



Community Center poised for construction

Demolition of Sparks planned for beginning of summer

SAM BENEDICT '25
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In a matter of weeks, the Mall's routinely calming environment will be interrupted by the sound of heavy machinery and the echo of the Sparks Center crashing down. Taking its place, once demolition is complete, will be Wabash's new Community Center.

Across the country, some form of a campus center is available to most students on a college campus. Beginning with demolition of the Sparks Center this summer, Wabash will join these colleges and construct a building to provide event space, dining areas and other entertainment options designed to foster positive relationships both within the Wabash brotherhood as well as the Wabash and Crawfordsville communities.

"We have to invest in places and programs that help all of us improve our emotional well-being," said Scott Feller, president of the College. "That's what I want this place to be; one that really

tries to address the emotional well-being needs of the community."

"Community" is a recurring word that comes to mind when discussing the purpose of the Community Center.

"[At first] some people called it a 'Student Center,' but I think the vision was always for something much larger that would bring more people together than just the students," said Feller.

The College hopes that the building will become an area where the Wabash community and the Crawfordsville community interact. Although the College offers activities that are open to the public, many Crawfordsville residents choose not to partake.

"It's actually a surprising number of people who don't know about what all goes on at the College or saw that what the College did was really insulated and separate from the town," said Feller. "They didn't feel that they were as welcome here as I think the students and the faculty and the staff thought."



The most recent renderings of the Community Center as viewed from the Mall.

COURTESY OF WABASH COLLEGE

The Community Center's purpose, beyond improving community ties, is to act as a hub for social interaction at Wabash College. The building will include an upgraded version of Wally's, communal lounges, a banquet room and many other amenities. The interior design will include a sleek, modern look, while the exterior will be intentionally less eye-catching.

"It's not going to be a building that steals the show with its exterior because we think that the spotlight should be on Center Hall and on the Chapel when you're on the Mall," said Professor

Jeremy Hartnett '96, a specialist in the intersection between people and the "built" environment who has been an advisor throughout the development of the Community Center.

According to Hartnett, the building has been intentionally designed to be "somewhat" inefficient. The hope is that it

organically leads students to engage in more frequent face-to-face interactions with students that they may not see on a regular basis.

"When you go into the building for breakfast or for a meeting or for something else, we want you to bump into two or three people that you already know and one person that

you should know on campus, but your paths haven't crossed," said Hartnett.

As the campus has been constructed over time, Wabash has failed to provide students with a clear area for events that fall within the "student life" realm. Currently, club meetings may take place in the lounge of the 1832 Brew or in a living room of a living unit, but never in a space specifically designed for them to meet. The completion of the Community Center will add an element to campus that hopefully tackles this issue and improves the student experience.

"Historically, we have invested in places for students to work... we have never invested in the common space for people to just come together."

- President Scott Feller

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COURTESY OF WABASH COLLEGE

A depiction of Wally's, a popular location for students to gather and for clubs and organizations to host events.

Intramurals undergo reorganization

JAMES WALLACE '26
 NEWS EDITOR

For years, Wabash Intramurals were a fiercely competitive year-round experience that saw living units battling for the chance to lay claim to the Intramural Champions trophy. However, since the early 2000s, intramurals have seen a decline in tradition.

Recently, intramurals have begun to pick up in popularity, particularly following the decline after COVID-19. Following this rise in demand, Wabash College Intramurals will be undergoing an organizational shift this upcoming semester in an effort to restore the program to its former glory.

"An expanded IM program will give students more opportunities for social engagement, physical activity and healthy competition."

- Dean of Students Gregory Redding '88

Previously, intramural (IM) sports were organized by WISE workers employed by the athletics department. These individuals controlled much of how IM sports were run, but the lack of structure and organization, coupled with the responsibility falling on a single individual held IM sports back.

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Donahue '25 elected Student Body President

Beats closest competitor by over 100 votes in decisive victory



PHOTO BY JAMES WALLACE '26

President-elect Anthony Donahue '25 (right) converses with Vice President-elect Jonah Billups '25 (left) and Gavinn Alstott '25 (center) during an event hosted by the Cigar and Pipe Club on April 17, 2024 at the Phi Gamma Delta house.

ELIJAH WETZEL '27
 POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

After weeks of campaigning from candidates and three days of voting, the student body has chosen Anthony Donahue '25 and Jonah Billups '25 to be the 108th Wabash Student Body President and Vice President. Ricky Ballentine '25, running unopposed for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, also won.

when Bryce McCullough '23 won in landslide fashion with 71% of the vote in April 2022, and this past year when Cole Bergman '24 ran unopposed.

That competitiveness came out in the number of students who participated in voting. 434 out of 646 eligible students cast a vote for one of the presidential candidates at an impressive participation rate of 67%.

The high level of participation is primarily due to active and effective campaigning from all the candidates, said Bennet Strain '26, chairman of the Election Committee.

"At first the election just kind of grabbed the attention of the students," said Strain. "However, slowly it made them think about who they wanted to vote for in a more serious way."

Donahue ran his campaign on a platform of "making campus more vibrant" and making a more conscious effort to listen to students than in years prior. Despite Sarvik Chaudhary '25 garnering a good number of votes, Donahue

expressed that he had confidence in his campaign and the work he did with his executive cabinet.

"We were pretty confident. We felt like we had a good week, and we did a good job of getting people to vote with the posters that we put up," said Donahue. "We felt like we did almost everything that we could do to get people to vote for us, and actually I felt like the biggest challenge was making sure the people that would vote for us actually got out to vote."

Besides his running mate Billups, Donahue's executive cabinet consists of Brody Frey '26 and Cristian Cantu '26, assigned as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Cantu was a late addition to the ticket after Jacob Ramirez '25 removed himself from the ticket during the first day of voting. Despite the loss of Ramirez, Donahue feels Cantu is just as qualified and will complete the role well.

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Kammer '24 wins Fulbright Scholarship

ELIJAH WETZEL '27
 POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Nestled in between its two Baltic sisters, Latvia is home to just under two million individuals proud of their culture. Next year, their numbers will grow by at least one more, as a Wabash man, also infatuated with the culture, will be joining them.

Hayden Kammer '24 earned a prestigious Fulbright Award, one of the most recognizable post-graduate awards in the nation. Kammer is the 27th Wabash student to win a Fulbright in the past 10 years and is the only Wabash student to win one this year.

"My big goal is to establish men's centers on college campuses."

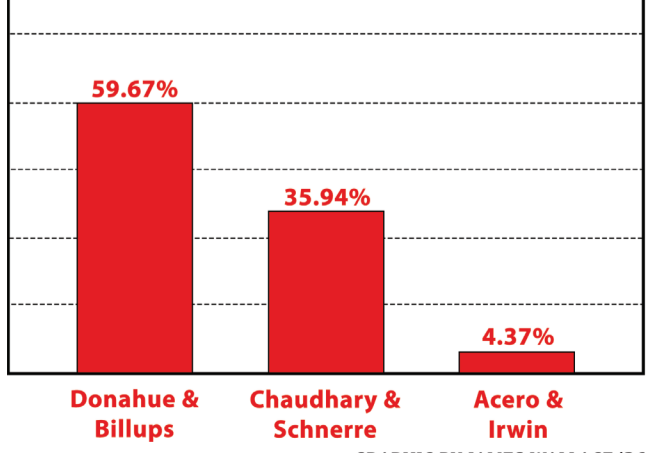
- Hayden Kammer '24

The Fulbright commission gives out around 2,200 Fulbright awards to U.S. students each year who will embark on year-long projects abroad to institutions in around 150 countries. Some of those awards are Teaching Assistant Awards, given to students teaching English abroad to non-native speakers, and others are Research/Study Awards, given to students pursuing an advanced degree completing a research or creative arts project abroad.

Kammer won a Study Award and will enter a two-year program at the Baltic International Academy in Riga, Latvia where he will study for a Professional Masters of Psychology.

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Student Body Election Results



GRAPHIC BY JAMES WALLACE '26

Community Center poised for construction

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"Our new Community Center will be life-altering for Wabash," said Trustee of the College and Vice-Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee Jay Williams '66. "Imagine a place that welcomes every cohort of our community with activities, gathering spots, event spaces and food—at the heart of campus. This will be an all-Wabash building where everyone can go to relax, meet new friends or bring a date and enjoy the social aspects of college at Wabash."

Students across campus believe that the Community Center will be a significant improvement to Wabash's culture and hope that the communal area will improve relationships among students.

"I think that it'll provide a lot of event space that [currently] gets thrown around to random rooms on campus," said Student Body President Cole Bergman '24. "This will allow us to centralize our events and I think it's a great first step towards providing more community space for Wabash guys where we can go to hang out that's not our fraternity or a room or the library."

Previous building developments have focused on academic and athletic renovations. The Community Center will be unique in the sense that it prioritizes student emotional and social well-being, an investment previously lacking by the College.

"Historically, we have invested in places for students to work," said Feller. "The classrooms here are really nice and the laboratories are really nice and the library is very nice."

"We have never invested in the common space for people to just come together," continued Feller.

"Our new Community Center will be life-altering for Wabash."

- Trustee Jay Williams '66

Although the end result will be worth any headaches in the short-term, there will still be headaches nonetheless. The most obvious issue is the lack of dining for independent students. Beyond that, Wally's and the Sparks Center are two student event spaces that will not exist and the construction will take place throughout the academic year in the heart of campus, possibly being a nuisance for students and faculty.

"The upcoming changes on campus next year, including the closure of Sparks and the unavailability of Wally's, present some logistical challenges," said Student Body President-Elect Anthony Donahue '25. "However, Jonah Billups '25 and I have already begun working proactively with the administration and transition team

to develop a plan that will allow student events and activities to continue successfully."

"We have had productive discussions with Vic Lindsay and [representatives] from Sparks to ensure this temporary space meets the needs of students for eating, relaxing and hosting events like trivia nights and watch parties," continued Donahue.

Student and administrative leadership will need to be creative when contemplating ways to deliver a positive student experience. To combat the issues that come with the change, the College will have modular kitchens on the indoor tennis courts to serve students in the absence of the Sparks Center. The Fine Arts Center has been discussed as a supplemental event space for students, but it remains to be seen where else events will be held.

"It will be a mess this fall, but as soon as next spring, when the new building begins to emerge from the ground, we hope our excitement for the future will help overcome the mess," said Williams.

While the delays and inconveniences will be frustrating during the 2024-25 school year, the impact of the Community Center will make a profound difference for the Wabash community that is well worth any short-term frustrations.

"The hope is that the building will be a machine for making connections and for weaving new threads through our social fabric," said Hartnett.



COURTESY OF WABASH COLLEGE

The Community Center will also have spaces for individuals to relax and hang out, as well as host club meetings.



COURTESY OF WABASH COLLEGE

The new Community Center aims to blend into the architecture that already exists along the mall.



COURTESY OF WABASH COLLEGE

The planned view from Monon Bell Way.



COURTESY OF WABASH COLLEGE

One of the renderings of the Hall of Fame Banquet, a space that will likely host professional events.

Intramurals undergo reorganization

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"With the committee, there's this group of guys that can all chip in," said Mark Stolte '25, the current student who heads intramural sports. "It should just be a lot of better ideas and overall better play in the league."

However, during the Fall 2024 semester, the newly established Intramural Athletics Committee will run Wabash IM sports. This was voted on by Student Senate in an effort to add more organizational structure to IM sports.

"We've been trying to reorganize [intramurals] into the Intramural Athletics Committee," said Cole Bergman '24, president of the student body. "[We want] a better relationship between the Athletics Department and Senate when it comes to intramurals."

However, the change is only possible through a joint effort between the Student Senate and the Wabash Athletics Department.

"Robust intramurals have always been part of the fabric of Wabash, but after discussions with student leadership, the consensus is an elevated IM experience creates more opportunities for campus-wide engagement, competition and, quite simply, more fun," said Matt Tanney '05, Director of Athletics and Recreation.

The new emphasis on Intramurals by the Athletics Department is due to a larger organizational shift that sees the College's wellness program moving into the Student Life Office, while IM sports will be concentrated in the Athletics Department.

"This slight reorganization is a logical move that capitalizes on resources that have been put into developing a holistic approach to student well-being in recent years," said Dean of Students Greg Redding '88. "The Wellness Council, under Wellness Coordinator Tristen Abbott's leadership, will work closely with the Athletic Department to promote physical wellness through recreation. An expanded IM program will give students more oppor-

tunities for social engagement, physical activity, and healthy competition."

The changes to IM sports will be directed by Tori Gregory, associate director of athletics and recreation.

"We want to expand the possibilities that intramurals can provide to our students to generate broader participation," said Gregory. "The goal is to include a variety of activities based on interests of the students in order to include everyone in the competitions."

The Intramural Athletics Committee will give students a chance to voice more of their opinions when it comes to the state of IM sports on campus. By serving as a source of direct communication between Senate and the Athletics Department, student input should be taken more seriously than ever.

"The Athletics Department is good for the organizational part of things," said Stolte. "But it's the students that make the games fun; having people show up, having people being competitive and having good sportsmanship."

While the partnership between the new committee and the Athletics Department is certain, there is a concern that there will be an imbalance between the two parties. While some students are worried about too little student input, others are worried that too much responsibility will fall on the Intramural Athletics Committee.

"I don't know if I totally buy into it, but there was a concern that intramurals would [become] a student supported effort," said Bergman. "There was a worry that people who are



PHOTO BY JAMES WALLACE '26

Quinn Manford '25 plays defense during a game of IM basketball in the Knowing Fieldhouse on April 15, 2024.

really passionate about it could help it in the short-term become really big, but then the second those people leave IMs could end up in a worse [spot]."

However, while there were concerns about the roles that the committee would play, Bergman was confident that this hypothetical was unlikely to happen. Stolte was also not concerned with how the relationship would play out, and sees mostly positive change from the new measures.

"The biggest benefit is the ideation process," said Stolte. "Having a committee to vote on [ideas] instead of picking random people is a huge upgrade."

Like any committee, the chairman position will have to be applied for, then approved by the Student Senate. When asked if he was considering running, Stolte gave a resounding answer.

