



The Bachelor

THE STUDENT VOICE OF WABASH COLLEGE SINCE 1908

PIA SCHUEBEL
GUEST COLUMN
SEE PAGE NINE

APRIL 19, 2019



COURTESY OF CTVNEWS

Over Spring Break, a group of Wabash men on an immersion trip to Paris were able to visit the famed Notre-Dame Cathedral, which tragically caught fire this week.

Memories, History Up In Smoke

AUSTIN HOOD '21 | OPINION EDITOR • A sense of shock swept over Wabash College's campus on Monday afternoon as news came in that the Notre Dame Cathedral had caught on fire. The historic Parisian building, built between 1160 and 1260, was ablaze for about five hours as around 500 firefighters battled the flames. The cause of the blaze remains unknown. An intensive investigation is currently underway, with the most common hypothesis being that the fire was sparked by faulty electronics or human error.

Over the years, hundreds of members of the Wabash Community have visited the famed church. From immersion trips and studying abroad to family vacations and pilgrimages, the Cathedral has left an impact on generations of Wallies. The Bachelor sat down and interviewed Associate Professor of History Michelle Rhoades, who received her PhD in French History from the University of Iowa, to get a gauge on just how significant Monday's events were.

"As a world heritage site, as a connection to French history, it is exceptionally representative and profound," Professor Rhoades said. "Notre Dame is more than just a building, just a thing. If you watch the French news reports you realize all of France's history and culture is wrapped up into one. You can see interviews of people in the streets just sobbing and mourning the loss."

Besides serving as a symbol of faith and unity to the French people, Notre Dame is the site of a number of notable events in world history. It is the location where the Romans first landed in what they called Laetitia. The Cathedral was the sight of the coronation of Charlemagne, the first King of France, and Napoleon I, the first Emperor of France. Many have a connection to it that isn't merely historical relevance, but personal significance.

"It's the place where I have gone for now on more trips than I can remember to light a candle...to my grandmother who passed away, and then my father and stepmother after that," Professor Rhoades said. "So I have a

personal connection to the building. And it has a personal, really tangible connection to all the French history and...the Western world."

While the fire was still burning late Monday night, French President Emmanuel Macron pledged to rebuild Notre Dame in five years. By Wednesday, the French government had received \$960 million to help with that effort. Miraculously, many of the priceless works of art and historical artifacts, including a relic reported to be Jesus' crown of thorns, escaped the blaze. Though mourning, many welcome the event as a time to think seriously about the importance on historic sites.

"It means something. It's not just a building any longer, but it represents architecture, represents progress, represents success, all these things," Professor Rhoades said. "As we go to visit it, as a sight of memory, we talk about all these things that it means to everyone. Especially how beautiful it is. And I think, if anything else, that the world's reaction to it really emphasizes that point that it means more than just the building."

A Message from D & I

Hello Wabash Community,

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee will host a public event this Saturday, April 20 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Knowing Fieldhouse. This event is OPEN TO PUBLIC and there is no entry fee for Wabash affiliates.

The event will include cultural performances by WAMIDAN, Glee Club, and individual members of the community. If you wish to perform anything, from a musical performance, dance, or even to participate in the fashion show, please send me an email as soon as possible at dmscine21@wabash.edu! We welcome participation by all faculty and staff, as well as the larger Crawfordsville community!

We will also have SIX DIFFERENT TYPES of ethnic foods and desserts (Indian, African, African American, Vietnamese, Hispanic, and Chinese Food). Food is free for Wabash students and anyone who performs at the event. There is a \$5 ticket for food area on anyone who is not a currently enrolled student, except for children ages 12 and under.

The Diversity and Inclusion committee will also present the T.A.L.L AWARD to 3 students, and 2 faculty/staff members in recognition of their efforts to make our campus a more welcoming and vibrant one. The T.A.L.L award is a student recognized award created by member organizations of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Thank you for your time, we hope to see you there to support diversity on Wabash's campus!

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

NEW STUDENT BODY PREZ

Hi-Five to Mohammad Dayem Adnan '20, the first international student to become President of the Student Body. He and his vice-president, Corbin Landrum '21, will be working next academic year to improve our lives on campus. Let us hope that Dayem achieving this goal will inspire more students to follow in his footsteps and become involved, successful Wabash men.

TIGER ROARS BACK

Hi-Five to the G.O.A.T., Tiger Woods, for winning his fifth Masters last Sunday. He fell from grace, was not supposed to play again, and made it back to the top. Love or hate the guy, his comeback is nothing short of a miracle. Whether you like it or not, green and red are a perfect combination.

FIREFIGHTER-IN-CHIEF

Hi-Five to the president concocting another brilliant idea in his little, little mind. While La Cathedrale du Notre-Dame de Paris was burning, POTUS suggested using helicopters to pour down water on the roof. Does he want to do this in order to demolish Notre Dame and build a Trump Tower in Paris?

MOM'S RUSH

Hi-Five to the Wabash prospects' moms, who love their children so much that they, too, wanted to experience fraternity rush during Admitted Students Weekend. We salute your efforts to get a better hold of where your son will be living and what he will be going through during his first semester. Moms love Wabash, and so do we!

RED SOX TANKING

How about them Red Sox, from 108 wins to just six win through 19 games? The Sox cannot seem to win a ballgame. One game its pitching, the next its hitting. Kind of embarrassing for the former World Series Champs. We wrote this Hi-Five because our E.I.C. is a huge Sox fan and seeing him in agony brings us joy.

Future Wallies Come to Campus

ALEXANDRU ROTARU '22 | STAFF WRITER • Last weekend, on April 13 and 14, Wabash College brought over 90 high-school seniors in order for them to experience a taste of what an all-male, liberal arts college in the heart of Indiana has to offer, as part of the second and last Admitted Student Weekend. Students and their families came from as far as the states of California, New York, Arkansas, Texas, and Tennessee so that they can see for themselves what kind of men they can become here.

The goal for Admitted Student Weekend is "to get the deposited students even more excited about to Wabash, and a little bit more familiar about the next steps, as well as provide them with more information about our campus," Julia Wells, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions, said. "And, then, for those that haven't deposited yet, just to show them what a great place we are to choose to be a part of, and get them even more excited to then make that deposit." Based on the feedback they have been receiving from students and parents alike, "I'd say we've reached that goal," Wells said.

The entire event could not have been pulled off successfully without the effort and devotion of the entire campus. "Faculty gave two 45-minute sessions called Academic Opportunities Sessions," Wells said. "And they had to put together PowerPoints and arrange panels ... We had different people present speeches... All the fraternities had to clean their houses ... Campus Services put out new flowers and mulch to make campus beautiful. So many, many hours were dedicated, many, many weeks in advance to get this done, and campus just looked great. ... My favorite part [of Admitted Student Weekend] is to see that collaboration."

When visiting campus, prospective students get a chance to feel the excitement and pride of being a member of the Wabash community, as well as the excitement and involvement of students in their clubs, through different sessions, culminating in a dinner with club representatives and a club fair. "I think [during Admitted Student Weekend] you really get to see the excitement that our students have in being here, the many things that they're involved in, the opportunities that they have," Wells said. "You get to better understand the support of the faculty when you meet them, and how caring and dedicated they

are to the students." This is why visiting campus is so important before making a decision: one cannot fully experience the joy of being a Wally in a photograph, a pamphlet, or a short video.

