

NBA gambling scandal highlights the need for caution

WILL DUNCAN ’27
PHOTO EDITOR

Sports fans all across the globe had their worlds shaken as the National Basketball Association hit the headlines for alleged illicit gambling. On Thursday, October 23, Terry Rozier – active guard for the Miami Heat – and Chauncey Billups – head coach of the Portland Trailblazers – were both arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Deniro Laster, Eric Earnest, Shane Hennen and Marves Fairley, all close colleagues of Rozier, were arrested due to their connection in gambling with illegal information provided by Rozier.

A day later, former NBA player and 11-year veteran Damon Jones was also arrested by the FBI. These arrests came from a multi-year investigation held by both the NBA and the FBI respectively, which had already led to the banning of former NBA player Jontay Porter.

Porter was given a lifetime ban from the NBA on April 17, 2024, for sports gambling on his own team’s games and on his own personal statistics. Porter now faces a maximum prison sentence of 20 years after pleading guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud for his role in a gambling scheme back in December.

At the time, Porter was one of the first players ever to be entirely banned by the NBA for illegally gambling, however, he may not be the last.

Rozier, a former first-round pick out of the University of Louisville in 2016, had already been under investigation by the NBA for illegal gambling.

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Condon ’26 crowned Moot Court victor



Tobey Condon ’26 speaks during the 32nd Annual Moot Court finals on October 29, 2025, in Salter Hall. Condon won the ‘Top Advocate’ award.

NATHAN ELLENBERGER ’26
MANAGING EDITOR

Every year, the field at Moot Court gets more and more competitive. Emerging victorious from the rhetorical ashes was Tobey Condon ’26, winning Top Advocate in his second appearance in the final round.

On Wednesday, October 29 in Salter Hall, four dedicated students competed in the 32nd annual Moot Court finals. This year’s question centered around if the President could deport individuals without a hearing if he claims they are “invading” gang members. Moot Court, by design, simulates the process of appealing a case to the Supreme Court, and many cases for competition at Wabash are based on contemporary issues that face the Court in the modern day. Moot Court is a staple of law schools around the nation but few institutions offer Moot Court opportunities for undergraduates.

This year’s competitors were Wade Wisler ’27, Nick Kessler ’27, Chris Runyon ’26 and Condon, who ran through the three-round gauntlet starting on Saturday, October 25. While Condon won the Top Advocate award and Runyon won the Floyd Artful Advocate Award, it was hard to predict who would walk away with a victory.

“This was one of the hardest fought final rounds I’ve ever seen,” said Professor of Political Science Scott Himsel ’85. “Every one of the competitors did a great job. No one lost his way. To the contrary, they all argued their position so well that we were all in great suspense about who the winner would be.”

Condon was both exhilarated and grateful to achieve such a contested goal.

“It’s always such a privilege, especially at Wabash, to talk about these issues, to have such

qualified panel members come and discuss these issues,” said Condon. “This has been a long process to get here. I’ve been to the final round before, but it’s just a product of the people around me: my faith, my friends and all the people that have helped me to get to this point, to say nothing of the professors who have shaped this experience.”

Moot Court is a great opportunity for Wabash students interested in both the law and oral communication to hone their skills and explore how these skills might prepare them for their career, legal or otherwise.

“[Condon] is just an outstanding oral advocate,” said Himsel. “He was that way as a student in PSC-313, he was that way when he made the finals last year. Tobey is just built to do this type of work.”

Funds obligation: Critical USDA loan obtained by College

Government shutdown has slowed next steps of Community Center

JAMES WALLACE ’26
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In a critical development, Wabash recently reached the “funds obligated” stage of the USDA Rural Development’s loan process. This milestone marks an important moment for the financial future of the College and represents one of the critical steps of the construction of the Community Center.

“We’ve achieved what’s called ‘funds obligation,’” said Wabash President Scott Feller. “It doesn’t necessarily mean the money’s in our bank account, but it does mean that they intend to loan us what we asked for.”

“It’s sometimes a blessing when something that may seem like an obstacle allows you to get more of the pieces together.”

- Wabash Chief Financial Office Kendra Cooks

But why is this milestone important? The loan that the College has applied for gives Wabash the opportunity to both finance the construction of the Community Center and refinance existing debt – all the way up to the tune of just shy of \$68.5 million. This means that the College will only have to make payments on one loan at one rate moving forward.

The loan through USDA Rural Development offers adjustable rates, but with a ceiling rate of 4.875% set by the USDA, which Wabash Chief Financial Officer Kendra Cooks reacted to with hesitation.

“[The rate] is not optimal from our perspective,” said Cooks. “It’s the highest it has been during the two years we’ve been following this program...But we know the worst case.”

However, while the interest rate on the loan is higher than expected – given the extremely low rates preceding this year – the loan is still a financial win for the College.

“We have two different loan debt series,” said Cooks. “Both of these series have really, really low [rates]. However our period was short – 15 to 20 years – so we were paying a lot of principal back.”

The new loan extends the time horizon of the debt the college owes to 40 years – lowering principal payments and making debt obligations more manageable as the college looks to double its existing \$32 million in debt with the construction of the Community Center.

“We’ve achieved what’s called ‘funds obligation.’”

- Wabash President Scott Feller

“We weren’t necessarily looking at how we minimize the cost of debt,” said Cooks. “We were looking at strategies to help reduce our annual debt service.”

However, with the new loan being adjustable rate, the College will still need to figure out the financial modeling for the College moving forward.

“Having this worked out with the USDA allows us to figure out what the worst case scenario is,” said Feller. “The bottom line is, we think that even under this rate we can manage this debt without adding to the burden of the operating budget.”

Continued page 2

Mali under siege, military coup in Madagascar, Hurricane Melissa shakes Jamaica

News around the world

PHILIP HARVEY ’29
STAFF WRITER

Mali under siege by Jihadi militants

Jihadi militants linked with al-Qaeda have imposed a blockade of fuel imports to Mali and have been doing so since September.

The Jama’at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin or JNIM, the group responsible for the blockade, has also prevented other essential imports like food and medicine as a consequence of their siege.

In a recent development, the Education Ministry has forced the shutdown of all schools and universities to preserve petrol and diesel. Furthermore, there have been human rights abuses in the form of price gouging on essentials like food and medicine by scammers.

The goal of the JNIM in this siege was to cause unrest and instability in the state, using economic warfare as leverage. Their overarching ideological goal is to overthrow governments in West Africa in order to impose their strict interpretation of Islamic law.

Mali is under a military government that has indefinitely postponed elections since 2020. While its structure presents itself as a republic with democratic institutions, the de facto leadership and administration have come from the junta military group.

Military coup in Madagascar

On October 12, an elite military unit within Madagascar’s armed forces called Corps d’administration des personnels et des services administratifs et techniques (CAPSAT) overthrew President Andry Rajoelina. This comes after weeks of student-led protests driven primarily by chronic power and water shortages as well as political corruption.

The protests began in September, and quickly escalated as the military joined the demonstrators. The protests were almost entirely civil. Apart from the “Gen Z Madagascar” movement, they capitalized on the civil unrest caused by military crackdowns in order to increase momentum.

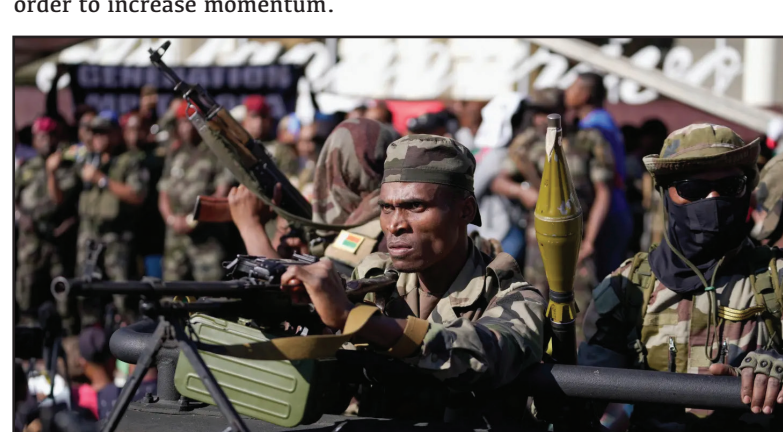
CAPSAT seized the capital Antananarivo, and Rojoelina fled. The national assembly voted to impeach him.

