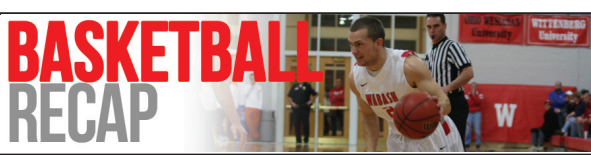


IN THIS
ISSUE



Answering the Call to Serve

Students Considering Military Careers Attend Info Session with Veteran Alumni

SCOTT MORRISON '14
STAFF WRITER

Wabash College is an institution that prides itself on instilling a liberal arts education in students to thoroughly prepare them for the next step in their lives. Last week, the college hosted a military career information session to offer an opportunity for guys to learn more about the possibility of making that next step a career in the military.

About 25 guys attended the session, which was led by representatives from the Air Force, Navy, and Army. Kyle Najar '12 is among those contemplating joining the Army after graduation, and he felt that the session was very helpful for guys considering making that big decision.

"They basically told us about their experiences in the military," Najar said. "The two Wabash grads talked about their experiences and how Wabash helped them with their careers."

One consistent feeling that Wabash men who have served in the military have is that their time at Wabash really prepared them for the trials and adversity of serving their country. This sentiment has held true over the decades from graduates like Air Force Colonel Jim Roper '68, who served four tours of duty during the Vietnam War, to hopefuls like Najar who are looking forward to their own potential service.

Colonel Roper's Wabash days were right in the midst of the Vietnam War which made his decision process quite different than today's. Facing the prospect of the draft, Colonel Roper enlisted with the Air Force through the local recruitment officer in Crawfordsville. It was certainly not an easy decision for him,

as we all know the involvement and work that Wabash requires of us, especially over a four-year period.

"All kinds of things were happening that seemed to make all the hard work at Wabash not worth it," Roper said. "I was a chemistry major, and it [Wabash] was a huge commitment of time. When you are told that you aren't going to be able to follow your hopes and dreams, it is a very de-motivating and empty feeling."

Despite his early misgivings, Roper looks back on his experiences now and wouldn't change a thing. He served four tours of duty during the Vietnam War, three of which were active, and went on to serve for a total of 26 years. During that time he got his master's degree in International Relations, and today he enjoys the ability he has to spend time with his family. His experiences at Wabash certainly helped him throughout his career.

"When I look back at Wabash, I look at the academic rigor it takes to be there," said Colonel Roper. "The hammer and anvil of the academics at Wabash prepared me better than anything I know, and it gave me the grit to get through the hardest times. It prepared me for all of the challenges that were out there."

While realizing that the military is not for everyone and there are challenges that come along with tours of duty, Roper, along with other Wabash military alumni, encouraged guys to give a career in the military some thought.

"There might be some of that honorable sentiment from the Midwestern values that would drive someone to do a tour," Roper said. "I think you need to have your eyes wide open. There are just as many career



COURTESY OF TOM RUNGE '71

Interim Dean of Advancement Tom Runge '71 served as a pilot and squadron leader in the United States Air Force for several years before coming back to work at Wabash in Alumni Relations.

specialties in the military as on the outside. The hardest part probably would be the burden you put on your family moving every two or three years, and it is hard living overseas."

The opportunities that can be seized out of Wabash can be as endless as a student wants. The rigor of Wabash and the fruits of the liberal arts are things that can produce success no matter what that next step is. Najar is just one Little Giant among many others hoping to pursue the military,

and the sentiment from men like Colonel Roper still holds true to this day.

"You certainly should come out of Wabash organized enough to set a goal and learn how to get there," Roper said. "If you do that, you can reach high rewards no matter what you do. The rewards [of being in the military] are wonderful. You get a whole other family in the service to add to your biological and Wabash families."

Chinese Studies Program Steadily Advancing

KENNY FARRIS '12
NEWS EDITOR

Even in the program's infancy and her first year at Wabash, Dr. Qian Pullen has big plans for Asian Studies at Wabash.

"In three to five years, I hope (the program) will become a major," Pullen said, reflecting not only on past successes but also future plans for the program.

In conjunction with Dean of the College Gary Phillips, President Pat White, and Professor of Economics Kay Widdows, Pullen is setting the foundation for Wabash's growing emphasis on Asian Studies. As one aspect of the growth, Fudan University School of Journalism Professor Na Chen will teach at Wabash as a visiting professor starting next fall.

Dr. Chen will teach courses in the Rhetoric, History, and Religion departments as part of what is currently Chinese Studies at Wabash. His rhetoric course will conduct comparative studies between Western and Chinese discourse, while his religion course will focus on popular religions in China such



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

BKT Assistant Professor of Chinese Language and History Qian Pullen is shown teaching Chinese last fall. Pullen is the faculty member leading Wabash's process of developing a Chinese Studies minor, and eventually a major. These changes are on track to take place in the next three to five years.

as regional mythologies.

"We think (Dr. Chen) is going to contribute to our Wabash education tremendously and help develop our Chinese Studies program," Pullen said.

Dr. Chen's courses serve as one set of courses a student will be able to take in Chinese Studies next year. Pullen, Visiting Instructor of Chinese Ssu-Yu Chou, and Associate Professor of Religion David Blix will offer courses on modern Chinese history, Chinese language, and Asian religions. The

courses will count toward a Chinese Studies area of concentration that Pullen hopes will ultimately count toward a minor in one to two years.

In addition, Wabash professors Blix, Mark Brouwer, Agata Szeszeszak-Brewer, and Peter Hulén will visit the East & West Center at the University of Hawaii to develop courses in English literature, music, and philosophy for the Asian Studies program.

Chen and Fudan Dean of Social Affairs Lizhu Fan will visit Wabash next week

to give two public lectures as a part of the partnership between Fudan and Wabash. Their visit is meant not only to prepare Chen to teach at Wabash next year, but also to acquaint Fan with the culture and academics of Wabash.

"Dean Fan is working to reform higher education in China toward a more liberal arts approach," Pullen said. "Dean Fan thinks that Wabash is a good reference point for such reform in China."

For Pullen, such growth is justified by what she sees

a great potential for Wabash students to learn about China and Asia. To Pullen, Wabash students had such little knowledge about China that they almost resembled a blank slate. In contrast, Pullen's former students at New York University often came in with knowledge about immigrant Chinatown that limited their ability to grasp truly Chinese culture.

"I was surprised last fall when I found my students knew nothing about China," Pullen said. "But they soaked up the class material like a sponge, which was an experience very different from my time at New York University."

In this spirit, Pullen wants to take such learning outside of the classroom. With the help of Director International Students David Clapp, Wabash has partnered with the America China Society of Indian to help students discover career opportunities involving Chinese elements. Plans are in the works for a Chinese Club, and the Chinese Studies program will feature in the April International Students dinner.

BACHELOR

301 W. WABASH AVE.
CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN
47933

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Peter Robbins
pbrobbin12@wabash.edu

MANAGING EDITOR
Riley Floyd
rhfloyd13@wabash.edu

CREATIVE EDITOR
Yangnan "Paul" Liu
yliu12@wabash.edu

NEWS EDITOR
Kenny Farris
kfarris12@wabash.edu

OPINION EDITOR
Alex Robbins
awrobbin13@wabash.edu

SPORTS EDITOR
Brandan Alford
bmalford12@wabash.edu

CAVELIFE EDITOR
John Dykstra
jhdykstr13@wabash.edu

PHOTO EDITOR
Ian Baumgardner
idbaumga14@wabash.edu

BACHELOR ADVISER
Howard Hewitt
hewith@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 300 words. *The Bachelor* reserves the right to edit letters for content, typographical errors, and length. All letters received become property of this publication for the purposes of reprinting and/or redistribution.