Naturally, the prospects' favorite event was fraternity rush. Given the nationwide stained reputation of fraternities and sororities, actually engaging with Greek life would show students that, on this campus, there are no frats, only fraternities, where scholarship, community service, and responsibility are standards, and not exceptions. At the same time, "from what we've heard from the students, and from walking around that evening, [the students] had a lot of fun," Wells said. "It's always fun to see them get a bid or accept a bid, and be able to visualize where they're going to be, and the kind of community that they're going to be a part of."

The program concluded with the students learning how to network, obtaining business cards, and actually attending a networking lunch with 25 alumni of the college, from the nearby area. The alumni "represent different and diverse careers," Wells said. "They're not all lawyers, or they're not all from recent classes. It was important for us to create a diverse pool of alumni, so that all students could find themselves, a career path, or an interest in the alums."

While their sons were learning the ropes of how to make the most of one of the strongest alumni networks in the nation, parents were engaging with students who have had amazing experiences through programs like the Study Abroad, Global Health Initiative, and many of the immersion programs offered by Career Services. The parents get to see, "the skills, experiences, and opportunities their son could have," Wells said about programming for parents. "They really try to visualize what their son could be through the experiences here at Wabash, and it's fun to see them envision that, because it's hard for parents to send their child to college."

According to Wells, the class of 2023 will be much like the class of 2022: "large and bright." We, the rising upperclassmen, are eager to meet the incoming freshmen. For them, the next steps are Wabash 101 on June 14, June 21, and June 28; as well as Ringing-In Saturday, on August 17, while the incoming international freshmen will arrive on campus the week leading up to Ringing-In Saturday.

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

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

Letters (e-mails) to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. They will only be published if they include name, phone, or e-mail, and are not longer than 500 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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Fraternity Day Celebrates Greek Successes



CLAYTON HUBER '21 / PHOTO

Phi Delta Theta was awarded best Freshman GPA at Fraternity Day.



CLAYTON HUBER '21 / PHOTO

Several Fraternity members were honored for their work on campus during Fraternity Day.



CLAYTON HUBER '21 / PHOTO

IFC President Matt Fajt '20 presents a donation to the college on behalf of Wabash fraternities.



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Benny Wang '22 confers with Robert Borland '22 during the play.



The African Company Presents *Richard III* also features Adrienne Embry and Aniqua Chatman as Ann Johnson and Sarah, respectively.



Terian Garner '20, Malcom Lang '21, and Christian Miller '21 perform in *The African Company Presents Richard III*.

The logo for 'Mi Rancho Bravo' features the word 'Mi' in a black script font, followed by 'RANCHO BRAVO' in a large, bold, red block font with a yellow outline. A stylized orange sombrero is positioned to the right of the text.

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African Company Presents: Richard III Yet Another Triumph for Wabash Theater

JAKE VERMEULEN '21 | NEWS EDITOR • As well as being an excellent play, Wabash Theater's presentation of *The African Company Presents Richard III* this weekend is an opportunity to provoke thought and conversation about the progress of race relations so far and how far we still can go.

The play, written by Carlyle Brown, tells the story of The African Company, the first all-black theatre troupe in the United States. As the play begins, the troupe has been putting on a variety of shows and begun garnering critical acclaim in New York City. The troupe is preparing to put on Shakespeare's *Richard III* when the Park Theater, a white theater troupe, lands a star actor as the lead for their production of the same play. The Park Theater then goes to great lengths to shut The African Company's production down, including involving the police. They are eventually forced to move their production, and the plot follows

their struggle to find a new venue, the prejudicial treatment they encounter, and the play they are able to put on.

This play provides an opportunity for Wabash men to engage with complex issues of race relations by reflecting on how far we have come as a nation, as well as how far we still have to go. Stage Manager Daniel Cuevas '21 said, "It's going to allow [audience members] to reflect on how race relations were before, how they are now, and what can we do to ensure equality for all."

The African Company Presents Richard III also features a number of Wabash men who did not have previous acting experience. Cuevas noted that this play has opened up the opportunity for many students of color to get involved with acting and acknowledged that their progress and talent has been evident in rehearsals. Cuevas said, "It's been great to watch

them grow with every single rehearsal because, with each day, they made tremendous progress."

Wabash Theater was also able to bring Ansley Valentine '90 back to campus as Guest Director. Valentine majored in theater during his time here at Wabash and has since gone on to teach at the College of Wooster and Indiana University, where he currently teaches theater and film.

The African Company Presents *Richard III* is a worthy addition to Wabash Theater's tradition of excellence. The Princeton Review consistently ranks Wabash's Theater Department among the best in the nation, and the depth of talent and attention to detail in the campus' newest play makes it clear why.

The production opened on Wednesday, April 17, and those who missed the first two nights of shows still have the opportunity to catch showings at 8 P.M. on both Friday and Saturday nights.

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COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Malcolm Lang '21 stars as Papa Shakespeare in the production.

On Notre-Dame

On Monday, April 15, in the year 2019 Anno Domini, I was notified that the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, France, was burning. The fire had apparently, and ironically, started from renovation work being done on the transept of the cathedral.

The streets around the cathedral were packed with onlookers while a low din of wailing could be heard rising from the mob. The wailing and sorrow were representative of the horrors of that day, when, through those hours, the world became darker and less beautiful place. Humans, particularly the Western civilization, had lost one of its greatest treasures to the annals of time, ash, and smoke.

Regardless of the cause of the fire, the outcome of its destruction, or what must be done in coming days, I want to draw attention, sadly, to what has been lost. Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris sits in the heart of Paris on a small island in the in the middle of the River Seine. Construction on the cathedral begun in 1163 under King Louis VII and was completed approximately 200 years later. The structure has survived eighth centuries in varied condition. Along with being the seat of the archbishop of Paris, it witnessed many of the shaping events of the western world such as the



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coronation of Henry VI, the beatification of St. Joan of Arc, the Masses of St. John Paul II, as well as 800 years of royal weddings, funerals, powerful bishops, and critical wars. The history surrounding the building alone is at the core of western annals and is an artifact of incalculable value. Many of these things now only reside in time.

The art that made the cathedral stunning spanned the same period as its life. The first thing that many will recall as being the paramount artifact is the cathedral's large 13th century stained glass rose window - the largest of its time, and a marvel of medieval engineering. Further, aside from the scores of priceless stained glass, there were paintings from the 17th century, hundreds of statues and monuments of all styles, and the cathedral's two organs, one

of which has components dating back the 17th century.

This is merely a brief inventory of events and artifacts that serves to give some backing of what the material loss for this tragic event before proceeding to what was really lost in the burning of the cathedral - a piece of our heritage and culture.

Notre Dame has stood a on the Seine like a massive ship ferrying Christian souls to heaven for eight centuries. In its vaulted halls, filled with the sparkling rainbows born from medieval stained glass, generations have sung, worshiped, grieved, and celebrated. People from all around the world came to be immersed in its heavenly beauty, see the genius and work of those who have come before, and make pilgrimage to the sacred relics in the cathedral's treasury. For many, Notre Dame was the beauty of heaven on earth, and it is sad that our generation will never get to see the scenes and sparking lights of the medieval windows, hear the roar of the great organ, just as Louis Vierne did when he composed there, and stand in awe before a structure that embodies a culture and national heritage - until some form of restoration is complete.

