

White Calls Wabash to Excellence

PETER ROBBINS '12
NEWS EDITOR

Announcing the Challenge of Excellence, the new campaign to raise funds for Wabash, President White defined what excellence means to Wabash at last week's chapel talk. He used references to Greek philosophy, current and former Wabash students, and curious strangers who have asked him about Wabash to define our version of excellence, rejecting the suggestion that the "Challenge for Excellence" was merely a nifty marketing slogan.

"It is your great honor and your great task having accepted the challenge of excellence from Wabash," White said. "And in accepting that challenge you gave it back to the College. You say every day, 'Don't make it easy, help me rise to your challenge, push me to an excellence that I do not even understand yet. Excellence in the pursuit of excellence is what matters.'"

The initial stages of the

campaign have four priorities: scholarships and financial aid, funds for faculty recruitment and development, increased opportunities for immersion learning and study abroad, and an enhanced career development program. Dean of Advancement Joe Emmick explained how, aside from obvious reasons, these goals were chosen for the campaign.

"The board approved a strategic plan four years ago with these goals in it, as well as more curriculum development and building projects," Emmick said. "However, shortly thereafter, the world changed during the economic crisis. We had to develop a new economic plan for the College, answering the question: 'How can we move forward amidst these challenges?'"

Emmick indicated that alumni have responded well to the campaign so far.

"The alumni reaction has been very positive," Emmick said. "They like that these goals are focused

on people."

Like White, Emmick believes that the Challenge for Excellence will be answered with a pride and tradition that makes Wabash an excellent place.

"Wabash is as good a place as there is in liberal arts higher education, but we can't be complacent with this; we have to keep striving forward," Emmick said. "One thing we are proud of is our close student-faculty relationships, so one goal of the Challenge of Excellence is to continue to get the best faculty, to get excellence."

With the largest per capita endowment of any school in the GLCA, Wabash alumni have made a tradition out of generously donating to the College.

"We need that help more than ever," Emmick said. "We need our alumni to give generously to build the endowment, and we also need gifts we can use right away. This campaign provides a strategic plan that excites alumni about where

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DREW CASEY | WABASH '12

Dean of Advancement Joe Emmick believes the Challenge of Excellence will allow the College to continue to move forward despite tough economic times.

Watson Uses LaFollette to Tie Foundation of Wabash to Shakespeare

TIM TAN '14
STAFF WRITER

What do you get when you combine Hamlet, a synopsis and the Vitruvian Man? Other than the recipe for a particularly awesome C & T class, you would also get a good idea of what to expect at this year's LaFollette lecture. Professor of Theater Dwight Watson will be speaking on "An Abridgement between Nathaniel Dunn's and the Graveyard".

As anyone who has attended a previous edition of the lecture series will tell you, the LaFollette experi-

ence can be profound, or unsettling, or a combination of both. This is in spite of the fact that at first glance, the titles of some of the lectures seem to be truly out there. Take 2008's whimsical "Life at a Half Bubble Off Plumb: Rethinking Truth, Beauty, and Jumbo Shrimp" for instance, or 2002's disturbing "Something Prompted Me To Touch Him". It would be safe to say that this year's head-scratcher has kept the tradition of loopy lecture titles very much alive.

When pressed for further details on his topic, Professor Watson was similarly

cryptic.

"The word abridgement has the literary sense of a shortening, an abbreviation of sorts," Watson said. "But it also points us to the space between two points, the lingering distance that we seek to 'bridge'. That alternative etymology is what I want to explore."

A trip to the College archives turns up a few more clues. Nathaniel Dunn was a land-owner back in the 1830s when Crawfordsville was little more than four blocks wide. A couple of enterprising Presbyterians had the idea that the land between Dunn's residence and a local graveyard would make a good spot for a non-sectarian, independent school that they had in mind, the Crawfordsville Classical and English High School. It would later go on to be chartered under another name. (No prizes for guessing what that name was.)

Watson was far more illuminating when speaking about the invitation from LaFollette Chair Leslie Day to be this year's LaFollette speaker.

"It is an incredible honor, and also a weighty task," Watson said. "Unlike the various lectures and talks that we have on campus throughout the semester, the LaFollette lectures are a whole different animal. I have a very specific charge, that is, to relate my disci-

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Multicultural Festival Kicks into Gear

SAM BENNETT '14
STAFF WRITER

The diversity of the Wabash campus is often overlooked. It is important to recognize the differences in culture and background that many people on this campus share. This is the reason for the Multicultural Festival and describes its significance.

"Wabash seems to lack diversity, but that is untrue," said Professor Agata Szczeszak-Brewer.

She was in charge of the Native Tongue celebration that kicked off the Multicultural Festival last Sunday that saw many Wabash residents participating.

The Native Tongue Celebration began in 2007 and the Multicultural Concerns Committee held it "traditionally in the spring," said Jerry Bowie, a coordinator on the committee. Last year it was held in the fall and it was very successful, so the committee decided to hold it in the fall again this year. The Native Tongue Celebration is an event where the different cultural groups of the Wabash community come together in order to share the sounds of their languages in the form of poetry or music.

"The beauty of the languages is just as important as what it conveys," Szczeszak-Brewer said.

Food was also an empha-

sis of this event as the different groups provided samples of their traditional cuisines. Many different cultures were represented this year including those of Uganda, Germany, Ecuador, Brazil, France, Vietnam, and others.

Anh Nguyen, a freshman who participated in the event, recited a poem in his native tongue of Vietnamese.

"I wanted to bring my culture to this celebration," Nguyen said, "I see the Multicultural Festival as a way to get to know some other cultures that I am unfamiliar with. I hope to learn about a different part

of the world."

Nguyen embodies the hopes of the coordinators of the entire Multicultural Festival.

"Celebrating diversity might sound like a cliché. And it is trite for a reason," Szczeszak-Brewer said. "Diversity should be foregrounded."

The Native Tongue Celebration was representative of the Multicultural Festival that will span the next two weeks. During these next weeks, the Wabash community will have many chances to familiarize itself with the different cultures on campus. Professor Esteban Poffald, another mem-



JUSTIN VAZQUEZ | WABASH '14

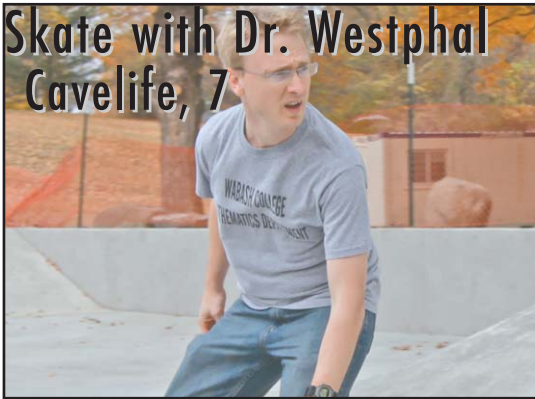
Performers demonstrate the Brazilian martial art of Capoeira during this week's Multicultural festival.

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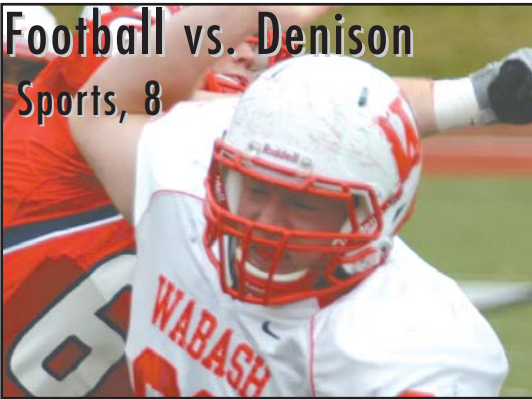
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Announcements

Friday, Oct. 29
LaFollette Lecture:
Dwight Watson, 4:15
p.m.