"Absolutely. I think it would make the most sense for me to do it," said Stolte. "With Mark Caster gone, I'm the only person that has experience doing anything with Intramurals."

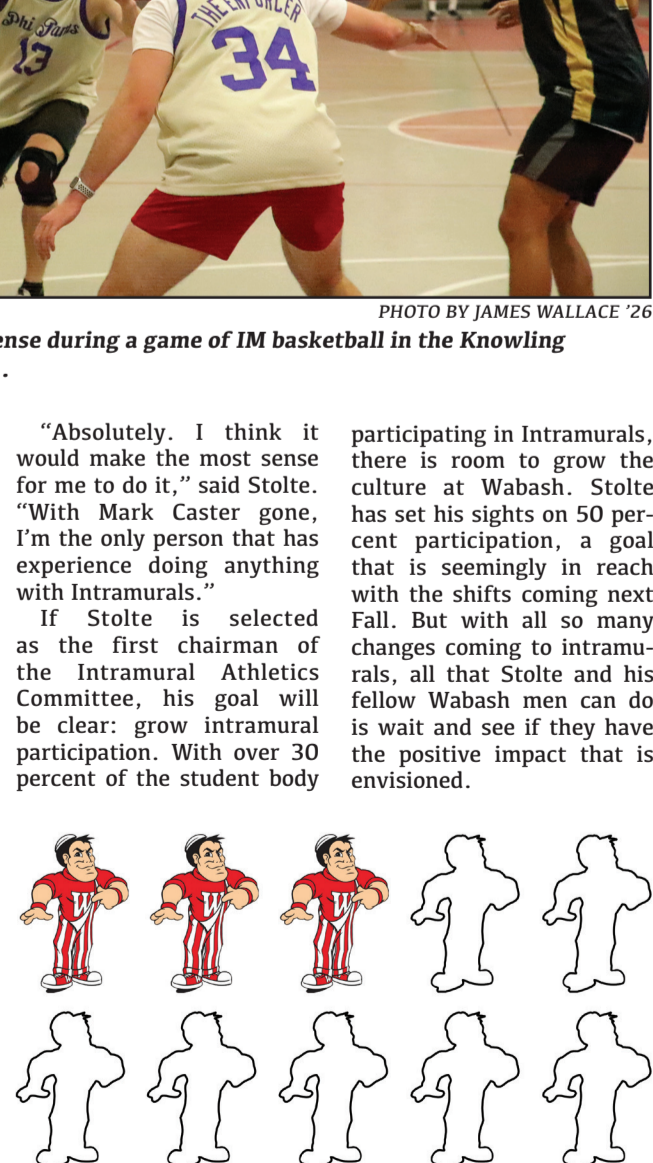
If Stolte is selected as the first chairman of the Intramural Athletics Committee, his goal will be clear: grow intramural participation. With over 30 percent of the student body

participating in Intramurals, there is room to grow the culture at Wabash. Stolte has set his sights on 50 percent participation, a goal that is seemingly in reach with the shifts coming next Fall. But with all so many changes coming to intramurals, all that Stolte and his fellow Wabash men can do is wait and see if they have the positive impact that is envisioned.



PHOTO BY JAMES WALLACE '26

Cade Short '25 attacks the basket in the Knowing Fieldhouse on April 15, 2024 during IM basketball.



GRAPHIC BY JAMES WALLACE '26

A visual representation of current IM participation.

Kammer '24 wins Fulbright Scholarship



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING
Hayden Kammer '24 asks a question during a staff meeting for The Bachelor, one of the many things he has participated in on campus.

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Kammer fell in love with the Baltics and Latvia in particular, during a Glee Club trip to Europe last summer. Ice hockey games, learning and sharing music with locals and stunning church architecture were some features of Latvian culture that Kammer loved. The experiences he had in Latvia helped inspire him to find a way back to Europe through Fulbright.

"I fell in love with it," Kammer said. "...Just being able to go there, experience the culture and go to bars and concerts and churches, just to see the whole perspective. It was really interesting."

Finding a country that he had prior experience with helped Kammer forge a compelling and thorough application, said Wabash Fellowship Advisor Susan Albrecht.

"Hayden chose an award in a country that made sense for him," said Albrecht. "He chose a country that he had visited on the Glee Club trip last spring, and doing that meant he could talk with a bit of knowledge about aspects of their culture and history that he was interested in and would be able to engage in as a Fulbright—such as Latvian singing groups."

Kammer entered Wabash planning to major in theater, but after seeing the relative instability of some theater-related jobs post COVID-19, he decided to switch to another one of his interests: psychology. Kammer knew that he wanted to practice psychology, but his time at Wabash helped inspire a more spe-

cific goal, one that he articulated while processing how to formulate his Fulbright application.

"My big goal is to establish men's centers on college campuses," said Kammer. "There are women's centers that work with women's issues, support groups and all that, but we don't have many men's centers. I'd love to work to establish those, especially as male graduation rates are declining and we're seeing less men in schools."

Kammer's passion for men's mental health was another way he could connect with the Latvian professionals who interviewed him, who also believe there should be more of an emphasis on men's mental health and its treatment. That passion is evident to those who interact with him.

"If you know Hayden, you know that [men's mental health] matters a lot to him, especially coming from an all male college," said Albrecht. "He was able to clearly articulate why it's important to him to focus on men's mental health in particular."

Even if he hadn't ended up winning, Kammer said, the work he put into his application would have been worth it all the same. He unearthed his desire to work in men's mental health, and he did that by working with Albrecht and answering tough questions. After many late nights and lots of work, he's happy it worked out.

"I'm most proud that all of the work that I've put into it has finally paid off," said Kammer.

Dr. Roberts and Dr. Douglas retire from Student Health Center

Both doctors leaving after over 25 year tenure

JAKE WEBER '25
STAFF WRITER

Dr. John Roberts '83 and Dr. Scott Douglas '84, have each served in the College's Health Center since 1998, through 25 Monon Bell Games and the COVID-19 pandemic, helping our students anytime they were needed. Both doctors are highly involved in serving the local and Wabash communities, though this year marks their last in service to Wabash College as medical practitioners as the dynamic duo moves into retirement.

"I don't recall having 'Wabash College Physician' on my radar screen as an undergraduate," said Roberts, "I do recall wanting to possibly return to Crawfordsville someday to practice medicine and be near my alma mater, but had no clue what specialty I would pursue, or if the one I chose would allow me to return."

Dr. Roberts and Dr. Douglas took over the reins of Wabash Student Health from Dr. Keith Baird '56 in 1998. Baird served as a NASA flight surgeon for the infamous Apollo 13 mission.

Dr. Roberts was instrumental in the College's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He served on call 24/7 during the heat of the pandemic, and has been crucial in helping modernize the health center's approach and use of technology. "Dr. Roberts is whip-smart and has a dry sense of humor," remarked Wabash College Nurse Chris Amidon. "He has been endlessly available to the



COURTESY OF WABASH COLLEGE
Dr. Douglas (left) and Dr. Roberts (right) at the 129th Monon Bell classic in Little Giant Stadium on November 11, 2023.

College in so many ways."

Dr. Douglas makes visits to the College 2-3 times per week in addition to his full-time private medical practice. He serves as the chief medical officer of the Montgomery County Free Health Clinic, and was crucial in minimizing the community risk during the COVID-19 pandemic. "Dr. Douglas is warm, compassionate and a great listener, which makes him a great diagnostician," said Amidon. "The two of them complement each other well because they're different personality types and have different strengths. They're also best friends."

"Though we never really knew each other until medical residency, [Dr. Douglas] has been a year behind me starting at

North Central High School, Wabash, IU School of Medicine, Family Medicine residency at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis and then Crawfordsville Family Care following his 3-year stint as an Air Force flight surgeon," recalled Dr. Roberts. "I can only say it has been an honor and privilege to work with him in private practice, at Wabash, as a member of the Montgomery County Health Department team during the pandemic and as a citizen of Montgomery County."

The search to replace both doctors has not been easy.

"It's a challenge because this community has a serious shortage of primary care physicians. We've gone from about 14 in the county to just 3 to 4 now," said Amidon. "We have one doctor committed for next year, who I think will work well with our students, but we're still trying to find a second person."

The clinic is aided by the fact that Amidon earned her Nurse Practitioner's degree, which was made easier by Dr. Roberts and Dr. Douglas, who both provided tips. This has expanded her clinical capabilities and allowed her to treat more patients. However, the search for the second physician is still active.

Dr. Roberts and Dr. Douglas leave behind a shining legacy with plenty of stories assisting students in their capacity as physicians. Whether it be at sporting events, annual physicals, or coming in after hours when a student needed stitches, their actions speak volumes of their service to their alma mater.

"Being alumni, they care about the students in a deep way, and I think that students know that they can empathize with them because they went through the Wabash experience themselves, even though it was many years ago," said Amidon. "I don't think we'll ever have someone with the kind of dedication that these two have had for the College since they started doing this in 1998."

"I want to reiterate what a pleasure it has been to work in Student Health at Wabash," said Roberts. "We have tried to deliver personal care to every one of our students over the years and I'm sure that will continue after Dr. Douglas and I leave the second floor of the Allen Center. WAF!"

There will be a combined retirement celebration for Dr. Roberts, Dr. Douglas, and Jamie Douglas April 18 from 4-6pm in Kendall House.



COURTESY OF WABASH COLLEGE
Dr. Douglas (left) and Dr. Roberts (right) pose with Nurse Practitioner Chris Amidon (middle) in the Allen Center.

21 Wabash men selected for Phi Beta Kappa

TY MURPHY '27

STAFF WRITER

What do some thousand Wabash men have in common with 12 U.S. Presidents, 38 U.S. Supreme Court Justices and 136 Nobel Laureates? Given the type of men Wabash students are, it shouldn't be shocking that several members of the Wabash student body have been elected into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, which was founded in 1776 at the College of William and Mary, to represent academic achievements across universities and colleges. Twenty-one Wabash College students have been elected to join this high academic rank including 15 highly notable seniors on campus and six juniors who continue to represent what it means to be a Wabash student.

"Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious academic honor society in our nation," said secretary and treasurer of the Wabash College Phi Beta Kappa Chapter Jeffery Beck. "Our chapter elects students based on rank by GPA and adherence to several criteria, including high moral character and completion of a second language."

Being elected to the honor society is no easy task. Each year only one eighth of senior students are eligible for election along with approximately seven to ten juniors for being outstanding members of their respective class. Each elected official is to be honored with an induction ceremony in which all students are welcomed to.

"Everyone is welcome to witness the initiation ceremony on May 10 at 3:00 P.M. in the Lovell Lecture Room in Baxter Hall,"

said Beck. "The ceremony includes a formal procession of the newly elected members, a history of our Chapter, the signing of the Chapter Register which dates to our founding in 1898, remarks by our Chapter President Katie Ansaldi and photographs on the Baxter steps."

"Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious academic honor society in our nation. Our chapter elects students based on rank by GPA and adherence to several criteria, including high moral character and completion of a second language."

- Phi Beta Kappa Secretary and Treasurer Jeffery Beck

These newly elected students will join approximately 1,550 other Wabash College members of the 42nd Phi Beta Kappa Chapter, which was founded back in 1898. It is not only a representation of the hard work students have put in, but a positive view of how a Wabash education promotes excellence in academics, leadership and good morals.

"Wabash and Phi Beta Kappa share parallel commitments to academic excellence and lifelong learning," said Beck. "Consider our Mission Statement: 'Wabash College educates men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively and live humanely' and how it compares with the statement from Phi Beta Kappa that our members 'foster scientific inquiry, liberty of conscience, critical thinking and creative endeavor for all.'"

The new members are a proud point of excellence

for the Wabash community and how the College's mission statement reaches into many areas of life. Students who work rigorously in their course work receive recognition from the honor society. It also gives them something to be proud of to acknowledge the hard and dedicated performance that

is put into their education as well as their good morale around campus.

"It's obviously a huge honor to be inducted into the honor society," said senior elected member Cole Bergman '24. "I think that it is a nice capstone to hang my hat on as I finish out my Wabash career. It speaks to the hard work that I've put into my scholarship while at Wabash."

Many set out for the honor to become a member of Phi Beta Kappa, but only a select few are honored. A big reason for this is the requirement of a second language.

"I think the one that usually stumps a lot of people from being able to be inducted is their language requirement," said Phi Beta Kappa member Will Trapp '24.

Students are required to be exempt from a language requirement at the college or complete the 202-course level of a modern language

or the 201-course level of the Greek and Latin languages. This rule and the requirement of many different types of classes celebrates a liberal arts education that encourages critical thinking in multiple areas of academics.

Bergman and his fellow elected members will have the pleasure of joining a group of more Wabash academic prestige.

"Students elected as members join illustrious figures in the history of Wabash, including Joseph Tuttle, Thomas Riley Marshall and William Placher as well as current faculty and staff, including David Blix, Jeremy Hartnett, Brian Tucker, Kevin Andrews, Marc Welch, Matt Tanney and Scott Himsel," said Beck.

May 10 will bring a celebration of these students who help represent the values of thinking critically and educational success around Wabash. Congratulations will be in order at Baxter Hall as an impressive group of Wabash students are celebrated for their academic and moral achievements, and will be members of the Phi Beta Kappa. Their success is a reminder of what is possible to achieve at the college and how to succeed academically. Congratulations is certainly due for a group of students that was not only academically determined to achieve at the highest level here at Wabash College, but also to foster positive relationships and an active presence on campus.

Phi Beta Kappa Inductees

Elected Seniors

Cole Bergman '24	Thomas Joven '24
Ethan Brown '24	Seth Kirkpatrick '24
Camden Cooper '24	Alexander Litts '24
Gabriel Cowley '24	Mason McCorkle '24
Luke Fincher '24	Mason Naaman '24
Jackson Grabill '24	Caleb Peare '24
Jackson Hoover '24	Liam Thompson '24
Nhan Huynh '24	
Elected Juniors	
Kenan Bowling '25	Gabriel Pirtle '25
Andrew Dever '25	Justin Santiago '25
Ethan Johns '25	Logan Weilbaker '25

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Donahue '25 elected Student Body President

Continued from page 1

Nominees for treasurer and secretary have to be approved by the student senate, a process that will take place next Monday, April 22. Donahue believes his cabinet picks were one of the chief factors that convinced voters to support him, and will be one of the biggest assets to his ability to lead senate and campus.