If there is any lesson that can be taken from the burning of the cathedral, it is

buried in the feeling of loss and shock we all got when we received the news. We all did not know the exact details of why we felt the loss, we just knew it was lost. This is something that is common across our generation that are heirs of western culture. We all live in the shadow of these great wonders, taking them for granted day in and day out. In our particular youthful case, many of us have even shaken our fists in anger and retribution at these wonders, condemning them because of the current social winds, forgetting that they have survived winds far greater in the past. We have become apathetic to their value, sublimely assuming that these buildings, these wonders, would always be around. However, when we are presented with the reality that one is peril, such as Notre Dame, the veil of apathy is gone and we feel the pain of loss.

Thus, let us take this as a warning, a true reality check, that what we have inherited is invaluable to our heritage and identity. It is a font that we can always look to for beauty. Many of us Wabash men, being students of the world, understand this fact, and take initiative in our lives to be stewards of this culture, experience their wonders, and inform those around us of the value of our western heritage.

How Can We Lead Effectively When We Are Behind?

Over three years ago, I wrote legislation to the Student Senate seeking support for the admission of transgender men to Wabash. Confused and outraged students bombarded me. I was referred to by some as the guy who wanted to bring women to the College. I was talked about on a then-popular app, YiYak, and how my main function for bringing forth the legislation was to utilize it as a senior thesis topic.

There were conversations about my reasoning for reigniting a fire the student body thought they had stomped out some years ago. What seldom occurred was people asking me, personally, why I decided to advocate for the admission of transgender men. No one knew that I had a cousin who was in the process of transitioning. No one knew of my friends, both in Indiana and back home in Philadelphia, who were struggling with their gender identities for plethora reasons. No one knew that I was learning and trying to understand the topic just as much as them. I knew one thing for certain: I saw people I cared about getting treated like they were inferior.

I saw people I cared about displaced because they did not have support systems, and I saw myself, content and comfortable with who I was and who I was becoming, guarded by the harsh realities of life, and supported by



Corey Leuters '19

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the community I had. Guilt is how it is probably best described. Not guilt because of everything I had/have, but guilt because of everything my queer/trans-identified friends and family should have had, too.

I still fervently believe Wabash should admit transgender men. Moreover, each year that we do not commit ourselves to the conversation, we are failing as an institution that prides itself on leading effectively. Wabash cannot lead effectively when it is behind. On April 13th the Morehouse College Board of Trustees "approved a Gender Identity Policy that will allow individuals who self-identify as men, regardless of the sex assigned to them at birth, to be considered for admission to the nation's only historically black school for men." This puts Morehouse as the first all-

male college in the country to admit men who were not born biologically male. The decision on Morehouse's end is commendable, and I am eager for transgender men to find a home on their campus. The decision comes after an extensive 15 months "of community engagement with faculty, staff, students, and alumni led by a task force created by the President of Morehouse College, Dr. David A. Thomas." In 2015, President Hess said in an interview with World Digital, on the topic of transgender admissions with other single-sex schools, "[t]hey're all thinking about it, but no one has really tipped their hand as to which way they're going."

Morehouse did, and now we must follow in their lead. It would be erroneous of our institution not to take this matter seriously. We have spent too long trying to ignore it, hoping it would go away. We have hesitantly talked about our transgender alums and struggle to talk about anything outside of the norm in fear of upsetting donors with deep pockets. I do not think we should allow that to deter us from engaging with the topic thoughtfully. Nor do I believe we should ignore the monumental action done on Morehouse's behalf. Terrance Dixon, Vice President for Enrollment Management at Morehouse stated: "In a rapidly changing world that includes a better

understanding of gender identity, we're proud to expand our admissions policy to consider trans men who want to be part of an institution that has produced some of the greatest leaders in social justice, politics, business, and the arts for more than 150 years," and further "[t]he ratification of this policy affirms the College's commitment to develop men with disciplined minds who will lead lives of leadership and service." Does Wabash College not have similar, if not the same, values? Are we as different, distinct, and distinguished as we would like to think we are? How can we be if we cannot meet an expanding understanding of gender? Our ideology as an institution has remained consistent with that of our most prominent donors: 1970-1990 graduates, whose, with very broad strokes I say this, understanding of modern gender issues is little to none. We have moved at the rate of molasses when it comes to social justice, and this cannot occur much longer.

What good is a rich school without the richness of perspectives? What is the value of "living humanely" when we continually discount the validity of transgender men? What is the purpose of Wabash College if we cannot be an institution that challenges and broadens our meager understanding of the world?

Tinder And Bumble Aren't Just Causing Relationship Problems

Students of the College constantly experience the “no women” environment of Wabash. In today’s 21st century society, Tinder and Bumble are growing more popular with young people. Around 62% of millennials use dating apps, and 50% of Tinder users are between the ages of 18 and 25. There is, nonetheless, evidence that these applications are causing problems in the real world.

Dating apps create chaotic environments. Jenna Birch, a freelance journalist for the Washington Post, recently wrote an article titled: “Why is it so hard to turn a tinder date into a real relationship?” She talks about how these apps leave her “feeling frustrated” and overwhelmed by “starting a spreadsheet to keep track” (of all her possible flings). She mentions a study done by Michigan State University, which concludes that 28% of online relationships fail within one year. Birch’s depressed attitude along with these statistics show the potential for disaster.

The chaos continues. People lose themselves in these apps. Nielsen, a



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global leader in data analytics, recently provided quarterly statistics on tablet and smartphone app usage. Results show that an average young person spends 28% of their day on a cell phone and 10.5 hours a day consuming media. If you break that percentage down into hours, that is almost a full day at the office. These statistics illuminate a growth in human reliance on technology. It shows the quantity of satisfaction gained from using online apps, including Tinder and Bumble.

The internet consumes people’s lives and takes them away from humanity. The increase in time spent online is leading to less emotional vulnerability. Dating apps are realms

of illusion. Alex Baker-Whitcomb, manager of audience of development for Wired Magazine, touched on the distinct features of these applications in a recent article. She talks about dating apps as having “first glance aesthetics” and places where people spend too much time “to write one clever sentence about yourself.” Additionally, Sift – a global leader in digital trust and safety – recently found that 10% of the 8M online dating profiles are fake.

Whitcomb’s language along with the statistics show how these apps are not 100% reliable. Humans are moving away from their emotional vulnerability to a more logical means of finding a potential partner. What ever happened to the “the chase”? These apps, nevertheless, are not all that bad.

They are businesses. New York Times writer Engel Bromwich wrote about the business-side of these companies in a recent article titled “Tinder and Bumble are Hungry for your Love.” He discusses Tinder’s “SwipeLife” and Bumble’s “Beehive,” which are online blogs for freelance writers to create a discussion on

relationships and dating. Bromwich’s business-minded language shows how these companies have potential to educate young people. It takes the focus away from the swipes and places it on personal livelihood.

Do I have experience with these apps? Yes. Do I spend a quarter of my day on my cell phone? No. It’s all about balance, like anything really. Tinder and Bumble are fun and modern, especially in a time where technology only continues to progress in many ways. The downfall is their ability to suck people in like a black hole. Don’t let this happen to you, Wabash. Delete it if it’s too much, put down your phone, and pick up a book or go outside.