Challenge of
Excellence Kick-Off
Event, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 30
National Act: Girl
Talk, 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 1
Monday Night
Football on the Mall,
8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 2
Multicultural Festival:
Movie Viewing of
Crash

Excellence

From Page 1

where their money is going.”

White mentioned one such alumnus who was supremely generous to Wabash and whose impact continues to be felt.

“When I think about our challenge of raising money for Wabash I think with gratitude about Bob Knight ’55,” White said. “Bob lived a life of excellence as an executive with Northern Trust and when he passed away he left over \$1 million to Wabash College. You may have read about his scholarship, which his wife and sons have added to with generosity. And when they and he could’ve spent the money on so many things, they accepted the Challenge of Excellence for Wabash.”

While the College will certainly rely on generous gifts from alumni like



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

President Patrick E. White gave an impassioned chapel talk about the Challenge of Excellence, the College's new fundraising campaign to improve various elements of the Wabash experience.

Knight who have had some time to save money, Emmick indicated that he hopes the Challenge of Excellence will excite some younger alumni to partake in the tradition of

generosity as well.

“One of the other goals I hope for is that the Challenge of Excellence will attract new donors among our younger alumni at

whatever level,” Emmick said. “We always have to think long-term, finding out how to build the longer-term philanthropic legacy of Wabash.”

At tonight’s kick-off

event, the College will announce its initial goal of \$60 million and some of the gifts it has already received. While this is an exciting number, Dean Emmick spoke to the magnitude of the Challenge of Excellence’s scope.

“\$60 million is not a stop sign,” Emmick said. “We see it as the first phase: another initiative might come, or we might decide to raise additional funds for these same priorities.”

Both Emmick and White spoke with an optimistic tone, seemingly confident that the alumni, who have always stepped up before, will step up again.

“Even in the midst of the economic challenges, our alumni are finding ways to be generous to Wabash,” Emmick said.

“Wabash always fights,” said White to conclude his chapel talk.

LaFollette

From Page 1

pline to the framework of the humanities, and more widely to the idea of a liberal arts education.”

“Theater is basically about bridging reality and memory,” Watson said. “The audience is rooted in the present, but is brought into contact with the mem-

ory of experience through dramatic form and content. This gap can be a metaphor for the discontinuities that we encounter as students and academics, and is relevant as we struggle to define what it means to be liberally educated in a world of budget cuts and economic imperatives. The gap between

perception and sensation, between knowledge and feeling, between indifference and action: Shakespeare anticipated all of these modern tensions in the character of Hamlet.”

And in case some prospective attendees are barred by fears of the potential word salad, Watson has promised that

there will be surprises in store. “Think performance art,” was all he had to say.

The 31st Annual LaFollette Lecture will begin at 4:15 p.m. today in Salter Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

“It is an incredible honor, and a weighty task.”

*Dr. Dwight Watson,
Professor of Theater and
2010 LaFollette Lecturer*

Diversity

From Page 1

ban Poffald, another member of the Multicultural Concerns Committee, believes that the festival “helps people to know each other, their talents, and other things they bring to the table.” He also acknowledges the importance of truly appreciating the depth of the Wabash community and that it is necessary to “recognize that although Wabash is located in a very homogenous region of the country, it has a lot of variety, especially in terms of the student body.”

The Multicultural Festival, taken either as sev-

eral parts or as a whole, will offer Wabash students, faculty, and others who are a part of this community the opportunity to understand the environment in which they live. “This festival gives minority groups on campus a voice, a forum to get information about themselves out there,” Bowie said.

“Nobody involved in the organization of this event had any specific goal in mind,” Szczeszak-Brewer said. But she hopes “that it will bring civil conversation on campus to a higher level.”

Understanding who is on campus is important.

Learning about the cul-

tures of who is on campus is even more important. And acknowledging that the composition of the Wabash community is exceedingly diverse is an important step toward understanding. This is the ultimate purpose of the Multicultural Festival. Many people have spent a long time preparing the events that will hopefully allow all Wallies to realize that diversity on campus need not be a monolithic or traditional idea.

“We have a variety of events that are going to occur in the next two weeks,” Poffald said. “It’s a nice way to bring people together.”



JUSTIN VAZQUEZ | WABASH '14

Capoeira performers demonstrated an art form to the Wabash Community that many were completely unfamiliar with as part of the Multicultural festival.



JUSTIN VAZQUEZ | WABASH '14

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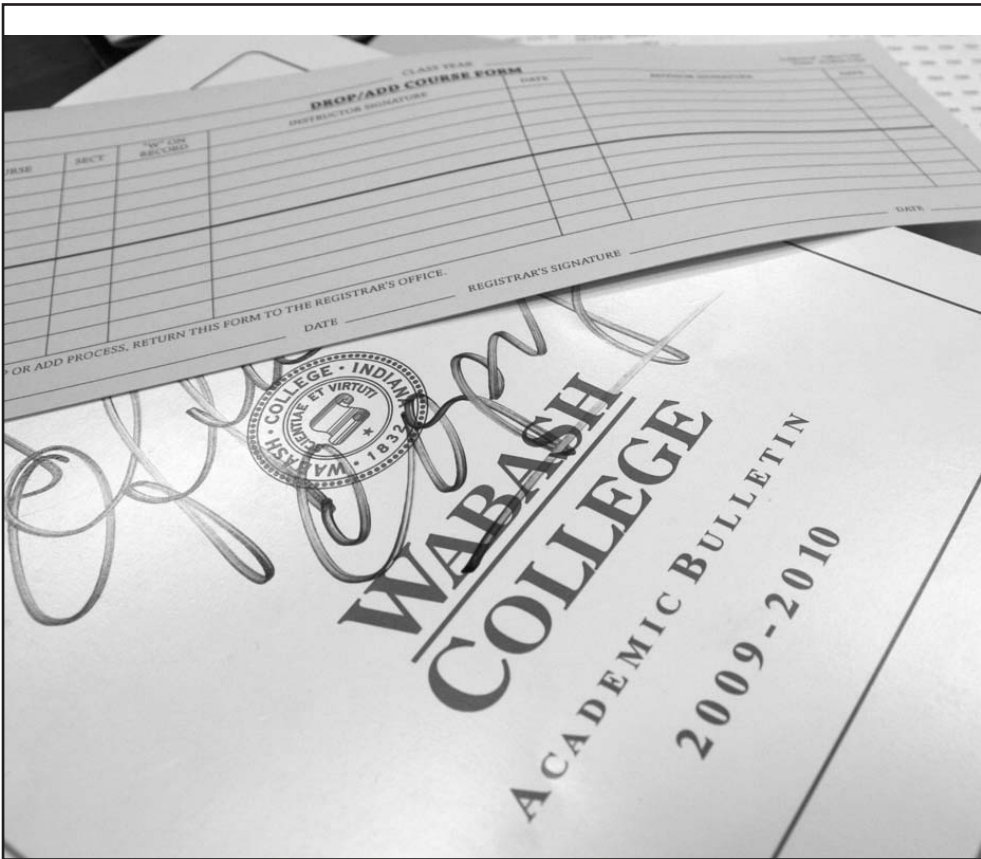
KENNY FARRIS '12
STAFF WRITER

On April 20, 2010, Professor of Economics Keoloha Widdows' motion led the creation of the Academic Policy Committee, tasked to examine aspects of Wabash College's distribution system. In the midst of the debate surrounding Cultures & Traditions, the concerns about overall distribution requirements emerged.

