

# THE BACHELOR

THE STUDENT VOICE OF WABASH COLLEGE SINCE 1908

## HOMECOMING 2014: SPHINX CLUB SPEAKS

## REILLY LOOKS TO FUTURE

**TIMOTHY HANSON '17 |**

STAFF WRITER • Joe Reilly '18 accomplishes whatever he can with the belief that no goal is insurmountable and no mountain too high to climb. He has been a cross-country runner, prom king, become a state-level speaking competitor with minimum effort, and an award-winning movie-star.

Reilly had a fairly standard childhood. He worked hard at his studies and did extracurricular activities. As an athlete, he ran track and cross-country. As a student, he joined his school's speech team where he would take part in smart and articulate discussions with some great fellow students. Eventually, he formed a close-knit group of friends over the course of his high school career. He even went to state-level competition in his specialty, impromptu speaking. While his comrades were rehearsing scripts and writing lengthy essays, he got

SEE **REILLY**, P5

KENDALL BAKER '16/PHOTO

**SPHINX CLUB** • On November 9th, 1912, Wabash College held its very first "Homecoming" game; a day in which the Wabash football team play Earlham and a special banquet was held for all alumni. This inaugural Homecoming was not successful and was extinct until after World War I. According to Wabash archivist, Beth Swift, this was revival of Homecoming at Wabash and kicked off the tradition of Homecomings complete with: "football, freshman pledges, floats (that don't float). A time when old friends gather, reminisce and share their stories of their time here."

Homecoming, as Swift notes, is an exciting tradition for Wabash men, new and old.

Many of the events and activities of Homecoming have changed over the years, from the Homecoming bonfire, the alumni banquet, and the shaving of W's into freshmen heads during chapel sing (which later became the painting of W's on the face, and then W's were extinct for a period of time).

We are now in the year 2014, over a hundred years since the first Homecoming at Wabash College. There is now a structure of events for students

(Chapel Sing, Chant, Float, Banner, and Queen Competitions) as well as events for alumni (alumni chapel and lunch prior to the game) and the entire Wabash Community (the game itself and the glee club's annual Homecoming concert).

The purpose behind these events is the same as it was during the first homecomings, to unite Wabash men and their families.

Homecoming is an exciting time in

SEE **SPHINX CLUB**, P11

**HAPPY  
HOMECOMING,  
WABASH!**



# HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY  
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

## EAST SIDE WINTER COAT DRIVE

East Side bar and grill is hosting "Coats for the Community", a coat drive for local citizens. They are accepting new or gently used coats in hopes that "no one goes cold this winter". Donations can also be dropped off at Kappa Sigma to be transported to the restaurant.

## CHEERS TO COMMENTARY

Cheers to the Wabash Commentary for getting your budget request approved by the Student Senate. It was surely those Oxford commas in your proposal that finally won over the bureaucratic student government. Beware! The student senate is a fickle lover.

Love, *The Bachelor*.

## STUDENT SENATE FUNDS IMA'S HOMECOMING

IMA requested funding for its homecoming activities. Issues of equity were raised as Fraternity men asserted that they (or their houses) paid for the expenses of their floats. The budget was ultimately amended to allocate funds to the IMA.

## JUSTIN MILLER '17 WINS

Our very own Justin Miller won the 32" television from Career Services day on the mall. Hopefully it doesn't prove to be too much of a distraction!



Justin Miller '17

## YIK YAK WALLY CHAT

Last Friday Indiana State University quickly responded to a threat made on the social media site, Yik Yak. Thus far, what can only be assumed to be Wabash students have centered their lovely comments around fraternity parties, female college employees, and Patrick Bondi '15.

# ALBRECHT COACHES STUDENTS TO FELLOWSHIP SUCCESS



COREY EGLER '15/PHOTO

Susan Albrecht, as Graduate Fellowship Advisor, has made it her business to get students opportunities. Here she counsels Jacob Burnett '15, who is applying to several fellowships.

**IAN ARTIS '16 | STAFF WRITER •**  
Susan Albrecht, Media Acquisitions Manager and Graduate Fellowship Advisor, is no stranger to Wabash. Having grown up in Crawfordsville



Susan Albrecht

and being the daughter of a physics professor and Wabash staff member, she knows the ins and outs of the community. "My dad used to say that he could give a test that everyone would fail, but what would be the point?" Albrecht said.

Her latest position is to assist undergraduates from sophomore to senior status secure fellowships, and scholarship money attached to fellowships.

"I assist with everything from the Truman and the Goldwater to the Gilman, which helps students with Pell Grants pay for study abroad," Albrecht said. "There was a committee that handled this sort of thing, but with their teaching and student advising, they were just too busy. The committee still exists,

but they come into the process a bit later."

One of the more popular fellowships is the Fulbright, which has programs designed for a student to conduct research or teach English while earning a Masters degree.

"Right now, it's Fulbright, Rhodes, Mitchell, Marshall, and Gates Cambridge season," Albrecht said. "But the Truman is actually geared toward juniors, so they know what they'll be doing by the time they hit their senior year. The student would have already won it, and it will pay for his grad school. The Goldwater is for undergraduates who are outstanding in the STEM fields."

The process for earning these fellowships varies from the Rhoads, which does not allow you to obtain help from anyone on your personal statement, and requires a letter of endorsement from a College official, to the Gilman, which gives awards based off of academic merit and need. "Right now, it's pretty hands on. The students are putting their applications together and getting help from me and Mr. Koppelman upstairs.

Albrecht warns against applying

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

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# WABASH COLLEGE RANKINGS 2014: THE RESULTS ARE IN, COMMUNITY RESPONDS

**TAYLOR KENYON '15** | STAFF WRITER • Competition is king in academia; every turn of the university system is met with some element of it—students pressing for grades, the football team striving to keep a streak alive, researchers toiling in the lab for publication, and even the institutions themselves fighting for rank.

As high school seniors, all of us recall the towering pamphlets and packets of information meant to swoon prospectives. Often on the face of this literature were rankings from a series of different organizations that the college was proud to tote. Yet in the midst of all the details about new sports complexes opening and student profiles, we can overlook the significance of these ratings. More specifically, are these rankings achieving to do what they intend—judge the quality of universities and colleges? Regardless of validity, these rankings likely have some affect upon the community.

The most recent iteration of the US News and World Report rankings, one the College regularly boasts, placed Wabash at 61st overall of national liberal arts colleges, trailing behind 51st-ranked DePauw University.

**“Our focus is all about match- helping young people find the teaching and learning environment that best serves their needs and aspirations.”**

**DEAN KLEIN**

This ranking sits higher than where Wabash usually resides; specifically, the four years preceding include 57th in 2013, 53rd in 2012, 53rd in 2011, and 54th in 2010. Consequently, this shift was noticed and discussed upon the College’s Facebook page by alumni and friends of the college. However, the larger questions still stand—has the quality of the College changed and how do the perceived rankings affect our prospects’ decisions?

