



RODNEY AND RUFF ARE READY TO ROCK



Support	
Security	\$5,950
EMS	\$800
Infrastructure	
Concert permit	\$225
Portable toilets	\$2,300
Barricades	\$850
Production	
Stage/lights/sound	\$9,500
Wristbands	\$195
Hospitality	
Transport/hotel/meals	\$1,500
Green room	\$3,500
Artists	
Rodney Atkins	\$35,000
Atkins booking agent	\$3,500
Hank Ruff	\$4,000

Grand total \$64,650

GRAPHIC BY LOGAN WEILBAKER '25

JAMES WALLACE '26
NEWS EDITOR

Rain or shine, National Act is one thing Wabash men can count on every spring semester. This upcoming Saturday, Hank Ruff will be opening for Rodney Atkins in the 2024 rendition of National Act.

It should be no surprise that National Act brings controversy, as it has been a part of campus for years and continually accounts for a large amount of the Student Senate budget. Most recently, Student Senate approved an increase in budget from \$60,000 to \$65,000 in hopes of making National Act this year really count.

"AFC recommended \$60,000 of funding," said William Grennon '24, treasurer of the Student Body. "Senate amended that to \$65,000 of funding with

the hope that it could be outside and have collaborations with student events and [other groups]."

"We've seen National Act in the past be a point of controversy and we wanted this [year] to be a change."

- National Act Committee Chairman Lewis Dellinger '25

This isn't anything new, however, as the budget for National Act has increased before. The increased budget gives the National Act committee more room to plan for a more extensive event relative to last year.

Of the \$65,000 budgeted towards the event, the committee has used \$64,650 of it. However, while many students assume that a majority of the cost goes straight to the artists that perform on campus, only \$35,000 of the budget is going towards the headliner, Rodney Atkins.

"[Rodney Atkins] was probably our number one guy, but his price was originally \$50,000," said Lewis Dellinger '25, chairman of the National Act committee. "He wanted to do college shows and he was willing to drive his price down."

Getting a big name like Atkins wasn't easy for Dellinger and his committee, particularly with the budget constraints they faced. While Student Senate allocated \$65,000 to the event, \$25,570

went towards necessary elements that weren't just for paying artists.

With such a big budget every year, it is important for the National Act committee, as well as Student Senate, to take into account the opinions of the student body. There have been many unique iterations on how to get student input, and this year is no different.

The first piece of student input that was gathered by Student Senate was a survey sent out following the performance of Cheat Codes at National Act 2023. However, with only just over 100 responses to the survey, it made it hard for Student Senate and the National Act committee to trust the data collected.

Continued page 2

Jamie Douglas to leave Wabash

LOGAN WEILBAKER '25
MANAGING EDITOR

Men's mental health matters.

Today, members of the Wabash community use this mantra frequently to take pride in seeking mental health care — a practice that is highly stigmatized, especially among young men. That wouldn't be the case if it weren't for Counseling Center Director Jamie Douglas.

Douglas, who is retiring at the end of this semester, didn't start her career as a counselor until later in life — in her forties. Before that, she was traveling to local elementary schools teaching about sexual abuse and safety.

"I remember thinking, 'I'm so glad that I'm just giving this information, and then if a student is struggling, they don't come to me, they go to the counselors,'" Douglas said. "I had to grow into this."

But eventually she felt a calling to pursue counseling, and after acquiring her degree from Indiana Wesleyan University, she worked in the Montgomery County court system with the Department of Child Services and held office hours at her church before landing at Wabash.

When she was first asked to work at Wabash, she wasn't thrilled with the idea.

"I thought, 'I don't know... how interesting can young

men between 18 and 22 be?'" Douglas said. "Well, I learned very quickly what this age group is like and what young men struggle with, and now — 13 years later — I'm pretty much a specialist in young men between 18 and 22."

"Wabash really invested in mental health. They just gave us the most beautiful space, and it's all for mental health."

- Counseling Center Director Jamie Douglas

One of the big challenges Douglas faced with Wabash students was combatting the negative stigma that surrounds seeking support for mental health.

"There's a lot of people within the last couple of years who have been taking mental health, especially men's mental health, much more seriously here on campus, but Jamie has undeniably been the driving force in that matter," said Bennett Strain, chair of the Student Senate Mental Health Concerns Committee.

Continued page 4

The Bachelor wins big Staff wins Div. III Newspaper of the Year back-to-back at ICPAs

LOGAN WEILBAKER '25
MANAGING EDITOR

For the second year in a row, The Bachelor was named Newspaper of the Year in their division by the Indiana Collegiate Press Association (ICPA).

On April 6, student journalists traveled to Indiana University Bloomington, where the 2024 ICPA awards contest was held. Professional journalists from around the state judged content published during the 2023 calendar year. College newspapers from around the state submitted content in 20 different categories and were awarded points based on placement. The newspaper with the most points — in this case, *The Bachelor* — was awarded Newspaper of the Year.

"Winning ICPAs was a goal our staff established at the start of this year," said Editor-in-Chief Sam Benedict '25. "I'm incredibly proud of the effort our team has put in."

Usually there is stiff competition within Division III, the division in which *The Bachelor* competes, which includes schools with stu-

dent enrollment fewer than 3,000. The Echo (Taylor University), The Oak Leaves (Manchester University) and The Record (Goshen College) all took home a handful of awards, but *The Bachelor's* true competition was Division III newcomer The Torch of Valparaiso University.

"Winning ICPAs was a goal our staff established at the start of this year."

- Sam Benedict '25

In the past, The Torch has competed in Division II, which includes schools with enrollment between 3,000 and 10,000, but due to a decline in enrollment, dipped below the division cutoff line. Though The Torch hasn't won Division II Newspaper of the Year since 2015, they gave *The Bachelor* a run for their money, earning 57 total points, one point behind *The Bachelor's* 58.

Continued page 4

Wabash prepares to host admitted students



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Members of Phi Gamma Delta gather during Back to Bash on August 26, 2023. The event is similar to what will happen during Admitted Students Weekend.

TY MURPHY '27
STAFF WRITER

Wabash men are accustomed to the sounds of shopping carts zipping around the mall every spring. However, this year, the annual shopping cart

races will be seen by students admitted to Wabash who will be experiencing the only Admitted Students Weekend this year.

"This is a student's last big opportunity to explore Wabash in a meaningful way

that allows them to decide if Wabash is a good fit if they haven't already decided that," said Associate Director of Admissions and Coordinator of Enrollment Communications Caitlin Ebbinghaus. "If they have already decided, this is a chance for them to get further immersed in the Wabash community and find out where they want to live."

Admissions, the Dean of Students' office, the Interfraternal Council and Independent Men's Association work together with the shared goal of attracting promising young men to Wabash. All participating groups have collaborated to arrange an assortment of games, Q&A's and student/alumni mixers over the course of the weekend.

There will be over 132 prospective students hosted on campus, and that number just keeps going up by the day. Many will attend from distant states such as New Jersey, Texas and Florida to name a few.

Parents and students alike attend to decide if this is the right fit for them, and with that there will be one question on every parent's and student's mind. What will financial aid look like? This year's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) has delayed processing, particularly frustrating incoming freshmen and their families. As time goes on, many more issues have arisen such as the information being published that is later revealed to be inaccurate.

Continued page 3

Benedict '25 renamed Editor-in-Chief

NATHAN ELLENBERGER '26
FEATURES EDITOR

In the season when turnover of leadership positions on campus seems to be at an all-time high, *The Bachelor* will stay the course. Sam Benedict '25 will return to helm the award-winning newspaper as Editor-in-Chief for a second consecutive term.

Coming off the heels of a successful year of publishing and a dominant performance at the Indiana Collegiate Press Association Awards, *The Bachelor* is excited to continue its upward trajectory under Benedict's direction into the 2024-2025 academic year.

The Political Science major and brother of Phi Gamma Delta has guided a continuously evolving staff through ups and downs. While his leadership has been instrumental,



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Sam Benedict '25 attends a Student Senate meeting in the Goodrich Room on February 20, 2023. Outside of *The Bachelor*, Benedict engages in other organizations such as the Student Events committee.

he took pains to clarify that it has been a team effort. "I've been really, really lucky," said Benedict.

"I don't have to worry about a bunch of stuff falling through the cracks because it's such a great team."

While each member of the staff plays a crucial role, Benedict directs the charge. Leading by example, Benedict creates a magnetic and engaging culture that brings out the best of everyone on the team.

"Sam is likeable and gregarious, so people enjoy being around him," said Chief of Staff and Director of Strategic Communications Jim Amidon '85. "His leadership ability, sense of humor and get-it-done attitude have served us well in that regard, but he and Logan [Weilbaker '25] have also created a community and culture that have made long nights a lot of fun. Members of the staff enjoy being together and the satisfaction that comes with putting out an incredible student paper, week in and week out."

Continued page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM BENEDICT '25

Features Editor Nathan Ellenberger '26, Editor-in-Chief Sam Benedict '25 and Comic Artist Preston Parker '26 (left to right) attended the ICPAs and collected the many accolades *The Bachelor* won.

Rodney and Ruff ready to rock

Benedict '25 renamed Editor-in-Chief

Continued from page 1

While he will have another year of experience under his belt, Benedict recognizes that the circumstances of his two terms will be starkly different. With the different energy in the staffroom comes different priorities and opportunities to refine the product.

"It's really the opposite of the experience that we had this year," said Benedict. "This year we had zero seniors on the editorial staff, which was unusual. Being able to retain guys for next year to continue in their roles is a huge advantage. I'm also excited to get a second crack at some of the issues from fall last year with the experience that we have now."

Refining the quality of work in returning staff will always be a goal at the forefront of any Editor-in-Chief. However, the collegiate environment provides one very unusual dimension for a newspaper: turnover and recruitment.

"I think recruitment will always be the number one goal for the Editor-in-Chief," said Benedict. "As an upperclassman, you're trying to build a foundation that's fully developed so that when you leave, the institution itself can continue to be strong. I'm excited to use the latter half of next year to really develop the next group of editors."

Benedict's greatest strength as Editor-in-Chief has been his keen eye for finding young writers and developing them into a versatile and skilled staff. His expertise and experience will transition seamlessly into next fall and beyond, where the culture he leads will take even stronger root.

"I don't have to worry about a bunch of stuff falling through the cracks because it's such a great team."

- Sam Benedict '25

"From my perspective, the staff functions well together as a team working toward a common goal," said Amidon. "Yes, Sam's name is at the top of the masthead, but I hope every writer and editor feels positively about the direction of the paper and their individual and collective contributions to making The Bachelor the best small college paper in the state."

talk to," but did acknowledge that it might have been "a slip-up" to not have sent out some kind of survey.

However, Dellinger stands strong in his committees decision to not send out a survey for this year's National Act, instead relying on direct conversations with interested individuals. This is influenced by previous efforts to try and plan National Act, some of which included votes on what genres students would prefer.

"In the past, [genre] was not heavily skewed one way or another," said Dellinger. "But you have to remember that these surveys are only filled out by like 50 people."

This was reflected by the results of the National Act Feedback survey sent out last year, which had Hip-Hop/Rap as the first ranked genre with 37 first place votes, followed in a close second by country which had 28 first place votes. However, with only just over 100 students participating in the survey, it made it hard to justify picking one genre over another.

"We did look into having a rap artist," said Dellinger. "The problem is rap artists are really, really expensive. We just found it fiscally better to go with country."

While it made more sense with the budget to go with a country artist, this hasn't stopped debate across campus about the genre of the event. However, Dellinger is quick to stand his ground when it comes to his committee's decision.

"The two dudes who ran for the National Act committee are on the National Act committee," said Dellinger. "If you are extremely opinionated on the situation, well, one, you could have voiced your opinion much earlier, and two, you should have run for National Act committee."