Colonel Michael Randrianirina, commander of CAPSAT, was inaugurated as interim president on October 17. The United Nations have condemned the takeover as unlawful, and Madagascar has been suspended from the African Union.

While a new chapter is promised for Madagascar, it’s questionable whether the new government will become a democratic one. Ironically, the CAPSAT was consequential in bringing about the former government back in 2009.



The siege of Mali has led to backups at gas stations as fuel runs low.



CAPSAT soldiers aim machine guns on October 14, 2025, in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

Hurricane Melissa strikes Jamaica en route to Cuba

Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Jamaica on October 28 and is expected to hit Cuba soon.

The storm is a Category 5 hurricane with wind speeds of up to 185 mph, making it the strongest hurricane to hit Jamaica since record-keeping began.

The hurricane has caused massive damage through flooding,

landslides and wind damage. Southern areas of Jamaica — including Black River, Hanover, Westmoreland, Saint James and Saint Elizabeth — have been hit the hardest.

The storm strengthened to a Category 5 in a short span of time before striking Jamaica as a result of warm ocean conditions.

The five hours it spent over land weakened it to a Category 4, and it has since dropped to a Category 3 before reaching Cuba.

Still, Cuba has ordered the evacuation of 900,000 people from eastern provinces, and the U.S. government has ordered personnel in the area to shelter at Guantánamo Bay.

The full extent of the damage to Jamaica has yet to be fully assessed, and reports during and after the storm have been sporadic.

NBA gambling scandal highlights the need for caution

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“Rozier allegedly informed the defendants and others of confidential information relating to upcoming NBA games and player performances, such as pre-release medical information and a player’s intention to alter their upcoming game performance, which favored certain bettors within their inner social circle,” said FBI Assistant Director in Charge Christopher G. Raia.



COURTESY OF THE BOSTON GLOBE
Chauncey Billups walking out of the Mark O Hatfield United States Courthouse after his arraignment on October 23, 2025, in Portland, Oregon.

The United States Attorney’s Office provided many specific examples of Rozier’s illegal activity including that Rozier tipped off his long-time friend Laster that he planned to leave the game early due to a fabricated injury. Laster then told Fairley and Hennen, who all planned to bet the under on all of Rozier’s stats. Rozier went on to only play nine minutes in that game before exiting with alleged ankle pain. More than \$200,000 was placed on the bets between the three men, with most bets hitting, generating “tens of thousands of dollars.” Rozier then met up with the group that night and split the profit.

Billups’ attorney released a statement denying Billups’ alleged role in rigged underground poker games and emphasized that Billups “never” gambled on bas-

ketball games. The poker games in which Billups participated are said to have ties to the Mafia. Billups, a former NBA all-star, champion and 2024 Hall-of-fame inductee was hired by Portland in June of 2021, after serving as an assistant coach for multiple different NBA teams. Billups’ role in gambling is a little less clear, as his actions have no connections to sports gambling, but rather illegal, rigged poker games with ties to major crime groups.

The fallout for both

serious as they’re alleged.”

As the NCAA just passed a law allowing collegiate athletes to gamble on professional sports, it becomes extremely important that college athletes on and off Wabash’s campus understand the severity and life-altering effects gambling can have. With these scandals coming only a week before the NCAA’s motion is set to pass, the rate in which gambling is taking over the sports industry is rapid. The NCAA’s motion is set to be put in effect on November 1, 2025, for Divisions I and II. Division III athletes will be able to gamble on November 22, 2025.

“I think the current state of sports gambling is in an unprecedented spot” said Jacob Hughes ’28 “With the NCAA soon allowing athletes to gamble, it’s only a matter of time until the professional leagues will have to put their foot down. The NBA will have to be the one to set the standard for the rest of the [professional] leagues.”

With both the NCAA’s new law along with the recent NBA scandal, it’s vitally important that not only Wabash athletes reflect on the dangers of sports gambling, but that everyone realizes how it could affect their lives.

“In the 2025 ICSUS survey at Wabash, 22.3% of students reported participating in sports betting compared to the state average being just 8.2%” said Andrew Weeks ’27 “Wabash students should approach sports gambling with a critical lens.”

Weeks works hand-in-hand with Wabash’s mental health committee, which pushes the importance of balance with sports gambling in young men.

Wabash men need to approach the decision on whether to gamble or not just like they approach every decision; by thinking critically and acting responsibly.

Rozier and Billups was immediate. The Miami Heat and Portland Trail Blazers placed their respective men on immediate leave without pay as the investigation continues.

“As alleged, the defendants turned professional basketball into a criminal betting operation, using private locker rooms and medical information to enrich themselves and cheat legitimate sportsbooks,” stated United States Attorney Joseph Nocella Jr. “This was a sophisticated conspiracy involving athletes, coaches and intermediaries who exploited confidential information for profit.”

“I think it’s wild to think that players and insiders might actually be involved in throwing games more than we realize,” said Marshall Johnston ’29 “This could shake up the entire league if the details are as

Economic data blackout continues, markets hold steady and more

AGUSTIN ANTELO ’29
STAFF WRITER

Stocks were mostly higher on the week as a surge in tech earnings and a widely anticipated Fed rate cut kept risk buoyant, though a cautionary note from Fed Chair Jerome Powell trimmed some of the excitement.



COURTESY OF FORTUNE
Jerome Powell attends a press conference on October 29, 2025, in Washington D.C.

Fed cuts again, but hints December may be a pause

The Federal Reserve delivered a second 25-basis-point rate cut this year, lowering the target range to 3.75 %–4 %. In the post-meeting press conference, Powell stressed that a further cut in December is “not a foregone conclusion,” highlighting the need for more evidence that inflation is easing. Investors had largely priced in Wednesday’s move, but Powell’s remarks pulled equities off their highs. Earnings season remained supportive: roughly 86 % of S&P 500 companies reporting so far beat expectations, helping cushion any policy driven worries.

Index performance:

Dow Jones:	47 632 (+0.9 %)
S&P 500:	6 890.59 (+1.5 %)
Nasdaq:	23 958.47 (+3.2 %)
Russell 2000:	2 484.81 (–1.1 %)

Equities rallied early as big-tech names delivered blow-out results, pushing the Nasdaq to fresh records. The S&P 500 added 1.5 % on the week, while the Dow gained just under 1 %. Small-cap stocks lagged, with the Russell 2000 slipping 1.1 %, reflecting caution around domestic cyclical. Profit-taking after Powell’s comments and rotation out of rate-sensitive sectors kept the broader market’s advance in check.

The big moves: winners and losers

Big winners

- Teradyne (+20.5 %) – the automated-test-equipment maker crushed earnings estimates and guided higher on strong AI demand.
- Seagate Technology (+19.1 %) – the data-storage company beat profit forecasts and said AI-driven demand would lift future sales.
- Caterpillar (+10 %) – strong construction and mining equipment sales delivered a big earnings beat, sending shares sharply higher.

Big losers

- Fiserv (–44 %) – the fintech firm missed quarterly estimates and issued cautious guidance, triggering a sharp sell-off.
- Boeing (–3 %) – a \$5 billion charge tied to 777X program delays weighed on the stock.