Profanity may appear in the publication, but only in cases of direct quote or if profanity is necessary to the content of the story. Please do not confuse profanity with obscenity. No article or picture of an obscene nature will appear in this publication.

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Announcements

Friday, February 17
Final Date to Drop First Semester Course with "W"

Saturday, February 18
Robert H. Johnson Leadership Academy, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday, February 20
Top Ten Scholarship II Program, Fine Arts Center.

Classics Lecture: Coleman, 8 p.m., Baxter 101

Tuesday, February 21
Write Stuff Workshop, 11:15 a.m. - 12 p.m., MXI Room 109.

Indiana Court of Appeals, 3 p.m., Fine Arts Salter Hall.

Annual Malcolm X Lecture: Dr. Stephen C. Finley, 7:30 p.m., Baxter 101.

Wednesday, February 22 - Saturday, February 25
Theater Production: *Endgame*, 8 p.m., Experimental Theater.

Thursday, February 23
Chapel Talk: Dr. Warren Rosenberg, 11:15 a.m.

Waldman '93 Built Brewery from Scratch

TYLER HARDCASTLE '15
STAFF WRITER

Looking over the menu at Triton Brewing Company in Indianapolis, one won't find much food. A different local caterer serves a meal most nights, leaving room on Triton's menu for what it does best. Beer. They make and enjoy beer with a passion that focuses on the process of production and the subtle variations in taste. It is an art appreciated for its process and product. At Triton, choosing a beer involves careful review of each of the different beers made on site as well as the various 'guest taps' made by other breweries in the area.

"The Wabash Connection with Indiana's growing beer industry is massive," Assistant Professor of Political Science and Brew Society Sponsor, Ethan Hollander said. "A lot of people don't give Indiana Credit but it's an amazing state for local craft beer."

Co-Founder and Operations Director at Triton, David Waldman '93, shared his passion with Wabash students last Saturday. Fresh from the Entrepreneur Summit, students traveled with the Brew Society through Career Services to see the principles of entrepreneurship in action. Having previously co-owned an Irish Pub in South Carolina, Waldman shared the story of founding Triton Brewing Company.

"In 1924 this building was built by the U.S. Army and was actually a mule barn for Fort Benjamin Harrison," Waldman said.

The army used the building later for a motor pool and cold storage. The building was later purchased by a friend of Jon Pactor '71 and used as storage for Burns Racing. In early 2010 Waldman first toured the building with his co-founders, Michael Deweese and Jon Lang.

"We came in, saw a dirty barn that likely hadn't been

cleaned since the early sixties," Waldman said. "But we saw these awesome race cars in it and knew we were home."

"As a team we ended up hanging 25,000 feet of corrugated steel throughout and around 15,000 square feet of dry wall, along with the heating, air conditioning and electrical work," Waldman said.

They intentionally designed the building allowing for easy expansion. "We actually have new equipment arriving soon and all we have to do is roll it in on its side, add the plumbing, make sure the valves are good and fill it up with beer," Waldman said.

While speaking about Legal Issues involved in a start up, Mark Rutherford '82 encouraged individuals starting a company to actively communicate with their lawyers and accountants.

"We are necessary, and not that evil," Rutherford said.

Triton's success reflects Waldman's active consulting with his lawyers and accountants. This undoubtedly helped facilitate the company's fast growth.

"When David brought Triton Beer up to Oktoberfest he didn't even have his production fully up and running," said BKT Assistant Professor of Psychology and Brew Society Sponsor Eric Olofson. "The Brewing Industry not only has huge room for growth, but it's also incredibly collaborative."

Triton has expanded and will begin bottling soon. Currently their beer is either sent out to other tasting rooms, bars or purchased from the brewery itself in large glass containers known as growlers. Because of the interdependent nature of Breweries, much advertisement and growth is done through social networking.

"The food trucks and caterers Tweet and Facebook about us," Waldman said.

"We also share each other's



COREY EGLER | WABASH '15

David Waldman '93 and two friends started Triton Brewing Company around two years ago. Waldman spoke about his experience with the start-up at last Saturday's Entrepreneur Summit.

customer/client list in a loving manner. It's a very good relationship for everyone."

The branding also reflects how the company has grown so well. Similarly to the construction process of the building, every decision was intentional.

"Triton is the son of Poseidon and God of Lakes and Streams, and we liked the name because there are three of us working as majority owners," Waldman said. "And Triton Brewing Company is all about the water."

The company uses multiple filtration systems for the building's water, and all the water used for the beer goes through additional purification. The purification of water allows them to make the water part of the process.

"We have recipes for water, when we make our Munich Lager we can actually duplicate Munich's water," Waldman said. "This is important because 96% of beer is water."

"I think brewing is per-

fect for the Wabash Psyche, you create it with your own hands, you use problem solving (because things are always breaking) and to be successful you've got to find better ways to do things," Waldman said.

Waldman can say this with reasonable assurance as five Breweries in Indiana have one or more Wabash Alumni involved. Being involved on multiple levels, as Waldman is on a daily basis reflects much of the Entrepreneur summit. Waldman and Triton Brewing Company will be offering a summer internship.

"It will involve all aspects of a brewing company, production, sales, on the road at special events and working with the distributors," Waldman said.

In short this internship will be an 8 to 10 week crash course in all things brewing. Look for the opportunity to come available on Wabash-Works in the next few weeks, applicants need not be 21.

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Freeze Publishes Book of ‘Linked Short Stories’

TAYLOR KENYON '15
STAFF WRITER

Assistant Professor of English Eric Freeze releases his new collection of short stories, known as *Dominant Traits*, next week, and the content of the book is inspired by the professor's own upbringing in Canada.

"I call it a collection of linked short stories," Freeze said. "They're all set in southern Alberta [Canada], where I'm originally from, in a small town called Ridgeview. It's a fictional town. It's a place where you have different families that repeat in different stories or characters that get picked up here and there. They're pretty traditional short stories. They're more traditional than my newer work; they're stories with a beginning, middle, and end. They deal with all sorts of different issues."

The issues include confused paternity, dealing with loss, and intimacy only to name a few.

"There's certain things about the area for people who are there [that they know] to be unique," Freeze said. "The place is populated with interesting groups of people. One is the Hutterites. The others are Mormons. I come from a town that is about 80% Mormon. Southern Alberta was one of the early Mormon colonies. There are a lot of Mormon characters that pop up in the stories."

Place-based writing best describes the collection according to Freeze.

"There's a lot of short stories that do this now," Freeze said. "There's a great collection that just came out last year called *Volt* or Stuart Dybeck's *I Sailed with Magellan*, where all the stories are set in Chicago. It's something that's been done before and a lot. I think it's pretty common with short story collections to have that place-based element to it. It was something



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Assistant Professor of English Eric Freeze's new collection of shorts stories *Dominant Traits* will be released next week. All the stories in the collection take place in a fictional Alberta, Canada town called Ridgeview, which is loosely based on Freeze's hometown of Raymond.

