

### Check Out Some Quarantunes See Page Three

# Hood Named Next Bachelor Editor-in-Chief

JAKE VERMEULEN '21 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • The Bachelor is proud to announce that Austin Hood '21 has been named as our new Editor-in-Chief for the 2020-2021 year. Hood has served as News Editor for the Spring semester of this year, following a semester abroad studying at Oxford University in Oxford, England. Prior to that, he served as our Opinion Editor for the 2019 Spring semester, and he won the Patterson-Goldberg Outstanding Freshman in Journalism award during his first year on campus.

Hood will be a senior next year, and has been an active member of the Wabash Community during his time on campus. He is a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, and served as Student Senate Chairman for the past semester. He is a Philosophy major as well as a Writing Center Consultant. Hood's experience working in journalism stretches back to his time in high school, when he was a writer for the Warren Central Owl. He eventually worked his way up to complete stints as News Editor, Opinion Editor, Copy Editor, and Assistant Editor for the award-winning high school paper.

Hood brings a wealth of experience to the position of Editor-in-Chief of The Bachelor, as well as a clear vision for making the paper even better as it enters into its 113th year as the flagship student publication on campus. The Student Voice of Wabash College will be in excellent hands as he assumes the mantle of leadership, and we congratulate him wholeheartedly on his selection. Hood is in the process of putting together his editorial leadership team, and if you are interested in working with the paper next year, please reach out to him at aghood21@wabash.edu.

# Starved for Sports? Check Out a Couple of Overseas Leagues

WILL OSBORN '21 | STAFF WRITER • For the diehard sports fans among us, these are hard times indeed. The spring should be peak sports season. From the NBA playoffs to the Masters, to the start of the MLB season and the NHL playoffs, there is hardly a night without a marquee matchup, begging us to turn away from our schoolwork and tune in to the game. Now, our options are limited. ESPN has moved on to e-Sports coverage and re-runs of classic games. There are very few sports leagues still playing. You could tune in to the Belarusian Premier League, which just started up a few weeks ago. But that will soon grow fairly boring, especially as top teams such as BATE and Dinamo Brest underperform. However, a newcomer, the Chinese Professional Baseball League (CPBL), appears to have some real potential in remedying our collective boredom.

The CBPL restarted last week as Taiwan begins to open up after easing their coronavirus restrictions. The league provides baseball fans (and helpless sports fans) the content they need to survive, while also adding in some moments of levity. Take, for example, the manneguin-laden stands at the most recent Rakuten Monkeys home game. While the government has allowed play to open up in the CPBL, there are still restrictions on largescale gatherings. So, the folks over at the CPBL decided to fill the stands with robots, cardboard cutouts, and mannequins donned in the team's jerseys. It certainly is a sight to see, but we should get used to it sooner rather than later, as we approach a similar reality in the not-so-distant future. Any sports leagues that open up in America will likely see a similar halt on crowds, so we might as well

embrace the change.

The CPBL proved it's capable of fireworks, and it might be able to keep even the most devout baseball-haters entertained. Earlier this week, the Rakuten Monkeys faced off against the Fubon Guardians. Tensions were high in the game after Rakuten players alleged that one of the Guardian's infielders was using an illegal bat. After a brief chat amongst the umpires, the play was allowed to continue as they found no violation. Later in the game, Guardians pitcher Henry Sosa repeatedly threw inside to Monkeys player Kou Yen-Wen. Sosa believed that Kou was the player who alleged the bat allegation, and in an effort to protect his team and protest the action of the Rakuten Monkeys, he drilled Kou on a 3-0 count. Benches cleared from both teams, resulting in arguably the leastenthusiastic infield "brawl" of all time. Following the scuffle, the umpires convened and ultimately decided not to eject Sosa.