These moves underscored the market’s focus on earnings quality: companies with clear AI-driven growth were rewarded, while those with operational missteps faced steep punishments.

Debt markets and yields

Treasury yields were little changed despite the Fed cut. The 10-year note edged up from about 3.97 % on Oct. 22 to roughly 3.99 % by Oct. 28, leaving the curve flat. Spreads between

10-year and 3-month maturities hovered around 0.01-0.10 percentage points, suggesting neither pronounced recession fears nor a clear inflation breakout.

Global markets and policy backdrop

Overseas sentiment was mixed. Brent crude prices rose about 3.2 % on the week, from roughly \$62.23 to \$64.24 per barrel; traders cited bargain hunting and U.S. sanctions on Russian oil but fretted over a potential OPEC+ supply increase. Gold rebounded from a three-week low, climbing to around \$3,977 per ounce after touching a record earlier in the month. The dollar index was broadly stable, though the sterling softened and the Australian dollar stabled amid hot inflation data. Investors also watched U.S.–China trade talks for signs of progress.

Looking Ahead: earnings and jobs data

Next week brings the October employment report and key inflation prints. Traders will look through payroll growth and wage numbers to see whether the Fed’s mid-cycle cut marks a pause or the start of a longer easing campaign. We still have to wait for a good amount of corporate results, with mega-cap tech firms still to report. Markets will look for confirmation that the AI-driven earnings boom can persist even as policy support becomes less certain.

Critical USDA loan obtained by College

Continued from page 1

With the loan process nearly complete and the funds guaranteed, the next step in the process is rebidding the Community Center project – something that can’t happen until the government shut-down ends.

“We need our friends at the USDA to come back to work so we can start the rebidding process,” said Cooks. “We have to conform to federal pro-

curement guidelines, so the rebidding process is important.”

While the rebidding process is still snagged, however, the College will continue with vital “stage two” infrastructure projects – a continuation from the past year.

“We will have projects focused on cooling, parking and utilities,” said Feller. “There are a lot of moving pieces, and they are going to continue.”

So with demolition and shoring nearing comple-

tion and the rebidding process still paused, students can still expect noise as the College continues to upgrade critical infrastructure in preparation for the construction of the new heart of campus.

“When I think about it, I’m really proud of [this project],” said Cooks. “It’s sometimes a blessing when something that may seem like an obstacle allows you to get more of the pieces together.”

Congratulations, Tobey Condon ’26 Moot Court Top Advocate



Since 1996, the WCI has proudly partnered with the Rhetoric Department to run the Moot Court competition.

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Big Brother arrives at Wabash



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

O'Brien (left), played by Sean Bledsoe '26, tortures Winston Smith (right), played by Preston Parker '26, for being a thought criminal at the climax of the performance.

NOAH MINTIE '29
FEATURES EDITOR

When the audience enters Ball Theater to see Jim Cherry's "1984" (a stage adaptation of George Orwell's iconic novel), they must trade the cozy red bricks and warm yellow lights of Wabash's campus for two cold, imposing and lifeless concrete pillars bathed in frigid white light. Situated between them, the leering AI-generated face of Big Brother — equal parts Bezos, Zuckerberg and Musk — is angled to the point of uncanny eye contact with the audience. An eerie, ambient humming and Big Brother's striking, artificial smile are the final ingredients which perfectly set the tone for a striking and timely production.

While the set design establishes the tone before the play even begins, it is only the first of many parts which form the thematic whole. Once the play begins, the true soul of "1984" comes to light: the performances. Each actor skillfully weaves between dystopian-robotic and humanely personable, and from the very first scene, each character's traits are steadily conveyed without the need of overexplanatory dialogue.

The first performance on display is Nicholas Kvackoff '29 as Syme, a faithfully timid and unassuming take on the character. Kvackoff's performance shines during interactions with his co-leads, in which he comes off as passionate about his duties yet too unpersonable to be called a friend. Andres Ornelas '29 sports the artificially enthusiastic and intellectually uncurious persona of Parsons with a contagious (and appropriately overbearing) zeal. His inauthenticity stays well hidden behind his cheery persona, fulfilling his thematic role as a foil to the protagonist's ideals.

Speaking of which, three performances dominate most of the show-

time, and intricately bounce off of one another.

Beginning with Sean Bledsoe '26 as O'Brien, a performance packed with misdirection and subversion. Bledsoe plays the demanding role of a demeanor-chameleon, fitting into no less than three distinct mannerisms as the play persists. His shifts from soft to fiery are sure to leave an impression on the audience.

Each actor skillfully weaves between dystopian-robotic and humanely personable...each character's traits are steadily conveyed without the need of overexplanatory dialogue.

Next is Isabella de Assis-Wilson, who plays Julia with a particularly resonant nuance. The Julia character starts off in a complicated way, with her loyalties and intent shrouded in mystery but still second to an unassuming personality. As it becomes time for her unclear mannerisms to dissolve, Assis-Wilson rapidly warms up with an intelligent and genuine disposition. Her standing in relation to the protagonist must evolve quickly to fit the script, and she impressively packs a lot of development into a very quick turnaround.

Finally, Preston Parker '26 lights up the marquee in his role as Winston Smith. Parker brings an emotionally visceral energy to the stage, with several moments of stunning and intense physical acting. He embodies every glow of joy and sting of pain that Winston feels, and directly channels it into the audience, who can't help but latch onto the character for the entirety of the show.

Where the acting is the heart of "1984," the directing and stage management are the muscle. To match the bleak script, the blocking also invokes a robotic feel. The set smoothly glides on and off stage in the same mechanical manner that the artificially-created loudspeaker passive-aggressively orders his workers around, making it sometimes feel as though the power of Big Brother is so inescapable that he is directing the whole show.

Thankfully, Cherry takes back the wheel with clever visual gags that break up the despair. There is joy to be found from George Shagley's '26 portrayal of Martin, who casually sits atop a torture device, to a charming cameo by Cherry's daughter Katherine as Gladys Parsons. Much like life, the play still feels human even amidst the harshest backdrops.

Sonically, the production soars with an immersive and industrial ambience. Cherry's voice acting, as well as the uncanny AI figure it emanates from, brings lifelessness and corporate indifference to the loudspeaker. This automaton is the cherry atop Cherry's impressive directorial vision.

Despite Wabash being relatively far removed from the authoritarians and manipulators of the modern world, "1984" delivers these relevant themes from the world stage to the proscenium platform of Ball Theater. Brought to life by impressive performances and a strong directorial vision, "1984" is the production that Wabash needed.

**FINAL VERDICT:
5/5 WALLYS**



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Winston Smith (left), played by Preston Parker '26, holds his lover, Julia (right), played by Isabella de Assis-Wilson, as they cower in fear after discovering that the Party has been watching them.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

O'Brien (right), played by Sean Bledsoe '26, slaps Winston Smith (left), played by Preston Parker '26, across the face for not understanding why the Party seeks power.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Winston Smith, played by Preston Parker '26, smiles disturbingly after getting his memory corrected by the Party in the concluding scene.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Winston Smith (left), played by Preston Parker '26, talks with to his lover, Julia (right), played by Isabella de Assis-Wilson, about getting married against the Party's laws.

'Tron: Ares' is the end of the line

SILAS MILLS '27
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

Since its inception in 1982, the Tron series has captivated millions of people across the globe with its extravagant score, engaging narrative and visuals ahead of its time. With the expectations of the original “Tron” and “Tron: Legacy”, the recent release of “Tron: Ares” had fans buzzing in anticipation for the classic Tron story with a nuanced twist. I was included in this pool. Thus, over fall break, my dad and I splurged and bought 3D-IMAX tickets for the film.

casting of Jared Leto. Maybe it is a personal vendetta...maybe I am closed minded...but not once did I feel as though his acting ability enhanced the narrative. Watching Leto besmirch the legacy of the great Jeff Bridges by even sharing a screen with him was simply heart-breaking. To give Leto the benefit of the doubt, however, the plot was entirely “Disneyfied,” and nearly each of the characters failed to be developed beyond a surface level understanding of their motivations. This was seen significantly through much



COURTESY OF AMAZON

I was thoroughly impressed with the visual masterpiece that I bore witness to as soon as the movie began. Tron has historically been known for its nuanced visual features, and this film did not deviate from that norm. While “Tron: Legacy” effectively compelled audiences through visual expertise, “Ares” took each aspect of the visuals and raised them.

