

MARCH 6, 2020

# College Signals Concern over Coronavirus Outbreak

JAKE VERMEULEN '21 AND AUSTIN HOOD '21 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND NEWS EDITOR •As the counts of COVID-19 cases skyrocket in countries around the world, Wabash is bracing to deal with an outbreak if it hits campus. On Thursday, the College took the extraordinary step of holding a "Mandatory Chapel" to discuss how to prevent the spread of the coronavirus and how life at Wabash would be affected by its potential arrival on campus. While attendance was not strictly enforced or monitored, it was the first time the College had gone so far as to call a Chapel Talk mandatory in at least the last four years. The College recorded the event and sent it out to all students for those who were unable to be physically present.

Dean of the College Scott Feller, College Physician John Roberts '83 and College Nurse Christine Amidon delivered the Chapel Talk. Roberts and Amidon gave an overview of the details of the virus and talked through some of the most important steps that can be taken to prevent its spread. Among these were washing your hands thoroughly and covering your mouth while you cough. The hand washing demonstration was assisted by Global Health Fellows and Eric Wetzel, Director of the Global Health Initiative, who demonstrated how to wash your hands more effectively, and suggested singing the chorus of Old Wabash while you wash. Roberts also noted that the likelihood that a student would be affected by a severe case is low, since roughly 80 percent of cases present with no severe symptoms and young people are among those least susceptible to the virus. However, he also said that they are still able to spread it to others, and that students should take additional precautions to protect those more at risk.

Amidon and Roberts also advised members of the Wabash community not to come into the Health Center immediately if they begin to feel sick. Instead, they said a better course of action was to quarantine yourself as thoroughly as possible and email or call them. They will check in as needed, and you should let them know if symptoms get worse. Feller also explained that the College was preparing to take additional steps to prevent the spread of the virus if necessary, including quarantining infected people in specific dorms.

Perhaps the most significant impact that the coronavirus has had on Wabash is that two immersion trips have been cancelled. The immersion course to Beijing, China was cancelled weeks ago when it became clear that the outbreak was not going to be contained quickly. Last weekend, the



DAKOTA BAKER '22 / PHOTO

**College Physician John Roberts '83 provided the Wabash community with important information about the coronavirus at Wabash's first Mandatory Chapel session in years.**

College announced that the Early Christianity in Rome immersion trip had been cancelled as Italy has struggled to grapple with the spread of COVID-19. Among other steps, the Italian government has decreed that all sporting events in the country will be played without an audience for at least the next month to cut down on the risk of the virus spreading throughout large crowds, and ordered all schools and universities to close. While Rome had avoided the worst of the outbreak so far, with most of the cases concentrated in other parts of the country, they recently confirmed their first cases. Wabash cancelled the trip after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention upgraded Italy to a Level 3 Travel Health Notice, indicating that people should avoid nonessential travel.

While the decision to cancel the trip was

the right one, it is nonetheless unfortunate for the students who have been working toward this all semester. Derek Nelson '99, Stephen S. Bowen Professor of Religion, who was set to help lead the trip said, "The cancellation of the Rome trip is terribly disappointing, because these guys have worked really hard and I hate to think of how much they would have learned and taken in. But the risk of getting stuck somewhere - even as great a somewhere as Rome — for weeks is so disruptive. So it had to be done. There will be other chances, I hope, for these guys to get a comparable experience." Nelson is teaching the course with Jeremy Hartnett '96, Anne and Andrew T. Ford Professor of Classics.

The College has also been preparing to handle the economic impact of the virus. As a result of the uncertainty around just how

much the coronavirus will disrupt economic activity, stocks have tumbled recently, leaving them firmly in the negative for the year so far. This kind of downturn does not help the College, whose endowment is held in investment accounts. Kendra Cooks, Chief Financial Officer, said, "We've been working on a contingency plan for over year. We have worked very hard with our investment advisers and others to improve our planning for events like these. In the event that there is a rapid downturn in the economy we have alternative resources...that we will use in order to not draw from the endowment and have short to medium term stability."

The College and the world will continue to grapple with containing and responding to the coronavirus as nearly 100,000 cases have been confirmed worldwide and more than 3,000 people have already been killed.

# Cooks Addresses Senate on Planned Tuition Increase

AUSTIN HOOD '21 | NEWS EDITOR • At a special session held Tuesday evening in Hays 104, Wabash College CFO Kendra Cooks and Acting Dean of Students Gregg Redding addressed the Student Senate regarding plans to raise tuition. In a 30-minute-long powerpoint presentation, Cook unveiled details of a plan to raise the overall cost of attendance sticker price from \$55,020 to \$56,550. Overall, this means that students can expect to pay about 2.8 percent more in the 2020-21 school year than they did for 2019-20.

Cooks made sure to demonstrate that the increase in tuition is modest in comparison to historical rate increases. Sticker prices have steadily increased each fiscal year since 2010. It's important to note, however, that while the official cost of attendance

has inched up during this time, effective cost of attendance has by-in-large remained relatively flat during this time. For families making \$110,000 or more a year, for example, effective cost of attendance has gone from an average of \$29,386 for two semesters in 2010 to \$32,975 in 2019. Wabash Men whose families make \$48,001 to \$75,000 a year average cost of attendance actually decreased from \$22,212 to \$19,624.

"Costs generally increase over time," Cooks said. "Our biggest costs at the college are scholarships and grants for students, our financial packages. On the operational side, employee salaries and benefits are weighed against increasing cost of living. So in order to ensure that those on the College's payroll are paid fairly for their work we must make adjustments."

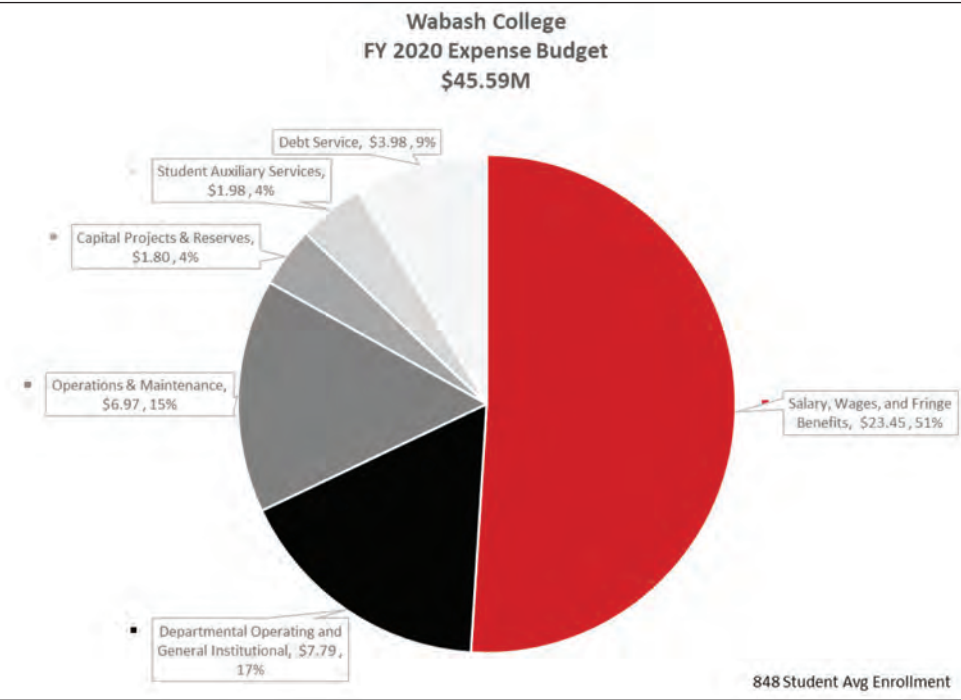
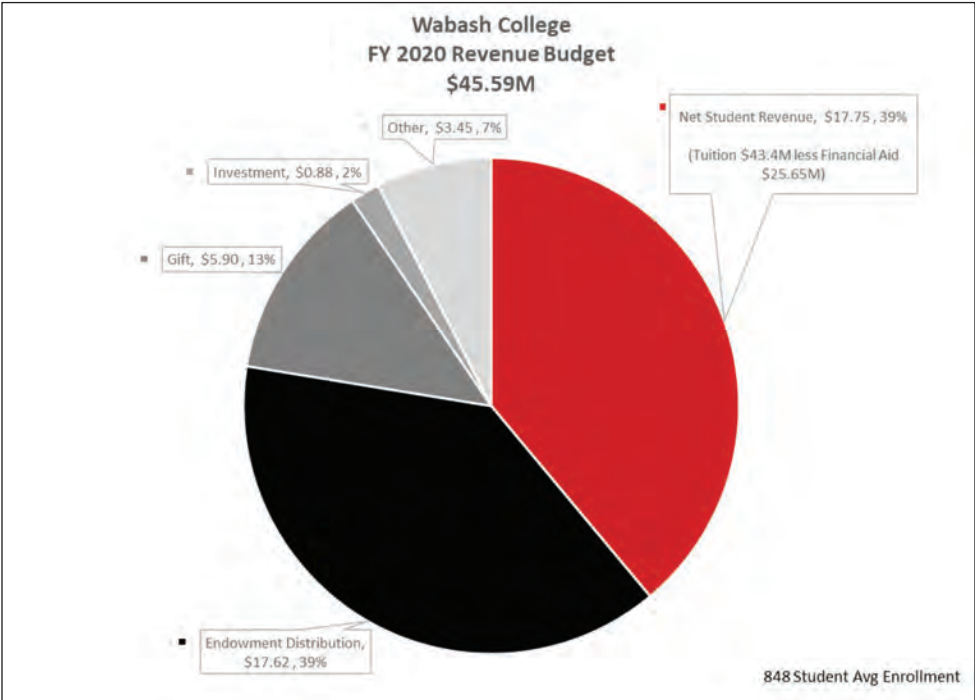
The increase in tuition comes with a number of key changes from the fiscal year 2019 to fiscal year 2020. Among the reordering of the College's finances are a reissuing debt, planned increased use of national educational contracts, recently renegotiated key contracts, and competitive bid processes in medical insurance programs, property and liability insurance and natural gas hedge contracts.