“As a prospective student, it never factored in a lot to my decision,” said Andrew Powell ‘17. “I definitely looked at them, but it wasn’t at the forefront of my mind. But I think of

my perspective on that has changed a little bit since I’ve gone to school here and become a part of the community and what an impact that has on other people as they make their decisions. I also think it’s really nice to see the rankings a little more broken down, so you hear things about IMs and professors. I think that really speaks to what Wabash is and what Wabash does well. It also highlights things we could work on which is always a good thing to have as well.”

Powell said he didn’t think the recent drop in ranking is anything to be concerned about.

“I don’t know how the administration looks at things like this. I know that a lot of international students that I talk to look at the rankings and hold those to a very, very high esteem when they’re making their college decisions. So I think from that perspective, it may be more of an influence; however, from my perspective as a student, it doesn’t change the way I feel about Wabash at all.”

Steven Klein, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, insists that understanding the intention of these ranking organizations is key. “College rankings are a very sensitive issue to many of us in the enrollment field,” wrote Klein. “Keep in mind they are not our rankings, but typically compiled and published by companies looking to sell books, magazines and advertisements on websites. Those of us in admissions would be the last people to advise young adults and their parents to use rankings to select a college.”

“Our focus is all about match- helping young people find the teaching and learning environment that best serves their needs and aspirations,” wrote Klein. “That said, there are some aspects of ratings that can help prospective students and their families become better consumers. I speak about the published data that are part of the rankings process. For example, knowing what the four-year graduation rates are of various colleges can be helpful, as can the percentage of classes under 50 students. There are many others and they can be helpful in shaping

questions that families should explore and ask about during the college search process.”

“[Rankings are] a well-intended attempt to aid students and families making a difficult decision,” Preston Bost, Director of Institutional Research and Professor of Psychology, said.

“My role is to ensure any data we report to bodies outside the college is accurate,” said Bost. “My role is also to assist the leadership of the college in interpreting rankings within the methodology of the ranking system. My broader concern is to ensure we are meeting the goals to educate the students. Given the hopes and aspirations for our students—what we



**Professor Bost**

want to help them accomplish; how can we assess the extent to which the College is accomplishing these goals?”

Bost argues that comprehending the methodology of the studies shows their value. In other words, it is critical to understand precisely what these rankings are testing—a bad test is not effective. Bost begins by explaining US News’ methodology. “US News emphasizes structural aspects of the institution: characteristics of its student body such as test scores, high school rank in class; characteristics of its educational environment such as class size and student-faculty ratio; and characteristics of its resources such as faculty salaries and money spent on instruction. student-faculty ratios, characteristics of its student body. They use these as proxies to

SEE RANKINGS, P4

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# CARTER '07 WITNESSES STRUGGLE IN SOUTH SUDAN

**PATRICK BRYANT '16** | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • Civil war, corruption, and famine come with the territory for Sterling Carter '07, an International Protection Officer with the Nonviolent Peace Force in South Sudan. Carter visited campus earlier this week and gave a talk entitled "War Unbroken - Human Rights and the Economics of South Sudan's Civil War."

Carter shared the story of his work in South Sudan, giving insight into what he referred to as the four most important resources in the area: cattle, land, water, and oil (not in any particular order).

"When most people are talking about South Sudan, they're talking about the oil there," Carter said. "In the late 1990s and early 2000s, it was all about oil. About 98 percent of South Sudan's budget comes from oil revenue. There's almost no tax base."

Carter, an English and Theater double-major, served in the Peace Corps after graduation. It was then he realized his passion for work with peacekeeping organizations.

Carter said that inter-clan fighting is extremely prevalent in South Sudan. He said it is not uncommon for fighting and retaliatory tit-for-tat killings to stretch generations. Meanwhile, the lack of political stability allows warlords to claim many of the resources that are truly up for grabs in a society without property rights and a legal system that are typical in the west.

"You have this warlord who basically says, 'I own this'," Carter said. "And then you have a company that wants to buy that land and so that warlord sells it."

"It's really difficult to look at this conflict holistically."

This is a wide-reaching struggle. According to Carter, of the 11 million

that live in South Sudan, 1.7 million are displaced. This comes in a time where Carter said there are more famine emergencies recognized by the United Nations and other organizations than ever before.

"We're fully expecting famine," Carter said, "we're fully expecting the conflict to continue. And the problem with South Sudan is it's twice the size of Texas. It's not very population-dense, it's closed off, and it is one of the most undeveloped countries in the world. Because of the conflict, the UN doesn't really even know of its level of development."

As a journalist, Carter said one of the important things he can do is educate the west on the issues there, but also give a sense of the real impact of the economic sanctions being imposed there. It's a matter of sanctions being imposed on warlords who are happy to give up the money and maintain their foothold on pillaged land, water, and cattle, and oil.

"Sanctions don't work on these people because the money's all in the resources," he said.

Seton Goddard '15 attended Carter's talk on Monday. He said the talk helped spark conversations on campus about how a liberal arts education can be put to work and make a difference in troubled regions like South Sudan.

"I thought that Sterling Carter brought a much-needed perspective from the Wabash alumni base," Goddard said. "So often, we hear about the pursuits of alumni in business, law, or medicine. These are immensely valuable perspectives, but having the opportunity to hear from someone who is on the ground in a conflict-torn developing nation like South Sudan was something that we don't get very often."

FROM **RANKINGS**, P3

judge the overall quality."

Furthermore, a twenty-five percent of US News' rankings consist of peer-assessment. "To what extent is the President of one institution in a position to evaluate the quality of all the institutions they are invited to rank? ...The raters have limited access to information by which to base their judgments, said Bost.

"Are these proxies a proper way to measure education? Student-faculty ratios, etc.- indirect [measures]. Should we be looking at it in a more granular way?" This is the question instigating a new measure to judge the quality of the college.

According to Bost, this study aims to effectively answer the question of quality. "Perhaps if we want to be thinking about the quality of education, we need to be looking more directly," said Bost. "Or to be more specific, at the actual educational activities going on within an institution."

No matter the validity of rankings, such as US News, quality of our education is one factor that needs to be measured well. By doing so effectively, we may attract the high school seniors we intend; because, each year one quarter of the school is replaced.



SHANE XUAN '17 / PHOTO

Carter presents to students this past Monday. After graduating as a double-major in English and Theater, Carter joined the Peace Corps.



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to sit back and wait for his turn to speak before the judges.

“What I loved about it is that I didn’t have to memorize anything,” Reilly said. “It was really easy to do once you have practiced and learned how to do it. ... I just had to walk in, look at a word [prompt], and talk.”

Reilly was never one to fall for the glamor of the high school popularity contests. But that doesn’t mean that he and friends held any scruples in participating with their own creative spin.

“You know how the most popular kid is usually the one who wins is usually the one who wins?” Reilly said. “Well, my friends and I thought that it would be hilarious if we treated it as an actual campaign.”

