

Snow Storm Hits Campus



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

As snow and ice moved toward the midwest on Monday afternoon, campus services prepared for the meteorological onslaught. By late Monday, President White encouraged students to keep laptops and cell phones charged in the event of a power failure. Tuesday and Wednesday saw some classes cancelled. Most classes continued as normal. Meanwhile, other colleges and universities across the state cancelled classes altogether.



College, Board “Play Offense”

RILEY FLOYD '13
EDITOR IN CHIEF



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

President of the Board of Trustees Stephen Bowen '68 lauded the College for making progress despite the financial downturn.

“The last couple of years . . . we were playing defense—pretty aggressive defense. In addition to the market crash we had Johnny Smith then we had Patrick Woehner even before that. We had Bill Placher. These are tough things for a community like this. . . . And this year we could really focus on offense. I think playing really good defense was a very good offense the last couple of years. But now I think that we’re making some bold moves,” President of the Board of Trustees Stephen Bowen '68, said.

Bold moves indeed. The Challenge of Excellence Campaign that kicked off last October already raised \$38 million of its \$60 million goal. A Mellon Grant will fund the College’s new Asian Studies program. And a grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundation aims to improve student retention.

Bowen lauded all of these accomplishments, and, of course, reflected on the Little Giants’ Monon Bell victory. “The fact that the Mellon Foundation wants to invest in Wabash College is a great thing. . . . And when you hammer DePauw 47 to nothing, that’s just icing on the cake.”

The Board of Trustees met last weekend for one of their three meetings of the academic year. Last weekend’s meeting was their second this year. And Bowen was impressed.

“We have done some retrenchment on the campus, and our objective now

is to make us as strong as we can be the way we’re configured now. So we’ve started a capital campaign, and we are well into that. And so far the early returns are very good. And we are raising money for students, faculty, our business leaders program, immersion trips, and all of that—all goals of the Strategic Plan. Even though we’ve had to retrench, we’re still pursuing our Strategic Plan, and I don’t think a lot of colleges are doing that,” Bowen said.

Bowen and the other Trustees met with newly tenured faculty for dinner last Thursday evening and with junior and senior students for another dinner last Friday evening. In addition to the College’s accomplishments, it’s the interaction of being back on campus that energizes Bowen.

“Just being here is terrific,” Bowen said. “I like seeing the students. I love seeing the faculty. I really miss my friend Bill Placher.”

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Students Lack Interest in Career Services Events

Despite a Week Dedicated to Internships and Resumé Building, Career Services Notices Low Student Turnout

JOEL BUSTAMANTE '11
MANAGING EDITOR

In baseball, getting a hit 30-percent of the time is considered phenomenal. For the Career Service Center’s Internship Week, 1.7% is pretty good. That’s the amount of students who routinely sign up for the Career Services events out of the entire student body population.

“Students need to not only invest in their school activities, but also in their future,” Director of Career Services Scott Crawford said. “Activities are only one aspect of your time here, but your career will be the majority of

your life.”

According to a recent survey conducted by the *Bachelor*, 54-percent of the 55 students who responded reported only attending a small portion of the events held by the Career Services.

“Of the events I don’t attend, it is generally a combination of me not being interested in the particular topic and doesn’t work in my schedule,” one student said.

Even more disconcerting is the amount of the same students who attend multiple events. Most events allow 15-20 students to sign up, yet there are at least four students on average that attend more than one in a given week. It seems that these slots are getting filled because the same stu-

dents are routinely signing up.

“Some students just enjoy going to the events even after they’ve secured a job,” Crawford said.

And why aren’t students taking advantage of one the few Career Service Centers to open up multiple resources without charge or hassle to the students? It seems that student interest is at a very low number.

“As a sophomore, Career Services isn’t a priority right now,” another survey participant said.

Seniors accounted for the majority of the survey participants, while freshmen responded the least. As the end of their Wabash careers draws nearer, it

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ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

The Career Services Center continues to help students plan for the future with resume, interview, and networking help.

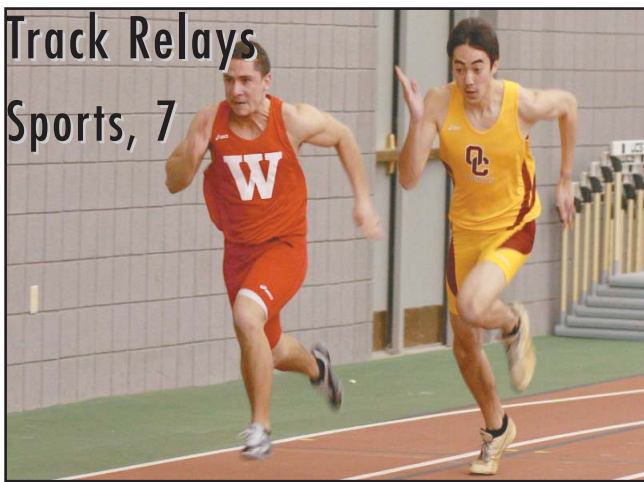
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The purpose of The Bachelor is to serve the school audience, including but not limited to administrators, faculty and staff, parents, alumni, community members and most importantly, the students. Because this is a school paper, the content and character within will cater to the student body's interests, ideas and issues. Further, this publication will serve as a medium and forum for student opinions and ideas.

Although an individual newspaper, the Board of Publications publishes The Bachelor. The Bachelor and BOP receive funding from the Wabash College Student Senate, which derives its funds from the Wabash College student body.

Letters (e-mails) to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. They will only be published if they include name, phone, or e-mail, and are not longer than 300 words. The Bachelor reserves the right to edit letters for content, typographical errors, and length. All letters received become property of this publication for the purposes of reprinting and/or redistribution.

Profanity may appear in the publication, but only in cases of direct quote or if profanity is necessary to the content of the story. Please do not confuse profanity with obscenity. No article or picture of an obscene nature will appear in this publication.

The Bachelor is printed every Thursday at the Journal Review in Crawfordsville. It is delivered freely to all students, faculty, and staff at Wabash College.

All advertising published in The Bachelor is subject to the applicable rate card. The Bachelor reserves the right to deny requests for publication of advertisements. Student organizations of Wabash College may purchase advertisements at half the listed rate.