Tinder and Bumble have positives and negatives. Their sleek and creative features leave people feeling emotionally distraught while also sucking them away from the real world. These apps are also major companies with goals outside of matchmaking. If they are going to continue to keep up a solid reputation, they are going to need to keep expanding and innovating outside of their sole purposes.

Wabash’s Sleeping Giant

Early on in my collegiate career, I was advised by almost everyone I talked with that I would have to pick and choose where I spent my time. Like many other Wabash students, I was highly involved in high school, complacent with busywork, and still managed to do well while juggling (what sometimes felt like) a hundred different activities. The first step, after orientation and registering for classes, was to determine where I would devote my time. Wabash prides itself in its marketing that if a student wants to form an organization, they can. That is, if it doesn’t already exist. During this process, I cut out one of my favorite activities that I participated in high school – Theater.

While I was backstage or in the pit for musicals more often than I was on stage, I grew up with a deep appreciation for dramatic life, despite avoiding the daily drama of the hallways. My time as an adolescent swirled between swim practice, youth theater at the Frankfort Community Public Library, and Cub/Boy Scouts, to name a few. But alongside those activities, I was always being exposed to plays, skits, and musicals through my parents and my sisters. Seeing my sisters perform in the high school productions of Little Shop of Horrors and Pippin are clear in my mind, and the countless hours they



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spent watching Phantom of the Opera or listening to Godspell subtly enticed me to engage more fully with the art.

So while considering what to participate in here at Wabash, which organizations, clubs, fraternities, or sports to pursue, I decided to cut theater out. It had always been a hobby anyway and I wasn’t particularly keen on acting, but rather playing bass in the pit or running crew backstage was more my speed. The time commitment for those, too, seemed daunting with pledgship, swim practice, and staff writing for the Bachelor (which was suggested by many to be one avenue to training the skills needed to write effective papers. I agree with this suggestion wholly). Going to, instead of participating in, productions would be my tradeoff. Even if I can’t devote the time

to develop a production, I sure as hell wouldn’t miss one.

Every major production I have been too (and I have only missed two in my four years) has enhanced my understanding of what “liberal arts” means, and how plays and musicals – like novels, paintings, film, etc. – relate to the education I have received. What is taught in the classroom is just one part of the equation for a Wabash education, but the conversations within living units, at meals, and during bus rides to and from sports events all hold a special place in this campus’ mission. Likewise, Wabash’s productions are not only great experiences in the moment, but have generated countless hours of discussion with my roommates, fraternity brothers, and professors.

The first time I doubted the caliber of play came with the description and title of one of this year’s plays, The Pitmen Painters. A historical dramatization of coal miners learning how to paint? I would rather see Frankenstein or even the Furies in the experimental basement. I went with friends. I laughed at the jokes, I thought of the political commentary, and I valued the message. The Pitmen Painters was the inspiration for this opinion piece and the I felt the story resonated with today’s worries. Underprivileged workers

flourishing after being exposed to art? Quality education for the under-resourced or less-than-fortunate? It is this resonance with the times that always strikes me when I see a play here.

From *The Glass Menagerie* to *Universal Robots*, every production has expanded my understanding of...well, life. Humanity, mostly, but more than that – these productions compel me to engage with them and draw out some sort of truth. Some sort of moral or philosophical thought.

The first play I engaged with at Wabash was *Misanthrope*, a modern adaptation of a French play. Filled with existential/absurd crises, humor, rap, and choreographed dance sequences, the experience was, as cliché as it sounds, life-altering. My whole outlook on life shifted because of this play, and it has continued to shift with every play I have seen afterward.

Wabash has a sleeping giant on its hands with the theater department. If there is one piece of advice I could give to underclassmen trying to find a place, club, organization, or just a way to pass the time on a Wednesday-Saturday night, go audition. Go backstage. Go in the audience. Just go to see experience something different. Who knows, you might just get something out of it.

Spring Footwear Faceoff

Breaking down the sandal debate : Birkenstocks or Chacos?



BRYCE BRIDGEWATER '19 / PHOTO

In the battle for exposed feet this Spring, Birkenstocks and Chacos are the front-runners for college footwear.

BRYCE BRIDGEWATER '19 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • Spring weather presents a problem to students of Wabash College: footwear. Throughout the cold months in Crawfordsville, students begrudgingly wear tennis shoes and other varieties of closed-toed shoes. However, once the weather ticks above 60 degrees, students want to break out their toes. But, what should Wabash students wear? There are three various forms of shoes for Wabash students to invest in: flip flops (of any brand), Chacos, and Birkenstocks.

Flip flops are common beach attire, typically thong style with a style strap separating the big toe from the first little piggy as the classic nursery rhyme says. For this review, we will include slides in this category.

Slides are merely a strap across the

toes. Arguably the most feasible shoe attire for Wabash students, flip-flops are inexpensive and widely available. Perhaps the only downside to flip-flops is the stigma of a disheveled look that commonly accompanies this style. The most significant debate is between Chacos and Birks. Wearers of these brands tend to prefer one brand or the other and adamantly despise the other.

Chacos, created in 1989, are a Z-strap sandal. Formerly called Geeko, Chacos are outdoor sandals made for water-use. Without the use of a buckle or Velcro, the shoe uses a single pull strap for tightening — wearers of Chaco's love the openness to the shoe and comfort of the shoe. Colors vary, but Chacos mostly have grey, black, or navy straps with a black sole.

"The Chacos stay on during sex," Vick

Nedo said.

Birks, on the other hand, trace their roots to 1774. Headquartered in Germany, the shoes are notable for the cork footbeds, usually covering the outside of the shoe. Men mainly rock the "Arizona" style, which is a two-strap sandal with one strap covering the toe joints and the other covering the top of the foot near the foot/tibia joint. Birks have a wide range of colors with mocha, stone, and black being their more notable colors.

"Buying Birkenstocks was an excellent choice in footwear, one that I have not regretted for a moment," Brent Breese '19, avid Birks wearer, said. "The fashion sense was appealing, but then I found out they were durable, comfortable, and orthopedic. You cannot go wrong with them."

Typically, these shoe styles provide background information about the person wearing them. Birkenstocks, being from a foreign country, shows that the student wearing them definitely studied abroad or has some fascination with European culture.

Chacos, meanwhile, show the student is more open to going on a hike in short shorts. Chacos are typical of more free-spirited individuals, too. Of course, these are only stereotypes that are not always true.

One downside to both brands is the pricing. The cheapest Birks run around \$100 while Chacos run at \$105. There is also not an easily accessible store in Crawfordsville to try on these shoes.

Still, if you are trying to rid yourself of these foot prisons called shoes, free the feet and beat the heat.

Schuebel: I just want to be happy

PIA SCHUEBEL | GUEST

WRITER • I am going to share a story with you. It is about sexual abuse, how this experience influenced my life, and how I dealt – and am still dealing – with it.

I was nine years old. I went to a summer camp and it happened on the first night of it. I was very homesick and did not want to go to bed. Of course, I did not have a choice. I slept in a cabin with probably about six other girls. I woke up in the middle of the night because I heard someone entering the room; he was a stranger from outside the camp (which I did not know at the time). He came up to my bed and started talking to me. His smell was a mixture of various substances. I was frightened. Then, he asked me whether I would like to experience something nice. I knew exactly what he meant but I was just too scared to say no (by that time I was aware enough of the bad things happening in the world and was afraid he would kill me if I said no). =

Long story short: that night I was sexually abused. I began crying, screaming, and kicking until he left.