They made buttons, campaign posters, and clever slogans; unprecedented efforts to see to it that he won the title. And so, Reilly became the unconventional winner of prom king. His success finally reached the big-screen when his school held a filmmaking competition where participants were required to make 8 minute long films entitled: “That’s the Question”. Riley’s team set out



FRITZ COUTCHIE '15 / PHOTO

Reilly stands outside Pioneer Chapel. A Lilly Scholar from Noblesville is involved with Ultimate Frisbee, WAR council, Chapel Sing and *The Bachelor*.

again to put their unique skills to the test, determined to surpass these odds as they did many others. Starring Reilly as the protagonist, they crafted a film about a hit-man who is bailed out of jail and receives an important assignment to assassinate an important politician, pursued by two relentless FBI agents. It was a smashing hit with the judges and they won first place. Reilly has so far denied all claims that there will be a sequel.

But that’s all in the past now, he has new adventures to achieve and success to pursue here as a Lilly Scholar winner at Wabash. He is currently involved in Ultimate Frisbee, the WAR Council, Chapel Sing, and *The Bachelor*.

Reilly is the kind of guy who enjoys analytical work and problem solving. He spent much of his summers working with the check-in process for Boy Scouts of America, a task his employers would find frustrating considering its demand for organization and logic. In his free time, he hangs out with his friends and watches movies, lately getting into the rising director, Wes Anderson.

Encouraged by his high school teacher of the same subject, Reilly is determined to major in Chemistry to later work in research on the subject. A meaningful purpose, and one that aligns with his skills and preferences. As Reilly said: “With Chemistry, you solve problems to find the answer and the answer means something.”

He is glad to be here at Wabash and appreciates how welcoming everyone has been to him. His hero is former Sen. Bobby Kennedy for his diligence, compassion, and integrity, traits that he hopes that he can exemplify as well.

Despite all of his interesting adventures, there’s one experience that Reilly insists everyone must take part in no matter who you are: next time you’re enjoying a quiet moment alone and there’s nothing to bother you, get yourself some double chocolate chunk fudge brownie ice-cream. With each bite, take a swig of Sunny D. Simple ingredients and minimal health risk concerning a college student’s diet and as Reilly adds: “It’s not something you’d think to try.”

## CORRECTION

SEPT. 19 PAGE 15:

The late singer Luciano Pavarotti’s name was spelled incorrectly in a headline.

to fellowships for merely superficial reasons.

“They’re not to pad a resume, they’re not just for prestige, and they are definitely not meant to delay and hold off on what you want to do with your life because you don’t know,” Albrecht said. “You should be open to new experiences,

**“They’re not to pad a resume, they’re not just for prestige.”**

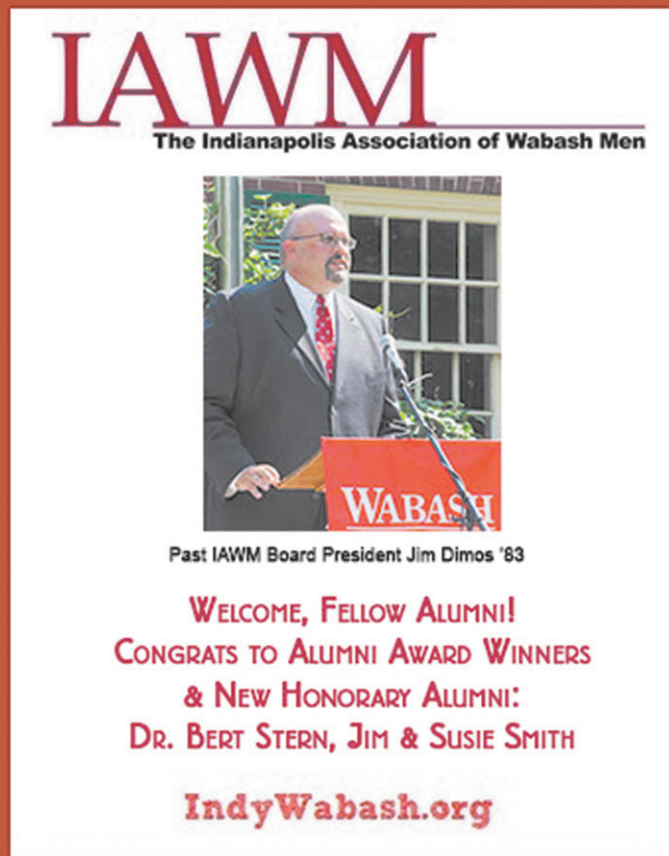
SUSAN ALBRECHT

want to teach and learn, or have a research or project goal in mind. The Fulbright stands out to me because you can go almost anywhere and do almost anything. They also don’t have a minimum GPA, so while they are competitive, they have a lot of open spots, and

don’t shut the door on applicants.”

As Media Acquisitions Manager, her day job is to stock equipment for Lilly library. Coaching students through the fellowship application is quite a change from her normal job. “I got a call saying the dean wanted to see me and I thought ‘Oh dear, what did I do?’, but the person on the phone said, ‘it’s nothing bad, it’s about an opportunity’ and I was relieved,” Albrecht said. “I met with then Dean Phillips, and he said he wanted to build on the success of the previous year. It’s a three year trial period, half-time, so I said I’d give it a try. The great thing about it is that our students are qualified, just as qualified as DePauw students, and they were getting Fulbrights almost every year. It makes the job easier,” Albrecht said.

Students looking to pursue a fellowship should get begin a conversation with Albrecht as soon as possible. “The earlier the better,” Albrecht said. “I encourage students to begin looking at our website and start thinking about the future.



## 'POOF' OF COMMITMENT

You've probably seen "the poof" or "the flow" around campus recently, though it's possible you didn't know what you were looking at. You might even be growing your own addition to the "poof" or "flow" social movements, knowingly or not. Regardless, this year at the good old 'Bash, there has been an undeniable influx of lengthy hair, from the heads of freshmen to seniors, either long and flowing or tightly curled and poofy.

While there are many long-haired men around campus, certain members of the cross-country team specifically have been growing out their manes (and chin-scruff) for months now. As a member of the team, and a flow-retiree myself, I feel uniquely situated to comment on the condition in which Wabash finds itself.

What would possess an intelligent Wabash man to grow his hair out? What might he be trying to accomplish by leaving himself untrimmed? While I cannot speak to all members of "#TeamFlow" or "#PoofSquad", I'd like



**Ryan Horner '15**

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to explore a few semi-serious thoughts about the experience of growing long hair in an all-male atmosphere.

First, it is interesting to note those whose heads have been overtaken with hair are participating in a very passive activity – the cross country members who have long hair, for instance, haven't touched scissors to their heads since January or February. Unlike dyed hair or Mohawks, long hair is a direct result from sustained restraint, not sustained action.

Though hair-growing might be inherently passive, there is also a feeling of strict determination about it. Is it

any coincidence that among those who devote themselves to the discomfort of growing incredibly long hair are those individuals who religiously run a hundred miles a week?

In fact, for those members of the cross-country team, the mane-phenomenon neatly aligns with another set of goals, and has a specific end-date: DIII Cross Country Nationals on November 22nd in Mason, Ohio. Members of the team have repeatedly stated that their hair is a "statement": a statement of solidarity, of commitment, of living an abnormal lifestyle.