Dellinger was chosen by the Student Senate Executive cabinet after submitting an application for the position

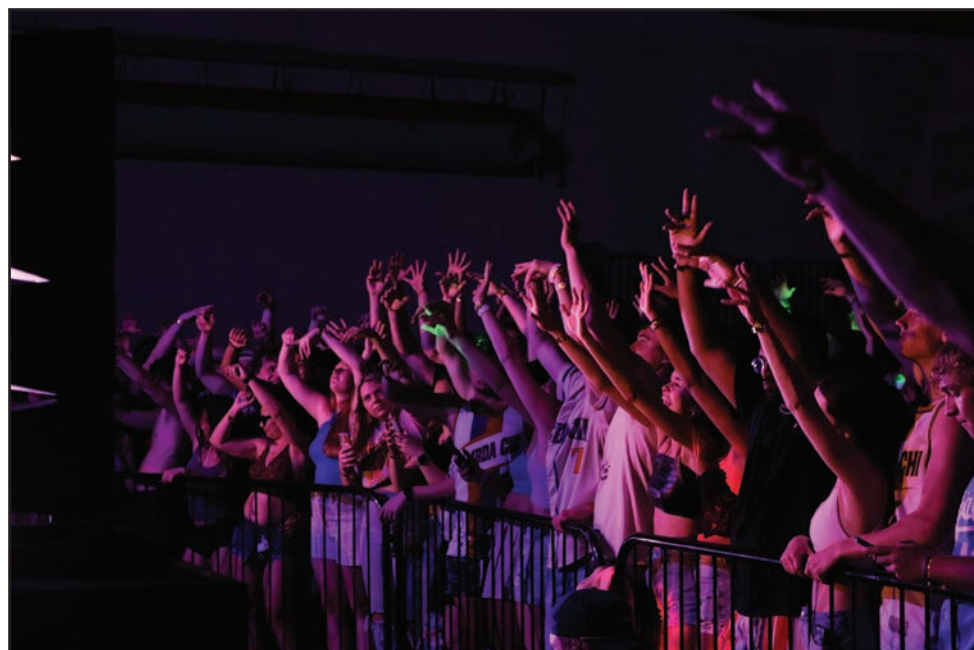


PHOTO BY BENJAMIN HIGH '24

Students dance to the music of Cheat Codes in Chadwick Court on April 15, 2023.

and going through an interviewing process, similar to other Senate committees. His clear vision and passion for National Act made him the correct pick for Bergman.

"We thought that Lewis had a very clear view of what he wanted to do with National Act," said Bergman. "The ideas that he spoke to us about really resonated with what we were wanting, like getting a bigger artist [than Cheat Codes]."

"The ideas that he spoke to us about really resonated with what we were wanting, like getting a bigger artist."

- Student Body President Cole Bergman '24

One of the biggest changes that Dellinger implemented was the location in which National Act was held. National Act is planned

to be held on Mud Hollow, given that the frequent April showers don't impede on these plans. Having National Act outside opens the door to make it a longer, all-day event meant to bring campus together.

"We wanted it to be a uniting thing on campus," said Dellinger. "We've seen National Act in the past be a point of controversy and we wanted this [year] to be a change."

This includes a full day filled with tailgating, beginning with setup at 9 a.m., which builds all day into the opening performance by Hank Ruff at 6:00 p.m. and the main performance by Rodney Atkins at 7:15 p.m. Having the event outside is aimed at creating a more inviting and open environment, contrary to the stifling atmosphere some students felt at Chadwick Court during National Act 2023.

"With it being outside, people who are of age can have alcohol out in the open," said Grennon. "It's just a much less intimidating vibe."

However, while plan-

ning to have National Act outside opens the doors for many new aspects of the day, it brings concerns with the recurrent rain associated with April weather. As of now, the current back-up plan given rainy conditions means moving the concert into Knowling Fieldhouse, a decision that will have to be made the Friday before the event.

"We wanted [National Act] to be a uniting thing on campus."

- National Act Committee Chairman Lewis Dellinger '25

"If it's not outside this year, I know people will be disappointed and ultimately if that has to sit on me, that's okay," said Lindsay.

The decision to move the concert inside would impede many of the new aspects of National Act that Dellinger had hoped to establish this year, but the tailgating aspect focused towards uniting campus would still go on.

"Everyone needs to enjoy their time however they want to enjoy it," said Dellinger. "We want everyone to be there and we want everyone to show out and have a good time."

Regardless of whether National Act is able to happen on Mud Hollow, Dellinger is still confident in his plans for the event.

"I think it will be a success," said Dellinger. "I think it's going to be fun."

Dellinger stresses that National Act is a time for students to make memories with their friends, rather than just critique something that takes diligent effort during the year-long planning process.

"I hope that everyone takes a look at National Act as an opportunity to have fun with your friends, instead of as an opportunity to critique where Senate money is going," said Dellinger. "We're trying to make the most people happy."



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

A view of students in Chadwick Court on April 15, 2023 at National Act. The location made for an intimidating atmosphere to some students.

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Greek members look towards Wabash Fraternity Day

ELIJAH WETZEL '27
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Wabash students will have a lot on their plates this weekend. Admitted Students Day kicks off the weekend on Friday, April 12 followed by a full day of tailgating and music at National Act on Saturday April 13.

However, the jam-packed weekend does not end Saturday night because on Sunday, April 14 the Interfraternity Council (IFC) is hosting the ninth annual Fraternity Day celebration in Knowling Fieldhouse. The event, first held in 2015 by Jon Pactor '71, a brother of Tau Kappa Epsilon, sets aside a time for fraternity brothers spanning across generations to come together and recognize achievements of fraternities during the past year. It exemplifies another way in which our campus is "different," said Matt Lesniak '25, the current IFC president and a brother of Tau Kappa Epsilon.

"Greek life on campus, we always promote how we are way different and we do way better things than other campuses," said Lesniak. "This is kind of a day where we can take a step back and actually acknowledge all of the things that we're doing good as a community."

The lunchtime program will run from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. and will consist of an awards ceremony to honor the achievements of outstanding individual members and fraternities. The awards segment includes eight different honors such as Freshman Class Impact Award, Michael P. Raters Fraternity Man of the Year Award and the Sherry Ross Senior Class Impact Award.

A short address given by Dean of Students Greg Redding '88, a brother of Lambda Chi Alpha, about the growth and sustained successes of fraternities in the past year will follow the awards. Finally, a short speech will be given by a student representative from each fraternity at Wabash, a time for students to be candid about their houses' struggles and successes in the last year.

Fraternity membership rates have declined nation-



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Former IFC President Brett Driscoll '24 presents a donation from the IFC to Hugh Vandivier '91 in Chadwick Court on April 23, 2023. 100% of fraternity men donated towards the 10th Annual Day of Giving.

wide in recent years, meaning students are increasingly choosing independent housing options over fraternities. Given these trends, this type of event –one that brings students and alumni together– is crucial to maintaining unity and a sense of positivity around Greek-life.

"I think that the whole celebration is really important because if that type of thing does not exist, then the idea of fraternities will slowly drop down in the college's eyes and everyone else's eyes," said Matthew Hendrick '25, external vice president of IFC and a brother of Phi Gamma Delta. "I think that if we continue to do that, then fraternities will continue to do great things on campus."

"This is kind of a day where we can take a step back and actually acknowledge all of the things that we're doing good as a community."

- Matt Lesniak '25

Hendrick, who served previously as an IFC representative, commented about the effort it took to resurrect Fraternity Day last year. Hendrick said that while it was "quite a challenge," seeing the number of people who

were excited to focus on fraternities and who are committed to cultivating them at Wabash was impactful and exciting.

Beyond celebrating the accomplishments of fraternities in the past year, one of the expressed goals of Fraternity Day is fostering inter-fraternity and inter-generational connections. Students and alumni will be seated together and will intentionally not be placed next to members of their own fraternity. The IFC's goal is to facilitate connections between students and alumni who otherwise wouldn't interact.

"It gives everybody a chance to learn from alumni, as well as learn from each other," said Lesniak. "Kind of like, 'Hey, our house had that problem last year and this is what we did to fix it.' We learn from each other and learn from alumni and also connect as a Greek community, both students and alumni as a whole."

Hopefully, the event will allow students and alumni to broaden their horizons when it comes to fraternities and their experiences in them. A Lambda Chi could offer a new perspective to a Fiji or vice versa. Furthermore, an alumnus who graduated in the 80s could teach something to a current student.

"People have completely different experiences," said Lesniak. "But at the same time, there's shared experiences that they connect on a deeper level."

Wabash hosts admitted students

Continued from page 1

"It does impact how families are navigating their college search and whether or not they're going to invest in coming to campus," said Ebbinghaus. "We would see some challenges – financially, emotionally – with a family deciding if the trip back to campus is worthwhile without having that financial picture in front of them."

This means that for a while, many prospective students' decisions will be put on hold until they can be sure their financial aid package is enough to help pay for Wabash.

To combat the lack of certainty around the FAFSA, Admitted Students Weekend will feature more financial aid talks and appointments this year to help clear up the situation with financial aid packages and how Wabash is working to keep up with the ever-changing FAFSA situation.

"We always encourage them to go to other fraternities"

- Luis Rivera '25

Despite this struggle, the admissions office still intends to put on a special event for the prospective students and their families.

"Whether there are 10 students here or 210 students here, we want this to be the best admitted students weekend they go to all spring," said Ebbinghaus. "We want it to be the best event they attend during their college search."

A major part of that comes from the college students being able to represent Wabash. This is among the many elements emphasized by Admissions



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Sights of students playing cornhole are likely to be seen during Admitted Students Weekend.

Operations Manager Nikki Galloway.

"We tell our students to be good hosts, have your house clean, give them a place to sleep and treat them how you would want to be treated," said Galloway. "Remember, we're trying to get them to not only come to school here, but you have this as a great opportunity for you to get them into your house."

With so many prospective students being hosted on the campus, fraternity rush will be on the mind of every Greek house.

"I think this weekend is one of the most important weekends for rush because this is a group of students that is officially admitted, and so they have a bit more skin in the game this weekend," said Lambda Chi Alpha president Luis Rivera '25.

With such an important weekend for rush, fraternity houses are doing their best to uphold the image of the house and the gentleman's rule when interacting with potential new members.

"The gentleman's rule is always in play," said Rivera. "How can this be a great experience for not only this student prospective student but also their family, and so things like house cleaning and not dirty rushing is a big thing."

In many cases, fraternities work together during the weekend to ensure students find the best fit they can.

"This is a student's last big opportunity to explore Wabash in a meaningful way."

- Caitlin Ebbinghaus

"We always encourage them to go to other fraternities or see what they're interested in and point them in the direction of a fraternity that may speak to those interests better," said Rivera.

With a busy week of athletics, concerts and other activities, demonstrating the values of Wabash College are critical for the class of 2028. Prospective students want to find their best fit, and the first step is to feel like they can be accepted with the campus. As Wabash heads into an exciting weekend, students are reminded to treat prospective students with the respect of the Wabash College reputation.



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Wabash fraternity men pose for a picture outside of the Allen Center following Wabash Fraternity Day on April 23, 2023.

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Jamie Douglas to leave Wabash

Continued from page 1

When Douglas first started working part-time at Wabash in 2011, the Counseling Center looked very different. “We were really underground,” Douglas said.

She wasn’t kidding. At the time, the counseling center was in the basement of the Chapel.

“I told people, ‘We’re the last door before you get to the boilers,’” Douglas said. “It was just full of furniture and things that people had put in there over the years.”

But while the space was small and uninviting, students poured into the basement of the Chapel in overwhelming numbers.

“I really have appreciated [Douglas] as a mentor with this new environment as I transition into this director role.”

- Keri Francis

“The demand just kept growing,” Douglas said. “It wasn’t that young men were suffering more, it was that [they] were seeking services more. There was an awakening, I think, with young adults beginning to realize that it’s really OK to get support.”

Just as demand was growing, in 2019, Douglas’s partner Kevin Swaim left Wabash, and the counseling center once again became a department of one. In January of 2020, she hired Laura Dolph, and the pair worked tirelessly to ensure Wabash students had access to mental health services through the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following year, when things had settled down, Douglas single-handedly moved the counseling center out of the basement to the top floor of the Ginny Hays house, where they were for two years before moving to the Kendall House, the (hopefully) permanent residence of the counseling center.