I was a bit traumatized to say the least. I was so scared to tell my parents. I wanted to be strong and stay until the end of the camp. I probably also was too scared to face what happened. Staying at the camp was an opportunity to push every thought away because they kept us busy. I was scared that if I told my parents they would come and pick me up right away; so, my mother did not find out until the end of the week when she arrived. When I saw her, I told her that the boss of the camp wanted to talk to her. She was a bit worried about that statement but went to see him anyway. After their conversation, she ran back to me, crying. She was so overwhelmed.

Some years after, I accidentally found a folder containing reports about the abuse and the investigations. Until then, I did not know the investigations had been going on. At the time, I was not emotionally prepared to be reminded of the incident in such vivid detail, so I quickly put the folder back where I found it.

What happened to me psychologically after I got sexually abused? Like most everyone, I felt guilty and wondered whether it was my fault. I was very ashamed, felt

incredibly lonely and dirty, and felt uncomfortable in my own skin. I thought the taste in my mouth would stay forever and that I would never forget how he smelled. How did that happen? Why? What did I do to deserve that? Over the years, I have wondered whether that would have happened if I had said no; I am pretty sure it would have though, so I do not think wondering about that is worth my time.

So, what did I do to move on? I started off with small things like, “Well, if it ever happens again, at least I already know what it’s like. I won’t be surprised anymore!” This thought actually makes me laugh every single time I have it (so please do not feel bad for laughing as well). I think I built a sense of sacrifice – I am not quite sure whether that is good or bad – because I would never let any of my female friends walk home alone at night. I would always walk them all the way home and walk back alone, just to make sure they are safe. I decided I would rather experience such a thing another time than having one of my friends have to deal with it.

I also went to different counselors. It must be tough to counsel a 9 year-old after such an experience. I have to say that some of the counselors helped me better than others. I guess I just was not quite ready a few weeks after the incident to follow the instruction of “closing my eyes and imagining to give this man a hug and to tell him I would forgive him.” Yeah no, I really wasn’t ready for that yet. I needed more time for that than just a few weeks!

However, now being older, I agree that it is important to forgive. In the end, you suffer more when you don’t forgive. Forgiving makes you feel better, not forgiving just makes you more troubled. The other person might not even care because they might not even know they are frustrating you. If we do not move on in our lives, we are likely to be unhappy.

Another counselor once made me paint a place where I felt safe and told me to imagine being there whenever I needed solace. That helped.

It took me a few years to find my own way of dealing with it. I decided to challenge myself: I wrote poems (which turned out to be surprisingly good) and gave a presentation about

the facets of sexual assault. At the end of the presentation, I read one of my own poems without telling my classmates I was the one who wrote it. More years passed, and while others in my class sexually matured, I was still terrified of every man. So, I began to see how far I could go in interactions with men without freaking out or starting to cry. I tried out different occasions and set different goals, sometimes with alcohol, sometimes sober.

Exactly 9 years after the incident, my sister and I went back to the summer camp. I knew that going back would be painful but very important for me to move on. The support of my sister was comforting and extremely helpful. We stayed overnight and slept in the cabin where the abuse occurred. I expected to have a terrible night, but I slept rather well. The next morning, I felt brave and happy about

returning; it helped me a lot. I do not know whether I could have gone back without my sister.

A couple years later, I was able to challenge myself further, again with my sister, by looking through the folder with all the documents regarding the abuse and the subsequent investigations.

Getting into my first serious relationship was challenging. As a side note, if you ever end up dating someone who had a traumatizing sexual experience, do not take it personally if they ever hesitate. I do not know how many times I panicked because I had a flashback and needed to be reminded of where I was. And that of course had nothing to do with my ex.

One thing that changed with years was me talking about my experience.

For several years, I would not want to tell anyone about my experience unless they were really good friends.

SEE HAPPY, PAGE 12

IAWM

The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men

Congratulations, Fraternity Day Award Winners



Senior Joey Lenkey receives the Dean Michael P. Roters Award.

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Touching Base : Prof. Adrien Pouille

BRENT BREESE '19 | COPY EDITOR • The Bachelor sat down with Visiting Assistant Professor of French Adrien Pouille, who has been at Wabash since 2004. Born and raised in Dakar, Senegal, Pouille believes that his time spent in the United States and especially at Wabash has been immensely formative for him as a person and as a professional.

Bachelor: Could you please give us a brief overview of what brought you to Wabash?

Pouille: I came here in 2004 as a French Teaching Assistant for one year, but my contract was extended to an additional year. At this time I began applying for PhD programs, as I already had my Master's at this point. So I spent my second year mostly applying to grad schools and waiting for acceptance. I was accepted at IU and two other places, but I felt IU had the ideal program. I studied Comparative Literature there because I could speak several languages, so it felt right. I also didn't want to focus on one field of study; I wanted to look beyond the African world, the Francophone world, I wanted to expand. I think Comp Lit gave me these opportunities.

B: Could you talk a little more about Comp Lit?

P: Of course, it's a wonderful program at IU and I believe it's one of the first of its kind in the US. In this program you have to know at least 2 foreign languages and we explore theory heavily. At some point people will begin to concentrate on a specific region or idea, but Comp Lit students are exposed to a wide variety of literature. I used English, French and Wolof, which is a regional language widely spoken in West Africa and Senegal in particular. Conveniently this language is taught at IU, and I was encouraged to utilize Wolof as opposed to Chinese, which I had been studying for a bit. I realized however that Wolof was the more practical choice. This language is a "lingua franca" in Senegal, spoken largely at home and in everyday conversation. Even though I don't belong to the Wolof ethnic group, I'm Serer, its spoken by nearly everyone. Interestingly, I didn't know how to write the language until I was older.

B: What motivated you to pursue this career path?

P: I have always been interested in higher learning. At home I took time to isolate myself - well, not really isolate - but to study very seriously. I read everything assigned, I took time to do extra readings, I searched for the best

libraries in Dakar, I was involved in English clubs run by the American Center.

B: So it was a lifelong love of learning, of reading, but also of English?

P: Exactly. The goal was always to teach at an American University. So I engaged with this very early on. That's how I ended up here.

B: So right now your job is a realization of a dream?

P: Yes, exactly.

B: Tell us a bit about your research you've done at Wabash. What interests you right now?

P: Right now I'm very interested in movement. How people move around between cultures and languages. I love being at conferences where there are no barriers between languages. There are papers and panels in English and French and there was no concern for people not being able to understand. I like that spontaneous movement between languages, but also the physical movement. Even in my dissertation I looked at how social change is represented in African literature. Books from all over Africa in many genres, what are the factors that lead people to move, change, and think in innovative ways. I think my work now is just an extension of my dissertation. Looking at immigration, I'm more drawn into the philosophical dimension of human mobility: why people move. Mobility is something we have to do as humans, what does it bring us? Is there something attached to our existence as humans? Does existing mean you have to move?

B: Is there a specific group or region or movement right now you're looking at?