The Bachelor is a member of the Hoosier State and Indiana Collegiate Press Associations (HSPA and ICPA).

Announcements

Tuesday, Feb. 8

The Write Stuff
writing session
11 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 8

Student Senate
Meeting 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 10

Black History
Celebration 7 p.m.
Fine Arts Center

Friday, Feb. 11

Visiting Artists Series
L'avventura Londo
8 p.m. Salter Hall

Friday, Feb. 11

Wabash Stand Up
Comedy 8 p.m.

Off-Campus Study Applicants Accepted, Look to Next Steps

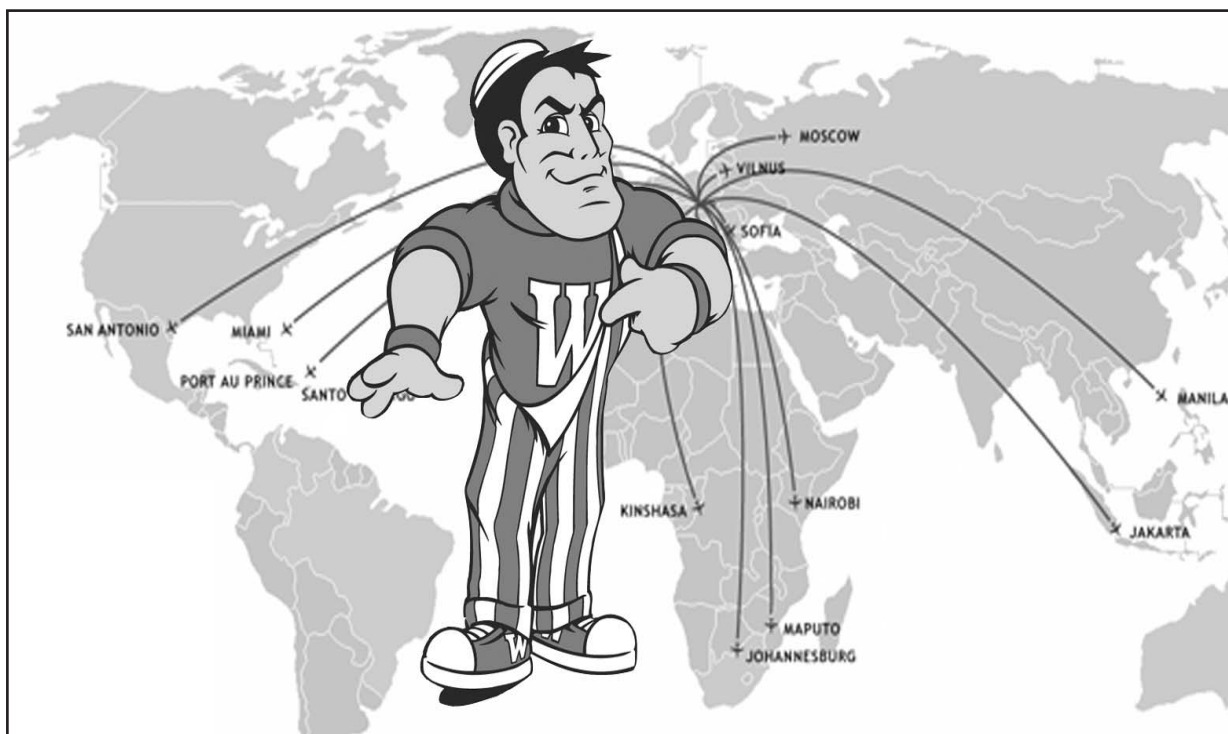
SAM BENNETT '14
STAFF WRITER

One of the most profound aspects of a Wabash education is its great dedication to study abroad opportunities. The program promotes intellectual growth and cultural understanding. But many students decide to study abroad to tap into the areas they are most interested in and that they haven't yet explored.

This semester, the efforts and applications of so many students reached its culmination just like it has in semesters past. Many students were approved by the Off-Campus Studies Committee and given the go-ahead to begin applying to the specific programs that they are interested in directly. However, the actual process that students had to go through was not a simple task. Regardless, according to Director of Off-Campus Studies David Clapp, this year's application process "went smoothly," and this year's pool was "very strong and very difficult to choose from."

One student who has been approved by the Off-Campus Studies Committee, Hung Duong '13, plans to apply for acceptance from the Dennis Institute for Studying Abroad and to travel to Copenhagen, Denmark. There, if everything goes accordingly, Duong will study early childhood development, specifically the effects of autism. First, he has "to apply directly to the program," and he "will get instructions on how to do that from the Committee very soon."

He will have the chance to partake in practical observation and actually interact with children who suffer from autism. "We'll have seminars on autism," Duong explained, which will consist of les-



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

The successful applicants to Wabash's Study Abroad program will travel throughout the world next year. Accepted students still wait to apply to selected institutions in their country of choice.

sons on current views on autism, possible causes that lead to the disease, its symptoms, and the difference between developmental needs of children who suffer from autism and those who do not suffer from autism.

"We want everybody to go," Clapp said. "We really believe that study abroad is one of the most important and life-changing opportunities anybody could have. The word 'transformative' comes to mind." Unfortunately, not everybody who applied to be approved by the Committee could be accepted. While Clapp could not yet officially state how many students were accepted, he said "we can send

about half of the people we wanted to send." Those who have been awarded the approval of the Off-Campus Studies Committee in the past can attest to its remarkable effect on their lives. But Clapp cannot emphasize enough that the Committee and the campus is "purposely encouraging, and we want everybody to go."

In addition to applying to their respective programs, students who have been approved must also start the process of getting a visa, purchasing airfare, and "we need to make sure that department chairs and the Registrar have approved all courses that accepted study abroad students plan to take," Clapp said.

"Wabash offers many various resources for its students," Duong said, "The College has many opportunities that become evident as long as you dig deep enough." These must be the sentiments of all Wabash students, especially those accepted to partake in a study abroad program. The College is certainly a very supportive environment and the campus is invested in making sure its students become as educated as possible. The study abroad program develops the cultural experience and a way for students to specialize and entertain their specific interests.