"We have a good representation of the people on campus," said Donahue. "I think we appeal to a wider demographic and we also were more willing to listen. I feel like I made that point: the student body matters, what they want matters and we're gonna listen to you guys."

Donahue's top priority in his first few weeks in office will be consolidating committees and beginning to plan events for next fall. That work has already begun with emails soliciting applications for committee positions. Donahue's goal is to have most of the fall's events planned out by the end of summer, a vision that will require a very proactive approach, but Donahue believes it is an achievable feat.

"I think we appeal to a wider demographic and we also were more willing to listen. I feel like I made that point: the student body matters, what they want matters and we're gonna listen to you guys."

- President-elect Anthony Donahue '25

"It just takes planning and then having a really good schedule," said Donahue. "That's what we're gonna do. We're working on a schedule for the fall that lasts so there's no lulls in time where nothing's happening. We really want to make sure we fill in all the gaps."

Donahue also spoke to the possible challenge of navigating Senate rules and procedures. He was criticized during the campaign about his cabinet's lack of senate experience all around, but Donahue remained undeterred, maintaining that leadership in other campus activities would translate to senate leadership. However, he recognized his cabinet may need time to adjust.

"Since none of us have really been involved in

senate in a large capacity, I think that obviously acclimating to the way that things are normally done might be somewhat of a challenge, but I don't think that's anything insurmountable," said Donahue. "It'll take a little bit of acclamation, but I think it'll be pretty smooth."

While planning efforts for next term begin to materialize, it's important to remember that even a candidate's best promises may be difficult to implement or follow through on. It is crucial that students take on the responsibility of holding elected representatives to their promises. This requires time and active engagement from students. It may seem like a tiresome task, but often the hardest work pays off the most.



PHOTO BY JAMES WALLACE '26

Brody Frey '26 attends a Student Senate meeting on April 15, 2024. While he ran with Donahue ticket, he still needs to be voted in as treasurer of the Student Senate.

Theater announces schedule

ON THE RAZOR'S EDGE

TARTUFFE



OR, THE IMPOSTER

OCTOBER 2-5 2024

by Moliere
translated by Ranjit Bolt
Directed by Jim Cherry

12 ANGRY MEN

GUILTY OR NOT GUILTY?

FEBRUARY 19-22 2025

by Reginald Rose
Adapted by Sherman L. Sergel
Directed by Logan Weillbaker '25



MACBASH



WALLY'S AT THE FRINGE

APRIL 16-19 2025

Directed by Heidi Winters Vogel

OPINION



bachelor.wabash.edu



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Working for Wabash



Anthony Donahue '25

Reply to this opinion at
ajdonahu25@wabash.edu

My Fellow Wabash Brothers,
First, I am honored to serve as your newly elected Student Body President. I approach this prestigious role with a contagious sense of passion, enthusiasm, and an unwavering commitment to ushering in a transformative era for our campus community. Regardless of whether you voted for our ticket or even knew an election was happening, Vice President Jonah Billups and I make an unwavering commitment to represent and work tirelessly for every single one of you.

Long before the election results were

announced, our team had already hit the ground running. We understand that our actions must back up the promises of our campaign. Currently, we are already hard at work selecting a diverse array of committee chairs and student leaders who share our vision for driving positive change and reinvigorating campus life.

One of our top priorities is finalizing a responsible budget that funds a robust calendar of new and existing activities, organizations, and large-scale events. Gone are the days of infrequent programming and those infamous lulls on campus with nothing happening for weeks at a time. We will bring an energizing rhythm of social, cultural and personal growth opportunities to the student experience.

However, we know rejuvenating Wabash cannot be a top-down effort. On my cabinet's agenda is implementing systems to elevate transparency and open lines of communication. We will explore new platforms for every

student to easily share ideas, concerns, and feedback that we can quickly evaluate and respond to. Continually, you will see comprehensive financial reports and rationale behind all major decisions and expenditures from within treasurer Brody Frey's '26 Audit & Finance Committee.

Fostering a stronger, more unified community is equally vital. We have already begun conversing with essential groups like MXI, La Alianza, and 'shOUT to elevate the diversity of perspectives and bring our community together. Through innovative programming and partnerships, we will celebrate our diverse identities while building connections and encouraging essential conversations around belonging and wellbeing.

Admittedly, we face hurdles like the Sparks Center demolition and transition to new facilities. But we embrace these challenges as opportunities to get creative and ensure campus vibrancy through the construction period. More importantly, we will make student voices

a key part of the process, and as Wabash men, we will be resilient, pragmatic and creative.

Make no mistake, our vision for a more vibrant, inclusive, transparent Wabash is ambitious but it is grounded in actionable steps, measurable progress and stringent accountability. We will issue consistent performance assessments and progress reports because unfulfilled promises and complacency are unacceptable for this administration. While you all are away from campus this summer, we will work tirelessly, with you in mind, to ensure Wabash reaches its full potential.

"The true test of a man's character is what he does after the cheering is over."

Now that the campaigning has concluded, our team's commitment to delivering real, positive impact that makes you proud has only intensified.

Get ready for a new era of creative, dedicated and unrelenting student leadership at the best college in the World.

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The purpose of *The Bachelor* is to serve the school audience, including but not limited to administrators, faculty and staff, parents, alumni, community members and most importantly, the students. Because this is a school paper, the content and character within will cater to the student body's interests, ideas, and issues. Further, this publication will serve as a medium and forum for student opinions and ideas.

Although an individual newspaper, the Board of Publications publishes *The Bachelor*. *The Bachelor* and BOP receive funding from the Wabash College Student Senate, which derives its funds from the Wabash College student body.

Letters (e-mails) to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. They will only be published if they include name, phone, or e-mail, and are not longer than 800 words.

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The path less traveled: Embracing individuality and magnanimity



William Melcher '24

Reply to this opinion at wpmelche24@wabash.edu

Entering college, many look forward to their new profound sense of freedom, independence, limited responsibilities and four years to find themselves. Yet, high hopes and our aspiration to become the best version of ourselves are often malformed, ironically resulting in the opposite outcome we initially strived for.

It comes as no surprise that we like to follow the crowd. We are programmed to think this way. Whether it be family, friends, or the media we consume, we are consistently encouraged to possess a utilitarian-capitalist-like mindset, where we have one goal: to attain as much as humanly possible and do whatever we want, no matter the cost. Whether it be the uber-competitive job market, living a life of immense pleasure, hookup culture or our peers encouraging us to spend our college years selfishly, the byproduct is a new version of ourselves that hyper-fixates on our successes, outdoing someone else or using someone for our benefit.

Whether it be jumping on new trends like Zyn's, Clash Royale and memes, using TikTok or mimicking the actions of our peers in hopes of being accepted, we tell ourselves that we are in control and unique. Some of us are, but many are not. Aristotle would say that instead of virtuous friendships, we encourage relationships of pleasure or utility. Others may say the lack of general outwardness makes us more egotistical.

Nonetheless, we continuously tell ourselves that we are the best. We convince ourselves that we have the innate power to make whatever choices we want instead of using this time to work on developing self-control or setting ourselves apart from everyone else. We become another statistic in the process. Instead, we should strive to be an anomaly.

My point here is not to bash people for their choices or make an argument about the morality of actions (For example, I have binge-

watched over 94 hours of *The Blacklist* via Netflix since early January - I need to work on self-control in my life too). Instead, I mention this to draw a contrast between making choices freely versus aimlessly following the crowd. The latter is the choice many make with their "freedom and independence". However, they give up their freedom, independence, and identity.

If you cannot say no, are you truly free? No. In this context, once you are unable to restrain yourself from your desires, you are quite literally a slave to your lust. This is a common problem many fail to realize. We like to blame anyone but ourselves.

You cannot be free and distinguish yourself from everyone else if you have no self-control or always follow the mob. Over the last four years, I have also noticed that Wabash men struggle to love selflessly, help and listen when talking to their peers. Most commonly, this consists of a discussion between two or more parties, where one person is discussing something and the audience is not even listening. However, people will listen if they receive a reward for their attention, empathy or effort.

This article is not a manifesto to incriminate anyone. But, it is an opportunity to share my experience and shed light on what I believe to be a common issue many of us face. Daily, I reflect on ways I can become an improved version of myself. What has helped me is to say no, become more altruistic, practice my faith, give back to the community of Crawfordsville and spend time alone in silence. I encourage all to reflect on this.

Life is like a game of Chutes and Ladders. We all start in the same position and face different obstacles and advantages as our lives progress. For some, college is one of the most challenging times of their life, others not so much. Regardless, we all strive to become a better version of ourselves as we age. In college, we have the potential to learn but fall behind if we are not careful. To succeed, we must fail and leave our ego at the door. It is crucial in moments like these that we help each other and live up to the brotherhood that we constantly advertise this institution of possessing. With altruism, love, self-control and an open mind, we will reverse these specific harmful effects of our upbringing, encourage each other to become the best versions of themselves and truly become free.

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

INDIANA FEVER PITCH

Hi-Five to the Indiana Fever for bringing Caitlin Clark to Indy. If you need us, we'll be abusing our WISE packages to try to afford season tickets.

DIVINE INTERVENTION

Hi-Three to the Orthodox Bishop who successfully defended himself against a knife attack, leaving the altercation with only a few scratches, while the perpetrator left with "severe hand injuries." You know the saying: "Love your enemies, and lacerate those who persecute you."

PUTTING THE GUINNESS IN GUINNESS WORLD RECORD

Hi-Five to the 69-year-old man who broke the world pub-crawl record by drinking at 120 bars in 24 hours. Little do they know, Wabash men have been breaking that record every Thursday for the last few years.

BRITISH INVASION

Hi-Five to "Prince" Harry for ditching his UK citizenship in favour of an American one. Is it too late to request a trade for Emma Watson instead?

MALE STRIPERS

Hi-Five to the Rhynes for completing the gauntlet. We'll miss seeing the Rodney Rhyme cartoons, but there's always next year for the cycle of "character development" to continue.

EDITORS NOTE: In the April 12, 2024 front-page graphic, the listed "Green room" cost is \$750 not \$3,500.

Where do our Day of Giving gifts go?



Hugh Vandivier '91

Associate Director of Annual Giving

Reply to this opinion at vandivh@wabash.edu

Last year, I penned a *Bachelor* op-ed to make the case for why students, faculty and staff should join the Day of Giving. In short, Wabash constructs our annual giving day around gifts, so a contribution of any amount can help unlock \$500,000 in pledges from our lead challengers.

In addition, Trish and Chris Braun '81 are renewing the challenge they made to the entire campus last year: They'll give \$20 to the Annual Fund for every student, faculty and staff member who makes a gift on the Day. That's a commitment of up to \$25,000 if the entire campus participates. Chris is a Partner in an Indianapolis law firm and Wabash Trustee who grew up as the middle child, the sixth of 12 kids. As a first-generation student, he's grateful for the opportunities his Wabash education gave him. That's why he gives

back.

So you have some great reasons to Celebrate Wabash with your gifts on 04.24.24. But in the spirit of thinking critically, more than a few students have asked me, "What happens to the money I give? Where does it go?" I answered the "why," so allow me to answer the "where."

Next week on the Day of Giving website, you'll see a host of affinity challenges where an individual or group "challenges" others to make a gift. Challengers can either match dollars raised or set a goal of a certain number of gifts. When the challenge reaches its goal, they will make good on their pledge.

Affinity challenges can represent any group of the Wabash community. Anyone can lead one for a class, living unit/fraternity, a group of spouses or partners, metropolitan area, field of study, sports team, student club, scholarship fund, memorial fund, or in celebration of a professor, coach, or student.

With the crucial help of the Interfraternal council (IFC), every Greek student will be making a gift to support his fraternity challenge. I'd look out for the Deltas. Their alumni challengers are gunning to reach 700

gifts to their challenge.

Last year, 81% of the money raised on the Day of Giving and through affinity challenges helped us meet our Annual Fund goal. The remaining dollars supported programs like athletics, the Global Health Initiative, Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse and the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies.

So what does the Annual Fund, well, fund? Often called "unrestricted giving," the Annual Fund comprises 7 to 8% of the College's operating budget in four main areas: Wabash's highest priority, scholarships and financial aid, faculty and program support and student experiences

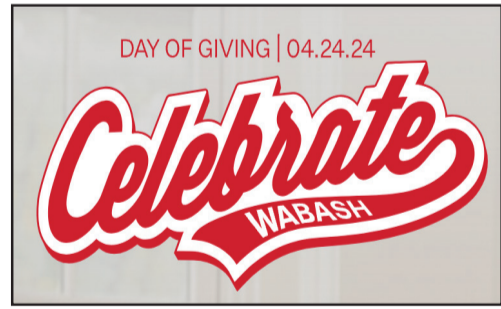
Admittedly, these categories are pretty broad. That's because unrestricted funds help Wabash pay for everything from general budget expenses (like the light bill, maintenance and salaries) to immersion trips, internships and scholarships.

The rest of the College's general operating budget consists of draws, tuition revenue and gift revenue. The endowment is that pool of hundreds of millions of dollars that the College invests. We need it to keep growing and spinning off revenue that's so essential to endowed scholarships, professorships, chairs and programs.

Every \$1,000 we raise in Annual Fund support equals \$20,000 invested in the endowment.

As a member of the Annual Giving team, I celebrate my New Year on July 1. That's when Wabash cycles to a new fiscal year and sets new fundraising goals. With just nine weeks left in FY24, we need to raise \$1.62 million to meet our \$3.7 million Annual Fund goal. That's why we're depending on another successful Day of Giving next Wednesday to help get us there.

So let's celebrate next week, participate on the Day and elevate the Wabash experience. And if we head into the last two months of the fiscal year on target to meet our Annual Fund goal, we really have lots to celebrate.