All of these changes come with some key goals in mind: providing a quality educational experience for students, meeting student needs, providing a fair salary and benefits for faculty and staff, and increasing financial sustainability. One of the main fiscal projects of the College is to decrease its draw against the endowment. It plans to drop the rate at which it does so from 5.875 percent to 5.50

percent this fiscal year. In part because of Wabash's relatively small size, meeting these goals in a way that maintains the College's long-term financial sustainability requires periodic increases in revenue.

"Our student population is relatively low compared to most colleges and universities," Cooks said. "We don't really have a lot of base to really drive off of. Every student really does count here. So when we're working on projections relative to student enrollment, it can be difficult to try to create a steady financial situation for the College from a relatively unstable revenue stream."

Students with questions or concerns about how this increase in tuition will affect them personally or the College's finances as a whole are encouraged to reach out to the Business Office.



COURTESY OF THE BUSINESS OFFICE

**Pie charts demonstrating the Wabash College revenue and expense budgets for the Fiscal Year 2020. The planned rise in tuition is partially aimed at reducing the budget's draw on the endowment.**



# DNC Field Narrows after Biden Surge



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Joe Biden celebrates Super Tuesday Primary results at the Baldwin Hills Recreation Center in Los Angeles, California. Biden success on a night when about a third of the total delegates needed to win the Democratic Party's nomination for President of the United States rocketed him to the front of the competitive pack.

AUSTIN HOOD '21 | NEWS EDITOR • The Democratic Primary has developed into a two-man race. Voters in Super Tuesday states sent Joe Biden's campaign surging, bringing the former Vice President to the front of the pack in the race for delegates ahead of the July 2020 Democratic National convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Biden picked up 413 of the 1300 delegates at stake on Tuesday, about a third of the total delegates up for grabs this primary season.

Biden, who served as a United States Senator representing Delaware from 1973 to 2009 before taking office in the Obama Administration, won decisively in Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee, Maine, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Virginia. This success echoes Biden's landslide victory in South Carolina on Saturday. Results were more narrow in Texas and

Massachusetts, where the former Vice President edged out Senator Bernie Sanders in a delegate-rich contest.

Sanders took the most delegates in Utah, Colorado and Vermont and at the time of publication was presumed to win California, the state with the most delegates at stake. The Senator from Vermont added these wins to a previous decisive victory in Nevada and narrow triumph in New Hampshire. Sanders maintains a total of 461 delegates out of the 1,991 needed to win the nomination outright.

After a disappointing showing in which he only won American Samoa's 25 delegates on Tuesday, former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced that he was dropping out of the race on Wednesday. Bloomberg had entered the primary much later than the rest of the field, missing the ballot in all the previous contests. The founder

of the financial software, data and media firm bearing his own name had flooded airwaves and the internet with advertising funded by his vast personal wealth. Despite this, the effort failed to make a strong showing in any state primary or caucus.

Bloomberg's exit from the race is a continuation of a trend in a tumultuous week for the primary field. After winning the most delegates in Iowa's February 3 caucus and a strong showing in New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation primary, former South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg dropped out of the contest prior to Super Tuesday. The Rhodes Scholar and Marine Corps Veteran had failed to make an impressive showing at the South Carolina Primary, the same event that boosted Joe Biden's campaign, and struggled to gain all-important financial traction.