The Monkeys were off to a hot start. They went on to win that game against the Fubon Guardians 16-12. and currently stand at an undefeated 5-0 record. Many people are claiming the Monkeys as early title favorites, but it really is too early to tell. In no way am I saying that you should expect to see very high-quality baseball if you tune in to the CPBL. But I am saying that tuning in may provide some muchneeded levity during these uncertain and strange times. The league has the potential to provide real fireworks, as evidenced by Sosa's questionable pitching methods in a 28-run game. Frankly, we need something to rally around as sports fans, and the Chinese Professional Baseball League, with all its craziness, allows us to do just that.

Takeaways from the NFL Draft REED MATHIS '22 | ONLINE lost their best defensive back, Byr

EDITOR • Well, that was a (virtual) draft for the ages! For myself, I eagerly could not wait for last week's 2020 NFL Draft. Although I had reserves and cautious optimism on how the draft would flow and attempt to match the typical draft-day hype, I came away satisfied, and for a change, brought back to how our world felt when we were in "normal" times. Fortunately, I cannot say I am the only one who felt this way, as over fifty-five million Americans (!?!?!?) watched the draft over three days, which was thirty-five percent higher than last year's! Yes, there were some hiccups and weird moments; I am looking at you, Bill O'Brien and Jon Gruden. However, through all the changes in the draft experience, we all came away with new players to cheer for, still, a way to boo Commissioner Roger Goodell, and a short return to the comforts and stability many of us eagerly receive through athletic events, like the NFL Draft.

Brett Favre 2.0?

For context, I am alluding to the Green Bay Packers' perplexing decision to draft quarterback Jordan Love, out of Utah State, with the 26th pick in the first round. The Packers gave up their fourth-round pick (No. 136) and the 30th pick of the first round for the aforementioned pick. Now, I will preface that I am not the biggest fan of Love. I do not appreciate these naive, lazy comparisons to him being a poor man's Patrick Mahomes. One of them will sit on the bench for the next couple of years, while the other is coming into the season as Super Bowl LIV MVP, and will soon be the highestpaid player in NFL history. There is a substantial difference between the two. What makes it more confusing is why they would making a selection like this, which will not pay off in the short-term. Instead of building around a team who was only one game away from last year's Super Bowl with a first-ballot Hall of Fame quarterback, they drafted his replacement. Imagine being in that locker room, knowing that your most pressing need is at the skill positions. Not only did the Packers draft your quarterback of the future, add on the fact that your team has not selected a skill position player in the first round since... Aaron Rodgers in 2005. Do not even get me going on them, not drafting ANY wide receivers.

**Jerry Jones and his Yacht** In typical Jerry Jones fashion, he

lost their best defensive back, Byron Jones, to the Miami Dolphins in a record deal (5yr/\$82.5mil) for the cornerback position. So the Cowboys addressed that need by selecting two players who will instantly contribute to a Cowboys defense looking to build around DE Demarcus Lawrence and the linebacker tandem of Jaylon Smith and Leighton Vander Esch. Another pick that surprised me is the fact center (C) Tyler Biadasz out of Wisconsin was still available with the 146th pick in the 5th round. For many experts, they rated Biadasz as the second-best center prospect in the draft, but more importantly, they filled a hole where the Cowboys look to replace recently retired, five-time Pro Bowler Travis Frederick. The Cowboys come into the next season with as much talent as they have had in recent memory and have a chance to win the NFC for the first time since 1995. No more excuses.