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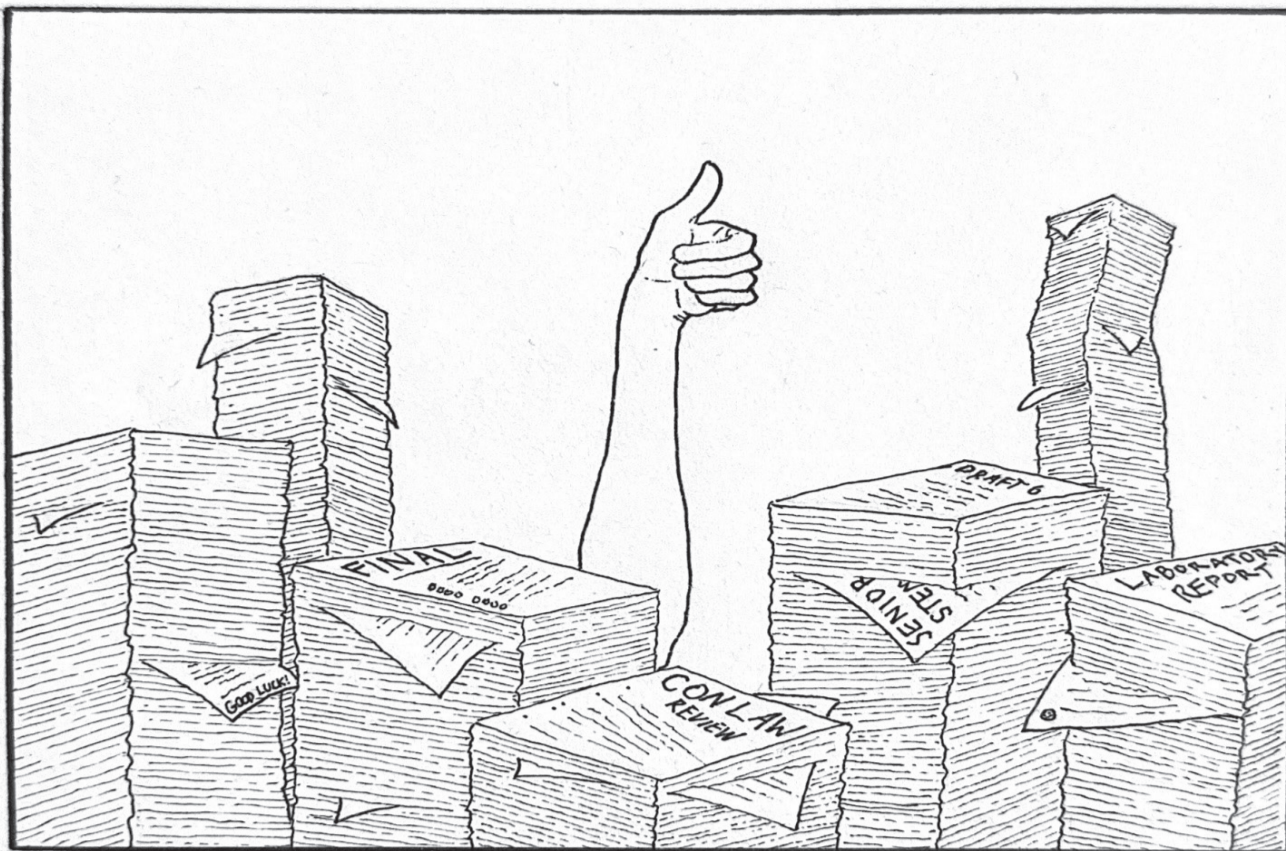
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Dead Week: beating a dead horse

Ramsay Archives: The Bachelor's endless coverage of our favorite week



"I'm swamped [with] finals, final papers. There's a lot of crazy stuff going on. My 'Dead Week' is very much alive."

Tim Markey, Wabash '12

Buried

Comic by Preston Parker '26

"Dead Week" & Finals Week: A Yearly Phenomenon from Hell

Shiv Karunakaran
FEATURES EDITOR

The finals are upon us; the finals are upon us. If this intro seems like it is the sort you can only compare to a headless chicken running around in desperation, tough.

Anyway the semester is coming to an end. Is this a good thing or a bad thing? Well, let's see.

First, it's the end of the semester. So practically everybody including me is running around gathering stuff for the final paper or the term project or whatever. Actually, I have no idea why I am writing this article in the first place I could have spent this time trying to type my 15 page term project.

But that's beside the point.

The point, however, is that everybody is busy. All the students, as mentioned before, are running around like headless chickens. I expect that even the faculty is busy setting the final papers for us innocent victims of the system.

However we should take heed of the fact that some are busier than others are. These unfortunate few have more than three finals. I know of a guy who has six finals in the final week. Well, my heartiest condolences to you guys.

Before I start whatever I am writing about, I want to write a few words about the, so-called "dead week." Why, in the world would anybody call this dead week? I heard from someone that it is because nobody has anything to do except prepare for the finals.

Well, the length people go to mislead a poor freshman. I was actually looking forward to the "dead week". I naturally thought that I would have to do only preparatory stuff for the finals.

Well, then how come I ended up doing everything except prepare for the finals. I have two papers, one test, and a term paper due this week.

"Dead week" my foot.

They say that the freshman first semester always is the toughest semester. They are unfortunately right. I am certainly looking forward to next semester, which I don't expect to be any easier but slightly more pleasant.

This semester has frankly been hell. I know that I speak for the entire freshman class when I say that there is no freshman on this campus that wouldn't love to be anywhere else but here.

The Finals week should be fun. I only have three finals. Sure, that might sound good, but the timings for those finals couldn't have been worse. The last final I



MARK ELROD

Shiv trying desperately trying to stay awake in front of his computer.

have is on Friday at 1:30 P.M.

I am just pounding it out on the computer right now. My only companions are Mountain Dew, a bottle of No-Doz, a pot of coffee and everything else that can keep me awake.

I do have to warn my professors that if they find any drool marks or coffee stains on the papers, please understand it has been a long night.

However we should look on the bright side of these dire times. At least we can all say that it's almost over. Only another week and its literary home sweet home.

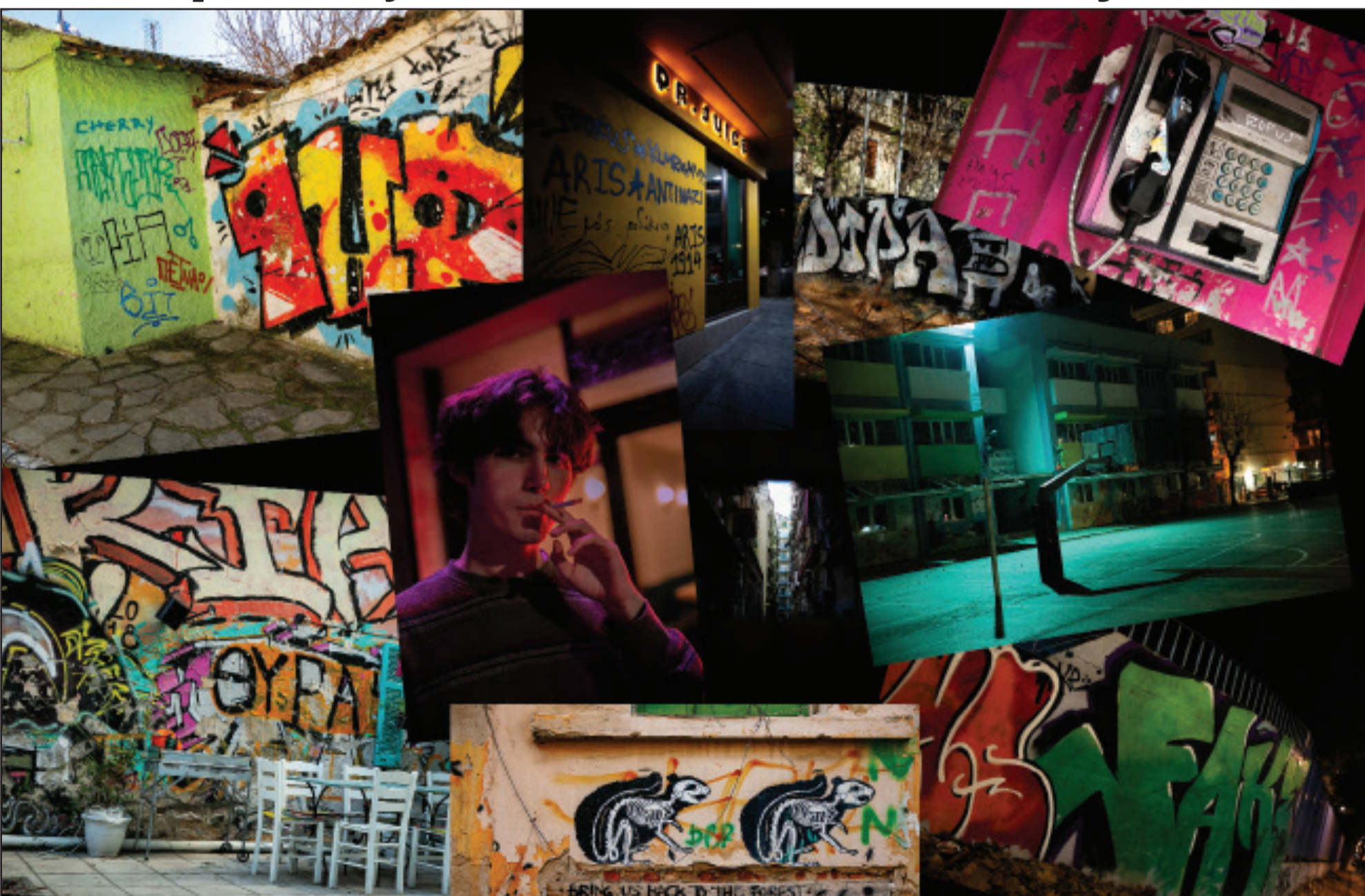
But I can't say that it hasn't been worth it. Sure my school life is hell and sure my social life can use a lot of rejuvenation; but being at Wabash certainly has had its "up" moments.

Boy, I can't wait for the next semester.

FEATURES

For All the Rebels

Photo spread: Elijah Greene '25 chronicles underbelly of Greece



PHOTOS BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

During his semester spent in Thessaloniki, Greece, Elijah Greene '25 kept his camera on him at all times with an eagle eye out for the images that capture the truth beyond scenic beaches and ancient ruins. Graffiti abounds in Thessaloniki, perhaps echoing the ancient Greek graffiti that the Classics student surely translated in the classroom. Themes include the prevalence of youth culture, as well as a reversion to nature.

"Airness" rocks the house



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Bennett Strain shreds a solo as D Vicious during a dress rehearsal in the Experimental Theater on Tuesday, April 19. "Airness" chronicles the journey of a misfit band of competitive air guitarists.

NATHAN ELLENBERGER '26 FEATURES EDITOR

The 2023-24 Wabash Theater season concludes with "Airness," a loving homage to 80s hair metal, air guitar and unabashed dork culture. With a technically stand-out production, a stellar ensemble cast and a playlist of certified bangers, "Airness" is a must-see send-off to another great year of theater in Crawfordsville.

If you go see "Airness" (you absolutely should), the first thing you will notice is the unrecognizable room around you. The minute you descend the steps of the Fine Arts Center, you'll see total transformation. The Experimental Theater has been lovingly transformed into a dive bar with posters decking every wall, audience tables blending seamlessly with the stage and an honest-to-God bar that will serve of-age audience members refreshing domestic brews. Almost every corner of the space is continuous with the world of "Airness;" Scenic Designer David Vogel and Scenic Charge Ben High '24 deserve high praise for their attention to detail and creativity.

The show is blessed with a stellar cast, anchored by its ensemble of lovable pantomime shredders.

Kelli O'Neill stars as The Nina, the central protagonist and new initiate into the world of air guitar. Her grounded, naturalistic performance nicely contrasts with the colorful ensemble and positions her as the audience surrogate, learning more and more about a strange, wonderful subculture. This relatability then makes the crescendo of her arc all the more impactful.

Bennett Strain '26 nails the cocky, newly-famous rockstar D Vicious. He never seems cartoonishly evil; rather, Strain plays up the thoughtlessness, portraying

a man so caught up in his own reflection that those around him never even occur to him.

Jeremiah Clayton '26 makes a splash in his Wabash stage debut as Golden Thunder. Clayton arguably steals the show with his animated but natural stage presence. While utterly confident and commanding with his line delivery, he shines with physical comedy. There's no doubt he relishes every note of air guitar, including the most out-of-left-field and outrageously funny solo of the show that must be seen to be believed.

Alex Schmidt '27, who is quickly becoming a fan favorite on the Wabash stage, returns as Facebender, the eldest of the gang. Schmidt convincingly sells the verbose monologues of the Facebender persona, but makes ample room for vulnerability in serious moments. Schmidt and Clayton collide with electric chemistry, forming the comedic backbone of the cast.

Josh Campbell '25 plays Shreddy Eddy, the air guitar purist and true believer in the art form. Campbell's total sincerity is irreplaceable in a show with such a ridiculous premise, making the implausible plausible.

As the abrasive Cannibal Queen, Elizabeth Hutson eventually lowers her guard and brings a thoughtfulness to her shock-rocker character in a twist I was pleasantly surprised by.

Logan Weilbaker '25 rounds out the ensemble cast as The Announcer, among other unexpected roles. Weilbaker never lacks energy, and provides some much-needed, often hilarious framing for the world outside the competitor's clique.

Key to all of these characters and their sense of place in the wacky world of "Airness" is the costume work by Andrea Bear.

Each shredder looks wonderfully distinct in their respective regalia, which create sight gags on top of sight gags. Bear's costuming is irreplaceable, and a prime example of the high-caliber work she delivers time and time again.