Raters Addresses Retention, Finds Numbers Right on Par With Historical Expectations

GABE WATSON '13
NEWS EDITOR

Threats from economic strife and legal allegations had made student retention a concern for Wabash. But with numbers now in, the data appears to affirm Wabash's security.

Wabash currently enrolls 237 freshmen, 218 sophomores, 208 juniors, 166 seniors, and two unclassified (non-degree-seeking) students, making a total of 831 students. While these numbers may seem to drop dramatically by grade level, Dean of Students Michael Raters indicated that, excluding a drop in unclassified students, these data are "right on the projected numbers."

"A couple years ago when the economy went south we were very fearful of a reduction in the upper classes," Raters continued. "But overall those numbers are right on what we historically do." "From a retention perspective to the positive, what we would expect to go on has gone on despite the poor economy."

To help improve student retention and overall success, Wabash has implemented the Early Alert system, which is described on its website as an "online resource ... designed to facilitate quick intervention with students who may be having some difficulty at Wabash, both in and out of the classroom."

"A truly successful retention program does not only know why students leave, it keeps students here, Raters said, "and we now have a much better mechanism in place."

Eighty-two alerts were sent on behalf of 61 freshmen last semester. Of these, only 8 received academic warning, and only three were placed on the "out list."

While 11 of the freshmen enrolled at the end of fall semester are no longer enrolled, only three of

them were because of their grades. And all three of the students who failed out had received at least two alerts throughout the semester.

"Nobody fell through the cracks," Raters said. "Every one of those young men, we knew their story." With 61 freshmen alerted and only three not allowed to return, the Early Alert system potentially saved 58 freshmen. "But this is the first semester of the early alerts system, so we can't analyze data yet," he continued. But as more data accumulates more progress and knowledge will accumulate in the future.

Nineteen sophomores, 10 juniors, and 10 seniors also received warning letters, of whom three sophomores, one junior, and three seniors were not allowed to return.

Again Raters stated that these numbers are historically consistent. "That said, we always want to do better," he said. "We always have too many warnings; we always have too many outs. But the numbers are about what they usually are."

A noteworthy national trend is beginning to show that reveals sophomore and junior years as the ones in which students most struggle. Rather than becoming comfortable after their first year of college, students tend to either get complacent or overstressed. While the Early Alert system initially focused on freshmen, it may be incorporated more into the upper grades.

One thing Raters wished to emphasize was that students take warning letters seriously. "Help make it a campus-wide issue," he encouraged, so that a framework can be built around any struggling students.



GRANT MCCLOSKEY | WABASH '12

Dean Raters discussed progress in student retention rates from the past semester. 831 students are currently enrolled at the College.

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Turnout

From Page 1

seems that those about to leave are most concerned with their future.

“As a senior I’m either trying to get a job or move on to grad school. Networking will become very important too,” Evan Rhinesmith ’11 said. “Within the next four years, knowing how to interview effectively and build a solid resume will be very valuable.”

Even as alumni, Wabash men are able to utilize the wide variety of job placement services that the college provides. The Career Services Center has had multiple graduates from the class of 2010 comment on their inability to utilize the resources available while they were students.

“The best thing I did at Wabash was to get into Career Services early. They helped me plan ahead for life after graduation,” one member of the class of 2010 said. “It was extremely helpful to focus on the big picture and not get stuck in the daily coursework that is Wabash.”

All hope is not lost, however, as those who routinely appear at the events report positive results.

“The opportunities are great and offer room to grow as a young professional to be,” one survey participant said.

The Career Services Center echoed the importance of students preparing for life after Wabash.

“Take advantage of it,” said Crawford. “Wabash men have more of an advantage than they realize.”



STEVE ABBOTT | WABASH '09

Career Services is open to both current students as well as alumni. Despite resumé and cover letter assistance, mock interviews, and internship panel discussions, last week’s Internship Week saw little turnout. In surveys conducted by the *Bachelor*, students, especially underclassmen, indicated that Career Services just isn’t on their priority list.

Trustees

From Page 1

Bowen also commented on the College’s five-year Strategic Plan adopted in 2008. The plan sets forth the Board’s goals. Aside from providing monetary support for students and faculty, the Plan focuses on admissions efforts, immersion trips, and internships, and the Crawfordsville community.

“We want to focus on Crawfordsville and increase our involvement with Crawfordsville and see what kind of contributions of human capital we can make,” Bowen said.

Regarding new building projects on campus, Bowen couldn’t say with certainty when the next building campaign would begin. He did, however, mention the possibility of a follow-up campaign to the Challenge of Excellence that would begin a few years after 2013. And Bowen has specifics in mind.

“We could do something about Sparks, which in our view has just never worked for the College,” Bowen said. “It doesn’t seem to be a place people go. So the question would be what could we do? How would it be redesigned?”

“The other thing I think we really need to do at some point is focus on the independent men’s housing. We took care of the

fraternities, and I think we really need to take care of the dorms. And maybe part of that project gets bound up with Sparks because you’ve got Morris and Wolcott right behind Sparks. So those are the two things that we were focused on before we had to put the master plan aside,” Bowen said.

Between last Saturday’s meeting and the Trustee’s next meeting over graduation weekend, Bowen pointed to one thing he wants to accomplish

“We’re going to accomplish it, and I can’t tell you what it is yet. But just pay attention,” Bowen said.

