

SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

# “You’ve Gained an Angel”: Honoring the Life of Roland Morin ’91



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

**The recent passing of Roland Morin ’91 shakes the Wabash community to its core. His full circle moment of returning to the College ended with a legacy that will not be forgotten.**

REED MATHIS ’22 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF •  
The first weeks of the semester are often met with a period of finding normalcy and routine. August 27th was the exact opposite for the Wabash community.

This day, all members of our community processed and are still enduring the loss of Roland Morin ’91 -- a man who commanded the attention of a room and expected the best out of those around him. A fine Little Giant who, even after his passing rewards and influences the lives of countless students, faculty, and alumni that had the pleasure to know him over the last 30 years.

For most Little Giants, the bulk, or at least the more notable aspects, of one’s association with Wabash begins and ends during their four years enrolled in the

College. For Morin, his time as a student was anything but.

Only someone like Morin could undergo the sustained verbal and the mental toll from fellow Wabash students yet find a way to give back and transform the very place that caused so many long nights and agonizing memories only mere decades before.

News of his passing spanned throughout the Wabash community, and messages of sorrow and appreciation filed in on social media.

“Roland Morin was a transformer. We always knew Wabash had the best alumni and career services but Roland’s efforts proved it. He turned the CIBE into a highly sought after program, for students and alumni both,” said Tony Unified ’03.



Justin Kopp

@JustinKopp22

Roland signed off a meeting with me a couple weeks ago by saying “thank you for everything you do for @WabashCollege each and every day.” I want to thank Roland for everything he did for @WabashCollege and for me each and every day. RIP Roland.

COURTESY OF JUSTIN KOPP ’21 TWITTER

**Kopp is only one of many former students to express their fondness memories and lasting reflections on the influence Roland Morin had in their life.**

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## Afghanistan Withdrawal



COURTESY OF THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

**The almost twenty-year war in Afghanistan has displaced roughly six million Afghans. The US decision to withdraw paved the way for Taliban occupation of key provisional capitals, exacerbating feelings of shock, chaos, and betrayal.**

COOPER SMITH ’23 | NEWS EDITOR •  
Last week, the US military completed its withdrawal from Kabul, marking an end to the twenty-year war in Afghanistan. Shortly after the last US troops left the country, President Biden addressed the nation, calling the decision to withdraw “the right decision, the wise decision, the best decision for America.” Many in the US and abroad, however, questioned whether the US withdrawal was the right, wise, and best decision for the people of Afghanistan. With the 20th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks approaching, discussions once again turned to US foreign policy and the conflict in Afghanistan.

Dr. Matthew Wells, Professor of Political Science, said, “It’s a hard lesson to learn, but one of the things that we haven’t done as a country is talk about how willing we are to do things for other people that aren’t necessarily in our interest, but are in the

interest of human rights,” said Wells. “And Biden is taking the position that we have to be thinking about American interests... But I think in a lot of people’s minds, we are also driven by the desire to do good things for other people. Where does Afghanistan fit into that?”

To understand the situation, The Bachelor spoke with Afghan Ambassador to Sri Lanka Ashraf Haidari ’01. Haidari, a former international student at Wabash, previously served as the Director-General of Policy & Strategy of the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan and in several positions in the Afghanistan Embassy to the United States.

Haidari discussed the Taliban’s advance over recent months. As the Taliban advanced, occupying major provisional capitals such as Kandahar and Lashkar Gah, the Afghanistan question had changed -- it was not a question of if Kabul would fall,

but when.

“Even then, as much as I had been concerned and hearing that the fall of Kabul was nearing, I still was hoping that the international community and US-NATO forces would maintain control of the situation,” said Haidari.

**“No one -- not even people who had been listening and reading -- expected this.”**

- Ambassador Haidari

But the US maintained its withdrawal timeline, occupying the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul and attempting to evacuate military personnel and citizens. For several days, the tragic images at the airport flooded national media outlets.

“No one -- not even people who had been listening and reading -- expected this,” said Haidari. “They still thought that the Biden Administration would stay the course and maybe make a course correction,” said Haidari. “Just go online and look at the number of op-eds written by dozens of former ambassadors and four-star generals who served from different services -- all advised against this. All asked for a last-minute course correction.”

In a recent address, President Biden said, “One more year, or five more years, of U.S. military presence would not have made a difference if the Afghan military cannot or will not hold its own country.” Ambassador Haidari disagreed, arguing that the Afghan military could have maintained control had the US not withdrawn.

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LIFE OF ROLAND MORIN, CONT.

“I can confidently say every student who had the pleasure and privilege of working for Roland will not, in his life, find another boss so committed to his success and growth as a person.”  
-Hunter Seidler ’22

When Morin returned to the College in 2014 to take on the role, “Director of Entrepreneurial Programs,” his goals for the College did not take time to develop into being part of the Wabash experience. His presence and push to instill success into future generations of Wabash men started on day one.

Current students and former students alike can recount how he left that impact on you in ways that are unique to Morin.

“I can confidently say every student who had the pleasure and privilege of working for Roland will not, in his life, find another boss so committed to his success and growth as a person. Roland expected your best, and when he knew you would give it to him, he returned the favor,” said Hunter Seidler ’22.


The reflections and lessons learned through Morin’s guidance are essential during one’s

time here, but he will be the first person to tell you that the four years here are only a starting place.

“Roland Morin was one of those people that, in the game of life, you wanted on your team ... I am who I am today because of him,” said David Riggs ’20. Throughout his time at the College, he had many students on his team, mainly through the Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship (CIBE).

Whether it was through a “Professional Immersion Experience (PIE)” trip to cities like Chicago or Washington D.C., or Alumni Career Fairs at Fusion54, Morin always found ways for students to put their best effort forward. Usually, these efforts coincided with previous students who found success through the tutelage of Morin during their time at the College. Those relationships are not only a testament to the years of work and success Morin garnered over the last seven years but an ongoing tribute to the opportunities and paths outlined in a little office at the Schroeder Center for Career Development.

“I still remember walking into the room with him and others who would decide on the matter. Ultimately, after pitching TEDx Wabash College, it was shut down,” said Sam Stewart ’19. In typical fashion, the story did not end there for Stewart. “The whole thing was kind of killed for like a week, and then I guess behind closed doors, he went to bat for me, and they ended up getting rid of the Alumni & Faculty symposium. The energy and financial support then went into TEDx. It was all because, Rowan was, like, ‘hey, I like



Steven L. Jones @SLJMXI · Aug 27

Roland Morin ‘91 - Thank you for giving so much to our students! Your passion for creating pathways for student success was unbelievable.

Some Little Giant...Rest Easy My Colleague @WabashCollege @WabashCareers @WabashCIBE

COURTESY OF STEVEN L. JONES ’87 TWITTER

**Morin impacted the lives of all people within the Wabash community, and he allowed for the intersection of students and alumni to be seamless.**

this kid’s vision and I want to see what he can bring to the table,” said Stewart. Morin did not succeed at every point in his professional career by accident. The installment of the CIBE and TEDx Wabash will be two of the more significant representations of his dedication to the student experience for generations to come.

For some, their interaction began and ended with a single conversation in the second semester of Senior year. For others, the connection saw no bounds post-graduation.

“Roland and I were supposed to grab dinner together last week and that has been going through my head a lot. I was really looking forward to catching up and spilling some tea, since that was kind of our part-time job. But of course, that dinner never happened,” said Alejandro Reyna ’19, former Senior Fellow for the CIBE.

Reflections from students, alumni, and friends speak on how the story never ended

with Morin - it was only waiting for a new chapter.

“This is a bond I will never forget, and one that has deeply impacted my development as a professional and as a man,” said Seidler.

