

FEBRUARY 21, 2020

Basketball Win–Streak Snapped



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Wabash ends regular season and 10 game home winning streak with 78-69 loss to wittenberg. See page six for more.

Coronavirus Raises Concerns About Planned Immersion Trips

RYAN SOWERS '23 | STAFF WRITER • The outbreak of the Coronavirus in China has plastered the media and spurred on a lot of anxious speculation on the prospects of this new disease. The uncertainty that still surrounds the issue is felt especially by those who in the Wabash community will participate in the college's first-ever immersion trip to the Chinese capital.

When asked about the viability of the trip, Professor Cara Healey, who is teaching the Beijing: Past, Present, Future immersion course, and who has been involved in planning for the course since she arrived here at Wabash three years ago, informed us that “Our plans are on hold right now. Our top priority is student safety. We have been monitoring the situation very closely [by] monitoring the news ourselves, but also contacting our colleagues at Beijing Language and Culture University which is our host institution, and we’ve talked with the campus doctor as well.” Professor Healey stressed that while the trip has not been cancelled, a definitive decision is hard to come by at this time, and student safety will be the final arbiter of any decision to be made. She continued, “I really hope that we can go, but of course we don’t want to take any unnecessary risks. And then of course, our trip is really a minor thing, right? There are people in Wuhan and Hubei province who are in really terrible situations, so I try to keep perspective as well.”

Providing some such perspective, on Tuesday, Dr. Anne Bost, Visiting Assistant Professor of Biology, Dr. Eric Wetzel, Norman Treves Professor of Biology and Global Health Dept chair, along with Dr. John Roberts, Wabash grad and one of two campus doctors, teamed up to give a lunch talk under the Global Health Initiative on the epidemiology, microbiology, and clinical manifestations of the Coronavirus. Dr. Roberts opened the three-paneled talk, quipping, “Look, 54 deaths so far [pause] in Indiana from seasonal flu.” Dr. Roberts then said to a laughing audience, “So part of this is perspective. I think that this is a very rapidly evolving, very rapidly changing situation.” Here again we are told that the meaning of the Coronavirus isn’t easy to pin down. Dr. Roberts cautioned us against the studying the wealth of data on the disease without an eye either to meaning, or to method. “I just want to point out that from an epidemiological standpoint, what is called the ‘case definition’ is incredibly important, and if you follow the news over the last week, you’ve seen that already; you may have seen within the last week that there was a jump in the number of cases by about 15,000 in one day.” Dr. Roberts explained that the spike is accounted for by a change in the case definition made by Chinese officials and scientists, rather than by a sudden outbreak. Basically, he explained, it is very difficult to produce a satisfactory case definition for a specific type of flu, the symptoms of which are barely distinguishable from the more common types of flu. Dr. Roberts quoted statistics from worldometer.info.coronavirus demonstrating that, as of 8:15 on Tuesday morning, there was a case count of just over 73,000, a death toll of 1,874, and about 13,000 recoveries.



COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK TIMES

Workers in China unload disinfectant from a truck. The recent Coronavirus outbreak has spelled trouble for planned Wabash Immersion Trips to the country.

As Dr. Roberts explained, the exact numbers yield a fatality rate of about 2.6%. These numbers are in the same “ballpark” as what we might expect from an official World Health Organization report.

In the second panel of the talk, Professor Anne Bost walked us through the details of the Coronavirus, starting with the name. She says, “SARS-CoV-2 is the official name that is based on the phylogeny of the virus.” The name “Coronavirus,” she explained, is derived from the Latin word “corona,” meaning crown, or in Greek, garland, because of the so-called “spike-proteins” that line the outside of the virus membrane. It is these spike-proteins, she explained later, that are responsible for binding to host cells, which the virus then uses to produce copies of itself. Bost explained these spike-proteins have what is called a “binding affinity” for the kind of cellular receptors found in the lungs, making the Coronavirus a respiratory disease.

Rounding out the talk, Professor Wetzel began by detailing the clinical criteria, the symptoms, of the Coronavirus, saying, “You have to have a fever, acute respiratory infection, and shortness of breath, a cough, or a sore throat.” Wetzel explained how the disease is transmitted, mentioning that surface-transmission is likely a factor, on top

of coughing and sneezing. Wetzel mentioned the decision that this first factor, surface-transmission, prompted from the People’s Bank of China, implementing a new policy for the destruction of potentially infected cash. On what a person can expect who has the disease, Wetzel said, “Severity is all over the map. You can have no symptoms, you can have common cold symptoms, be critically ill, you could get acute respiratory distress syndrome, and about a third of people get admitted to the hospital.” For the sake of perspective, he reiterated shortly thereafter the roughly 2% fatality rate. The root mischief caused by the disease, Wetzel explained, comes down to the prevention of gas-exchange between carbon and oxygen by, essentially, polluting the lungs. He imparted us with a timeless message on hygiene saying, “Just like we tell you all the time to prevent the flu—wash your hands a lot, soap and water, or alcohol-based hand-sanitizers. Try not to touch your eyes, your nose, your face during flu season, if you haven’t washed your hands. And this is the key thing that we have trouble with students here, and employees—when you’re sick, get the hell off campus, don’t expose it to everybody else.”

The Coronavirus itself aside, we turn now to Professor Byun who provided us with a general perspective on the economic impact of the

Coronavirus.

“This virus has had an impact on a human level, but also on an economic and business level. So China, as a lot of people know, is a power-house in manufacturing. It’s important for the global supply chain for producing of a lot of the goods that we rely on, on a regular basis. So cell phones for example, smart phones, Apple in particular, they have had a reduction in production in the parts that are needed to make the cell phones, and so that definitely affects Apple’s sales. Its affected other industries as well. Starbucks, for example, has closed something like half of its retail locations in China because of this virus outbreak. Disney has closed its Shanghai park, and also its park in Hong Kong.”

Byun went on to mention the closure of public movie theaters across China as a result of the outbreak, curtailing profits for productions out of Hollywood studios and their distributors. On tourism she said, “United Airlines and American Airlines have suspended their flights to China.” And later, “The bottom line is that it’s important to contain this contagion, such that human lives are not affected, and what that ends up meaning is that there is an economic and business impact to the reduction in transactions with this country.”

Student Events to Host First Ever Local Act

SETH STAPLES '22 | STAFF WRITER • The Student Events Committee announced the hosting of the very first Local Act concert at Wabash College on February 21 from 9:30pm-10:45pm. Wabash sophomore Matt Johnston and Los Angeles area EDM producer Nathan Bowman are poised to perform. The concert will be located in the Experimental Theater in the basement of the Fine Arts Center, and is free and open to the public. “This school has a lot of potential to be fun on the weekends, and the Local Act is a step in the right direction to make that happen,” Sam Hansen '22, member of the Student Events Committee, said.