#### The Rich get Richer

The Baltimore Ravens came into the draft coming off of a spectacular season, where they saw their own draft-day steal, Lamar Jackson, win the 2019 regular season MVP and the team finishing on top of the AFC at 14-2. They were not able to build off of their regular-season success in the playoffs, but coming into the 2020 season, they are as well-equipped to contend as any other team in the league. Their latest draft performance, if anything, bolstered their chances at postseason success for next year. Their draft started with the versatile LSU linebacker Patrick Queen who will immediately plug into the already impressive Ravens defense. Add that to the Ravens bringing back OLB Matthew Judon, CB Jimmy Smith, and LB/DB Anthony Levine Sr., and the fact they were able to secure the talents of defensive ends (DE) Calais Campbell and Derek Wolfe during the off-season. Only a season after ranking as the third-best defensive unit in the NFL, according to Pro-Football Focus, you have a defense coming into the season better than the squad from last year. Queen will look to become a franchise stalwart for years to come. After making, maybe, the best value pick of the first round, the Ravens turned to the offensive side of the ball in the second round, and amazingly were in a position where Ohio State University (OSU) running back J.K. Dobbins fell into their lap. Now, Dobbins was not the first running back drafted - LSU RB Clyde Edwards-Helaire, who went to the Kansas City Cheifs with the 32nd pick, but there is more than enough tape and ability for him to become the best running back out of this draft. Dobbins brings an extra element to an offensive who electrified the league last year. Still, the ironic thing is that the Ravens now have four quality running backs who will only enhance Lamar Jackson in his ability to continue to take the league by storm. Other picks included offensive lineman, Tyre Phillips with the 106th pick out of Mississippi State, and Ben Bredeson with the 143rd pick out of Michigan University, who add to their guard depth, after perennial All-Pro, future Hall of Famer Marshall Yanda who retired this offseason. Along with their other picks in the draft, it is quite evident that the Ravens addressed their glaring needs and reinforced existing strengths so that they are now in prime position to challenge for the next year's Super Bowl.

decided to out-do himself once again. If I were Jerry, I would also be a part of the draft process on my yacht. Looking past this spectacle, it is pretty apparent that the Dallas Cowboys had an impressive draft. In what might have been the most shocking turn of events, wide receiver (WR) CeeDee Lamb, out of Oklahoma, fell to the Cowboys with the 17th pick. Many pundits and I included thought Lamb would have been gone by then, and even though I believe WR Jerry Jeudy, out of Alabama, is a better talent, it caught my eye that the Cowboys had the opportunity to take him. Looking ahead, the Cowboys now have a threeman group of Amari Cooper, Michael Gallup, and CeeDee Lamb at wide receiver, and with Ezekiel Elliot in the backfield, Dak Prescott has as good of an offensive unit around him as ever. Two of their three next picks were cornerbacks (CB), Trevon Diggs out of Alabama, and Reggie Robinson II out of Tulsa. This off-season, they



COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK POST

As the draft progressed, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell got progressively more relaxed, eventually kicking his feet up in his chair with some M&Ms





Thank You for Taking Giant Steps at Wabash

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#### THE BACHELOR



#### Christian Redmond 20

Reply to this editorial ceredmon20@ wabash.edu

s Opinion Editor for The Bachelor this year, I have spent a lot of time trying to convince Wabash students to submit opinion pieces. I pursued the position in part because I found value in writing opinions. But. as any previous Opinion Editor knows, it is always like pulling teeth to get the men of Wabash to express their feelings in front of the whole campus. So, as my four years come to an end, I want to submit into The Bachelor archives this last plea for my current and future brothers to consider writing an opinion. Here are some things I have learned along the way.

I wrote my first opinion in 2018. After the Parkland shooting, many political personalities were dehumanizing those

on the other side of the gun debate. I argued that we must understand that Americans live inside a framework of values, no matter the political affiliation. We all disavow gun violence. But if we frame the conversation as to portray our opponents as supporters of gun violence, the common framework breaks down. After the piece was published, Dr. Sabrina Thomas complimented me for writing it. However, I also learned another professor called the piece "idiotic". This taught me that opinions aren't only for other students' eyes. Professors, Wabash alumni, and family all read your opinion. This might dissuade some, but it shouldn't. The opinion section is one of the most accessable and effective ways to infiltrate the Wabash network. It only costs however long it takes you to write 600 words. It can have a much more substantial effect on readers as you aren't just shaking hands and receiving a business card. You're getting the opportunity to present what you are passionate about and how you critically think about important issues. I mean, you have to pay the LSAC \$15 to do pretty much the same thing on the writing portion of the LSAT. I once wrote an opinion titled "Dear