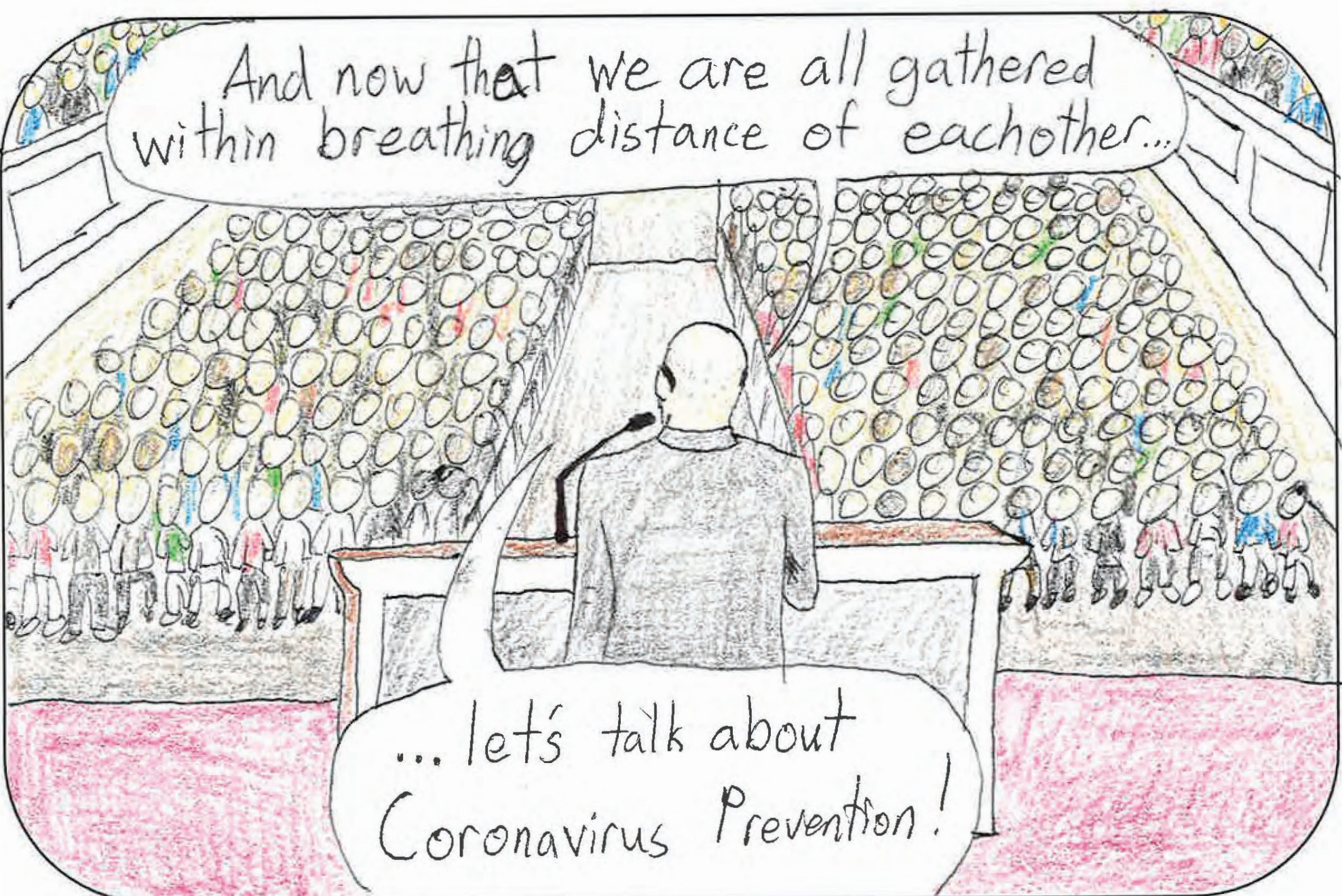
Amy Klobuchar also dropped out of

the primary before Super Tuesday. The Senator from Minnesota had a strong showing in New Hampshire's February 11 primary contest, where she picked up nearly 20 percent of the vote and gained 6 delegates. Upon exiting the race, Klobuchar endorsed Joe Biden.

Earlier in the week, Tom Steyer also announced that he would end his campaign. Steyer, a hedge fund manager, environmentalist, and philanthropist sought to unite the moderate and liberal wings of the party. Much like Bloomberg, his campaign was self-funded and placed emphasis on advertising. However, he failed to have a strong showing in any of the early-voting primary states.

The next round of primaries are set to take place on Tuesday, March 10 in Idaho, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota and Washington. Indiana heads to the polls on May 5.

## Comic Relief by Sam Hansen '22







## Mohammad Adnan '20

Reply to this editorial at [mdadnan20@wabash.edu](mailto:mdadnan20@wabash.edu)

This opinion aims to explain why the Hi-Five “Deadly Dramatic Irony” from the last issue is problematic, to describe the privilege it embodies, and to highlight the kind of casual racism it enables on our campus. Furthermore, I want to challenge the attitude I’ve noticed many Wabash Men adopt when they feel they are under attack, and suggest how we should live out our mission statement in such cases.

I do not ascribe any racist or malicious intent to The Bachelor or any of its staff members. The intent of the “Hi-Five” in question was to make fun of a government policy. Yet, I still feel it is important to discuss why this was a problematic piece in the larger context. Even without intent, the piece enables privileged, casual racism. With that in mind, I hope we can all learn from this experience to build a stronger, better, and more inclusive community at Wabash. We cannot do that if we do not hold each other accountable—especially the oldest and most reputable publication on our campus.

The first part is making light of someone contracting a virus that has killed thousands across the world, sparking a global panic. I fail to see how criticizing policy using language that celebrates someone getting a disease (literally, “Hi-Five”) can be considered “living humanely.” It’s quite possible this man had little to do with the decision to not enact city-wide quarantines. His decision to “denounce quarantines” could likely be part of the Iranian government’s efforts to stop a country-wide panic, which in itself could result in a complete breakdown of their society, regardless of coronavirus. That reality may



## Jake Vermeulen '21

Reply to this editorial at [jkvermeu21@wabash.edu](mailto:jkvermeu21@wabash.edu)

Supporters of Senator Sanders have had their fun claiming that he will be able to drive turnout up for Democrats in November. They claim that youth voters and those who are tired of establishment politics will turn out in record numbers to support his campaign. To their credit, a septuagenarian candidate is seeing the benefits of record turnout in the Democratic primary. It’s not Sanders, though. The candidate who has benefited from high turnout was former Vice President Biden.

After limping through the first three contests in Iowa, New Hampshire, and Nevada, Vice President Biden’s campaign has had the best two weeks possible for a campaign. It started with an endorsement from Rep. Jim Clyburn (who

be inconceivable in America, but civil unrest is not a concept confined to books for them.

Iran is also currently grappling with many other real issues. As of Tuesday, 8% of the Iranian Parliament contracted coronavirus, resulting in that body’s indefinite suspension. That includes, one of their Vice Presidents, as well as a key advisor to their Supreme Leader that died from it. The situation is so dire that Iran had to release 54,000 healthy prisoners on a “temporary bail” to avoid an outbreak among inmates. Meanwhile, law-abiding Iranian citizens who hoard supplies face threats with the death penalty. In their capital, Tehran, citizens are so afraid to leave their homes that the skies are once again clear due to lack of air pollution. Keep in mind this is all happening in Iran, not a rich industrialized country.

The second part refers to the “Islamic Republic” and advises them to focus on “Death to Bacteria” instead of chanting “Death to America.” I would assume when one refers to the country of Iran, they refer to its citizens, and not its government—at least, that’s the standard this country holds them to when they chant “Death to America.” Are we so sensitive to anti-American slogans that we crack “jokes” at the expense of their tragedies, while Iranians are expected to ignore political pundits lobbying the government on Fox News, saying America should bomb Iranian oil fields to bring “mass poverty to the people”? Should the Iranian people forget decades of ongoing aggression from the American government—everything from downing a civilian airliner, to attempting coups before the Iranian Revolution, to imposing economic sanctions that directly target citizens and destroy entire industries? I invite anyone who seeks just one example to read Hoda Katebi’s coverage on the Persian rug industry. In sum, American sanctions are crippling the country’s infrastructure as they fight coronavirus. Yet, we imply that Iranian criticism of American policy doesn’t matter, and that we should completely ignore U.S. actions in the region. I guess “Death to Sovereignty” doesn’t have the same ring to

is rightly called The Kingmaker in South Carolina). Biden also had a strong debate performance and a viral moment at a CNN Town Hall event, and he rode that momentum to a win in South Carolina by more than 30 points. Biden was always expected to win in South Carolina, but in the weeks leading up to the first primary in the South, the gap had narrowed significantly, with one poll showing him up only 4 points. The win earned him plenty of free media, and inspired two of his biggest competitors for the moderate vote to drop out of the race and offer Vice President Biden their endorsement.

That takes us through the first week of Vice President Biden’s storybook comeback. Then came Super Tuesday. With 14 states going to the polls, he took wins in 14 primaries, losing only 4 to Senator Sanders. Among his victories were a 30 point victory in Virginia, a surprising nine point victory in Minnesota, and a commanding win in North Carolina. Every one of those states will be crucial if Democrats want to take back the White House in November. To cap off Biden’s winning streak (so far), Mayor Mike Bloomberg - the only other major moderate candidate - dropped out the day after.

Now back to turnout. The belief has

it.

One might argue that the Iranians were ‘asking for it’ because they made stupid comments in relation to the disease. Yet, no similar standard applies to American tragedies, and it shouldn’t. Social media and students on our campus might crack jokes about distant wars or plagues, but no one is going to crack a joke about a father in denial of gun violence as his child dies from it – because that is something ‘sensitive’, much like focusing on the American lives, and not the hundreds of thousands of foreign civilians that die in these American wars. For example, before Monon Bell, the “Black Stock Down” shirt design received complaints that U.S. service members had died during the mission, and that it was offensive for us to print that design on a celebratory shirt. I agree completely; it went too far. Similarly, I’m sure we wouldn’t joke about issues like 9/11, suicide, or cancer. Can you imagine a “Hi-Five” about someone contracting cancer at our college, or an act of terror because of something the White House said about public policy? Or even the deaths of U.S. service members?