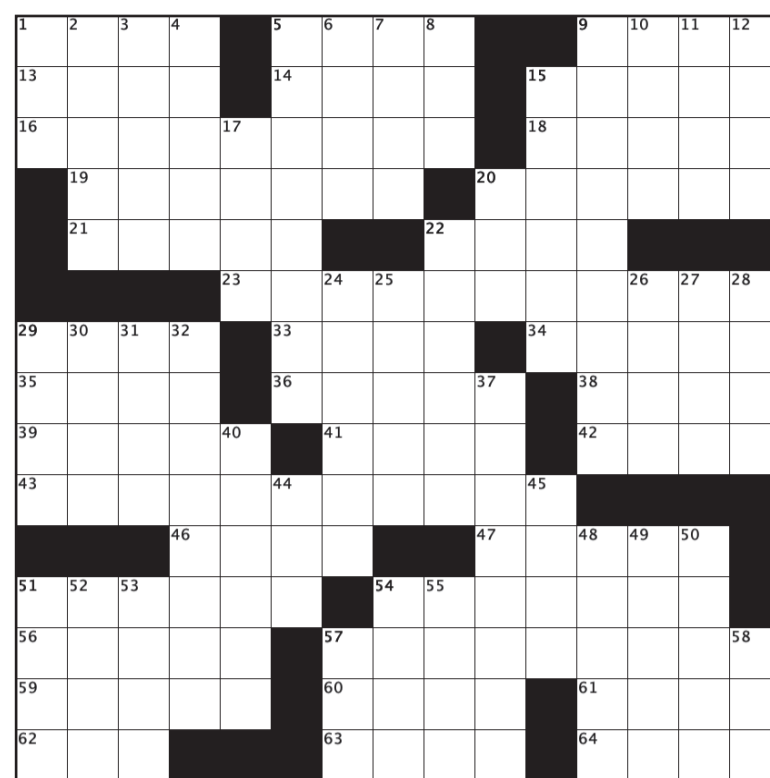
However dynamite the performances and technical components, the script, while chock-full of funny moments, ultimately lacks real substance. While I greatly enjoyed O'Neill's performance, The Nina's writing was confusing at several points in the story. Her motivations for why she wants to compete in air guitar competitions are a complete mystery for the first 45 minutes of the show, clarified for a moment and then muddled again in the second half. That being said, her character also benefits from some of the best writing in the script, namely the intense scenes between The Nina and D Vicious which are again elevated by equally raw performances.

Aforementioned character issues aside, the script has strong moments that can be undercut by jarring pacing or the odd too-corny joke. While the conclusion of the first act makes for a dramatic cliffhanger, the script rushes through an awkward finale. The script whiffs in some places, but hits in others.

However, if you're thinking this hard about "Airness," you may have missed the point. The whole experience is unrepentant, weaponized cheesiness, and that's to its credit. It's not Dostoyevsky, but not everything has to be. "Airness" is an unrepentant, gleeful celebration of the dorky wannabe rockstar in all of us. Catch its final two performances in the Fine Arts Center Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20 at 8 p.m..

'Sound of silence'

Crossword by
Logan Weilbaker '25



Across

1. Taylor Swift's "___ Tour"
5. "Mhmm"
9. Congressional organizer
13. Laotian's neighbor
14. Place for a pad
15. Stock holding
16. *Lip-syncing accompaniment, maybe
18. Cronus, e.g.
19. Without a layover
20. Leather type
21. Starting point
22. Charge a fee for wrongdoing
23. Arizona baseball player
29. Fruity gin flavoring
33. Cowboy boot attachment
34. Business with snippy employees?
35. Actress Olin
36. Firefighting equipment
38. 2018 Star Wars installment
39. Lower, as eyes
41. 1991 Smashing Pumpkins album
42. Knife
43. Planted a red herring
46. Leave a long Yelp review, say
47. Dalai Lama's land
51. Happens
54. Out of office, maybe
56. Taylor Swift's "boyfriend," in a song of the same name
57. *Internet format... or what 9-Down, 16-Across and 32-Down make up, in a way
59. Stockpile
60. "How you ___?"
61. Creation location
62. Japanese money
63. Auctioneer's cry
64. Some vial contents

Down

1. GPS display
2. Heavy horned herbivore
3. "Appalachian Spring" composer Copland
4. Highway sights
5. Jumpy, as a horse
6. "... a lamp ___ my feet"
7. Harvest
8. Contraction that omits a "v"
9. *Colorless freshwater fish
10. It's a strong word, in a saying
11. Charter member of OPEC
12. Locked (up)
15. Place for spectators to sit, ironically
17. Depleted
20. ATM code
22. Location of Taylor Swift's "Folklore" album cover
24. Zenith
25. *What 9-Down, 16-Across, 32-Down and 57-Across look like they would play, but don't
26. Tons
27. Coke, e.g.
28. Radio feature
29. Poetry contest
30. Clothier Strauss
31. Snake eyes
32. *What's hit in the head?
37. Kind of pony or sheepdog
40. Miss America toppers
44. Some parked in parks: Abbr.
45. Ran out of juice
48. Newborns, poetically
49. Circumvent, as the IRS
50. French : avoir :: Spanish : ___
51. "No problema"
52. "Veni" of "veni, vidi, vici"
53. Apple or berry lead-in
54. Crossword's favorite cookie
55. 'Tis the season
57. Contents of some cartridges
58. Geneticist's study



Scan for solution!

FINAL VERDICT: 4/5 WALLYS



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Kelli O'Neill (left) and Elizabeth Hutson (right) have a heart-to-heart in the back of one of the many dive bars "Airness" is set in.

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Andrea Bear, puppet master, says goodbye to Wabash after 16 years



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Andrea Bear instructs K'tren Wilson '24 on proper carving techniques in the Puppets In Prague workshop on November 22, 2022 in Prague, Czech Republic. Wilson is a theater major who studied under Bear for four years in the costume shop.

LOGAN WEILBAKER '25
MANAGING EDITOR

You may not know her face, but if you've been to a Wabash Theater production in the last 16 years, there's a very good chance you've seen the work of costume designer Andrea Bear.

Bear, who has spent the majority of her professional career bringing the Ball Theater stage to life with her creations, is headed to Pomona College in Claremont, California at the end of this semester. The road to sunny SoCal, however, has not always been straight.

"I grew up in a very small area. We didn't have theater or anything," Bear said. "I didn't know you could get a job in theater or film or anything like that until I went to undergrad at Kansas State University."

"She's totally transformed the way the costume shop works at Wabash," said Professor of Theater and Department Chair Jim Cherry. "Before Andrea, there was no costume design class, there was no Puppets In Prague. There was no magic and manipulation class. She's added a lot to the curriculum and has, I think, proven yet another cliché about men wrong, which is that costume design is for women and that scenic design is for men."

As an instructor, Bear's classes are consistently popular, and her students have seen great success after graduation. One of her costume shop protégés, Paul Haesemeyer '21, was recently awarded a Fulbright scholarship to study knitting in Latvia and has been featured in Vogue Knitting magazine.

"I like to see the trajectory of where they start to where they finish," said Bear. "I like to give students a start-to-finish project. Going through every single step helps people process a little bit more, and it gives students a sense of completion. They can see the costume on stage and say, 'I made that.'"

In her own way, Bear is a student herself. After already establishing a successful career, she made the decision to apply her skills to the art of puppetry.

"I've always been into mask-making and different things," said Bear. "And I wanted to branch out, because I feel like mask-making and puppetry fall into that same world of creating an inanimate object that you breathe life into."

After looking around at different options, Bear and her life and creative partner Todd Handlogten found a puppet-carving workshop in Prague, Czech Republic.

"We went, and we were working with these professional puppet carvers and directors," Bear said. "It was a really amazing experience."

They came back energized, and after working with the department to incorporate puppetry into a few productions, Bear eventually led two immersion trips — in 2018 and 2022 — during which Wabash students worked with professional puppet makers to design and carve their own traditional Czech marionettes.

By continuously developing her own skills, Bear helped push the department to new heights while at Wabash.

"As a collaborator, [she] always pushes me to do my best work," said Professor of Theater Michael Abbott '85. "When [I] know Andrea is going to step up her game and give me a big costume run, I feel like I have to give it all I've got. She's energized the program over the years to do our best work."

"All of the directors that I've worked with here have been very open to working with my ideas," Bear said. "They've been very game to push the limits, and that's one of the things that was always really fun about designing here."

After Bear heads west, the costume shop will continue in operation under the direction of a new designer, but the impact that she had on the Wabash Theater Department and the legacy she leaves behind will long outlive her 16 years at the College.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

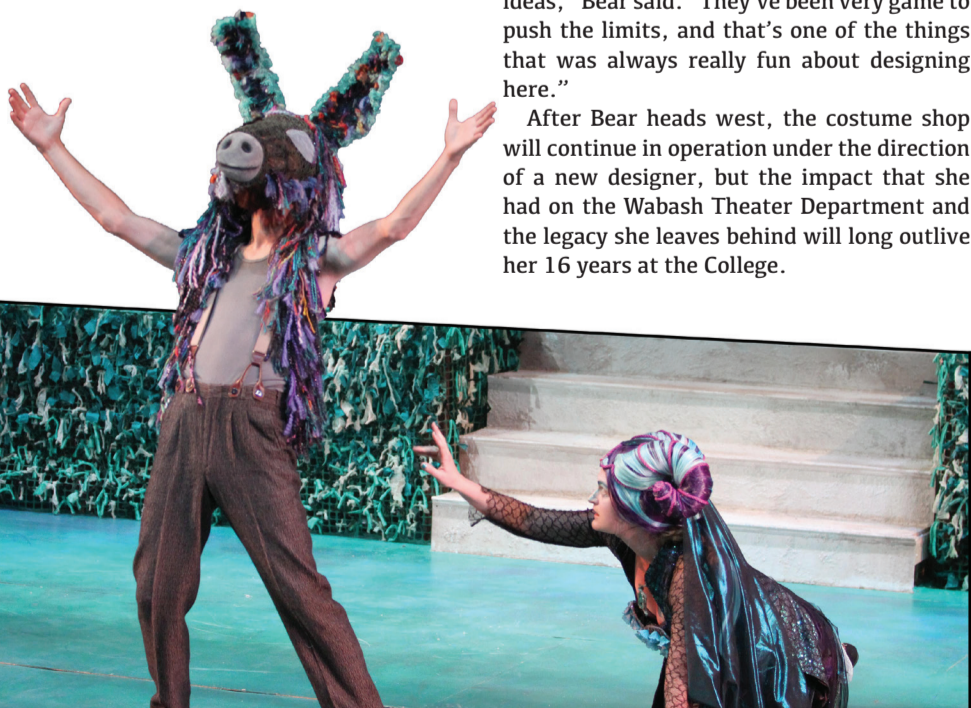
In February 2010, Wabash produced "Terra Nova," a play based on the true story of Norwegian Roald Amundsen (Spencer Elliott '10, left) and Englishman Robert Falcon Scott (Cody Johnson '10, right) in their race to the South Pole.

"Doing research for Terra Nova was really fun, because we don't get a lot of shows with real historical characters," Bear said. "I just jumped into this rabbit hole of research and enjoyed learning about the actual science of the things that happened."

At college, Bear started working in the costume shop, drawing on the sewing lessons her grandmother taught her as a child. After working as a professional costume designer for years and earning her Master of Fine Arts (MFA) from Wayne State University, she finally landed at Wabash in 2008.

"When I first came here, I wasn't teaching: I was design and costume shop only," Bear said, "And then that kind of evolved as we went along."

When the Theater Department realized they had a designer with an MFA at their disposal, they adapted the department to best incorporate her talents.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

In Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," Nick Bottom has his head transformed into that of a donkey, portrayed in Wabash's October 2017 production by Will Maloney '19 (left).

"She got it just right," said Professor of Theater Michael Abbott '85. "What you don't want in that play is for it to seem like some actor running around with a bad ass head on. It should feel like somehow the actor becomes the ass. And that happened in that production."



PHOTO BY STEVE ABBOTT '09

Donovan Bisbee '12 (left) dons a garish outfit as Lady Bracknell in Wabash's April 2009 run of "The Importance of Being Earnest."

"The hats that Lady Bracknell wore in "The Importance of Being Earnest" were just classic. Andrea in that they were utterly over the top. They were just insanely, insanely creative," said Professor of Theater Jim Cherry.

PHOTO BY COREY EGLER '15

"The armor that she made out of soda bottles for Macbeth was completely hilarious," said Professor of Theater Jim Cherry. "It looked like metal and it weighed like six ounces. And she did a big presentation on it at the United States Institute for Theatre Technology conference."

Joe Mount '15, pictured right, dons his soda-bottle armor as Macbeth in a rehearsal for the Shakespeare classic in February 2014.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Bear incorporated her knowledge of Czech-style marionettes by creating her style of puppets for the Czech play "Rossum's Universal Robots," produced at Wabash in February 2018.

"You don't make marionettes like that," said Professor of Theater Jim Cherry. "Nobody has marionettes that look like that. We basically invented how to make them, and then we used them."

COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

While rehearsing for "Biloxi Blues," military veteran and Director of the Writing Center Zachary Koppelman worked with the students on proper Army procedure. While Koppelman was on set, Bear jumped at the opportunity to get an experienced eye on her traditional World War II costume pieces, which she wanted to be as accurate as possible.

"Sometimes you have to make allowances because of budget," Bear said. "So I [asked Koppelman], 'I know these things are wrong, but how many other people are going to notice them?'"

Pictured, Kevin Ballard-Munn '22 and Rob Johansen perform in October 2019.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

"I have never been in a collaborative experience where we're talking about costumes but we're also talking about puppets and how they might enhance the show or tell part of the story," said Professor of Theater Heidi Winters Vogel.

When Winters Vogel directed "As You Like It" in October 2022, sheep and goat puppets were a crucial part of the performance.

"The sheep were so funny, because you would change one thing and then it wouldn't work how it had been," Bear said. "[One of them] was working perfectly, and then we put the sheep pelt on it and then it stopped working. So then you have to move the wires and everything... it's all a learning process."

Pictured: Nathan Ellenberger '26.