Nathan and Matt met when the two rushed Delta Tau Delta in the fall semester of 2018, and bonded over a common interest in sports and music. Indianapolis native Matt Johnston agreed to answer a few questions about the duo’s performance at the very first Local Act. When asked about the potential lineup for Friday, Johnston replied, “Nate and I will be collaborating on a mix with mostly popular songs,” before hinting that he may play original music of his, “that may or may not turn up in the mix.” Johnston attributed his interest in creating music to his family, and started out playing the tuba, baritone and even created his own music in middle school. Johnston’s career began then, but “Stopped for a little bit to focus on athletics,” Johnston said. “And then I picked it up heavily again about a year and a half ago.” Matt drew his inspiration for his own creative processes from artists like Avicii, Kygo, and Martin Garrix, and “Wanted to pick up a hobby,” after he decided to

withdraw from athletics, Johnston said.

The original headliner for the premier of the Local Act at Wabash was Ty James, an Indiana rapper and singer signed to private label Loyalty Records. Two days before the event, James pulled out “Because he was uncomfortable with submitting a W9 tax information form,” Hansen said. This provided complications for the Student Events Committee but, with Nate and Matt already set to open for James, a replacement was close to home. “That’s what Wabash does well though. It throws you into challenging situations,” Hansen said.

Student Events Committee member Sam Hansen '22 also provided The Bachelor with details regarding expectations and the origin of this new student life installation. This year, the Student Events Committee aimed not to replace the National Act, but to tap into a universal nature of live music on a smaller scale, and provide a more frequent platform for campus unity. “The entire premise behind Local Act is what I’ve seen with live music,” Hansen said. “People enjoy it regardless of how big the name is.” In planning for the Local Act, Hansen and the Student Events Committee also hoped to utilize the comparatively low cost “To do multiple through a school year with different genres and atmospheres while sparing enough cash to fund clubs and other events.”

By offering a free, small-scale concert for local artists, the Student Events Committee pushed a fresh perspective surrounding live music and community building on campus that aims to promote unity. “The buzz around the topic of student life says that we need some event or



COURTESY OF THE BACHELOR ARCHIVES

Local Act is a test of an alternative method to the one big National Act event that Wabash has traditionally hosted.

club to build community,” Hansen said. In their creation of the Local Act, however, the Student Events Committee trusted that “Campus unity is in the hands of the students,” and that the Local Act “Builds a platform for students to do so, a platform for campus community.”

“The experimental theater has never been used as concert space before, but we have worked closely with the theater staff to put together lighting and stage equipment,” Hansen said. With free admission, and public access to this event, the Student Events Committee prepared for a packed house on Friday night. The original location of the event was the basement of Delta Tau Delta,

however, due to expected capacity overload, the event was moved to the Black Box (Fine Arts Basement). “It would be cool to fill that up,” Hansen said in regard to the large capacity of the space. “I go to concerts of all genres and sizes, and I’ve seen people enjoy garage bands more than headliners. So after that I had to try this out.” The Local Act was created to provide a low cost, campus unifying, locally based event outside of a fraternity setting.

“Although Local Act One has seen some challenges, it will still be a great opportunity to get together and enjoy music from professionals in an electric atmosphere,” Sam Hansen '22 said.

Wabash Welcomes New International Admissions Director

ALEX ROTARU '22 | ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR • Transitioning from high-school to college is a feat in itself. Making the transition to another country at the same time is even more difficult. Harder still is to find high-school students willing to do both at a college for men in the middle of rural Indiana. Yet, this is exactly what Chris Dixon, the new Senior Assistant Director of International Admissions, will be doing for Wabash: bringing in new Wallies from across the globe.

Dixon attended the University of Indianapolis, where he obtained a Bachelor’s Degree in International Relations and Spanish. He then obtained an MBA from Butler University and a Master of Science in Business Analytics from IU Bloomington. He then worked for 5 years at a study abroad company, followed by 2 years at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology as a Director of Study Abroad and International Exchanges, and 3 years at IUPUI as an International Student Advisor before coming here. “I’ve always known of Wabash,” Dixon said. “I’ve always known of the excellent education and the strong community surrounding it. [...] The international student recruiter position opened up, and I knew I wanted to get into one of the fields of international education that I had not done before, but always wanted to do [...] I love bringing international students to the US. It broadens both their perspective of what being in the US entails, and the American students’ perceptions of what the world outside the US is like.”

Dixon discovered his passion for traveling during his many experiences abroad. He first went abroad to China on a cultural immersion program. “I was in China for three weeks, started in Beijing, and went to Xi’an, Huangzhou, Xizhou, and Shanghai,” Dixon said. “And then, the same summer, I went to Mexico. And then I went to Argentina for a summer. [...] I would say there’s

a spectrum of people around the world; of lifestyles and cultures around the world. Some, like Germany and the US, would be more time sensitive and independent; others, like Latin America and Middle East, would be more relationship-centric and less focused on time.”

Culture shock is not an issue for Dixon. “I’ve been pretty lucky I haven’t [had to face culture shock]. [...] I think it’s because I always went into everything completely open-minded.” Rather, for Dixon, culture shock generally comes when returning to the United States. “Coming back to the US, especially when I was an undergrad, was a bigger culture shock for me than going abroad. I would ask myself, ‘Why are we doing things this way? It was so much better in country X,’ and stuff like that.”

Dixon hopes to travel to parts of the world that are both familiar and new to him. “I’m getting ready to go to Brazil, Colombia, and Ecuador for a student recruiting trip. But, then, I am also looking forward to getting into more of Asia and also Europe, and the goal is to try to get recruiting everywhere,” Dixon said.

Outside recruiting, Dixon enjoys riding his motorcycle and spending time with his family. “I have a new son, he’s 13 months old now,” Dixon said. “My wife is from El Salvador. She moved up here when she was 20. She taught herself English. So, we’re teaching our son to be bilingual from the very beginning. My ultimate goal in life is to have him continue the legacy that my wife and I have done, and to become kind of an international citizen, and to travel the world and respect and get to know other cultures.”

In the future, Dixon hopes to “find future Wallies from around the world, to bring new perspectives to Wabash.” He is looking forward to experiencing Wabash traditions and major events, like Chapel Sing and Monon Bell Week.



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1-3pm**

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An Open Letter to the Wabash Community from President Greg Hess

I am writing my first column in *The Bachelor* to share my thoughts on some recent unpleasant developments. A non-profit organization, The Foundation for a Traditional Wabash (FTW), has written to me and to Wabash Board Chair Jay Allen '79 regarding the decision to end the use of sheepskin diplomas, saying it intends to “fight you and Jay Allen on this issue for the remainder of your tenures at Wabash.”

Furthermore, FTW told Mr. Allen that it will be sending “direct-mail letters to every single alumnus of the college seeking funds to entrench a formal campaign against your leadership of the Wabash BOT [Board of Trustees].” While I respect the right to disagree, it is also important to respect the process taken to reach this decision and those who participated in it, as I explain below. I regret that the tone of these comments from FTW falls short of the “living humanely” part of our mission.

I am personally troubled that these comments have been directed against our Board Chair. Jay Allen, his father, Bob Allen '57, and their family have been exceptional stewards and generous philanthropists to Wabash for over 60 years. Bob served as a Trustee from 1976 to 2003, and Jay has served since 2005. The Allen family funded much of our athletic center that bears their name, as well as the construction of Rogge Hall. The Allen family’s generosity and leadership should be celebrated, not treated in this manner.

The decision to look for alternatives to sheepskin was based on decreasing quality and availability, timeliness and production issues associated with using sheepskin, and cost. Indeed, the aggravating operational issues of timeliness and quality degrade the graduation experience for everyone.