"I think it's healthy to take stock once in a while to make sure we are giving students the best opportunities," said Associate Professor of Chemistry and Academic Policy Committee member Lon Porter. "If there is a solid reason for changes, then those reasons must be regarded."

At the same time, the Cultures & Traditions debate displayed the energy and passion within the student body towards academic issues. Realizing this, the Academic Policy Committee brought seniors Austin Drake and Chris Sidebottom aboard to help in their study as well as to send out e-mail surveys to the student body over the past month.

"We are trying to grasp what the system does now," said Academic Policy Committee Chair Todd McDorman. "That would give [the Committee] a basis for determining satisfaction as well as the possible need for minor or major changes, if



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

The Academic Policy Committee has been meeting regularly and involving students in its discussions of the composition of the College's distribution system. Two seniors, Chris Sidebottom and Austin Drake, are on the committee, chaired by Dr. Todd McDorman.

need be."

As their December deadline for releasing their findings approaches, students have played a crucial role in what Dr. Porter called the "audit phase" of evaluating the College's distribution requirements. So far, their study has incorporated student and faculty viewpoints in their discovery of what distribution means, aims for and does at Wabash College.

"The work must be seen

from the needs of the students," Dean of the College Gary Phillips said. "Students provide the rationale for what difference a change makes in their transforming values."

Academic Policy Committee Chair Todd McDorman led two representatives from each of the three academic divisions along with seniors Drake and Sidebottom in a thorough examination of the distribution system. From April 20 to

October 29, the committee has met 19 times to discuss the history of the Wabash curriculum, the distribution requirements at other campuses, and how the Wabash curriculum relates to the Mission Statement.

The committee has posted their findings on the Wabash Moodle site. All students have access to the site through their Moodle accounts, which includes a detailed description of the faculty survey as divided by

Division. Also, the committee plans to have face-to-face conversations with students about their findings. Dates have not been set for those conversations.

"People need to know what's going on so that they (are) aware of the conversation," Dr. Porter said. "There are contestible conclusions that students and faculty are encouraged to discuss."

The results of the student surveys will be posted in the coming weeks. Only 200 students completed the survey. "One problem may be that this is not a representative sample," Dr. Porter said.

The Faculty charged the committee to examine at least four questions: whether reconfiguration of distribution requirements is necessary in light of changes in All-College Courses, how distribution requirements fit with the goals of the curriculum as stated in the Preamble and the College Mission Statement, the desirability of reducing distribution requirements to increase student choice, and possible ways of increasing the coherence of distribution requirements.

"We are figuring out what to do with the Cultures & Traditions credit and its content," Dr. McDorman said. "Enduring Questions has a focus on questions of identity and self, while the African American module of Cultures & Traditions emphasized questions surrounding diversity and glob-

alization. This is not the only issue, but this is one specific, defined issue to discuss."

Another question raised by both the Faculty and Student surveys surrounds the clarity of the College's distribution requirements.

"The need for clarification lies behind the ambiguity of the goals of the distribution requirements," Dean Phillips said.

The Academic Bulletin provides only a specific course list with which a student can meet a distribution requirement.

"The clarification would help in many ways," Dr. McDorman said. "When new faculty members join, they may ask why a part of the system is in place. There aren't necessarily answers now."

"Clarification also helps advisors and students, explains what a Wabash liberal arts education is to potential students and their families, and establishes a system of accountability for outside observers," McDorman said.

Dr. Porter, Dean Phillips, and Dr. McDorman repeatedly emphasized the discovery aspect of their work to now.

"No one should look at this and assume this means the Wabash curriculum is going to change," Dr. McDorman said. "We are still trying to draw conclusions as to what the system actually does."

Rundall Brings Electronic Music Expertise

SEBASTIAN
GARREN'14
STAFF WRITER

Jacob Rundall is a visiting music professor from Champaign, IL. He specializes in electronic and acoustic music. While currently working on defending his graduate thesis on sextets, he enjoys Ultimate Frisbee as recreation. His wife and two year-old daughter are back in Champaign. He returns to his family every weekend after spending the whole week living alone.

"This is my first real teaching gig," Jacob Rundall said.

Rundall has had a strong history as a percussionist. Originally he was in a garage rock band, then Jazz band in college, followed recently by Salsa. His varied past in music has helped him, "maintain that rhythmic drive," Rundall said, which has led him to an increased interest in musical polymeter. Musical polymeter is what is being used when we

"I really enjoy the traditions at Wabash. It's great...the students really dig into the primary source material. This is the kind of place I want to be."

*Visiting Assistant
Professor of Music Jacob
Rundall*

hear two different or opposing time-signatures in a piece. One of the most popular examples of this is Led Zeppelin's "Cashmere." Rundall has drawn heavily from and been inspired by Gyorgy Ligeti, Iannis Xenakis, and Igor Stravinsky.

"Stravinsky's 'Height of Spring' had a huge effect on me," Rundall said.

Rundall seeks to produce music that is "highly organized." Though focused on order in music amid the disorder of his office Rundall seeks to cloak the order in his music.

"I'm not always trying to present a structure you can hear on the first hearing," Rundall said. Fractal-like is a way Rundall has described some of his music.

"Self-similarity [is] very interesting to me," Rundall said. Rundall displayed one of his compositions called "Dogma."

"The first minute and fifteen is polymetrical," Rundall said. "The work is all about pitches and rhythms."

Rundall elaborated on his Wabash experience thus far.

"I really enjoy the traditions at Wabash," Rundall said. "It's great... the students really dig into the primary source material."

Ideally, he wishes that he could stay longer.

"This is the kind of place I want to be," Rundall said.

dall said.

He is happy that he will be able to continue teaching next semester. He will be doing a special topics course, MUS-313, Algorithmic Computer Music.

"We will be learning how to use computers to design and create systems that automatically compose music based on initial conditions," Rundall said.

This is a great opportunity for one to take advantage of his specific skills while he is at Wabash.

In closing, Jacob Rundall is a great source for learning more about electronic music. He offers suggested listening and loves to share his knowledge of the genre.



STEVE ABBOTT | WABASH '09

Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Jacob Rundall has enjoyed his experience at Wabash so far, and he hopes to share his enthusiasm for electronic music with his students.

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Opinion headline style Opinion headline style

Watch President White’s Chapel talk if you haven’t.

Woven throughout the forest of comedic quips and personal anecdotes, a clear message rang out from the podium. White’s challenge was both poignant and urgent, and aimed to redirect the student body towards Wabash’s implicit goal of excellence.

We have no doubt that the message fell on some deaf ears; some undoubtedly emerged from the chapel confines that fine Thursday morning confused why they were being told to be excellent. Others likely transgressed the Mall having written the speech off as one more in the long laundry list of administration dialectics. Still others cursed the heavens for the waste of what could have been a perfectly productive chapel period.

The Bachelor staff, however, walked away in a daze. Aside from an unexpected, yet particularly engaging, delivery, the speech alluded to a point which seemed to the staff completely unapparent: all the while that Wabash has been fighting (to succeed, to win, to beat the Dannie squad), it had forgot a concept most necessary to excellence; that it serves as an goal, unattainable yet still compulsory.

Excellence does not signify performing well, or doing the best possible. It is much more than that: excellence serves as an unobtainable goal towards which needs be relentlessly strived, despite remaining unattainable.

It is undeniable that excellence comes easier to some than others; some struggle their entire life towards excellence

The Issue:

Excellence, as mentioned by President White, is never attained.

Our Stance:

That should not stop the attempts of Wallies to become excellent, and certainly does not justify not trying altogether

while others run seemingly effortless towards it. Nevertheless, to both parties, the excellence remains unobtainable. They will never be able to grasp and embody the excellence they seek.