“The Wabash mafia is stronger than ever. There’s not many people that you meet in your life that their death has ripple effects. The ability to bring people together is truly incredible, but that is Roland for you,” said Stewart.

“For those of you who are also dealing with this grief, I will share what one classmate told me that brought me some peace and solace: ‘You’ve gained an angel,’” said Reyna.

Whether it is working for the CIBE, TEDx, or Career Services, remembering stories of people receiving “Regard” emails, getting that first job out of Wabash and telling Morin before anyone else, or that last conversation with him, Morin has cemented his place in the story of Wabash and its students.

# Traditional Homecoming Returns



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

**Three brothers of Phi Delta Theta earn a red “W” at Chapel Sing. A staple of Homecoming Week, Chapel Sing features teams of fraternity pledges and independents who sing the Wabash Fight Song, repeatedly, while members of the Sphinx Club attempt to distract them. Teams are judged for their spirit, volume, and accuracy.**

ALEX ROTARU ’22 | MANAGING EDITOR • After three semesters when the greater Wabash community has had to sacrifice or alter most traditions to stay safe, things are starting to look more and more like they used to be before the pandemic. This also includes Homecoming, with the entire week coming back in full swing in a few short days, after a dialed-back version last year.

Unlike last year, this Homecoming Week will center around the football game against the Allegheny Gators on September 18.

“We did homecoming events last year to keep the traditions going,” Andrew Gonczarow ’22, the Sphinx Club President, said. “This year we have a homecoming game [and] an actual homecoming week where we can crown the winner by the end of the football game [against] Allegheny. There will be a lot of alumni in attendance, and I’m sure they will be happy to see these traditions go on.”

This year’s Homecoming week will feature many of the traditional events seen in years past:

“For Tuesday, there will be donuts and drinks at Chapel after 11.00 a.m. classes, for an opportunity for students to come together,” Gonczarow said. “Wednesday, Competitors will hang Banners from their respective living units to be judged. Thursday, we will have Chapel Sing, where participants will not have to wear masks (unless they are not vaccinated). Friday, we will bring back the upperclassmen dodgeball tournament, and Saturday, we will cap off the week with Floats and Homecoming Queen at halftime of the big game.” However, because of how early Homecoming is this year, chants have been postponed for Monon Bell Week, according to Gonczarow; Monon Bell Week is the week of November 7-13.

Chapel Sing on Thursday will be the highlight of the week. Last year, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the event’s logistics involved grouping participants by living unit across the entire College Mall to allow for a safe distance.

“[We are] able to have the event be a lot more normal than last year,” Gonczarow said. “Spectators will still have to be on the sidewalks of the mall for the event, but [the Healthy Campus Taskforce] worked with us in making sure that participants of Chapel Sing will be unmasked, so we can get the rightful winner.”

Next week will be one of the most demanding in a freshman’s experience at Wabash.

“The week can be a grind, but, at the same time, I’d argue that Homecoming Week helps a Wabash man build that work ethic that they will need to be successful in the future,” Gonczarow said. “My advice [to freshmen] would be to enjoy the week. as some of mv best memories at this college are from Homecoming week. Love all of the fun and dedication that comes with it because this is when you realize you are a part of something bigger than yourself at this school.”

The first Homecoming event will be donuts and drinks at Pioneer Chapel on Tuesday, September 14 at 11.00 a.m. The week will conclude with the Wabash College Little Giants going against the Allegheny College Gators in their first home game at the new Little Giant Stadium, starting 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 18.

Homecoming Week promises to bring back the long-awaited return to a campus before COVID and will become a starting point for what life at Wabash will look after the onset of the pandemic.

As Gonczarow put it, “last year’s Homecoming Week did not feel the same without a football game to cap the week, so look forward to getting back to a sense of normalcy.”

# What’s New with Fellowships?

COOPER SMITH ’23 | NEWS EDITOR • Wabash students excel in earning fellowships, nationally-competitive awards that prepare students to lead in their future careers. Over the next few weeks, Wabash students of all class years have several opportunities to learn more about the different types of fellowships and their distinct selection processes.

On Monday, September 13, juniors interested in the Truman Fellowship are invited for an overview of the upcoming selection process. This nationally-competitive fellowship, awarded to juniors, awards \$30,000 for graduate school expenses for future “change agents.” Out of thousands of applicants, only 50-60 students become Truman Scholars.

“The Truman is not just for someone who is an outstanding scholar -- it’s for someone who also intends to have a career with a very significant component of public service,” said Albrecht. She explained that

meaningful public service could come from any area of work within one’s community, including politics, science, or arts.

On Wednesday, interested underclassmen are invited for an introduction to available fellowships, such as the Rhodes, Fulbright, and Truman. This callout meeting is designed for students who are curious about these opportunities and want information about eligibility, timelines, and how to prepare.

This semester, Albrecht will also hold open office hours. From 9:00-12:00 on Friday, September 10 and 17, Albrecht will be ready to field any fellowship questions in the Brew Lounge. Students can stop by with any question about the fellowship process.


Interested students who missed last week’s callout meeting or who look to get a step ahead of the competition about summer language opportunities should attend the office hours or email Susan Albrecht.

# IAWM

The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men

## 50th Reunion Panel

Friday, September 10 • 4 p.m. • Hays 104



David Blix '70, Keith Nelson '71, Trey Holland '71, Alex Miller '71, Raymond Williams H'68, and David Hadley H'76 discuss life on campus during the tumultuous years of 1967-71.

IndyWabash.org

@IndyWabash



**AFGHANISTAN WITHDRAWAL, CONT.**

“The residual [American] force of about 2,500 or so, we were willing to reduce. Even 1,000 capable, well-equipped troops -- with the key right neighbors on the ground -- could have done the job because other NATO forces were willing to stay. The reason why the rest of NATO left was because of the US [withdrawal].”

Haidari pointed to the Afghan government’s achievements over the past two decades. Since 2001, Afghan life expectancy increased, and far more Afghan girls attended schools. 27% of the Afghan parliament was female, and the country secured its first peaceful democratic transition of power in 2014. All of that progress, according to Haidari, is now in jeopardy.

“The manner in which the President chose to withdraw was with complete disregard to the realities on the ground to the advice and requests and appeals of the Afghan government and of the admin civil society of people, advocates and activists of democracy, human rights, and women’s rights,” said Haidari.

“The top priority,” said Haidari, “should be addressing the humanitarian needs of the Afghan people. Five million Afghans have been displaced -- of that, 500,000 recently. They are on the streets of Kabul and in the parks with no shelter, food, or water -- the basics.”

Haidari pointed to a number of a

“We don’t see any reports on that because everyone is focusing on the crisis at the airport. That’s where the international media focuses,” said Haidari.

In the days since the withdrawal, it seems that major US media outlets have shifted away from the crisis in Afghanistan entirely.

“The media has a short attention span,” said Wells. “It looks for a story. And by and large, I think the polls say 60% of the popular American public wanted to leave. We left. What’s another point of tension that we can get to? So [the media] pivots away to something else.”

Students interested in learning more about the US withdrawal from Afghanistan can attend a Wabash Public Policy Program lunch talk on September 16th. Titled “Afghanistan: Did the U.S. Make the Right Call,” the event will feature two US foreign policy experts with different perspectives.

“An interesting thing about foreign policy questions is they are a little more cross-cutting,” said Lewis McCrary, Director of WPPP. “People’s normal ideological commitments don’t always match up exactly.”

**“Moving forward, I will continue speaking up for the people of Afghanistan”**

-Ambassador Haidari



COURTESY OF SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Ambassador Ashraf Haidari ‘01 serves as the Afghan Ambassador to Sri Lanka. During the Taliban’s recent advance, Haidari has continued to lead and speak up for the people of Afghanistan.

