will never have any regrets when it comes to what I was able to accomplish personally and as a member of the team. I look forward to the coming meets and qualifying for Nationals in Houston.”

The Tankers head to Indianapolis next weekend for their final dual meet of the season. They will go head-to-head against University of Indianapolis. Wabash is still undefeated and plans to keep it that way.
Basketball Gets Spirit Filled Win

AARON PARRISH
SPORTS EDITOR

The Little Giants got their first win of the new semester last night on Chadwick Court, topping the Quakers of Earlham 73-57.

At the start of the game, it appeared as though it might be a long one for Wabash. The open looks weren’t falling and the lay-ups were rolling out. Luckily, Earlham wasn’t doing any better, which only let them get ahead by three.

That’s when freshman Kyle Schroering got into the game and changed things in a hurry. With Earlham leading 8-5, Schroering hit back-to-back three-pointers to put the Little Giants in the lead, where they would stay for the rest of the game.

The lead would get up to ten points in the first half at 21-11 with a little under five minutes to go. Andrew Zimmer had already lit up the scoreboard with 12 points, whereas Earlham’s leading scorer, LaRon Henry, had six points. The Little Giant defense only let five Quakers score and would take a 32-19 lead into the locker room.

The second half was much the same until the Little Giants went on a run with five minutes to go, when the lead would balloon to 21 points. It was the largest lead of the game.

Wabash found points off their bench, while Earlham struggled to find any kind of depth at all. The Little Giant bench contributed 21 points to Earlham’s 4. Wabash also dominated the points-off-turnovers, outscoring the Quakers 28-14.

Zimmer had a career high 35 points in the game, with nine rebounds, three steals, and a block. Schroering also had a break-out game, adding ten points and an assist. Earl Rooks also had a solid game, scoring six points, six assists, and two steals.

Tristan Gregory had a big game for the Quakers. He had been averaging 11.5 points a game, but he got 20 on this night. Wabash would do an excellent job of containing Earlham’s other two big scorers, LaRon Henry and Markous Jewett. Henry had 13 points and Jewett got 11. These three had no support, however, as only four other Quakers scored, all scoring from two to four points.

With this win, Wabash claws into a tie with with either Allegheny or Oberlin and either Kenyon or Denison, depending on the results of their games. With a win at Kenyon this Saturday, Wabash could go as high as fourth place in the NCAC, tied with Earlham and Hiram. That game will be at 3 pm this Saturday.

The Little Giants will have to prepare for Bryan Yelvington and Dave Knapke this weekend, who average 12.3 and 11.3 points a game, respectively. Wabash will also have to be ready on the boards, as the Lords average 36.4 rebounds a game as well. It is a huge game for the Little Giants, and they hope to have your support this weekend.

Eric Slabaugh ’07 wrestles over the break in one of the meets.