Yet, both should keep on truckin’. The failures in life must still endeavor alongside the more excellent because that’s just the thing: excellence cannot be attained by either, yet it demands for everyone to redirect their efforts into realizing it.

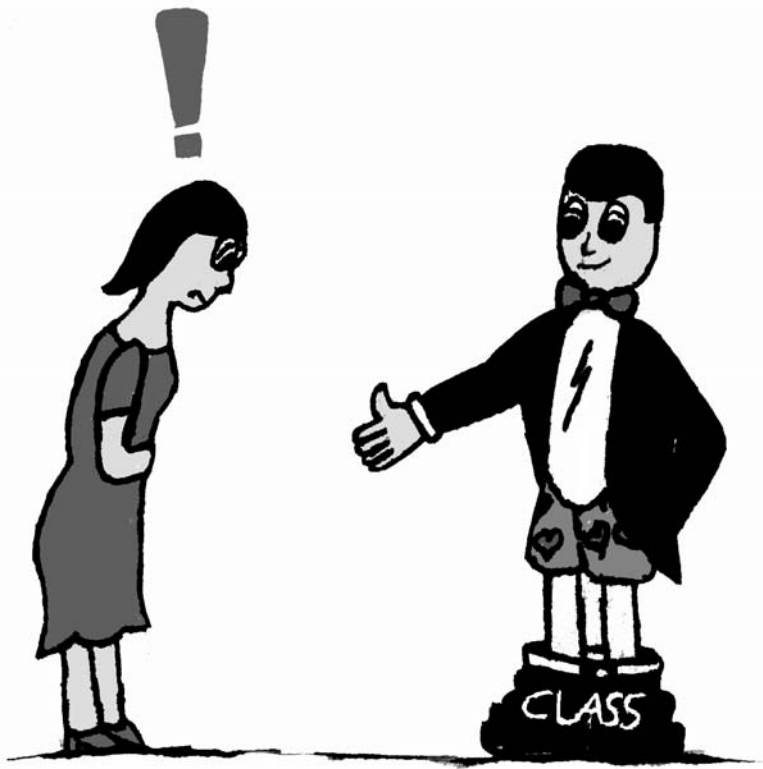
In a related note: the Bachelor wonders where the ‘excellent’ GQ-quality gentlemen exist on campus. Which corners have Wabash’s George Clooney or Roger Moore fled? Though this statement may seem overly critical, it is entirely revealing and should be considered.

Take, for example, a traditional pastime of the gentleman: the dinner speech. When was the last time a fellow Wabash man rose in between dinner and dessert to deliver rousing words of wisdom? One that lasted more than thirty seconds and remained void of lewd comments?

Or maybe consider another staple: the dress of the gentlemen. Besides a handful of Division II students, sweatpants and sweatshirts abound in the classroom. People roll around the mall as if they had just left their bed.

Can Wabash just write these blatant failures off per the discussion above?

Yes and no—the Wally cannot be expected to be perfect, yet must give an honest attempt. Remedying the deficiencies of rousing speech and exceptional dress are just the first step. Wabash Always Fights!



ON REPLACING YOURSELF

The Power of Influence

I had the pleasure of attending an Indianapolis recruiting event for prospective students this past Sunday. It really does not seem all that long ago that I was sitting at that same event with my parents unsure where I would after my senior year. Since that time, my Wabash journey has been largely influential on me. In fact, the last three years of my life have been more impacting on who I am than any other. What scares me most is not how much I have ‘changed’ in my thoughts and opinions, but where would I be had Wabash not been a part of my life. Would I be Greek? Would I still be a pre-med? But most importantly, would I be intellectually awake to the extent I feel now?

It scares me to think the growth I and hopefully, you, have undergone these past years at Wabash may in fact be unique to Wabash. Upon investigating my peers at various other colleges around the mid-west, it never ceases to amaze me how little they have expanded their intellect. The opinions they once held in high school remain unshaken. Their attitudes on what they “know” remain the same. What is definitively right for all, regardless of the circumstance, remains definable to them. Their professors have not humbled



JAKE EZELL
OPINION
COLUMNIST

them, their viewpoints of the world have not expanded, and their college experience is largely non-academic.

When I look at my college career, it is full of trips abroad, late night debates in professors offices, all-nighters studying, crazy weekend parties around all the campus living units, the Monon bell (Depauw Swallows – my apologies, but I am getting antsy), and overall intellectual growth. I feel I have earned a college education. However, this column is not about how good Wabash is; for we all recognize the value in our alma mater.

What this is about is what we do when we recognize a positive influence on men’s lives. When I was at that event Sunday, all I could think was how important the decision to come to Wabash may be for those students. Reflect on how differently

you would be had you gone to Indiana University. Now think about what influenced your decision to come to Wabash. Why would you not attempt to play that same influential hand and positively change someone else’s life?

The concept of influence has been weighing heavily on my mind since my time abroad. To me, the power of influence is not as simple as the connection between myself and those who directly speak or interact with me. Influence reaches beyond me to the people who are influenced by those whom I influence; and yet, further beyond them.

A large part of the Wabash tradition has been forged by this very mentality. When a Wabash man recruits a student, they are not recruiting a single student, but rather a legacy. One student recruits another, who recruits another, who recruits the next physician, lawyer, or lawmaker in America who is the product of good education at Wabash. When it comes down to it, recruiting is not important because the College needs students to pay for things, but recruiting is important because what we have is good, what we have is the potential to directly change lives for what we know to be the better.

Letter to the Editor

I hadn’t looked at a Wabash yearbook in years and lost touch with almost everyone I knew. The tragedy involving Johnny Smith led to reconnecting with a few brother Delts two years ago. The recent FoxNews report, lawsuit filing, and another round of emails brought me a more active attention to Wabash. So I offer a thought in four decades’ hindsight.


Wabash had been, was then, and remains an exceptional place. Among things most worth cherishing are its smallness and a climate that allows personal discovery. The Gentleman’s Rule, repeatedly mentioned recently, is central to the latter. I came to appreciate this most highly by contrast, as a Navy officer teaching at Annapolis in the early 1980s. I was struck by the incongruity of an institution whose sole justification is to train leaders for hazardous careers but so tightly wired that it took creative heroism for a Midshipman to fail in any meaningful way. That climate left vital learning by personal trial-and-error to occur where many lives and millions of dollars were sometimes at stake. The Gentleman’s Rule allows individual and group failure of many kinds, at many levels — sometimes, as with Johnny Smith, producing even disastrous failure. Mostly — however frustrating or embarrassing — the failures don’t cost lives or millions. But people learn, cheaply and effectively — preparing them for bigger, more important challenges.

Today’s world is far less forgiving than it was 40-some years ago. Wabash will have to adjust. However, if Wabash is really going to matter in the future, as it has in the past, it must preserve the climate that lets young men fail. The trick will be finding a tolerable balance.


Best wishes.
Dr. James W. Williams
Delta Tau Delta, ‘68

Have an opinion?

Send your letters to: rhfloyd13@wabash.edu
avtgisa@wabash.edu



THE STATE OF WABASH COLLEGE



Wabash Always...

JAKE GERMAN '11
GUEST COLUMNIST

Trying to write this column, I searched for an interesting topic to define Wabash College. I asked a couple fraternity brothers if they thought a couple of my ideas were appropriate or interesting—they were neither. So I decided to write a piece that highlights the various organizations and groups on campus where Wabash has recently excelled; the College's state is best described through the activities on campus and the people who participate in them.

The Incident at Vichy—What a tremendous performance! I not only heard great reviews from members of the College community, but also throughout Crawfordsville. It takes a lot of courage and confidence to perform in front of people on stage. Bravo!