Though the situation in Afghanistan is ever-changing and the future is unclear, Ambassador Haidari was sure of one thing: “Moving forward, I will continue speaking up for the people of Afghanistan -- for the gains of the Afghan people in democracy, freedom, institutionalization of human rights, women’s rights, and in sustainable

peace and security.”

“Almost all of our ambassadors have fallen silent. And the reason why I continue talking is the education that I got from Wabash: what to do in situations like this, how to lead in situations like this, how to speak up for the values and the rights of my nation.”

# CARE Team Prioritizes Mental Health

# NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

COURTESY OF AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

**September 5-11, 2021 is National Suicide Prevention Week. Taking care of physical and mental wellness is critical, and students experiencing mental health crises should reach out to the campus Counseling Center or the National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255.**

ALEX ROTARU '22 | MANAGING EDITOR • Today is National Suicide Prevention Day. It is also the anniversary of the day we lost two of our Wabash brothers: Austin Weirich '18 and Evan Hansen '19. Wabash is a tough place, with grueling academics and plenty of involvement, so keeping things under control is difficult in and of itself, without having to deal with poor mental health. To help alleviate some of the burdens that come when things get rough, the CARE Team is shifting away from the COVID-19 pandemic to the more hidden, yet more pervasive challenge of preserving mental wellness on a college campus.

This year’s CARE Team has 30 students - 27 leaders and 3 managers - with at least one leader per living unit. The students will lead discussions in every living unit about maintaining mental wellness.

“The way we wanted to do it is [to be] student-led, and to really give each leader the freedom to tailor [the discussions] to his group of guys because he’s going to know his guys’ interests and limits better than anybody else,” said College Counselor Ryan Dobbs '03. Dobbs and Pre-Health Advisor Jill Rogers are running the program this year. The CARE Team will also work with every Mental Health Chair in each living unit to increase participation at these sessions. “I want [taking care of our mental health] to be part of our culture,” Dobbs said.

The CARE Team’s methodology rests on the 8 dimensions of wellness: emotional, spiritual, physical, social, financial, occupational, intellectual, and environmental. Emotional health relates to managing and expressing emotions. Spiritual health addresses purpose, belief, values, and morals. Physical health involves developing good habits and allowing time for self-care. Social health tackles managing relationships with other people. Occupational and financial health relate to the relationship with money and work-life balance. Intellectual health involves facing challenges that result in personal and professional development. Environmental health tackles being around good company and feeling

comfortable in the place you are.

Naturally, these dimensions intertwine in interesting ways.

“They’re not all just eight siloed dimensions,” Dobbs said. “[For instance,] there’s a lot of overlap between the environmental and the physical dimension - with just taking care of yourself and getting exercise. [...] And when we’re not tending to one of these eight dimensions you can see that we start to fall off a little bit.” This goes to show that tending to all these facets is the key to successfully maintaining mental wellness. However, these facets look different for different people, which is why having people who can tailor the discussion helps better the mental health outcomes.

Maintaining mental wellness is more than just about maintaining resilience during the hard times: it’s also about maintaining oneself during the good times in preparation for what is to come.

“[Track and Field] Coach [Clyde] Morgan says ‘a storm is coming,’ right? So, we’ve got to build ourselves for that storm,” Dobbs said. “We’ve also got to maintain between those storms, so that we’re stronger because of them and between them. [...] I wish more people would get it, [as] that is something that we can really grow with as our values and our interests change.”

However, with maintenance being a long game, there needs to be a way for students to keep each-other accountable for their actions.

The CARE Team is holding these sessions in every living unit twice a month at a time convenient for most residents of that unit. Other than the CARE Team, the college also has 3 counselors - Jamie Douglas, Laura Dolph, and Ryan Dobbs - which are accessible at [counseling@wabash.edu](mailto:counseling@wabash.edu) for free appointments for students and TAs. People experiencing suicidal ideation or thoughts of self-harm can also call either 911 or the National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255. The most important thing to keep in mind in terms of mental health is that seeking support is a sign of strength, and that this strength requires all of Wabash to stand together in times of trouble.

# A WABASH MAN

# GETS HIS FLU SHOT

**NO COST**

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

**INSURANCE CARD**

**STUDENT ID**

**KEY DATES:**

**SEPTEMBER 17 - 9am to 1pm**

**SEPTEMBER 28 - 2:30pm to 5:30pm**

**OCTOBER 4 - 5pm to 7pm**

**WHERE:**

**CHADWICK COURT**

**WAF FLU**



# Critical Race Theory: Bogeyman or Bona Fide?

Jakob Goodwin '23



Reply to this editorial at  
jmgoodwi23@wabash.edu

According to EducationWeek, critical race theory is an academic concept that states “race is a social construct, and that racism is not merely the product of individual bias or prejudice, but also something embedded in legal systems and policies.” This topic, critical race theory has become a constant talking point in political talk shows, in school boards, and in statehouses. Conservatives, like Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Indiana AG Todd Rokita '91, have attacked CRT and the NYT's 1619 Project, calling them “divisive” and “ahistorical. Others, like Texas Governor Greg Abbott and Senator Tom Cotton, have introduced legislation banning CRT and the 1619 Project from schools for the same reasons. Rather than being a serious attempt to ensure America's children are indoctrinated that white children are inherently and irredeemably racist, CRT and the 1619 Project are being

used as bogeymen by conservatives to avoid talking about the reality of racism in America.

Florida Governor and prospective 2024 presidential candidate Ron DeSantis has taken every chance to say that CRT teaches kids “to hate their country and hate each other.” He must presuppose that when children are taught about the atrocities and injustices the United States has committed against minorities, they will, rather than simply understanding the integral role race has played in U.S. history, they will hate each other for the acts of their ancestors.

This must be the same thinking that gripped Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita '91, who is suspected to run for governor in 2024, when he wrote a letter to Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona bashing CRT and the 1619 Project as “a program to promote other [ahistorical] concepts and Marxism.” It is here where AG Rokita '91 loses me. Does he deny that slaves were brought to North America and held captive in a constant state of torture? Does he disagree that after the Civil War and Reconstruction, many states in the South adopted Black Codes to ensure that African Americans did not have the same rights as whites, specifically those to vote and not be lynched? Is it “ahistorical” to recount the Tulsa Race Riots where white Oklahomans destroyed Black businesses, killed more than 300, and injured more than 800 others? Or is it just inconvenient to teach about redlining, the practice by which banks refused to offer

Blacks mortgages in areas of economic prosperity? I think it's the latter. Rather than teaching these important facts to show how laws and economic systems have been used to oppress minorities in this country, Rokita '91 finds it more important to teach that George Washington's teeth were made of ivory (they were actually his slaves').

Senator Tom Cotton, in his bill to ensure that the 1619 Project was banned from schools in the U.S., called the NYT project “a racially divisive and revisionist account of history”. In the aptly named “Saving American History Act”, Cotton states that July 4, 1776, not August 1619, is the true founding date of America and that the self-evident truths outlined in the Declaration of Independence, not slavery and oppression, are the fundamental principles upon which America was founded. Nikole Hannah-Jones, the author of the lead essay in the 1619, does not disagree. In her piece, Hannah-Jones, rather than claiming that 1619 is the real founding date of America, says that 1619 “is as important to the American story as 1776.” Is it inaccurate to say that the initial arrival of slaves to America is important? She agrees that Jefferson's self-evident truths are foundational, but that it has taken two centuries to make them true. Did she incorrectly critique America for holding slaves for the first 90 years of our existence and further oppressing Blacks and other minorities through Jim Crow?