“Wabash really invested in mental health,” Douglas said. “They just gave us the most beautiful space, and it’s all for mental health.”

One of Douglas’s lasting achievements was to bring in a full-time wellness coordinator, Tristen Abbott.

“I love doing education, [but] if you’ve got licensed therapists, you want to use

them for that,” Douglas said.

They also brought on an additional part-time therapist, Keri Francis, who will be succeeding Douglas as director starting next semester. Francis has worked in mental health for 15 years and started seeing Wabash students part-time in October 2022.

“I really have appreciated [Douglas] as a mentor with this new environment as I transition into this director role,” Francis said. “She’s very knowledgeable, she’s very passionate about what she does, and she’s really built a solid foundation for the College.”

After 14 years of dedication to the students of Wabash, Douglas now feels confident that the impacts she has made have prepared the Counseling Center for continued success in the wake of her departure.

“It’s bittersweet to leave Wabash, but I feel like I’m leaving it in good hands,” Douglas said.

“You can feel her presence throughout campus, and it’s definitely one that will be missed,” said Strain.

Looking to the future, the Counseling Center hopes to continue on in the legacy Douglas leaves behind.

“The most important thing that I’ve learned from Jamie is just really focusing on the students,” Francis said. “We want to be accessible and available and to continue that high quality of service that the students have been accustomed to.”

What’s next for Douglas and her husband Dr. Scott Douglas ’84?

“There’s a lot of people within the last couple of years who have been taking mental health... much more seriously.”

- Counseling Center Director Jamie Douglas

“We’re going sailing,” Douglas said. “We bought a boat that’s like a little camper. It’s small, but we can live on it for months at a time.”

After years of service, Douglas more than deserves her retirement, and the strong foundation she has established within the Counseling Center will continue to support Wabash students for generations to come.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Jamie Douglas sits in her office located in the Counseling Center. Her space is where she sees students who seek counseling services.

The Bachelor wins big

Continued from page 1

“Our staff doesn’t have the benefit that other schools have of participating in a journalism or communications program on campus,” said Benedict. “It adds another layer to our win when we remember that none of The Bachelor writers have formal schooling in the subject.”

“Considering we only won by one point, every single writer was paramount to our win,” Benedict continued. “It’s a testament to the hard work that everyone from staff writers to photographers to editors have put into the paper this year.”

All in all, The Bachelor took home 21 awards in 15 different categories, which judge quality of written content, photos, page design, illustrations and more.

Each newspaper is allowed two submissions in each category, and first, second and third place awards are bestowed for each.

In a repeat of last year’s competition, The Bachelor excelled in the visual categories. Photographer Elijah Greene ’25 was the recipient of three photography awards, earning first for his photo of Beta pledges guarding the chapel steps during Chapel Sing.

Both cartoons submitted by Arman Luthra ’26 and



PHOTO BY LOGAN WEILBAKER '25

The Bachelor narrowly won Div. III Newspaper of the Year, only beating The Torch, of Valparaiso University, by a single point.

Preston Parker ’26 won first and second place, respectively.

Benjamin Bullock ’23, last year’s sports editor for The Bachelor, took home the most awards by an individual — four in total — including a first-place finish in the In-Depth Story category for his article “There’s a fear around walking away”:

Wrestlers quit team after health and well-being concerns allegedly go ignored” and another for “Jack Heldt ’23 wins national title, goes unbeaten on season.”

For a full list of 2024 ICPA contest results, visit the The Bachelor Online via the QR code to the right:



Richard Hasen to present 50th Peck Lecture



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

The Prelaw class of 2023 poses for a photo at the last Peck Dinner on April 21, 2023. The program included a presentation by Thomas Fisher ’91.

JAKE WEBER ’25
STAFF WRITER

Each spring, students pursuing an interest in the law gather with faculty, alumni, and friends of the college to hear from a leading member of the practice of law in the Peck Lecture. The 50th Peck Lecture will occur this spring on April 18 featuring Professor Richard Hasen.

Hasen is a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, where he serves as director of the Safeguarding Democracy Project. Hasen earned both a Ph.D. in Political Science and a J.D. from UCLA.

“He is the nation’s leading academic authority on election law, and therefore he’s an especially timely lecturer for this election

year. Also, he was strongly recommended by our prior winner, John Ryder ’71 who won the senior Peck medal in 2019,” said Wabash College’s Prelaw Advisor Scott Himsel ’85. “He said that there was no one in the nation who would be better as an academic authority on election law. And John was right.”

Hasen’s lecture, titled “How Can We Safeguard American Democracy,” will discuss the state of voting in the United States. Currently, most of the issues pertaining to voting are decided at the state level. Federal laws protect against discrimination on the basis of race, color, previous condition of servitude, sex, age and no poll tax. Hasen’s talk will get to the root of the mat-

ter on the right to vote by discussing whether or not changes should be made to this system.

“I’m not aware of another college in the land that holds a specific prelaw event.”

- Prelaw Advisor Scott Himsel ’85

Aside from being able to hear from esteemed lecturers like Hasen at the Peck Dinner, students also see other benefits. The Peck Dinner serves as an opportunity for Wabash students to gain invaluable experience

networking with alumni attorneys.

“I’m not aware of another college in the land that holds a specific prelaw event. Law schools, of course, hold events all the time,” said Himsel. “But this is special because it focuses undergraduates on getting a chance to hear from one of the nation’s leading lawyers and also to meet, and talk with and network with their own alumni lawyers in large numbers.”

The Peck Dinner also functions as an awards banquet for the undergraduate prelaw students of Wabash. Among the awards presented is the Junior Peck Medal. “It’s our top prelaw award. For the senior award, it shows that they are eminent and truly stand out nationally,” said Himsel, “For the junior award, it shows a special promise to become a successful lawyer. It’s a very special thing.”

Prelaw Society President Seth Kirkpatrick ’24 described the Peck Dinner as an experience that provides students an in-depth look into extraordinary legal careers. Students and alumni spend the evening with someone who is extremely accomplished, and often find that the lecture is not only beneficial for seeing what a legal career looks like, but also how relevant all these topics are to day-to-day life.

“It just got me excited for legal work,” said Kirkpatrick. “It gets you excited about the possibilities and how you might be able to replicate that work or do something extraordinary.”





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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.

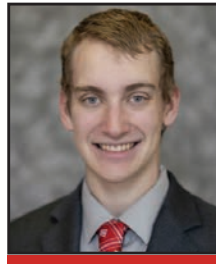
Letters (e-mails) to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. They will only be published if they include name, phone, or e-mail, and are not longer than 800 words.

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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.

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The lies we tell



Augustin Sanchez '26

Reply to this opinion at ajsanche26@wabash.edu

“How do your guys get girls to come here?” Asks the prospective student. “We bus them in,” answers the tour guide. I am sure that many of you, like myself, were told the exact same thing, one time or another, when we were high schoolers touring Wabash. I have come full circle and as a tour guide I tell the same lie, smiling privately to myself, like it is an inside joke known only to us Wabash men and hopefully soon to the prospective student. But my opinion today is not concerned with the silly, mostly harmless lies (I was pretty pissed as a freshman when the truth about the “buses” was revealed) that we tell ourselves, but with the more harmful ones that have prevailed throughout our great school and especially the ones that we refuse to acknowledge are lies.

The first lie that I have been made acutely aware of this semester is the idea that as a campus we embody the idea of the “Wabash Gentleman”. I have no doubt that many throughout this campus do their best to live up to the standard codified by our Gentleman’s Rule, however, I still feel like there is a cold undertone of behavior unbecoming of a gentleman that is widespread throughout campus. Whether it be the usage of generative AI such as ChatGPT, the extensive use of derogatory terms for women and members of the LGBTQ community or the most recent hateful, identity-based attack against Delta Tau Delta, I cannot help but question if the Gentleman’s Rule actually means something to us or if it is a neat relic that we cling to but never really try to emulate. The Gentleman’s Rule comes with a degree of self-accountability and self-control, yet we do not see it. We as Wabash students shouldn’t take the easy way out of an assignment, but we do. Some might argue that in a college full of men, tongues might be looser with terms and phrases, but who we are in private extends to who we are in public. And, in my opinion, there are those on campus who know what happened on the night Delta Tau Delta was defaced and they are unwilling to come out. It was not a townie and this was not the first time; it was a Wabash student. The response from the administration was rightly and justly criticized, yet it was not one of the

administrators that defaced Delt. It was one of us, and one of us remains walking around. I lie to prospective students whenever the topic of the Gentlemen’s Rule comes up. I tell them that Wabash men follow the rule and we hold ourselves and others accountable.

The second lie we tell ourselves, and this one is specifically for Greek students, is that the fraternity system cultivates an experience that is worth being a part of. I have had the great privilege of being a Rhyne this semester, and through this experience, I have learned a great deal about Wabash and the different opinions that people around Wabash have regarding the different aspects of our experiences. One of the biggest and most concerning things that I have heard is that there is a non-negligible amount of people who do not feel connected to their fraternity. I once thought that this was an issue that only my house faced, however this is a widespread problem that plagues each and every house. We as Greek students need to do better to make sure that the system that we cherish and believe in does not continue on a downward trend. Fraternity seniors cannot be “checking out” and no longer involved. Fraternity involvement for freshmen must go beyond pledgship and risk management for parties. And, perhaps most pressingly, fraternities need to cultivate a house culture that makes brothers better. Going back to the attack on Delt, if it was a fraternity man who committed the offense, and it is his fraternity or brothers who are sheltering the knowledge of the offender, what sort of culture is that? The attack on Delt was no small vandalism but an attack on the identity of members of Delt, it was a hate crime by all definitions. Fraternity life is meant to mean something more and better for the members, or at least that is why I joined. If we cannot offer more or better, the system is like the Gentleman’s Rule in that it is a relic that we desperately cling to. I lie to prospective students when I tell them that joining a fraternity will make them better, as I cannot guarantee what experience they will have.

The final lie that I tell prospective students is that Wabash is perfect. The truth is Wabash has a lot of work that needs to be done, but this is not an admission of defeat. I will do my best to make Wabash better in the ways that I can help, and I hope others will do the same. I tell prospective students that I love Wabash and if I could choose it again I would. This is not a lie, and it never will be. I hope you who read this feel the same way, and it is not a lie that we tell ourselves.

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

BTFD

Lo-five to Purdue for laying an egg in the National Championship game. Take solace in the fact that Cousin Rick was the happiest man in West Lafayette that night

KNOW YOUR WORTH

Hi-five to John Calipari for abruptly leaving Kentucky University. Thanks for showing us that you should never settle even after 15 years in a relationship.

‘WE LET THE LIQUOR TALK’

Lo-Five to Morgan Wallen for throwing a chair off a rooftop bar in Nashville. Bad news for Nashville pedestrians, good news for IU basketball, who just found its new messiah.

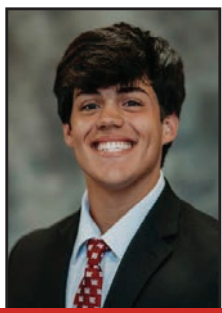
‘I WISH TO PARLAY’

Lo-Five to Jontay Porter of the Toronto Raptors for getting caught in “betting irregularities.” That’s what you get for not hiring an interpreter.

‘UN HOMBRE DE GRAN CEREBRO’

Hi-Five to Dr. Rogers for the eclipse-talk shout-out. Its nice to see that someone actually reads the Hi-Fives we write at 2:47 a.m.

Mini-Crossword: The superior NYT game



Bryce Poling-Pineda '26

Reply to this opinion at bpoling26@wabash.edu

Moreover, the Mini Crossword offers a daily dose of mental exercise that’s both entertaining and educational. With themes ranging from pop culture references to historical tidbits, the daily puzzle is a trove of knowledge waiting to be uncovered. By engaging with the Mini Crossword regularly, individuals can expand their vocabulary, enhance their cognitive abilities, and learn captivating facts. The Mini Crossword is more than just another game to beat all your friends at—it’s a journey of discovery that supplements the mind and broadens horizons.