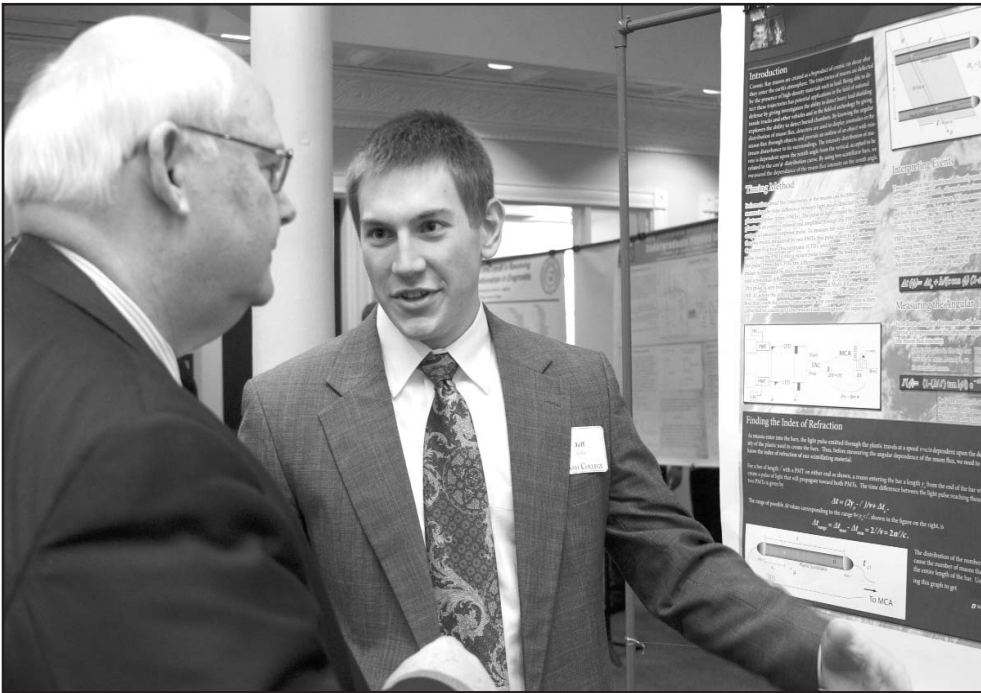
“The other thing I think we really need to do at some point is focus on the independent men’s housing. We took care of the fraternities, and I think we really need to take care of the dorms.”

President of the Board of Trustees Stephen Bowen '68

Students Present Work at Annual Celebration of Student Research

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Last Friday, students gave poster presentations and talks to fellow students, faculty, and members of the Board of Trustees at the College’s annual Celebration of Student Research. Afternoon classes were cancelled so that all students could attend the celebration.



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Wallies, Strive for the Unobtainable!

What is the unobtainable? By definition, it is that which cannot and will not be achieved—yet for whatever faulty reasoning, Wallies, and humans in general, will themselves to pursue and achieve it, regardless. The futile chase for what we cannot attain is the pastime of many; yet, for whatever reason, no one examines how utterly futile the search itself is.

As a small, liberal arts school, this question is particularly applicable. Most of our graduates will face a relatively unstable economy (despite 2010's ever-so-slight turnabout) where their purposely ambiguous degrees are increasingly becoming the exception to the rule. As a result, hurdles such as acquiring the job, getting the interview, becoming someone, will seem more and more unobtainable. Take a look around and this will become glaringly apparent: Wabash's men didn't even earn a ranking in

The Issue:

In entering the spring semester, Wabash begins a new internship, grad school and job season.

Our Stance:

Don't let words like unobtainable infect your vocabulary—Always Fight!

Payscale.com's Top Liberal Arts Graduate Salary ranking.

This needn't be as frightening as it sounds, mind you. We understand that there is a certain level of fear which is associated with not obtaining that which one has sought after; failure, along with the familiar

characters of disappointment, disenchantment and disillusion, is not the most inviting of friends. Understandably unpleasantries, such as being rejected from a certain society or not being allowed into a certain grad school, are not enjoyable.

At the very base level, however, if one understood every next step he was about to take, then living would amount to nothing more than reviewing a text for which rereading offers nothing new. The feeling of not knowing what comes next is not actually horrible, but rather the opposite; in some ways uncertainty is frighteningly invigorating, liberating and exciting. Recall the last time when you thought that the prize would be rewarded to you. Blood rushes, emotions and passions rise. These feelings are undeniably rewarding and worthwhile.

As such, Wabash, your swagger address-

es this exact concept. Over the four years, our community encourages its men to walk proudly, take chances, and strive to better themselves. These are all uncertain things which Wallies have to work towards, despite that they may never walk, talk or achieve. The Bachelor staff relishes in this fact, and especially that Wabash men dare to be themselves. They are upfront with those who test them, those who examine them. Similarly, they are bold with life—despite that life will tell them that things are unobtainable, useless and futile.

So, as the next semester begins to offer you opportunities, don't listen when they tell you to not try for that high paying job or internship, Dean's List, the play, or the Sphinx Club. Try out anyway. Who knows—you might succeed?



My Last Three Weeks Have Been A Blur

For the second or third time in three weeks, I am yet again sick. Although this time, I think it is the real deal and landed me in bed for most of the day. I suppose if anyone is to blame it is myself; however, I think this attitude comes from deep inside me and has been there my entire life, sometimes leading me into trouble, other times to great success, and as in this case, to sickness.

Thinking back to my Philosophy 144 course, existentialism, I remember reaching a point about three-quarters of the way through the semester when it naively occurred to me that it was utterly impossible for me to ever live each day as if it could be my last. To me, this would involve



JAKE EZELL
OPINION
COLUMNIST

pursuing every aspect of life at 1,000 mph until I died of exhaustion. However, this view was quickly contrasted when a senior simple voiced, "Well, that may be what you would do, but maybe I would nap." I hate sleeping. It baffles me when I think what I could do with 6 more hours per day.

My whole life I have struggled with this notion of potentially taking a moment to relax on a Friday night rather than run from campus to campus on a whim. I wish I could put my finger on just what it was in me that created such a strong will from within me to never look back at missed opportunity—but I simply do not know what it would be. This will has only been augmented this semester as it is my last as an undergrad. Every current medical student I speak to sternly looks me in the eyes and tells me to have as much fun as possible this last semester. Further, there are brothers on campus I know I will probably be leaving behind forever. Yes, we may meet here or there; but it is simply fact that most of our

interactions with each other are numbered.

My mind quickly averts to Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics* and this idea of a balanced life relative to myself. Yet, I have always wondered if anyone great ever lived any sort of mean. Were not the people from history that make it into print those with some tragic flaw influencing their actions throughout their life? I suppose I will always struggle with my overly-excessive-carpe-diem attitude, and probably have a few more days in bed feeling like hell after a long weekend, and suppose I will have to learn to factor in time for rest at some point; but even as I write this I cannot help but think I could just rest in May.

How Constitutional is Care?