Psychology seniors present at Ball State University

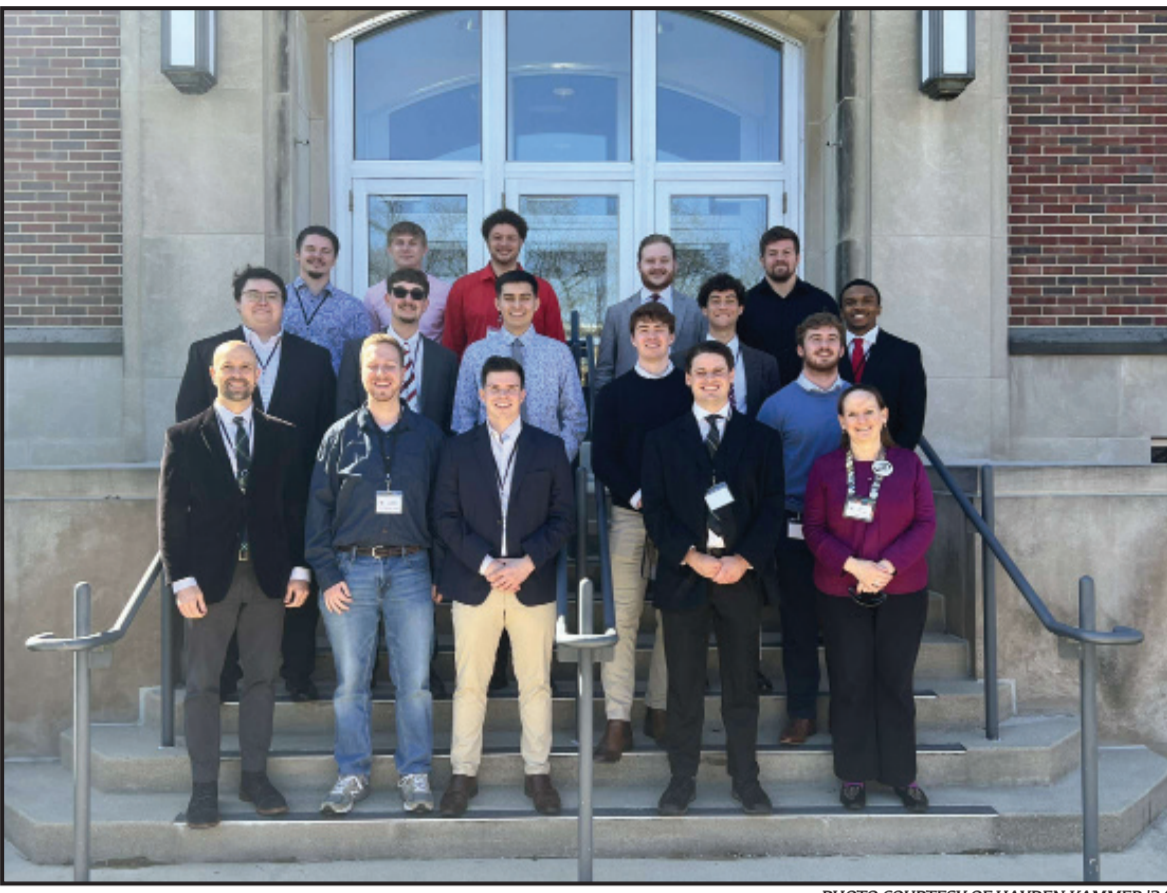


PHOTO COURTESY OF HAYDEN KAMMER '24

The Wabash Psychology seniors pose with Professors of Psychology Eric Olofson and Karen Gunther on the steps of Ball State University.

HAI DEN DIEMER-MCKINNEY '26
STAF WRITER

One of the highlights of a Wabash student's academic career is the opportunity to take what he has learned out of Crawfordsville and share it with the world at large. The current psychology seniors recently got the chance to do just that and present at the Annual Mid-America Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference (MAUPRC) at Ball State University. This past weekend, our students offered insights into the findings they've researched for the past year, uncovering different aspects of psychological discovery.

Among the students representing Wabash were Bryce Nash '24 and Brett Driscoll '24.

"I was most interested in presenting the work that I've done with the other Wabash seniors and seeing them excel," said Nash.

"I was most excited about be-

ing able to share my research with other students," said Driscoll. "I've worked hard on this project over the last year, and being given a platform to share that research with others was certainly the highlight of the trip."

Not only was the event memorable for these students, but they each had valuable takeaways for their futures after college.

"I not only was able to share my research on sunk cost susceptibility to other undergraduate psych majors, but I also learned a lot from their research as well," said Driscoll. "I took a lot of great feedback from giving my presentation that I will look to incorporate moving forward. It also felt great to hear from other professors that they loved how well grounded my research was in the theory driving decision-making biases."

"I was incredibly proud of our senior capstone students' presentations at MAUPRC," said Profes-

or and Chair of Psychology Eric Olofson. "They were poised, professional and communicated clearly about their research to audiences from schools across the region. My favorite moment was when a Ball State professor told me how impressed he was with the Wabash presentations. I think our students came away knowing that they delivered really good presentations. After the conference, several said that the experience helped them see how much they have grown in psychology."

After gaining more knowledge from this experience, our seniors aim to make meaningful contributions to the field of psychology, extending their work beyond Wabash. The lessons learned and connections made at this conference will allow our students to keep growing, eventually guiding them toward successful professional lives.

President's secretary retires

DEREK MCDONALD '27
STAFF WRITER

It is hard to sum up somebody so committed to their time at Wabash in a single article. Bev Cunningham arrived at Wabash in 2012 and has been here for a total of ten years with the final eight years in the President's office. She will be retiring with the title as Executive Administrative Assistant to the President.

As the Executive Administrative Assistant to the President, she described herself as doing a little bit of everything.

"I support both Jim Amidon '87 and President Feller," said Cunningham. "I do the scheduling, travel plans and other aspects of communication while working closely with our advancement team as they plan engagement activities for alumni."

While important, a description of her role does not do justice to her service to the College. Her character can best be defined by her fellow staff,

"Bev Cunningham has had an extraordinary career as a teacher and educator, but in this last chapter, she has been the face of Wabash College to many of our most important campus visitors," said Amidon. "Her gracious sense of hospitality and warm, cheerful demeanor make everyone feel welcome the moment they walk into the President's office – despite who they are. She has enhanced our reputation in largely invisible ways, but her kindness and attention to detail are second to none. She will be missed by all who work closely with her – and those who never have had the chance to know her."

Despite many students not getting a chance to know Bev, she has been a crucial aspect to producing everyday activities and engagement from students and alumni alike. She excelled at her duties in her position, but her impact on others in the workplace speaks greatly to

her character,

"It has been such a pleasure working with Bev and having her as a mentor when I moved into my current position at the College," said Amber King, senior administrative assistant to the Dean of the College. "I have always found it admirable the way she conducts herself with great poise and professionalism, and will miss our chats over Milk Duds."

Bev had a great impact on others and positively contributed to the Wabash experience over her time at Wabash. As she feels this chapter in her life is coming to an end, she plans to spend her time with friends and family.

"I don't really have an agenda," said Cunningham. "I have a lot of gardening and yard work to do. I have six grandkids that I am looking forward to spending time with and am excited to do some traveling."

Cunningham provides parting advice to whoever fills her shoes that is much like the advice given to students when they arrive at Wabash.

"My big piece of advice is to get involved," said Cunningham. "Take advantage of the really wonderful things that happened here and get to know as many students as you can because the students are really the reason that all of us love it here."

Bev Cunningham will be greatly missed at Wabash. The Wabash community gives her a warm goodbye and she finishes this chapter of her life, but certainly not goodbye forever.

SPORTS

Coach Pat Sullivan departs for head coaching position



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Associate Head Basketball Coach Pat Sullivan celebrates a win over DePauw University with former Sphinx Club President Cooper Jacks '24 on February 1, 2023 at Chadwick Court.

ETHAN WALLACE '25
SPORTS EDITOR

Associate Head Basketball Coach Pat Sullivan, better known by players and fans as "Coach Sully", will be leaving Wabash to accept the head coaching position at Allegheny College. Never seen without his white or gray quarterzip, Sullivan played a vital role on the Wabash sideline for a decade. Sullivan will finish his tenure at Wabash on Friday, April 19 and will begin his position at Allegheny on April 22.

"Our team, my family and our Alumni, we're really happy for Coach Sullivan," said Head Basketball Coach Kyle Brumett. "He's an unbelievable basketball coach. Our guys loved him. He was a great recruiter. He really believed in Wabash and everything that Wabash is. He was a part of the vision that we had to build the basketball program and to win at a high level."

Coach Sullivan began coaching basketball in 2009 at Defiance College. There he would serve as an assistant to none other than Coach Brumett who was the head coach of Defiance at the time, beginning a relationship that

would define the first-15 years of his career as a coach.

With both Sullivan and Brumett on the sidelines Defiance found tremendous success on the court and in the 2009-10 season won the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Championship. Together, Sullivan and Brumett coached Defiance until 2014. After that, the duo moved to Wabash.

Over the last ten years with Brumett and Sullivan at the helm, the Little Giant basketball team has been in one of the most successful stretch-

es in the history of the program. Under the two, Wabash achieved a record of 167-93. They brought in two North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Regular Season Championships (2021-2022, 2023-2024) and coached the team to three-straight NCAC Tournament Championships (2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024).

"Wabash benefited greatly from Coach Sullivan's coaching and recruiting acumen for the last decade," said Director of Athletics and Campus Wellness Matt Tanney '05. "Working alongside Coach Brumett, Pat played a major role in three consecutive NCAA postseason appearances. His rapport with the students is exceptional and he will operate the program in a first-class manner. Allegheny has a winner with Coach Sullivan."

Now, for the first in his coaching career, Sullivan will be on a different sideline than Brumett.

"This year was our 15th season together," said Sullivan. "So it will be strange not being together. I started working for him when he only had one kid and the kid was one year old. So this is defi-

nately going to be a change. But, he'll figure it out without me and I'll have to figure it out without him. We're both looking forward to what's next and the challenges that will come with it."

Sullivan has been a sought after coach by other schools for several years. He stayed at Wabash because he wanted to make sure that when he left it was to take the right position. As a graduate of Denison University, combined with his time at Defiance and Wabash, Sullivan holds a deep love for liberal arts colleges and the unique nature of their sports programs.

"I loved my time here at

Wabash," said Sullivan. "I didn't want to leave just to take any job. I wanted a job that kind of checks some different boxes for me—a place that's highly academic, a place that has a nice campus and a place that cares about athletics and wants to win. Allegheny does that. And those were the three things that were important to me and coming to work at Wabash and framed my point of view on what I was looking for next."

Now, Brumett and the rest of the program have the task of filling the opening left by Sullivan. And the change will be a chance for the team to

refresh the vision for the future and how Wabash basketball finds its success.

"We will try to replace him [Sullivan] with someone that has similar characteristics," said Brumett. "But whoever that person is, they've got a lot to learn. And that's really the fun of my job is that I get to help those guys in a similar way that I helped the players become better and watch them grow as young professionals."

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PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Associate Head Basketball Coach Pat Sullivan draws up a play in the first round of the NCAA DIII tournaments against the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater on May 3, 2023 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Golf finishes ninth at Rhodes College

Upcoming NCAC tournament capture teams' attention



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Wabash golf prepares to begin playing at the Denison University Labor Day Invitational held from September 2-3, 2023 in Granville, Ohio.

SAM BENEDICT '25
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Wabash College golf team is rapidly approaching the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Tournament. The team hopes to be hitting their stride at the right time.

On April 15 and 16, the golf team competed in the Rhodes College Cochran Invitational at the Colonial Country Club in Memphis, Tennessee. The team placed ninth overall out of 17 teams competing.

"I think the team is pretty happy with how the Memphis tournament turned out," said Brayden Weiss '24. "All of us that played came away feeling good about the team's performance, even though all of us felt like there was still room for improvement individually. That is a really great feeling coming off a pretty heavy disappointment last week in Illinois."

Sean Bledsoe '26 led the way individually for the Little Giants ending in a tie for 16th place. Weiss finished tied for 25th with a total score of 227 throughout the three rounds, and Mark Poole '24 finished in a tie for 54th overall.

"I feel like I did a better job at scoring this week," said Bledsoe. "Part of that feeling was due to the work that I put in the week prior to practice and the other part of that feeling was due to how much I liked the golf course."

"I felt comfortable and confident hitting the shots that the golf course called for," continued Bledsoe. "I also feel like my putting is coming around in the right direction."

On April 21, the team will travel to Nobelsville, Indiana where they will compete in the Depauw University Invitational at Pebble Brook Golf Club. This invitational will see plenty of golfers have a chance to compete. The goal will be to get the team ready for the NCAC tournament, which is May 3 to May 5.

"I'm not sure I'm necessarily looking for anything in particular aside from building off my progression this last week," said Weiss. "After feeling a bit lost at Illinois Wesleyan's event, gaining some control over my game and recapturing confidence in my ability was super important in Memphis. I would like

to keep that up heading into the conference tournament. Ultimately, I've been missing some opportunities to score recently, and feeling myself sharpen up around those moments is great heading into the end of the season."

The conference tournament grows on each player's mind more and more as the season goes on. Sometimes, the most important part of the tournament is entering it with momentum. A hot streak can sometimes be enough to will a team to victory.

"As conference approaches, we feel like we're trending in the right direction," said Bledsoe. "In the final round of this tournament, our four scores that counted were 73, 74, 75, and 76. Consistency is key, and that's what helped us shoot one of the best team scores in the third round. We've all had our moments of going low this season, and if we have three consistent low to mid 70's scores and one really low score, we can be a dangerous team."

The man behind the microphone: Brent Harris 'H05

NATHAN ELLENBERGER '26
FEATURES EDITOR

Emmy award winner. Statistics junkie. NFL employee. These are just a few of the accolades that Athletics and Campus Wellness Communications Director Brent Harris 'H05 can boast. Instead, you can find Harris in the Allen Center, putting in the work every day to keep Wabash Athletics not only running, but on the air. His strong background in broadcasting and impeccable resume serve him and the College well at every turn.

Originally intent on pursuing a career in technical theatre, he abandoned his dream of working as a lighting designer in college. A formative experience working in Indiana State University's theater department quickly dissuaded those dreams.

"That was my first venture into the professional theatre realm and I found out I hated it with a passion," said Harris. "I was young and stupid, I thought I'd do this for a summer and then Broadway will be knocking down my door to have me start working 'Cats.'"