Write An Opinion Conservative Freshman" as an offer of some advice to incoming freshman with conservative views. Liberal Arts Colleges get a pretty bad rap in conservative circles, so I felt it was important to share with worrying minds how vocal conservatives fare on campus. I was met with criticism from a fellow student the next week. I felt as though he dismissed my claim that an old man screeched liberal talking points to me for wearing a "Socialism Sucks" button in the Bookstore as false. So, I emailed him a long, strongly worded message about how I wish he at least asked me if it was false. As I look back now, it

was extremely embarrassing. People are entitled to critique the work you make public. It was my fault that I didn't substantiate my claim, not his. I learned that more often than not, you should bite your tongue before you make yourself look like an ass.

I wrote two opinions titled "The Gender Studies Echo Chamber" and "Stop Dehumanizing People" wherein both I argued that academia marginalizes conservative views. I argued that at least there is a correlation between sex and gender identity, and that to observe that correlation does not

warrant dehumanization from the other side. I was contacted by a writer from The Washington Post to discuss my background and ideas on masculinity for her book on raising boys in America because of these articles. I learned that Wabash is a unique school. While we don't think about the lack of females much when we are going through the Wabash experience, it is part of what defines the school and community. People are interested in what an all-male experience is like. And they are always searching for an answer to why it even exists. In the most progressive era of the United States, why do we still have segregated schools? You better be ready to field that question honestly when it inevitably hits you.

Writing an opinion is much more than just doing the Opinion Editor a favor. Career Services envies the Opinion Section's ability to present the student's substantive and pragmatic abilities to an ever-widening audience. It allows you to reflect and progress as a person and figure. It further develops you into a Wabash man. So, when you return back to campus and start up the new year, do me a favor and write an opinion for The Bachelor.



## Rudicel

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abash recently opened new pathways for education by creating two new majors this year, PPE and Computer Science. This is a positive step for the college to adapt the available majors to match student interests in the evolving job market. However, there is one subject at Wabash with high interest, but not enough offered classes. The Film and Digital Media Minor (FDM) was introduced my freshman year and it was the only thing I knew I wanted to study going into Wabash. After taking a core class for the minor, THE 104 [Introduction to Film], I knew I would get a lot of knowledge and experience

### Give Us a Film Major

A 'Short' Thank You

from the FDM minor, but my passion for filmmaking would lead me to fulfil the requirements by the Fall of my junior year. This left me with three semesters without film classes, which is unfortunate for someone who will be working in the film industry upon graduation. If there is one thing I wish was different about my Wabash experience, it would be for Wabash to offer film as a major, so I could further develop my skill for my future profession.

The professors teaching FDM courses are all very knowledgeable about the subject, and taught me a lot about filmmaking and the history of film. I appreciate all they did for me and for answering my numerous questions outside of class and requests for film recommendations. They guided me to build enough confidence to follow my passion without hesitation. My call for a film major is not a criticism of what is available in the FDM, but a request for more. As a liberal arts education, I understand I cannot exclusively take film classes every semester and expect to graduate. If it was a major, though,

students could take more of the classes in the subject they love, while also staying on track for graduation.

This request might seem rather niche for the small population of people planning on entering the industry like myself, but offering film as a major would mean more classes that other divisions can take for distribution. I know from conversations with other students that many will take film classes to fulfil their fine arts requirements because, who doesn't enjoy watching movies? With film becoming a more significant and respected industry, learning about it contributes to a well rounded education for all students. I have personally connected with several Wabash alumni in the film industry and know the strong connections between Wabash alumni how important "who you know" is in filmmaking. A film major is an outstanding opportunity to display the strength of the Wabash mafia.