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Rugby Team—Cheers to our beloved Rugby Team for beating the grit out of DePauw! Everyone knows DePauw will recruit some players for the Keg Game; fear not, though, as our teams play for keeps.

Homecoming—As every student was aware, Wabash faced a homecoming week full of uncertainty and scrutiny. In the face of biased news organizations, a lawsuit, and tough public opinion, Wabash rallied. The Sphinx Club gave out the fewest W's ever, the chant and the banners were the best in recent memory, and most importantly Wabash College displayed the true meaning of the phrase 'Wabash Always Fights!'



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Brothers of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity—At the risk of sounding extremely biased, I would like to offer kudos to some of the brothers in my house. The past week, an unspeakable tragedy might have stemmed from a faulty pump and blood-sugar meter. But taking care of each other is what we do here at Wabash. Gentlemen look out for gentlemen.

IM Football Champions—Lambda Chi Alpha took home the IM football championship. Some would call them the underdog, but they proved to be the clutch team throughout the tournament. Furthermore, I would like to compliment every team that participated in the competition. We all look for activities to relieve stress from classes and homework. Heated battle on the IM fields between living units is the best way to cope with the tough work load.

1832 Brew—I have to admit that I was skeptical when the coffee shop underwent new management. But the new pair has excelled, provided both variety and taste. I hope one day that 1832 Brew is referred to with the same 'hallowed-ground' respect as the Scarlet Inn is today. I have no doubt that it will.

Chapel Talks—There are a couple of big "T" traditions that I would bring back from my father's time at Wabash in the 60's and 70's. One of those is mandatory chapel. One of our college's highest honors us to be asked to speak at chapel. Neither the Sphinx Club nor the speaker takes this duty lightly. Talks range from history lessons, anecdotal stories, or worldly Power Points aimed to address the most controversial topics of our society. I implore the entire community to come to chapel. Be attentive and think critically about what is being said. The wisdom shared from that pulpit over the decades would rival that of any other throughout the centuries.



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

I am sure I failed to mention a slew of great achievements this semester. Do not take offense. These were the items I remembered to mention. The state of Wabash is now - as it has always been- ever-changing and vital. However, it is the aforementioned people and events that make our College great.



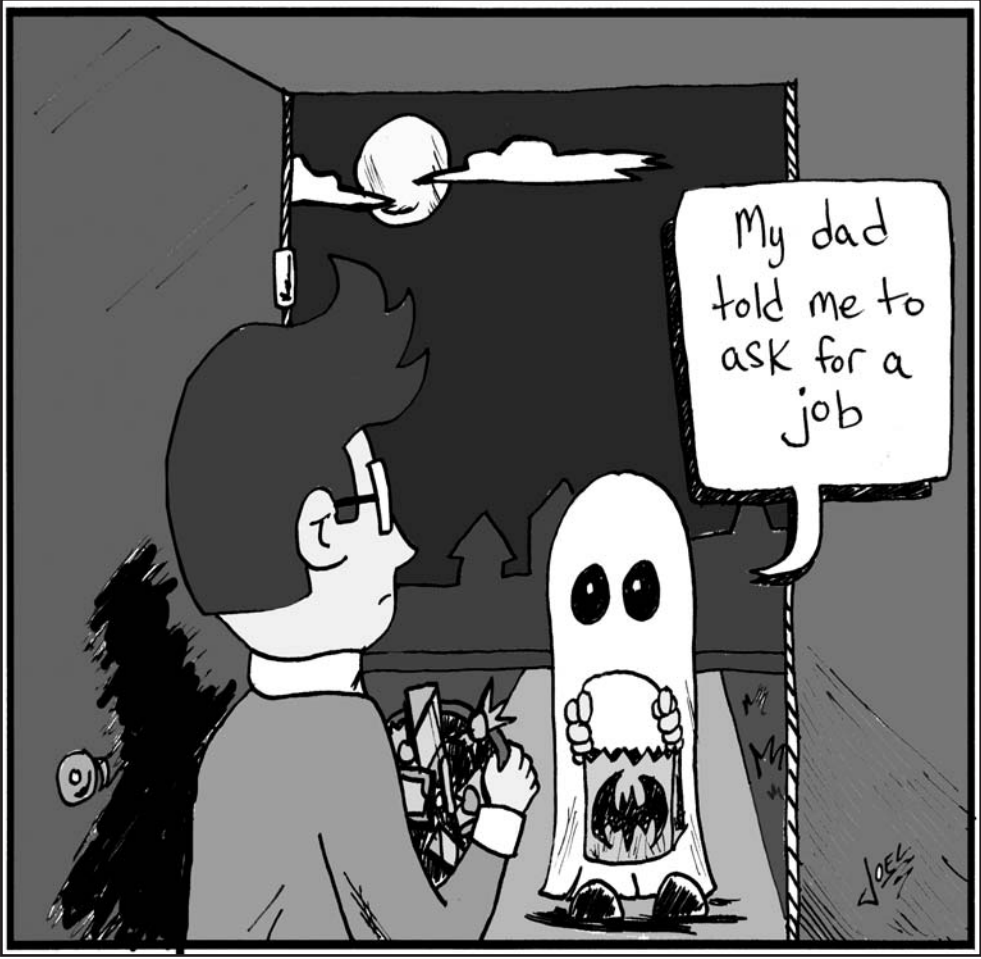
JUSTIN VASQUEZ | WABASH '14



Capoeira Dancers Delight Community

Top Left: Smiling musicians look on at the dancers while performing accompaniment music on classical instruments.

Bottom Left: Break dancers deftly maneuvered by planting arms and lifting their torso into the air.





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High Hopes for Heralded Act

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COURTESY OF GIRLTALKFANATICS.COM

The long wait for a National Act is over, as Girl Talk (Gillis) presides over his mosh pit throne room. Gillis mashes and clashes contemporary artists with any and all beats from every generation.

As the eve of Halloween night looms closer, Wabash students are looking forward to seeking solace in their most cherished treasure.

Girl Talk.

Okay, maybe Girl Talk just happens to be a (relatively) clever pun that fits nicely for a female-starved campus, but this year's National Act may just be what Wabash needs.

After last year's disastrous Three 6 Mafia fiasco (in which the group performed a grand total of .3 complete songs), and the easily aggressed, highly pretentious Ben Folds, Wabash College will be bringing mash-up-monger Girl Talk to the hallowed halls of Chadwick Court.

Of course, the biggest fear for many will be to avoid being that guy awkwardly standing in the corner trying to mouth the words. But wait! Girl Talk is a DJ/Mash-up artist! You already know the songs he's playing because *they've been popular for years*. It's one man, two saran-wrapped laptops, and a whole lot of samples.

And just like Wabash's dubious acquisitions of women, Girl Talk tends to take its cues from the not-quite-so-legal mainstream of music. Oftentimes, the tracks become seamless sequential songs severed from the bodies of all pop/rock contemporary choruses. This one-man-not-a-band technically owns none of the music it uses, but resides happily under the banner of fair use.

Who is this strange, sweaty man clashing together the greatest songs of all time? He is Gregg Michael Gillis, a



JOEL BUSTAMANTE '11
CAVELIFE EDITOR
Party Hard,
Party Hard

Pittsburg native who's been sampling since his studious days at Case Western Reserve University. Starting with his father's musical collection and steadily growing his own library, Gillis has nearly perfected the mix-and-mash musical game. Renowned for his high levels of excitement and the general atmosphere of a rave-soaked circus, Gillis has only one desire when he performs: bring the sound, bring the party.

His tracks never end; they are instead divided solely by titles one may recognize. One album is technically one long track, separated only by how quickly the listener presses fast-forward. The

music quickly becomes a trance-like spiral into seamless samples, with each new loop upping the ante of the previous plug.