Sonically, the film utilized a myriad of techniques in any given scene with specific sounds in order to establish a desired tone. But how can we talk about the visuals and the sounds without the absolute masterclass soundtrack crafted by Nine Inch Nails? Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross are no strangers to score production in films, but particularly in this case, the Tron world elegantly parallels the techno-industrial sound that Nine Inch Nails perfected over the past several decades.

Aside from the aesthetic developed through the visuals and the sound, the film nicely provides a bit of fan service to Tron fans across generations. While much of the film does have a more recent approach to visuals and sounds, the general feel of the Tron universe remains relatively consistent. Many of the motifs — from the idea of programs to the legacy of Kevin Flynn — are illuminated throughout the film.

As stated thus far, much of the film arguably has the feel of a two hour Nine Inch Nails music video. I fear that an approach such as that

would’ve saved this film from the scathing issues that I have with the narrative. The first (and most wrath inducing) issue here is the

of the plot armor that many of our main characters were guarded by. So while most of the cast ultimately did well with what they were given, the lack of depth in the script proved difficult to overcome to produce an engaging narrative.

The surface level issues with the narration were frustrating of course, but I was disappointed with the complete divergence from earlier Tron films. I fell in love with the Tron world through these pillars we have seen in earlier films, and while a deviation from this wasn’t fully problematic, it proved that the film didn’t fully meet my thematic expectations.

Ultimately, viewing this film with no prior Tron knowledge would be wholly beneficial to your experience. Coming in with expectations of a formerly developed Tron world — just for Ares to deviate from it — would produce a significant disconnect from the established context. I will say however, that the film absolutely redeems itself with its visuals and sound, which as emphasized before, are some of the best that I have seen. Those of you who are fans of nuanced sci-fi visuals and creative storylines in particular will thoroughly enjoy this film. On the other hand, those of you who either have an intimate connection to the Tron universe or rely on narrative structure with well fleshed-out characters will struggle to enjoy the film. All in all, I would encourage approaching this film with low expectations and thinking of it as a music video. If you aren’t a total Tron nerd like myself, you may be pleasantly surprised!



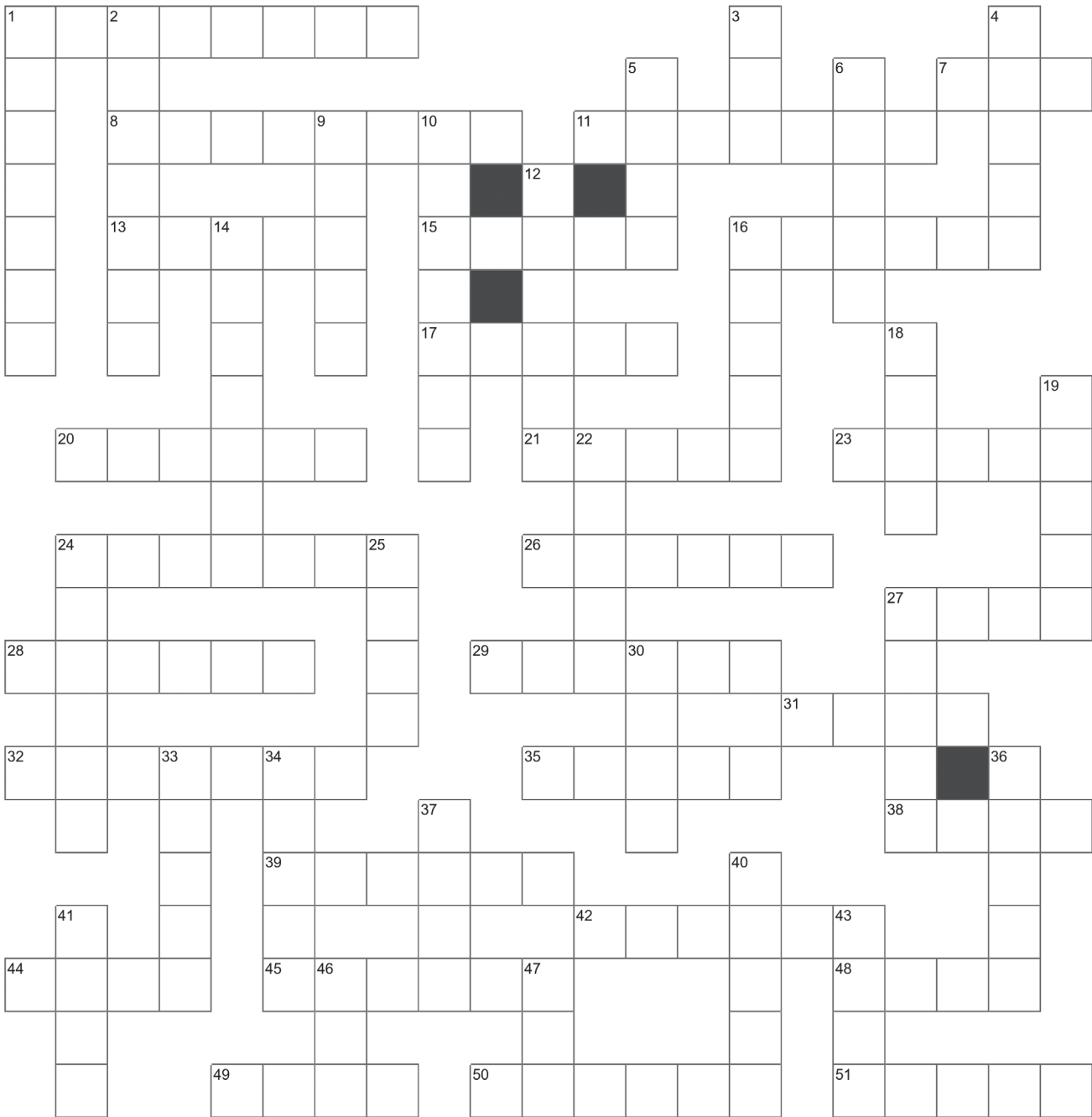
COURTESY OF WIRED

FINAL VERDICT:
2.5/5 WALLYS



'Halloween'

Crossword by Tanner Quackenbush '26



Across

1. Structural frame of a body, often seen as a decoration
7. Nocturnal creature often associated with vampires
8. Witch's large cooking pot
11. Loves blood, hates garlic
13. An orchard's offerings
15. Beginning of a classic Halloween phrase
16. Eerie and frightening, like a Halloween tale
17. Color associated with cats and Halloween night
20. A witch's harsh laugh
21. Evil creature depicted with horns and a pitchfork
23. Flies on a broomstick on Halloween night
24. Describes a house with evil spirits
26. Color of pumpkins and Halloween decorations
27. Season of Halloween
28. A magical or medicinal potion, Clash of Clans?
29. Causing an unsettling feeling
31. Mystical symbol, sometimes used in spells
32. Outfit worn for trick-or-treating

35. A cold sensation of fear on Halloween
38. Spirit of a person, sometimes restless on Halloween
39. Mischievous, ugly creature of folklore
42. Loud cry of fear on Halloween
44. A celebration, like a Halloween one
45. Spidery decoration for a haunted house
48. A monstrous, brutish giant
49. Extremely unpleasant or wicked, like a Halloween villain
50. Genre of scary Halloween films
51. When Halloween celebrations take place

Down

1. Ancient Celtic festival, origin of Halloween
2. To cast a spell upon
3. A small, mischievous demon
4. Sweet treats collected on Halloween
5. Worn to hide one's face in a costume
6. Witch's flying vehicle

9. Great apprehension or fear
10. The month Halloween is celebrated in
12. Magic-user, often with a wand
14. Orange gourd carved for Halloween
16. Words used to cast a magical effect
18. Stern and forbidding, like a reaper
19. An evil spirit or grave-robb
22. Strange and frightening
24. To make holy, ___een
25. Absence of light
27. Sharp teeth of a vampire

30. Morally bad, a common Halloween theme
33. What kids ask for on Halloween
34. Supernatural power, often used by witches
36. A spell meant to bring bad luck
37. Soft light from a jack-o'-lantern
40. Short for Halloween decorations
41. Emotion felt on a scary Halloween night
43. Often full and bright on Halloween night
46. Nocturnal bird, often seen in Halloween imagery
47. AHHHHH!!! SCARY!!!!