Its sense of community and camaraderie sets the Mini Crossword apart from other puzzle games. Every day, millions of players worldwide come together to tackle the same puzzle, sharing hints, tips, and triumphs along the way. Whether you’re competing for the fastest time or simply enjoying the challenge at your own pace, the Mini Crossword fosters a sense of connection among its players. It seems similar to the culture that makes Wabash College the best institution in America.

Last but not least, the Mini Crossword offers something the other NYT games do not: an option to check your progress. Not everyone agrees with the auto-check option, but sometimes assistance is needed. When you’re struggling and have been staring at the puzzle board for a few minutes to get the final word, auto-check can come in clutch with that final alley-ooop that allows you to complete the game.

With a new puzzle released every day, there’s always something fresh and exciting to look forward to. From themed puzzles celebrating holidays and special occasions to surprise bonus puzzles that push the limits of creativity, the Mini Crossword keeps players on their toes and returning for more. Its ever-changing nature ensures that boredom is never an option, making it the ultimate source of entertainment for puzzle lovers everywhere.”

Wally’s wall: eclipse

The Prompt:

Did you find the eclipse enjoyable? What was the most interesting part?

Arman Luthra '26

Yes, the most interesting part was when the eclipse eclipsed.

Henry Chilcoat '27

The eclipse heckin’ sucks!!!

James Szalkie '25

For me it was less about those thirty seconds and more about the engagement and interest that came from everyone on campus. The eclipse makes you feel small. But you’re never nothing when you’re a Little Giant, and monday reminded me of that.

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Purdue has nothing to be ashamed of



Patrick Countryman '26

Reply to this opinion at pacountr26@wabash.edu

In the realm of college basketball, the NCAA March Madness Tournament stands as the epitome of competitive fervor, where teams battle fiercely for the prestigious title of national champions. Each year, triumph and heartbreak intertwine as underdogs rise and favorites falter. In the annals of this storied competition, the 2024 edition witnessed Purdue University's journey to the brink of glory, only to falter in the final moments. However, while defeat may sting momentarily, a closer examination reveals that Purdue has nothing to be ashamed of regarding their national championship loss. Instead, their valiant effort and remarkable journey exemplify the essence of sportsmanship, resilience and the spirit of collegiate athletics.

Purdue's path to the championship game was marked by exceptional talent, strategic prowess and unwavering determination. From the outset of the tournament, the Boilermakers demonstrated their prowess on the court, dispatching formidable opponents with a blend of skillful play and tenacity. Each victory showcased the team's cohesion, led by seasoned veterans and emerging stars alike. Their journey was a testament to the dedication of players, coaches, and supporters who rallied behind the team with unwavering fervor.

The championship game itself was a culmination of Purdue's arduous journey, a showdown against a formidable adversary equally hungry for victory. Despite the outcome, Purdue's performance on the grandest stage of college basketball merits admiration rather than reproach. The game was a spectacle of athleticism, strategy and sheer determination, with both teams leaving everything on the court in pursuit of glory.

One of the hallmarks of Purdue's journey was their unwavering sportsmanship and grace, both in victory and defeat. Throughout the tournament, the Boilermakers conducted themselves with integrity and humility, earning respect from fans, opponents and pundits alike. In the face of adversity, they displayed resilience and character, embodying the values of sportsmanship that transcend mere competition.

Furthermore, Purdue's national championship loss serves as a reminder of the unpredictable nature of sports. In the crucible of March Madness, any team can rise to the occasion or falter unexpectedly. The margin between victory and defeat is often razor-thin, determined by a single shot, a key play or a twist of fate. Purdue's defeat underscores the essence of competition, where success is never guaranteed, and triumph often emerges from the crucible of adversity.

Moreover, the aftermath of Purdue's loss is marked by a sense of pride and gratitude, rather than shame or regret. The journey to the championship game was a collective effort, fueled by the passion and dedication of

players, coaches, and supporters alike. While the outcome may not have been what they hoped for, the experience itself was invaluable, forging bonds that transcend the boundaries of the basketball court.

Beyond the realm of sports, Purdue's national championship run serves as an inspiration to aspiring athletes, students and communities alike. Their journey exemplifies the power of perseverance, teamwork and unwavering belief in the face of daunting odds. It is a testament to the indomitable spirit of the human endeavor, where setbacks are but stepping stones on the path to greater achievement.

In conclusion, Purdue University has nothing to be ashamed of regarding their national championship loss in the 2024 March Madness Tournament. Their journey was marked by valor, resilience and the embodiment of sportsmanship. While the outcome may not have been what they desired, the experience itself was a triumph of the human spirit. In the tapestry of collegiate athletics, Purdue's journey stands as a testament to the enduring power of sport to inspire, unite, and uplift. All of you IU fans can pipe down now. No one cares about your championships forty years ago when ur parents were seven. Grow up and realize there is a new powerhouse in Indiana basketball, and they are here to stay.



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Behind the scenes of *The Bachelor*

Bachelor readers,

To start, thank you for supporting us through yet another semester of publication. Whether student, parent, alumnus, faculty or trustee, whether you read *The Bachelor* in print, on our website or on social media, we thank you for being engaged with us.

Whenever we toil away late at night in the bowels of the Armory, we writers wonder, "what is it all for?" Each new issue of *The Bachelor* is a small victory for us, just getting through the news-cycle can be tiresome. Yet, there is the occasional moment; a well written article, an excellent feature, a funny Hi-Five. Those fleeting moments when we know the paper turned out well. When we go all in and it shows.

Throughout the semester, these victories are localized, a fixture of our Crawfordsville community. However, this month, the Indiana Collegiate Press Association (ICPA) greeted us with something greater. Walking away with a number of awards, we were extremely proud to earn "Div. III Newspaper of the Year" for the second time in a row.

Our team starts on Monday with a staff meeting. But even before that, we have photographers hitting the fields, writers securing interviews and ideas flowing from ear to ear. That Monday meeting is crucial, getting everyone on the same page sounds easy, but feels Herculean in practice. After crossing T's and dotting I's, we have a full schedule for the week. Our writers scatter to the wind, hopefully to be seen again. In the next two days, different professors and staff are accosted for their candid input on world and campus events. The slack that we might have missed at our main meeting (for example, a lost Wally's wall) is slowly reassembled as the stark reality hits us. We have a paper due Wednesday night.

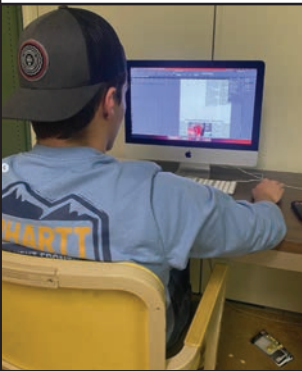
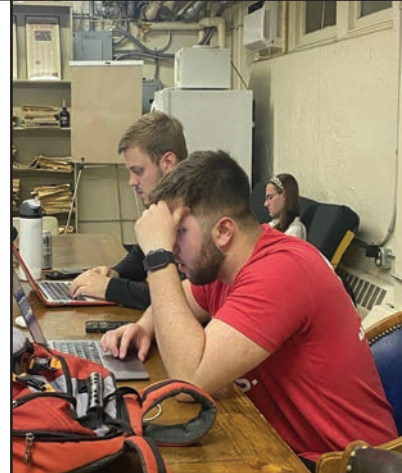
If we are lucky, our writers have a light week of school work and can get an early draft of their articles in. But more often than not, the bulk of our pieces are found scampering into the Armory Wednesday morning, ready to be refined by the dedicated editing staff. Each piece is meticulously combed to fit requirements in "The Associated Press Stylebook" (A book we lovingly call *The Bible*). E. Wallace '25 and J. Wallace '26 fervently pore over the Sports and News sections, while occasionally quipping about basketball. N. Ellenberger '26 and P. Reynolds '25 are tucked firmly into their chairs, assembling Features and Opinion alongside a meticulously curated Spotify queue. Puzzler-in-chief L. Weilbaker '25 hurriedly arrives from theater practice to piece together our beloved cross-

word. All-the-while, Editor-in-Chief S. Benedict '25 steers the whole ship with sheer charisma.

Each composite part of our little paper, editors, photographers, writers, come together into a caffeine-fueled rush to deliver all the news within arms reach. Along the way, amongst dry-eyes and crushed cans, we occasionally strike a chord. We cannot always get it right. But this time around we did, so we want to thank everyone. The writers and readers, Wally's wall responders and opinion-sharers, the whole Wabash community. Thank you for making this paper what it is.

No matter what awards we get, the goal is the same: *The Bachelor* will continue to be, as it has since 1908, the Student Voice of Wabash College. We look forward to another semester with you.

PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27
Sam Benedict '25, Logan Weilbaker '25, and Preston Reynolds '25 are entranced in the joy of editing. Benedict has served as Editor-in-Chief for the last year, while Weilbaker has created creative crosswords for the last two-years.



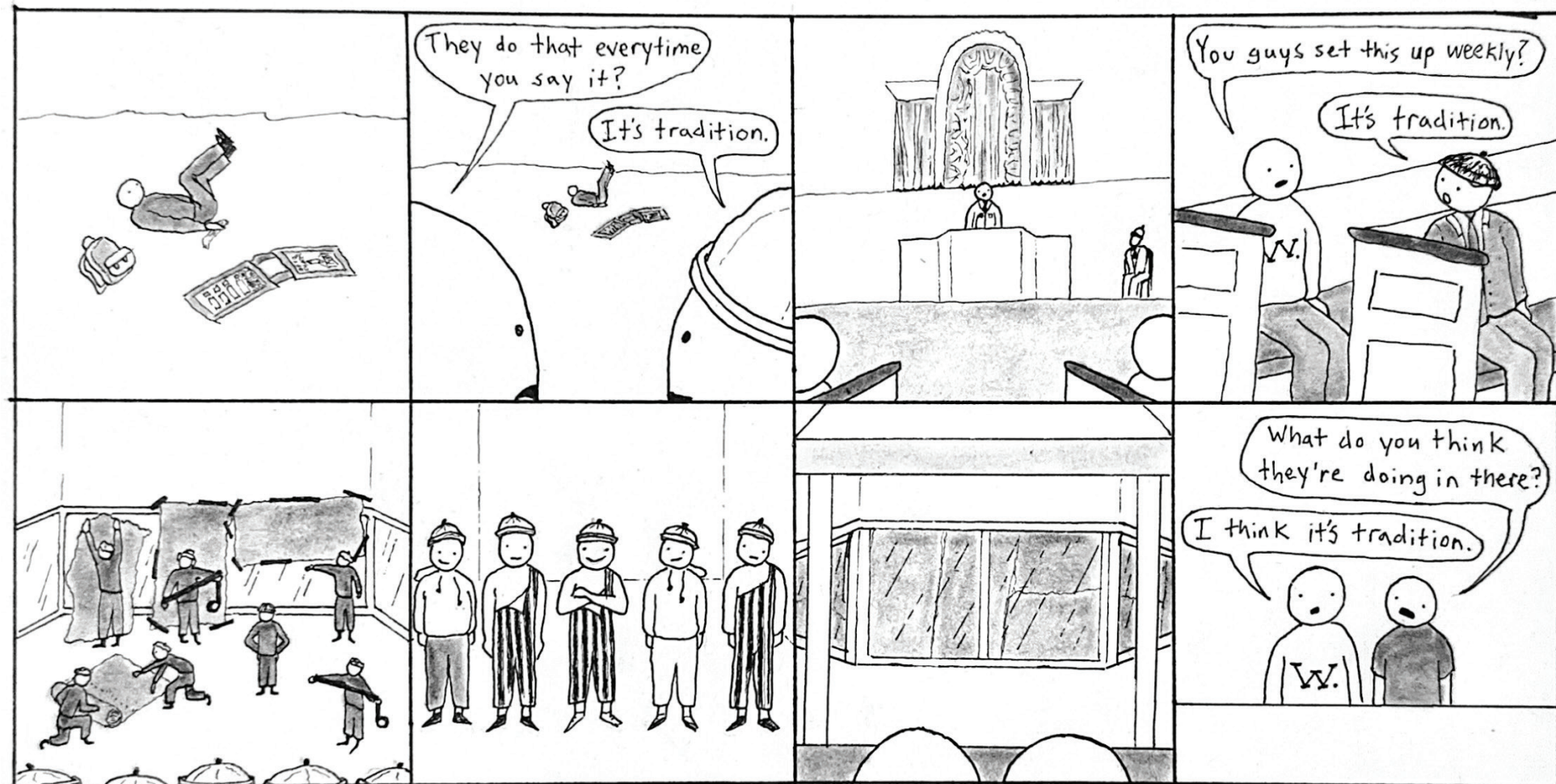
PHOTOS BY WILL DUNCAN '27
Ethan Wallace '25 puts his everything into each Sports section. When not tearing it up at the office, he spends his time with his brothers at Kappa Sigma.