On Monday this week a federal judge in Florida struck down President Barack Obama's healthcare bill as unconstitutional. It is the most severe ruling to date given that it has the support of 26 state attorney generals. U.S. District Judge Roger Vinson ruled that the healthcare bill's individual mandate is an overextension of federal authority. The individual mandate encroaches on the liberty of Americans by forcing them either to purchase health insurance by the year 2014 or pay a penalty. I applaud the judge for ruling against this abhorrent piece of legislation.

The ruling is a major setback for Democrats because the individual mandate is the only possible way the federal government might be able to afford covering the more than 30 million uninsured. Proponents of the bill argue it is only by requiring healthy people to purchase policies that they can help pay for reforms, including a provision that individuals with pre-existing medical conditions cannot be refused coverage. As noble as this endeavor may appear, it is not within the federal government's legal authority to do.

The most common argument against the



TED PLUMMER '13
POLITICAL
COLUMNIST

healthcare bill is that the Constitution provides enumerated powers to the Federal Government, and reserves the rest of governmental powers to the states in the 10th Amendment. Since the Constitution does not grant Congress any such power to coerce the people to purchase healthcare, the power resides in the state governments. Democrats have combated this argument by contending that the individual mandate is authorized by the Commerce Clause.

However, the Commerce Clause, which allows the federal government to regulate interstate commerce, does not apply to the individual mandate because there is no interstate commerce when private citizens do not purchase health insurance. Lack of commerce is not analogous to commerce.

The federal government cannot coerce action on the part of private citizens who do not wish to participate in commerce.

Proponents of the individual mandate will cite the mandate for drivers being required to purchase automobile insurance as justification for a mandate to purchase health insurance. People who do not have automobile accidents must subsidize the people who do in order for the system to pay for itself. They argue health insurance should work the same way. But there are several problems with this analogy.

First, the federal government does not (and cannot) mandate that individuals purchase car insurance, for reasons delineated above. Only the individual states have mandated that all drivers must purchase car insurance.

Second, states only mandate that individuals purchase liability insurance—that is, insurance that pays for the claims of personal injury or property damage of another party who is not at fault. States do not require people to purchase insurance for their own car. Protecting others from your negligence is not the same as forcing you to

protect yourself, as the individual mandate does.

Lastly, a person has a choice whether or not to operate an automobile on the public roadways. There are viable, alternative options, such as public transportation, for those who do not wish to be forced to buy automobile insurance. There aren't any such alternative options in Obama's healthcare bill. A person either purchases health insurance or pays a \$695 tax per year. Families must pay \$2,085 or 2.5% of their household income. So much for not raising taxes for 95% of Americans.

But Americans should not consent to the healthcare bill whether it is constitutional or not. I cannot imagine a way to surrender more individual liberties than by allowing the federal government to run our healthcare. The government now has jurisdiction over every aspect of our lives. Nothing is safe from its control. Any number of mandates can be enacted in the name of preserving our health, or lowering healthcare costs. I hope supporters of this bill have considered the numerous and dire implications that this bill will foster.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Michael Carper’s article “Loafing Around in Loafers” did a disservice to those few of us who understand the importance of good footwear. He begins by noting the rise in appearances of boat shoes on campus, but claims that the change is due to “an overall shift in guys’ opinions about the formality of their shoes.” This simply isn’t true. Rather, the boat shoe trend is indicative of a major flaw in these guys’ fashion sense. Ever heard the phrase “Form Follows Function?” The idea is that we design things, from shoes and belts up to skyscrapers, so that they are best suited for their intended use.

The intended use of boat shoes is, wait for it, boating. They are designed to be the all-day shoe of a person who is boating, an activity which, as I understand it, rarely appears in a Wabash classroom. These shoes are designed to be versatile, so when you’re climbing around the slick gunwales trying to reset a line or just walking around on shore you have comfort and a secure footing. They say you can judge a man by his shoes, and guys who wear boat shoes around campus because they’re “trendy” are asking to be judged as boys, not men. I own two pairs of boat shoes myself, but you’ll never see me wearing them unless you see me when I’m boating.

However, my real issue with the article is the suggestion that loafers are a logical next step from boat shoes. While I appreciate and applaud Mr. Carper’s effort to encourage men on campus to wear better dress shoes, this is not the right step. What the article does is give an excuse for boys to move from their Top-Siders to one of the most casual dress shoes. While wearing loafers with worsted wool (that is, a suit) is fine, one should use them sparingly. Loafers look better when used to dress up cords and khakis.

I have a few other quick corrections and suggestions. First, be not afraid of the sneaker: there’s nothing wrong with wearing a good, clean pair of sneakers. If you’re into the whole dressed-up idea of deck shoes, then try a pair of canvas sneakers in white or other neutral colors. If you’re feeling more adventurous pick up a pair of Super High Top shoes from a good line like D&G, Diesel, Givenchy, or (if you have to) Nike. It’s no surprise that guys are moving away from sneakers, but it’s not because they want to dress more formally. Most sneakers are dull and boring; pick up an atypical pair and you’ve got a real fashion piece.

Second, get SEVERAL good pairs of dress shoes. The time of year is equally important in deciding what shoe to wear as the rest of your ensemble. For the winter, stock up with dressier boots. Every designer is now making boots that are completely acceptable for a formal office. Try suede boots with a grey suit for that formal event or jeans during the week. For springtime, you want to avoid heavy black shoes, so go for a simple chocolate-brown lace-up. Before this fall, pick up a new pair of oxfords either in black for your pinstripe suit or in brown for sport jackets.

The point is, make your shoes versatile! Just as boat shoes are supposed to provide the versatile shoe for a boater, the function of so many shoes we casually label as “dress shoes” is so much more than that. Mr. Carper is right to note that we need more variety in footwear, and the first step to accomplishing that is purchasing some high quality shoes of several colors and styles then rotating through them to keep the style (and the shoes) fresh.

So Gentlemen—especially those of you in the “Yacht Club” who are apparently convinced that Sperry Top-Siders are the final word in footwear fashion—I implore you to take a good look at the shoes that are out there. I promise that you will find something that turns you from a witless trend-addict into a smart-looking Wabash Man.