I wanted to try out for that collection."

Freeze's new book has received some attention in academia around the country, and he has been invited to travel around and promote it.

"I'm doing my first promotional event next week at Eureka College," said Freeze. "The publisher is getting the copies from the printer this week and they'll be shipping them out to different places where I'm doing events."

The collection on Amazon has a release date of April 15th, but the official US release of the collection is March 15th.

"If you wanted to get the collection before then, you can contact the publisher [Dufuor Editions] di-

rectly and get a copy," said Freeze.

"The thing that has been interesting with this collection, I just got back from a book tour in Alberta last week, and a lot of the people who would come to the readings or book signings were the people I had known growing up," Freeze said. "So it was this weird moment where I got this representation of this place that is familiar to them and it kind of was uncomfortable. It was uncomfortable for me too because it's like holding up a distorted mirror to your experience."

"It is fiction, but there was a tendency among some of the people who read the stories to incorporate themselves into some of the characters, the

town, or some of the situations; that can be really uncomfortable because its not always saying flattering things about the place or sometimes it's saying things that are different from the ways they imagine themselves or they imagine the place," Freeze said. "It's definitely an act of fictionalization of taking these parts of a real place and changing them or warping them to suit what I have going on aesthetically or thematically in the story."

Even though *Dominant Traits* is just being released in the US, Freeze plans to finish two writings by this summer. Maybe the next book by Freeze will be here before we know it.

Center of Inquiry Works for Continual Improvement

GABE WATSON '13
STAFF WRITER

The Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts at Wabash College was created through a Lilly Endowment grant that aimed to bring fame to Indiana. In its second decade and heading its second Wabash National study, the Center is doing just that.

The studies are longitudinal analyses of "the teaching practices, programs, and institutional structures that support liberal arts education" as well as learning new ways to evaluate such seemingly abstract topics. The first study evaluated over 17,000 students from 49 schools to evaluate both how individual students grow over time and the unique needs of new students.

The Center of Inquiry affects educational institutions across the nation, and Director of Inquiries Charlie Blaich was recently awarded The Council of Independent Colleges' Award for Academic Leadership. Blaich taught Psychology at Wabash before moving to the Center of Inquiry, and his relationship with the College has helped the program grow. While much of the Center of Inquiry's work is nationally-based and thus not dependent on Wabash, all of its findings relate directly back to how Wabash operates.

"Wabash students have been in Wabash National Studies and professors have worked with the data," Blaich explained. "There is a lot of what we do that Wabash can take advantage of, and we're happy to do whatever we can to help them."

Currently the data is being put to work to improve student retention rates and professors' teaching prac-



KELLY SULLIVAN | WABASH '15

Director of Inquiries at the Center of Inquiry Charles Blaich uses data to evaluate Wabash's success in attaining its goals. In addition to that, the center is completing the second Wabash National Study, a close look into the liberal arts in America.

es. Dean of the College Gary Phillips explained that with all the data compiled, they essentially attempt to answer the question, "Are we attending to incoming students' needs and goals?" An in-depth analysis of questions like this is only possible with data like that which the Center of Inquiry provides.

Because of the strength of the Center's programs and the \$33 million grant under which it operates, Blaich has been careful not to push data or change on Wabash administration. Rather it is the College that draws on the data. Another area the data is applied to is the analysis of what Phillips called "high impact teaching practices." These include

academic quality, faculty engagement, and diversity of course content.

"Every year the Dean meets with faculty to ascertain where high impact practices are found," Phillips said.

While the Center's findings have revealed many outstanding qualities Wabash has in relation to other Colleges, these are not Phillips's primary concern.

"We look not just for our top numbers to post up on the website," Phillips said. "We also look at the number of guys having trouble."

The challenge, he said, is not to simply rest on the fact that Wabash is already doing comparatively well, but rather to improve the weak spots

that are revealed. While it can seem risky for an administration to reveal its weaknesses, the real risk is in not recognizing the information we have.

"As faculty we all have things we think work, but you have to ask the students," Phillips said.

While they are not enforcing probabilistic procedures across the board, they certainly take into account the authority that statistics can have over personal perceptions.

"Not everybody has to be a statistician, but everyone should be able to ask critical questions and capture evidence about their teaching," Phillips said.

"Our goal is to be effective," Blaich said about this impact. "I believe in our mission. Liberal arts institutions are an incredible resource for the country, and what we're doing is helping them get better." What we've learned has and will help Wabash. A lot of what we do can be invisible, but it makes Wabash into a more nationally-known institution."

As the Center of Inquiry plans to move away from its grant money and into collaboration with a national organization called HEDS, the Higher Education Data Sharing consortium, it will continue to provide important data for students and staff of Wabash while spreading the fame of her honored name.

Error in Last Week's Issue:

As Zach Churney pointed out in an all-campus e-mail a week ago, *The Bachelor* used an inaccurate word to describe the Conservative Union's view of Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney. We apologize for this error.

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Memes Offer Good Humor, Venting

Wabash, you finally have a forum to share what you really think about our college.

Caught up in our Facebook friends' trends, memes about Wabash life took off in the past week. What started on Sunday took off across the Wabash student cyber world, with over 70 pictures posted as of Wednesday on the "Facebook official" group page. With a following of almost a third of the student body and untraceable others liking the posts and creating their own "Buses full of college-age women from other campuses" commentary, Wabash students have taken notice of this trendy feature.

Memes serve a beneficial purpose in that they remind us to not take ourselves so seriously. Yes, we're in Crawfordsville without women. Yes, our books often cost more than we want to pay. Yes, registration lines will be quite long in about a month. Yes, sometimes the food at Sparks or

STAFF EDITORIAL

our fraternities is sub-par to us. But these are very minor concerns. What better way to attract attention to these and other issues by posting an ironic picture/text meme to Facebook? We've gone back to Jonathan Swift's satirical humor to make what bothers us seem a little more light-hearted, and The Bachelor heartily support this.

Plus, through its open-to-all, easy-to-make forum, memes are open to nearly anyone. Memes only require internet access and easy-to-learn knowledge of photo editing in order to be made, which aren't major sources of division at Wabash. Rarely do we find something that can bridge different groups on campus, especially one that can be as humorous as a good meme.

Also, memes give Wabash a place to display what could be called

"the underground" Wabash culture. When a prospective student reads the admissions literature or listens to coaches and students give a tour of our campus, they read about high academic standards, successful alumni, a hallowed sports tradition, and many other aspects that look good to a high school senior. In this way, Wabash College is very good at showing off our campus.

But Wabash often lacks a place to discuss and admit a more realistic culture, one that doesn't always talk about academics or assume successful alumni impact everyone's lives daily. It can be fulfilling and uplifting for Wabash students to have (in Facebook "likes") visual proof that we are not alone in our disgust of the soggy ravioli or that, in fact, there isn't a bus packed with women arriving Friday night.

Memes on Facebook are a great substitute for the uncivil discourse of

e-mail wars, as it requires students not only to be honest but creative in the ways they interpret the school. While anyone can post, the standard isn't free and open speech. The real standard for a meme is free speech that is witty, truthful, and understood by all.

As a forum that can be used by someone sitting behind a computer screen, memes should be used cautiously. The Bachelor advises that students create memes that fit the above standards but also coexist with civil discourse, including not insulting individual members of the Wabash community openly. The Golden Rule is an effective standard in this.