Scan for answers!



MXIBS hosts 'Men in Pink: Breast Cancer Awareness'

The Malcom X Institute for Black Studies, Wabash Women's Collective and Wabash Wellness hosted the event on Friday, October 24, to spread awareness in the fight against breast cancer.



Photos By Will Duncan '27



BACHELOR

301 W. Wabash Ave.,
Crawfordsville, IN, 47933

X: @bachelorwabash
IG: @bachelorwabash

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

James Wallace • jpwallac26@wabash.edu
MANAGING EDITOR

Nathan Ellenberger • nvellenb26@wabash.edu
NEWS EDITOR

Owen Vermeulen • ohvermeu28@wabash.edu
FEATURES EDITORS

Noah Mintie • njmintie29@wabash.edu
Tobin Seiple • tlseiple29@wabash.edu

OPINION EDITOR

Evan Bone • ecbone26@wabash.edu
SPORTS EDITOR

Sean Bledsoe • smbledso26@wabash.edu

PHOTO EDITOR

Will Duncan • wjduncan27@wabash.edu

ONLINE EDITOR

Paul Hawksworth • pdhawksw28@wabash.edu

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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Wallies in the wild



Joe Barnett '24

Throughout my time at Wabash, and especially throughout my senior year (which was only two years ago), my future career aspirations were always top-of-mind. How I pictured my life in the future mostly centered around this topic. I still remember the stress of looking for jobs at the start of senior year, wondering “what am I going to do after I graduate?” I also vividly remember the contrast to this when I accepted a job offer late that fall. I was so relieved – my future felt set, and everything was in order.

What I’ve come to realize is that life after college is much more than just having a full-time job. It is an opportunity to try new things, meet new people and challenge yourself.

A lot of you are probably heavily involved in sports, clubs, your fraternities and much more. You attend campus events, go to Chapel Talks, lunch talks and a million other things that I could keep listing. I would encourage current Wabash students to keep up that same energy when you graduate. When you continue to show up to things, you keep learning, connecting with people, and experiencing more life.

When I graduated, I thought it might be kind of nice to take it easy for a bit and just focus on settling into my professional life. Wabash kept me busy, and I believed I deserved a break. It was not long, however, before I realized the opportunities before me. From joining a local running club, to volunteering with local non-profits, to leading a high school ministry group (the most unexpected yet fun and fulfilling of all of these), my life since graduating has gotten both busy and exciting!

Now I feel like I need to pause here and clarify something – I really do like working, and I’ve been satisfied with my career path to this point. I like

my job because I learn something new every day and I work with some great people. Work is a big part of my life, but it’s just one part.

What I would challenge current Wabash students, and especially seniors, to consider is this: How are you going to make use of your skills, talents and gifts after graduation? I like this question more than “What are you going to do when you graduate?” because I don’t think it immediately prompts us to think in terms of career. Speaking from my own experience so far, Wabash College sets you up for more than just a successful career. It prepares you to be an active, engaged member of your community – but it is ultimately your choice to be this type of person.

If the goal is Thinking Critically, Acting Responsibly, Leading Effectively and Living Humanely, how do we do that? Can we do that just through our jobs, or do we need to spread our skills to a variety of things? I think jobs are important. They make the world go ‘round, but they’re not the only measure of success. I don’t think they’re the only way to make a significant impact either.

Now, this is not to say that I have it all figured out. I most definitely do not, and I still contemplate how I want to balance work with the other important aspects of my life. In writing this piece, I mostly just want to share that the way I see my life now is drastically different from how I saw things as a senior at Wabash.

I encourage any current student reading this to pay attention to the energy, the involvement and the passion your fellow classmates bring to life at Wabash. There is something unique about it. Be sure to take this energy wherever you go next, and be open to new, unexpected opportunities that come your way. Trust me, they will.

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

SPOOKY SEASON SENIOR BENCH

Hi-Five to the TKE freshmen for painting the Senior Bench in incredible Halloween fashion. A perfect embodiment for TKE as there really is no scarier place at Wabash than the TKE basement.

BIG PAY DAY

Hi-Five to Lions defensive end Aidan Hutchinson for signing a four-year, \$180 million extension. The Lion does not concern himself with a high tax bracket.

FROWNING FRIENDS

Lo-Five to Adult Swim for delaying the Halloween special of “Smiling Friends” until after Halloween. Do you realize, DO YOU REALIZE how much we were looking forward to seeing Pim and Charlie’s spooky antics this year?

SOME OG HAIR

Lo-Five to Jaylen Brown for losing his fake hairline on OG Anunoby’s jersey. Safe to say Brown’s game is rubbing off on Anunoby.

FREDDIE FREED US

Hi-Five to Freddie Freeman for ending the highest-inning game (18) in World Series history by homering and walking off the Blue Jays in Game Three at 3:00 A.M. The only thing that went later than that game was your friend’s O-Chem study session.

Is Governor Mike Braun '76 a “responsible citizen”?



Conner Phillips '28

Reply to this opinion at caphilli28@wabash.edu

Here at Wabash, we have only one rule: the Gentleman’s Rule. It teaches us to act as a “gentlemen and a responsible citizen at all times, both on and off campus.” On Monday October 27, Indiana Governor Mike Braun '76 seemingly forgot about what he was taught here at Wabash. He has called a special session of the Statehouse to redistrict Indiana’s Congressional maps to favor Republicans. He followed in line with the states of Texas, Missouri, with North Carolina likely to follow suit. This mid-decade redistricting to benefit one party is just one of the latest ways democracy has been undermined.

Governor Braun has said that he is “calling a special legislative session to protect Hoosiers from efforts in other states that seek to diminish their voice in Washington.” In 2024, 40% of Hoosiers voted for Democrats at the polls and yet only received two out of the nine seats. This is because Indiana was already one of the worst gerrymanders in the nation. And now Governor Braun thinks the best way to “protect” 40% of Hoosiers’ voices is to silence them by drawing them into unwinnable districts. Districts that would stretch from Indianapolis to Kentucky. These districts would not be drawn to help give communities a voice, but rather to silence the opposition.

That is not what a responsible citizen does. A responsible citizen does not quash the voice of the minority. If Governor Braun were a responsible citizen, he would push for a fairer map to be drawn, and push for more voter turnout. And yet Governor Braun is doing the exact opposite of that. As perhaps the college’s most impactful alumnus, the

Governor does not follow the one rule this college taught him. Why? Because President Trump and Vice President JD Vance demanded more seats in Congress. And Governor Braun has fallen in line with the orders of his party leaders. This is a grave betrayal of the Gentleman’s Rule, all in the name of being power-hungry.