On the other hand, many who join the League of Long Hair, it seems, do so without much prior thought. My personal experience speaks to this, as do the experiences of many teammates; one day, after being surprised by how long my hair had grown, I decided to see it all the way through, and my hair eventually reached eleven glorious, awkward inches.

Another common sentiment from those who have made the leap is that

this is the ideal time (maybe the only time) in their lives to rock the flow/poof. Interviews for post-Wabash life loom ahead, and the threat of a professional workplace where flashy hair would be frowned upon motivates many to experiment while they can.

But could growing long hair also possibly be an affront to the semi-rigid expectations of masculinity placed upon Wabash men on this campus? The English Major in me thinks so. Or, conversely, could those men who righteously defend their freedom to grow their hair as they please be expressing that other facet of American masculinity: pride?

As Autumn passes, it will be interesting to see how the hair fares. Likely, there are a few Wabash men out there who are on the cusp of entering into the long hair ranks. Meanwhile, the shaggy cross country runners will continue to laugh at your jokes about air resistance/drag/aerodynamics.

All jokes aside, some of the Wabash runners have hair to dye for.

## A TIME FOR DREAMING, ENGAGING, LEARNING, AND REFLECTING

On July 4, 1845, Henry David Thoreau went to the woods "because [he] wished to live deliberately to front only the essential facts of life and see if [he] could not learn what it had to teach, and not when [he] came to die, discover that [he] had not truly lived" (Walden). Similarly, I feel that Wabash for me has been a similar experiment in fronting the essential facts of life and deliberate living. Yet, often, amid the pursuit of a successful life after Wabash, I find myself losing focus on the value of a liberal arts education.

I believe that our institutions ought to invigorate us to live more deeply and fully. Wabash, when it is at its best, empowers her sons to



**Stephen Batchelder '15**

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not only to proceed confidently in the directions of your dreams, but to dream for the sake of dreaming itself. We need the tonic of the wildness of the uncharted mind and self, and the liberal arts can help the purpose-seeking mind discover such creative intellectual space. Over my time at

Wabash I have found a few practices to help center on the will to live more meaningful.

First, be engaged. In working in community, no matter how simple the task, you will begin to learn from your peers what is admirable in life and come to establish deep, supportive relationships. Cherish those relationships and give priority to them despite your many commitments and responsibilities.

Second, try out what you are learning. For example, if you are taking Religions of China and Japan with Professor Blix, try adopting a Buddhist, Taoist, or Confucian worldview for a day or a week. Observe the ways in which your

education is shaping the way you view the world. Refuse to simply memorize the facts and figures necessary to pass an exam, but in whatever way you can, embody what you learn.

Finally, reflect. Whether it is in a journal that you keep regularly or through conversations with friends over a beer or cup of coffee, reflect often on what gives you life. When do you feel most awake and alive?

In addition to the many great things a Wabash education offers its students, let us not forget that it is a great privilege we have to determine a sense of purpose and vocation in our lives. Use this privilege well and deliberately.



# THE PHENOMENAL TRADITION WE INHERIT

**A**fter listening to Coach Morgan's chapel talk a couple of weeks ago, I was inspired. I did my fair share of chest bumping on the mall with some of my friends, and got "turnt" doing some genetics and chemistry. But soon, I started thinking: 'what does "being phenomenal" really mean?'

I quickly thought of Dr. Placher, and reread his Baccalaureate Sermon from 2006 to look for some answers. Through my analysis I quickly came to the conclusion that being phenomenal is an entirely individual process. Therefore, achieving excellence is difficult. At Wabash, we are constantly reminded of the brilliance that has come before us. So and so is a Fulbright, or so and so got into this professional school, etc. Our



**Andrew Powell '17**

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professors and grades remind us that we have a long way to go.

The struggle is real. We fight and claw to get to that 'A' on a paper or exam only to realize it is not what we thought it would be. So we press onward to the next task only to feel empty after achieving it. This is a vicious cycle, and one I seem to think

that Wabash men constantly face.

We are a special breed. For example, most people would consider singing one's school song in a public place surrounded by men in stripes and pots to be odd. But to us it is tradition. I find that this tradition is what drives a lot of us into this incessant cycle. It is our job to sift through these marvelous traditions over our four years here to truly find our individual excellence.

Do not get me wrong, I look up to many guys on this campus, but I do not know if I necessarily buy into the notion that being phenomenal is accomplishing the same things that others have done before me.

The thing that I have failed to mention is that sifting through this tradition and learning from each

other is precisely where we will find that true sense of phenomenal achievement. So get out of your comfort zone, Wabash, because after all, we are only as strong as our weakest link. Go to an event you would not usually attend, catch up with people in the library, and find what makes you strive to be phenomenal.

And as all these amazing Wabash alumni come back for this special weekend, take the time to meditate on what excellence means to you. I know that I am far from being phenomenal, but I know that our traditions will one day help me find my way. Collectively, we have a short amount of time to pool our excellence and leave a lasting impact on this great tradition that is Wabash College. Let's get to work.

## OSCAR PISTORIUS: THE DOWNFALL OF AN ICON

**J**ust a mere 18 months ago, double-amputee sprinter Oscar Pistorius, "the Blade Runner," was living his dream: competing with able-bodied athletes, making millions, and inspiring disabled people around the world. It took one night, four gunshots, and a dead Reeva Steenkamp to change all of that.

Recently, however, the South African judicial system acquitted "the Blade Runner" from both pre-meditated murder and what is known as common-law murder – acting with the knowledge that one's actions could lead to the death of another. Pistorius was only found guilty of the charge of culpable homicide, the equivalent to manslaughter, and faces a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison for shooting and killing his girlfriend, Steenkamp.

Having followed the case since the onset, my opinion of Pistorius has done nothing but fall. In retrospect, I see him as being three things: lucky, stupid, and weak. Oscar is



**Jake Budler '17**

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lucky, very lucky, that he won't be spending his entire life behind bars. Between a shoddy prosecution by the State and a controversial interpretation of the law, Pistorius received a verdict that should actually make him glad. In addition to the generous ruling, as a wealthy, white, and disabled citizen the chances of Pistorius experiencing real jail are very low.

However, none of this would have ever occurred had Oscar Pistorius simply not had a gun. As a multi-millionaire and publicly revered figure, there is absolutely no rationalization to owning a gun.

Already living in a secure housing complex, Pistorius was blatantly stupid to not have hired private security or taken other measures to ensure safety (he claimed he believed an intruder had climbed in his 2nd floor bathroom window). Owning a gun ultimately put him in the position of having the ability to kill, and that is precisely what happened after he and Reeva had a late night fight.

But finally, what I really believe is that Oscar Pistorius is weak. He rapidly transitioned from declaring that he is "not disabled," competing in able-bodied Olympics, to conjuring up any excuse that could possibly stem from his lack of both legs. He was once a national hero – at international events South Africans would cheer 'go Oscar' from back home. He was an icon for disabled people – athletes or not – and inspired many to fight and race for their dreams.