P: I was very interested in refugees moving from Africa into Europe and dying on the ocean. I'm not the only scholar doing this, there is a website called "Missing Migrants" with American scholars doing the same work as me. I think it's very important to look at this because they are human beings losing their lives to migrate. I want to see why they have to risk their lives and go somewhere else, I want to see if they HAVE to go, what are the factors leading them to commit suicide. I believe that's the right word for it because they know how dangerous it is on the ocean. Even if I wasn't from that part of the world, I would be interested in this subject. Who is to blame here? Do we blame the migrants, the leaders, what is pushing them out of their country? Do we have to engage the international community?

B: So right now you're looking at the sociological nature of immigration, but are you also exploring migrant literature?



PHOTO COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Dr. Pouille speaks on his experience at Wabash College.

P: Of course, there's already a great deal of literature, a lot of fiction, detailing this. A lot of Francophone African writing from the 60s during colonial times and post-independence talk about migration from Africa to Europe. "L'aventure ambiguë" (The ambiguous adventure), "Le Désert" (The Desert), to give a few examples. I go from what I've seen in literature, but also oral narratives. What led people to move around pre-colonisation? Most of the modern African Literature is heavily tied to colonialism. If you want a more exhaustive analysis of African mobility, you have to look at oral narrative.

B: You've been at the College for quite some time, how has it affected your work and your life?

P: Before coming here I wasn't used to staying in one place. You become more professionalized, you become aware of timing, deadlines, you have to adapt to a new life. This is the same for all faculty across the country. You improve, you become a better individual, you deal with people all the time and it allows you to understand them more. You grow as a human being and that's really important to me. Professionally the College supports trips and conferences, and my

teaching has improved a lot here. Here I push students to deepen reflection, have deeper discussion, and my language classes are more structured.

B: What do you enjoy most about Wabash?

P: Things like this interview! I love talking with students, travelling to places like Indy for dinners with the Alliance Française, and chatting on campus. The classes are wonderful as well, they bring you a lot. Just today [4/15] we were able to share a brief moment discussing the Notre Dame tragedy in Paris, we shared photos and talked about it. A student said "Notre Dame is burning!" and I thought he was joking! In terms of staff, I have amazing colleagues here. Not to mention everything is so practical at Wabash.

B: What comes next for your career?

P: I've written large portions of a book on all of the things we've talked about today, but I also collaborate on several collections of essays with other scholars, particularly on border studies. I got involved in this from a connection I made after a really good discussion with a colleague at a conference. But I really want to find time to finish this book. I would also love to do more cinema study.

YOUR SMALL TALK BRIEFING

The Rebuilding of Notre Dame

As of Wednesday, the French government had raised more than €850 million to rebuild Notre-Dame. The fundraising effort was led by François Pinault and Bernard Arnault, the richest men in France and rivals in the luxury clothing industry, who collectively pledged over €300 million to the rebuilding.

-New York Times

North Korea Missile Testing

North Korea conducted a “new tactical guided weapons firing test” on Wednesday. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un reportedly attended the test. The test comes on the heels of a US-North Korean summit earlier this year, and casts doubts on the effectiveness on American negotiations with the rogue nation.

-CNN

Doctors Charged in Opioid Scam

On Wednesday, federal prosecutors charged doctors in seven states with a wide-ranging opioid scam, which allegedly involved several doctors trading illegal opioid prescriptions for sex or money. 31 doctors, seven pharmacists, and eight nurses were reportedly among those charged.

-New York Times

Mueller Report Released

The US Justice Department released the Mueller Report on Thursday to the public. The report concludes more than two years of investigation by Special Counsel and former FBI Director Robert Mueller. It is likely that investigations in the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives will be ongoing.

-New York Times

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FROM **HAPPY**, PAGE NINE

I needed to know I trusted them. Some people in my family, like my grandparents, still do not know about it. I have been thinking about telling them for almost 16 years, but I have not done it because it would break their hearts.

I remember eavesdropping on my mother one day when she had a phone call with her friend. She told her I got sexually abused, and they talked about it. I was so hurt and angry. How could my mother dare to tell anyone about my business without asking me beforehand? I could not comprehend how difficult it



Pia Schuebel

must be for a parent to know that such a mistreatment was inflicted on their child. I did not understand that my parents were suffering, too, and that they had to talk to someone about it.

And, of course, I wouldn't be the first person for them to talk to because, as parents, you want to be strong, and you especially do not want to remind your child of the issue. I did not understand any of that back then so my natural reaction was to be mortally offended. Later that day, I gave up on these emotions.

Not so long ago, I started to tell people sooner as I think it is an important issue to be discussed. I also usually do not cry anymore when I talk to people about it, which makes it way easier and less uncomfortable for me to talk about it.

You know, I think that you can either laugh or cry about things, and I prefer laughing. So, I started making fun of it, which has been very helpful. However, I did find out that using humor is not necessarily the best way to tell people about it... I once integrated my story into a German love song, changing the lyrics. I then sang the song to my friend while laughing. Well, it just made her freak out even more.

I did not understand. The song turned out really good with the new lyrics! How could she not laugh at it and appreciate it like I did? Eventually, I figured that the calmer I stay the more people seem to freak out and the other way around. That is quite fascinating to me.

My nightmares are probably the one

thing in my everyday life that still has the greatest impact on me.

Since the abuse, I have been suffering from terrible nightmares. Because of them, I started to be very scared of the dark and of the night. For years, I would not want to sleep because I knew I would have a nightmare. It was a struggle every night. They have an underlying theme in different variations: me lying in a bed at night and a man entering.

When I have my nightmares, I do not have control over myself. I scream, I flail, I kick. Oftentimes, I do not remember the next day that I had a nightmare. Sometimes, my throat aches or I lose my voice in the morning, so I can assume that I had another nightmare that caused me to scream. I am very ashamed of my nightmares, as they are something that I have to warn people about when they or I stay overnight. I feel sorry for the TAs who live with me and have to tolerate my screams for months on end.

However, I do not want to make anyone feel bad or sorry for what I (and many people) have experienced.

For many years, I thought it was my fault and at the same time I did not understand what I did to deserve such an experience.

I started believing that everything happens for a reason, even if we might not be capable of understanding why; I truly believe that is true. I changed. I became much more understanding. I became a much more vulnerable person, but in a good way. I became very empathetic, and I think that I am good at supporting and comforting people. I am ready to stand up for others to defend them whenever, whether they are my friends or not. Also, as compensation for the incident, I was given a coupon for one free extra week at the summer camp! Yay!

I do not think I would be who I am without my struggles. I have become more aware of the importance of fairness and am willing to do my best to make the world a better place.

Why do I think this happened for a reason? Well, I got to choose how to continue my life. I decided to fight, I decided to keep going.

We have a saying in Germany that it does not matter how often you fall as long as you get back on your feet one more time than you fell. I agree with that.

I have learned that people do not always do things purposefully. I came to this realization while considering the motives of my abuser: perhaps he did not mean me any harm or perhaps he could not control himself while under the influence of certain substances.

Regardless, while I am unsure of what specifically drove him to hurt me, I certainly hope that his actions were not purposeful.

I learned how to forgive and move on in order to be happy. I learned how to live with an experience that I did not appreciate. I found my own creative ways to process my thoughts during the times therapy did not help me. I learned how to open up again, step by step.