Cotton's claims and those like them, which align with those of the 1619

Project, have a second purpose? This second purpose is made clear by the further education laws passed in conservative states like Texas. Earlier this summer, the Texas Senate made headlines for removing portions from a law regarding curriculum. These portions required the teaching of Ona Judge and Sally Hemmings, some of the slaves that Washington and Jefferson owned. The Texas Senate also removed portions mandating teaching on the Trail of Tears, Frederick Douglass' The North Star, the Underground Railroad, and “the history of white supremacy, including but not limited to the institution of slavery, the eugenics movement, and the Ku Klux Klan, and the ways in which it is morally wrong”. This is the secondary purpose of attacking CRT and the 1619 Project. Rather than “forming young people into knowledgeable and patriotic citizens,” as Sen. Cotton's bill claims to do, Texas' bill fundamentally undermines those goals.

Critical Race Theory, an offshoot of critical legal theory, has become a right-wing dogwhistle for talking about racism at all. Conservatives are using the argument that CRT and the 1619 Project will teach children to hate each other to pass laws that will allow students to not be taught the most basic history of racism in the U.S. Conservatives and their organizations are hiding behind a strawman that says CRT will create an irredeemable divide in the United States rather than teaching students the ugly, but real history of the United States.

# A War Against All Women

Hawk Ricketts '23



Reply to this editorial at  
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This is a response to Matthew Franz' opinion, Choice: Misconceptions Behind “Her Body, Her Choice”.

On September 2nd, a Texas law went into effect that bans abortion after six weeks, before many people even know they're pregnant, and allows any private citizen to sue both abortion providers and anyone who “aids and abets” patients trying to obtain an abortion. Now, only hours after the Supreme Court refused to block this damaging law, Florida Senate President Wilton Simpson commented that state Republicans are “already working on” an abortion ban to bring to the table in the 2022 legislative session. If Florida were to follow suit in such legislation, this would surely obliterate abortion care within southeast America. The state has the most significant number of clinics in the region, clocking it at 65 clinics as of 2017 by The Guttmacher Institute.

Last week in *The Bachelor*, a very

blistering opinion was written by Mathew Franz about the apparent “risk” the pro-choice movement of “her body, her choice” introduces. Upon reading this as a Wabash man, I found myself quite troubled. I felt as the opinion posted fails and ignores central pieces to this incredibly complicated and broad conversation. Firstly, as a responsible Wabash Citizen, I must accentuate how important it is to spread reliable information about such a severe and personal subject as abortion and not flimsy anecdotes or vague statistics that, when spread, could seriously harm the lives of all women.

One must especially consider this in such a rare environment like our campus, where there are no female students to speak up for themselves and share their own voices on the matter. In such a space like our campus, there can be a sense of tone-deafness. As in the course of an argument to presumably value life, Franz's opinion appears to inherently devalue the way women who find themselves in this horrific position of negotiating one of the most challenging crises of their lives. The opinion paints a dark and gruesome picture of over 614,000 babies being murdered yearly in the United States but fails to mention how nationwide abortions are actually on a decline. As reported by USA Today, a 2018 study conducted by the CDC states that abortions in America faced a 26% decline between the years 2006-2014, crediting increased contraception access and improvements in the sex education system as a result. As this study shows, a better step to achieve declining abortion rates should be a more robust sex education and more

accessible, free access to birth control.

Another crucial detail that was not spoken on within Franz's opinion can be brought to attention by the Guttmacher Institute, which “provides the most highly respected statistics on the sexual health of women and men,” according to factchecker.org. The institute states that over 75% of abortions in 2014 were among low-income patients. Since it appears to be that poor financial status seems to be a direct cause of the yearly number of abortions, then why aren't there any systems put into place to make the financial responsibilities of a child easier on a low-income mother?

An example of such a system can be found in European countries; financial programs are put into place that, no matter the tax bracket, you are given a weekly allowance for childcare, going up to 400 dollars a month for a single child. With this all being said, if one really wanted abortion rates to decrease, wouldn't the more sensible option instead of criminalizing a woman's right to her own bodily autonomy be to put better financial programs in place to support a woman and her child, making it so that she doesn't feel like she has to abort it?

Even without considering the better avenues of decreasing abortion rates in America stated above, one must question how even under a pro-life agenda, where the justification of criminalizing abortions lies? Criminalizing legal channels of abortion does not just magically eliminate abortion; it instead opens the avenue for illegal and dangerous abortions to take place, which can cause significant health crises or even death for a woman.

Why even stop there? If the

conservative pro-life movement is so adamant that life truly begins at conception, then why are they only “at war” with just abortions? Fertility clinics, where people go if they can't have babies, delicately extract eggs from human follicles using a needle guided by ultrasound. They combine eggs and sperm in a lab and implant the resulting embryo in someone's womb so it can grow and they can have a child. When sperm meets the egg, that's what we call conception, but the thing is, they always make more than they need which results in spares that end up discarded. The bad news continues even further; many fertilized eggs don't implant in the wall of the uterus and are passed out. Estimated percentages vary between about a third and two-thirds. If you believe life begins at conception, you might want to sit down because that means approximately a third of all people die within a week of being created.

To me, a translation of the pro-life movement is not a simple cry against the “murder of babies” as it's painted to be, it's instead an approval of state forced pregnancy, meaning if someone is pregnant, you think that it is okay for the government to make them stay pregnant no matter the circumstance. This sentiment bothers me deeply, as to me, if those in conservative pro-life circles really cared about the child within the womb, then they wouldn't be in such opposition against social, educational, and financial programs that would profoundly benefit the lives of these children and single mothers once the child is born. This double standard reaffirms my belief that our current war against abortion is instead a war against women.

# Cryptocurrencies are Changing the Way We Store Data

Simon Decapua '23



Reply to this editorial at  
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The amount of new data pouring into the internet every year is growing astronomically. The current infrastructure we use to share information will soon be overwhelmed if they are not already. Currently all transfers of data run through an intermediary whether you are exchanging dollars, photos, or corporate data. Companies like Amazon, Google, and Microsoft have made billions by hosting other people's data in the cloud and using it for their own gain. The reason that Google and Facebook maintain free business models is because advertisers are willing to pay top dollar to use the information these sites collect to market their product

towards the most likely buyer. Many people do not worry about this notion but what they do not realize is that to find out what brand of shampoo you like, companies must collect as much data as they possibly can to make the best determination possible. Data is a resource like any other and like all other resources, big companies will leverage their power to maximize their financial gains from personal data.

Cryptocurrencies are reshaping the institutions of finance and data storage. Through use of blockchain technology, people can utilize a decentralized ledger of data and can access it anywhere in the world. No longer are companies like Amazon, Google, and Microsoft necessary to hold the public's sensitive data. The reason that these companies existed to begin with is that they established trust with the public, that they would responsibly handle people's personal data. Not only have they made decisions with questionable ethics, but centralized data storage also poses a big target for hackers.

Decentralized data storage on the other hand, exists on separated nodes

across the world that are necessary to validate 'blocks' of data exchanges, making it significantly harder for a hacker to control the flow of data. Security and privacy are not the only advantages of decentralized data storage though, it is just the tip of the iceberg and innovation will use this proven technology to do things never thought possible.

Not only will financial and cloud institutions be disarmed by cryptocurrencies, so will the industries of fashion, music, art, gaming, communication, and so much more. The ability to transfer data without the use of an intermediary allows users to exchange information in a private and secure way, where the middleman does not assume all the control. Crypto projects like Stellar are attempting to disrupt finance by allowing a form of wire transfers that require low fees, and little processing time. A decentralized wire transfer will most benefit those in developing countries that need to wire money back to their families, currently these wires can take upwards of five days with a 30% transaction fee. Another potential use

case in crypto is gaming, where users want to engage in a community that is in some way unlike their own. If this is the case, why play a video game that exists in a closed ecosystem completely controlled by the developers? With blockchain technology in game items, currencies, maps, powerups, and more can be tokenized allowing the user to buy/sell their in-game possessions in a world where the community makes decisions. The potential use cases of crypto are too numerous to count and the list only expands with more innovation.