I use these examples as an attempt to bring the headlines close to home. Be glad you’re detached from most global headlines. For some of us, the story continues even after we turn the television off or put the newspaper down. Not all of us are backed by a system that is best equipped to deal with these issues—issues that many people here would, thankfully, never experience. This is what privilege is.

To give a personal example: one of my friends is currently stuck in Wuhan, China – the coronavirus outbreak epicenter –, because the Pakistani government cannot deal with such a crisis. And he’s not alone: 800 more Pakistani students are stuck there with him. Many of their stories are heartbreaking. So, as social media fills with jokes on coronavirus, or The Bachelor tries to bring levity through a “Hi-Five”, remember— for some of us, this is serious. And it enables remarks such as “what a s\*\*t hole”. A real quote from a student regarding Iran because they can’t control the virus.

always been that Sanders would perform far better than Biden in states with higher turnout because that would mean that younger voters are showing up to the polls. That belief was turned on its head on Super Tuesday. Turnout numbers tended to be higher than 2016 (in part because several states like Colorado, Minnesota, and Maine switched from a caucus to a primary). But the benefits of that increased turnout did not really go to Sanders. The state with the biggest turnout change was Virginia, where turnout more than doubled (from roughly half a million in 2016 to 1.3 million this cycle). Instead of Sanders driving up turnout in order to win, Biden was driving up the turnout.

The secret to Biden’s success in the primary and in a potential general election matchup in November has been based on two specific advantages. First, Biden has crushed Sanders among older African American voters. While Sanders held a four point advantage among African American Super Tuesday voters under 45, Biden more than wiped that out with a 48 point edge among those over 45, according to MSNBC exit polls. The second big advantage for Biden was his massive advantage among suburban voters. Turnout in suburban areas was

I’ve heard similar stuff about Pakistan in relation to its struggles after aligning with U.S. on the War on Terror. It seems that most tragedies across the world are open game for “humor” equating to casual racism. My freshman year, I had to write an opinion piece on the discourse surrounding the War on Terror. And, just last semester, a person dear to me died in the line of duty in Pakistan. But the jokes never stop about these topics. It seems like people are often too detached to realize that, and I wonder if this detachment has taken away our humanity.

This brings me to my final point: whenever our opinions and identity are challenged, we get defensive. We get defensive every time Sexual Assault Awareness is brought up. We get defensive when we’re criticized our actions and their consequences. We get defensive when someone raises legitimate concerns about our behavior on a host of issues. But really, we don’t need to win every argument as if it is the court of law, but rather genuinely listen and care for our fellow human beings. If someone raises an allegation against myself or an institution I’m involved with, I would want to make sure the concerns are addressed immediately—I wouldn’t try to deny the issue entirely.

I’ll end with the example of the Butler email that was sent out last semester. Even before we were made aware of any legal investigations, we reached out to Butler’s Pan-Hellenic organization and opened channels of communication, so as to address their concerns. Our actions weren’t just intended to address the false information in the email regarding our Title IX policy. We wanted to ensure that no woman ever feels unsafe on our campus. We wanted to ensure that fraternities are living up to their promises. We wanted to listen to, empathize with, and do right by anyone who had concerns about Wabash College.

Making technical arguments to salvage our image helps no one but ourselves. Exhibiting genuine concern for our fellow human beings helps everyone. That, my friends, is what “living humanely” is all about

up significantly from the last Democratic primary and Biden racked up large advantages there. Among other things, that helped Biden overcome Sanders in Texas, where Sanders had been considered the favorite.

Sanders and his supporters have tried to make the case that he is the one best equipped to win the election in November because he can increase turnout enough to beat President Trump. The course of the Democratic primary has been a clear signal that this just isn’t true. Turnout has been up, but it has not translated into big wins for Sanders. In fact, it has led to some of his most crushing defeats. The increased youth turnout he promised has just not materialized either. This deals a big blow to his case in a primary where large majorities of voters have said that electability is the most important thing to them about a candidate.

While the last couple of weeks have been unkind to Sanders, they have been just the opposite for Biden. In that time, he has completed one of the most impressive comebacks in modern American political history, going from left for dead to frontrunner. Biden is a little old to be called the Comeback Kid, but it’s getting pretty hard not to call him that.

skills, and fall into apathy, and, before you know it, the blunted out skills will no longer help you, and you’re back to square one.

The other end of the spectrum is, in my opinion, wrecking havoc throughout today’s society: purposelessness. Feeling adrift in life’s endless ocean can be overwhelming, and feeling like there is no way out, like this is some sort of gilded cage, can lead to a generalized sense of depression. There has been so much focus on work-life balance, on having money and status in society, that people forget why they are doing what they are doing. Of course Albert Camus’ absurd shows up uninvited in our lives. Of course we all roll boulders up the mountain, only for them to fall again, and pretend to be happy doing so. The only way to combat purposelessness is through reflection, by having an inner life.

In short, people need an internal life to find a purpose and to go above and beyond all the curve-balls life throws at them, and an external life to accomplish their purpose and to keep their self-image within reasonable bounds. We need to find a balance, and each has their own. I challenge you to reflect: do you think you have a stronger inner life or outer life? And how are you going to balance it out?



## Alex Rotaru '22

Reply to this editorial at [arotaru22@wabash.edu](mailto:arotaru22@wabash.edu)

We all have heard by now about what work-life balance is and how it affects our functioning as involved, humane citizens. This is not what I will be writing about today. I will let the Office for Student Enrichment (OSE – highly recommend going when things start falling apart) take care of that, and, instead, focus on another kind of balance fundamental to our proper functioning, yet mostly obscure: the inner-outer life balance.

People always tend to lean more towards one direction. I, for one, am more oriented towards the inner life: reflecting, analyzing, long-term planning, awareness, delaying gratification, and the like. The sky is the limit when you lead a powerful internal life, as your imagination and your abstract

thinking will lead you to some amazing ideas. You can feed your internal life by reading and interpreting literature and philosophy, doing etymological or linguistic exercises on words in different languages, solving complex math problems, and extrapolating principles from one place and applying them in another, which is completely unrelated. I am a huge advocate of a liberal arts education because, done right, it nourishes your inner life like nothing else.

The outer life, on the other hand, is the physical side of things: working, living, problem solving, putting thoughts into action, helping others, applying concepts, and the like. All results coming from the external life are easy to recognize, palpable, real. This is the playing field of work-life balance. Naturally, you can feed your external life by getting involved, working, volunteering, exercising – staying active in general.

Yet, having only one of these lives can have disastrous consequences. For the inner life, things can go two ways: you love yourself, or you hate yourself, both to the extreme. The former is narcissism: you come to think that you are perfect, intangible, immortal; that your ideas are the best; that you are God’s gift to the world. You lose

touch with reality and refuse to accept your flaws. This means that you refuse to become a better person, and, thus, you get stuck in your little fantasy.

I have been guilty of going towards the other end of the spectrum: overthinking. You start to question everything and everyone around you, winding up unsure of what people’s motives are and why anything is happening to you. And you have no arguments against it because you have not done anything to change the situation. Overthinking can push people away from those they care about, and only through clear communication and deliberate action to amend the situation can they snap out of it.

Having a solely outer life also has two toxic extremes. First is perpetual happiness. You might think: wait a minute – happiness is a good thing. While happiness does feel good, having it perpetually causes it to decrease in value for us, and causes us to seek it even more. It’s a principle similar to the marginal utility law: for every added unit of a product, its utility decreases at an increasing rate. This is also how addictions form. Another effect, just like narcissism, is that there is no improvement. You are happy; you don’t need improvement; you are contempt with your current lifestyle. And, so, you don’t use your

**Do you have an Opinion?**  
**Do you feel like you aren’t heard?**  
**Do you like to Write?**

If you answered “Yes” to any of these questions email [Christian.Redmond@wabash.edu](mailto:Christian.Redmond@wabash.edu) and begin your tenure as a opinion writer for.....





# Sonic the Hedgehog: Fast and Forgettable

AUSTIN RUDICEL '20 | CAVELIFE EDITOR • This review is spoiler-free (as if there could be anything to spoil about *Sonic the Hedgehog's* plot).