An example: The Wabash Registrar’s Office works day-and-night before graduation to help students who may be short a course or may be transferring in courses late in order to receive their degree. The Registrar’s Office should not be spending valuable time tracking down last-minute, poor-quality sheepskins from FedEx in the days before graduation. We have come close to not having a diploma for a graduate in the past. The Registrar should focus on helping students meet their requirements so that they and their families can enjoy a graduation celebration they will never forget.

The decision to move away from sheepskin was not made lightly and followed the model of broad consultation and conversation consistent with our tradition of shared governance. The proposal was reviewed by the 5.5 Committee, a group comprising staff, faculty, students, and alumni. It was endorsed by the College’s Budget Committee and discussed at a Faculty Meeting and the Board’s Academic Affairs Committee. The Board of Trustees affirmed the decision in October 2019 and January 2020.

Tradition at the College suggests

that formal votes are often not taken and recorded at the Board and faculty meetings when there is obvious consensus. Moreover, many decisions at the College – the granting of tenure, for example – follow a careful process of shared governance, involving many faculty committees and administrative review, as well as Board oversight of the process, that ultimately rely on my sole decision-making. I do not take that responsibility lightly, nor do I take lightly the shared governance structure that supports it. In the end it’s my decision, though it is fully informed by shared governance.

A committee, led by the Registrar and comprising students, faculty, and staff, worked throughout the fall semester to review options for a high-quality replacement for sheepskin. They selected a consistent, archival, museum-grade paper stock and a print vendor, which has restored the diploma’s decorative artwork that had deteriorated over the years. This year’s diplomas will be a much closer match to those awarded 75 years ago. As president, I did not give instructions to the committee, determine a budget, or have any input into the new diploma. Acting responsibly and independently, the committee came up with a diploma worthy of our appreciation.

The FTW suggested to me adopting a model that would allow graduates to purchase their own sheepskin diplomas. That proposal is at odds with the egalitarian ethos that is a critical part of our culture.

Wabash doesn’t charge extra for immersion learning trips, athletics participation, lab fees or art supplies, parking, or graduation gowns. Nor should it charge different prices for diplomas, as the FTW proposed to me. Rather, it is clear to me that all graduates must receive the same diploma, regardless of their economic circumstances.

Traditions are part of the fabric of Wabash College, but sometimes the costs of traditions are outweighed by higher priorities. All colleges must reevaluate their priorities, even those steeped in tradition, in order to succeed in an environment of rising costs, a national discourse questioning the value of the liberal arts, and the need to invest in scholarships, faculty, facilities, and critical student resources such as mental health. Wabash always honors its past, but cannot live in it.

In the spirit of our culture of face-to-face conversation and engagement, I have invited the leaders of FTW to campus to have dinner with me at the Elston Homestead so that we might better understand and appreciate the importance of traditions at the College and our institutional priorities.

Our charge as faculty, administrators, and Trustees is constantly to improve what *goes into* our graduate’s diploma — an unparalleled liberal arts education taught by exceptionally talented and dedicated faculty, staff, and coaches. Excellence in educating the mind, body, and spirit – the man himself – is our greatest tradition.



Hunter Seidler '22

Reply to this editorial at hseidler22@wabash.edu

I would like to talk about an injustice that has affected millions of Americans: affirmative action. The controversy over affirmative action in college admissions has persisted ever since President Kennedy introduced the policy in 1961. Affirmative action, or the practice of favoring individuals belonging to groups known to have been historically discriminated against, was initially introduced in good faith. It opened up opportunities for people of color in higher education at a time when a majority of public and private universities turned away applicants solely because of their status as non-white. However, nearly 60 years later, the policy’s flaws are becoming more and more evident. Let’s begin by looking at the fundamental flaws of affirmative action as a concept in today’s society. Affirmative action policies set the admissions standards for black and hispanic applicants considerably

lower than white applicants, and set the admissions standards for Asian-American applicants significantly higher than white applicants. Let’s think about the implication here. This policy wrongly presupposes that black and hispanic students are incapable of being held to the same standards as their white colleagues, while also assuming Asian students are somehow “too smart” to be held to the standards of white colleagues. Clarence Thomas, the first African-American appointed to the Supreme Court, had this to say about the policy:

“Inevitably, such programs engender attitudes of superiority or, alternatively, provoke resentment among those who believe that they have been wronged by the government’s use of race. These programs stamp minorities with a badge of inferiority.”

It is this figurative badge of inferiority that has proven to harm minority students at prestigious universities across the country. In her book, *Becoming*, former first lady Michelle Obama admits that she felt “the shadow of affirmative action” as an undergraduate student at Princeton University. “It was impossible to be a black kid at a mostly white school and not feel the shadow of affirmative action,” Obama writes. “You could almost read the scrutiny in the gaze of certain students and even some professors, as if they wanted to say,

‘I know why you’re here.’” In his own memoir, *My Grandfather’s Son*, Clarence Thomas further noted affirmative action “had become a fact of life at American college and universities, and before long I realized that those blacks who benefited from it were being judged by a double standard. As much as it stung to be told that I’d done well in the seminary DESPITE my race, it was far worse to feel that I was now at Yale BECAUSE of it.” Justice Thomas blames affirmative action policies for devaluing the achievements of black graduates. He claims that his law degree is worth only “15 cents” because of it.

Allow me to be perfectly clear, Michelle Obama and Clarence Thomas are brilliant individuals who rightfully earned their admission into Princeton and Yale, respectively. However, it is the shadow of doubt that affirmative action puts over their achievements as people of color that is truly unjust and frankly sickening. It is this shadow of doubt that has, in part, led to a disproportionate amount of minority students dropping out of universities, with 14% less minority students graduating than their white colleagues, a 2015 study from The Education Trust reports.

So, how do we stop this? We reform the college admissions process, and we begin by eliminating the consideration of race in college admissions. Without preferential treatment, there can be

no doubt in the students’ minds that they, in fact, earned their way into their university. To view the success of race-blind admissions, let’s look at California. In 1996, California banned discrimination on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, or national origin in college admissions decisions. At UC-San Diego alone, between 1997 and 2003, there was a 50% increase in African-American and Hispanic students that graduated with a STEM degree. In general, across the entire state, grades rose and dropout rates plummeted among minority students. California is one of currently eight states with race-blind, merit-based admissions, and in a February 2019 Pew Research Center Poll, over 60% of black respondents and 65% of Hispanic respondents did not want race to be a factor in admissions. The trend currently favors abolishing this harmful policy, and that gives hope for the future of college admissions. Eliminating affirmative action is not the only step needed to achieve a truly merit-based admissions system; legacy preferences that disproportionately favor affluent white applicants should also be banned. Removing race as a deciding factor is an excellent place to start, and it will promote an environment where minorities are encouraged to achieve academic excellence free of labels or double standards placed upon them before they enter the university system.

Stop Saying Suicide is Selfish



Liam Buckley '22

Reply to this editorial at lbuckkle22@wabash.edu

Growing up in New York City, I took the subway every day to school. At 7:50 every morning I’d walk into the 42nd Street Port Authority Bus Terminal station and take the ACE line down to my high school on 17th street. One day in October during my junior year, I walked down the stairs to an empty platform. There was an idle A train parked three quarters of the way in the station and running alongside it were cops with flashlights and caution tape.