Wabash, keep the memes coming. Your humor keeps us laughing and appropriately in touch with the realities of Wabash. And it keeps those studying abroad who stalk Facebook wishing they weren't home.

Wabash Must Rid Itself of Cliques

I looked for Steve Charles, but neither he nor his camera were in sight to capture such a glorious and proud moment in Wabash history. After sitting through yet another toxic conservative Chapel talk provided by Professor Webb, a Rhyme dressed in a dapper suit held his pot out accepting donations. Students sifted through lint and chewing gum wrappers to find crumpled bills that they gladly tossed in this offering pot. Just a few weeks earlier a student found himself rushed to the hospital after an unfortunate automobile accident. It was comforting to see this outpouring of love.

The weeks following would yet again place a gloomy burden on the students and faculty's unwavering support. Three more students had suffered from vehicle collision; however, no sympathetic pleas for dollars were heard, but a stifling silence engulfed the campus.

The last three victims were International students and Wabash clung to its position of pushing Internationals to the margins and quarantining them in a small unappreciated office in Center Hall. This is much bigger than a few gas cards, but it speaks volumes to our lack of community amongst the diverse group of students here at Wa-



TYLER GRIFFIN '13
OPINION COLUMNIST

bash. How odd that we can rally behind a Crawfordsville native, but not notice the suffering from our foreign guests. Granted there was a time lapse between the two unfortunate accidents and the former student was more vocal about his recovery.

Still, Wabash needs to stop using International students as Asian ornaments to bedazzle our "diverse" publications. Do we really welcome International students? Or do we simply push them away because they are "clique." If we are being honest, Wabash College is very clique. The Sphinx Club, an organization steeped in tradition, builds its reputation on keeping "unworthy" students out. Take a look in Sparks and the Black table, jock table and nerdy table will all operate as if the other doesn't exist. Even fraternities are characterized by these inadequate stereotypes. One is for dungeons and dragons lov-

ers, while the other is only for the extremely athletic.

People who are like-minded are drawn together, but if your "like-mindedness" is halfway around the world, I should hope a hand will reach out to shake yours. During my short tenure abroad, it was rather frustrating to be fumbling through the streets of London with a large map as the Londoners pass you by with an exasperated glance. Tourists are not the most fun people to deal with it, but International students have passed the touristy phase of Freshmen Orientation and have to settle in their niche or home here in small town USA. It's not hard to extend a hearty welcome and help expedite the process.

We marvel at the gore of 300 and the wit of Inglorious bastards, but Wabash needs to take a deeper look at Tina Fey's Mean Girls. Amid the catty three-way-calling, glitz of the upper middle class and scantily mini-skirts, the film presents and deconstructs the idea of cliques. So instead of Chapel next Thursday, let's screen Mean Girls and maybe we can destroy this "you can't sit with us" mentality.

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Have an opinion?

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Adele's Real Music, Genuine Persona

This past weekend Adele won all six Grammy's she was nominated for including Album of the Year and Record of the Year. This time last year Adele was a barely known artist here in America, despite winning two Grammy's in 2009 including Best New Artist. Her first record "19" was not very popular in the United States and her hit song from that record "Chasing Pavements" did not even become main stream.

However, this past year Adele slowly took the world by storm with her number one song "Rolling in the Deep." The thing about this song is that it broke convention with most of the songs that were playing at the same time that had immense auto-tune and a generic pop-beat. "Rolling in the Deep" is anything but pop or auto-tune. Adele sounds just as good singing the song live as she does on record, which is a rarity with modern day artists. The song also had a bluesy feel with a hint of rock and was so complex that it could not be viewed as pop.

Then another hit single off her CD hit the airwaves and became the song for all the people who ended a relationship, had their hearts' broken, had a bad day, and was even able to move grown men to tears, as satirized by a Saturday Night Live skit. The song "Someone Like You" has so much emotion in it and the words are so perfect that it can strike a chord with anyone that has felt heart break.

The most impressive part of the song to me is not the words or even the melody, but how with just her voice and a piano she is able to impact people so much and display so much emotion. If you have any doubts on this, watch her performances at the VHI Video Music Awards and the Brit Awards. She was able to steal the spotlight of both shows without wearing crazy outfits, having crazy stunts, or dramatic pyrotechnics. She just had her voice and the piano. You could see how much

the song impacted her with the fact that she had tears in her eyes while performing it, and it obviously reached the audience as several people broke down and cried.

However, what makes Adele so unique is the fact that she is so real. When people talk about her weight she does not deny it or get upset, but embraces the fact that she is a bigger woman and that she is beautiful as well. She preaches to people to love themselves for who they are and to not try to conform one's body to society's false expectations of what you see in a magazine or on TV. Her message is simply that one's personality is far more important than one's appearance and if you are comfortable in your own skin then it does not matter what other people think about you.

If you have watched Adele in an interview it is hilarious how different she is from other stars. She has a propensity to cuss a lot and have no filter between what she is thinking and what she is saying. It is kind of refreshing to see someone that does not shy away from sharing her life, and has not changed her personality from when she was growing up in the inner-city of London. After she won her Grammys in 2009 she worked in a record store for free to keep up with music's latest trends. She also went on a tour across the South and, because of her bus driver, fell in love with Blues and Country music. She also has not been changed by her fame. In an interview she was talking about how she met all of these other singers and how she almost crapped her pants because she could not believe she met those stars and they knew her name.

Finally Adele in her young career has already faced struggles with having a vocal surgery right before she was going to go on tour in the United States. She had to cancel her performance and was



STEVAN
STANKOVICH '12
OPINION COLUMNIST

not able to talk for two months, which is hard for any person but especially if you are a singer named Adele. I doubted whether or not after the surgery that she would sound the same, but at the Grammys she surprised everyone. She sounded almost as good as she did before the surgery, just not as strong, but she was still better than almost everyone else.

However, if you won't believe me about how good Adele is, the numbers speak for themselves. She has won 8 Grammy Awards. Her "21" album has been at number one for 20 weeks, placing it in the top 10 longest lasting number 1 albums of all time. She has sold over 6.39 million albums by the end of January, more than the second and third best-selling albums of the year combined. In all likelihood, her album will go over 10 million sales because of the Grammys. Lastly, her songs "Rolling in the Deep" and "Someone Like You" were two of the longest running number one songs in terms of sales and on Billboard top 100 this past year.

In short, there is no doubt that Adele deserved the awards she got at the Grammys. However, it is not just her voice, but also her genuine personality that makes her one of the greatest artists of our generation.

Letters to the Editor

Teaching Pseudoscience is Risky

Dear Editor:

I very much enjoyed reading Reed Hepburn's column entitled, "I.D. Bill Defends Critical Thinking." While his reasoning to allow Indiana's public school students to compare the theory of evolution to other "various theories concerning the origin of life" appears laudable, I can't agree with him. What is at stake here is the very essence of what constitutes science.

As I'm sure Reed is aware, attempts by educational entities in other states to introduce the teaching of creation science in science classrooms has resulted in multi-million dollar lawsuits (none of which have been decided in favor of teaching creationism) and, perhaps more importantly, deeply divided communities.