Another example of Governor Braun being power-hungry is his hostile takeover of the IU board of trustees. In April, a law was passed that allowed the Governor to have full control of the entire board. With such great power, Governor Braun removed all the elected board members and stripped IU of its academic freedom. This has ensured that the faculty and students of IU have no voice in the decisions of the University. This power grab is pathetic at best and pitifully evil at worst. This is all in the name of “protecting the freedom of speech.” Sounds like a great goal, right? And it is. The problem is that silencing the voices of those who don’t argue with you isn’t the way you do it. That is not what a true Wabash man does.

To Governor Braun, remember your roots. Remember the one rule you promised to follow both on and off campus. Live up to the example set by generations of Wabash men who have gone before you. Be a responsible citizen, not one who silences the minority in a blind power grab. Set an example for the student body of a successful Wabash man who stays true to his roots.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAVERIX MEDIA
Mike Braun’s inauguration as governor of Indiana January 13, 2025.

One of the email solutions



Academic Administrative Coordinator to the Fine Arts Center, Julia Phipps

reply to this opinion at phippsj@wabash.edu

I appreciated Nate Joven '26 bringing attention to the overwhelming number of emails that are sent to the “Everyone” list in a given month. I know that if you add the “Students” list to that, the number doubles (or even triples). It is true that email can be frustrating, and it is hard to handle a large number of emails without any organization. However, when you graduate college and go into almost any white-collar job, 17 emails (as the highest number in Mr. Joven’s graph) in one day is pretty standard fare. It’s not unusual for me to receive over 100 emails in a day – emails from Canvas, Box, my colleagues, newsletters, spam, emails for Julia Perry accidentally sent to me, tasks I need to complete and more. So how do I handle my email load without being overwhelmed while completing all my other projects with excellence?

“The most important thing I want you to take from this editorial is this: You control your email. It doesn’t control you.”

This editorial is meant to give you some solutions that I (and many of my colleagues) use to help organize our inboxes and our lives. The first, and most important, is the “Rules” feature. “Rules” tell your Outlook where you want emails to end up. For example, I don’t need to see every single email from Box labeled “Box Update”. So, I’ve created a rule that programs my email to take Box emails, mark them as unread,

skip the inbox and throw them into a folder I don’t look at but might need to use to find an email eventually. How do you do this?

1. Right click on an email from Box that has the subject line “Box Update”.
2. Navigate to “Rules”, and then “Create Rule”. A dialogue box will open to help you create this new Rule.
3. Select the appropriate options. In this example, it’s “From Box Updates”.
4. Under “Do the Following”, select “Move the item to folder:” and then “Select Folder...”
5. Create a Folder called “Box” nested in your Inbox.
6. Click “OK”. You’ll get a pop-up that says “The Rule Box Updates has been created.” I would suggest running this rule on messages already in the current folder to help clean out your inbox.

If you want to be fancy, go to “Advanced Options...” before you click OK. Now, you can adjust your new rule in so many interesting ways. You can say “if this email is from Julia Phipps, and there is ‘1984’ in the subject line, mark it as important and play a special sound.” You can say “if this email is to the ‘Everyone’ list, and there is ‘fund-raiser’ in the subject line, delete this email.” Honestly, I would avoid automatically deleting emails using “Rules” until you get the hang of “Rules.” Sometimes, the email system thinks it understands what you want, and it moves or deletes something you didn’t expect.

Here’s some more strategies: Unsubscribe from things that you don’t need to read. Use Rules and Filters and other email tools to help you see what is actually important and prioritize your to do list accordingly. Check your email at scheduled times during your day, and ignore it when you’re not checking it. Turn off notifications on your phone and only check email on your computer. The most important thing I want you to take from this editorial is this: You control your email. It doesn’t control you!

A message to independents



Neil Johnson '27
Reply to this opinion at
npjohnso27@wabash.edu

Independent students at Wabash make up just under half of all students. As an independent student myself, I write this message to other independents. I am aware that you are probably used to being called a weirdo, a loser or even a non-ferda male. Although it's easy to brush these names off with a laugh or a shrug, I know that these words may sit with you and make you question if you belong at Wabash. Let me say this: you belong.

Being an independent at Wabash can be a great opportunity if you make the most of it. As an independent, you have the possibility to become extremely close friends with anyone on campus, not just your roommates. Although it may take more time and effort, I promise you this can happen. However, this is entirely up to you. Your experience at Wabash is reliant on how you go about it. College is probably one of the only times in your life that you can

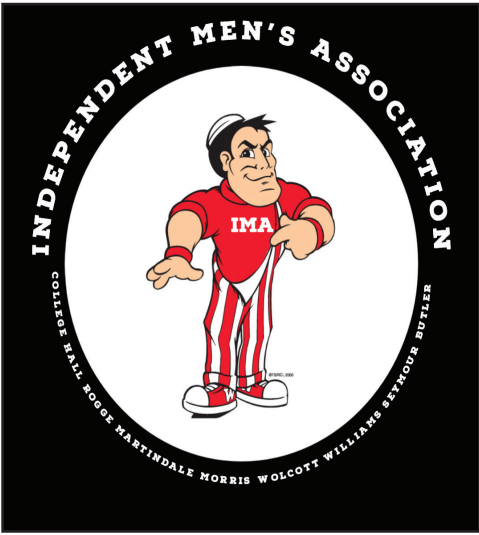


PHOTO COURTESY OF ENGAGE

The Independent Men's Association and residential advisors provide opportunities for independent students to engage with one another in an organized manner.

foster connections and relationships with people who come from an entirely different background, and they're all within walking distance.

Take Rogge Hall, for example. My roommate, Zack Wagner '27, is the residential advisor of our dorm hall. He hosts events almost every single week, which typically includes food. An enticing offer, such as food, usually gets people to come out. However, I have noticed that independents rarely stay for more than five minutes at the event and then retreat to their room with their food. I feel saddened that this is the case.

I invite all independents to take a second from school to stay and talk. Meet guys who are outside of your room, sport or major. I promise you, some of the best conversations you will have at Wabash come from these very conversations. And yes, I understand that you are busy with school, but I guarantee you will regret not having these conversations once you graduate.

I also invite you to seek out men at Wabash who reside in fraternities. I recently gained 11 brothers through ryhneship and am a solo independent in a group of fraternity guys. From this, I have infiltrated the lines of the fraternities and found out some crazy information: fraternity guys are just like you. I know it can be intimidating to approach a group of guys who are in a fraternity, as it may seem as if you are not welcome, but I can assure you that they have the same interests and thoughts as you. They're human. They're students. They're trying to figure it out, just like you.

With this, I urge you to go out and make connections. Even if it is awkward, I believe that you will find something meaningful in the task. When it comes to social events, I invite you to stay longer, talk more and be open. Whether you're in a fraternity or not, Wabash is about taking the opportunity to connect, learn and grow. You belong here.

Humility is underrated



Tobin Seiple '29
Reply to this opinion at
tlseiple29@wabash.edu

At Wabash College, brotherhood is our North Star. It's the ideal we invoke at Chapel Talks, fraternities and across campus. But this bond, which we rightly cherish, is threatened by its nemesis: pride. Yes, it is unfeasible to let go of our own ideas and believe that we are erroneous. It is easier to fall short individually than succeed through a brother's aid. But that doesn't discount pride as a poison; humility is the greatest virtue a Wabash man can exude.

Self-centeredness is a corrosive force on campus. As a freshman, I have witnessed Wabash with observant eyes and conversed with far too many undergraduates who discussed their abilities and achievements in an arrogant manner. In truth, I have found that remarkable, accomplished and brilliant students are also the least self-centered and prideful people, while those who boast struggle to live up to their self-image. I am all for confidence, and have wrestled with pride like everyone else, but when an individual operates from a place of ego, they fundamentally position themselves outside the circle of brotherhood. They compete against their peers rather than striving with them. This behavior makes genuine connection impossible and leads to a lack of vulnerability– the glue to a resilient bond. On a collegiate level, we should be prideful that we are a part of the Wabash community, and not see ourselves as above it. School pride is necessary, yet an overwhelming amount of independent pride fractures the moment "me" is sacrificed for "we."