However crypto may innovate, its core promises of decentralized data storage controlled by the community will hold in many ways. No longer will big companies, third party advertisers, or hackers be able to easily access personal data. If they want to, they will have to pay the user individually. Additionally, users can communicate directly without an intermediary with peering eyes. There are numerous industries that stand to benefit from blockchain technology and there will only be more ways to utilize its potential with further innovation.



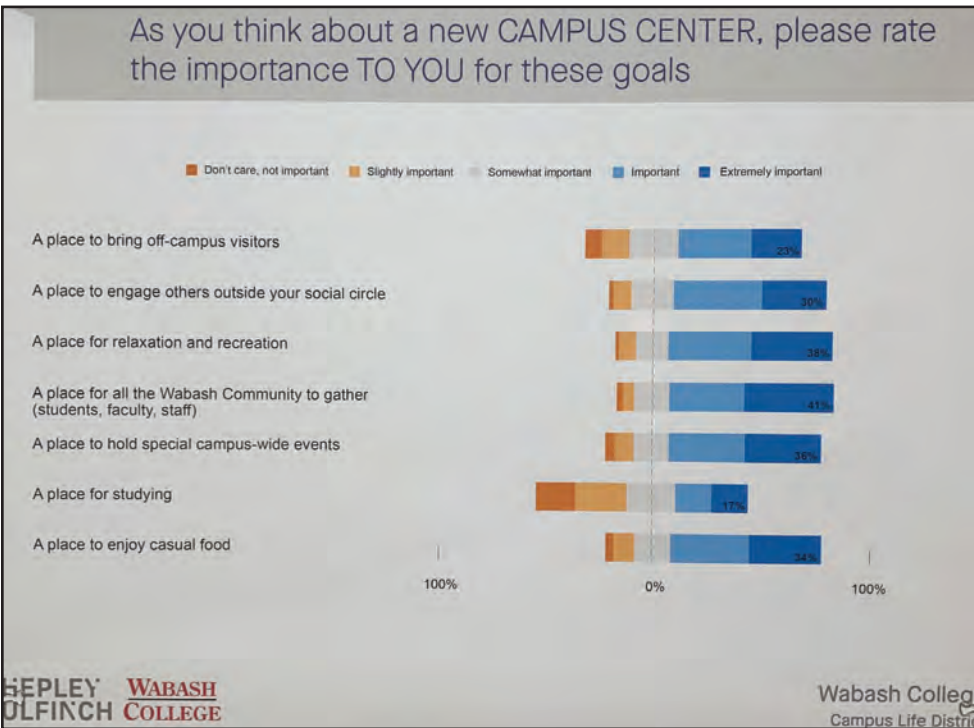
# Latest Engament Sessions Provide Clarity on Future Student Center



Keith Abramson '22 and William Hinson '25 looking at some of the renderings for the new students center on display in the 1832 Brew Lounge.

WILLIAM GRENNON '24 | CAVELIFE EDITOR • With plans to renovate the Frank H. Sparks Center, the college has made a point of including student input and feedback in the renovation process. Last semester the college asked students to rank which goals the new campus center should meet. Students asked for the new space on

campus to firstly be a place for all the Wabash community to gather, including students, faculty, and staff. Closely trailing that goal were the hopes that the new center would be a place of relaxation and recreation alike. On Wednesday, September 8th, the college held an event in the 1832 Brew Lounge showing a multitude of



Poll results from a survey sent to students on display in the 1832 Brew Lounge. Students were asked to rate the importance of goals for the new campus center.

# The Art Behind the “PQQ”

DEVIN VANYO '22 | STAFF WRITER • Food is a ubiquitous part of your life. Most of us hopefully eat every day. And I know no one who exclusively cooks every meal himself, every day, forever. All of us eat out every once in awhile. The point here is simple and inarguable: Three factors always determine the greatness of a meal. We consider these factors within a triple ratio, the PQQ: Price per Quality per Quantity. The PQQ, once fully grasped, opens doors to your dining experiences. The components of the triple ratio are simple enough. Food quality is clearly significant. Good food is good food. You want to enjoy the taste, too. Quantity—fellow men of Wabash, I assure you—is likewise important. If you need to debate running to McDonald’s to grab a small fry after you just ate a meal, you just didn’t get enough food. Can such a dining experience ever be suitable, let alone exceptional? Finally, although slightly counterintuitive, price is essential to a meal’s greatness. I will illustrate inductively. There’s a taqueria in Indian Rocks Beach, Florida which I tasted last summer. Their nachos have great quality (a fresh, tasty variety of ingredients) and quantity (you could have skipped lunch and finished quite full). However, the reason the place was so great, and why I remember it so vividly now, was because

you could get those nachos for 5 bucks on Tuesdays—absolutely unreal. If you’re paying \$50, you expect a phenomenal meal. If you’re paying \$5 and you get a phenomenal meal, the establishment is simply legendary. Generally, food is better when it’s cheaper. These are the basic components of the PQQ. Their rationale is clear. A truly outstanding meal will maximize all categories. (For any especially fastidious readers, we naturally take the inverse of the Price category.) The value of the PQQ is self-evident after any experience using it. Allow me to demonstrate. El Charro has great quality and quantity (unlimited chips and salsa give a natural boost here). Their prices are disappointingly high for most non-burrito items—I mean, \$12 for a meal in Crawfordsville, c’mon. Using the PQQ, we thus see El Charro is a pretty solid choice, but certainly not top tier. If you go, go for the burritos. Now Little Caesars: fantastic price, and admirably quantity, but selling cardboard with cheese simply won’t cut it in the quality section. Given the heavy-lifting done by the Price and Quantity, it’s decent choice but could be better. The PQQ can be more precise too. For instance, Chick-Fil-A has great quality, mid-tier quantity, and below average pricing. These average out to an above-average meal choice. Notice the PQQ is not an objective