Anyone who has a dog in this fight should take the time to read the 2005 trial transcript of Tammy Kitzmiller, et al. v Dover Area School District, et al. as well as Judge John E. Jones' ruling on the case (<http://1.usa.gov/6TkZz>). Organizations like the Discovery Institute that attempt to spin creationism as science by coming up with scientific-sounding titles such as the theory of "Intelligent Design," simply can't present a case that this "theory" meets any accepted definition of science. The arguments and ruling in the Dover case (by a conservative judge) were a slam-dunk against any scientific legitimacy claimed by I.D. proponents.

The bottom line from my perspective is when children are in a science classroom (public or private), they should be instructed in the scientific method, and to appreciate that the bulk of our vast scientific knowledge was painstakingly accumulated through its use. For the most part, our education system is failing its responsibility to give our children the tools they will need to survive in a rapidly advancing technological society.

I would agree with Reed that simply sitting in a classroom and being spoon-fed facts (while necessary) should not be the only goal of science instruction. Children need to learn the scientific method and be allowed to get their hands dirty while utilizing their natural inquisitiveness to seek out evidence to test their hypotheses.

My primary concern is that teaching creation "science" in a classroom as a balanced alternative to evolution (a theory that continues to hold up to vigorous scientific scrutiny across multiple disciplines), whether macro or micro, will cause students to question the need for rigorous, unbiased scientific inquiry. They need to be taught not to rely on faith and intuition when studying their natural world.

We cannot condone teaching pseudoscience like Intelligent Design in science classrooms. Pseudoscience requires special pleading for a paradigm that does not require concepts to be held to the same standard of evidence as other scientifically accepted theories. If our students are not educated to value the importance of solid science, other countries producing those who do will be more than happy to continue to usurp the technology and innovation that have been the hallmarks of American society.

We live in a world where the 24-hour news cycle thrives on anecdotes and science reporting that pass for truth with little or no evidence. This allows the unprepared mind to accept things at face value without any critical inquiry. One need only look to the popularity of Dr. Oz and his gang of charlatans hawking their modern day snake oils and their eschewing of science-based medicine. This is a dire problem in a world where a good foundation in science is absolutely essential to allow our citizens to separate the real from the imagined when dealing with a multitude of economic and societal issues. Students should be free to put their scientific skills and knowledge to use when discussing philosophy and religion in non-science classrooms – squarely where the discussion of other various theories concerning the origin of life belongs.

John R. Roberts, M.D. '83

Exception to ID Bill

Dear Editor:

I take exception to the opinion column by Mr. Hepburn in the latest issue. Aside from the repeated rejection of bills like the one proposed in the Indiana Senate on constitutional grounds (the start of which was the Supreme Court decision *Edwards v. Aguillard* from 1987), Mr. Hepburn himself explains precisely why the notion of teaching religious theories in a science class should never be broached. He states, "Evolutionists, firmly-ensconced in the establishment of canonical Darwinism, claim that introducing interpretations of scientific data which point to any non-natural cause represents "mixing religion with science." If this interdisciplinary implication precludes a theory from examination in public classrooms, however, then evolution must be stricken from syllabi with equal alacrity."

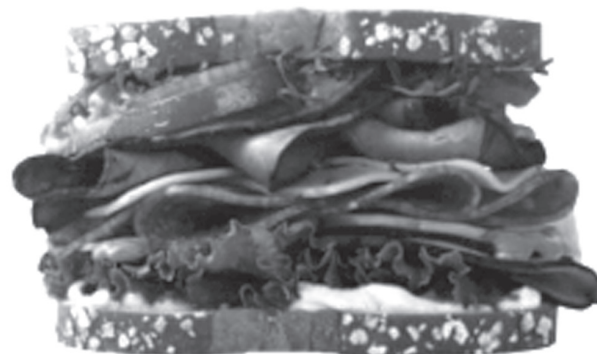
Science is the search for fact, born in experiments built to test theories, producing evidence-based knowledge. In your statement comparing these two ideas, only evolution brings scientific evidence to the table. Intelligent design, as he states, interprets evidence that is not its own. This difference is the stark divide between what belongs in science classrooms and what does not. Separating philosophical rumination from the methodical search for verifiable fact is not "rigidly-departmentalized educational policy" any more than not teaching history in an economics class because they are both worth knowing, and both help us understand the state of the world. Separating the two does not preclude intelligent design from examination. It just prevents it from being examined in a science class. Likewise, there is no reason to teach evolution in a world religions class, as it is not a religious notion.

My liberal arts education at Wabash is one of the most valuable things I have, and every class that I took there helped shape who I am and how I view the world. Each class had a different route of shaping that view. To force two opposing views, developed under different systems searching for truth in separate ways in an attempt to make them "equal" is intellectually dishonest and a disservice to both. If you truly believe in the goal of pursuing knowledge, know that true scholars will pursue it across different courses. Making sure people know the theory intelligent design exists is not the goal of these legislators. Giving that one theory double time in both religion and science classes is. Indoctrination indeed.

Finally, your statement of "all beliefs on [the origin of life] are inherently religious" would probably cause chemists working on replicating atmospheric conditions from early earth to biologists experimenting within the framework of an "RNA world" to drop their pipettes in surprise. Please don't do that. Pipettes are expensive.

Yours in Wabash,
Dave Coates '99

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Grammys Disappoint, Redeem

ALEX TOTTEN '13
MUSIC COLUMNIST

I don't know exactly what I was expecting from the Grammys. Last year the country was a tad spoiled when bands like The Black Keys won best rock performance, the Arcade Fire won best album, Mumford and Sons won best alternative album, and Esperanza Spalding won best new artist over the evil Justin Bieber; I was starting to think that the academy had developed taste.

So quickly from artistic enlightenment have they fallen, giving way to the usual bands with the same old sounds.

To be fair, Adele, the big winner of the Grammys, completely deserved every award she won. She's a refreshing change from the auto tuned shock electronic pop of music today, and, to top it off, she's actually talented. She sings from a heartbroken and somewhat mentally unstable place, which is musical gold, and it paid off with her six Grammys. Rather than taking cheap shots at Adele, I'd like to talk about the Foo Fighters.

The Foo Fighters won five Grammys this year, which, to me, was ridiculously surprising. They've been at it since Nirvana tragically went before its time, and, since then, they've been



COURTESY OF ATLASJAMS.COM

At last weekend's Grammy Awards, the Foo Fighters won five awards, which was a surprise to at least one person (hint: read this article).

doing the same old post grunge blandness that America's been eating up for fifteen years. After they won this award, I forced myself to sit through their album, *Wasting Light*, which sounded like everything they've ever done before. So, in that sense, if that's what the academy was looking for, they got it. They got the same old Foo

Fighters, doing the same old music that they've been doing since 1994.

The problem is that this just seems to allow for the status quo to be exalted rather than awarding artists that are doing something more unique. They were going against bands like Radiohead, who's deep and intricate melodies haunt my soul, and The

Decemberists constantly border five different genres. Instead, the academy awards a band that sounds like twelve other bands; they may as well give all of them the awards. Music has always changed itself, move towards different extremes, and met itself in the middle; this is stagnation, saying that the academy is fine with the same old thing rather than innovation.

But, where there is disappointment, there is redemption in the form of Bon Iver and The Civil Wars, two Grammy winners that innovate. Bon Iver, winner of Best New Artist and Best Alternative Album, has been around since 2007, doing a weird folksy mix of various different genres and sounds, and The Civil Wars, winner of Best Country Duo/Group performance/ Best Folk Album, are an alt country duo that cut their teeth playing underground shows, bringing an indefinable sound with them. Both bands are a hop on the horizon, the hope that the academy will, at least for now, throw a bone to aesthetically strange, but innovative bands.