I was quickly shoosed off the platform by an officer, and I knew why.

Every year in New York, somewhere between 15 and 30 people die of suicide by jumping in front of subway trains, and in many ways my New York upbringing conditioned me to be angry at them. Not only do they make tens of thousands of commuters late for school and work, they inflict terrible trauma on the train engineers and those on the platform who watch them leap; their final moments an ever-public affair. Train engineers describe the PTSD from hopelessly braking as the final breaths of those on the tracks come into view. For fatal crashes, engineers receive three days off before entering the same cramped cabins and twisting tracks that will torment them forever.

I angrily checked my watch as I rode the 9th avenue bus down to school—realizing I was about to get the first lateness of my high school career. I finally got off the bus at 8:40, walking

past the Humanities Educational Complex, Stella’s Pizza, and the Alaska Deli before turning on 17th street and into school. When friends asked why I was late I responded, “someone killed themselves at my subway station”, irritation underlaying my voice.

In my coding class that afternoon, I couldn’t help but google suicide 42nd street subway nyc. I came across an article pinned with an image of the empty subway platform and the A train stopped beside it. The victim was a high school student who left his bookbag on the platform. He went to school in the Humanities Complex which I walked past that morning. He suffered from depression, for which he’d been previously hospitalized. He was a kid like me going to a high school like me. He was dead on the subway tracks, and I was 12 minutes late for pre-calc.

When people die of suicide, we tend to say things like “he didn’t care as

much about us as we did him”, “how could she kill herself with two kids at home”, or “they could’ve at least done it more privately”.

Suicide is the final point of desperation. Desperation for relief from pain and agony and hatred and self-loathing. Victims often feel their death will lift a burden off those around them. Believing their lives cause more pain to those they love than their deaths would. People don’t just kill themselves to bring an end to their own struggle, they perceive their death as ending that of those they love.

Mental illness isn’t an attention tactic. And suicide isn’t the final fuck all to the world we portray it as to make ourselves feel better about not doing enough to help people who need it. So stop saying suicide is taking the easy way out. Stop saying that people who die of suicide don’t care about who they’re hurting. Stop saying suicide is selfish.

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If you answered “Yes” to any of these questions
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The History of “Old Wabash”

Third Verse:
And last and best, each Phi Psi's breast will throb with memory tender
Of Gamma's shrine whose fire divine burned through his college years;
The shrine is gone, but still burns on, its fire in holy splendor
And just the same we see its flame, though through a mist of tears.
And Gamma's sons are not the ones that will forget or falter,
We pledge anew our honor true that Gamma shall not die.
We shall return; that fire shall burn again upon her altar,
And Wabash men shall sing again the songs of Old Phi Psi!

Our thoughts and prayers are here,
Her soul within us stirs,
Her mystic gleam shall hold the dream of victory before us,
Again shall Wabash hear
The name we hold so dear,
And Wabash voices yet shall shout the chorus:

"Dear Old Phi Psi, our loyal hearts shall ever love thee,
All through the coming years the name of Gamma shall not die;
Long in our hearts we'll bear the sweetest memories of thee,
Long shall we sing thy praises, Old Phi Psi!"

COURTESY OF WABASH ARCHIVES

Words by
EDWIN MEADE ROBINSON, '00

Music by
CARROLL RAGAN, '01

1. From the hills of Maine to the day is done and the loud and long shall hon-ors won by each

2. And

COURTESY OF WABASH ARCHIVES

The third verse is about Robinson’s fraternity, Phi Psi.

“Old Wabash” celebrates its 120th anniversary this Saturday the 22nd.

ALEX ROTARU '22 | ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR • Tomorrow, February 22, our beloved fight song will turn 120. “Old Wabash” was originally sung at the inauguration of Wabash’s fifth president, William Patterson Kane, on February 22, 1900. Ted Robinson, 1900, wrote the lyrics, while Carroll Ragan, 1901, wrote the music.

Ragan and Robinson wrote it as part of a contest for the school song. According to Archivist Beth Swift, “Robinson later recalled that crafting the lyrics proved to be quite a task, ‘As it turned out, it was a cinch for him, for he already had the music made up [...] this is what all writers of lyrics know – the words ought to be written first, and the music fitted

to them. To reverse the technique is to give the lyric writer a tough bit of carpentry.... But the music was tops, and the music was what got the prize for ‘Old Wabash.’ I have no illusions about that.” The original version is lost, however, and the song has seen many changes throughout the years. According to Emeritus Professor of Music and Glee Club Director Richard Bowen, the chorus originally had the same 6/8 rhythm the rest of the song has, and the song is now sung on a third minor lower. Unlike what many people think, “Old Wabash” has adapted to its times, and continues to evolve as our fight song.

Few people know that Robinson wrote a third verse, an Ode to the Phi Psis. In

1901, the Wabash Phi Psis voluntarily gave up their charter. The third verse was a nostalgic reminder of what Phi Psi meant to Robinson, and a hope for Indiana Gamma Chapter’s rebirth. Robinson’s wish came true once the Phi Psis came back to Wabash in 1948.

The greatest tradition surrounding “Old Wabash” is Chapel Sing. According to the “History of the Student Body” by alum Ross Dillard ‘07, the first mention of a “freshman sing” was in 1932, with the tradition being much older than that. Originally, the Senior Council oversaw this tradition, but, soon after, the Sphinx Club took over. There was a similar event for “Alma Mater” on the Friday before the Monon Bell Classic, that got discontinued in the 1990s.

Upon closer inspection, “Old Wabash” is not an actual fight song. Rather than serving as a chant for the team to get a victory, “Old Wabash” serves to remind us of our alma mater, that we love and cherish. Some might say, “Old Wabash” serves as an “Alma Mater,” and is sung at graduation, since so few people know the actual “Alma Mater.”

However you may take it, “Old Wabash” is a cornerstone of campus culture, and one in full evolution. The freshmen learn it the hard way, while the alumni love singing it and remembering their years here. It is one of the longest fight songs in the nation. And, no matter how you look at it, “Old Wabash” is here to stay, as it has for the past 120 years.

Anon(ymous) Takes the Stage

AUSTIN HOOD '21 | NEWS EDITOR • Anon(ymous), a 2007 drama written by Naomi Iizuka, will be performed at Ball Theatre at 8 P.M. next Wednesday through Saturday. Heidi Winters-Vogel, BKT Associate Professor of Theater, is directing the production. Tickets for the event are available at the Fine Arts Center Box Office Webpage. Wabash College’s production stars Benny Wang ‘22 as Anon, Maria-Crisitiana Monsalve, BKT Associate Professor of Spanish, as Nemasani, and Dei’Marlon Scisney ‘21 as Naja.

The play follows the journey of Anon, a young refugee, as he travels through America to find his mother. Along the

way, he meets a variety of characters. The plot of the drama is often compared to Homer’s *Odyssey*, as it chronicles the long journey of a young man to a promised land through many trying situations. It was originally commissioned through the Minneapolis Children’s Theatre and has gained critical acclaim in the time following its premiere.