Rodney Rhyne

Weeks #8: 'Keepers of Tradition'



Comic by Preston Parker '26



Preston Parker

FEATURES

As the light dies out...



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

President Feller addresses the gathered crowd on Frank Navarro Field at Little Giant Stadium on Monday, April 9. This week's eclipse was the first total solar eclipse in Wabash history.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Members of the basketball team peer through eclipse glasses to watch the moon slowly overshadow the sun. Free eclipse glasses were one of many amenities provided to sun gazers.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WILL MORRIS '25

The solar eclipse reaches totality. While eclipses are relatively common to some degree across the globe, total solar eclipse only occurs in a given place about once every 300 years. Keen observers can note solar flares creeping outside the moon's silhouette.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Shadow falls over Little Giant Stadium as totality creeps closer and closer. The festivities on the field were accompanied by an appropriate playlist -- songs referencing the sun, moon and eclipses abounded.

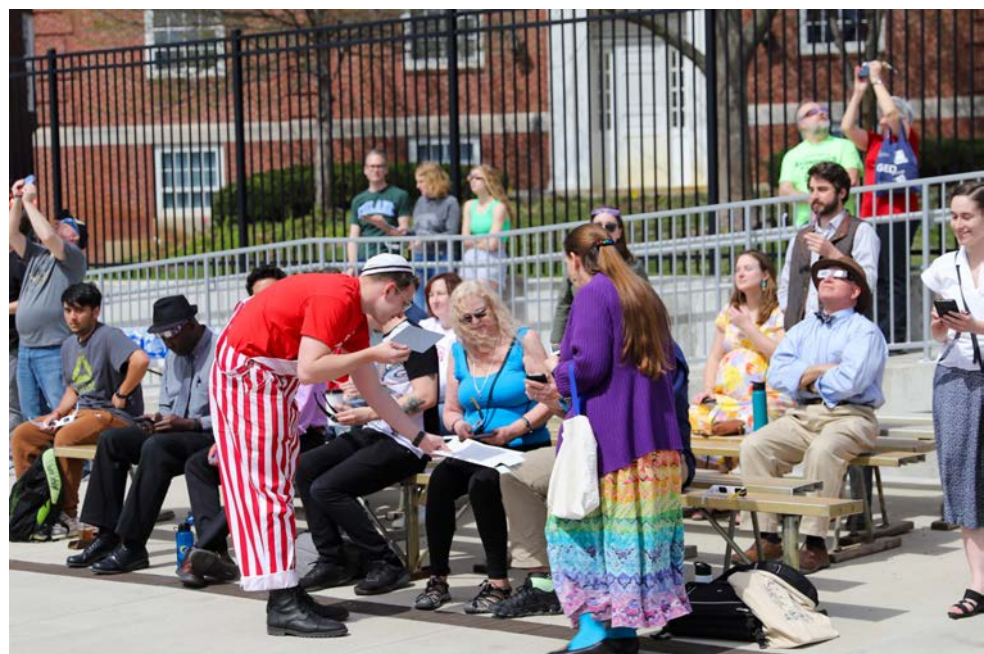


PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Society of Physics Students President James Szalkie '25 demonstrates ocular effects of the eclipse to a community member. The SPS collaborated with the Physics department and administration to deliver an appropriately momentous experience.

This week at Wabash



Saturday, Apr. 13

5:30 p.m. | National Act: Rodney Atkins
@ Mud Hollow

Sunday, Apr. 14

12 p.m. | Fraternity Day @ Chadwick Court

Monday, Apr. 15

7 p.m. | Music Senior Voice Recital @ Salter Hall

Tuesday, Apr. 16

11:15 a.m. | 50th Anniversary of Robert O. Petty's Eastern Deciduous Forest @ Hays 104

Wednesday, Apr. 17

8 p.m. | "Airness" @ Experimental Theater

Thursday, Apr. 18

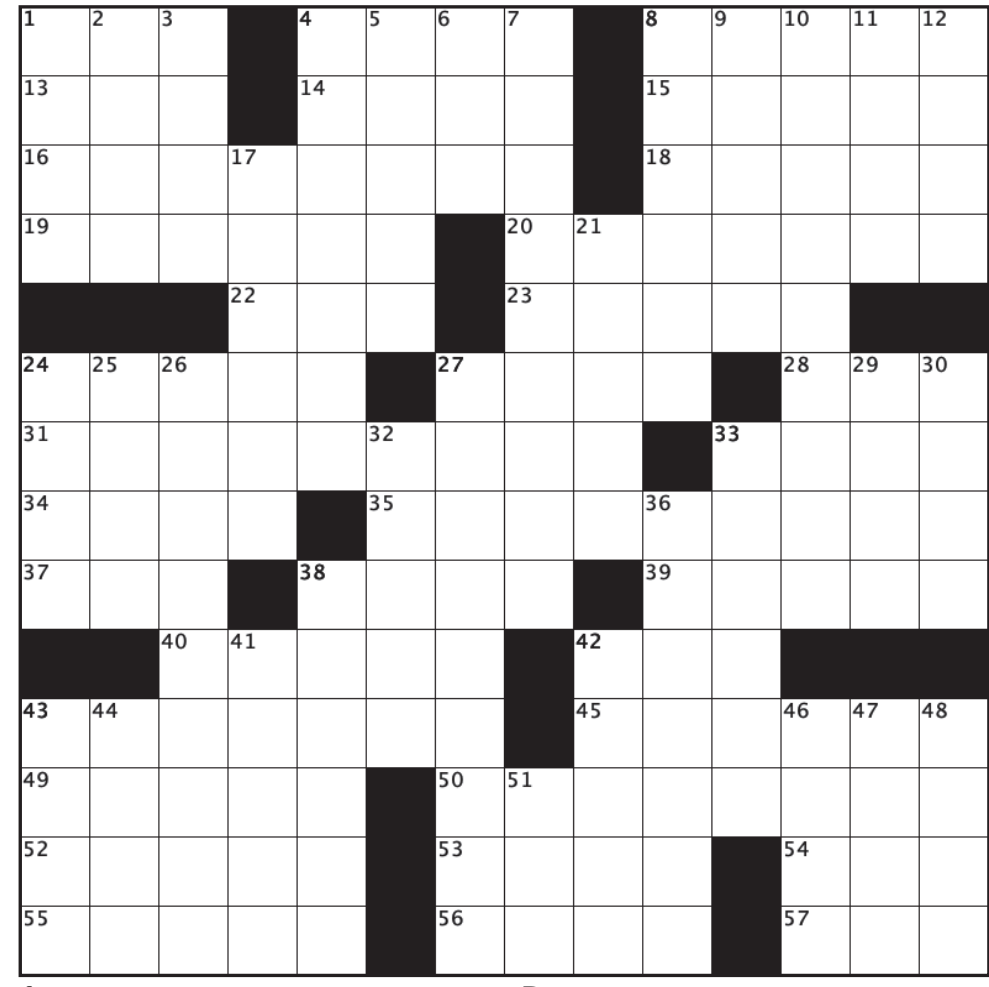
5 p.m. | 50th Peck Lecture @ Baxter 101
8 p.m. | "Airness" @ Experimental Theater

Friday, Apr. 19

4:30 p.m. | IMA x IFC Kickball @ Mud Hollow
8 p.m. | "Airness" @ Experimental Theater

'Themeless #2'

Crossword by Logan Weilbaker '25




Across

- 1. Urban transit
- 4. Wrestling room equipment
- 8. Turn into salt, maybe
- 13. African slitherer
- 14. Soothing substance
- 15. Chorus member
- 16. Type of meme sent in a group chat
- 18. Part of UV
- 19. What one wills away
- 20. Some football and basketball maneuvers
- 22. Rep's counterpart
- 23. Church leader
- 24. Take place
- 27. Work's opposite
- 28. Whence comes "cotton-headed ninny muggins"
- 31. Epicurean concerns
- 33. Marco Polo crossed it
- 34. Cash register part
- 35. Time-honored
- 37. Phoebus, by another name
- 38. Shots
- 39. En ____
- 40. X, Y, or Z
- 42. Crimson Tide org.
- 43. Worked a wedding, perhaps
- 45. Judas ____
- 49. Watts or Campbell
- 50. Swan-like quality
- 52. "Otherwise..."
- 53. Zero
- 54. Airport shuttle, often
- 55. Itty-bitty
- 56. Sondheim's barber
- 57. Multiple mos.

Down

- 1. In one's birthday suit
- 2. Exploits
- 3. Squabble
- 4. They might be taken into one's own hands
- 5. 1979 Sigourney Weaver sci-fi film
- 6. Overly
- 7. Puerile
- 8. Well-built
- 9. Free-for-all
- 10. Bio entries
- 11. Cleaved
- 12. Reputation and Red, for two
- 17. No biggie
- 21. Necklace part
- 24. Makes a decision
- 25. Muse of history
- 26. Pixel, e.g.
- 27. Case used as a standard
- 29. Whoppers
- 30. Fall behind
- 32. Number one
- 33. Gum-yielding tree
- 36. Came forth
- 38. Equal pay, e.g.
- 41. Citrus flavor
- 42. Shop
- 43. Syllabus section
- 44. Vault
- 46. New emotion introduced in "Inside Out 2"
- 47. Battle blemish
- 48. Hamiltons
- 51. Elton's john

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Sudoku

1	9	8	6		2	3	7	
6		7			3		5	
					8	6	2	
		1		9				7
			4	6		9		
		4	2				8	6
4	5	2	3					1
	8			1				3
3		9	7		4	8	6	

Easy

						6	3	7
6			3	4		1		
	4		8		1			
				3				
2	6			9		4	3	
8	3						1	2
7	8		9					
		2					9	
3		9		2	7			5

Medium

	9	8					7	
	4				8		6	9
6		7		4		5		
	3		4			1		
	7	4						6
				9			4	
			3	8		9		1
			5					
	1	9	7		4			

Hard

Complete the grid by entering one number in each square so that each row, column and square contains the numbers 1-9 only once.

Ralph's Brother: Then and now

Ramsay Archives: Sphinx Club revives 1960s arts festival

Page Two

Editorial

For better or worse, many old traditions have died at Wabash during the last few years. Last week a new innovation died that had not had time to become a tradition—*Ralph's Mother*. Whether *Mother* would have ever become a tradition is doubtful, as it was in the past created by rather anti-traditional people. Nevertheless, it did not die from the natural cause of its creators' wish for it to discontinue and be replaced by a new innovation; it died from slow asphyxiation caused by the stink of Wabash apathy.

Ralph's Mother began in 1967 when a group of Wabash students who were fed up with the lack of creativity on this campus decided to put together a time and a place where people could just come together (for free!) and have a good time. They decided their part would be to provide some good, small-time bands and maybe a speaker or two, but the bulk of the creativity was to be thrown upon the Wabash community. For want of a better name, they decided to call the event *Ralph's Mother*. For the first couple of years, Wabash responded admirably to requests for money, food, talent, and other things necessary to put together a *Mother*. The students formed a group called *Ralph's Mother Productions* and obtained more money from the Student Senate.