Hopefully next year there will be another Arcade Fire that can win off of merit and artistic talent rather than mainstream pandering, but, for now, we're left with a Grammys of possibility not met.

TV in a Post-Football World

FRITZ COUTCHIE '15
STAFF WRITER

With the close of the televised football season, Wallies need a program to serve as a substitute for their dedicated weekly television time. This season promises to either continue or premiere strong programs that are worth watching.

"The Firm," airing Saturdays at 9 p.m. on N.B.C., may provide Wabash students with a suitable distraction from their homework and studies. "The Firm" is based on John Grisham's novel of the same name, and it follows a lawyer named Mitchell McDeere after he is released from the Federal Witness Protection System. Ten years prior to the pilot episode, McDeere exposed the law firm of Bendini, Lambert & Locke as a front to the mob and had to be placed

in the system for his own protection. After the death of the exposed mob boss, McDeere thought he was safe but he still faces danger at every turn.

Overall "The Firm" is a captivating watch. Josh Lucas plays a strong and agreeable version of Mitchell McDeere, which matches the skill of Tom Cruise in the 1993 film adaptation also titled *The Firm*. The show is a set of twists and the dark subject matter promises to engross any viewer. "The Firm" focuses more on the relationships and life of McDeere than on the actual court cases, which keeps the show from being a direct parallel of "Law and Order".

If courtroom dramas are not one's preferred genre of television programs, "The Voice" on N.B.C. puts a new spin on the television singing competition. "The Voice,"

now in its second season, positions four celebrities and the singers that they train against each other in a format that allows for more personality than "American Idol." The rivalry and personality clashes between Cee-Lo Green, Christina Aguilera, Adam Levine and Blake Shelton keep the show light-hearted and fun. The incredible talent level and sad portrayal of the artist's stories act as an incredible emotional appeal to the viewer. "The Voice" is the best talent competition on television. It airs Mondays at 8 p.m. on N.B.C.

If one would rather watch a comedy, "Archer" is a hilarious satire of the secret agent lifestyle. The show is in its third season on FX and maintains its comedic edge through topical satire and witty banter. "Archer" follows



COURTESY OF CLIQUECLACK.COM

The second season of "The Voice" on N.B.C. is generating even more buzz than the first, with hosts (from left) Cee-Lo Green, Christina Aguilera, Adam Levine and Blake Shelton.

the actions of Sterling Archer, a secret agent who works for his mother, the head of the International Secret Intelligence Service (ISIS). He manages to foil mission after mission with his irresponsible actions. Much of the humor in "Archer" is crude and it should

be watched with discretion.

When a distraction is needed from the rigors of academic life, tune in to these fun options. Watching a little television throughout the week can act as a powerful stress reliever, or, of course, a procrastination tool.

Noise-Cancelling Headphones Worth the Price

JOHN DYKSTRA '13
CAVELIFE EDITOR

Noise-cancelling technology has been around since well before the 70s, but it has a young history in the music world. Noise-cancelling headphones have become popular for all the right reasons.

Normal headphones do not reduce noise levels that well, which provokes listeners to increase volume levels to 'cancel-out' background noises. This obviously leads to even more ear damage. Noise-cancelling headphones, on the other hand, actually reduce surrounding noise levels and encourage listeners to listen to music at a lower volume.

There are two types of noise-cancelling headphones: active and passive.

Active noise-cancelling headphones have an external microphone on the outside that takes in surrounding sound waves. The external microphone generates an in-



FRANCISCO HUERTA | WABASH '14

Dustin Durnell '14 (left) and Ryan Wells '15 (right) listen to their noise-cancelling Beats by Dr. Dre headphones.

verted sound wave through a microphone on the inside of the headphones, which mixes with sound waves from music. So, the technology works by countering noises from the environment with inverted sound waves. These headphones only come in over-the-head models and require batteries to operate.

The technology for passive-noise cancelling is simpler than active cancelling. These headphones come in

earbud and over-the-head models. Noise-cancelling earbuds work by being inserted deep enough into the ear canal to create a seal. Over-the-top models tightly cup the ears with external padding. No batteries are required for either model, and the technology is not high-tech. Thus, passive models are significantly cheaper than active models.

When selecting noise-cancelling headphones, consider the environment you are in.

Active cancelling headphones work best in areas with consistent low-frequency sounds, such as an airplane. The price range for these headphones depends on how effective the microphone is. In areas with inconsistent noise frequencies, the headphones have difficulty because the external microphone has to register the various noises and create an inverted sound wave. So, using active-cancelling headphones on a construction zone might not be that effective in reducing noise. Also, these headphones are less effective at cancelling human voices than passive cancelling headphones.

Passive cancelling headphones are better at reducing high-frequency sound waves than their counterpart. They have an external noise reduction range of 25-30 decibels compared to the active cancelling's average of 20 decibels. Earbud models also have

better sound quality since they are closer to the eardrum, and they are easy to carry around. However, they can cause ear fatigue over time. Over-the-top headphones are generally more comfortable, but the sound quality is not as great as earbuds, and they are more difficult to carry around.

Overall, noise-cancelling headphones have become a commodity. The questions people should ask themselves when purchasing headphones is how much they want to spend and where they will be using the headphones. Cheap headphones do not cancel noise well at all, and using noise-cancelling headphones has several health benefits. So, spending 50-300 dollars on a set of noise-cancelling headphones can actually be reasonable as long as the headphones are treated well.

Wabash Drops Heartbreaker

BRANDAN ALFORD '12
SPORTS EDITOR

In a matchup of two of the nation's most evenly-matched teams, it only made sense that it would take more than 40 minutes to decide a winner. Entering the game with identical overall and conference records, it took two overtimes, a near buzzer-beater, and a one-point finish before Wabash and Ohio Wesleyan ended one of the most memorable games in recent Chadwick Court history. It also happened to be Senior Night at Wabash.

When it was all said and done, the Battling Bishops (18-6 overall, 10-5 NCAC) escaped with an 82-81 victory on the Little Giants' home floor as Wabash (17-7, 9-6) and Ohio Wesleyan battled for the third seed in the upcoming conference tournament.

After a lackluster first half, Wabash trailed 32-22, struggling on both ends of the floor as the Bishops outshot and outrebounded the Little Giants. Ohio Wesleyan routinely got to the rim offensive, finding open looks with ease en route to shooting 47 percent from the field in the first half.

"We talked about containing the guy with the ball and getting back in transition," Wabash coach Antoine Carpenter '00 said. "But most importantly we had to get better rebounding the basketball."

As bad as the Little Giants played defensively in the first 20 minutes, they had equal struggles on the offensive end, shooting just 32 percent from the field, including 2-10 from three-point range.

But on a night when the Little Giants honored their four seniors, Wabash showed an inspired effort coming out of halftime, cutting that 10-point deficit to just three with 15:00 remaining. Derek Bailey found his shot early

out of intermission, hitting back-to-back jumpers to spark the comeback. Bailey would go on to finish with team-highs of 23 points and seven rebounds in his last regular season on Mac Petty Floor. Joining Bailey in double-figures was fellow senior Brian Shelbourne. Shelbourne added 13 points and six rebounds, including several key baskets down the stretch in regulation and the first overtime period.