The play is noted for its eclectic settings, a product of the Homeric journey of the main character that drives the plot. It involves a variety of different settings, from the ocean to a curry shop. As a result, the production involves a number of elaborate

scenes with complicated staging. In fact, many of the main characters in *Anon(ymous)* are puppets.

“It’s a fun experience in that there’s humor, there’s pathos,” Winters-Vogel said. “There’s puppets. There’s rolling scaffolding, there’s waves of the ocean. There’s a lot of Wabash students involved. There is at least two current professors...It’s a story that people will be familiar with because of the *Odyssey*, but you’ll see how the story takes up a contemporary context. So you come in and experience this fun and go home and think about it.”

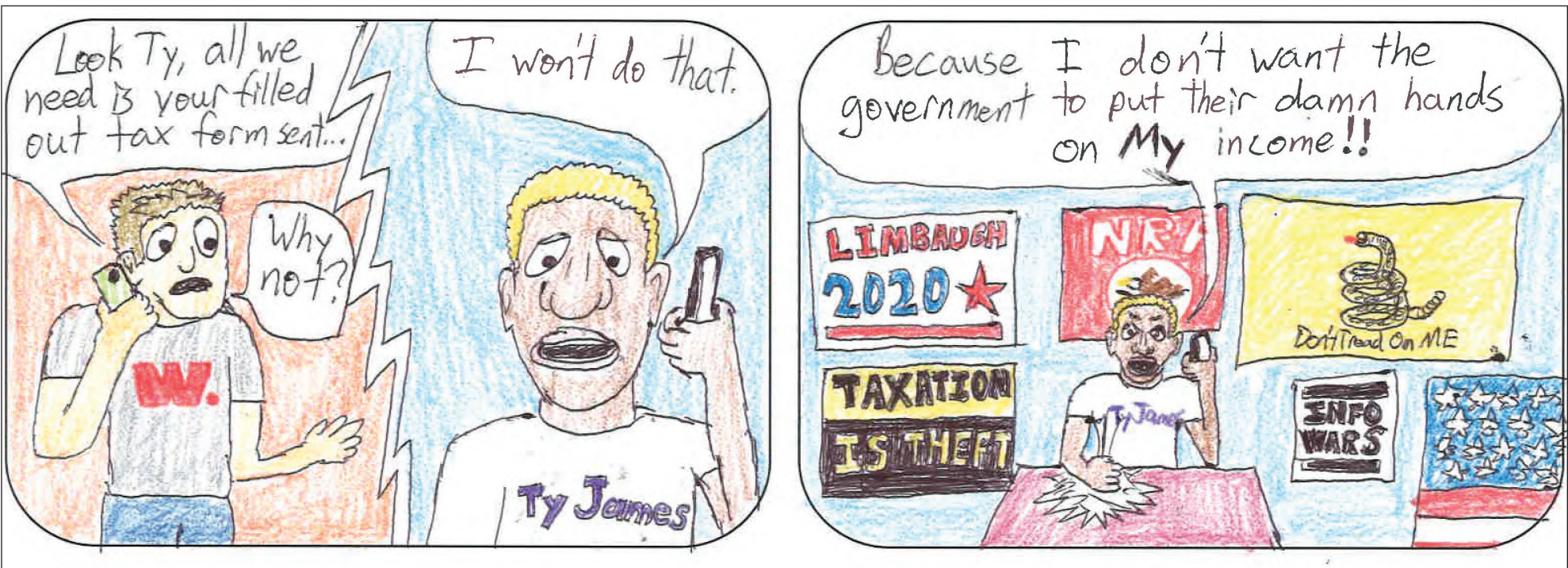
Naomi Iizuka, *Anon(ymous)*’s playwright, is widely considered

to be one of America’s premiere contemporary dramatists. Her works very often mirror the plots and themes of classical literature. Among her other works is *Good Kids*, a critically acclaimed play that adressed sexual assault on college campuses.

All in all, the cast of *Anon(ymous)* is excited to introduce this contemplative, adventurous story to the Wabash community.

“I think it speaks to everyone,” Benny Wang ‘22, who stars in the lead role as Anon, said. “I think it speaks to everyone. I think everybody can find a message in it that applies to their life.”

Comic Relief by Sam Hansen '22



Nintendo Switch Big Releases

SIMON DECAPUA '23 | STAFF WRITER • Last Tuesday, a leaked trailer for the new Nintendo Switch title, *Cooking Mama: Cookstars*, was uploaded online, serving as the first look fans have gotten of gameplay. The trailer was taken down soon after it was uploaded. Fortunately, however, it was up long enough for several users to download the trailer and reupload it. The trailer can still be found online, although it may take a bit of digging.

As of this point, there is no option for fans to preorder the game and the website URL shown at the end of the trailer leads to nothing. However, many are hopeful that more news is on the way. With *Cooking Mama Cookstar* added to the list of upcoming video games, 2020 is lining up to be a great year for gamers.

Switch users have been excited for the consoles 2020 titles since the remake of *Pokémon Mystery Dungeon* was announced earlier this year alongside an expansion pass to *Pokémon Sword*, and *Pokémon Shield*. With a planned release date for March 6th, *Mystery Dungeon* is

not the only Nintendo game fans have to be excited for. On March 20th the much-anticipated *Animal Crossing: New Horizons* will be released as an exclusive for the Nintendo Switch.

Longtime franchise friends are not only excited for the game but also for the special edition *Animal Crossing* Nintendo Switch to hit shelves on March 13th, a whole week before the game. The console includes an exclusive pair of light blue and green Joy-Cons and a back panel covered in silhouettes of familiar characters, buildings, trees and more. The dock has an aesthetic design featuring franchise favorite Tom Nook and the Nooklings. As if that was not enough to get fans to ditch their old consoles in favor of this new sleek design, Nintendo has reportedly confirmed that this version will have 4.5 to 9-hour battery life opposed to the 2.5 to 6.5 battery life on the original version released almost three years ago. So far, all copies have been sold out, but those who are lucky enough to get their hands on one will have a Switch unlike any other.



COURTESY OF GAMESTOR.COM

New Horizons will be the sixth main game in the Animal Crossing franchise.



COURTESY OF EUROGAMER.NET

Cooking Mama will give Bon Appétit a run for their money starting in March.

T-Tones Valentine's Day Concert



DAKOTA BAKER '22 / PHOTO

The T-Tones held a Dinner and Concert last Saturday, the 15th, for Valentine's Day.



DAKOTA BAKER '22 / PHOTO

The night was full of classic romantic music and fancy food.



DAKOTA BAKER '22 / PHOTO

Dr. Blix was proud to see the T-Tones in snazzy suspenders.



DAKOTA BAKER '22 / PHOTO

The event was held in the beautiful Masonic Lodge.

Word on the Street

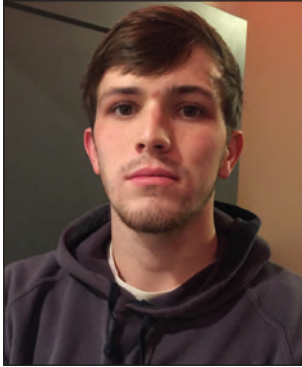
This week's question:

Who would you like to see for Local Act?