But, when facing the consequences of his lethal actions, Pistorius claimed his 'disability' was

the reason: the reason why he was suffering incessantly, the reason for his poor mental health, and the reason for his apparent fear of a perceived intruder in his home.

Pistorius cried and vomited his way through 18 months of legal proceedings, and through his defense portrayed an utter lack of integrity before every person who had once admired him. Oscar Pistorius didn't have the courage or the strength to take the stand and accept responsibility. Instead, he used the disability which he had spent years overcoming and conquering as the very 'crutch' that was supposedly responsible for everything he had done that fateful night.

The sentencing for Pistorius has been set for a date in mid-October. No matter what the legal outcome is, my hope is that Oscar receives sufficient punishment every time he remembers the night when he shot Reeva. Although it won't change anything, for Reeva's and her family's sake, I also hope that Oscar is genuinely sorry.

## FROM THE TIME OF CAVEMEN: HOMECOMING—AN ENDURING TRADITION



ARCHIVES/PHOTO

A group of students stand in front of the Pioneer Chapel during a Chapel Sing contest.

**TYLER REGNIER '16** | STAFF WRITER • Tradition is one of the few things held in high esteem here at Dear Old Wabash. This homecoming weekend is the 102nd culmination of many favorite Wabash traditions. Homecoming week represents the essence of Wabash culture and tradition, from Chapel Sing to the Queen Contest. Many of the current traditions did not exist at the time of the first homecoming game in 1912, and yet

others have faded away, such as the homecoming bonfire.

Archivist Beth Swift provided an insightful history of Wabash Homecoming traditions. Many Wallies would speculate that Chapel Sing is the oldest standing homecoming tradition, but surprisingly, Swift said otherwise. Dating back to 1907, instead of homecoming, “what they had was a class day,” Swift said. “They had a theme...they had a parade through

town...and they had a queen contest. That might be the oldest homecoming tradition on campus.”

Unlike this enduring test of Wabash royalty, the homecoming bonfire is a tradition that has since been lost. The week of homecoming, freshmen would build large bonfires using whatever fuel they could find around town. The freshmen would then have to guard the burn pile from the sophomore class.

“Research shows that the bonfire is older than homecoming, which makes perfect sense. It would have been a tradition tacked onto homecoming. The bonfires were held the night just before a really big game. In the first decade of the 1900’s it was before the Purdue game. And yes, the good folks of the town did get up in arms about the grabbing of anything that would burn. The citizens would sometimes present claims against the college for the excesses. And the police were occasionally instructed to keep a watch on the students,” Swift said.

As a non-alumnus with ample knowledge of the college’s history, Swift brings a unique perspective of homecoming. Her favorite activities include the queen contest, the floats, and Chapel Sing. “Chapel Sing I like a whole lot better now than when I came [to Wabash]. I came in ’01 and Chapel Sing at that time was a screaming [event], and it was unnerving to watch. Sometimes guys would have bad throat problems from that. Each fraternity was in a clump (instead of in lines as today). Maybe if you had a weaker link, you could put them in the middle,” Swift said.

But for those Wallies who are concerned about maintaining traditions, no worries. According to Swift, the current version of Chapel Sing is actually more true to how it was performed 50 years ago than the version Swift observed when she arrived a decade ago.

Dr. David Blix, Associate Professor of Religion and a member of the class of 1970, brought an interesting yet relatable perspective of his homecoming experience. When asked what he liked best about homecoming as a student, he described an event that is no longer in practice.

“There was one evening during homecoming week when all the freshman would all put on pajamas on Friday night. And of course in those days all freshmen would wear their pots,” Blix said.

Dressed in their pots and pajamas, the freshman would gather on the mall, where a truck with the pep band playing on the back would meet them and lead them downtown to the courthouse. There, upperclassmen would lead cheers and a round of “Old Wabash”.

“Then either before or after that we would run down the street to the Strand (a movie theater that used to be located on the corner of Green and Pike). All of the freshman would rush into the theater while the movie was playing and we would crowd up on the stage and sort of yell and scream and horse around, and make a general commotion, I am sure much to the annoyance of the good patrons who came to see [the movie],” Blix said.

Dr. Blix also shared his Chapel Sing experience, offering insight into how the tradition has changed over the years.

“You stood alone, and you had to be at arms length on either side, so there was plenty of room for any upperclassmen who wanted, to test your singing,” Blix said.

And as no surprise to those who know him, “I nailed the songs, both that and the Alma Mater.”

Many freshman fear that they will be taken inside the chapel, fail the test, and be branded with the





ARCHIVES/PHOTO

A historical example of a woodpile that would become the Homecoming bonfire.

## FROM HOMECOMING, P8

red spray-paint "W". This would be nothing for Wabash men of Dr. Blix's day. "Back in the day, there was a 'W' that was imposed upon persons who failed the test, but it was not a 'W' spray painted on a T-shirt, it was a 'W' haircut, all the hair shaved off your head except for a 'W'," Blix said.

"But I just remember standing there staring at the top of the flag pole. I don't know if I knew the phrase at the time, but now I would say 'I was into the zone', a totally Zen like focus. And of course guys would come up and yell and scream, but I was cool, man," Blix said.

Blix also shared his favorable opinion of the current adaptation of Chapel Sing. "I think we do [chapel sing] very nicely now, I like the way it is done. It's got spirit and it's cacophonous, and it's energetic. But it has the spirit of a good competition."

As students become wrapped up in the numerous homecoming

activities, they often forget a vital aspect of the weekend. Homecoming is not just about current Wallies, but also about past Wallies returning to their Alma Mater. The best person on campus to offer an alumni perspective of homecoming is Tom Runge '71, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations.

"When alumni come back here, they really want to know 'has it changed?'. They want to rest assured that Chapel Sing is alive and well and that houses are [as well], the whole nine yards," Runge said. "It's all about, 'this place changed me, and I hope that it is still changing young men today, and I [want to come back] to make sure it is.'"

As important as these traditions are, they aren't the driving force that gets alumni coming back to campus for this special weekend each fall. As Runge tells us, "Long after [your college years] are gone, it's about you and your buddies and the fact that this is home and you're going home."

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# BONNET BRINGS: LOVE OF LITERATURE, LANGUAGE

**FRITZ COUTCHIE '15 |**  
CAVELIFE EDITOR • When Modern Language Teaching Assistant, Marion Bonnet, discovered she was going to teach at an all-male college in Midwest, she immediately felt unease at the prospect of teaching French to a group of guys. Her friends joked and jested about her situation, Wabash represented a new opportunity for her.

"I met [last year's TA] Emilie, and she was very friendly and explained the College to me, I definitely felt better about going after meeting her." Bonnet said.

The travel was not a source of fear for Bonnet. Hailing from a small countryside city in Southwest France, she has always had a desire to travel. Bonnet does not expect to

remain in France over the course of her life and has already experienced life in another country.