–Stephen Maynard ‘11

Dear Sir,

Although I ultimately disagree with Ted Plummer’s anti-abortion rights conclusion in his Jan. 28 op-ed, “Dissecting Abortion Rights,” I congratulate him for his thoughtful essay. I’m a Roman Catholic, but I support abortion rights because I follow my religion’s tenet of informed human conscience. And on that basis I’m obligated to consider arguments like Mr. Plummer’s as closely as I trust he’d consider mine.

I’m most intrigued by his use of the legal principle of reasonable doubt. Mr. Plummer asserts that if we apply that precept to abortion in the way we use it to render court verdicts, we then have to accord fetuses the same latitude (that there is reasonable doubt about whether life begins only at birth) and overturn *Roe v. Wade*. I would argue the opposite, as did *Roe v. Wade*: it’s precisely because of reasonable doubt that we preserve abortion rights, at least in the first trimester of pregnancy, when the lack of fetal consciousness that Mr. Plummer alludes to makes it all but impossible to claim that abortion is homicide in a legal sense.

Mr. Plummer notes that we still consider adults who fall into comas to be “fully human persons.” But, as the Terri Schiavo case reminded us, a person who falls into a vegetative state similar to that of an early-stage fetus may also have life support legally removed. In other words, at that point we’ve arrived at a reasonable doubt, albeit a painful one, about whether this is still a viable human being – just as we hold a reasonable doubt about whether an early-stage fetus has become a viable human being. It’s a right of reasonable doubt that we have to accord a woman when, for whatever wrenching personal reasons, she opts for an early-stage abortion.

My humble hope is that this helps Mr. Plummer understand my position a bit better. His essay certainly helped me better understand his.

–Tim Padgett ‘84

Dear Sir,

We might choose to investigate the validity of Ted Plummer’s conclusion reached last week, refilling the logical ground between premises and conclusion somewhat differently.

First, one would like to define the point at which a human being has come into being--a difficult task. Qualities essential to being human are hard to define, but Plummer gives us a pair making a good deal of sense: thinking, and possessing homo sapiens DNA. These qualities cannot define what is essentially human, but they are a solid enough place to begin. Given them, intelligent gorillas would not be human and brain dead humans would not be human.

At what stage of proto-human development is the quality of thinking met? Certainly some time after birth. Depending upon how strict we are about what in particular human thinking is, thinking might not occur until age six or twelve or might never occur in some individuals. Now this seems inconsistent with common sense, or a common recognition of what is human. For example, children are humans, no matter what their age. What do we recognize in them? Perhaps some people raise children for no reason other than that their adorableness brings joy, but it seems that we treat children differently from kittens. We know that they are different in kind from pets, that they will grow into people like us, and that what is possible for them far exceeds what is possible for us. The possibilities children carry within themselves are incredible, and this is why they are more important than their elders, and why the world must be organized around them. Greater possibilities turn into greater realities, and well-educated children become better teachers and explorers.

Since we recognize the possibilities inherent in children, we must determine what separates children from their precursors. Perhaps we should examine another life form. I will choose some species of frog. When has the frog become a frog and when is it not yet a frog? First it was a single cell, then it was a group of cells, then a tadpole, but as it grew over the course of a few weeks I saw that it changed enormously. Eventually it matched my picture of what a frog was, though it was not done changing. The frog was one organism that changed through time. It was never ‘egg nature,’ never ‘tadpole nature,’ never ‘frog nature.’ The frog was never defined by my frog concept, no matter how complex my concept became. Its existence as a frog was not dependent upon fulfilling the qualities of a system I had constructed. Frogs exist, and no matter how thoroughly I have investigated their character I will always be behind the complexity of microscopic and macroscopic relations constituting a frog. The idea that I can proclaim to a swamp of frogs cycling through life, “you are a frog and you are not a frog” is ridiculous. Frog eggs are frogs. Frog tadpoles are frogs. The activity of the fertilized frog egg contains within itself a present and future reality. Imagine someone killing a sixteen-year-old cicada larvae but refraining from killing a cicada, telling you the first wasn’t a cicada.

It seems unreasonable to categorize some people as human and others as nonhuman based upon their stage of development. Quite often our children die from physical causes prior to attaining adulthood. Their existence as human beings was not dependent upon reaching an end physical state. Any argument for the validity of abortion must recognize that the unborn have the right to live as all humans do, but then illustrate the conditions justifying murder.

–Christopher McCauley ‘11

ON CONNECTIONS Grantham, England and Crawfordsville, Ind.

I think I have found the Crawfordsville of England.

Locals call the town nearest to me Grantham, and that’s what the maps say as well. Like all things though, some places unwillingly receive less desired names, like “that hole,” or aren’t even known by 99% of the population.

It’s not this sad fate that links Grantham to our collegiate home in my mind. Many small towns in England and the United States don’t have any immediate national name recognition, and in my mind that’s quite fine. These connections I’ve drawn would probably never have existed if I didn’t go to school right outside of the town and could easily venture into town.

First, both Crawfordsville and Grantham have a famous son. Crawfordsville has Lew Wallace, the Civil War general and Ben Hur author that gives the town a connection to the course of United States history. Grantham has Isaac Newton, whose lofty place in history and science is unquestioned and leaves him on the front pages of history.

Yet Newton and Wallace stand on more equal footing because very few people know each person’s hometown. Grantham and Crawfordsville aren’t known as the homes of each town’s famous son in mainstream thought. Newton’s home and the Lew Wallace museum aren’t particular hotbeds for casual tourists, leading to only a small influx of visitors to each town.

Not every town, large or small, needs a historic former legislature or a famous old church or a battlefield, and in each town I’ve seen a pride develop towards what each views as its own (or at least the thought of using its namesake for business).

Second, both Crawfordsville and Grantham’s city centers have suffered due to large, all-in-one stores built close to the city edges. Like Wal-Mart and Kroger in Crawfordsville, Grantham has been overrun by ASDA, which sells a little bit of everything, and a Salisbury’s mega-grocery store.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AIRSOFTCANADA.COM

“Like Wal-Mart and Kroger in Crawfordsville, Grantham has been overrun by ASDA, which sells a little bit of everything, and Salisbury’s mega-grocery store.”