Bailey Scurlock '21

Jon Pardi



Micah Keller '21

Jack Harlow



Theodore Lupinski '20

Kanye West



Wade Ripple '21

Riley Green

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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.

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Lilly Library Renovation Story Correction

AUSTIN HOOD '21 | NEWS EDITOR

• In last week's issue, *The Bachelor* published a story detailing newly-released plans for the renovation of Lilly Library. The article briefly touched upon an important aspect of that renovation: the assessment of the library's physical print collection. Since publication, it has come to the attention of the Editorial Board that the newspaper's framing of this assessment was not entirely accurate. The staff wishes to express its sincere regret in this inadequacy and offer a more detailed account of the process to come.

"I would like to respond to the following statement: 'All in all, it's not unthinkable that the collection could be reduced to approximately 100,000 volumes of books,'" Jeff Beck, Director of Lilly Library, said. "It would be more accurate to state that the evaluation process will result in a modest reduction of our print book collection. We expect only a small portion of the evaluated books will be determined to be obsolete or no longer in support of the curriculum."

Beginning this semester, as one of the key steps towards a revamp of Lilly, library staff will work closely with academic faculty to undergo a comprehensive evaluation of its approximately 194,000 volume collection of print, circulating books. This is a significant project as it is the first such evaluation in the library's nearly 70 year history.

Of the total volumes house in Lilly Library, approximately one half (101,500) are volumes published before 2000 that have not been checked out since 1997, when online records began. It is this group that will be eligible for systematic evaluation. Those books that students and faculty deem to be supportive of the curriculum will be kept as part of the collection.

"The library renovation planning process envisions a reconfiguration of the book stacks," Beck said. "Plans are not final, but whatever the outcome, a modest reduction may occur. We do not have a numerical target. The proposed renovation reinforces our mission to meet current and future curricular needs



COURTESY OF THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

A sketch of the proposed Grand Reading Room, located behind the Goodrich Room. A planned large scale revamp on Lilly Library floor-space has spurred officials to evaluate the building's collection of physical books.

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

LISTSERVE LAMENT

Our condolences go out to Nathan Hubert '20 for sending an all-student email about his damaged car and getting no responses. Known for his frequent abuse of the student server that prompt many equally-unimportant responses, it seems like a case of boy who cried wolf the one time he says something serious.

POPCORN SALES DON'T MAKE UP FOR KIDDY DIDDLES

Hi-Five to the Boy Scouts for declaring bankruptcy rather than face jury trials over many, many sexual assault lawsuits. You know you messed up when you have \$1.5 billion in assets and still can't deal with all the lawsuits you're facing.

SERBS ALWAYS WIN

*Hi-Five to President Trump for granting clemency to Rod Blagojevich and *definitely not* subverting the Rule of Law. Blagojevich may have been found guilty of 17 corruption charges, but hey, there was NO QUID PRO QUO!*

NEED A PLUG?

Hi-Five to Browns OT Greg Robinson for being arrested with 157 pounds (!!) of marijuana near the US border with Mexico this week. We're genuinely stunned. We really hope Robinson tries Bill Clinton's "I did not inhale" defense.

AT LEAST WE TRIED

Hi-Five to Professor Freeze for falling asleep during an English Department Candidate Talk recently. One could say that his attention... froze. What's that? Yeah, we'll see ourselves out for that pun.

SPORTS

Basketball Falls to Wittenberg, Win Streak Ends at 7

BLAKE LARGENT '22 | SPORTS

EDITOR • The Wabash basketball team moved to 16-8 and 12-5 in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) after a 91-79 road win over Kenyon College on Saturday and a 78-69 loss to Wittenberg University on Wednesday's Senior Night game.

The Little Giants entered Saturday's game winners of six straight and battling The College of Wooster for the second spot in the NCAC standings. "We knew we were playing well, we needed to continue that," Head Coach Kyle Brumett said of the team's mindset entering Saturday. "We have been better at home, but at this time of year you have to play through the highs and lows of the game, whether you are at home or not. I thought we did a good job of that."

Wabash opened the game hot on offense. The Little Giants pulled to a 16-8 lead after a jumper from Tyler Watson '22 with 15:20 left in the first half. After Wabash pulled to an 18-10 lead, Kenyon began to respond. The Lords tied the game 19-19 with 10:19 left in the first half. The Little Giants managed to control most of the first half, though, and took a 10-point lead into the halftime break.

In the second half, Kenyon continued to chip into the Wabash lead. An Alex Cate free throw cut the Little Giant lead to 50-44 with 16:10 remaining, and the Lords continued to hang around for much of the second half. A Jack Davidson '21 three pointer put Wabash's lead back into double digits, putting the score at 58-46 with 13:30 remaining. Despite some back-and-forth action, the Little Giants never looked back. Wabash closed out the game, winning 91-79 for its seventh-straight victory.

"We did not play great, but we had some really good stretches," Brumett said. "We missed some uncharacteristic free throws, and put them on the free throw line too many times to really extend the lead. Road wins in this league are hard to come by. I was happy with the result."

Davidson led all scorers with 27, shooting an impressive 6-8 from three in the game. In total, the Little Giants shot 12-20 from behind the arc, well above their around 37% season average from three point range. "We have some extremely good shooters, led by Davidson and Watson," Brumett said. "Our offense does try to take advantage of our shooting, but most importantly we want to get great shots, high-percentage shots, that give us a chance to get to the free throw line and make the defense work. The threes will come when we are sharing the ball and

running good offense."

After the win, Wabash turned its focus to Wednesday's game: Wittenberg. Much was on the line entering the game: Wittenberg defeated Wooster 88-81 on February 15, which opened the door for Wabash to cement itself as the second seed in the NCAC. Wabash was also undefeated in home conference games entering Wednesday's game. In addition to this, Wednesday was Senior Night for the Little Giants' three seniors: Harrison Hallstrom '20, Colten Garland '20, and Alex Eberhard '20. This created a game with massive implications for Wabash. Brumett agreed. "This is a big game," he said prior to the game. "The top two teams in the standings. We did not feel like we played well at Witt. We have cleaned up our rotation. Our older guys are playing well right now and are healthy. It is exciting to be able to measure ourselves against a top-five team in the country. That is what we are striving to become. It isn't really pressure, it is what we have worked for. We will see if we are ready." Brumett also acknowledged that Wednesday's game would be big moving forward. "We need our best players to play well," he said. "This is a big game. It sets the table for the conference tournament, it also will be looked at nationally. We want to be in these situations. We need to win the game to reach some of our goals that we have for ourselves."

The Little Giants certainly opened the game looking ready. Wabash began the game on a 5-0 spurt, and pushed the lead to 7-2 after a Hallstrom layup. Wittenberg slowly began to claw back. After several minutes of defensive basketball, the Tigers tied the game at 12-12 with 11:37 to play in the first half. The remainder of the first half continued to be a defensive game. Wabash forced Wittenberg into nine turnovers, which is what the Tigers average over the course of a game. The Little Giants entered halftime with a 32-29 lead.