Returning to his hometown of Crawfordsville, Harris found himself looking for work. An acquaintance, by sheer chance a Wabash student, mentioned that there was a position open at the local radio station engineering high school sports games. From there, the rest is history.

Despite never attending the College, Harris steered the trajectory of his career in a way that a Wabash man might: leveraging connections and versatility to reach previously unthinkable opportunities. Harris has worked almost every broadcast job under the sun, from tracking statistics for the Indianapolis Colts to winning an Emmy Award for his work on an auto racing camera crew for E.S.P.N., and even

coordinating statistics for the Arena Football League.

However, his serendipitous path eventually led him back to Wabash to become the Sports Information Director in 1999. What may surprise some people is what drove him to stay.

"Without Brent Harris, Wabash would not be Wabash."

-Noah McRoberts '25

"There were other opportunities that presented themselves, but there's something about Wabash," said Harris. "I get to know the student athletes and get a chance to interact with them. There's something special about that and you don't get that everywhere you go."

Despite putting his globe-trotting days behind him, Harris has no regrets with his decision.

"One of these days I'll have to grow up and get a real job and work for a living," said Harris. "Because right now, I get to do something that I love, that's fun."

While Brent has a wealth of experience in every aspect of broadcasting, Harris takes a major step back when it comes to running Wabash broadcasts. On game days, Harris sees his role as one of a backseat coordinator, a position that allows his adept team of student workers take the reins and make the magic happen.

"If I'm the person sitting in front of the computer, or doing the broadcast because I have experience with professional broadcasting, then we're doing this all wrong," said Harris. "It's also helpful to me because it frees me up to do other things."

From cameramen and statisticians to the voices on the

broadcast, Harris uses his job as coordinator to be an unofficial, outside-the-classroom teacher to many current Wabash students that intend to make a career in sports.

"Noah McRoberts may be the next [voice of the Indiana Pacers], we don't know," said Harris. "But if he doesn't get that opportunity to do the games and develop his own skills, then we don't know if he's going to be or not."

Harris has seen prospective students doubt Wabash because it lacks a broadcasting program, but has even played the role of recruiter. By giving underclassmen opportunities to work with real equipment during real games, Harris offers a fast track to getting hands-on experience that few other colleges can offer.

"It's not only giving them the opportunity by their work with me but also getting them in touch with our alumni just like we do with every other professional opportunity," said Harris.

"He doesn't do a lot of hands on stuff when it comes to the broadcast," said Noah McRoberts '25, one of a handful of student play-by-play announcers. "I think one of the cooler things is that he just lets us learn on the job."

Harris has left an indelible mark on not only Wabash athletics, but the larger Wabash community. By mentoring and developing the next generation of sports broadcasters, Harris has made Wabash a place of opportunity beyond the classroom.

"Without Brent Harris, Wabash would not be Wabash," said McRoberts. "Wabash athletics would be half of what it is without Brent Harris. He's probably the biggest cog in the machine because he does everything behind the scenes."

Volleyball programs graduates first four-year seniors

Julian Alvizo, Luke Davis, Carson Meadors and Ricky Sessions reflect on time with the team

NATE JOVEN '26
STAFF WRITER

Four years ago, the Wabash volleyball team, composed of one junior, one senior and seven freshmen, appeared as the College's newest NCAA-sanctioned sport. Of the team's seven original freshmen, four players Julian Alvizo '24, Luke Davis '24, Carson Meadors '24 and Ricky Sessions '24 became the first four-year class to graduate the program.

"I have been one of the captains since my sophomore year, and each year the level of responsibility has changed," said Meadors, "My sophomore year was an interesting time because I was a leader for the freshman, but I was also an underclassman without a lot of answers. Over time, I learned how to handle problems better and lead effectively."

"I think our initial recruiting class has probably seen more change than stability in the program," said Sessions, "Over four years, we've seen a lot of faces come and go from the program. Thirteen people either transferred, quit, or dropped out."

"This volleyball team has really made my four years," said Team Manager Tom Ratekin '24, "I originally joined it because I wanted to support my two best friends, Ricky Sessions and Carson Meadors, but I ended up finding an even larger brotherhood."

Not only have these seniors played with many different teammates, but they have also played under several different coaches.

"We have now had three separate coaches during our time here and the culture has changed with that," said Davis, "I am glad that our younger guys are forming a competitive culture and that there is a drive to win."

"It was a very slow process to develop a strong core of



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27

Left to right: Head Volleyball Coach Ashaun Baker, Ricky Sessions '24, Carson Meadors '24, Luke Davis '24, Julian Alvizo and Team Manager Tom Ratekin '24 celebrate Senior night before the Little Giants' game against Calvin University on March 15, 2024 at Chadwick Court.

players that can compete in the MCVL," said Sessions, "Four of our starters were freshmen this year and with that, our vulnerabilities became our strengths. Each season of Wabash volleyball has been more successful than the previous one. This trend will surely persist with stable coaching."

With so many freshmen stepping up into crucial roles, the seniors too stepped up to become leaders for the team.

"In previous years, we haven't had much senior leadership in the program, having only graduated two Wabash Volleyball alumni," said Sessions, "It felt as if we really got to decide the direction of the program. I think I've made a good impression on my younger teammates and I hope that they can learn from my game as I've learned from theirs."

"In my last year I didn't play as much, and my role switched to more of a men-

tor. I thought this was a great opportunity to try and support these very talented young guys," said Davis, "I am very proud of all of them, and I hope they stick with this program and keep working hard."

In their final year, the seniors played under Head Volleyball Coach Ashaun Baker. Coach Baker led the Little Giants to their best year, despite stepping into the head coaching role only shortly before the school year began.

"Following the previous coach's departure, there was little interest in the job. He essentially saved this program," said Sessions, "He has recruited some very good players for the class of '28 and I'm looking forward to watching the program develop under him."

"Coach Baker is a young coach, and this was his first year coaching at the collegiate level," said Alvizo, "So

it was a bit of a rough year, but I believe that this year was really him adapting to DIII volleyball and learning about Wabash in general."

When he first stepped onto campus, Coach Baker was completely inexperienced in the charming oddities that make up Wabash, but he has since seen for himself the wonders of Wabash.

"Starting my legacy at Wabash College has been a remarkable experience," said Coach Baker, "I did not know an employer, administrative team, group of colleagues, or student body as perfect as Wabash existed. Many describe Wabash as a great place, but I am still searching for the perfect summation of words to narrate my positive feelings."

"Coaching transitions can be difficult to manage, but Coach Baker put in a lot of work to assimilate himself within the team's already-existing culture," said Ratekin,

"A key to his success was not undoing all the work the team had completed in the previous two years. Coach Baker saved the program by taking the head coaching position, and he has the team's gratitude for that."

In response to the seniors' gratitude for the work Coach Baker has put in this season, Baker also recognizes the leadership efforts of the seniors.

"The seniors have done a fantastic job of caring for the younger athletes and helping them acclimate to the collegiate level," said Baker, "The seniors have especially taken the incoming freshmen under their wing by demonstrating firsthand what the expectations of a player-led team should look like. Luke, Carson, Ricky, and Julian have set the bar high for the efforts of a senior class when it comes to ensuring their brotherhood is well led."

As they step off the court

for good, the seniors reflect on the lessons they will take away from their time as Wabash volleyball players.

"Knowing I will never compete in collegiate athletics again, it forces me to reevaluate what things in life I take for granted," said Sessions, "Every practice that felt like drudgery, every lift I didn't want to do, the road trips that felt like an eternity, all of it was temporary. I would love to be able to re-experience those moments with my teammates, but I can't dwell in the past. Moving forward, I will value moments as they come."

"I realized that everyone needs to be motivated in a different way that pushes them towards a goal," said Davis, "For some people, competition drove them, for others moral support uplifted them, for others it was technical coaching about their role in volleyball. Through trial and error, I learned important lessons on how to push a group towards a goal and provide motivation as a leader and I hope to utilize this skill in the future after graduation."

Thankful for their time on the team, the seniors leave optimistic that it will continue to grow in the future.

"As a Founding Father, I am glad to leave the program with the players on the team right now," said Meadors, "I believe they will get better and continue to push our program to be the best it can be. I hope to see Wabash in the MCVL and NCAA tournaments in the future."

"I loved my time on this team and my teammates throughout the years," said Alvizo, "I am thankful for the coaches and the athletic department for these last four years, and I can't wait to see how this program will improve."

Track finishes third at DIII Championships

All-around succes prompts NCAC title hopes

NICK WANGLER '27
SPORTS WRITER

In a battle between eight teams, the Little Giants reeled in a third-place finish at the 2024 Indiana DIII Track and Field Championships. The event was held in Greencastle on Saturday, April 13.

Wabash finished with 136 total points, just behind Rose-Hulman who scored 139 points. With a short staffed group, the performance was a strong finish for the squad and promising for upcoming meets. The team yet again had several individuals find success. The Little Giants had eight different athletes place inside the top three in their respective events, including three first-place finishes.

"We had some guys not compete due to health reasons or that we were holding them out, but overall, our energy was great," said Head Coach Clyde Morgan. "Guys are competing and having a blast, so I was pleased."

Takeshi Greiner '24 broke his career-best time in the 400-meter hurdles for a second-straight week, winning the race with a time of 56.31. He also set his career best time in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.42. Greiner seems to be hitting his stride at the perfect time with postseason looming in the near future.

Will Neubauer '25 added another first-place finish to his season total by winning the 800m run.

The Wabash 4x400m relay, made up of Neubauer, Chris Royal '26, Howie Steele '25 and Haiden Diemer-McKinney '26, captured first place in the 4x400 relay team.

"Several factors have helped facilitate my success this season, and I'm thankful for the support of a mentor like Coach Morgan who makes it easy to succeed if you're willing to put in the work and trust



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27
Ronnie Moore '27 warms up for the pole vault at the Huntsman Family Invitational on April 6, 2024 at the Huntsman Outdoor Track.

his training program", said Greiner. I am enjoying track more than I ever have this season, and I feel confident and healthier

"Guys are competing and having a blast, so I was pleased."

-Head Track Coach
Clyde Morgan

than ever."

The Little Giants not only had first-place finishes, but they were backed up by seven other top-three finishes. Owen Smith '27 was right behind Greiner in the 400-meter hurdles and jumped his way into a second-place finish. Angel Perez '27 set his career best time in the 1500-meter run with a time of 4:09.43.

The Wabash field athletes also showed out as Sly Williams '26 had a second-place finish in the long jump and Ryan Papandria '25 threw his way into a second place finish in the javelin throw as well. Jake Oostman '25 was right behind with a third-place finish in the javelin.

Diemer-McKinney was

finally able to compete this weekend after missing most of the season up until now. In his first competition back, he placed third in the 800-meter run and this finish should get him back on his feet. With only two meets left before conference, he could still turn out to be a key part to this squad.

"It was nice to shake off some of the rust from not competing at all during the indoor season. I didn't race very well on Saturday, but I was able to gather some takeaways to apply for future races. And I'll always prefer a bad day on the track to a good day on the bike", said Diemer-McKinney.

"I am enjoying track more than I ever have this season, and I feel confident and healthier than ever."

-Takeshi Greiner '24

"He's a beast," said Morgan. "And he's just a great young man. He's a great

leader. It was exciting to see him run because he brings him so much joy."

The team has back-to-back meets coming up at Indiana State University to round out the season before conference. With multiple athletes putting together their best times this late in the season, it speaks to the team's overall improvement over the course of the year. Seeing these numbers right before the most important time of the outdoor season is a tremendous sign.

"Team morale has been great recently, and I only see it getting better as we continue to build up confidence in the weeks leading up to the conference", said Greiner.

The Little Giants compete in Terre Haute at Indiana State University on Saturday, April 20. This will be one of two final opportunities to make any adjustments before the post season begins.

Wallace: NCAC baseball power rankings

ETHAN WALLACE '25
SPORTS EDITOR

The North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) baseball season is getting close to its finish. So how are teams handling the pressure? Well, some are thriving and others are doing everything in their power to destroy their records. A few teams even picked up key wins to lock in their spots. Here's everything you should know about the NCAC as the semester runs out.

1. Denison University 25-3 (7-1 NCAC)

Since their embarrassing upset loss to Ohio Wesleyan University, the Big Red have refocused and back on track. They beat Wooster in a double header and put another ranked win under their belt by defeating 22nd-ranked Case Western Reserve University. They'll have their first chance to put up triple digits this season in their next two NCAC games against Hiram.

2. Wittenberg University 17-12 (7-1 NCAC)

After a pretty tough start to the season, the Wittenberg Tigers have come alive over the past few weeks. They are riding high on an eight-game winning streak that includes a pair of wins on the road against Wabash, to all but secure their spot in the conference tournament. They've yet to play Denison or Kenyon, so they could realistically end up anywhere in the top three for the standings at the end of the season. They still hit the ball like no other, and their pitching has magically jumped near the top of the rankings by ERA.

3. Kenyon College 16-9 (3-3 NCAC)

The Owls ended their hopes of a ranked season by losing both games in a doubleheader to Case Western. If they can beat the Little Giants on April 20, they'll lock in a minimum third-place—barring an all-time choke job. They will unfortunately never escape the shadow of Wittenberg in *The Bachelor's* power rankings as their match-up against the Tigers will be the final game in their regular season.

4. Wabash College 14-14 (3-5 NCAC)

If the NCAC tracked stats on which team left the most runners on base, there's no question who would be at the top of the list. The team has no issue getting hits. It's getting them strung together for some RBIs that they struggle with. After losing both games to Wittenberg, the Wabash team's spot in the top four is suddenly precarious. They still should be able to make it into the tournament, but they are quickly running out of games that they can afford to lose. They desperately need to win against Kenyon on April 20.

5. DePauw University 14-10 (5-1 NCAC)

For now, the Tigers aren't going to be making it into the top four on the power rankings. However, any further errors from Wabash and the School Down South will be ready to swoop in and take a ticket to the conference tournament. They went 2-0 against Ohio Wesleyan to take the midway point in the rankings. If they can avoid losing to Wooster, they'll be one upset game against Wittenberg or Denison away from making the tournament.