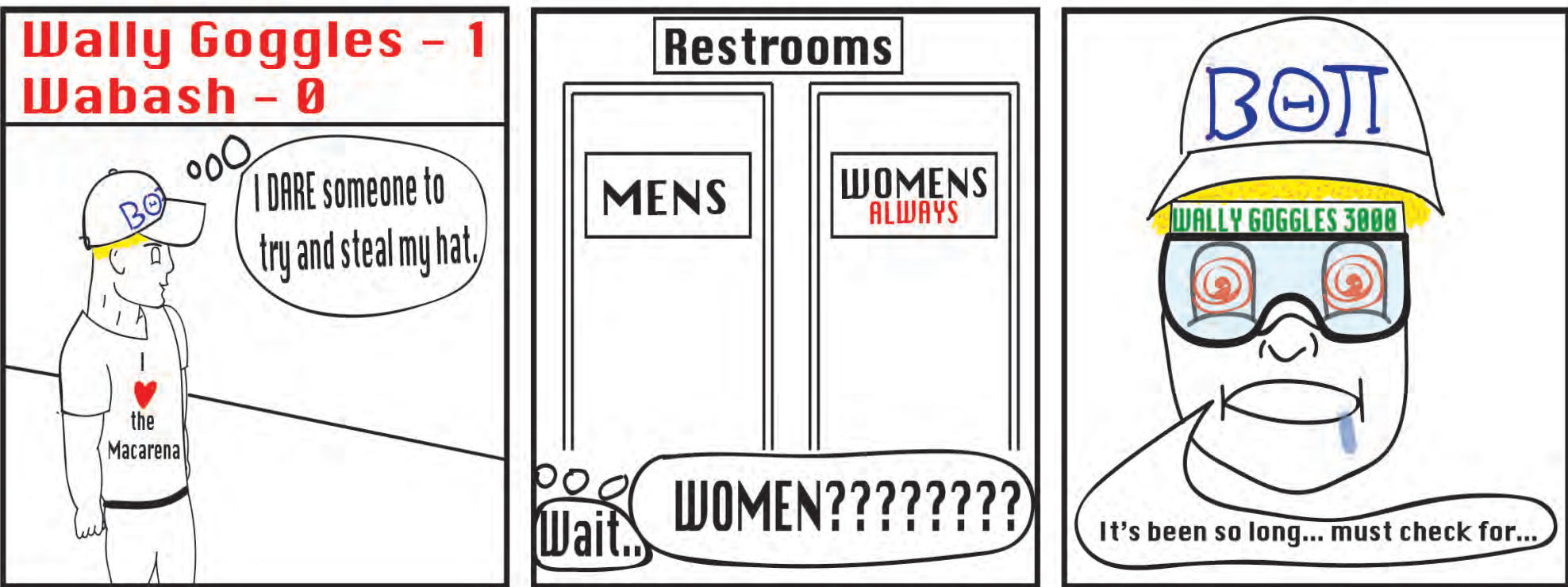


El Charro, the popular Crawfordsville Mexican restaurant, lit up at night. Vanyo '22 suggests the establishment holds a “solid” PQQ grade.

measurement device. To a reasonable extent, the value within each P, Q, and Q may be debatable, given some initial food option or restaurant. However, the core principle here remains fixed. For any man, or woman, who lives in the real world—with finite wallets, an appetite, and taste buds worth respecting—no meal can be truly exceptional while neglecting one of the fundamental components integrated

within the PQQ. The greatness of any meal lies within the Price per Quality per Quantity, considered as a triple ratio, each equitably considered. The PQQ’s utility—and truth-be-told, its righteousness—is quite simply inarguable. So go and argue for your favorite restaurant. But remember: Not all food is created equal.

# Wally Goggles Strike Again!



Dean Redding, “I’m a bit amazed that I need to send out this reminder...”



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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.

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# LaFollette: “Shaped by History”



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

**Dr. Amanda Ingram is a Biology instructor and plant systematist. Ingram will give the 41st Annual LaFollette Lecture.**

BENJAMIN BULLOCK '23 | STAFF WRITER • This coming Thursday, September 16, the annual LaFollette Lecture returns following a yearlong hiatus caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Dr. Amanda Ingram, Professor of Biology and Division I Chair, will give the 41st LaFollette Lecture. Titled “Shaped by History,” Dr. Ingram’s talk is set to combine key principles of biology with the theoretical approaches of the humanities.

Ingram joined the Wabash faculty in 2004 after completing her doctorate at Cornell University. Her research focuses on plant development, and her classes at Wabash include the Biology of Vascular Plants and the Evolution of Populations. She has also published a number of articles in well-recognized journals, including the *International Journal of Plant Sciences*.

The LaFollette Lecture was established in 1982 as an opportunity for a member of the Wabash faculty to address their specialist research area within the framework of the humanities. In recent years, lectures

have spanned various topics including ethnomusicology, Hadrian’s Wall, and quantum mechanics.

Catching up with Ingram, she told us that the opaque title is a key element of the LaFollette process. “Part of the deal with the LaFollette lecture is that the topic is shrouded in mystery,” said Ingram. “An astute reader might be able to make some guesses about what I’ll talk about if they know that I’m a plant systematist, which means that my research focuses on the evolutionary history and classification of plants.”

Although the contents of her lecture remain a mystery, Ingram believes she can bridge the perceived gap between Wabash’s academic divisions. “I hope people who come to the lecture will learn a little bit about the way researchers in my field tackle their research questions. I also hope the audience will be able to make connections between fields that seem to have little in common: botany and the humanities.”

The lecture will take place in Salter Hall. All members of the Wabash community are encouraged to attend.

# HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY  
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

## CIVILIZED DEBATE

*Hi-five to the NFL season kicking-off last night. If you think guys are overreacting to the mask policy, just wait until you people’s Super Bowl predictions five months from the actual game.*

## HAYS HOUSE IS TRENDING AGAIN...

*Lo-five to the uptick of students who were sick this past week throughout campus. One would say keeping the mask policy on-campus is in all of our best interests...*

## “KA-CHOW”

*Hi-five to the Wabash Car Club for having their callout meeting earlier this week. Still, you gotta feel bad for the guys who went wanting to finally share their conspiracies about the “Cars” universe.*

## MONDAY ATTIRE

*Lo-Five to Senate for mandating business casual wear. Dresseing up to approve the Dork Club’s Budget is one way to spend your Monday night.*

## STEVE BURNS UNDERSTOOD THE ASSIGNMENT

*Hi-fi to the timeless “Blue’s Clues” host for posting why he left the show. We did not think scrolling through Twitter would put us in our feels, but here we are.*

# SPORTS

## FOOTBALL:

**W.** Wabash 33

**R.** Rose-Hulman 23

Sep. 4

## SOCCER:

**C.** #19 Chicago 2

**W.** Wabash 1

Sep. 3

**R.** Rose-Hulman 4

**W.** Wabash 3

Sep. 8

## CROSS COUNTRY:

**W.** Wabash 8th/12

at Knight Invitational

Sep. 4

# Defense Lights Out in Win

## Wabash Opens Season 33-23 Over Rose-Hulman

LOGAN SMITH '23 | ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR • The Wabash College football finally returned as the Little Giants (1-0) were able to secure a 33-23 victory over the Rose-Hulman Fightin’ Engineers (0-1). Fans of Wabash were happy to just see the team playing, but to come out and win was the icing on the cake for people who have waited nearly two years to watch the Little Giants compete in the regular season again. This game, however, was not the cleanest game in the world. With being out of competition for two years, heavy rain before and throughout the game, and facing an opponent you haven’t faced in the regular season for over twenty years, there was bound to be some tweaking and some errors.

Head Coach Don Morel elaborated on these mistakes from the game, saying, “I think after not playing for twenty months, clearly there were going to be some disasters out there on the field. Our team knew that, and we also had to deal with things that were out of our control. I’m gonna guess and say we had the largest number of guys [in Wabash history] who were playing in their first Wabash football game ever. We have guys who are sophomores who missed their freshman year, they played their first game. Then we had true freshmen playing. And then of course it rained too. But, we did a great job and battled through the ups and downs. We felt like we were the better football team and we just needed to prove it, and we did.”

Morel was very pleased with the way his young group of players was able to perform. He was quick to understand that it isn’t easy to stop doing anything for 20 months and still be able to consistently do it, much less do it consistently well, but the guys pushed through this adversity and came out with a very rewarding win.

Morel also talked about the team’s success on the field and how a fair amount of that may be found through the air this season. He listed the guys who he trusts when receiving the ball and he listed the entire unit that was on the field Saturday, and he might have even named some linemen if I hadn’t stopped him. It is just very evident that Morel has a lot of faith in his powerful offense led by



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

**(Left to right) Cooper Sullivan ’23, Jackson Clayborne-Smith ’22, Heisman Skeens ’23, and Nick Hamman ’22 celebrate after a touchdown. Clayborne-Smith had four catches for 68 yards and two touchdowns against Rose-Hulman en route to a 33-23 win.**

quarterback Liam Thompson ’23 and many of the other returning guys. A lot of the clutch plays this week came from tight end Jackson Clayborne-Smith ’22. The senior caught two touchdowns and was only a yard or so away from doing it a third time. Although the Wabash run game was not as emphasized as it has been in recent years, the Little Giants were still able to get 124 rushing yards, which is beyond respectable for a team that has so many elite weapons at the receiving and tight end positions.