"I don't want to stay in France, I want to live abroad throughout Europe," Bonnet said. "We have a program in Europe where students can take one year of study abroad. I studied abroad in Berlin, which was really entertaining. Everything was brand new [for me]. Berlin is unlike the rest of Germany and it is unlike any place in France. It has its own culture."

"This is not the first time I've been to America, it's the fourth. The first time I arrived, I landed in Palm Springs, CA. I was really jet lagged, 30 hours without sleep and I was just wondering 'what am I doing here?'. Then I saw the mountains,

and I had never seen something so beautiful in my life. The moon was gigantic and I have never seen so many stars. You can travel all of Europe and you won't find the same sort of images. America was entirely new to me."

What surprised Bonnet was the size of the Wabash Campus, but not in the way most students would expect.

"Wabash is large for me, I have never been on such a large campus," Bonnet said.

Bonnet has a lot of experience that reflects that of a typical Wabash student, the shared small-campus learning environment is just the beginning.



LEVI GARRISON '18/ PHOTO

Marion Bonnet poses for a picture during a French Table event.

SEE **BONNET**, P11

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FROM **BONNET**, P10

Her primary interests are history and literature. Like an ideal Wabash student, she relishes the chance to bury herself in a new book, sometimes locking herself in a room for days at a time. She finds joy in discussions of a myriad of historical topics.

"I love history. I am in Professor Salisbury's American history class this semester; she's very entertaining, and the class is really interesting" Bonnet said. "History is what I studied in Germany and France as well."

Her path to becoming a Modern Language Teaching Assistant mirrored the advantages of the liberal arts education. The majority of her foreign language education focused on learning the German language.

"I studied German actually, later [in my education] I chose to take one year of English" Bonnet said.

Bonnet has a passion for teaching and looks forward to pushing Wabash students in their French labs.

"I want to teach German and maybe later English or French to foreigners [when I return]."



LEVI GARRISON '18 / PHOTO

Ian Artis '16 tastes specialties from Bordeaux, France at the Sept. 24 French Table. French Table is a monthly gathering of Francophones and Francophile in the Wabash community. Marion Bonnet, the Modern Language Teaching Assistant of French, sits in front of him.

FROM **SPHINX CLUB**, P1

a Wabash man's life, it is a time that he can look back upon and smile and remember the fun and excitement that takes place at Wabash. Homecoming takes place due to the hard work and dedication by many people: Alumni who return for this occasion, the football team who bust their butts representing Wabash College and fight to win on Saturday afternoons, the Sphinx Club who coordinate and put on the competitions during Homecoming week, and most of all, the students. It's the students who bring the enthusiasm and excitement for this college. It's the students who are the faces of this college, and through their enthusiasm and excitement, the motivation for everyone else to become excited for this weekend hits extreme levels. This weekend is about WABASH COLLEGE. Yes, there are competitions throughout the weekend, but it's not what house you are in or your class year, it's about the fact that you are a Wabash man and you are proud of it. This weekend is about celebrating being a Wabash man and your Wabash pride. The competitions throughout the weekend are just a form of exploiting that pride

through knowing and singing the song countless amounts of times, and create banners, floats, and chants that literally "sing thy praises" of old Wabash, and allows us to say we are great and we are proud of it.

*Side note regarding rules for Homecoming Events by the Sphinx Club*

First of all, congrats to the winners of Chapel Sing!

Second of all, the rest of the events are another element of exemplifying Wabash pride. They are all about quality and showing off Wabash spirit. The chants on Friday night are to be heard by all, and not drowned out by taunting. The banners are mandated to be smaller this year. We are not looking for who can make the largest banner, but rather who can make the BEST banner. Quality and safety over quantity. Let's be smart about all that we do, encourage each other, and have fun!

This weekend is about being a Wabash man and being excited about it, and exemplifying Wabash men are gentlemen in all that we do, and gentlemen show pride in their individuality and in all that they do. Let's be safe and show intensity this weekend Wabash, turn up, and have a great Homecoming Weekend.

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## NOT “JUST” A PREVIEW FOR REDPACK

### MICHAEL LUMPKIN '18 |

STAFF WRITER • It's a critical time for Wabash Cross Country. The team performed well last Friday night, taking the top spot at the intercollegiate meet, one that included all Indiana teams. The team heads to Notre Dame next week for an invitational where it will see conference and region foes. Sitting in between these two crucial events is Pre-Nationals; one that Coach Roger Busch '96 said is “not a very good schedule for us as far as the season goes.”

The team is taking a unique approach into the race. “My top guys will run it as what we call a tempo, it's about eighty-five percent effort,” Busch said, which means that the underclassmen and competitors

outside the top seven on the roster will have a chance to compete for times that may land them a spot on the team for regionals and beyond.

The advantages to running in the event are still noteworthy. “It's great for our top guys to just get on the course right now and see it,” Busch said. He goes on to say that the race is “more of just a preview to us.”

The race is something the team does not want to miss: the course that the team will be running Saturday in Mason, Ohio is the location for both the Regional and National races. The number two team in the nation, North Central College, among other conference and region foes, will be at the race this weekend. These other teams had the luxury of time off last weekend and may approach the

race differently than our own school given the added rest.

Unfortunately, the team will not be at full strength for not only this weekend but also the rest of the year. Sophomore Cordell Lewis suffered what Busch termed a “femoral stress fracture” in the spring, an injury that required surgery, and it will leave Lewis sidelined for the duration of the season.

Fabian House '16 echoed the thoughts of his coach regarding the race. “This meet is about seeing the course and getting a feel for where we'll be competing a month and a half from now,” House said. He goes into further detail regarding the importance of the race Saturday for the final roster spots as the postseason approaches.

“The top seven to nine spots are by no means set in stone. Pre-nationals is an opportunity for guys trying to get into the varsity pack to put down some fast times,” House said. “This is only our second 5-mile race of the season, so getting acclimated to racing is what this weekend is all about. After pre-nationals we'll know for sure which nine guys will be traveling to Notre Dame next week.”

Although placed in between two pivotal events, Pre-Nationals gives the Cross Country team a great preview on what's not too far down the road. Rosters will be filled and competition will be identified this weekend in Mason, Ohio when the Little Giants look to run a race that's imperative to their successes in the near future.



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# GAME ONE: HIRAM

UNDEFEATED SOCCER  
TEAM TO START NCAC  
PLAY AGAINST TERRIERS

**DEREK ANDRE '16 | SPORTS**

**EDITOR •** Off to it's hottest start in decades, the Wabash soccer team opens conference play this weekend with a home cap against Hiram.

After opening the season with five wins and two draws, there's no denying the Little Giants have momentum. It has been the best start to a year since the mid-eighties, but this start will go on the line this weekend against a regionally ranked Hiram team. The Terriers were ranked 16th in the national polls a week ago but have dropped two straight matches to fall to 5-3 on the year. That being said, Hiram is still a dangerous opponent who the Little Giants are not overlooking.