Film and video games are closely related in their storytelling techniques, but they are not interchangeable. Video game movies are notorious for being terrible since *Super Mario Bros.* was the first to attempt a film adaptation in 1993. This was the first of many letdowns for gamers who wished for their favorite video game characters to appear on the big screen. One reason games do not successfully translate to films is the interactivity of playing a video game. Watching a film is a passive experience, but a game requires active participation from the player to progress the story. It took years before a video game film would see critical and box office success with *Detective Pikachu* (2019). With breakthrough success from video game movies in 2019, there is hope for a similar reception for the new *Sonic the Hedgehog* that released in February.

It was dangerous to be too optimistic about *Sonic the Hedgehog* living up to the shadow cast by *Detective Pikachu*. Sonic is not terrible, but it certainly fails to satisfy many of the elements that make good films, such as plot and originality. The film benefits from advancements in CGI that early video game films lacked, such as the infamous *Mortal Kombat* films from the 90's. The better looking Sonic was a 5 million dollar reanimation project after

the intense backlash over the atrocious initial design for Sonic. Although this redesign was a positive for studios listening to fan criticism, the cost of the redesign caused the studio, Moving Picture Company in Vancouver, to shut down and fire around 80 employees a week before Christmas. Thank you to those who worked overtime and were unjustly fired. If only the screenwriters decided to do the same thing, then perhaps the film would achieve greatness.

Plot was not a significant part of the original *Sonic the Hedgehog* game, but the game was still enjoyable to play. Without anything to work with, the movie attempted to conjure a story from a mix of cliché animated buddy-comedy tropes (*Garfield*, *Yogi Bear*, *Smurfs*) that did not have much to do with *Sonic the Hedgehog* lore. One of the best parts of the film is in the beginning, when Sonic runs through the loops in the iconic Green Hill Zone. The film matches the design of the first world in the original game with the checkered-board pattern dirt and vibrant green grass, but sadly, this setting disappears after the first five minutes of the film and is never seen again. The rest of the film takes place on Earth, following the generic plot of the protagonist (Sonic) and a companion (a small town cop) who must travel to a location (San Francisco) to get a MacGuffin, an object used solely to progress the story. (Sonic's rings). For unexplained reasons, Sonic cannot simply run to



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Sonic received a significant design remake following fans' backlash.

San Francisco and needs the cop, Tom, to drive him there. Along the way, Sonic is pursued by the evil Dr. Robotnik (also known as Dr. Eggman) who wants to capture Sonic for his magical speed powers. During their journey, Sonic and Tom bond and do the typical buddy road trip events like stop at a biker bar and learn to care for each other.

One of the better aspects of the film is the casting of Jim Carrey as Dr. Robotnik. His eccentric energy as Robotnik feels similar to his role in

*The Mask* which could be a good or bad thing depending on your memory of *The Mask*. There were some successful jokes throughout the film, with some catered to children and some towards adults, but these hit in one out of ten attempts. The film's biggest flaw is that it isn't strong enough to be labeled a good movie, and it wasn't terrible enough to be a "so bad it's good" film that is enjoyable because of its poor quality.

TLDR: A very average and forgettable video game film 5.5/10.

## Review of Anon(ymous)

SIMON DECAPUA '23 | STAFF WRITER • Last week, the Theater Department performed *Anon(ymous)*, a modern adaptation of *The Odyssey*. The play told the story of an immigrant searching for family and meaning while seeking refuge. With the complex issue of refugees being at the forefront of the plot, many audience members were confused by the underlying themes and messages the play presented. Watching the play as someone who had never seen *The Odyssey*, I was confused at many of the scenes and most of the references the play made to its inspiration. I could tell that some of the artistic choices and much of the writing was based off of *The Odyssey* but at times these choices were more confusing to me than anything else. The plot itself was simple enough but the sequence of scenes was hard for me to follow at times. I found it difficult to keep up with the play, since it was not told in chronological order and what was and was not part of the back story were not always clear to me. Despite this, I have heard from people who have both seen this play and read *The Odyssey* that it was easier to understand with prior exposure to the story that the play was based on.

Even though I was not always clear on the plot and where it was going, the play still offered a lot for me to enjoy. The acting was pretty solid from all cast members and it was clear that there was a lot of thought and effort that went into the visuals of the play. Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of the play was the set design and utilization of puppetry. I am still confused as to why the puppeteer's faces were visible, but the puppets themselves were finely crafted and the work put into them impressed me. Additionally, I was unsure what purpose the puppets played and why they were even used as visuals. This is not to say that I disliked the visuals of the play, they were actually the most enjoyable part of it to me. From a visual standpoint, the acting, directing, set design, and costume design all met the high standards of what we have come to expect from a Wabash theatre production. While I feel that my enjoyment of the plot of *Anon(ymous)* was limited by my ignorance regarding *The Odyssey*, I was still able to enjoy the visuals of the play and the wholesome story of a refugee trying to find home in a foreign country.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

The set design of *Anonymous* featured many high-rises that the actors and actresses climbed.

## Silky Nutmeg Ganache Comes to Campus

ALEX ROTARU '22 | ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR • In recent years, crossdressing, also known as drag, has become a popular trend in the United States. With drag shows and performances occurring in every major city - including nearby Indianapolis - and the television show *RuPaul's Drag Race* becoming an international sensation, drag is becoming more and more mainstream. Among the most famous drag queens is Silky Nutmeg Ganache, aka Reggie Steele '12, who came to campus Wednesday, March 4, to have conversations with students and to host a drag show in Ball Theater. *The Bachelor* sat down with Silky, to learn more about her story, and about the world of drag.

In his youth, while other children watched cartoons, Steele found his love for the Food Network. And, so, back in 2008, while watching the first season of *RuPaul's Drag Race*, one of his mentors, a Wabash alum, said his drag name would be Silky: "He said I was sometimes ghetto, but always classy," Steele said. "And that night, I just so happened to go home and watch Food Network [...] and they said 'Silky Ganache,' and I said, 'that's my name'." Nutmeg came from his nickname Steele got while working at Career Services as a student.

A native of Mississippi, Silky grew up in an African-American Pentecostal family. He knew he was gay from a young age, but he first came out to his family only in senior year of high-school. He then came out to the Wabash community in his junior year. "I must say that I'm very fortunate and blessed, and I don't take it for granted, that I was never bullied," Steele said. "I was always everybody's friend. I was always in the popular circle. [...] I've always been the fun, energetic person that everybody wanted to be around." Silky is now using his popularity to bring together people that typically would not have had a chance to meet.

Steele's first experience was during his senior year, when, over Spring Break, he was the only sh'OUT member available to represent Wabash at the DePauw University Drag Show. After that, she took part in a pageant, and that is where she found her passion for drag. "When I first started doing drag, I just did it for fun," Silky said.

Silky Ganache could not have made it to where she is without help. "I have [first found a mentor] after I did a pageant," Silky said. "In a preliminary to Miss Gay Indiana, the reigning Miss Gay Indiana was Vanessa Ryan. She became my gay mother, and she was the

one that really started to put Silky together, to make sure that the aesthetic was right." Eventually, Silky created an extended family, that became her gay family. "My gay family and my biological family check up on each other, and that's just a blessing within itself," Steele said. "We all create gay families in case our family doesn't accept us. But I'm blessed to have two families because my biological family and my gay family [...] are now becoming one big family. In a couple of weeks my gay mother is coming to Mississippi with me, and my mom is so excited about it." Steele's biological family is now so supportive of Silky that they seldom miss opportunities to see her perform.