The Wabash defense also had a very solid performance against a fifth-year quarterback in Rose-Hulman, and they made the Fightin’ Engineers’ running

offense disappear very quickly. Rose-Hulman ended up with only 54 rushing yards due to the very versatile defense that can adapt to many situations throughout the game. Morel emphasized the difficulty that teams often have when facing the hybrid defense based around three defensive linemen. This excess of bodies behind the line allows for the defense to blitz different guys throughout the game, or it allows for eight guys to be back in coverage which makes it difficult for the quarterback to make throws with confidence. Rose-Hulman was able to get 350 yards in passing, but this is behind a fifth year quarterback who was making very tough downfield

throws in the rain, so it is safe to say that teams will not get 300 or more yards receiving every week.

Wabash will look to take this momentum into the upcoming game against Hiram who has seen a change in Morel in recent seasons, so the team will look to take the “big step” between game one and two that Morel Morel emphasized throughout our talk. Wabash will travel to Hiram, OH this Saturday for a noontime game where they hope to start the season 2-0. If the team can keep up the strong effort on both sides of the ball then they should have no problem making a run for conference champions and have plenty of success along the way.



# Football Prevails in Rain

The Little Giants Faced Adversity in Game 1, Look Forward to Hiram



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Seth Buresh '21 puts pressure on Rose-Hulman's quarterback. Buresh led the Little Giant defense with seven solo tackles throughout the game, including a sack.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Derek Allen '24 eludes defenders on a run. Allen is one of the players Morel referenced as "sophomores who missed their freshman year [...] playing their first game."



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Cade Campbell '24 attempts to run past a defender. The weather played a factor in both teams' performance last Saturday.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Liam Thompson '23 guides traffic while carrying the ball. Thompson dazzled in his first game of the season, winning NCAC Offensive Athlete of the Week honors.

# Fall Tennis Returns

Little Giants Enter Fall Play for First Time Since 2019

ALEX ROTARU '22 | MANAGING EDITOR • Though the bulk of the tennis season is next year, the Wabash tennis team is already beginning its shorter, 5-week fall season. Given how COVID-19 impacted sports last year, this is the first normal season for the freshmen and sophomores, which make up the bulk of the team. *The Bachelor* sat down with Head Tennis Coach Daniel Bickett to learn more about what our players are doing in preparation for their first normal season in two years.

"Normally, we would play a small portion of our schedule in the Fall," Bickett said. "Obviously, last year, with COVID, no sports were really competing in the fall, so that kind of made it something that we wouldn't do - but we still practiced and trained." This year's fall schedule spans four weeks and involves the Transylvania University Invitational, the Wabash College Hidden Duals, and the ITA Central Region Tournament.

The hardest part of tennis is the psychology, mainly because of its self-reliant, do-it-yourself nature. "There's

moments of frustration, followed by jubilation," Bickett said. "You can go through the entire gamut of emotions in one game, let alone one match. [...] More than anything, [tennis is about] learning how to respond when things don't go well. The scoring of the game is such that you could win more points and I can still win the match."

Because tennis is such an individual sport, much of the team's psychological resilience comes from the time they spend together off the field. However, the COVID-19 pandemic limited the last year's opportunities for the team to bond.

"Usually, every year we take a Spring Break trip down to Florida or Hilton Head Island in South Carolina," Bickett said. "Last year, without overnight travel, that made things difficult [...] and having those overnight travel experiences are often really good for developing team camaraderie, and without having those, that was a little bit difficult, especially with a team with so many new members."

Another way in which the pandemic hit the tennis team was by not having

an official fall season last year. "Obviously, playing in matches is much different than practicing every day," Bickett said. "You're dealing with the mental ups and downs and tennis is as much learning to respond to the negative [and positive] things that happen to you as much as it is hitting a specific shot or learning a specific skill." Thus, the tennis fall season also serves as a means of adjusting to collegiate level tennis without the strain of 14-15 weeks of continuous practice and matches.

The team has three freshmen and a transfer student joining this year. The three freshmen have had the chance to compete in tennis last academic year, so their transition was fortunately not as difficult. "We were one of the very fortunate sports," Bickett said.

The sophomores are about to begin their first full collegiate tennis season with plenty of experience from the spring. "Last year [...] we didn't play, probably, the full slate of matches we would have played in a normal year, but they still got a good amount of matches and still got to experience the

conferences, which [will help them] understand what it takes to succeed at that level," Bickett said. They are also starting to step up and become team leaders on and off the court.

The tennis team is always looking to grow and improve, and so is their coach with them. "It's really important to remember that there's not one approach; there's multiple approaches that get you to where you want to be," Bickett said about his coaching style. Bickett also learned from his team to become more authentic and more passionate. "At the end of the day, [we must keep the] perspective that tennis is great, we all want to do good, but we're here for a much bigger mission," he said.

The Little Giants tennis team has its first matches of the academic year tomorrow, September 11, and Sunday, September 12, at the Transylvania University Invitational in Lexington, Kentucky. The team will also be playing once at home during this fall season, at the Wabash College Hidden Duals on September 25 at the Collett Tennis Center.



# SPORTS

## Soccer Suffers Heartbreak

Wabash Falls in Closing Minutes vs. Chicago, Overtime at Rose-Hulman



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

**Josh Scott '22 rises above a Chicago defender for a header. The Little Giants lost 2-1 after the Maroons scored the game-winning goal in the closing minutes.**

BEN BULLOCK '23 & BLAKE LARGENT '22 | STAFF WRITER AND SPORTS EDITOR • Wabash faced one of its toughest opponents of the new season when they took on No. 19 University of Chicago at Fischer Field last Friday. However, the Maroons proved too strong for the Little Giants when, with seven minutes to go, Chicago's Kameron Bloye made the score 2-1 with a wonder goal from 25 yards out.

Chicago's passing prowess was on full display in the first period, and a couple of half-chances in the opening phase of the game unnerved the Wabash back line. At the 7-minute mark, Chicago midfielder Ben Brandt picked up the ball on the edge of the area and, seeing goalkeeper Michael Bertram '23 stranded, struck the ball into the bottom corner to make it 1-0 in favor of the Maroons.

Having gone a goal down so early, the Wabash players could have easily dropped their heads and let Chicago roll them over. Instead, the Little Giants played up and soon found their rhythm. At the 17-minute mark, Austin Hughes '23 skipped past the Chicago defense but couldn't get his shot away. More chances fell Wabash's way as the half progressed, but a clear goal scoring opportunity evaded them.

When the second half got underway, it didn't take long for Wabash to find their elusive chance on goal. 55 minutes in, Bruno Zamora '25 picked up on a rare loose ball within the Wabash attacking third and laid it off to Hughes. With a

pinpoint pass, Hughes stroked the ball into the path of Coledon Johnson '23 who nudged the ball home to even the score, 1-1.

After this, the match became something of a back-and-forth affair. That was, of course, until the 84th minute. Chicago's Bloye collected the ball on the edge of the area and, with a half-volley into the bottom corner, scored a beautiful goal worthy of professional plaudits. His remarkable effort reduced the Wabash supporters, who had been in full voice all match, to silence. The goal proved to be the last of the match, giving Chicago a 2-1 over Wabash.

Speaking after the match, Hughes, who played in among the Wabash front three, said he was "disappointed" with the score line, but thought the Little Giants gave an excellent account of themselves. "Tactically, we had a game plan going in, we executed it, and the game reflected it," he said. "Am I mad that we lost? Yes. I thought we deserved a tie, at least."

"Our goal was a shot of the tactics working. It started because [Chicago] turned the ball over in their defensive third. Coledon, who has been playing phenomenally, just out-muscled his guy to the front post and it was an easy slide across for Coledon to tap it in."

