



Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1967

Class Agents

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Dear Classmates,

We survived the Ides of March, now we must beware the Ides of April!

There is a lot to cover in this letter, so please get comfortable with a cup of coffee or TWR and read on!

Wabash Athletic Accomplishments

NCAC STANDINGS: As of this writing, Wabash leads the NCAC in men's sports total points heading into the Spring season.

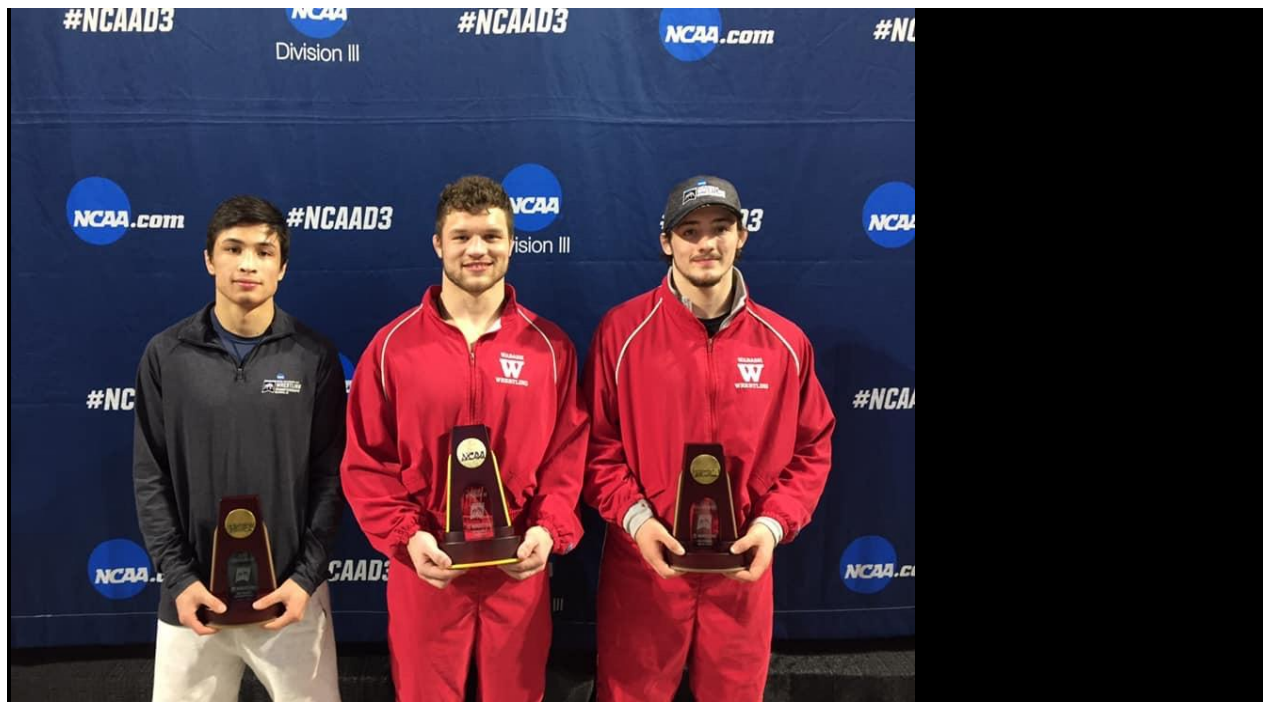
TRACK AND FIELD: The indoor conference Track and Field meet was held several weeks ago and the Little Giants won the NCAC title by a wide margin.

Ohio Wesleyan was our top challenger, but they came in a very distant second. Two Wabash students qualified for the D3 national finals. [Preston Whaley](#) turned in a record-setting jump on his final attempt in the first flight of the triple jump to earn a seventh-place finish overall and capture All-America honors at the 2019 NCAA DIII Indoor Track and Field Championship Meet.

Whaley broke his own school record with a leap of 14.55 meters (47 feet, 9 inches) to post the top effort by the ten competitors in the first flight to secure one of nine spots in the finals to earn three extra attempts. He turned in marks of 13.96 meters and 14.19 meters in the finals to secure seventh place in his first trip to the national championship meet. Whaley's jump broke his previous school record of 14.27 meters (46 feet, 10 inches), a mark that allowed him to earn the last of 20 qualifying spots at the championship meet.