Ralph's Mother became such a success that more innovations were created—*Harold J. Groovy* and the *Air Fair*. All such events relied on the initiative of the Wabash community. They consisted of such simple things as jug and rock bands, poetry reading, and just general rapping, but they were always free and always provided something to do in Crawfordsville on a Saturday night.

This year some of the students who had been the leaders behind other *Ralph Mothers* tried to start something again. They tried announcements in the bulletins, articles in the *Bachelor* like "Hart on Mother," and other means to get the campus moving. Nothing worked. Everybody assumed *Ralph's Mother* would happen all by itself. As it turned out, it wouldn't.

The students behind *Mother* gave up. Then, a few weeks ago, they began to be pressured by people to come up with something to do on the Saturday after the *Emerson, Lake, and Palmer* and *Johnny Winter* concert on Friday, May 21. The students decided they could get some bands to play on the mall and call it *Mother*. They went to the Student Senate to try and get some money, but the Senate said it was holding back on granting money in case the *Emerson, Lake, and Palmer* thing fell through. With no money and nobody interested in doing anything themselves, the *Mother* backers called it quits for good.

Why did *Ralph's Mother* die? Mainly because Wabash students have decided it is easier to let other people provide our own fun, to attract big name rock groups who will take thousands of dollars from us for an hour and a half of entertainment, to do other things which cost lots of money for little benefit to the college as a whole. Perhaps when students realize its a lot more fun and a lot cheaper to work for and put on your own fun, *Ralph's Mother* will be resurrected. The ways things look now, though, that happening in the near future seems highly unlikely.

J.B.B.

'Ralph's Mother' Brings Wabash Concentrated Entertainment Event

Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana, April 19, 1968

Number 24



Bill Koller, Steve Scheidt, and Dean MacDougall prepare for Ralph's Mother which is to begin this afternoon at 4 p.m. on the Mall.

Ralph's Mother Will Arrive At 4 p. m. With Hours Of Non-stop Entertainment

Ralph's Mother is on her way to Wabash. The hip lady will be here tomorrow on the Mall at 4:00 p.m. Hundreds of Wabash men and students from other Indiana colleges are expected to appreciate the sights and sounds of the student-sponsored event. Non-stop fun and entertainment, provided by Wabash talent, is promised from 4:00 to 9:00 tomorrow evening.

Steve Mansfield will read some of his poetry, as will Pete Toft, Bob Evans and Stan Baker. A semi-poetic work, the "Saga of a Male" will be presented for the first time anywhere by a Wabash man who would not give his name.

As a special surprise the "Finchley Brothers" with Crazy George will supply an initial two hours of electric rock sound described as "very freaky and very good." Following the Finchley Brothers will be the Sig-Beta rock group now called "Spanish Castle Magic." Rounding out the rock sound is Phi Psi Tim Lindeman's group from Paducah, Kentucky, "Carlos Gauchos and the Jets."

Steve Scheidt will exhibit his paintings and conduct a paint-in on canvas and on Jerry Rosen's '57 Ford. Scheidt has invited everyone to "Bring your brush and dip into our paint." Also, there will be a bed race for a special secret prize. Living units are invited to bring their ste-man beds and a "mystery couple" against the clock. Three lucky couples will be married on the spot; clowns will give away suckers and balloons for the kiddies. The APO will sell cokes and WNDY will broadcast live from the Mall.

McCarthyites Open Office; Sponsor Author's Speech

Mary Beth McCarthy, niece of Senator Eugene McCarthy (D-Minn.), was guest of honor at the opening of McCarthy for President Headquarters at 109 E. Market St., Crawfordsville, on Saturday, April 13.

Carthy congratulated the Crawfordsville group and the Wabash Students on their strength and vigor. "This is all-American grass roots politics," she said. "It shows the best that is in America."

Miss McCarthy charmed about 100 guests, many of them Wabash students, as she answered questions about her famous uncle's prospects and policies.

The Crawfordsville group will sponsor the appearance tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Four-H Building of Leonard Lewin, nationally known political scientist and author, on Mc-

Two Jug Bands are featured on tomorrow's program. The first is the popular independent group, the Saga of Sugar Creek Jug Junk Society which was well received at its folk concert debut. Also playing is a promising group of Delts, The Namada Kazoo and Jug Ensemble, featuring C. Jackson Clarke on the harp.

"The Soul Impressions," after a successful appearance at Jefferson's Landing, will appear with the jazz and the soul sound. Rick Tucker, Bill Koller, Jake Esterle and Scott Crichton will sing some folk songs, while Jay Alexander will sing blues.

Most important of all, Ralph's Mother will actually appear to officiate at the event. As Dean MacDougall, one of the organizers of the event, has said, "What more could a chap want in one day? Today Ralph's Mother, tomorrow the World."

Wabash College Sphinx Club presents



Ralph's Brother



With Acts From
EMPTY
Wally's Creek
Wabash Student Mariachi

April 19th, 7:30 pm Phi Delta Theta Pit Free entry, open to all

SPORTS

Golf remains unfazed after disappointing performance

Team looks to rebound at Rhodes College Cochran Invitational before the conference tournament

SAM BENEDICT '25
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Following a hot start to the year, the Wabash College Golf Team cooled off in the wet grass of Normal, Illinois. The team followed back-to-back second place finishes with a 19th-place finish in the Illinois Wesleyan University Invitational from April 5 to April 6 at the Weibring Country Club.

"[The team] is pretty disappointed overall with the result," said Head Golf Coach Justin Kopp '21. "We finished 19th out of 37 teams and last year we finished ninth in that tournament. It was one of our better tournaments last year and it's been our worst one so far this year."

The team's middling finish is indicative of consistently average individual performances. Four out of the five team members posted two-

round total scores between 151 and 157. Furthermore, each golfer maintained a consistent single-round score around 76 over the course of both rounds. This shows that the team shouldn't be worried about extreme highs and lows, but rather emphasize the need to capitalize on opportunities when they arise and limit avoidable mistakes.

"[Afterwards] we talked and everybody said they could have played two strokes better easily both days," said Kopp. "A lot of times you say that and it's like 'maybe not,' but I feel like we all really believe that."

The top scorer for the Little Giants was Mark Poole '24 who shot a 76 in the opening round and then followed with a 75 for a two-round total of 151. This was good enough to place Poole tied for 39th out of 214 opponents in the

field. Behind Poole was Sean Bledsoe '26 who tied for 44th, Braiden Weiss '24 tied for 58th, Miles Patterson '24 tied for 95th, and Lucas Ranard '26 who finished the tournament tied for 195th.

"I don't think any of us were satisfied with our performance," said Weiss. "I know we had high hopes going into that event to leave a firm impression considering how big and strong that field was, so it was really unfortunate to leave with that [negative] feeling. In some ways, it might be a good moment to refocus us as we get closer to the conference tournament meet."

Looking ahead, the team hopes to regain their footing as they travel to Memphis, Tennessee to play in the Rhodes College Cochran Invitational on April 15 and 16. The tournament will take

place at the Colonial Country Club, which has been ranked as the fourth best golf course in Tennessee by Golf Digest. The course features a 77.2 rating, meaning a scratch golfer is expected to shoot a 77.2 or better. As host to over 30 Professional Golfers' Association events, the course will be one of the more elite courses the team competes on.

"This tournament is probably the best competition we're going to see all year and probably the best golf course we're going to play all season," said Kopp.

However, April showers pose a significant hurdle that the team will have to overcome. In preparation for their most recent tournament, the team worked to adjust when conditions become wet, muddy and unpredictable.

"Last week, we were a little more focused on getting out and playing outdoors in the cold and rain because that's what we were going to be playing in," said Kopp. "In turn, it was more about putting together a swing and trying to figure out how to play in that [poor conditions] than it was about actually getting our swings right or feeling good."

As the team is only two invitationals away from the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Conference Tournament, the question of who will fill the final spot remains. Lewis Dellinger '25, Matthew Lesniak '25, Lucas Ranard '26 and others have all remained close in competition.

"As far as that fifth spot, there's probably four or five guys who I could see being in that spot," said Kopp. "There's a lot of competition and guys are going to get opportunities over the



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Sean Bledsoe '26 prepares to putt at the Denison University Labor Day Invitational held from September 2-3, 2023 in Granville, Ohio.

next two weeks. It's all about who takes advantage of that opportunity and then how they're working in practice and just their general attitude towards the team."

Following their trip to Memphis, the Little Giants will compete in the Depauw University Invitational on April 21 in Noblesville, Indiana and then head into the NCAC Conference Tournament from May 3 through May 5.

The goal for the team is to get themselves ready to compete at a high level come time for the conference tournament. Each golfer understands the value in entering the tournament at the right time; when they're playing

their best golf. That will be the team's focus come April 21 when they face off against the Tigers.

"It's true that winning isn't the bar for success for me or the team for that matter," said Weiss. "This game is very much so a 'one foot in front of the other' pursuit."

"I have to really focus on the little things and getting back to playing golf the right way so I can roll into conference with some confidence," explained Weiss. "I think everyone on the team would ascribe to that as well, even the guys coming off some of their better results at IWU."

Wabash

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New rule keeps rugby out of conference tournament

ETHAN WALLACE '25
SPORTS EDITOR

The Wabash rugby team, reigning champions of the Allegheny Rugby Union (ARU) Developmental 7s Division, will not be allowed to compete in the conference tournament this season. In previous seasons, all members of the ARU were allowed entry to the conference tournament. This season, only twelve teams will be allowed to compete, and Wabash will not be one of them.

The new change comes after the conference has massively expanded the number of included teams. To prevent an unmanageable number of entries into the conference tournament, the ARU put a twelve-team cap on the tournament. The conference repurposed their tournament seeding point system to determine who would be allowed to participate. However, the seeding system was not designed for that purpose and doesn't perfectly fit its new role.

After the spring season, Little Giants finished with the 15th-most points in the conference. They earned one point out of their nine points in the Midwest-East Small College Qualifier. The other eight came in their tournament at Taylor University on April 6.

There are three ways for teams to earn points in the system. Winning any official match is worth four points, drawing is worth two points and a loss by fewer than seven points earns one point.

The existing setup doesn't take into account depth of schedule or number of games played, meaning teams who simply play more matches have better odds of reaching the tournament. This was the main factor that kept Wabash out of the tournament, as they were forced to cancel their home tournament earlier in the season, leaving them with just seven games played during the 2024 spring season.

"Unlike last year, we were unable to get in a tournament before spring break," said team secretary James Wallace '26. "Last year, I believe we went to at least four tournaments including our

own. This year, we only went to two. And that just simply didn't give us enough opportunity to score points."

Under the new system, teams points from the fall no longer roll over to count towards the spring total.

"This year, the points from the fall season did not matter," said Wallace. "Even though we were the conference champs for sevens in the fall, that had no consideration on the spring season."

"If we had been more aware of this change and our placing in the tournament, we may have played a little bit differently."

-James Wallace '26

What makes the exclusion of Wabash from the tournament stand out the most is the fact that it didn't come down to their level of performance. The team could have scheduled more matches had they known that it would be an issue.



PHOTOS BY ELIJAH GREENE '25
Wabash rugby won the Allegheny Rugby Union Conference Championships on November 4, 2023 at Little Giant Stadium.

"If we had been more aware of this change and our placing in the tournament, we may have played a little bit differently," said Wallace.

Rugby also only played their full starting-seven lineup in two of their matches because they prioritized developing younger players. The team could have very likely scored more points in the games they did play if they had a better understanding of how the rules would impact their season.

"There were a few moments at Taylor where if we started a different seven guys, there was a chance that we made it into the top 12," said Wallace. "But at the end of the day, everyone got a chance to play on that pitch."

While they are unable to compete for a back-to-back title in the ARU conference tournament, the Rugby team will not count the season as a complete loss. They brought a huge class of recruits and were able to develop talent to pave the way for their future. The team will adjust their scheduling to better take advantage of the new rule system for next season.

Volleyball finishes season on the road

Winningest season in program history draws to a close



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27
Luke Davis '24 lofts a ball over two net defenders in the Little Giants' home loss to Calvin University on March 15, 2024 at Chadwick Court.