I was lucky to be a part of the first Film & Digital Media Immersion Program last fall where I worked

alongside ten other students in a professional film setting taught by an award winning director and Wabash graduate, Jo Throckmorton '87. This was one of my most beneficial experiences in developing myself for the film industry, but as a major, this could lead to more opportunities for future students with similar programs and classes. The other students in the program agreed that we would benefit from film as a major and described their plans for working with film during Presentations at the Celebration of Student Research and Creative Work.

For what is available, I am very pleased with my experience with the FDM, but I believe there is enough interest to upgrade the minor to a major study. It took a long time for film to be regarded as intellectual and worth studying (just like videogames are soon to be) and I think a progressive college like Wabash should adapt to satisfy student's growing passion for film. It's too late for me to graduate as a Wabash film major, but one day, hopefully I can hire one.

#### Jake Vermeulen **'2**I

Reply to this editorial ikvermeu21@wabash.

alum, or a professor, or a parent, thank vou for reading.

But, while I'm very thankful for everyone who reads this paper, I'm not half as thankful to you as I am to the staff who work diligently to put this paper together every week throughout the year. No one on this staff makes any money. No one on this staff gets any academic credit for the work they do. But week in and week out, they put in the extra effort to come to our staff meetings, schedule interviews, transcribe them, write stories, and come down to the office and edit (sometimes for up to 8 hours on a Wednesday night). They produce a paper that Wabash can be proud of, and for that I am eternally thankful to them. None of that is to say that we're perfect. We absolutely make our fair share of mistakes. They do great work, though, and I am proud of every member of the staff.

Largent, Dakota Baker, Reed Mathis, John Witczak, Alex Rotaru, Davis Lamm, and Ben High. All of them have put forward excellent work for the paper, and for the Wabash Community. I am incredibly proud of all of them. We have an odd situation next year. We only have two editors graduating, which means we will have a lot of experience returning for next year. I expect that they will put together an excellent paper as a result of that experience, and I can't wait to be a part of that as a writer. Thank you in particular to Austin Hood, who has done a masterful job as News Editor this semester. I could not have made it through this semester without his excellent work in his section and his work as a sounding board for me as we figured out how to adjust to being a completely virtual paper. Austin will take over as Editor-in-Chief next year, and I am confident that he will take the paper to new and better heights. He has a wealth of experience working with The Bachelor and with his high school paper before that. He has presented a bold vision for

how we can improve next year. I can't wait to see what he does.

Finally, I want to say a thank you to someone who stays almost completely in the background of the Wabash experience in general, and The Bachelor in particular. Jim Amidon doesn't get one-tenth of the credit he deserves for the incredible work he does at Wabash. Without Jim and the work he does, Wabash College would not be the institution that it is. During this past year, Jim has been a constant source of wisdom for me throughout this year. His steady, calm hand has kept me on the straight and narrow. I could not have done this without him. Wabash and I are both incredibly lucky to be the beneficiaries of his work. This year as Editor-in-Chief has been an incredible experience. I have learned so much and I have done it while working with some absolutely incredible people to whom I owe more than I could ever repay. I am proud of the work we have done as The Student Voice of Wabash College, and I cannot wait to see where Austin and his team take the paper next year.



am in a little bit of a weird position right now. Traditionally, the Editorin-Chief writes an opinion piece for the last issue of the year with the other seniors on staff. Usually, though, the Editor-in-Chief is about to graduate. I still have a year left at Wabash, though. So, I waffled back and forth trying to decide whether to write an opinion for this issue. I eventually decided that I wanted to take the opportunity to say "thank you." Not to you, the reader. Although, thank you for reading. If you didn't, we wouldn't have a reason to print this paper. Whether you are a student, or an

I want to say a particular thank you to the members of the editorial staff during this past year - Austin Hood. Christian Redmond, Austin Rudicel, Blake





### BACHELOR

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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.

The Bachelor is printed every Thursday at the Purdue Exponent in West Lafayette. It is delivered freely to all students, faculty, and staff at Wabash College. All advertising published in the Bachelor is subject to an established rate card. The Bachelor reserves the right to deny requests for publication of advertisements. Student organizations of Wabash College may purchase advertisements at half the listed rate.