KENNY FARRIS ‘12
ABROAD
COLUMNIST

Almost every storeowner posts signs in their window saying “SALE 50% off” or “Final Reduction Sale,” looking for customers to catch a bargain. Thrift shops have replaced restaurants or other specialty stores.

What Grantham doesn’t have is a consistent body of students that support its city center. Storeowners in Crawfordsville know that Wabash students can form a fairly consistent patronage through upperclassmen recommendations and feeding campus events like speakers and club meetings. Without Wabash student patronage, downtown Crawfordsville, especially its restaurants, would suffer.

Since every student at Harlaxton College only spends a semester here, pub owners and clothing store managers in Grantham don’t have the relationships to draw students consistently to the city center. Nor do students here have the resources to volunteer in such a short time like Wabash students do for events like Freshmen Orientation.

Finally, railway talk exists in both towns. Grantham has developed into a commuter town that sends many people off to London to work, study, or visit as a day trip. The thought of a day trip to a place two and a half hours’ drive away seems absurd in America. That’s the equivalent of someone from Crawfordsville commuting daily into downtown Chicago!

Yet it happens every day in Grantham. A train ride to King’s Cross station in London takes just over one hour and puts one near a university, the British Museum housing the Rosetta Stone, and the London Underground.

If high-speed rail ever developed across America, Crawfordsville could greatly benefit. Since Crawfordsville still holds an Amtrak stop, faster trains could stop in town, transporting people to metropolitan Indianapolis and Chicagoland in relatively no time. With the United States economy becoming less dependent on manufacturing, a strong rail station in Crawfordsville could help become a source of life if manufacturing continues to suffer.

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Looking Sharp and Playing the Part

Dressing well can start the day off right

MICHAEL CARPER '13
CULTURE COLUMNIST

Alright freshmen, (and especially pledges), listen up. Most, if not all, of you have been initiated. If not, you will be soon. That period marks the end of many things, like pledge tests and character-building. One of your new-found freedoms is not having to dress up for chapel, much less even attend it. Though I'm not going to preach about chapel attendance, an important lesson nonetheless, I will caution against throwing your appearance to the winds.

Just because you aren't ordered to wear a suit doesn't mean you can't pay some attention to what you wear. I strongly urge you to explore "genuine" casual clothing:

One of my favorite additions to an otherwise-boring set of clothing is socks. Dress socks, unless you're involved in some physical activity, are surprisingly comfortable. White socks are plain ugly, especially compared to some colorful argyle socks, which are fairly easy to find. Even better are bright stripes or polka dots. That sliver of brightness between your neutrally-colored pants and shoes is a welcome addition.



The next step is some decent pants. You don't need to wear khaki slacks. Jeans are perfectly acceptable, as are corduroys. However, what's important is to avoid the marks of "teenage" jeans: rips and tears, dyes, and bagginess. Pardon my old-fashionedness, but blue jeans are blue. If the back of your pant cuffs drag in the ground, they're too long. If the waist rests more than two inches below our belly button, they're too big. Slimmer pants create a cleaner silhouette regardless of the material.



Now, you may be asking yourself, who cares? I go to an all-guys school, why can't I wear sweatpants and a hoodie to every class? No one's going to stop you. However, there's a certain amount of pride invested in a man's clothing. Wearing clothes you can take pride in may not change your day a lot, but you'll feel more prepared as you go about your morning routine. Moreover, though you may deny it, what you wear indubitably affects what students, faculty, and staff think of you. So follow my suggestions, and be bold.



The first rule of thumb is: sweaters, sweaters, sweaters. First, they have practical value. Like me, you probably have an outer jacket, built for rain and snow. You still need some warmth. A sweater plays the role of a sweatshirt, but is much classier, and you don't have to deal with the unneeded hood, since your outer jacket probably has one. You don't even need a button-down, collared shirt to wear a sweater. Just put on a crew-neck solid-colored shirt.



As mentioned earlier, temperatures like these demand some sort of jacket. I see pea-coats everywhere, which is great. They're a good break from the typical rain jackets or North Face. If you want a little more variety, however, I encourage you to look at Harrington or brown leather bombers. Both are "mature" options that keep you just as warm, without looking like what everyone else is wearing.



Speaking of your foot, shoes are a deal-breaker. Ok, no deals are actually being made...but shoes greatly influence the rest of your clothes. Flashy basketball sneakers or beat-up running shoes may be practical, but are hardly "adult" shoes. Once you start wearing leather shoes, real shoes, you can't imagine wearing anything else—not only are loafers or desert boots more comfortable, but they last longer. If anything, at least find some boat shoes.

Addendum regarding Mr. Maynard's letter: First off, thanks for taking the time to write a response. I must have at least one reader.

I agree with a lot of what Mr. Maynard says, regarding boots and sneakers. My aversion to them comes from the frequency to interpret "sneakers" as "tennis shoes," which are commonly ugly. My advice is, after all, supposed to be for the average student, not the sartorial sage like yourself.

I will agree to disagree about the form of shoes, especially boat shoes. Form follows function, of course, but not to an absolute degree. Wearing khaki pants no longer designates a member of the British Army. It can be fun to point out, "That's not what you're supposed to wear," but often the only difference between clothing made for a specific purpose, like, as you write, boat shoes, and a piece of clothing widely accepted for general wear, like khakis, is time.

Track Takes NCAC Relays

Little Giants end NCAC stranglehold by Ohio Wesleyan, look ahead to Tiger Invitational on Feb. 5 and to team's first shot at rival DePaum.

RYAN LUTZ '13
STAFF WRITER

Ohio Wesleyan University has had a death grip on the NCAC for the past three years. This year however, things have changed.



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

Sophomore John Haley was part of the two-man 55-meter hurdle relay team whose victory helped propel Wabash to the team crown Saturday.

At the NCAC Indoor Relays Wabash College won for the first time in three years. "Our big focus was coming together as a team, working hard and believing in each other" Coach Morgan said. The track team has always been known for its cohesiveness. This year they are coming together in a whole new way with the implementation of their slogan "Next Level". That theme came from the feeling the team had after placing second at conference last year. "Last year our team came back and made our presence known in the NCAC when we got 2nd at the indoor NCAC meet, but 2nd place isn't something to be satisfied about" Patrick Posthauer said.