Wabash hurdler [RaShawn Jones](#) also qualified for the championship meet and was scheduled to compete in the preliminary round of the 60-meter hurdles on Friday. An injury prevented Jones from running. He earned All-America honors in the 110-meter hurdles at the 2018 NCAA DIII Outdoor Track and Field Championships last May.

WRESTLING: There is no conference wrestling tournament, but Wabash won the Regional tournament of 19 teams and qualified six of ten wrestlers for the National Finals in early March.



Schurg Wins 174-Pound National Championship

Champagne, Hatch Add All-America Honors With Top-Eight Finishes

Darden Schurg rallied to force overtime in his 174-pound championship bout then scored a takedown in overtime to win the national title and earn All-America honors for the second consecutive season. Kyle Hatch and Carlos Champagne joined Schurg as All-Americans with their top-eight finishes in Saturday's finals of the 2019 NCAA Division III Wrestling National Championship Tournament held at the Berglund Center in Roanoke, Virginia.

Schurg wrestled Mount Union's Jairod James in Saturday night's championship round. James scored a takedown late in the first period to take a 2-0 lead. Schurg scored an escape in the second period to cut the lead to 2-1 before James moved in front 3-1 with an escape in the opening portion of the third period.

Trailing 3-1, Schurg took advantage of two penalties on James in the final 30 seconds of regulation. The first came on the second stalling call of the match against James to make the score 3-2. Schurg tied the match at 3-3 when James was called for an illegal hold with ten seconds on the clock to force overtime. Schurg wasted no time in the extra period, scoring a takedown in the first nine seconds to earn the sudden victory win and capture the national title.

Schurg entered the tournament as the number one seed and has spent the entire season as the top-ranked wrestler in his weight class. He placed fourth at 174 pounds at last year's championship tournament. Schurg is the first national champion for Wabash since Riley Lefever won his fourth consecutive title in 2017.

Schurg advanced to the championship bout after scoring an 11-6 victory over Daniel Kilroy from The College of New Jersey in Saturday morning's semifinal round.

Hatch wrestled to sixth place at 165 pounds to earn All-America honors for the second consecutive season after placing eighth at 157 pounds last season. He dropped into the consolation portion of the 165-pound bracket Saturday after suffering a 9-7 loss in overtime in his semifinal bout against top-seeded Lucas Jeske, the eventual national champion in the weight class. Hatch lost in the consolation semifinal by a 10-6 score to Mark Choiniski from Wisconsin-Oshkosh in the consolation semifinal before losing 9-4 to Nicholas Bonomo from Wisconsin-Whitewater in the finals.

Champagne placed seventh at 125 pounds in his first appearance at the national tournament to earn All-America honors. Champagne wrestled out of the consolation bracket after taking loss in Friday's opening day of competition. He dropped his first match against Peter Del Gallo from Southern Maine Saturday morning by a score of 10-5 to move into the seventh-place match in Saturday afternoon's finals. Champagne defeated Eron Haynes from Nebraska Wesleyan 9-6 in the finals to capture seventh place and a spot on the All-America top-eight platform during Saturday night's awards ceremony.

Wabash collected three All-America awards for the second consecutive season. The Little Giants have produced at least one All-American every year since 2011.

Wabash scored a total of 42 points to finish in a tie with Millikin University for ninth place out of a total of 74 teams competing at the national championship tournament. Augsburg won the team championship with a total of 130 points.



WHERE IS WALDO?

Apparently at the D3 National Wrestling Finals with Wally!

The Wabash contingent of wrestlers, families, alumni, and friends was well over 200. In fact, we had our own reserved box seat section!

Academic Accomplishments

(Note: Many thanks to Jay Fisher '66 for preparing the following information. This is not plagiarism – I have his permission to repeat this, giving credit to the “original thinker”.)

It is important to understand that Wabash is also All American academically and in preparation of our undergrads to become future leaders. Here are some bullet points of a few examples which should make you proud to be a Little Giant:

- **FULBRIGHTS.** Wabash is in the elite group of the top 40 institutions of higher learning in the award of Fulbright English Teaching Awards. This year Wabash has 6 Fulbrights ... and over the last six years the total number is 38. (To appreciate the “All American” aspect of this ... just appreciate that we are a small school with almost 1,000 undergrads.)
- **RHODES.** Wabash has 9 Rhodes Scholars.
- **PRINCETON REVIEW.** Princeton Review reviewed 650 colleges and universities.
 - Wabash has an overall placement of 9 Top 20 rankings in the Princeton Review.
 - #2 in Best Alumni Network (**THIS MEANS YOU !!!**),
 - #3 in best Internship Opportunities (**THIS ALSO MEANS YOU... AS ALUMNI ARE INSTRUMENTAL IN FINDING AND ESTABLISHING THESE OPPORTUNITIES!!! ... KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK ALUMNI !!!**).
 - The Schroeder Career Center is ranked in the top 10 in the country!!!
 - # 29 out of the top 200 in Best Value Colleges.