The Bachelor is a member of the Hoosier State and Indiana Collegiate Press Associations (HSPA and ICPA).

#### ALEXANDRU ROTARU '22 | ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR • With United States President Donald Trump halting all immigration and visa processing, multiple countries across the world shutting down their airports or reducing the number of inbound and outbound flights, and the

# Some Quarantunes To Check Out

**AUSTIN HOOD '21** | NEWS EDITOR • This time of social distancing is a great time to explore some new music. Here are a couple of our suggestions for albums to check out.

Suddenly by Caribou

Producer Dan Snaith, who has also performed under the names Manitoba and Daphni, has long distinguished himself as a serious contender for the title of best electronic musician alive. His 2010 release Swim brought back Snaith's knack for producing albums that effortlessly toe the line between earnest experimentation and accessibility to the forefront of critics' and fans' attention. On Suddenly, Caribou's first release in six years, those genuine techno bona fides his name is built upon are on full display once again. Make no mistake, when I say that Caribou's work is accessible, I don't mean it's pedestrian. In fact, it's anything. His music goes places that few others have even thought of journeying to: a space where electronica is pushed to complex emotional expression. Snaith's modus operandi in doing this is combining his wounded, vulnerable, non-imposing voice with airy synth rhythms. This results in an odd feeling for the listener: the music often feels poppy and light, yet Caribou's voice leaves you with a feeling of innocent emptiness. Perhaps the album's climax is on "Magpie," my personal favorite track. This tune, a song about loneliness and despair, showcases Caribou's ability to combine strongly simplistic lyricism with an unparalleled ability to express his voice through the electronic music medium. When I listen to it, I feel like I'm floating gently down a river of confusion, not knowing where it's going, but knowing I don't want to go there. But it's not all doom and gloom on this record. "Ravi," "Home" and "Never Come Back" are throwbacks to the soulful, neo-psychedelic techno beats that made Caribou famous, and they're as good of candidates as any to hit DJ's turntables with a vengeance once (if) we can all come together to dance once again.

3.15.20 by Childish Gambino

Upon the release of "Awaken, My Love!" in 2016 it should have become clear that Childish Gambino is one of this generation's defining artists. It took, by my estimate, about six months before we were at least partially free of the long, soulful shadow cast by the cloud of "Redbone" and "Me and Your Mama." On that album, a sharp departure from the alt-hop form hat Gambino mastered with his 2013 release, Because the Internet, he emerged with a powerful homage to 1970s R&B and the psychedelic-soul of Parliament/Funkadelic. 3.15.20 is an even sharper redirection of Gambino's sound, an homage to no one, a sonic collage insistent on its own merit. To say this release is a risk is an understatement. I, for one, think it pays off. It's clear to me that Gambino is trying to capture the raw power of his more hip-hop oriented work without sacrificing the complexity of his later work, and I think he does so to a startling extent. The album begins with "0.00" which sets the stage to the startling jolt, to the attention of "Algorithm," a rocking industrial tune unlike anything else Gambino has crafted. This industrialist bent stick with us for the rest of the album. This is a project that sounds stripped down, and unpolished. And yet, curiously, it doesn't suffer the same sort of fatigue-inducing intenseness that plague many similar projects. This is because the artist doesn't shed the songwriting skill that has propelled him this far. On "35.31," my favorite track on the release and leading candidate for my personal summer anthem, Gambino gives us a genuinely catchy pop song that doesn't sacrifice the experimentality that the album reaches for. Give the album a listen, I'm sure you'll find a couple of additions to your quarantine playlist.

### THE BACHELOR HI-FIVES FIVE THINGS WORTHY

OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

#### CAUTION

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#### NCAA MISSES THE MARK

Lo-Five to the NCAA. While their new rules regarding athletes profiting off of their images are a solid step in the right direction, the NCAA missed the easiest layup of all time. By forbidding players from appearing in uniform, they managed to keep NCAA video games from happening any time soon. After all the bad press they've gotten lately, they missed an easy opportunity to earn some goodwill.