Perhaps his most successful endeavor, however, has been the "Pick Your Own Price" option of his music. Instead of forcing fans to a standard fee, his mash-ups are marketed as a token of generosity. It is truly all about the music; his samples range from top 80's pop hits to current mainstream Top 40 beats. By offering his Frankenstein-esque freestyles, Gillis is celebrating the leaps and bounds that sound has made in the past 30 or so years.

So, will Girl Talk bring new dimensions to the musical barriers of Wabash's deafened ears? Only time and cooperation will tell. Provided the numbers are up, the always beating bass is booming, and the crowd is roaring for more, Girl Talk could finally end the disastrous drought that has been Chadwick's musical career. Here's to hoping Girl Talk will mash-up Wabash's dry atmosphere into a masterpiece of a weekend.



"I Am Not a DJ"

What Exactly is a Mash-Up?

Most people associate song-blending as a strictly Disc Jockey-oriented position, but mash-ups are inherently different. A mash-up takes two pre-recorded tracks and blends them together until the result is artistically different than either of the original songs.

Oftentimes these samples are used without permission, but who's to say whether or not the end result isn't new music?

DJs, however, focus on original beats with simple vocal overlays and vice-versa. The final "song" essentially becomes a matter of who is producing it. Many times, the secondary beat sounds even better than the original, yet there are multiple failures as well as successes.

Should the melodious mash-up maestro Girl Talk sing music to your ears, here are some other artists specializing in similar styles: **Milkman**, **Super Mash Bros.**, **Top Flight** and the ever-popular (500) **Days of Weezy** album all offer exciting new takes on classic songs.

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Skate Park Creation a Success

Professor Westphal’s four-year effort proves to be fruitful

JOHN DYKSTRA ‘13
STAFF WRITER

After four years of raising money and imagining various possibilities, the dreams of Professor Chad Westphal have come true. A local skate park has been built. The Crawfordsville youth now have a skate park thanks to the efforts of Westphal and others.

Westphal’s involvement with the skate park began after attending a fundraiser at Applebee’s. He said part of being humane is being aware of your surroundings.

“If you are living humanely, part of that is just paying attention to the world around you,” he said. “I didn’t go looking for this project, it just landed on my plate and I was happy to take it up. I was paying attention for something like that. When there are things that come up where you can contribute, where you can make a difference, give it a shot. Go and put your time and effort into that, step out of you comfort zone to try to make that work.”

The project developers saw the addition of a skate park as an issue that would resonate with community youth. There are places to play basketball and football but no places to skateboard, and cops were tired of turning kids away; thus, the creation of the skate park project.

“All the positive things you hear about sports, my own motivational speeches about what I learned in basketball and how soccer changed my life—all of that happens in skateboarding, as well,” he said. “I learned discipline through skateboarding and I learned how to be patient. I learned the scientific principle behind it.”

Westphal entered the project as a



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Professor of Mathematics Chad Westphal enters the course to show some of his moves.

visiting professor. His position at Wabash was then a temporary position. He remained a part of the project regardless. When he became tenure-track, he became general contractor.

“I was on a visiting appointment and I got involved in this project, from the beginning, under the mindset that I probably would be leaving before this project came to its completion,” he said. “But I felt strongly enough about it that even if I could just contribute what I could while I

was here, I would be happy to do that.”

Westphal was able to see the kids in town and some of the struggles they were going through as a parallel to his own experiences as a kid. The skate park was designed around the interests of local skateboarders. He used his experience as a skateboarder to design the park.

“I worked with groups of kids in town to start a design. The kids around here primarily grew up skateboarding on stairs and rails. I’ve seen kids skateboarding

on the stairs at Baxter.”

The skateboarders wanted stairs and rails as part of the new design. Westphal’s skateboarding experience led to a compromise; he had bowls and ramps installed and made the design more diverse.

Though he was the general contractor, Westphal does not want to be known as the “skate park guy.”

“This is not just me stepping up and doing this project: it’s a big community effort. And I’ve seen almost nothing but uniform, positive support from everybody. We’ve asked for help from lots of people and companies in town. Our message is very clear. We want a good, safe place for these kids to go. And everyone we talked with was more than willing to step up and make that happen.

“It’s rewarding to be able to see the whole community rally around something like this because the whole community can’t help but know this is going on here.”

Not everyone on campus may be aware of the new skate park but there are those who have noticed Westphal’s efforts.

“He’s assumed tremendous responsibility and has given literally hundreds of hours to make the project successful,” said Jim Amidon, Director of Wabash Public Affairs. “It’s rare when people commit this much time and energy into a community project, and what Dr. Westphal has done will provide a lasting example of a terrific town-gown partnership.”

The skate park will have its grand opening 11 a.m., Nov. 6 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. As of now, a fence needs to be put up around the park before it can legally open.

Webcomics are Comedic Gold

Comedy comes in all shapes, styles, and sizes

MICHAEL CARPER ‘13
WEB COLUMNIST

The internet is revolutionizing all forms of media, and comics are no exception. I first discovered “webcomics” about two years ago; and I’ve been hooked ever since. (If you’re wondering how I keep track of so many, I subscribe via “RSS.” It’s like an email newsletter, and you read it with a special app like Google Reader.) Webcomics differ from syndicated comics in many aspects; one is the style of humor. It’s subtle. It almost requires an acquired taste. So, I’ve described some of my favorite webcomics here, in order of their “weirdness.” The first few ones are conventionally humorous and appeal to a wide audience. The later ones...might take a little getting used to. To find them, just Google the title.

Cyanide and Happiness

If you’ve ever read an Ur’Nal Review, you’ve read Cyanide and Happiness. Both the humor and the characters are fairly flat and simple. In terms of jokes, it’s a one-liner. This is a good place to start.

AmazingSuperPowers

The jokes are slightly more complicated than Explosm. As an added bonus, each new comic includes a “hidden panel” that you can find by clicking on a question mark somewhere on the homepage. And, below each comic is an exaggerated account of all the trials that writers overcame in order to post it.

Saturday Morning Breakfast Cereal

Beware, SMBC marks the territory of nerd jokes. Luckily, most don’t require more than a high school education and attention to detail. It has expanded its audience with a video series as well. And like the previous comic, it also features a hidden panel.

Joy of Tech

Unsurprisingly, Joy of Tech is the premier tech comic. Most strips poke fun at Steve Jobs, Steve Jobs’ creations, Steve Jobs’ fans, and occasionally Facebook. However, if you’re not plugged in to the tech world, you’ll miss much of the humor.

Perry Bible Fellowship

Though it’s not longer updated, PBF is the gold standard of webcomics. The art varies, sometimes detailed and colorful, sometimes simple and sans color. The humor is simple and subtle.

This Modern World

A political comic authored by “Tom Tomorrow” that pokes fun at crazy politicians... but mostly right-wingers. Recurring characters include two clueless anchors and the “Invisible Hand Of the Free Market,” represented by a man with, you guessed it, a hand for a head.

xkcd

Currently the most popular webcomic out there. It features simple stick figures and, as the headline exclaims, deals with “romance, sarcasm, math, and language.” The author also produces a variety of very nerdy clothes and posters.

Toothpaste for Dinner

TFD has been around for a while, and has

built a brand making fun of generally everything, but especially language and puns. One of its most famous strips features a fake flyer: “Apostrophe’s for sale, many style’s to choose from.”

Chainsawsuit

This comic is a little weird. The art is simple and B&W, but the humor is a little ridiculous. For instance, one of the running themes is a man known as “Two Cops,” because he “got enrolled in the academy twice.” Sample joke: “Two Cops, you’re getting a new partner: You.” Get it? It doesn’t seem funny at first, but Chainsawsuit grows on you. The rest of his comics typically deal with pop culture or absurdities.