"I'm glad of the way our guys battled in that second half and in the two overtime periods," Carpenter said. "They gave maximum effort the entire way."

"I was very proud of all of our seniors tonight. Shelbourne and Bailey did what seniors are supposed to do: they got us buckets when we needed it and gave great effort. This is a memorable night for the seniors, and even though we came up short, this is a game they can remember. It was a hard-fought ball game and they can be proud of the effort."

As the Little Giants staged a furious second-half comeback, the Bishops refused to break, seemingly having an answer for every one of Wabash's runs late in the game.

Trailing 57-51 with 6:30 to play, it looked as though Wabash just wasn't going to be able to overcome the deficit.

But then amazing happened.

With the ball on the left wing, Bailey pump-faked, getting his man to bite, drawing the foul and somehow getting the shot to go, giving him a chance for a four-point play. Bailey would miss the free throw, but corralled the rebound, kicking the ball out to sophomore Andy Walsh, who connected on a three of his own.

And just like that, the deficit was one point, and from that point on, it



GRANT MCCLOSKEY | WABASH '12

Senior Aaron Zinnerman attempts a shot during Wednesday's loss to Ohio Wesleyan

was a back-and-forth affair.

With 21 seconds remaining, freshman Kasey Oetting substituted in for Houston Hodges after he fouled out. The Bishops would hit two free throws for a three-point lead. With time winding down, Oetting made Carpenter look brilliant for entering him into the game, as the youngster would bury a game-tying three-pointer with five seconds remaining to send the game to overtime.

In the first overtime period, Wabash scored first, giving the Little Giants a 66-64 lead. The Bishops would go on a 10-6 run to give themselves a two-point lead with a minute to play. A layup by Oetting with 51 seconds remaining would tie the game again.

Shelbourne's three-quarter court heave as time expired just missed, and the team's would head to a second overtime period.

In the second overtime, free throws were the story as Ohio Wesleyan went

2-6, but had a three-point lead with 13 seconds remaining. Seconds after entering the game, junior Jordan Surenkamp found himself with the ball and time winding down and was fouled in the act of shooting a potential game-tying three-pointer.

Surenkamp would hit the first two before missing the third. The Bishops would clear the rebound and time expired.

"This was a great basketball game," Carpenter said. "Unfortunately, we came up on the losing end."

Wabash now finds itself in a must-win situation Saturday against Oberlin. Win, and the Little Giants will host a first-round game in the NCAC tournament next week.

"We need to get some rest; our guys played a lot of minutes," Carpenter said. "We need to continue to work on execution and everything else will take care of itself."

Swimming Preps for NCAC Championships

JOCELYN HOPKINSON '15
STAFF WRITER

The Wabash Swimming and Diving team opens postseason play when it competes in the NCAC Conference Championship later this week. The meet will be held in Canton, Ohio from Feb. 16-18.

Wabash will compete in 20 events with all team members participating. However, only 18 Little Giants will be on the scoring roster. The championships promise to be very challenging as Kenyon, Denison, and newcomer Depauw are all ranked in the top 8 in the country.

"The addition of Depauw will make the conference stronger all the way through since an extra 18 guys are vying for the same 24 final spots," Barnes said. "In terms of being in a competitive conference, it doesn't get more competitive than this."

Swimmers and divers can still advance to nationals even if they don't win at conference. The individuals with the top 15 times in the entire country will advance as will the top 16 relay finishers. This also means that an athlete can finish first in his conference and still not qualify for nationals.

Of course, the team will travel to Canton with every intention to place first. After finishing in 3rd place the last 2 seasons, it will look to get over the proverbial hump. To do this, Barnes feels there is a

progression which must take place.

"You need to build a program and have 18 guys that can reach the national qualifying time," Barnes said.

Due to the depth and talent in the NCAC, Barnes explained that the team could finish in fifth place at nationals before it finishes in second place at conference.

Barnes has confidence in his guys to reach the national level.

"I think we have 4 individuals that have a really good shot at getting a national qualifying time," Barnes said.

Carter Adams, David Phillips, Jake Childress, and Aaron Troyer were all individuals he listed as having a shot to qualify. Barnes also said there will be a couple of other guys that will have a chance to make it on relays.

The Wabash Swimming and Diving team hasn't had a meet since the end of last month where it beat Illinois Wesleyan University in a dual meet. Past success doesn't necessarily predict future success like it might in other sports.

"Every meet is basically a practice to get you ready for the conference championship," Barnes said. "The conference championship is a different beast from dual meets. It's what we've been work-

ing for all year."

It was an up and down regular season for Wabash. The team went 3-4 in its dual meets while its highest place in an invitational was fourth. There are still plenty of bright spots, including the future. Three-fourths of this year's roster is made up of freshmen and sophomores.

"The good thing for us is that our goal in-season is to practice well and to swim fast at the end," Barnes said. "The dual meet season gave us a lot in terms of strategy and learn how to put each guy in the best situation to be successful and have his best times for conference."

With any young team comes a learning curve which it must go through. Earlier in the year, Wabash lost a dual meet at Depauw but was able to gain valuable experience from it.

"We swam well," Barnes said. "They have a lot of quality individuals but it was a good meet for us."

The rival schools will meet in the water again starting Thursday.

If any Wabash swimmer or diver qualifies for nationals, they'll compete down the road in Indianapolis. The national meet is scheduled for March 23-26.

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News On the Go...

This Weekend in Wabash Sports

Friday

Swimming @ NCAC Championships

Saturday

Tennis @ Oberlin 9:00 a.m.
Track & Field @ DePauw 11:00 a.m.
Baseball @ Rhoades (double header) 1:00 p.m.
Swimming @ NCAC Championships
Basketball @ Oberlin 1:00 p.m.
Tennis vs. Elmhurst 4:00 p.m.

Sunday

Baseball @ Rhoades 1:00 p.m.

Vazquez Brings Experience to Coaching Staff

MATT STEWART '15
STAFF WRITER

As a spot on the baseball coaching staff opened this past spring, Coach Cory Stevens knew who was right for the job. With his vast experience in college and major league baseball, Will Vazquez was a perfect fit for the coaching staff.

Hailing from Cleveland Ohio, Coach Vazquez went to Kent State and was drafted by the Boston Red Sox following his college years. Pitching in the minors for four years with five Red Sox minor league teams, Vazquez acquired much knowledge from various coaches and organizations.

After retiring last summer, Vazquez knew he wanted to get involved in coaching. Training at Wabash in his wife's hometown during the offseason, Vazquez became well-acquainted with the team and even gave some players a few pointers. Stevens noticed how Vazquez meshed with the team and was a role model for the players. Stevens noted his potential during his prior involvement with the team.

"I could see early on that he was going to have a great career in coaching if he chose that path," Stevens said.

Players, too, have experienced his coaching skills. JT Miller, a sophomore pitcher has worked with Vazquez leading up to this spring's season.

"He is really approachable," Miller said. "If any of us have any questions about how to attack a certain hitter, or what to throw in certain situations, he



COREY EGLER | WABASH '15
Assistant coach Will Vazquez during practice this week is always there to answer."