Wabash students are forced into an environment that requires excellence; our school is designed to develop ambitious and successful men. Students are consistently pushed to excel, supported by our legendary alumni network and institutional aid. But the high-achieving environment we have is an incubator for pride. It is both a blessing and a curse that our students are easily hyped up by the college as it blurs the line

between amour propre and arrogance. It is arduous to understand the contrast of pride and confidence or stubbornness and conviction, and we see it when a classroom discussion transcends a fruitful debate and becomes a battle of ego. Furthermore, humility allows an attitude of growth. When students admit they do not understand a concept and raise their hand for clarification, they are humbly accepting their inability while learning productively. We should pursue excellence yet avoid a sense of superiority. Rather, we should fully apply ourselves, accept that our talents, while admirable, are limited, and not let our efforts rot into an egotism that destroys the brotherhood we value.

It is no secret that Wabash hones future leaders. A prideful leader demands, while a humble leader listens and people who take into account what others have to say are generally effective. But beyond leadership, a brotherhood built on humility is one where men can be vulnerable and admit their shortcomings. It makes the general student body more approachable and less exclusive as pride forces a front that shuns potential friends away. Often, especially as men, we see humility as weakness. We may think it is a timid behavior and ruins one's respectability. Although we do not want to be perceived as weak, a humble attitude is essential. In reality, it is a true sign of strength and security. As the writer C.S. Lewis put it, "humility is not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less". In other words, humility is more about praising the strengths of others than focusing on our own triumphs. Being a modest individual not only makes you more amiable; it may be the key to unlocking the Wabash community and alumni network.

We need to do better for ourselves and our brotherhood. We must actively listen to what others have to say and commend our brothers for the valuable perspectives they provide. We must reflect on our own shortcomings, extol the fortitude of our brothers, accept when we fall short and remain open to development.

Egotism is detrimental to the students of Wabash. Brotherhood is an active choice, not a passive inheritance; pride builds walls between men, while humility builds bridges. If we want to live up to the ideal of a "Wabash man," we must have the discipline to check our own ego, recognizing that our community's strength and our beloved brotherhood depend on it.

Wally's Wall: Halloween Costumes

Sean Bledsoe '26
O'Brien from 1984.

Noah Mintie '29
John Hammond from "Jurassic Park" because I can also forget to think things through before I do them.

Jaxson Bower '27
I am dressing up as the devil that went down to Georgia as it is my favorite song of all time.

Fox Seebach '29
Mute from Rainbow Six Siege because I love Rainbow Six.

Ryan Frazier '26
I am being Finn from "Adventure Time". I am matching with my girlfriend. She is going as Fire Princess.

Barrett Craciunoiu '29
Me and my friend are going to be Ricky Bobby and Dale from Talladega Nights

Quinn Sholar '26
Bugs Bunny cause I'm a hooper!!

Henry Chilcoat '27
Morpheus from the Matrix. His aura and finesse are unmatched.

Evan Bone '26
The Dude from "The Big Lebowski". He's just a chill guy.

Sammy Saunders '26
Moo Deng!

James Wallace '26
I'm Mr. Frog. This is my show. I eat the Bug. Hello.

Nicklaus Wangler '27
I'm going as a prisoner because I am a BAD BOY!!!

Tobin Seiple '29
I will be dressing up as a minion along with a cohort of other minions and Gru.

Matthew Coffey '29
My friend and I are going to dress as 6 and 7.

Physical fitness: An ally to mental health



Bradley Gilliam '27
Reply to this opinion at
bsgillia27@wabash.edu

According to Mental Health America research, 25% of adults with any mental illness could not find adequate treatment, and nearly 3 million youth (ages 12-17) reported frequent thoughts of suicide (Mental Health America, 2025). Despite the lack of medical treatment for mental illnesses, one of the most powerful antidepressants is overlooked and it does not come in the form of a pill. Exercise, regular physical activity, not only strengthens the body but also enhances mental strength as it reduces stress, boosts the immune system and raises dopamine.

Going into high school, many athletics start requiring physical training, and it can seem like a drag or a physical tax. The training was not just about improving my sports; physical fitness became an outlet for everything else going on in my life. During tough times, whether it was school stress, personal doubts or hardships in my family life, the gym became a place where I could reset. Something about going to the gym to better yourself, listening to some good tunes and pushing yourself after a long day is satisfying. For the time I was in the gym, nothing else mattered. The effort and progress are all in your control. Over time, fitness became a daily routine and physical strength also fostered mental fitness that boosted me in other parts of my life.

Science backs this up as well; exercise releases endorphins that can naturally reduce stress and improve your mood. Physical activity also lowers cortisol, the hormone responsible for anxiety and tension. Furthermore, studies show that individuals with a consistent training regime experience improved sleep, energy and focus. All of which can be key factors in maintaining good health. For me, the most important benefit I have seen is the positive mindset I have built over the years of lifting. Physical

training has helped me build determination, good time management skills and learning to push through when life gets difficult.

The common excuse is a lack of time or energy to work out, and it is understandable. Life gets busy, and it will break you down. But you do not need to be an athlete or spend hours daily in the gym to feel the benefits. Even short intervals of fitness, such as walking, short jogs, and stretching or active hobbies can significantly boost your health, but what matters most is consistency. I have found that to be the driving factor during my progress in physical fitness. The daily consistency provided me with reassurance and optimism.

Improving your mental health does not always mean finding a complex solution, such as medication or therapy, but these can and often are sufficient solutions. Sometimes, it just takes lacing up your shoes, picking up some weight or enjoying a physical activity with friends. For me, physical health has become the primary and most valuable support for my mental health. The process taught me discipline and gratitude for small wins, not to mention that it helped me gain friends along the way. Each achievement in the gym was a physical reward for my hard work. In the end, this is all that matters: building a body and mind that help me deal with anything life throws at me.



PHOTO BY GEORGE GALANOS

Bradley Gilliam '27 throws a runner out from third base in a game against Wheaton College on March 11, 2025.

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Swim and dive surges past Rose-Hulman 174-124 in first dual meet

Team looks to make a statement at Western Michigan Invitational

CARTER MCCALL '29
STAFF WRITER

Opening their season in dominant fashion at home, the Wabash swimming and diving team earned a 174-124 victory over the Rose-Hulman inside the Class of 1950 Natatorium. The Little Giants captured eight event wins, finished among the top five in every race and displayed the depth and balance that have long been the hallmarks of their program.

Wabash wasted no time making its mark on the meet, opening with a win in the 200-yard medley relay. The quartet of Ryan West '28, Lew Sams '29, Brody Page '27 and Quinn Sweeney '26 clocked a time of 1:37.14 to take first place, immediately setting the tone for the rest of the evening.

“Winning that first relay of the meet significantly boosted

the team’s confidence and motivation for the rest of the meet,” said Sams.

“The team as a whole has great chemistry, so in many cases, whoever we put on the relays, should have great chemistry.”

- Head Swim and Dive Coach William Bernhardt

From there, the distance swimmers took over. Nicholas Plumb '27 and Mason Gilliam '28 led the way with two wins apiece. Plumb opened his night by winning the 1,000-yard freestyle in 10:24.47, pulling away from the field over the final 300 yards. He later added another victory in the 200 backstroke, finishing in 1:58.91 to give Wabash an

other key set of points. Gilliam matched that performance with a pair of his own wins, claiming the 200 freestyle in 1:48.24 and the 500 freestyle in 4:52.57. In both races, Gilliam set the pace early and never looked back.