On the challenges of the pandemic, Hughes added that "we haven't been able to live our identities as soccer players for a long time now. The fact we're able to get back out there with the support of the fans, the fall weather coming in, and with things coming back to normal,

we're hungry. We want to show everybody [...] that it's our turn now to take the mantle. It's our turn to break into the NCAC tournament, it's our turn to be better than the Wabash teams of the past, and we're going to give you everything we can to prove it."

The Fightin' Engineers of Rose-Hulman were another test in the early schedule for Wabash. And for the second-straight match, the Little Giants lost in heartbreaking fashion. Rose-Hulman (1-2) prevailed over Wabash (1-2) in overtime, 4-3, with a spectacular goal to win the match Wednesday night.

Rose-Hulman did not waste any time on the offensive side. The Fightin' Engineers quickly opened with two goals in 25 minutes on the Little Giants. Rose-Hulman also posted a 4-2 shot advantage in that time span against Wabash. Yet, similar to the match against Chicago, the Little Giants did not let an early deficit faze them. Johnson opened the scoring for Wabash in the 28th minute with an excellent shot to the left side. While the score sat 2-1 in favor of Rose-Hulman at the half, neither team's offense planned on slowing down.

Evan Miller tied the match 2-2 in the blink of an eye. Just 18 seconds into the second half, Miller scored on a low shot assisted by Zamora. 12 minutes later, Wabash took its first lead. Mitchell Keeling '23 scored the third-straight goal for the Little Giants, giving Wabash a 3-2 advantage. The Little Giants looked to have seized the match's momentum and were

closing in on their second win of the season. The Fightin' Engineers had other plans. With less than 10 minutes remaining in the match, Wabash gave up yet another closing goal. Rose-Hulman's Takezo Kelly tied the match 3-3. Neither team could find a goal before the end of regulation. The back-and-forth night match headed to overtime.

The match was the first overtime contest of the season for Wabash. Rose-Hulman, however, had already experienced extra time. The Fightin' Engineers lost their season opener 2-1 to Greenville in overtime. That experience may have pushed Rose-Hulman to victory. After a mixy possession, Caleb Urban ended up with the ball for the Fightin' Engineers just outside the box. Urban made a quick move to the left, and ended the match with an incredible shot placed in the top-left corner of the goal. Rose-Hulman claimed the overtime victory 4-3.

Two-straight matches, two-straight heartbreaking losses for Wabash. The Little Giants' 1-2 start is the group's worst since the 2016 season. Yet, the results do not seem to tell the tale for this Wabash team. And with the season beginning to pick up, the Little Giants have plenty of opportunities to bounce back. The first of these opportunities occurs later today. Wabash travels to Principia College (0-1) in Elsah, Illinois for a 7:30 p.m. CDT matchup. After two consecutive losses in the closing minutes, the Little Giants look to even their season record against the Panthers.

# XC Confident After Debut

## Redpack Grab 8th Place, Expect Improvement Moving Forward

DREW BLUETHMANN '22 | COPY EDITOR • The Wabash college cross country team completed their best season opener under the helm of Coach Tyler McCreary, hired in 2018. On Saturday, the Redpack finished eighth out of twelve teams at the Knight Invitational in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The field proved to be a challenge for the Redpack, but they performed well relative to other strong regional appointments, Division II squads, and NAIA squads.

Ian Dickey '22 led the Redpack with a 30th overall finish and in a time of 26:40.8. The other four scorers finished close behind. Will Neubauer '25 finished in 26:49.0, Brayden Curnutt '25 in 26:55.2, Ethan Pine '22 in 27:05.8, and Clarke Criddell '22 in 27:16.2.

Perhaps, the most impressive performance in the event was Pine's, who finished the last six kilometers of the race without a shoe. Pine said, "I lost my shoe about 2K in and had to make an in-the-moment decision about what I was going to do. Ultimately I made the decision to keep running and compete with the team after looking around and seeing how strong of a pack we were in and I couldn't let my brothers down. I knew that it might hurt, but the course was mostly grass and I was able to steer clear from traffic throughout the rest of the race. So, overall, the impact of losing a shoe on my race wasn't as big as it could have been if there was a lot of gravel or the threat of getting stepped on with spikes. Overall, with outdoor track (2020) and XC (2020) being taken away, there was no way I was going to let something incidental like that keep me from finishing that race and being back on the course with my team."

Coach McCreary said, "I thought, well, it was our first 8K in nearly two years for a lot of our guys. [...] So I would say overall was a successful day, it was what we needed, which when we needed was just to get in our first effort. Our guys were in two different packs, and the two groups stayed really, really tight together for a vast majority of the race. I would have liked to have seen us stay closer on the front end group closer to 5000 meters to be a little bit tighter as a team. But, as we expected, the race went out a little bit quicker than we anticipated and that kind of threw a wrench in it. [...] I was just happy with how, even when teams went quicker, we stayed composed and packed up for a majority of the race."

For the second pack, Coach McCreary said, "Same thing was with the backend group. They stayed, working together really well which is [...] it's gonna be really important for us. I was really pleased we had some really good performances. Senior Ian Dickey had a big career day in 26:40. Freshman Will Neubauer was second for us and had a good opening performance. Then Brayden Curnutt, another freshman, was number three and had a big day. Ethan Pine, even with losing a shoe at 2000 meters at a really good run for us. Clarke Criddell had a really good day for us as well."

Reflecting on the race, Coach McCreary said, "It's really strong efforts and guys what was most pleased with is the fact that our team had our one to five, split was just 35 seconds and. So for people that don't know much about running, you want your number one runner to number five runner to be as close to each other as possible to be successful."

Senior Ian Dickey, leading the Redpack on Saturday, said, "From the start, Neubauer led [the team through] about 6k. The race came out really strong. And I just so happened to catch back up to him and finish up ahead of him. I felt really healthy. This was definitely the best opener we've had in my time here at Wabash. Overall, great performance as a team. I'm very excited to see where we're going to go this year. We have a lot of depth. And everybody seems to be healthy and committed to putting in a great season."

Also, the freshman duo of Neubauer and Curnutt made an impression, finishing second and third for the team. Coach McCreary said, "I was really just as impressed with how they performed[...]. Our veterans did a good job, pacing, and those two did a good job staying disciplined and holding back [...]. Will [...] took it a little bit harder through 5000 meters and paid for it a little bit on the back end for the last 3k. But at no point did he completely fall apart. That's just going to improve with fitness and time. [Curnutt ran] five or six through a lot of the race. [He] ran a really smart and composed race. I think his last three 3000 meters were second best for us on the team. I think only Dickey came back in the last 3000 better than [Curnutt]. So, two different races, they're two different types of racers. But those are just two guys that aren't afraid to stick their nose in it and get after it."

Next Friday, September 17, the Redpack



COURTESY OF CALVIN UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

**Will Neubauer '25 jockeys for position against a Calvin runner. Neubaer finished second on the team with a time of 26:49.0.**

will travel to Taylor University. The team will compete in the Bullock Invitational, which starts at 6 p.m. The field will largely be NAIA squads. Coach McCreary said, "We'll see some teams that we saw at Calvin. It's a good mixture. We will see some [Division I teams] like Bowling Green. And then a variety of Division II schools. What I'm really hoping for is that this course is going to be different than Grand Rapids. This course lets runners get into a nice rhythm, so it's relatively fast. Good surfaces. It's not as hilly as the Calvin course. So I think our guys will appreciate

that, and I think we'll be able to get into a little bit of a better rhythm and drop time pretty substantially in this one. [...] A lot of guys are going to be ready to just get after this one a little bit and focus more on pack running, keying off some other competition."

Dickey said, "we're looking forward to that race, and what do you hope that yourself and the team will improve on. [...] I've heard it's a pretty quick course, and I'm excited to see what we can do as a team. We're hoping to get maybe another great team performance and see where we can place as a team."