NATE JOVEN '26
STAFF WRITER

With their best-ever season already in hand, Wabash volleyball set their eyes on the final weekend of play in hopes of tacking on two more wins to their season total. The team traveled to Michigan on April 5-6 to take on conference opponents Olivet and Adrian. The Little Giants finished the weekend with one win and one loss to round out the team's season.

At the University of Olivet, Wabash put on a dominant performance, earning their final victory of the season. Finding their groove, the Little Giants won the first set 25-21. Wabash carried this momentum into the second set again winning 25 points to 21. In the third set, the Comets of Olivet fought to win their first set of the match 32-30. Winning the fourth set 25-20, the Little Giants closed out the match three sets to one.

"The team fought hard against both Olivet and Adrian," said libero Chris Board '27. "The only set we dropped to Olivet went into deep overtime and we ended the match with a significant lead."

The next day, Wabash faced off against Adrian College in a match that would decide which of the two teams would finish fifth in the conference. After falling to the Bulldogs in the first two sets, the Little Giants

showed life, winning the third set 25 points to 20. Wabash was eventually defeated after four sets 3-1.

Wabash concluded a season marked by progressive improvement. With three wins and six losses in the Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League (MCVL), the Little Giants finished sixth in the conference.

"We ended the season positive overall, giving us our first winning season."

-Zev Wolverton '27

Not only was this the team's best performance within the conference, but the team also saw great success outside the conference. With an overall record of 15-11, Wabash surpassed its previous best record of 9-19.

"We ended the season positive overall, giving us our first winning season," said Zev Wolverton '27, "We also won the most conference matches in program history."

Looking forward, the team will retain much of its young, starting roster. At the end of the season, as five of the seven starters were underclassmen.

"Although we didn't make the top four in the conference, it only gives us more

motivation to come back next year to earn our place in the tournament," said Board.

"As someone who didn't get as much court time, I hope to make my presence known as a full-time starter next year," added Wolverton, "I have extremely high hopes for the 2025 season and I'm ready to make Wabash proud."

The Little Giants fought through adversity to find success this season. A number of injuries have afflicted the starting roster.

"I believe our performance in conference is due to multiple injuries," said Shad Wilson '27. "It shows that we need more depth in our rosters so we don't have to rely so much on one player."

"When our team was at full strength, we were able to beat Wittenberg and a lot of other great teams," said Wolverton, "I look forward to the progression into next year and hope we can get some really strong new guys on the team to replace the seniors who left."

Although they did not find their way into the conference tournament this year, the Little Giants have advanced as a volleyball program. With a strong group, Wabash has found its footing.

Better days ahead for LAX after taking on conference leaders

After losses to Kenyon, Denison and Ohio Wesleyan Lacrosse looks forward to Hiram

MALACHI MCROBERTS '27
STAFF WRITER

Wabash lacrosse finished their run through the gauntlet of top North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) teams in a 17-4 defeat against Ohio Wesleyan. Held on Tuesday, April 9, the match signified the end of the most difficult stretch of their 2024 schedule. Kenyon, Denison and Ohio Wesleyan are all contenders for the best lacrosse program in the NCAC, and each school participated in delivering three consecutive losses to the Little Giants. Wabash now stands with a still stellar record of 7-4 with five games left to go.

"It has been a rough stretch for a bunch of games," said lacrosse Head Coach Chris Burke. "When you go into a game 7-1 and the outcome is not what you want, it can be rough. It could affect your confidence a little bit. We need to experience getting beat like that. Our guys have responded very well to these games so far."

Although losing three straight games is certainly not a fun experience, the Little Giants have several positive takeaways. First, Wabash has found their goalie. Colin Krekeler '27 has been outstanding throughout this season. In conference play, Krekeler has averaged 17 saves per game, which included a career-high 22 saves coming against Ohio Wesleyan.

For some perspective, only five players at the DIII level



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27
Quinn Fitzgerald '25 attacks the Big Red defense in the Little Giants' home loss to Denison on April 6, 2024 at Fischer Field.

are currently averaging over 17 saves per game this season.

Although Krekeler's average conference goals-allowed per game stands at 20, that number does not account for the sheer volume of shots allowed against him. Krekeler faced a blistering 62.6 shot attempts per game in Wabash's last three games, and a lot of those shots have come from directly in front of the cage, which makes Krekeler's save numbers look even more impressive.

Krekeler didn't just come out of nowhere. He commanded a Hamilton South-

eastern defense to a Indiana 1A state championship appearance, in which Hamilton South-Eastern fell short by just one goal.

"The transition from high school to college has been quite dramatic," said Krekeler. "In high school the shooters didn't really aim, rather they just tried to shoot hard. But stepping into college, the kids not only shoot hard but they're accurate. So, being able to react quickly and get to the ball either with my stick or body has become a little more difficult but I still feel confident facing any shooter."

A second takeaway is

that this Wabash team is incredibly young and full of potential. This year's defensive first unit is composed entirely of underclassmen, only two of which are sophomores. The two sophomores commanding the defense are Bryce Poling '26 and Lucas Cunningham '26. Although this team is young, they already have built chemistry, and they will only keep improving.

"The chemistry on the defense is great," said Krekeler. "We've spent so much time together and have already been through so much together which has made us closer. In

my eyes there are three main leaders on the defense Bryce Polling, Lucas Cunningham, and myself. Bryce and Lucas have the most experience in the defense, so when something goes wrong everyone goes to them for help"

Their inexperience is sometimes on display, especially when facing really challenging opponents. Mistakes have appeared in early or mistimed defensive slides, but the young players are quick learners

"We are young and we are going to make mistakes," said Burke. "When we step out onto the field against a team like Denison and you

don't really realize how good they are, you play them. But we learn from those kinds of mistakes."

On offense young players have continued to step up. Freshman midfielder Will Sorg '27 broke out in Wabash's match against Denison University. Sorg used his physical presence to bully Denison's defensive midfielders getting to the cage and put the ball in the back of the net, which helped earn him four goals.

"He's been kind of waiting for a come-out game and he did that," said Burke. "He was playing very confident. He really needed a game where he could come out and take over the game."

Another freshman midfielder contributing to this offense is Blake Stephens '27. Stephens stepped into the crease front row of offense, with the injury of Jake Pippin '26. Stephens has primarily played the role of an offensive midfielder this season, but, upon stepping in, he contributed three goals as well as two assists across three games.

The opening gauntlet of NCAC titans is finally over, and now the Little Giants have their eyes set on their next few matchups against the Hiram Terriers, the Dannies of Greencastle and the Oberlin Yeomen.

Tennis battles hard through conference opening

Little Giants take down Wooster and Oberlin before falling to DePauw

ETHAN WALLACE '25
SPORTS EDITOR

A 2-1 start to the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) season puts Wabash tennis on track for the best conference season in recent years. Wabash defeated both Wooster and Oberlin in matches on April 6-7, before traveling to Greencastle to face DePauw in the rivalry match.

The Little giant opened their conference season with a win over Wooster at Collett Tennis center on April 6. Although the 5-4 finish makes the match look close in the stat books, a closer look shows that Wabash hopped out to a 5-1 lead over the Fighting Scots.

“We fought to the same extent last year, but this year we took a step forward in believing that we could win.”

-Coach Daniel Bickett

The next day, Wabash defeated the Oberlin Yeomen in another 5-4 match. After losing to Oberlin in the regular season last year, this win shows progress for the team. Capturing two of the three doubles matches, Wabash overcame what has been a bit of a weakness for them so far.

Cole Shifferly '26 went 4-0 in the matches winning both of his matches at 1-singles and both at 1-doubles. For his efforts he was named NCAC Tennis Athlete of the Week. “I was really pleased



with the performance,” said William Grennon '24. “We were able to put away both Oberlin and Wooster. That is a really new dynamic for our team to be in—being the team to beat. And guys like Cole Shifferly really stepped up to defend our home courts.”

After opening the NCAC season with a pair of wins, the team set their eyes on a bigger prize, the rival DePauw Tigers. On April 10 in Greencastle, the two teams faced off for a crack at what should be the third-place spot in the NCAC this season.

While the Little Giants were unable to capture the win, losing 6-3, they showed clear improvement over their performance last season. This continues the trend of the team creeping up on DePauw in the last few seasons.

The team carried the memory of last year's deceptively-close 7-2 loss into the match, showing that they had a real opportunity to win the match.

“What made the biggest difference tonight was our belief,” said Bickett. “We

never let the score affect us. We fought to the same extent last year, but this year we took a step forward in believing that we could win.”

The contest opened on a frightening note, as it looked like the Tigers would take all-three doubles matches.

At 3-doubles Tharakesh Ashokar '26 and Rafael Rin '27 were defeated 5-8, followed by 2-doubles Cole Borden '24 and Ethan Koeneman '26 who fell 4-8. Shifferly and Augusto Ghidini '27 playing 1-doubles were on the ropes but bounced back to capture

the match in an airtight 9-7 tiebreaker.

Down 2-1 Wabash was slow to start in singles as all but Ashokar dropped their first set. But instead of faltering under the high-pressure at their rivals' home courts, the scarlet tennis team bounced back to put the match back into the balance. Shifferly (1-singles), Rin (5-singles) and Vittorio Bona '27 (6-singles) claimed their second sets.

“I think we were a bit better positioned to compete in the rivalry environment,” said Grennon. “Tennis is a sport where

GRAPHIC BY ETHAN WALLACE '25 a little bit of nerves can make a big difference and we are a year more experienced. I think that made the difference”

A pair of wins from Ashokar and Rin, when the Little Giants trailed 4-1 brought the match around to 4-3, with Wabash needing to win both unresolved games to take the match. The matches went back-and-forth for a few sets, before the Tigers eventually captured both.

After the match Wabash tennis moved to 10-7 (2-1 NCAC) on the season. They have already shown growth over the previous years and

continue to climb the rankings of the NCAC. If they continue their trajectory they will soon be one of the best teams in the region.

“I would like to see us continue the same energy, fight, and belief that we've displayed to open the conference season,” said Bickett. “When we do that we are a tough team to beat.”

Next for the team, they will face Ohio Wesleyan and Wittenberg on April 13 and 14. While they won both matches last season, Wabash will need to be at their best once again, as the NCAC is a constantly shifting landscape that attracts excellent talent every year.

“I really think it's a chance to test our fortitude and ability to maintain focus,” said Grennon. “Playing three conference matches in one week is a grind, and I think both of these matches are opportunities to fine-tune the things we want to improve on before the conference tournament.”



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27
Cole Shifferly '27 waits at the net in a doubles match against DePauw University on April 10, 2024 in Greencastle, Indiana.



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27
The Little Giants fell 3-6 to DePauw University on April 10, 2024 in Greencastle, Indiana.

Track & field excels at the Huntsman Family Invitational

NICK WANGLER '27
SPORTS WRITER

For the first and only time this outdoor season, the Little Giants got the chance to run in front of their home fans. The annual Huntsman Family Invitational, which was held on April 6, featured seven total teams.

The meet was extremely competitive. Six out of the seven squads had at least one first-place finish, three of which had at least three, Wabash included.

With only three more chances to run before the conference tournament, Wabash is trending in the right direction in a crucial time. The team seems to be tying all the strings together to put their best foot forward in the outdoor conference championship. Wabash had three first-place finishes, supported by five second-place finishes, two coming from the track and three coming from the field.

“We had a lot of good performances,” said Head Coach Clyde Morgan. “I don't think any of them were surprises because of our preparation. Overall, I was pleased. We had some hiccups and that's part of it. We're going to have those things. We just picked them up and we moved on to the next event.”

The athletes are shifting their focus more to the team rather than themselves as the conference is just around the corner.

“The team is firing on all cylinders. We are looking to compete for each other rather than for ourselves,” said Quinn Sholar '26.

Some returning faces were also spotted on the track this weekend. Haiden Diemer-McKinney '26, who finished third at indoor nationals in the 800m race last season but has been out most of this season with an injury, was back on the track and is set to run in the upcoming



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27
Jake Oostman '25 almost clears the bar at the Huntsman Family Invitational on April 6, 2024 at the Huntsman Outdoor Track.

meet in Greencastle. He will be a huge asset for the team heading into the home stretch of the season.