Also, I had to decide whether I would let this one experience render me unhappy forever; if I would let myself be scared of men or not; if I would assume every guy is like my abuser.

I decided to be happy. I obviously decided not to be scared of men; otherwise, I would not be here at an all-male college.

Life can be bad sometimes. I learned that I have to take care of myself, listen to myself and do what would help me. Let's be honest: We usually know what would make us feel better, we just don't do it a lot of the times. Sometimes, I know crying would help, so I go and cry.

Other times, I think that I would rather

laugh, especially after distancing myself from negativity. I love laughing! I am telling you, laughing about my sexual abuse is so much more fun than crying about it. Creativity helped me along my way. Writing poems, changing song lyrics, giving presentations, whatever could help to process. I encourage you to get creative if you experience something bad. It will be beneficial.

Lastly, our focus makes our life. One of my friends here at Wabash always says that being happy is a choice. He thinks that we can choose to be happy or to be unhappy. Of course, we cannot always be happy. The same friend also once said the following: "It is not worth my time and energy to feed negative emotions.

Happy is what I like to be." It sounds so simple. Of course, it is not; we all know that. Yet, having a positive mindset is just so good and healthy. If we focus on the negative, we will look only for the proof that life is bad. If we focus on the positive and choose happiness, then we will begin to see life's joys! Let us decide how we want to spend our lives.

I want to be happy. How about you?

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Golf Ties for Tenth Place at Small College Championships

JOHN WITCZAK '21 | STAFF WRITER • The Wabash College golf team headed down to The Donald Ross Golf Course in French Lick, Indiana over the weekend, finishing in a tie for tenth at the Indiana Small College Golf Championship. The team shot a 322 on Saturday, and a 332 on Sunday, to make for a two-day total of 654 and a tie with Vincennes University. Justin Klopp '21 scored a 155 (79-76) to land in a tie for 28th place in the individual scoring, while Ben Kiesel '20 came in 41st with a score of 159 (78-81). Zach Podl '20 came in at a tie in the 47th spot, carding a 162, while Will Osborn '21 finished in 53rd after shooting a 166 (80-86).

The course, host to the 1924 PGA Championship, was in relatively rough shape due to the time of year, and the weather did the golfers no favors either, with rain falling especially hard on Sunday. The mix of inclement conditions and a course that was still undergoing restoration led the outing to fall just short of the team's expectation.

"I think, as a team, we had higher expectations for this weekend," Ben

Kiesel '20 said. "Getting off to a tough start on Saturday wasn't ideal, especially since that was the day we had better weather. For me individually, it was kind of the same thing. I felt like there were better scores out there, so that led to a frustrating couple of days. But I think there are some positives to take away for sure. We know we are just a few shots behind some really good teams, it is just going to take some work going forward."

The competition, won by Illinois Wesleyan, was not a particularly good outing for the team, but the season is not over and there is still plenty of room to finish strong.

"I feel like the season as a whole hasn't been going too badly," Kiesel said. "Again, we have struggled at times, but there have been some good signs and we are excited for the next couple weeks to see if we can put it together."

The team will return to action at the Earlham College Spring Invitational, which takes place on April 19 and 20, and will be held at the Richmond Elks Lodge and Golf Course in Richmond, Indiana.



IAN WARD '19 / PHOTO

Ben Kiesel '20 putts a ball on the green.

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Track and Field Grabs First Place at DIII Championships

PATRICK MCAULEY '20 | SPORTS EDITOR •

The Wabash College Little Giant track and field team competed at the Indiana DIII Championships this past weekend. The squad pulled away with fourteen top-three finishes, three of which being first-place awards. Wabash finished with an overall score of 244.5 points, which outnumbered Rose-Hulman's second-place finish of 180 points.

"It's nice to know that we have such a great support system," Berning '19 said over the phone. "[The D3 Indiana Championships] are a chance for us to showcase Wabash and show that we are the best track team in Division III sports for Indiana."

The day began with setting up shop at DePauw's Blackstock Stadium. The team immediately pitched a tent for all of their supplies and gear. Additionally, they were able to spend some quality time with family and friends before they started warmups. As soon as the meet started, however, the attitude changed completely. A multitude of guys were up and out of their seats cheering on their teammates in various events. They were all getting prepared for a day that

would soon end in triumph.

"The young guys do not realize how special that [the cheering] is until they see other teams at their tents," Coach Morgan said. "It ramps up the events and makes them a lot better."

The day moved on with constant energy. Teammates constantly darted across the field in search of brothers to support. Groupme messages flew back and forth about strong finishes in all the different races. It was endless support from and for each other. Everyone mattered in every event. Russell Berning '19, a thrower for the team, noted the importance of the depth on their team and how it plays a factor in their ability to win.

"It takes those guys in the 2nd through 8th spots to really set us apart," Berning said with a full heart. "Coach Morgan talks a lot about earning your points, which are the individual scores in each event. Everyone on the team buys into that culture."

Saturday saw a slew of competitors gain their points. RaShawn Jones '20 finished first in the 110-meter hurdle race with a final time of 14.93 seconds.

The foursome of Isaac Avant '20, Josh Wiggins '21, Brady Gossett '19, and Leon Ivy '21 broke the 2016 record for the 4x100-meter relay event. Furthermore, Gossett finished second in the 200-meter dash with an overall time of 22.33 seconds. Other strong finishes came about from Keith Abramson '22, Isaiah Campbell '21, Daniel Howe '21, Hunter Baehl '20, and Chad Wunderlich '21.

Now the team looks forward as the Little Giants will look to bring their momentum to the Little State Championships at Indiana Wesleyan University today and tomorrow. The event will host a multitude of teams from the DI, DII, and DIII levels, including teams from the University of Indianapolis and Vincennes University.

Coach Morgan mentioned that the team feels ready to compete and is going in with the proper attitude.

"We are going to see where guys are national-wise," Coach Morgan said of the upcoming meet. "Guys are confident and they know that they can run at the Little State [Championships]. We have a chip on our shoulder. We do not back down."



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Isaac Avant '20 competes in a 60-meter dash

IAN WARD '19 / PHOTO

Lacrosse Reaping Rewards of Best Season Yet

ALEXANDRU ROTARU '22 | STAFF WRITER • This semester, the Wabash College Little Giant lacrosse team has had the best season since their founding, four years ago. After going through three different coaches and some difficult seasons with even more difficult opponents, things are starting to look up for our lacrosse players. Yet, behind all the results lie effort, team unity, accountability, and a solid dose of Wabash Always Fights spirit.

The team has a 5-8 (1-3 North Coast Athletic Conference) overall record this season, with a 4-2 home record and 1-6 away record. This year, they have had their first conference win, against Hiram College, and have had the most home wins since the program's founding in 2015. Behind these achievements lay hard work and some awakening moments.

The Little Giants' first opponent of the season was Calvin College. "Our first game was a little eye opening for [the freshmen] to kind of see [college lacrosse] firsthand," Tim O'Shea, Wabash College's head lacrosse coach, said. Since then, "we've been improving our individual skills; we try and get a little better every day; we work on stick work, or shooting ground balls, defensive and offensive schemes." "After the Calvin College game, we've definitely worked on our rides and clears," Evan Schiefelbein '22, #26, said. "We definitely [started to] force some turnovers and were able to possess the ball more on offense." "[After Calvin], everyone [started] working together, and everyone is on the same page. Now we're playing as a unit as opposed to a bunch of individuals," Joe Plencner '22, #31, said.