Dinosaur Comics

DC is unique, in that every strip features the same art: five panels of a pixelated Tyrannosaurus Rex, with two different dinosaurs joining him in three of the strips. The limited format inspires dialogue that is genius, ridiculous, and absurd. The situations and opinions of the main character, the T-rex, create the humor.

What sets these webcomics apart from the syndicated strips you find in the newspaper is the artistic freedom the author exercises. Fans follow the authors on Twitter, buy their merchandise, read other comics the author likes, and occasionally visit them at comic conventions across the country. (Full disclosure: I might be a nerd but I’ve never been to a convention.) Much of the humor takes a while to get used to. However, if you spend a bit of time exploring comics outside the Funnies section, you’ll

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Quick Start Buries Big Red



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

Another Wabash quick start was the storyline once again as the Little Giants disposed of Denison. The Big Red had little room to run for much of the blowout win for Wabash

BRANDAN ALFORD '12 SPORTS EDITOR

15 minutes. That's how long it took for Wabash to wrap up another NCAC conference game this past Saturday against the Denison Big Red. Filling in for Chase Belton, junior quarterback Tyler Burke made the most of his first start under center for the Little Giants. Engineering scores on three of the offense's first four drives, Burke and co. secured another conference win well before halftime.

"That was definitely something that I have been looking forward to since I returned to Wabash," Burke said. "I'm a competitive player and I was just waiting for that opportunity."

The Little Giants (6-1, 3-0 NCAC) rolled up over 500 yards of total offense in the 55-20 road win. That big first quarter, which ended with a 17-0 lead for the Little Giants, saw Burke hook up with junior Brady Young for a 19-yard touchdown pass. Wabash got on the board early with a 38-yard field goal by Spencer Whitehead that was followed up by Jake Martin intercepting a Max Paulus pass and returning it 18 yards for a touchdown less than two minutes later.

Burke churned out 350 yards passing and four touchdowns to four different receivers on the afternoon.

"Playing like that was a big confidence builder for me," Burke explained. "I'm just looking to carry that confidence over to this week's game."

Leading the way once again for the receiving corps was junior Jonathan Horn who hauled in five catches for 128 yards

and one of Burke's touchdowns. Burke also paired up with Geoffrey Wright and Derrick Yoder for scoring strikes.

Once again, the offense found solid balance in a big win. While Burke was orchestrating a strong passing attack that was spread to six different receivers, the Little Giants churned out 168 yards and a touchdown on 33 carries.

"It's great having a balanced offense like we have had this season," Jonathan Horn said. "Whether it is the passing attack or the running game, we know that if one or the other is struggling, we can still have a big day offensively."

Neither facet of Wabash's offensive was struggling on Saturday, where balance was a common theme. Seven Little Giants contributed to another impressive rusing total while the distribution by Burke passing the ball had the Denison secondary guessing for much of the game.

"Defenses that play us have to account for a number of receivers, and that is going to be tough for anybody to defend," Burke said. "Teams that see one main receiver can key on that guy, but with the way we have had multiple threats, defenses can't cover everybody. It definitely limits the kinds of coverages defenses can throw at us."

After taking a 24-7 lead into halftime, the Little Giants poured it on in the third period. Wabash scored three more times, en route to a 45-7 lead entering the fourth quarter. The 21-point outburst included Wabash's second non-offensive touchdown of the afternoon when another blocked punt by junior Sam Smith resulted in another touchdown for Jonathon Koop. The block was Smith's fourth of

the year, and the scoop-and-score was Koop's third of the fall, both are Wabash single-season records.

Defensively, freshman Nate Scola had an impressive performance, rolling up 7 tackles to lead eight Little Giants that registered five or more tackles against the Big Red. The defense as a whole turned in four sacks, and turned Denison over twice.

Moving forward, Wabash will put its unblemished conference mark on the line

"This is the toughest stretch of our season, and everybody on this team realizes that."

Jonathan Horn, Wabash '12

the next two weekends, facing Allegheny (5-2, 3-1) and NCAC defending champion Wittenberg (8-0, 4-0). Allegheny comes to Crawfordsville this Saturday hot off a 20-point victory over Ohio Wesleyan 41-21. That win was sparked in large part by a passing game that will pose a good test for the Little Giant secondary.

Gators quarterback T.J. Salopek was named NCAC Offensive Player of the Week for his work under center against the Battling Bishops. The senior threw for a season-high 342 yards while completing an amazing 89 percent of his passes (31-35) for the day, including two touchdowns. For the season, Salopek has been the conference's third-most efficient passer, hav-

ing accumulated over 1,700 passing yards and throwing for 15 touchdowns.

The matchup between the Little Giants and Gators will pair two of the top teams statistically in the NCAC. Both teams rank in the conference's top three in six out of the ten offensive and defensive statistical categories. While Allegheny's pass offense against Wabash's pass defense will be an intriguing matchup, another to watch will be Wabash's efficient rushing attack (161.9 yards per game) matched up with the conference's top rushing defense. Allegheny has stifled opponents on the ground, holding them to 70.3 yards per contest and only allowing four touchdowns so far. That matchup could be could prove to be of significant importance as both squads have shown a propensity as efficient, yard churning pass attacks.

The matchup with the Gators should certainly provide the Little Giants with an idea of what's in store on November 6 in Springfield when they travel to play what could be a de facto NCAC championship game. Allegheny gave Wittenberg its toughest test thus far, a 24-21 win for the Tigers.

"This is the toughest stretch of our season and everybody on our team realizes that," Horn said. "We need to win each of these next three games and that starts with Allegheny. Making the playoffs is the number one goal of this team and in order to do that we need to win all hree, but it starts with Allegheny this week."

With only three games left on the schedule, Wabash is in for quite a battle, and it starts against an Allegheny team that will be riding a three-game winning streak into Crawfordsville, looking to play spoiler.

Swimming Opens Season at NCAC Meet

RYAN LUTZ '13 STAFF WRITER

The swim team has increased their intensity this year thanks to a new level of dedication and a change in their training philosophy.

"I am for the new training philosophy, I think it is going to be worth it but sometimes it is hard to see that at 5:45 in the morning" Evan Rhinesmith said. This year the swimming team has put a greater focus on power training. The team is lifting three times a week as well as doing more dry land training than they have in years past. "In practice were not focusing on a lot of yards were just focusing on technique and our strokes" Coach Barnes said.

With this new training style the team is really worn out. "We are pretty beat up, but I think we will be able to do a lot of great things when we are rested and recovered" Rhinesmith said. The team has been training for power by using underwater parachutes as resistance. They also use 15 gallon water drums for their resistance training in the pool. These new methods on top of lifting three times a week can take a toll on a swimmers body.

"It is like any sport though" Rhinesmith said, "You get out of it whatever you put into it".

At this point in the season the team has only had one meet. "During the first meet our divers did a great job placing firsts out of nine divers" Barnes said. The swim teams results were not as good as the

diver's though. "We competed well but the times don't reflect where we are at as a team. Lots of guys had to swim in events they weren't accustomed to and we had a few guys sitting out" Barnes said.

The new training was the cause of this because the team needs to adjust to the new style of power training. But as a whole the team has the pieces to put together a very impressive run this season. "Everyone from the sophomore to the seniors has picked up their intensity and dedication from last year. So they all are ahead of where they were last year at this point in the season" Barnes said.