In the second half, both teams continued to battle. Wittenberg regained the lead 33-32 after a James Johnson layup with 16:56 remaining. Neither team could separate itself from the other, and with 7:18 left, the game was tied 59-59. Wittenberg's Jake Bertemes nailed a three on the ensuing possession, and the Tigers' Jordan Pumroy increased the lead to 64-59 on a jumper. Davidson responded for Wabash, hitting a three to put the score at 64-62. Wabash cut the lead to 66-65 after a Watson three with 4:51 remaining, but the Little Giants could not regain the lead despite their best



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Jack Davidson '21 attempts an acrobatic layup in Wednesday's game vs. Wittenberg.

efforts. Turnovers, controversial calls, and free throws sealed the game for Wabash, and Wittenberg escaped the game with a 78-69 win. There were 15 total lead changes in the game and five ties. Davidson again led all scorers, posting 29 points, five assists, and four rebounds. Hallstrom, in his final regular season home game, finished with six points and 14 rebounds in the loss.

Despite the loss, the Little Giants played the Tigers down to the final seconds. This effort will go far in terms of the end-of-season NCAA regional rankings. If Wabash is unable to win the NCAC Tournament, the Little Giants will have to rely on the NCAA regional rankings to gain entry to the Division III tournament. Prior to the game, Wabash was sixth in the regional rankings. "Witt is a great team," Brumett said of the opponent. "They have really good players, older players. Wabash, Wittenberg, and

Wooster [...] that is the company that you want to be compared to in DIII basketball. That is why the NCAC is one of the top basketball conferences in the country."

As for conference standings, Wabash is now back to the third spot in the NCAC behind second-place Wooster and first-place Wittenberg after Wednesday's loss. The Little Giants' seeding destiny now lies in the hands of Wooster and DePauw. Wabash will end the season No. 2 in the NCAC with a win in the final regular season game against Oberlin College and a Wooster loss to DePauw. If there is ever a time to root for a DePauw victory, tomorrow will certainly be the case. Wooster (18-6, 12-5 NCAC) and DePauw (13-11, 10-7 NCAC) will square off tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. Wabash will play its final game of the regular season against Oberlin (14-10, 8-9 NCAC) tomorrow in Oberlin, Ohio at 3 p.m.

Wrestling NCAA Central Regional Tournament Preview

LOGAN SMITH '23 | STAFF WRITER
• The Wabash College wrestling team has been consistently getting it done all season. The team has not lost a meet since January 11, when they competed against the No. 4 ranked team of the time, Loras College, and the No. 2 ranked team of the time, Wartburg College. The most recent win for the Little Giants came from the Mid-States Invitational, where the Little Giants had 17 wrestlers in the top eight placements throughout the meet. This includes four first-place finishes, coming from Owen Doster '20, Ethan Herrin '20, Hunter Bates '20, and Austin Johnson '23 in each of their weight classes. Johnson had three wins on the day in 165 division,

including two wins against wrestlers from Adrian College, which happens to be where the Central Regional will be hosted this year.

The wrestling team will certainly be looking to replicate the results of last year's Central Regional meet, where they took first place at their own college. The Little Giants seem to be having an even better year than last year, so being able to repeat their performance at the Central Regional is a very real possibility. With the majority of guys from last year's team returning, this will certainly be nothing to fear for the Wabash wrestlers. Five of the six national qualifiers from last year will be once again returning to the Central Regional

and will be looking to repeat their performances from a year ago. These national qualifiers from last year include Owen Doster, Darden Schurg '20, Wade Ripple '21, Kyle Hatch '21, Carlos Champagne '22, and Jared Timberman '21, who has been out this year with injury.

With their 11-2 record, the Little Giants have proved time and time again that they are able to handle any competition that comes their way. That includes several matchups against top-25 teams, with a record of 7-2 when competing against such teams. This will be important coming into the ending of the season, as they will likely be seeing the majority of opponents coming from other teams within the

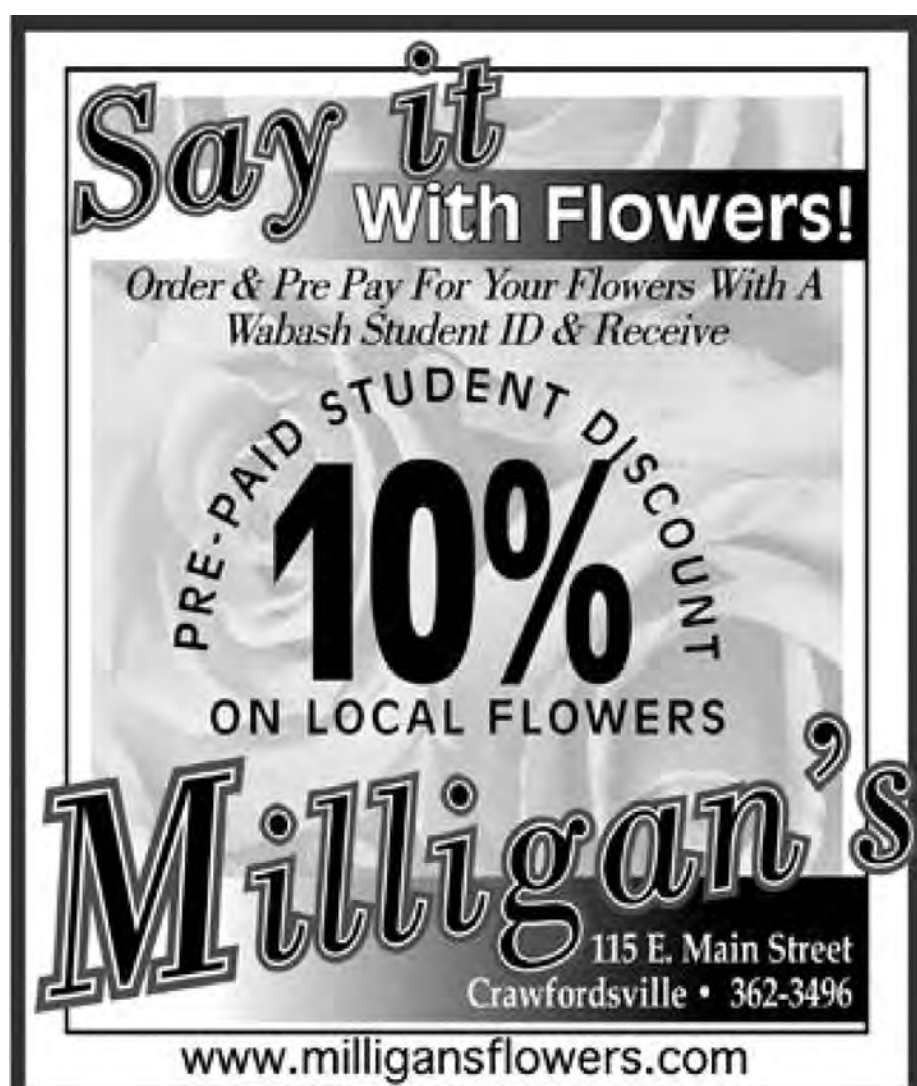
top-25. With Wabash sitting in the top-5, the wrestlers will certainly be looking to prove themselves, and they will be looking to show just how much the team has grown since last year's first-place performance.