For the players, the team is an amazing source of positivity that helps them keep going, and get back up after losses. "There's a positive energy coming from the team," Chase Cochran '20, #16, said. "I think the freshmen work really hard, and they're really positive about practice." "We [the lacrosse team] can always get to the good stuff in the

bad stuff; we can always find something funny to laugh about," Schiefelbein said.

The upperclassmen are working hard to ensure a smooth transition for the freshmen. Plencner has been able to learn from Stephen Stark '19 more about the new sport he has transitioned to from football. "[Plencner] is coming along really well for us, doing some good things on the field," O'Shea said. "I see him learning from the upperclassmen, especially Stephen Stark, because they play the same position."

The toughest game they have had so far was against the Denison University Big Red, ranked #14 nationally. Outnumbered 3:1, and competing against a program that "[has] a great tradition, as they have been around for a long time, and they're getting skilled players from all over the country," O'Shea said, our Little Giants did not waver, and played their best for the full 60 minutes on the field. "[The Wabash Always Fights attitude] forces us to internalize that mentality, because even winning is not an option," Cochran said. "It's the only thing you can tell yourself, you just have to fight for no other reason."

Only two days after that loss, the team faced the Wittenberg University Tigers at home. They had only one day of training to prepare for the game, and ultimately lost. "There were definitely our bodies that were still adjusting, still recovering," Cochran said. "And I think that could have very well led to their lead in the first quarter. [...] I think that was because we were in that mentality, that Denison mentality." Thankfully, after the Wittenberg game, the team recovered from that mentality and kept putting all their effort in their game.

This past Saturday, April 13, the Little Giants traveled to Ohio, and fell to the Wooster Fighting Scots. "We fought harder [than against Wittenberg]," Cochran said. "We still made mistakes, we still lost, but we played harder. We

were a little more focused, a little bit more there mentally. We were there ready to go from the start."

On Wednesday, April 17, our lacrosse team faced the Ohio Wesleyan University away. In light of the previous games, the players decided to change tactic. "We are changing up our defense for going man to man," Schiefelbein said. "That way, all the teams that will scout us before we play will see that we play zone defense [...]. Hopefully, that will throw them in a loop and we'll be able to capitalize with some force turnovers."

Given the huge difference between the win : loss ratio, the home turf advantage has proven helpful for our lacrosse team. "When you play at home," O'Shea said, "you know that the guys get to sleep in their own bed the night before. We don't have to get a bus and travel for 4-5 hours." "I think one factor of [more home wins] is definitely just the teams that have come to play here. Then, there is also that added motivation from parents and from fans," Cochran said. Also, traveling for hours on end can be a challenge for even the most seasoned player. *Travel: Schiefelbein* "There's beauty in the grind: without the bad parts, there wouldn't be fun; it wouldn't be as memorable," Cochran said. Thankfully, "the coach gives us 45 minutes before we meet as a team [while we are away] to go out and play catch with each other," Schiefelbein said. "That helps us get in the game mentality."

In the end, our lacrosse team has displayed continuous, deliberate efforts to improve themselves. Even though they are conference underdogs, they truly showcase the Wabash Always Fights mentality and spirit by doing their best and always playing to win, even if they do not always succeed in doing so. Let us keep this in mind as we cheer for these amazing Little Giants as they take on the Kenyon College Lords tomorrow, Saturday, April 20, at 1 p.m. on our very own Fischer Field.

STAT LEADERS:

GOALS: 20, Collin Brennan '19

ASSISTS: 15, Colling Brennan '19

SHOOTING PERCENTAGE: .358, Joe Plencner '22

CAUSED TURNOVERS: 27, Evan Schiefelbien '22

SAVES: 174, Max Atkins '20

Baseball Swept by Wooster, Bounces Back Against OWU

BRYCE BRIDGEWATER '19 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • Wabash baseball needed a rebound this week. After a seven-game winning streak in late March, the Little Giants were 3-7 in the next ten games, including six conference losses. Two of those losses came against #11 ranked College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio last weekend. After splitting the season against the Scots last year, the Little Giants could not get the offense and defense working together to defeat the top-ranked Scots.

In game one, the Little Giants could only muster two hits, both by Jared Wolfe '19, losing 0-10. The Little Giants gave up three home runs in the game. Game two proved to be a better game for Wabash. This game, the Little Giants hit four home runs of their own to keep themselves within striking distance. Jackson Blevins '20, Erich Lange '19, Matthew Annee '21, and Sean Roginski '19 each had one home run in the contest. Still, the Little Giants could not overcome the high-power Scot offense, dropping the game, 7-8.

To stay in contention for tournament play at the end of the season, the Little Giants need to win most, if not all, of their remaining conference games. Their schedule does not get any easier. Wabash must face #7 Denison University on May 4 to close out the year. However, Wabash started their comeback on Tuesday against Ohio Wesleyan University.

Roginski was unstoppable in game one. Going 4-5 with 5 RBIs, Roginski iced the game with a go-ahead grand slam in the top of the eighth inning to seal the Wabash win. Zach Moffett '20 tossed 4.1 innings of two-hit baseball to earned his third win of the season. Lange and Blevins added 2 RBIs each to power the Little Giants to a 13-8 victory.

"Let's be real. Yesterday doesn't happen without Sean," Eric Chavez '19 said. "He's been our best player all year,

and yesterday he stepped up big time. It's really nice to have someone like that who comes to the park everyday knowing he's going to succeed. It gives me and the team so much confidence and I love playing with that dude up the middle."

The offense stayed hot in game two. During the first inning, the Little Giants tallied five runs. Roginski and Lange had two, and Canton Terry '21 added the last RBI. After the first seven batters of the game, the Little Giants led 6-0, resulting in a pitching change for OWU.

"It's the best offensive inning of baseball in terms of production and quality of at-bats I've ever been a part of," Lange said.

The offensive onslaught continued, powering the Little Giants to a 16-10 victory. Roginski, the record holder for most at-bats in Wabash College history, added another home run in the top of the seventh, his fourth in three games. Since game two against Wooster, Roginski is batting .533 with four home runs, and 10 RBIs. After not hitting most of last season, Lange is batting .437, currently fifth highest in Wabash history, with 25 RBIs through 23 games played this year. Offensively, Wabash is hitting .310 as a team, averaging 7.3 runs a game.

"It was huge for conference," Chavez said. "We obviously dig ourselves a hole but this definitely gives us momentum going into a big home stand we have at conference. We love playing at home this year so we have a lot of confidence that we can make a big run late."

Tomorrow, Wabash will face Oberlin College (12-13) in a home doubleheader with games at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. With nine conference games remaining in Wabash's season, they have an opportunity to become tournament eligible with big wins this weekend. Head out to Goodrich Ballpark tomorrow to support the Little Giant baseball team.

UPCOMING GAMES:

Saturday, April 20 vs. Oberlin 12 p.m.

Saturday, April 20 vs. Oberlin 3 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24 vs. Anderson 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 27 vs. Hiram 12 p.m.



IAN WARD '19 / PHOTO

Erich Lange '19 stops a pitch in the dirt.



IAN WARD '19 / PHOTO

Canton Terry '21 swings at a pitch.