- **ALMA MATH COMPETITION.** The Wabash team of 3 math majors **WON** the Alma MATH Competition (out of 64 teams nationally).
- **WALLY'S.** There is a new addition to the Sparks Center. **WALLY'S!** For us Neanderthal's, it is in the former Fobes Lounge (to the left as you walk into the facility). It has been reinvented into a new casual restaurant. It features brews by companies owned by Little Giants (Sun King and Triton Rail-splitters). Open Wednesdays when there are home athletic events as well as Thursday thru Sunday.

Perspective

All of the athletic accomplishments are terrific. But what is possibly more important is the fact that these successes are achieved by very bright young men with aspirations of making a difference in this world when they graduate. We may not see many of them in professional athletics, but we will read and hear about even more from these Wallies in their chosen careers in the years to come.

I think you get the idea: Wabash men excel at everything. Please go to the Wabash website for more details on everything 'Bash!

A "Secret Event"

We are alerting you to an important event that will likely be occurring in April and **WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO PARTICIPATE** as well as to get others around you to participate.

The Annual Fund is vitally important in Wabash budgeting its costs. The Annual Fund Goal set by the College has been met through the generosity of the **ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS.**

Please be alert for more information, coming soon!

Please join in!!

Classmate News

• From our monthly contributor, Rick:

I am pleased to report an occasion of “six degrees of separation” occurring here in Indiana. The photo is of one of my granddaughters, Kelsey, who was selected to be on a fifth grade “select travel squad” for a lacrosse team. She was picked to be one of two goalies. A problem arose in that the travel squad had to provide its own equipment, and my granddaughter did not have a goalie stick. They set out to find one on a reasonable basis by looking online. In a short time, they acquired the pictured goalie stick from a Wabash alumnus who was selling off “stuff”, including his former roommate’s sports equipment. So now my granddaughter is the proud owner of a stick that once served the lacrosse team at Wabash. She knows she is not eligible to attend of course, but is a fan anyway, as indicted by the photo.



And no, I do not play, never did; to the best of my knowledge it is a more refined form of soccer played with a smaller, harder ball, and sticks; but at least a faster game and with more action at the goal, so somewhat better than watching paint dry impression of many soccer games!

And on the eligibility side, my older grandson recently placed 4th and 5th in the state as a part of two different high school swimming relays; and is reported to have had a conversation with the coach at Wabash. A year and a half away from that decision, but time flies. And I am lobbying.

Regards, Rick Helm

• Sad to report that we lost another classmate:

Dear alumni,

I have to give you notice that my husband Walter Herwarth Lechler passed away in May last year.

Please refrain from sending me more letters.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely
Gabriele Lechler

• In February Mary Ann and I attempted to escape piles of “global warming” on the North Coast of America by driving to Florida for biking on Rails-to-Trails. The trails are fun, so long as one avoids the ‘gators and snakes! We have made this excursion for several winters to enjoy the sun and surf, as well as the biking. Unfortunately, this year we were greeted with non-beach weather. Fortunately,

we had packed northern gear so we bundled up and rode about 30 miles a day, for just over a week, and kept on the heavier gear for walks on the beach.

• As Earl and I request in every letter: PLEASE SEND YOUR NEWS AND COMMENTS! We are not the only Class Agents who write terrific letters, so I encourage you to check out the missives of other classes, especially those near '67: <https://wabash.edu/alumni/notes>

Attempts at Humor re: AGE

Kidnappers are not very interested in us.

No one expects us to run--anywhere.

Younger people call at 8 PM and ask, "Did I wake you?"

People no longer view us as hypochondriacs.

There is nothing left to learn the hard way.

Things we buy now won't wear out.

We can eat "supper" at 5 PM. (Actually, at any time!)

Money can't buy happiness, but it keeps the kids in touch!

We see an old person then realize we went to HS together

Now is the time for us older folks to use cursive writing as a secret code.

Be Well.

Enjoy.

Stay in touch.

Duane