The NCAA Division III Central Regional meet will take place February 28 and 29 at Adrian College in Michigan. Meets will begin at 9 a.m. that Friday and will run through Saturday. Returning experienced wrestlers will be looking to repeat or improve performances from last year in the Central Regional. From here Wabash will figure out how many wrestlers will advance to nationals and will hope to build on the Central Regional as they did last year.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Sam Hansen '22 battles for position in Saturday's Mid-States Invitational.



Track Impresses in Pat Heenan Invitational at North Central

JIM DALY '23 | STAFF WRITER
• The Wabash track and field team competed in two meets in one calendar day last Friday, February 14. A majority of the team travelled to Naperville, Illinois to compete in the Heenan Indoor Track and Field Invitational, while four others went down to Bloomington to race against thirteen high profile teams in the Indiana University Hoosier Hills Invitational. Overall, it was a very busy beginning of the weekend for the track and field team.

The meet at North Central College in Naperville kicked off at 3:30 P.M. central time. In it, Wabash collectively partook in a total of fifteen events, debuting in the Men's 60 Meter Hurdle Preliminaries, led on the strength of

Ra'Shawn Jones '20 and Josh Wiggins '21. Jones recorded a time of 8.18 seconds for this event, qualifying him in the same bracket for the 60m finals, where he also got first place. In addition, Wiggins' runner-up performance of 8.36 seconds in the prelims advanced him into the bracket 0.06 seconds ahead. Despite this, Wiggins managed to pull 0.12 seconds off from his initial time to once again become runner-up in the event, falling a mere 0.03 seconds short of Jones. Regardless, Wiggins' demonstration of team leadership was not short-lived, and his peak performance had yet to come. In the 36th event, The Men's 200 Meter Dash, he raced to second place for the third straight time and broke the Wabash 200m record by 7

seconds with a time of 22.53s. His contributions to the team's success should not be understated. In the end, Wabash ranked 3rd overall for that meet, earning a final score of 88.50.

Wabash's success on Valentine's Day evening was not limited to the Naperville meet alone. The four men who ran at IU, Ethan Pine '22, Keith Abramson '22, Jon Deem-Loureiro '23, and Sam Henthorn '20, also had impressive showings.

The Little Giants were primarily supported by Abramson, who finished his 800-meter run at 1:56:67 (a new personal best). On top of that, Pine engaged in the 74th event: The Men's 1 Mile Run, also finishing at a new personal record of 4:21.04. "I would say it didn't necessarily

go as planned but I did better with the circumstances," Pine said. "And pushing through was something that I was willing and able to do." As Head Coach Clyde Morgan recounts, "I think the guys are gaining confidence and things are starting to come together. We [are] actually setting records." Although Wabash was never officially scored in this meet, it shows their potential for the rest of the season.

The team is scheduled to compete in Ohio on Saturday, February 22. There, they will take part in the North Coast Atlantic Conference Multi-Event Championships. which will officially commence in Oberlin at 3:00 P.M. They will also take on Wittenberg University in Springfield at a soon to be announced time.

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Basketball Honors Seniors During Final Home Game



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Alex Eberhard '20, Harrison Hallstrom '20, and Colten Garland '20 are honored pre-game for Senior Night on Wednesday. All three seniors started in the final regular-season home game of their careers.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Garland walks down the player tunnel during starting lineups.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Eberhard drives the ball past a Wittenberg player to the basket.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Tyler Watson '22 looks to score on a driving play against Wittenberg.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

The Wabash crowd holds a sign of the zoomed-in face of Harrison Hallstrom.

Swimming Grabs Top-Three Finish at NCAC Championships

WILL OSBORN '21 | STAFF WRITER

• This past weekend, the Wabash swim and dive team traveled to Ohio to compete in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Championships. The team was very successful. They broke countless school records and finished the meet in third place behind conference powerhouses Kenyon College and Denison University. The third-place finish included a school-record effort in the 400 Medley along with individual performances that might merit a spot in the NCAA Championships. It also continues the team's upward trajectory; last year's performance at Conference set the school record at 1,154.5 points earned, while this year they became just the second team not named Denison or Kenyon to shatter the 1,200-point barrier.

Head Coach Will Bernhardt could not have been happier or prouder of his team. "Just about everything went well for us," he said. "All the breaks that needed to happen did happen, and all the guys' training took over." For Bernhardt, the lead up to the conference championships was all about making sure the team was in the proper mentality and fitness level to compete at their peak performance. "All the credit goes to the swimmers

and the hard work they put in through the course of the season," said Bernhardt. Of course, the pinnacle of the team's performance at conference came with their victory in the 400 Medley Relay. But according to Bernhardt, the circumstances behind the victory were surreal. The quartet of Hunter Jones '19, Justin Dusz '22, Jan Dziadek '21, and Wes Slaughter '21 all raced for lifetime best splits in the relay, and this contributed to a second-place performance. "On the night of, we knew we finished in second," said Bernhardt. "And for us that was a great accomplishment. In the morning when we came in for the next session, the Conference Commissioner came over and told us to check the updated results for the relay last night." Upon checking the results, Bernhardt saw his team sitting in first place. "There was a disqualification on Kenyon's relay, so I huddled the team around and announced that we were conference champions."

The team's victory capped off a redemption arc for the Little Giants swim team. Last year in the same event, the team was disqualified and had to forfeit their points. The points that the team lost in that event put the team at a disadvantage for the remainder of the meet and resulted

in the Little Giants losing to the school down south by the slimmest of margins. "It was a sweet redemption moment," Bernhardt said. "Three out of the four guys that were on the relay that got disqualified last year were on the relay this year, so the fact that it was that relay was a little bittersweet. But now we have a conference championship," said Bernhardt.

Members of the relay team were excited to share their thoughts on the winning effort. "Winning the 400 Medley relay by two DQs was an unreal experience, especially after we had DQed the relay at conference the previous year," Slaughter said. "It was one of many amazing swims throughout the weekend." Jones echoed Slaughter's comments: "Winning a relay in our conference, with the No. 1 and No. 2 teams in the country for DIII, is almost unthinkable [...] but to do it in a school record time was icing on the cake. Considering we actually disqualified that same relay last year, costing us to lose the meet to DePauw, it was really a story book ending. It meant a lot to me as a senior being able to go out on a win like that."

While the conference meet was a success, the journey is not over for members of the swim team. Two

of the relay teams have a chance to qualify for the national championship, and there is a possibility that some individuals will be able to qualify as well. "We are going to a last-chance meet this weekend," Bernhardt said. "Our relay squads will probably have to go just a little bit faster to make the qualifying time for nationals. We're hoping that with an extra week of rest those guys can pop off a fast-enough time to get us to the NCAAs." On the individual side, Slaughter came close to qualifying, but will likely need to shave a little time off to meet the national threshold. "Right now, we have a good shot of sending Hunter Jones, and if our relays and Wes can have a good weekend, then we will likely be sending a few guys to compete for a national championship."

It is clear that under Bernhardt, the swim and dive program has their sights set on new heights. Their expectations are growing, and the new goal for the team is to compete hard against the likes of Kenyon and Denison in the years to come. If the squad is able to build on its momentum, Bernhardt believes there is no reason that the team cannot be ranked among the best teams in the nation. The future is bright for your Wabash College swim and dive team.