Vazquez plans to implement the same ideas and mentalities into the players that his coaches gave him. He said that some of his favorite coaches were his coach at Kent State, Scott Strickland, and his coach Bob Kipper, during his years in the minor leagues. He notes the influence of his coaches' guidance in his career and desires to do the same in his players at Wabash.

Coach Vazquez has goals for his players and challenges them to get better. Since his first day with

the players, he has worked hard to push their boundaries and further their skills.

"I want to teach the pitchers to be able to think the game, be able to see what is going on and adjust to those situations," Vazquez said. "I tell them to do this or that but eventually I want them to be able to do those things themselves."

Vazquez says he likes the community feel at Wabash, and he really appreciates the feeling of acceptance he had since joining the staff.

He also notes the value of the academic tradition alongside sports at Wabash. In addition to his role on the coaching staff, Vazquez is an intern in the student retention office.

"My main responsibility is to keep track of athletes who drop off teams or who get early alerts and to follow up with them," Vazquez said. "I also help with different projects that Heather Hines (in the student retention office) works on."

Coach Stevens says that Vazquez has all the tools and experience to lead the pitching staff and knows that his added knowledge will help the team reach their goals this season. Stevens says the pitching could have been better last season, despite the team's outstanding performance winning the NCAC conference.

With Vazquez's training and enhancing of the pitchers, the team hopes to further last years' accomplishments by winning a Regional title and advancing to win a National Championship.

Relay Team Sets School Record Against Top Talent

RYAN LUTZ '13
STAFF WRITER

Athletes from all over the nation attended the BU Valentine Invitational, which boasts one of the fastest tracks in the nation. The field was comprised teams from Division I and II, and our Little Giants. They came largely as unknowns, but left with two new school records and a second place finish in the DMR. Which continued their improbable season of rewriting the record book, while beating the nation's premier Division I and II teams.

This was the first year that the Little Giants had sent runners to this meet, hoping to give their top runners more preparation for the post-season push. With a time of 9:50.49 and 9:51.11 in the finals the quartet of Jake Waterman, Cole Hruskovich, John Haley and Kevin McCarthy ran one of the fastest times in the nation this year and one of the fastest times ever in Division III.

"In the past we had been kicking ourselves for not giving some of our top guys opportunities to compete. So this year we sent them out there and gave them a shot," Coach Morgan

said.

The BU Valentine Invitational was attended by teams like Boston College, Florida State and other elite colleges and universities of the Northeast. The atmosphere alone is one that a majority of track athletes will never see in their lifetime. The track itself is one of the fastest in the nation, which is why professional meets are held there regularly. The DMR team rose to the challenge beating out teams like Boston College, Johns Hopkins University and the Naval Academy.

"When they texted and told me their times, I almost dropped me phone" Morgan said. "I mean I was shocked."

Having athletes that can travel nearly 16 hours to a meet and then beat teams in bigger divisions is a true testament to the ability of the coaching staff, along with the sheer mental toughness of the runners. McCarthy's performance over the weekend spoke to that. Going into his race in the mile McCarthy "was tired" and went on to finish with a 4:11 mile time.

"That just go to show you the kind of athlete his is, I mean he came into the race tired and ran a 4:11, which is

fast," Morgan said.

Haley also broke a school record for the Wabash Track team posting a 49.08 time in the 400. At this point in the season the team has been focusing on staying healthy and making times for conference. The track team has had a record number of athletes qualify for Conference and they will host the Conference meet during the 2nd and 3rd of March.

"We are still trying to take everything one meet at a time, and we are still working towards Conference and getting more guys qualified," Morgan said.

Every sport has their own tapering methods, this year the track runners will do more pool work and easy up on the number of sprints they do. Saving their legs for the post season push is their top priority. In order to do that, the focus has been on getting their runners off the track every now and then to make for a rested athlete.

"I always say, a great athlete during the post season is a rested athlete," Morgan said.

After a strong showing at the BU Valentine Invitational, another record breaking performance at Nationals has

become very possible. All of it comes down to how well the team handles themselves in these next few weeks.

"If we take care of business, we can have the best showing at Nationals in school history," Morgan said. "We need to take it one day at a time with the National meet in the back of our minds. It takes all those short term goals to get to that big one."



JOE SUKUP | WABASH '15
Junior John Haley is one of four members of the Distance Medley Relay.

Wrestlers Take Home Mid-State Conference Title

TYLER WADE '12
STAFF WRITER

Every athletic season begins with coaches and athletes setting personal and team benchmarks to gauge progress during the season. Heading into the final stages of their season, the Wabash wrestling team appears to be on track for an impressive finish.

This past weekend the Little Giants took home the Mid-States Conference championship. Wabash bested Olivet, host school Mount St. Joseph, Alma, Trine, and Manchester in the competition.

A total of 19 Wabash wrestlers placed in the competition and four Wabash men took home individual honors. Senior Greg Rhoads won the 184lb weight class and was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler. Freshman Tommy Poynter won the 125lb weight class, junior Jake Strausbaugh won the 149lb weight class, and senior Jake Moore won the 165lb weight class.

While happy with his win, Moore was quick to point out that this meet was not against the toughest

competition. Many of the teams do not compete at full-strength in the conference meet in preparation for the NCAA Regional at the end of the month.

Unlike the NCAA Regional, teams can enter multiple wrestlers in the same weight class at the Mid-States meet.

"It is always a plus to win a tournament and receive that gratification," Moore said, "but the biggest championship we are looking for is the regional title. We missed out on the title by less than five points last season."

In order to make the run for the regional championship, Head Coach Brian Anderson has to put forth his best lineup. Moore said the wrestlers know the stakes are high and the team is focused on being in the best possible shape in two weeks.

"We have to trust our coaches and the practices they set up for us to have our bodies feeling right so we can be in the best condition for the regional tournament. The next two weeks are vital and preparation is important," Moore said.

In the NCAA Tournament, it is not about the

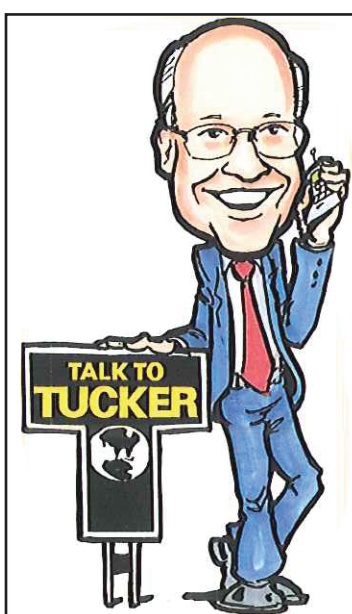
individual wrestler finishing each match with more points than his competitor. Bonus points are awarded for a major decision, making each guy go that much further in pursuit of a win.

"Last year we had every guy in the top 4 or better, which is remarkable," Moore said, "but we didn't pick up bonus points when we had the chance. If we want to make it out, this year we know that if we have a guy on his back we have to get the pin."

Moore was pleased with the progress the wrestling team has made during his four-year stint as a Little Giant. "Comparing our team from freshman year to our team this year is like comparing night and day. The past two years we have become nationally recognized and have competed with and beat some of the best teams in the Nation."

Moore credits this improvement to the hard work by coaches and athletes in bringing in stellar recruiting classes each of the last few seasons.

Coach Anderson can make a huge step forward if his team can clinch the NCAA Regional on Saturday, February 25th in Ohio.



**Good Luck in the NCAC
Tournament Basketball
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