#### QUARANTINE ACTIVITIES

Hi-Five to Carpal Tunnel doctors and PornHub stockholders for being just about the only ones who are making money during this quarantine. Kleenex also appears to be doing well. Anyone see a connection?

#### PPP PAYS LEBRON'S SALARY

Lo-Five to the Lakers for taking out a small business loan through the Payroll Protection Program. We're definitely faulting the team for seeking the loan, but we're also faulting the oversight for an organization valued by Forbes at \$4.4 Billion to be allowed to take out a loan intended to help stuggling small businesses.

#### HAPPY MAY DAY

Hi-Five to our proletariat friends who celebrate May Day. On the off chance that you get all 'eat the rich' on us, we'd like to point out that this paper operates on a shoestring budget. If you don't believe us, ask the fat cats on the AFC. We even had to cut out the caviar at our staff meetings. Talk about oppression.

Correction: In last week's issue, we mistakenly placed the city of Prague in Hungary in our article about changes to fall study abroad plans. Prague is in the Czech Republic.

### how interdependent countries are worldwide.

And it's not just countries that are hurting politically because of the Coronavirus. American higher education in particular is struggling to bring in any sort of international students, and those who are already enrolled have to choose between going home and facing gap semesters or even gap years, and staying in the United States, scrambling for a place to stay or for any sort of internship. Also, in the absence of widespread adequate testing, both nationally and here, in Crawfordsville, we're going to have to learn how to relate to one-another in ways that we are not necessarily used to," Wells said. At Wabash, this will impact classroom interactions, on-campus housing, fraternity culture, dining, and many of the landmark traditions and heritage that make this place unique. And as the Spring semester draws to a close, the only thing left to is hope that Wabash will go back to some sort of normal in the Fall.

# **The Politics of COVID-19**

institution tested is the World Health Organization, whose member countries need to "coordinate adequate responses in terms of getting supplies where they need to go, alerting countries as to where the virus is spreading, and all sorts of things," Wells said. At the same time, world

role in being what we think of as the global hegemon, in terms of providing resources and best practices, and assisting countries out of crisis," Wells said. "But, as we have seen, the current administration is not terribly invested in an outward-looking approach. And, to a certain extent,

Department of State maintaining a Global Health Level 4 (Do Not Travel) Advisory for all foreign countries, the Coronavirus is taking its toll on international relations and foreign policy. International Politics, in true liberal arts fashion, is interconnected with so many other fields, such as international and national economics, sociology, and, that COVID-19's impact in International Politics extends well beyond the field. In this sense, The Bachelor sat down with BKT Assistant Professor of Political Science Matthew Wells, who specializes in International Politics.

"[COVID-19] is testing the strength and value of our international institutions and organizations," Wells said. One particular international trade is declining, as more countries opt for their respective domestic products, to ensure that each country can provide jobs for their people. "While it's politically understandable why that desire exists, it has a lot of counterproductive results, in a sense that it is inefficient in terms of buying and selling goods, [...] because people end up paying more for goods than they otherwise would," Wells said.

With varying infection rates, economies, and social norms comes a variation in how each country addresses their own COVID-19 situation, and a variation in how effective each country is in combating the pandemic. This, in turn, has important political consequences. For example, "America has played a vital

we're seeing, even domestically that the federal government under the Trump administration is sort of advocating its responsibility even here in the United States, saying it's up to the individual states to decide how they want to proceed with doing testing and opening up. And, so, in the absence of what has historically been American leadership on the global stage, we see different countries trying to exert influence." Alongside the absence of hegemonic American leadership, many other countries are also unprepared to act up in response to COVID-19, meaning that the pandemic is generating power dynamic shifts towards the few countries that are handling the Coronavirus well. This goes to show