The competitiveness and cohesiveness on the swim team is also helping them prepare for the big meets that lie ahead. The ones that are helping the competitiveness and cohesiveness are the freshman class. "The freshman are doing really well" Barnes said, "they have been challenging the upperclassmen and they have confidence in their abilities". The expectations for this freshman class are set pretty high.

From the freshman to the seniors the entire swim team believes that they can make an impressive showing at Nationals. "We want to start a tradition of sending guys to Nationals" Rhinesmith said. And a big chance for our little giants to do that is at the Calvin College Invitational. "It will definitely be a test for our guys" Barnes said. In this invitational our Little Giants will be going against some of the best teams in the country. Kalamazoo and Calvin College will be there as well as division one school Michigan and Michi-



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Wabash finished this past weekend with a seventh place showing at Kenyon.

gan State.

"This meet is where we try and qualify some guys for Nationals" Rhinesmith said. With the new training program the team has in place their goals seem to be more obtainable than in years past. This paired with a competitive dual schedule will let the team swim against some of the best competition out there.

Even with all this the team is focused on

Nationals at the end of the year. "We are focusing on getting more National cuts and hopefully that will lead to a top 15 finish at Nationals" Coach Barnes said. Evan Rhinesmith was in agreement about realistically finishing in the top 15 in the Nation, especially with all the hard work they have been putting in. "It sucked when we first started, but I know it will be worth it" Rhinesmith said.

Cross Country Prepares for NCAC, Postseason Push

KYLE BENDER '12
STAFF WRITER

For the first time since 2001, Wabash will host every cross country team in the North Coast Athletic Conference this weekend. The NCAC conference championships will be held at local Southmont High School on Saturday, with the men's race beginning at 11:00 a.m.

"It's taken a lot of coordination with Southmont's athletic director and cross country coach," Head Coach Roger Busch '96 said. "The school had a challenging 5K course but we needed to come up with an additional three thousand meters for the college race. We've spent a lot of time out there measuring to get everything right and we feel the new course will pose a challenge for the athletes."

Although Wabash does not have a home cross country course and cannot host a major race on the land-locked campus, Busch still felt it was important for Wabash to host the event.

"It's on an alphabetical rotation for the conference schools so it would be our only chance to host for nine years. Our administration is always very supportive of us having the opportunity to showcase our campus. We were very fortunate to work everything out at Southmont."

During the planning stages, there were other challenges that arose as well for Busch and Athletic Director Tom Bam-brey '68. The Crawfordsville community will host over 200 runners and coaches who will need to be fed Friday night. Busch originally reserved the Knowling Fieldhouse for a conference banquet but the event was later moved due to Cam-

paign for Excellence kick-off festivities.

Instead, the teams will gather at Crawfordsville High School for a unique NCAC event – a pre-race dinner for all the teams.

"We've never done a dinner like this before so it will be nice to get everyone together the night before the race," Busch said. "Traditionally, regional and national meets follow this format so it will be a good experience for our conference runners."

Busch also mentioned the tone of his team leading up to the highly-anticipated conference meet. Besides the Charlie Finch '51 Alumni Race and the Hokum Kareem, each held annually in the Arboretum, no current Little Giant runner has ran in a major race hosted by Wabash.

"The guys are excited, if not a little anxious. I think they're interested to see how many classmates come out to support them. The race starts promptly at 11:00 a.m. and will be over in less than a half hour. It would be great to get a lot of guys out there for this unique chance to host the conference championships."

The team has certainly seen its fare share of success already and enters the conference meet after a strong showing at the Oberlin Inter-Regional Rumble. The Red Pack finished fifth at the Rumble with 10 Little Giants runners posting season-best times. The most recent polls placed the Little Giants third in the Great Lakes Regional and 22nd in the nation – both the highest rankings ever for the Wabash cross country program since the USTFCCCA poll was developed.

"We're going to be challenged on Saturday, especially with senior Justin Allen sitting out due to a calf injury," Busch said. "We really need him healthy for the



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Red Pack has ben picked by NCAC coaches to finish 2nd in this weekend's meet.

regional meet in two weeks so it's a great chance for some young guys to step up for our team. As long as everyone runs to their potential, it should be a great day."

Special Teams Units Unsung Heroes of '10

BRANDAN ALFORD '12
SPORTS EDITOR

Once again, Wabash's football team prepares to enter its most important stretch of games in great position for a berth to the NCAA division III playoffs. Behind the big offensive numbers and low defensive averages is a unit that is often under-appreciated and unnoticed: special teams. Wabash has been piling up points all season long en route to a strong 6-1 record, including an unblemished 4-0 conference mark entering the final string of regular season games. However, it hasn't always been scoring those points in the most conventional ways. Setting new Wabash standards for individual blocked kicks, team blocked kicks, and individual punt returns for touchdown, the punt return unit has headlined a special teams group that has been, well, special.

Routinely an aspect of the game that is more about managing failure rather than maximizing opportunities for success, Wabash has found ways to control not only the scoreboard, but field position with an unrelenting effort in all phases of the kicking game. Among NCAC teams, Wabash ranks at or near the top in nearly every statistical category involving the kicking game. Leading the conference in punt return average (11.8), kickoff coverage average (43.0) and field goal percentage (.750, 6-8), the Little Giants come in at second in kickoff return average (21.5).

While most teams are focused on the next offensive series or defensive strategy during a special teams exchange, it has become evident that Wabash isn't ready to concede special teams as an afterthought. Two of Wabash's biggest contributors on special teams this year have been junior



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In the third quarter of Saturday's game, Jonathan Koop registered his third "Koop and score" of the season, setting a single-season record for punt return touchdowns.

defensive back Sam Smith and sophomore defensive back Jonathon Koop. Both members of the punt return unit, Smith and Koop have combined to ensure that a return isn't necessary on several occasions this season. In Saturday's big win over Denison, a third quarter blocked punt by Smith that was recovered by Koop all but deflated a Big Red team that was teetering on the ropes down big at home. It was the fourth kick blocked by Smith and

the ninth by Wabash this season, both single-season records for the Little Giants. Koop's scoop-and-score effort was his third such touchdown of the fall, also a Wabash single-season record. The pair credit the attention and preparation by the Little Giant players and coaches to the product on Saturdays. "A lot of teams over look special teams and don't pay enough attention to it," Smith said. "They can really be a game changer. The biggest

key is keeping the same intensity that you have during an offensive or defensive possession and applying that to special teams."

Koop, who has been a repeated visitor in the endzone this year as a beneficiary of big special teams play, credits the coaching staff for their attention to detail on a weekly basis. "Our coaches are in there every week watching film and looking for ways that we can create turnovers and put points on the board on special teams," Koop said. "At every level of football, special teams are the most important part of the game, and they have been big for us this year."

While the punt return unit has put plenty of points on the board this fall, they aren't the only unit getting into the act. Senior Dan Ryan Wood has anchored the kick return unit that trails only Denison among conference schools. Wood, who is averaging an impressive 33.1 yards per return this season, set a new school record with his 88-yard touchdown return earlier this season.

Senior Spencer Whitehead, who handles Wabash's placekicking duties, ranks as one of the conference's best kickers, leading the conference in kickoff average as well as scoring average while ranking second in field goals made (6) and point after tries (28).

While all those numbers are impressive, nothing underscores this groups incredible season thus far quite like the follow statistics: Wabash special teams have combined to score 70 of the team's 254 points, which is an outrageous 27.56 percent of the team's scoring output. But that's not all, those 70 points scored is only 50 points fewer than Wabash's opponents *have scored all season* in all phases of the game against the Little Giants (120-70). With special teams like that, who needs an offense?

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Action from Saturday's blowout victory over Denison. A stingy defense and a high-powered, balanced offensive attack resulted in a runaway road victory for Wabash



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