Veteran leadership proved vital in the backstroke and individual medley events. West delivered another strong performance, claiming the 100 backstroke in 53.29 seconds before returning to win the 200 individual medley in 1:59.64. The butterfly events continued the trend of success for the Little Giants. In the 200 fly, Sweeney led the team with a runner-up finish at 2:03.42, Page and Owen Thomas '29 followed that up with a one-two finish in the 100 fly – with Page winning in 53.77 and Thomas close behind at 56.13 – giving the team another boost late in the meet.

Wabash’s sprinters added to the total with several key wins. Nate Marshall '29 out-touched the competition to take first in the 50 freestyle in 22.69 seconds, and Sweeney came back later to win the 100 freestyle in 49.25. The meet concluded the same way it began, with Wabash’s relay teams outpacing the competition. Sweeney, Plumb, West and William Renie '27 teamed up to win the 400 freestyle relay in 3:18.41, sealing the victory in style.

“The chemistry amongst our relays plays a part in our success,” said Head Coach William Bernhardt. “The team as a whole has great chemistry, so in many cases, whoever we put on the relays should have great chemistry.”



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Nick Sommers '27 waits for the horn to sound during Wabash’s meet against Rose-Hulman on October 24, 2025, in the class of 1950 Natatorium.

The victory over Rose-Hulman gave Wabash early momentum heading into the heart of its season. West added to the celebration by winning NCAC men’s swimmer of the week.

“Winning NCAC Men’s Swimmer of the Week helps me build confidence for the rest of the year,” said West “I want to keep getting it every week now.”

The team will next travel to Kalamazoo College for the Western Michigan Invitational on October 31 and November 1, where the Little Giants will look to build on their home-opening success and continue refining their performances as they head into the winter stretch.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Grayson Goff '28 swims during Wabash’s meet against Rose-Hulman on October 24, 2025, in the Class of 1950 Natatorium.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Quinn Sweeney '27 competes in the 200 fly during Wabash’s meet against Rose-Hulman on October 24, 2025, in the Class of 1950 Natatorium.

The Bledsoe '26 breakdown – NCAC football Week Eight power rankings

SEAN BLEDSOE '26
SPORTS EDITOR

Week Eight was an interesting one to say the least. The NCAC saw three blowouts when in all reality there should have been four. The Dannies are the ones to thank for that. Not much has changed this week in the rankings, but I sure do have some new jokes!

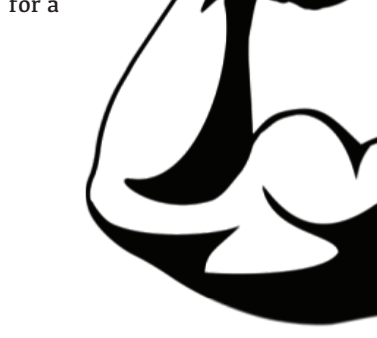
#1 John Carroll (7 – 1)

I hope the Blue Streaks are happy with themselves. They beat the poor foreigners from Wooster like a drum this past weekend. They’re trudging their way through the conference like the Wabash offensive linemen (and myself) plow through chicken tenders on Wednesdays. 66-7 was a little unnecessary, but they continue to show that they are the force to be reckoned with in the conference. They also moved up to No. 12 in the country according to the D3football.com rankings. The Blue Streaks do not have a game this weekend as it is their bye week, and it’s safe to say that they have earned their week off.

#2 DePauw (6 – 1)

Well, well, well. The clown school from down south. There should have been four blowouts this week, but D***** just had to go on and ruin that trend. The Dannie squad nearly had another historic choke-job. The black and gold Tiger team had a 28-7 lead going into halftime, but I think they had flashbacks from the 2021 Bell Game when they led 21-0... and then proceeded to have the biggest choke job of all time. Those flashbacks sadly brought them back into the moment, and they were able to hold on to beat the Big Red 35-28. Rumor has it, though, that they got

lucky with some blown calls by the officiating crew. In all reality, were they really blown calls? We know D***** spends their money like nobody’s business, so I would not be shocked if they paid off those referees. Either way, the disgusting Dannies won and moved to 6-1. They also moved up to No. 15 in the country according to the D3football.com rankings. They will travel to Ohio Wesleyan tomorrow to take on the Bishops. The men of Wabash are hoping that OWU’s prayers for a



GRAPHIC BY SEAN BLEDSOE '26

new team are answered early – everybody loves an early Christmas present!

#3 Wabash (6 – 1)

A lot of people are probably wondering why Wabash is not in the second place position. “Sean, you’re stupid. Sean, you don’t support your own school. DePauw barely beat Denison. We blew them out 36-0. DePauw only beat the Big Red by 7.” Hold your horses, and hop off my case. If you are a consistent reader of my power rankings, you would know that I have a saying that goes, “You guys did nothing this week. No game = none of Sean’s attention.” The same thing applies here. Wabash

did not play a game, so they did not do anything to prove that they deserve to move up to the second place position. The Little Giants will play Wittenberg tomorrow, and keep in mind that this is the same Wittenberg team that held DePauw scoreless in the first half. Depending on how Wabash plays the red and white Tiger team, we could see a shift next week. Now continue reading.



#4 Denison (4 – 3)

The Big Red got hosed. Plain and simple. They should have beaten the Dannies, but the referees decided to turn a blind eye. I will say this team has come a long way. The Little Giants beat the everloving daylighters out of the Big Red by not letting them score a point. In the last four games since the loss to Wabash, Denison has rattled off 134 points in the last four games. I think it’s safe to say that a Big Red nerve got pinched. Hopefully they don’t take too much of their anger out on the Oberlin Yeomen this weekend (or maybe we want them to so Wabash can have another bye week before Bell Game).

#5 Wooster (4 – 4)

Great Scot! Sorry, I had to make that joke once this year. Anyways, I hope those Blue Streaks didn’t electrocute the Fighting Scots that badly. I know JCU can be quite violent (but not as violent as the Dannies). At least the Scots were able to put points up on the board. That is an accomplishment in itself. I will stop rubbing salt in the wound. The good news is that they will host the Owls this weekend,

do not hold the Little Giants to zero points in the first half.

#7 Ohio Wesleyan (2 – 5)

I won’t lie that I am completely shocked with how the Battling Bishops played this past weekend. They beat Kenyon worse than Wabash did. The Bishops finished the game with a 55-13 victory. It’s a slight statement to say the least. The bad news is that OWU is 2-5, and that statement doesn’t really carry any weight at this point in the season. Again, go back to praying.

#8 Kenyon (1 – 6)

Well, the Owls got trampled... again. Not shocking. I don’t even know what else to say at this point. This bird team is just simply terrible. The sad thing is that Kenyon doesn’t even have an easy schedule to finish out the season. They play Wooster tomorrow, and then the last two weeks of the season they play Denison and Wittenberg. Good luck is all I need to say.

#9 Oberlin (0 – 7)

It looks like the people that hammered the over from last week’s over/under bet won big. The Yeomen look to have a healthy 30+ man roster for Denison this weekend. I’m not sure if I should set the line higher this time around or keep it at 19.5. I’m not a professional sportsbook, so don’t expect anything out of me. Regardless, with the Yeomen playing the rising Big Red team this weekend, we could see an 80-point bomb dropped on the Yeomen’s domes.

is a chance to get another tally mark in the win column.

#6 Wittenberg (3 – 5)

Sooooooo...the Tigers fired their head coach. Rumors are circulating about the indoor football stadium being sold off to the city to pay off their debt. Can things get any worse in Springfield, Ohio? I mean, the red and white Tigers only scored 52 points on Oberlin. That’s enough of a cause for concern. Teams should be scoring at least 75 on them. What should I expect, though? Wittenberg just stinks. Anyways, the Ohio Tiger team will travel to Crawfordsville this weekend, and let’s hope they