"What I like most about drag is that I don't take it too seriously," Steele said. "Yes, I take my status seriously, because I have to be beautiful. But, when it comes to entertainment, or the things I say, I try not to take it too seriously." And so, Silky loves to speak her mind about anything. In particular, she likes calling out people on any form of injustice, such as fake inclusion. "You can't be selfish when you talk about inclusion, and you can't make other people understand what inclusion is until you are willing to educate others when you talk about inclusion," Steele said. "And that's something that doesn't happen often. We've created a culture of putting people on blast - even through social media. Some people just don't know, and ignorance is bliss." The same kind of culture that has rendered political discourse to shouting matches has taken its toll in diversity and inclusion. According to Steele, "you help people be inclusive by just telling your story. How do you expect people to include you if they don't know you?"

Silky Nutmeg Ganache's drag show focused on her playing with gender fluidity, and with the public's expectations of a regular show. She started with some comical technical difficulties, joking about how much Wabash has changed in just 8 years in the process. Then, she did a brief dancing number, followed by stand-up comedy. She then replicated a *RuPaul's Drag Race* elimination challenge with 4 male participants from the audience performing gender to famous tunes by female singers. The drag show concluded with Silky performing a number to various suave tunes. She was graceful, entertaining, and overall a pleasure to see perform. The drag show ended in standing ovations. Overall, it made for an amazing night, and an spectacular return to Wabash for Silky after 3 years.



DAKOTA BAKER '22 / PHOTO

Silky Nutmeg Ganache put on a show Wednesday night.



# March Sadness ),:

Our Caveliflife Editor knows absolutely nothing about sports, so we’ve created March Sadness so he feels included this month. March Sadness brings the most emotional films into one high-stakes bracket. Which of these movies will be titled Cinema’s Saddest? Email your brackets to amrudice20@wabash.edu to vote.



COURTESY OF AMAZON.COM

Wabash students will study all across the world next semester with Study Abroad trips.

## Tips for Studying Abroad

MORGAN SEAGRAVE ’22 |STAFF WRITER • Now is the time of year when many sophomores are planning some significant adventures for the months ahead. Whether it be this summer, this upcoming fall, or next spring, a select portion of the sophomore class has been approved for some form of off campus study in the near future. Their locations to study abroad span the globe. Some of the countries our fellow Wallies plan to study in include: Scotland, Spain, Hungary, Japan, and New Zealand, just to name a few. At this point, the off campus study committee has already selected the students who have met the qualifications/standards to study abroad and have given them approval to do so. They are now in the next stages of planning financially and academically for their trip.

If you are one of those individuals planning to study abroad next year, there are a few tips and pieces of advice Director of International Programs Amy Weir offers. Weir gave advice for preparing to go abroad, saying, “Make sure to get in contact

with your bank and tell them you are going to another country.” This is an important step that will help improve one’s experience and make it easier to spend money on fun experiences while abroad. Additionally, Weir said to “Pack light, you don’t want some heavy bag and a lot of worldly possessions holding you back.” More so than that, packing smart is just as crucial as packing light. Packing smarter allows those in constantly changing weather to be comfortable and to be ready for every situation.

When arriving at your study abroad destination, Weir noted that, “It is very helpful to get a travel guide so students can make the most of their experience while on a budget and make the most out of their time,” Weir said. These are experiences that do not come around very often, so students should find the best ways to travel in their off campus study location for the best price. Not only that, but Wabash students often try to travel to nearby countries while they are abroad, so finding the best activities to partake in during this time is in the best interest of many of those

studying off campus next year.

While abroad, it is not uncommon for students to be grouped with other American students through their provider program. It is great to make friends with other American students at your institution abroad, but it is important to “become friends with the locals so you truly understand what it is like to live in these different cultures,” Stormm Garnett ’21 said. Garnett just recently returned to campus this semester, after having studied last semester in South Africa. Based on his experiences in South Africa, Stormm says the best piece of advice he can give is, “Immerse yourself into the culture of whatever country you go to, things aren’t weird, they are just different, so get comfortable being uncomfortable.”

Jared Bertram ’20 also gave some advice to those studying abroad next year based on his experiences in Austria last spring. Bertram enjoyed traveling all over Europe during his time abroad and thinks that is a valuable part of one’s experience, especially if you have never been to that region or even out

of the country. “For me, since it was my first time in Europe, I was really excited to travel as much as I could, but after it was all said and done I wish I would have spent more time in Salzburg (my home city), I think I overlooked it a bit,” Bertram said. One thing that Weir, Garnett, and Bertram all mentioned was to try new things and embrace new foods and kinds of music than you are normally used to. This is a unique opportunity that may not come around again.

These tips are good reasons for excitement at the opportunity to see life beyond Wabash and, in many cases, the United States. Yet, for many individuals taking part in this process currently, there are still many things to consider. Plenty could happen in the time before our Wallies travel elsewhere to educate themselves for a semester, such as money, family matters, or not being able to receive credit for certain classes they want to take. These are some of the tough decisions students face, but if the circumstances are right, great opportunities await.

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# TA Profile: Fin Bandholz

DREW BLUETHMANN '22 | STAFF WRITER • Fin Bandholz came to Wabash from Kiel, Germany, a seaside city in the northern region of the country not far from Denmark. While this may sound like an idyllic spot for tourism, Fin recommends against visiting his hometown, describing it as being full of, “Very ugly architecture.” Despite this, Fin still thinks Kiel is a great place to live, particularly because it is a university town with 30,000 students, and the people are very relaxed.

Fin is at Wabash serving as the lone German teaching assistant through Fulbright. He has been at Wabash since August and will leave to go back to Germany in May. Fin has also studied for exchange semesters at the University of Utah and a university in Spain. He likes Salt Lake City more than Crawfordsville because of the cultural opportunities that it offers, but he appreciates Crawfordsville for exposing him to the Midwestern lifestyle and culture.

Fin is a very active man. He rows, swims, and runs regularly, and rows competitively for his university team in Kiel. He also enjoys hiking (especially in the Alps), going to the cinema, and reading English gothic romanticism novels.

Fin said, “You walk around [Wabash’s] campus, and you know all the faces, all the people.” He went on to admire how people at Wabash will stop you and talk to you, and join you for dinner. “And that is what I really enjoy about Wabash. I ruled out from the beginning, going to a small Uni in Germany because I thought it would be really boring [...] But I did not see all the opportunities that a small college has to offer, like the community. It is much easier to make friends than at my home Uni.”

Fin has taken four classes at Wabash with Professors Holland, Trot, Thomas, and Kunze. He has particularly enjoyed all the classes he has taken with these professors. He mentions Hollander’s and Thomas’ abilities to be engaging with the class and willingness to play “devil’s advocate.” He also admires Professor Trot’s intelligence, ability to analyze a situation, and communicate ideas.

Fin misses German bread the most. America has a poor selection of proper bread, and he is excited to have access to a decent variety of it again. He also



COURTESY OF FIN BANDHOLZ

**Bandholz in front of the US Capitol Building. Fin is originally from Kiel, Germany.**

misses being on the water and rowing, as well as European cities. On European cities, Fin said, “They have many cafes everywhere where you can sit outside [...] and I miss the coziness of European cities [with their unorganized streets].”

Fin has never taught German until now because he studied English at university. He was worried that his knowledge of the English language might not translate to teaching his native language, German. “I still have to catch up every week on how the German language actually works. So being a teaching assistant is double-demanding, because you have to learn the system yourself and then be able to explain it to the students,” Fin said.

This summer, Fin will go back to Kiel to finish his master’s thesis. He plans on writing it based on a class he took at Wabash with Professor Trot, Philosophy of Race. He wants to take race philosophy and apply it to a novel. Long term, he may go to teacher training to teach at the German equivalent of high school, or he may search for more opportunities to teach outside of Germany.

# HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY  
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

## NEW CHADWICK CRAZY?

*Hi-five to the New York Knicks for once again proving to be the “class” of the NBA. I guess if you do not want Spike Lee, YOUR MOST RECOGNIZABLE FAN, we from The Bachelor will be more than glad to have him courtside at our sporting events. We do warn, he might be too short to rub Eli Lilly’s head in the library...*

## JILL BIDEN = FIRST ROUNDER

*Hi-Five to Dr. Jill Biden for displaying some impressive pass protection skills at her husband’s Super Tuesday victory rally in Los Angeles. When protestors rushed the stage, Biden and senior campaign aide Symone Sanders sprung into action. Sources in NFL front offices tell The Bachelor that Biden is receiving a second round grade as a RG in the upcoming NFL Draft while Sanders is currently viewed as a surefire 1st rounder as a LB.*

## WE SHOULD PROBABLY BE CONCERNED

*Lo-Five to President Trump for appointing VP Mike Pence to run the administration’s response to the coronavirus. After his exploits combatting HIV in Indiana, we’re stocking up on hand sanitizer and isolating ourselves immediately. This isn’t something you can pray away. Just ask Mother.*

## PROFESSORIAL DISS

*Hi-Five to Cal Bailey ’22 for showcasing some hard gentlemanliness, when he let Prof. Burnette, and the entire campus with her, that she sent in her feedback on the Glee Club candidates to the entire school. From the looks of it, life will make sure Cal will have to take a Burnette class.*

## HARTNETT IN CAST AWAY REBOOT

*Hi-Five to Professor of Classics Jeremy Hartnett ’96 for being stuck in Italy because of the Coronavirus. While it is tragic that a place of such history and potential for immersion courses got affected, Dr. Hartnett can at least enjoy La Dolce Vita in the City of Seven Hills, and enjoy the Roman monuments in peace and quiet.*

# SPORTS

## Lacrosse Falls to Monmouth

BLAKE LARGENT ’22 | SPORTS EDITOR • After falling 15-6 to Calvin College on February 22, the Wabash lacrosse team suffered another early-season defeat to Monmouth College last Saturday, 18-6. The loss to Monmouth puts the Little Giants record at 0-2 as of Wednesday evening.

“We are currently 0-2, so that is not the way we wanted to start the season,” Head Coach Tim O’Shea said on Wednesday. “Our first two opponents were both tough out-of-conference teams, which should prepare us for a tough conference schedule. Our guys are resilient though, and have not complained, so that is a huge positive. We just need to go out there and give our best each and every day. If we do that, we can walk off the field after every game with our head held high, regardless of what the final outcome may be.”

Against Monmouth, Wabash kept the score close. After a Monmouth goal brought the score to 1-0, AJ Shaheen ’21 found the back of the net to tie the game at 1-1. Despite two other first-quarter goals from Drayden Hansen ’22 and Chase Cochran ’20, the Fighting Scots held a slim 5-3 lead over the Little Giants at the end of the first quarter. The second quarter, though, is where Wabash began to struggle. Monmouth, after scoring a goal with 14:34 left to play in the second quarter, went on an offensive run. The Fighting Scots scored nine unanswered goals, with the last coming with 5:24 left to play in the third quarter. Monmouth had pushed the lead to 14-3. A second goal from Cochran with 4:13 left to play in the third quarter broke the momentum for the Fighting Scots, but Monmouth was too far out of reach. The Fighting Scots held on for the remainder of the game, ultimately winning 18-6.

“I think we played better than we did in our first game versus Calvin, however we are still making too many mistakes to put ourselves in a position to win games,” O’Shea said of the team’s performance. “While I feel we did play better on both sides of the ball, we obviously need to improve. Our offense needs to be more productive and efficient and we need to get our ‘Extra Man’ unit going. Defensively, we just need to get all six defenders - seven if you count the goalie - on the same page and effectively run our systems. In the Monmouth game, we had several occasions [where] guys were simply out of position defensively, which led to easy goals for them. Turnovers and failed clears continue to be our downfall through two games. If we can clean those things up moving forward I think we will put ourselves in a better position to win games.”



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

**Blake Markett ’20 defends during a Calvin offensive possession last season. Markett is one of seven total seniors for the Little Giants this year.**

Wabash has not had an 0-2 start since the 2016 season. Despite the tough losses, O’Shea remained positive on his team’s outlook moving forward. “A saying on our team this season is ‘progress, not perfection,’” he said. “We strive for daily improvement of our fundamental skills and lacrosse IQ - [the] understanding of the game. We have been working very hard on being more consistent with our stick work and understanding all of our systems in practice. We have also implemented more film study this season, which we hope helps with the IQ. Sometimes it is difficult for guys to see things when they are out on the field, but pointing it out on film seems to be helping out. We will continue to have optional film sessions each day during lunch, and it is being well attended by our guys, which should pay dividends. Our expectation is to continue to work hard and improve every day in practice, and to go out there on game day and compete as

hard as we can, even though we may be undermanned in some match-ups.”

With the first two games out of the way, O’Shea also spoke on what he has learned from his team so far. “We have learned that we are a much better team when we play calm and under control, so we have been working on that,” he said. “Too often we let things outside our control - bad officiating, comments from the other team, the weather - impact how we play. We need to really learn to only focus on the things we can control, which for us is our attitude and effort, and let everything else go. This is a work in progress for me as a coach too, as I can often get frustrated and distracted by those things mentioned. I am working on this just as much as the players, and we hope to see some results from it. We also have a young team - two-thirds of our roster is freshmen and sophomores - as well as some new players with limited experience. It is going to be a work in progress

this season because of our youth and inexperience, and we just need to be patient and focus on continued improvement.”

While the loss to Monmouth was tough for the team, there certainly were bright spots throughout the game. Neil Pettinga ’23 won 20 of 26 face-offs in the game, and Ethan Stonis ’23 added a goal for the Little Giants. Wabash also successfully cleared 13 of its 21 clearing attempts. Effort was also heavily present for the Little Giants throughout the contest. “I cannot question our effort in the first two games, the guys are playing hard,” O’Shea said. “We just need to play a little bit smarter at times and clean up our fundamental skills and understanding of our systems. We have a great group of guys this season that want to win and help this program take the next step. With continued hard work I am confident that can happen.”

The Little Giants face the Lions of Mount St. Joseph University in a home matchup tomorrow at 1 p.m. on Fischer Field.



# Wrestling Third at Regionals, Sends Four Wrestlers to Nationals

BLAKE LARGENT '22 | SPORTS EDITOR • The Wabash wrestling team grabbed third at the NCAA DIII Central Regional at Adrian College and will be sending four wrestlers to the NCAA DIII National Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on March 13-14.

After grabbing top-three spots in Regionals, Kyle Hatch '21, Darden Schurg '20, Maxwell Bishop '21, and Alex Barr '22 will compete in the national tournament. Three other wrestlers, Carlos Champagne '22, Owen Doster '20, and Jack Heldt '23, competed in the final round of the regional tournament, but were unable to earn top-three finishes to move to Nationals.

In the 165-pound bracket, Hatch pinned Ben Hoof from Baldwin Wallace in the semifinal round before facing Antwon Pugh from Mount Union in the championship round. Hatch scraped out a 7-6 victory over Pugh for a berth in the national tournament. In the 174-pound bracket, defending DIII champion Schurg defeated

Lucas Salmon of Baldwin Wallace by major decision, 18-5. Schurg then faced Cornell Beachum of Mount St. Joseph University in the championship round, and placed second after a close 2-1 defeat. In the heavyweight bracket, Bishop grabbed a 2-0 victory over Mount Union's Grant Martin before finishing second to Otterbein's Drew Kasper. Lastly, in the 149-pound bracket, Barr began his journey in the consolation bracket, picking up wins against Adrian's Noah Nieman and Mount Union's Luke Hernandez. In the third-place match, Barr took a 6-4 win over Chase Sumner of Ohio Northern University to earn a trip to Iowa.

The four Little Giants will begin competition at the NCAA DIII National Championships next Friday, March 13, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and will wrestle into the remainder of the day on Saturday, March 14. Schurg will also be looking for his second-consecutive DIII title after capturing the national championship in the 174-pound weight class last year.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Kyle Hatch '21 wrestles in a meet against Millikin University last season. Hatch is one of four Little Giant wrestlers competing at Nationals next week.

## NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

First Round: Friday Morning, March 13

Quarterfinals: Friday Night, March 13

Semifinal Round: Saturday Morning, March 14

Championship Round, Third Place, Fifth Place, Seventh Place: Saturday Night, March 14

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# Two Swimmers Qualify for NCAA DIII Championships

BLAKE LARGENT '22 | SPORTS EDITOR • After an impressive showing by the Wabash swimming and diving team in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Championships, in which the team placed third and broke multiple school records, the Little Giants continue to turn heads this season. Wabash will be sending two swimmers to compete at the 2020 NCAA Division III Swimming and Diving Championships from March 18-21 at the Greensboro Aquatic Center in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Hunter Jones '20 will be the first swimmer headed to North Carolina for the Little Giants. Jones qualified for the national championship event in the 100 breaststroke, posting a time of 55.03. Jones will also be competing in the 50 freestyle and the 200 breaststroke. Jan Dziadek '21 is the other swimmer for Wabash

headed to the national championship event. Dziadek qualified for the meet in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 48.37, and will also compete in the 50 freestyle and 100 backstroke. Dziadek's 48.37 qualifying time was the 12th-fastest qualifying time posted in the 100 breaststroke. Wabash has not had a swimmer compete at the national championship meets since Chris Dabrowski '19 raced in the 2018 national championship event.

Jones and Dziadek will race in the 2020 Division III Swimming and Diving Championships starting on March 18, with events continuing through March 21, in Greensboro, North Carolina. Congratulations to the swimming and diving team for a fantastic, record-breaking season, and good luck to Jones and Dziadek as they compete in their national championship events next week.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Hunter Jones '20 is one of two Little Giants competing at the national meets.

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# Baseball Opens Season 2-1, Takes Down No. 8 Heidelberg



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**Tyler Dearing '21 pitches in a game against Manchester University last season. Dearing held No. 8 Heidelberg to two hits and struck out eight batters in five innings on Saturday en route to a 15-1 Wabash win.**

LOGAN SMITH '23 | STAFF WRITER • Wabash baseball is back after the never-ending break between seasons, and they jumped right into the action with a tournament at Grand Park in Westfield, Indiana. In this tournament, the team went 2-1, with a 15-1 victory over No. 8-ranked Heidelberg University, a 5-4 victory over University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and a 0-6 loss to Baldwin Wallace University.

Head Coach Jake Martin talked about his thoughts going into the tournament, saying, “I knew going into the weekend we were going to face tough competition. The tournament had a lot of really strong teams, so I was pleased with the 2-1 in the weekend. Especially when you get the chance to open against a team that was in the world series last year. That’s a team with a veteran group of players, and we knew we were going to be tested. So to come out with a big victory like that was really exciting for the guys. Going into game two we had a nail-biter, but Zach Moffett [’20] closed the door. So going 2-0 in the first two games was really exciting going into the Baldwin Wallace game. We played a really tough Baldwin Wallace team and we faced a really good pitcher who shot our bats down. We did see a lot of really good things from our defense and our pitchers throughout the entire weekend.” The pitching certainly showed out in the first weekend, with Tyler Dearing ’21 earning a North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) weekly baseball award for his performance this weekend. He allowed just two hits with zero earned runs in five innings pitched, and he was able to strike out eight batters before he was taken out due to pitch count. Jackson Blevins ’20 also earned a NCAC weekly baseball award this week as he put on killer performance at the plate. Blevins went 7-13 at the plate all weekend and ended the tourney with a .692 slugging percentage after his two doubles.

Martin was quite proud of his pitching and defense for the weekend, but he also touched on how the bats were prepared for the big weekend. Martin talked about going through the scouting report and understanding



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

**Jackson Blevins '20 swings at a pitch in a game last season. Blevins posted a .692 slugging percentage in Wabash’s first three games of the 2020 season.**

what they were going to be seeing from pitchers and the defense. He noted that the teams they were playing liked to rely on the fastball to get past their guys, and so they spent a great deal of the time that week preparing for fastballs and turning the speed up on the machines. Obviously this was a great move, as the team was able to get 20 runs over the course of three games, and beat a ranked Heidelberg team by 14 runs.

Martin also talked about points where he wasn’t quite satisfied yet, and one of those areas was the baserunning. “We would like to be more active on the bases, and I think that is something that we are going to adjust as we head into our games in

Arizona,” he said. “We need to move runners a bit more, whether it is a straight steal or a hit and run. We did have one failed hit and run attempt, and then we did have a steal at third with a backbase steal off of that. Part of that was the fact that we were down six to Baldwin Wallace, who has a quality catcher, so it doesn’t make sense to run at that point. And then in the Heidelberg game, when you get up more than eight or nine runs late in the game, I just don’t run against the team because then you’re just piling on runs and it becomes like passing in football when you’re up 40 points in the fourth quarter. There are probably going to be more opportunities down the road where we will be more aggressive, and

I want to be more aggressive. We have the guys in our lineup that can run, but the situations this weekend determined whether we could run.” Although it has been a conservative start for the Little Giants on the base pads, Martin made it quite clear that he plans to be more aggressive as the opportunities arise throughout the season.

The Wabash baseball team will be traveling to Tucson, Arizona over spring break, where they will play a total of eight games in a period of five days. The first game will be against Bethany Lutheran College on March 8 at the Kino Sports Complex Field No. 5. The team will be looking to take their early success into a week full of tough competition and intense southern heat.

# Track Finishes First Place in NCAC Indoor Championships

JIM DALY '23 | STAFF WRITER • Wabash track and field went to Denison University over the weekend where they captured the 2020 North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Indoor Track Championship title. It was a high-stakes meet that began on Friday at noon and lasted intermittently well up into Saturday. The Little Giants competed with eight different schools in a total of eighteen different events.

On day one of the competition, the Little Giants kicked off with Lucas Bender '22. Bender led the team through the fourth event, the Men’s Pole Vault, with a third-place finish covering 4.10m, thus earning him NCAC All-Conference Honors. Later, in the men’s 60m, Josh Wiggins '21 became the Little Giants’ runner-

up with a finals-qualifying time of 7.02s, breaking the school record in this event by 0.02s. Additionally, Wiggins was yet again runner-up for the same distance, two events later. Ahead of him by approximately 0.30s was RaShawn Jones '20, whose time of merely 8.10s placed him within the top-five of Division III men’s 60-meter runners this season.

In the Men’s 800-meter run, Keith Abramson '22 earned a first-place finish, two minutes into the race, thereby qualifying himself for the 800-meter finals. Six events later, Sam Henthorn '20 won the Men’s 5000 M in a personal-best time of 15:31.08, nearly six seconds ahead of the runner-up. Henthorn’s victory gave the Little Giants a ten-point boost.

Afterward, in the Men’s Distance Medley, the Little Giants encountered another victory with the support of the first-place finisher Thomas Gastineau '23 and runner-up Tyler Ramsey '21, along with Jon Deem-Loureiro '23 in third place and Ethan Pine '22 in fourth place. All in all, The Little Giants successful start propelled them to an overall first-place ranking for Friday’s portion of the meet, ultimately foreshadowing the next day.

On Saturday, Max Bigler '22 won the men’s high jump with a new personal best of 1.96m. He later won the No. 4 Men High Jump Heptathlon with 1.94m. In addition, Jones one again got first-place, taking 0.02s off his initial time. Furthermore, Wiggins yet again came in as runner-up in

the 60-meter hurdles, setting a new personal best with an impressive time of 8.22s. In the end, the Little Giants earned themselves an at-large victory with over 207 points combined. However, for Head Coach Clyde Morgan, the end results pursued a greater meaning. “The most significant performance of the meet was the phenomenal attitude of the team all weekend,” Morgan said. “The support and brotherhood showed this weekend was more valuable than any individual performances. In the words of Bo Schembechler, ‘No man is more important than the team.’”

The team’s next meets will be held tomorrow, March 7at the University of Wisconsin at 11:30 a.m. and at Ohio Northern University at 2:00 p.m.