6. Ohio Wesleyan University 15-13 (5-5 NCAC)

With their five minutes of fame now past, the Battling Bishops don't have much to look forward to. They won't finish in the top half of the conference and they still have a meeting with Wittenberg to get through. They could turn out to be the straw that breaks the Little Giant's back if they can take one of two games in their April 30, double header. Other than that they at least get to end their season against Hiram, which means they'll probably end on a win.

7. College of Wooster 13-15 (3-7 NCAC)

Wooster fell off the map in a bad way. Losing both games to OWU, just doesn't send the message that this team wants. Now deep in a four-game losing streak, the Fighting Scots are far from their pre-season projections. It's not over for them yet though. Wabash and DePauw are both yet to come for Wooster, leaving a razor-thin path to the tournament if they can win out. Ranked eighth in both batting and pitching, they are far from favorites to pull off the maneuver, but they have better chances than some teams ranked higher.

8. Hiram College 12-14 (2-6 NCAC)

Unfortunately for Hiram, they don't have an easy NCAC schedule ahead. The worst team they have yet to face is Wooster, but even the suffering, Fighting Scots are well out of the Terriers league. At least they scheduled several non conference teams to hopefully soften the blow, as they finish the season without ever cracking the top half of *The Bachelor's* rankings.

9. Oberlin College 11-16 (1-7 NCAC)

No news as always for the Yeomen. They lost spectacularly to Wittenberg and won't be making the tournament this year. They really don't have much to look forward to. Due to postponements the poor Yeomen still have Kenyon, Wabash and Denison lurking in their near future.

Baseball beats Hiram but falls to Wittenberg



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27
Trey Pitcock '27 (left) and Kamden Earley '24 (right) celebrate in the field in the Wabash game against Wittenberg University on April 17, 2024 at Goodrich Ballpark.

HUTCH NORRIS '27
STAFF WRITER

After a record-setting weekend with wins against Hiram and Blackburn College, the Little Giants fell short in their midweek doubleheader against Wittenberg to fall to 14-14 for the season and 3-5 in conference play.

The Little Giants started their weekend at Hiram College where they faced the Terriers. The highlight of the weekend was when AJ Reid '24 hit for the cycle for the first time in school history in the afternoon matchup of the doubleheader.

As for the rest of the weekend doubleheader, the Little Giants were led by bullpen staples with both Grant Stratton '25 and Dylan Haslett '26 recording the wins against Hiram. Haslett demonstrated some more efficient pitching, averaging 3.7 pitches per batter faced.

"The arms looked really good against Hiram and it's something that we need to be able to replicate moving forward," said Caleb Everson '26.

"It's a tough stretch of games ahead and we need everyone at their best."

Following these two stellar performances, the Little Giants returned to Goodrich Ballpark to face off against the Blackburn Beavers, who are ranked 256th in Boyd's World's Iterative Strength Rankings (ISR). ISR measures strength-of-schedule and win percentage to formulate a ranking of all Division III teams.

According to the ISR ranking for the Beavers, this game should have



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27
Will McKinzie '26 walks to the plate in the Wabash game against Wittenberg University on April 17, 2024 at Goodrich Ballpark.

been a walk in the park for the Little Giants, but it was anything but so. The game ran to the wire, but Will Phillips '25 walked it off with an RBI single. Phillips has generally served as a pinch hitter for the Little Giants this year.

"Pinch-hitting is never easy and there is a lot of pressure to succeed," said Phillips. "As a hitter, you have to be able to stay focused on the game even when you aren't playing. Baseball is a unique sport where opportunities could come at any moment and you have to just stay ready."

In spite of this three-game win streak, the Little Giants' luck would not last as they dropped a pair to Wittenberg on Wednesday, April 17. However, they did not go down without a fight, scrapping back the lead in the first game with a bases-clearing Camden Scheidt '25 triple. The Little Giants lost the lead later in the top of the ninth.

The bats went cold for the Little Giants in the second game as only two

hits were recorded before a short-lived ninth-inning rally ended the series with a 9-1 loss.

"Baseball is a unique sport where opportunities could come at any moment and you have to just stay ready."

-Will Phillips '25

The Little Giants will be back in action at Goodrich Ballpark on April 21 for Senior Day against Manchester University after a road trip to Kenyon to play the Owls. The team have another taxing stretch of games ahead, with six games in five days, against four different opponents.

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Lacrosse team busts season wins record

Little Giants take down Hiram before falling to DePauw

MALACHI MCROBERTS '27
STAFF WRITER

Despite a loss to the Little Giants greatest rival, there is a lot to be happy about for Wabash after breaking their single-season record in wins. The team hit the milestone following their 19-7 victory over Hiram on Saturday, April 13, which gives the Little Giants a season record of 8 wins. As the records continue to be broken for this lacrosse program under Head Lacrosse Coach Chris Burke, the Little Giants were unable to achieve their first victory over school rival DePauw falling just short in a 11-9 defeat.

The victory over the Hiram Terriers provided a great boost in confidence for the Little Giants after a barrage of losses to three tough teams in Kenyon, Denison, and Ohio Wesleyan.

Attackmen Quinn Fitzgerald '25 played a massive factor in the blowout victory against Hiram, where he contributed seven goals, while dishing out an assist. Fitzgerald has been held in check by some of the strong defenses in conference so far, which elect to double Fitzgerald anytime he has possession, but against teams like Hiram his talents are on full display. Defensive midfielder Nate Jones '27 has been invaluable to Wabash's success so far this season. Jones plays incredible defense as a short stick midfielder, but he also adds a lot to the team on faceoffs and on clear attempts in transition. Against Hiram all those skills were apparent, but his offensive output stood out the most in which he posted three goals and added one assist. Other important contributors were offensive



W.

WABASH - 9

11 - DEPAUW



PHOTO BY KYLE FOSTER '27

Evan Stonis '27 races two DePauw University players to a loose ball in the Little Giants contest against the Tigers on April 17, 2024 at Fischer Field.

midfielder Blake Stephans '27, with two goals and two assists, and defender Quinn Shefferly '27, who caused three turnovers and notched his first career pole goal.

The process it took to get to this new milestone for the Little Giants started with the 2021 addition of Coach Burke. Burke has helped this team improve year after year, since he began his role, as Wabash has progressed from 4-12 in 2022 to 7-9 in 2023 to now sitting at 8-5 with the three potentially winnable games remaining.

"The first thing is the guys work hard," said Burke "We bring in the

right guys, and they continuously buy in and they continuously give us everything that they have. That's the foundation of our program. We've been stacking that year after year, and we're starting to see the benefits of that. We're going to see that in the next couple years as well."

With another strong recruiting class on the horizon, the sky's the limit for Little Giant lacrosse moving forward.

After their road trip to Ohio against Hiram ended, the Little Giants returned to Crawfordsville for a throw-down against their bitter rival the De-

Pauw Tigers. The Wally's went into the match with an opportunity to defeat the Dannies for the first time in program history, but they ended up just shy, falling to DePauw. Both sides fought hard until the clock hit zero, going into the fourth quarter Wabash trailed by one, after midfielder Sam Santiago '26 scored his second goal of the game to cap off the third to make it 7-6. The fourth quarter was back and forth with both teams scoring four goals and three goals respectively.

"Do I think we could have won this game?" said Burke. "Absolutely. It was the first time that Wabash

has felt like they were in this since the start of the program. It's a rivalry game. It's always going to be tight. It's always going to be a fight. If anything, it makes the guys more hungry for next year."

Although the last period consisted of a lot of scoring, both defenses controlled the game. On DePauw's side their defensive lineup was composed of three seniors, a junior and two freshmen, while Wabash's defense is entirely underclassmen, with four starters and the goalkeeper being freshman. DePauw's experience was evident as their defensive slides and double teams

were extremely effective for the majority of this game, and their defense was commanded by their goalkeeper Anthony Reinhardt, who made countless great saves. On the other hand, youthful mistakes made an appearance for Wabash, but the energy and tenacity the Little Giants defense plays with did have a large impact on the game as well. Both LSM Luca Flaim '27, and defender Shefferly both played well on defense. Flaim caused two turnovers and scooped up one ground ball, and Shefferly caused two turnovers, which gives him 42 on the year placing him third all-time in caused turnovers in a season, only trailing the single-season-leader Evan Schiefelbein '22 by six.

On offense attackman Christian Dybedock '27 continued to build on an amazing freshman season by breaking the single-season record for points scored by a freshman with 44 after pouring in three goals and one assist, which was previously held by Jake Phippen '26 who broke it the year before with 42. Fitzgerald also had another stellar game where he posted one goal and two dimes. Similarly, captain Artie Rodgers '24 contributed a goal and two assists as well.

Currently 8-5 Wabash has three games remaining on the season, all of which are games that are winnable. Firstly, the Little Giants will take a two game road trip facing Oberlin College Saturday, April 20, and then Wittenberg University on April 23. Then to wrap the season up is senior day against The College of Wooster on April 27.

Tennis dominates Wittenberg and Ohio Wesleyan at home



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27

Cole Borden '24 stands ready at the net against Ohio Wesleyan University in the Little Giants' Senior Day match on April 14, 2024 at Collett Tennis Center.

MAYDEN SALPIETRA '27
STAFF WRITER

The tennis team swept both Wittenberg and Ohio Wesleyan, improving their record to 12-7, 4-1 in the conference. With four conference wins thus far in the season, it is the winningest conference season in recent history.

"With both teams, they were returning a lot of guys from last year," said Head Tennis Coach Daniel Bickett. "Wittenberg was a little bit of a newer team, but we did play them in a fall invite

The team got off to a hot start on Saturday, April 13, recording a 9-0 win in their match against Wittenberg. The team dominated with three wins in doubles. The first match win came from Cole Shifferly '26 and Augusto Ghidini '26, winning 8-4 in their 1-doubles match.

The second match was won 8-2 by Liam Grennon '24 and Ethan Koeneman '26. Rafael Rin '27 and Tharakesh Ashokar '26 completed the sweep with a 8-1 win.

"A lot of what we focused

on is what we could control. We've got a high first serve percentage, really executing our first ball after the serve very well and cleaning some stuff up in doubles, whether it's returns, volleys, overheads, making sure we're really trying to execute those transition points really well", said Bickett.

The team continued their dominance with an abundance of singles success. Cole Shifferly won in the number one singles position, as he went 2-1 in his sets. Shifferly won his first set 9-7 in the tiebreaker. After losing the second set, he came back with a 10-7 win to seal the deal. Cole Borden '24 also recorded a straight sets win at three singles.

"I really want to continue to see that belief from our guys. That no matter the score, no matter the situation, we know what we can bring to the table and continue to fight", said Bickett.

On the Sunday, April 14, Senior Day match against Ohio Wesleyan, seniors Liam Grennon and Cole Borden were recognized before the

match. They went on to claim an 8-2 win in their last home doubles match together. Ghidini and Shifferly also picked up an 8-2 win in number one doubles. Shifferly then went on to secure a straight-sets win in his number-one singles match, and Ghidini battled to a three-set win at number two singles. Borden, as well as his doubles victory, secured a singles victory in his number-three singles match. Despite winning their doubles match, Grennon and Borden played their last career match on their home court.

"I've been incredibly thankful for the great moments that I've had on this team, and feel grateful for being able to see how we've grown since I've been here", said Grennon. "I could not think of a better way to close out the home conference season my senior year."

The Little Giants will cap off their conference season over the weekend of April 20-21, as they travel to Denison on Saturday, April 20 and Kenyon on Sunday, April 21.

Three years under Coach Burke

How lacrosse became a formidable program

HAIDEN DIEMER-MCKINNEY '26
STAFF WRITER

In just three years at the helm, Head Lacrosse Coach Chris Burke has reshaped the trajectory of the Wabash lacrosse team, transforming what was a program that could barely win a quarter of their games into a force that keeps trending upwards. As head coach, Burke's dedication to his athletes and passion for the sport have propelled the program forward, marking a new era of success for the team. This week, The Bachelor caught up with Coach Burke for a reflection on his coaching career and how he's developed such a successful program.

Before his time at Wabash, Burke served in the United States Marine Corps for five years and was the assistant coach for nationally-ranked Maryville University, leading a top-six defense in the country. After some coaches left from Maryville, Burke set his sights elsewhere and saw an opportunity to coach at Wabash.

"I needed a new challenge," said Burke. "I felt like I deserved a head coaching role, and think I've worked very hard to get where I'm at. I saw a lot of similarities between Maryville and Wabash, so I looked at it and said 'This experience speaks to this job.'"

In Burke's first two years, his team went 4-12 in 2022 and 7-9 in 2023. Now, at the third quarter mark of the 2024 season, the Little Giants sit at 8-4 and have already broken the program record for home wins. And, with their 19-7 win against Hiram on April 13, the Little Giants have now set the record for overall wins in a single season.

"It's a culmination of

three years of hard work that these guys have put in," said Burke. "If we can win four of our last five games, we're in the playoffs, and I think that's nuts. But again, it's the guys. Even when I didn't make it easy on them, what we've seen are guys who are totally bought in."

Coach Burke's impact on his athletes goes beyond the action on the field.

"I think the aspect that goes by the wayside at a lot of programs is that their guys go on to do good things," said Burke. "If we lose every game, but my guys go on and become doctors, get into law school, get the jobs they want, the money they want and I get to be a part of that, I should be pretty happy."

Unlike other teams who rely on coaching for development, Burke has built a 'get it done' culture.

"We've talked about pil-

lars and values, but for the most part the guys don't need them," said Burke. "Our single quote is 'the right way', if anything is ever wrong we fix it. I think accountability is our major piece and the guys have agreed to do things on their own. It's started now, and if it becomes something we do without the coaches having to do it, that's when the team is going to be player-led. Our guys work hard, but Coach Nate and I believe the guys can work harder."

While this season has already seen significant growth and achievement, Burke has inspired his players to reach new heights and implied that greater success is on the horizon. As the rest of the season unfolds, there's no doubt the team will continue to thrive under Burke's leadership, ready to prove the best is yet to come.



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Head Lacrosse Coach Chris Burke stands for the national anthem before the team's game against Earlham College on March 1, 2023 at Fischer Field.