"Hiram is a very skilled team," Head Coach Chris Keller said. "They were nationally ranked last week and it'll be a good test for us at home right away. It won't be an easy game, so we need to stick to the game plan and perform when we need to."

Hiram is the conference opener for Wabash, but the game of the season will likely come on October 18, when nationally ranked Kenyon, ranked second in this week's coaches poll, comes to Crawfordsville. The Little Giants have made it their stated goal to get to the NCAC tournament at the end of the season, and a win against Kenyon in front of the home fans would go a long way to realizing those goals.

Four NCAC teams are ranked in this week's National Soccer Coaches Association of America Regional rankings. These include Wabash, Kenyon, DePauw, and Ohio Wesleyan, while both Hiram and Wittenberg received votes this week. The quality of the conference across the board will make the road to the conference tournament rocky for every team. However, the Little Giants have the luxury of getting three of the five other teams who received votes this week at home. This, along with the play of the

## SOCCER VS. HIRAM

**WHEN:** Saturday, 9/27 @ 12 p.m.

**WHERE:** Mud Hollow Stadium

**FYI:** Conference opener for Wabash

team a month into the season, gives Keller confidence going into NCAC play.

"I truly feel we could beat any of those teams on any given day," Keller said. "If we play our game, play well, and not shoot ourselves in the foot, we can beat anyone in our conference."

**"If we play our  
game. . . we can  
beat anyone in our  
conference."**

**CHRIS KELLER**

One of the early highlights of the year for the Little Giants has to be the play of the freshman contingent of the team. Currently, members of the Class of 2018 lead the team in goals, assists, shots, and shots on goal. It was easy to see this group was a good recruiting class in preseason, and enough can't be said of the work by Keller and his staff for bringing the group in, but this level of production has to be considered both unexpected and unprecedented.

This past Monday, five freshmen got the nod in the starting eleven for the Little Giants. This is not because the upperclassmen are not quality players, but rather that these freshmen are just that good. This fact isn't lost on Keller.

"When we set out for this recruiting class we were looking for a good amount of quality players," Keller said. "Our goal was to bring in players from winning programs and leaders that have winning in their mentality. They've come in, hit the ground running, and are doing an excellent job for us."

It's also fair to say that the members of the freshmen class realize, and relish, the fact that they



COREY EGLER '15 / PHOTOS

Allexiz Arellano '18 (above) and Corey Sims '18 (below) have both played big roles for the Little Giants thus far into the season. Arellano has five games on the season while Sims scored the winner against Spalding in double overtime.

have had the opportunity to prove themselves so early in their careers.

"It's a really awesome feeling [to contribute as a freshman]," Stojan Krsteski '18 said. "Having been here only two or three months and still contributing along with the guys who have been here three or four years is a big accomplishment."

Seven games into the season, no one would go so far as to say this season is already a success. However, you can't ignore that the Little Giants have won more games this season than the last two years combined. Heading into the year, Wabash was picked to finish next to last in the North Coast Athletic Conference. A month into the year, no one expects them to the season to end there now. Instead, it won't be surprising to see the Little Giants keeping the momentum rolling all the way to the conference tournament.

The Little Giants open NCAC action this weekend against Hiram. Kickoff is scheduled for 12 p.m. Saturday at Mud Hollow Stadium.





# NEW FACES, NEW PLACES

## NEW COACHES LOOK TO MAKE NEW PROGRAMS, TRANSFORM OLD ONES

**JAKE EAGAN '15 | STAFF WRITER •**

Inter-collegiate competition provides a much-needed opportunity to square off against rival schools of similar stature and reputation. For Wabash students, athletics not only offer an escape from diligent work in the classroom, but it can also be an opportunity to grow under the experience of head coaches. This year, the basketball program proudly committed to a new coaching staff in hopes of preserving a high standard for Wabash College student-athletes. In addition, the second-year Wabash lacrosse staff will transition the program from a club to varsity level this spring.

At nearby Defiance College, Indiana native Greg Brumett served as the head basketball coach for six seasons, totaling an impressive 103-57 record. Brumett's ability to mentor young men both on and off the court exemplifies the primary goal of Wabash athletics. In May, former President Gregory Hess appointed Brumett as the new head coach and leader of the Wabash basketball program. Although Coach Brumett is new to the College, he already notes the unique environment the student body has established.

"This is the type of environment I wanted to be in," said Brumett. "A place that was great academically, but also had a balance of athletics being important, and a chance to

motivate guys to be successful as both students and athletes."

Considering Defiance College maintains roughly the same enrollment as Wabash, Coach Brumett is not foreign to the private school experience. However, as Brumett explains, Wabash College's preservation of the all-male institution readily endorses tradition.

"I had this perception of what the tradition and brotherhood was like," said Brumett. "But once you get to Wabash, you realize how real it is. The men here support each other in a way that doesn't happen at other small, private schools. Whether it's chapel talk, a soccer game, or a home football game, its been incredibly inviting for me and my family the first couple months."

Clearly, Coach Brumett values the tradition and campus unity that Wabash College students, alumni, and faculty work tirelessly to maintain. Newly appointed assistant Pat Sullivan coached under Greg Brumett for five seasons at Defiance and is equally ambitious to immerse himself in the Wabash environment.

"The great academic reputation," said Sullivan, "combined with the great athletic tradition, were big factors for me in choosing Wabash. That blend of academics and athletics is important. For me it seems like the guys that are taking on leadership responsibilities are guys that handle themselves well in the classroom."

Coach Brumett and Coach Sullivan not only possess a keen understanding of the athletic tradition at Wabash, but they accept the high academic standard the College maintains.

Recent developments in the



COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING / PHOTO

Terry Corcoran (in ball cap) took over the lacrosse program just over a year ago. He and his team are transitioning lacrosse from a club program to a varsity sport.

Wabash lacrosse program also typify the institution's goal of campus unity and tradition preservation. Terry Corcoran began his tenure at Wabash last season. Under Corcoran, the program is preparing to transition from club to varsity status, meaning the squad will now be a member of the NCAC moving forward. Last season, the lacrosse team finished with an underwhelming 2-7 record. But Coach Corcoran's stellar resume

suggests the Wabash lacrosse program is on the rise. In three decades of head coaching experience at Washington College, the University of Pennsylvania, Skidmore College, and Elizabethtown College, Corcoran boasts a 273 win-total that puts him 18th in the NCAA all-time win leaders.

Division III athletics presents

SEE **FACES**, P15

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# TENNIS RETURNS TO COURT

## TEAM HOSTS ITA REGIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WEEKEND IN INDIANAPOLIS

**COLE CROUCH '17** | OPINION

EDITOR • The Wabash Tennis team returns to the courts this weekend as it hosts the ITA Central Region Tournament at North Central High School in Indianapolis.

In the opening tournament of their season, the Little Giants will attempt to build on the momentum and consistency they've developed in practice and the off-season. Senior leaders on the team Daniel Delgado '14 and Mark Troiano '15 are looking to take their game to the next level.