Headlining the tremendous efforts from the team overall was Takeshi Greiner '24. Following two second-place finishes, both being personal bests, Greiner earned NCAC Athlete of the Week. With a time of 56.86 in the hurdles, it currently ranks second best in the NCAC rankings for this season. He then followed this performance with another personal best in the 110-meter hurdles with a quick time of 15.65.

Although there is only one meet that is hosted

on Wabash's campus, it is deemed to be extremely helpful for the athletes. Not only is it nice to be able to refrain from traveling, but the athletes also get to showcase their skills in front of a home crowd. Just like in all sports, home-field advantage is a real thing as the crowd is louder for your team rather than others. Feeling this energy and support from the fans at this pivotal point in the season might boost the Little Giants in weeks to come.

“Finally having the opportunity to compete at home is a very refreshing feeling,” said Sawyer Stuckey '26. “Having the

support from the Wabash community helps us when we're faced with any adversity during competi-

tion. That support helped drive a lot of our guys to huge personal bests. It's important to have this momentum heading into the meet down south this weekend. We plan to do the same thing we've been doing all year.”

Next, the team will travel south to Greencastle to compete at the Indiana DIII Championships at DePauw University on Saturday, April 13. While a contest at DePauw would be marked on the schedule for weeks in advance for many sports, track doesn't plan on treating the meet differently than any other.

“We're not going to blow up our training for DePauw. We'll see them at the conference championships,” said Coach Morgan.

Preparation for the meet might look the same, but

making sure that athletes are performing at their highest level in Greencastle is still a goal for the team. The meet will be scored, so the team needs to put some points up in order for the overall placement to be high.

“We're not running everyone,” said Morgan. “So, we still want to perform well. We're trying to get some championship-level performances from some of the guys.”

Only three meets remain between the Little Giants and the North Coast Athletic Conference Outdoor Championships. The focus now has to be to stay healthy and ready to compete in the upcoming weeks.

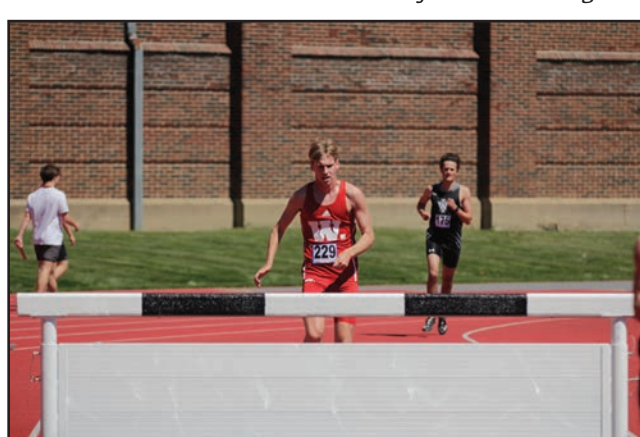


PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27
Ty Murphy '27 runs the 3,000m steeplechase at the Huntsman Family Invitational on April 6, 2024 at the Huntsman Outdoor Track.

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DOUBLE-HEADER AT DEPAUW

1



VS.



1

Game 1

Game 2

Wabash	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	5	8	12	0
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
DePauw	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	5	1

Wabash	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
DePauw	0	0	0	2	3	0	2	1	x	8	8	0

GRAPHICS BY ETHAN WALLACE '25

Ups and downs on the diamond

Wabash goes 1-1 against DePauw, shows signs of inconsistency



PHOTO BY JAMES SZALKIE '25

AJ Reid '24 steps up to bat in the top of the third inning in the first of two games against DePauw University on April 9, 2024 in Greencastle, Indiana. The Little Giants went 1-1 against the Tigers.

HUTCH NORRIS '27
STAFF WRITER

After a slew of canceled games, the Little Giants faced a dense four-day, five-game schedule. The Little Giants started with a weekend series against the Asbury Eagles on Saturday, April 6, and Sunday, April 7 at Goodrich Ballpark. Asbury had an equally rocky start to their season as both teams came into the series sitting around at .500.

The Little Giants managed to fight off a late-game comeback by Asbury after they took a commanding 6-1 lead in the bottom of the seventh inning. This came on four combined RBIs by the usual suspects: AJ Reid '24, Kamden Earley '24 and Benjamin Henke '26.

“We showed in the game how we could be as a team, but in the second game, we struggled to find the bats.”

-Will Phillips '25

Grant Stratton '25 picked up his first win of the season after pitching five and two-thirds scoreless innings for the Little Giants in the opening game of the series. Stratton showed the peak of Wabash's coaching philosophy that Head Coach Jake Martin '03 has echoed throughout the season, giving up one free base.

“Our goal is to limit the free bases and make the other teams earn their hits and their runs every-time,” said Martin.

However, this fortune was not found in the other games of the weekend. The Little Giants split the doubleheader on Saturday after failing to capitalize on a single by Will Phillips '25 in the bottom of the ninth. The Little Giants were limited to three hits

all game as the bats cooled off from their hot opening game start.

Robbie Manuzzi '25 made it into the 5th inning before being pulled for left-hander Gavin Pierson '25. Nick Wangler '27 was a bright spot for the bullpen as he threw 1.2 innings of relief, giving up two runs, but zero earned runs. The freshman has continued to capitalize on early opportunities and has been a consistent piece to complement the starting rotation.

This performance was followed up by a 12-inning heartbreak on Sunday. The Little Giants gave up the tying run in the top of the ninth, in the middle of a five-inning scoreless skid. Then Asbury put up six runs in the top of the twelfth to complete the series victory and put the Little Giants below .500 before their trip south.

After a frustrating performance against Asbury, the Little Giants traveled to the school down south on Tuesday, April 9 for a midweek doubleheader against the Dannies. The Little Giants looked to pick up their first conference win after they dropped two against Denison a week ago.

As the Little Giants prepared for their matchup against the Dannies, the team noticed inconsistencies in the team's performance this year. The Tigers are second in the conference for pitching and fielding but have fallen to last in conference batting performance.

Caleb Everson '26 capitalized on the Tigers' poor offensive production with a final pitching line of six innings pitched, one earned run allowed with four hits, five walks given up and six strikeouts.

“We came out hot in the first game and took it to them,” said Everson. “It felt good to help the team win as always. Getting the ball in a rivalry game always adds another level

of intensity to the game, which I enjoyed.”

At the noon start, the Little Giants came out to an early 1-0 lead in the top of the first with a Reece Bauer '24 solo home run. Then Reid came in with a cushioning solo homer of his own. Reid would go on to set a season record of six RBIs in one game after walking in one more in the seventh and hitting a grand slam in the bottom of the ninth to secure the first game of the series for the Little Giants.

Unfortunately, the bats would run cold in the second game of the afternoon, when the Little Giants recorded only 3 hits in the contest, tying the season-low set against Misericordia on March 8. The Dannies pounced on this opportunity and scored

eight unanswered runs to split the series.

“We fought hard in the second game but hits just didn't fall and that's baseball,” said Everson. “We all feel really good about conference play the rest of the way and are ready to bring it to Hiram over the upcoming weekend.”

“We showed in the game how we could be as a team, but in the second game, we struggled to find the bats,” said Phillips. “The pitching overall was good, but the bats could improve.”

The Little Giants will be traveling to Hiram, Ohio to face off against the Hiram Terriers in an April 13 doubleheader against the Terriers.

GRAND SLAM IN GREENCASTLE



PHOTO BY KYLE FOSTER '27

AJ Reid '24 hit a grand slam in the ninth inning against DePauw University on April 9, 2024 in Greencastle, Indiana.

Wallace: NCAC baseball power rankings

ETHAN WALLACE '25
SPORTS EDITOR

Another week of North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) baseball brought an upheaval of the power rankings. From shocking to mediocre to borderline unnoticeable, every statistic available has been carefully compiled into the ultimate guide for the conference baseball landscape.

1. Denison University 22-3 (5-1 NCAC)

Our conference frontrunners showed a hint of humanity when they lost to Ohio Wesleyan. On top of that, they haven't been teams out of the water like they were expected to. It's difficult to imagine them not winning the regular season. But there looks to be a handful of teams who could post a tournament win against the Big Red. An upcoming game against Wooster will prove if the Big Red have cooled down since either nationally-ranked beginnings.

2. Wittenberg University 12-12 (3-1 NCAC)

With their only loss so far being against Wooster, the Tigers are shaping up to be a formidable force in the conference. They still lead batting by Earned Run Average (ERA). Their .347 ERA gives them a bigger gap between themselves and second-place Denison (.324 ERA), than the gap between Denison and fifth-place Hiram (.305 ERA). With 27 homers they've hit the long ball almost twice as many times as next-place Kenyon. The team still sits second-to-last in pitching and fielding. With that combination some of their final scores look more like football stats

3. Kenyon College 16-7 (3-3 NCAC)

Starting to show that they can topple solid teams, the Owls will have a shot at taking second place in *The Bachelor's* power rankings when they take on 22nd-ranked Case Western Reserve University. It won't count towards their conference record, but a win will prove that they are the real deal. After losing to Denison slightly better than Wabash did, so they get to be above them for now. The team went 1-1 against Wooster, but at this point, who hasn't?

4. Wabash College 11-12 (1-3 NCAC)

The Little Giants have moved towards the middle of the standing in pitching, fielding and batting. Inconsistency dropped them down a spot in the rankings, after they followed up their 8-1 win against the Dannies with an 0-8 loss. On the bright side, Caleb Everson '26 has turned from solid pitcher into a certified ace. The team, who have won only two of their last seven games, seems to be at a tipping point. If they want to stay at the top of the power rankings, they need to be able to go 2-0 against teams who aren't even in the top-half.

5. College of Wooster 13-11 (3-3 NCAC)

“One for you and one for me,” has become the Fighting Scots motto in the NCAC. So far they have gone 1-1 against Oberlin, Wittenberg and Kenyon. Picking up wins against top-ranked teams is great for them, but too many teams have shown they can beat Wooster for them to be considered a true contender. If they can win one of their two games against Denison over the weekend, they'll hop into the top four in the standings.

6. Ohio Wesleyan University 13-10 (3-4 NCAC)

Apparently OWU reads *The Bachelor*. After last week's rendition of power rankings recommended that the Battling Bishops “bounce back in a big way,” the gumptious squad went out and beat the Big Red on their own field. They lost the second game, but who really cares? If they can make Denison bleed, they can beat anyone in the NCAC.

7. DePauw University 12-9 (3-1 NCAC)

A Greencastle Tigers' baseball skillset is the exact opposite of the Ohio variant. DePauw ranks second in the NCAC at both fielding and pitching, while sitting at the very bottom of the batting statistics leaderboard. Well, really they are tied with Denison by ERA in pitching, where their 3.80 is a whole run better than third-place Kenyon (4.97 ERA). But what they make up in pitching and fielding, the Dannies lack in hand-eye coordination at the plate. The Tigers are last in batting average and slugging percentage. They might be able to return to the sixth spot in the power rankings if they beat OWU over the weekend.

8. Hiram College 12-11 (2-2 NCAC)

With what could be their only two NCAC wins behind them, the Terriers get to buckle in for the rest of the conference season. Next up for them will be the Little Giants, who have to be eyeing Hiram's NCAC-worst 6.44 ERA with malicious intent. The Terriers will need to be at their best if they want to prevent a Little Giant conga line that wraps around the bases.

9. Oberlin College 11-14 (1-3 NCAC)

After fulfilling their 1-1 obligation against Wooster, the poor Yeomen embarked on a five-game losing streak with no obvious end in sight. They do have the best rookie in DIII baseball, Kyle Baxt, but one man can only do so much. Statistics show that these Yeomen don't do anything particularly well, but they do one thing particularly poorly. They can't catch the ball, sitting last in fielding percentage in the conference. If only they could find a company that produces jumbo-sized mitts, they might be higher up the list.