"Repetition on all my strokes has been key to improving my technique and form," Delgado said. "I have been working on a lot on my shot selection

to figure out where and how to hit the ball to put myself in the best possible position in different situations. I'm always striving to improve the mental part of my game."

While Delgado's focus has been on technique, Troiano's mindset has been on his game as it is. "Individually, I am looking to play my game and stay focused on what I can do," Troiano said. "I do not want to get too far ahead of myself."

"During pre-season it has been a process to just stay grounded and focus on the details of moving my feet and staying aggressive while playing smart tennis. Sticking to simple smart tennis is important."

Coach Jason Hutchison has high expectations for the team going into the weekend.

"My expectations are pretty high in all areas, but especially in doubles," Hutchison said. "As usual, I expect that guys play as hard as possible and scrape and claw for every point."

Practices and the off-season have been pivotal for the progress made this pre-season.

"Practices have been great," Hutchison said. "The guys are putting in a lot of time outside practice to get prepared."

As far as freshmen are concerned, this will be their first test in a highly competitive NCAC setting.

"Our freshmen have adjusted well to the college game and I feel that they are ready for the weekend," Hutchison said.

The tournament set-up will consist of 33 teams from the Central region. There are two draws in this tournament, 128 single players and 64 doubles teams, and then another 64 singles and 32 doubles.

"I truly believe that this group of guys can do some damage in this tournament," Delgado said. "I have a lot of confidence in myself and in my team that we will surprise some people this weekend."

FROM **FACES**, P14

several challenges for the Wabash coaching staff. They actively recruit high school prospects, but with no athletic scholarship to offer, academics become a deciding-factor for potential enrollees. In addition, if Wabash students fail in the classroom, extracurricular opportunities such as athletics will be limited.

Thankfully, current Director of Athletics Joseph Haklin is adamant in selecting coaches that value the balance of athletics and education. Wabash students demonstrate a commitment to performing well in the classroom, so carrying that vigor and discipline on to the athletic field is a feasible adjustment. Both Coach Brumett, Coach Corcoran, and their staff understand the role of a Wabash coach. Their expectation of Wabash and academic excellence was accurate, but the evident willingness to accept a Wabash leadership role demonstrates a commitment to upholding the College's tremendous standards.



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## ON TO THE GATORS

WABASH TO TAKE  
ON ALLEGHENY IN  
HOMECOMING MATCHUP

JOCELYN HOPKINSON '15 |

SENIOR STAFF WRITER • Wabash coaches and players liberally used the word “intensity” at practice this week in preparation for their Homecoming tilt Saturday against Allegheny. The Little Giants’ absence of intensity led to a lackluster start last week at Denison. Despite the victory over the Big Red, the Little Giants know they must start faster.

“We didn’t start the game with a ton of intensity,” Coach Erik Raeburn said. “We had opportunities to get off the field on defense, but made mistakes that kept the drives alive. Offensively, it felt like the ball was on the ground constantly. We didn’t turn it over at all in our first game, then had two turnovers (at Denison) and probably three other times where we could have turned it over. We just feel like it was a little sloppy. We should have been sharper coming off the bye week.”

Wabash (2-0, 1-0 NCAC) fumbled the ball four times, though Denison only recovered it once. The older players will bear the onus to raise the intensity level and eliminate the mental mistakes, according to Raeburn.

“The intensity part, there’s not a lot you can do as a coach,” he said. “That’s something as a player, you have to bring a certain level of intensity all the time. As a player, you have very few opportunities to play. If you’re a senior, you’re not guaranteed anything and at max, you only have eight regular season games left. You just can’t come out lethargic on one of those opportunities.”

Allegheny (1-1, 1-0 NCAC) provides a perfect example to the importance of fast starts. The last time the Gators played in Crawfordsville, they upset the Little Giants in a 20-17 overtime victory. Allegheny held a 10-0 lead after the first quarter.

“That game was heartbreaking,” receiver Houston Hodges ‘15 said.

FOOTBALL VS.  
ALLEGHENY

WHEN: Saturday, 9/27 @ 2 p.m.

WHERE: Hollett Little Giant Stadium

FYI: Allegheny beat Wabash 20-17 in their last trip to Crawfordsville.

“We lost in overtime, something I’ve never done before or afterwards. Obviously we can’t overlook anybody — we did that two years ago and we’ve constantly been talking about that in practice. Our motto is ‘Leave No Doubt’ so whatever team we come up against, we want to leave no doubt that we’re the best team on the field.”

The 2014 Gators have much more youth compared to the senior-laden 2012 squad. The Gators were young

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ERIK RAEBURN

last year when Wabash went to Pennsylvania and thumped them 65-0. However, Raeburn has seen them improve in the last year.

“They were very young last year on both sides of the ball,” Raeburn said. “I think with the offseason and spring football, they’re more comfortable with the system and executing much better. Offensively, they’re not turning the ball over like they did last year.”

Allegheny also showed some grit last week at Hiram; it trailed three different times in the game, but still managed a 24-21 victory. Schematically, the Gators will pose a variety of bizarre challenges.

“They do a lot quirky things,” Hodges said. “They’ll have their corners almost playing like outside linebackers at some points. We’re just dialing up every look we could possibly get from the scout team, just trying to get acclimated to all the ran-



COREY EGLER '15 / PHOTO

Quarterback Michael Putko '16, shown here scoring against Hampden-Sydney, led the Little Giants offense with completed 14-of-21 passes for 177 yards, 2 touchdowns, and an interception in the 31-12 win over Denison.

dom things they can do.

“They run a knife technique where the corner is really heavy run support and bites on run fakes. They roll the safety out there, but he doesn’t necessarily role out there until the ball is snapped so we might have some opportunities out wide to make some play.”

Hodges has taken advantages of the opportunities he’s been given. He leads the team with 15 catches for 122 yards and a touchdown.

The various alignments also mean the quarterback and offensive linemen must be sharp. One missed assignment could cause disaster on a play.

“They’re just a little bit different than typical defenses,” Raeburn said. “A lot of teams we play run the 4-3 and play Cover 4 so there’s some carry over from week-to-week, but these guys are different. Even when they line up in a 4-3 they don’t always play their coverages the same. The quarterback and offensive linemen have to be really dialed in because Allegheny can cause you to make a

lot of mental mistakes.”

Offensively, a two-headed running attack by backs Nick Deichler and Jake Wilson lead the way. The duo has combined for 221 yards and two touchdowns this season. Also, Tyler Smith serves as a homerun threat, going for 72 yards and a touchdown on just seven carries.

Raucous homecoming fans will help raise the team’s intensity level Saturday, but the events throughout the week will serve as another challenge for Wabash players to overcome.

“Certainly the crowd at homecoming can help us on game day,” Raeburn said. “However, you have to be careful all the activities throughout the week don’t become a distraction. You have to enjoy them — Chapel Sing is one of my favorites — but at the same time, the guys can’t let those things distract them from the preparation leading up to the game.”

The 2014 Homecoming game will kick off at 2 p.m. in Hollett Little Giant Stadium.