One of the reasons that "Next Level" is a great theme for the year is because it applies to every aspect of your life. "In the classroom, on the field and spiritually we are working to get to the next level" Morgan said. After getting close to a conference title last year the only way to take it to the next level is to win it all. The whole team is more than ready to achieve that goal. "Our guys are intense and yearn for a championship" Matt Scheller said, "We got a taste of that this weekend, and we are hungry for more".

This reminder of working to get to the next level is a big reason why the team was able to beat

OWU for the first time in three years. There was also another change in the teams philosophy that helped them edge out OWU.

"This year we are a lot more focused on us" Morgan said, "past years we put too much pressure on ourselves, so we are keeping focused on ourselves and just staying strong".

By having an inward focus the team took one more worry off its shoulders and made it easier to compete at their highest level. The team really bought into it, because no one asked the coaches what the team scores were until the last two events. This showed that the focus was truly on them.

John Haley is one of the track runners who is for this new focus. "We don't talk about other teams in practice. We just focus on ourselves and let everything come together" He said.

Even though it has been three years since the team has beaten OWU no one is becoming satisfied or complacent.

"It does boost our confidence, but we are humble and haven't taken our eyes off of our main goal, to be NCAC champions" Posthauer said. That feeling is mutual throughout the entire team. Jake Waterman agreed that "All this win has done has made it all the more clear what our team is capable of".

The coaching staff is on the same page as well. "We still remind them what it takes to get to



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

Freshman Charles Smothers took home the 55-meter dash title.

that next level and they have adopted it as their own," Morgan said. The team has definitely gained confidence from that win at the NCAC Relays but they are staying grounded.

"A lot of guys are even putting in more work now" Haley said, "guys are coming into practice earlier to stretch and get warmed up sooner, and the distance guys are even running in the mornings now".

Beating OWU for the first time in three years is a huge step for the team on reaching their goals. But the season is still young and they are continually working towards that Next Level.

"Our goals have not altered in the least. Yeah, we beat OWU, but they aren't the only team we have to beat. We have an entire season left ahead of us, and the goal is to be better than all of them," Scheller said.

Basketball Primed for Rematch with Fighting Scots

KYLE BENDER '12
STAFF WRITER

Barring any additional Midwestern blizzards, the #11 Wabash College basketball team will travel to Ohio for a much-anticipated Saturday rematch with the top team in the nation - the Wooster Fighting Scots.

Few Little Giants or Division III basketball enthusiasts can forget the January 8 showdown between the NCAC's two best teams, when Wooster survived a 67-65 nail bitter that involved everything from power outages to rambunctious Chadwick Crazies creating a standing-room only atmosphere.

For Wabash to knock off the undefeated Scots, they will need to continue their winning play from last Saturday's game - a 74-65 home win against Kenyon. Playing without sharpshooter AJ Sutherlin (out with ankle sprain), the Little Giants moved to 16-3 on the season and 8-3 in NCAC play behind Wes Smith's 25 points and Derek Bailey's career-high 16 points.

The win came on the heels of a four-game road trip which the Little Giants split after surprising losses to Wittenberg and Ohio Wesleyan. Following this weekend's extended Ohio road trip (games at Wooster and Denison), the team will finish out the regular season with three games at home.

"The stretch of road games certainly took a toll on us," Head Coach Mac Petty said. "Allegheny was a 9 hour drive, Witt - 4 hours, Oberlin - 6 hours, and Ohio Wesleyan - 4 hours. When we're on the road, the guys really have to control distractions and just keep simple routines that can be replicated each

game.

"They also have to plan ahead with their schoolwork because we usually get back to campus very late after the weekday games. Our guys do a great job making sure they stay in contact with their professors and reschedule things such as missed labs."

After a blistering 13-0 start to the season, Petty and his squad have seen a change in how the rest of the conference approaches games against the Little Giants.

"We're getting everybody's best game," Petty said. "Teams are excited for the chance to knock us off so they've watched a lot of tape. We're seeing multiple defenses and double teams on Wes on a nightly basis. Guys like Curosh and Shelbourne now have the opportunity to step up more because they are being left open in

"We're getting everybody's best game. Teams are excited for the chance to knock us off."

Coach Mac Petty

order to shut down our big scorers.

"We've had several setbacks with injuries to Zinnerman and Sutherlin, but they should both be healthy the rest of the way out. These next few games are huge for us, because they control our seeding in the conference tournament, and ultimately our destiny regarding the NCAA tournament."

In order for the Little Giants to finish the regular



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Senior Wes Smith led the Little Giants with 25 points in their victory over Kenyon.

season strong and head into March playing their best ball. Petty believes his players must successfully execute the little things needed to win basketball games. Limiting turnovers, getting to the free throw line, rebounds, and playing solid defense are all areas of emphasis in the coming days.

The leadership of the program's four seniors will also be needed.

"I always tell my seniors at the beginning of each season to leave a legacy," Petty said. "I thought Haltom, Brock, and Kavalaszkas did a great job of doing this last year and they are a key reason for the success we've experienced this year. As the season nears a close, now we look to these seniors."

"This past weekend, we

honored Josh Estelle '00 - one of the greatest players to every play for Wabash. What few people know about Josh and his teammates is that they had a 30 game home winning streak, which led the nation. That team left a legacy. It's all about the little things each team decides to carry on and the pride they take in their play."

The Wabash-Wooster game tips at 2:00 p.m. Saturday. Live radio and stats can be accessed via the College website. Student Senate has purchased a charter bus for loyal fans to travel to the game. The bus will leave Crawfordsville promptly at 7:30 a.m. Contact Student Body President Steve Henke to reserve a last-minute seat; spots are limited.

Remaining Schedule

Feb. 5	@ Wooster
Feb. 12	vs. Hiram
Feb. 16	vs. Wittenberg
Feb. 19	vs. Oberlin

Hoops Playoff Picture Still Unclear

Not so long ago, things were pretty simple around the basketball program here at Wabash. Three weeks ago he Little Giants were sporting a 13-0 record, including an unblemished 5-0 conference mark. The team was rolling, having found every bounce and good break a team could ask for (see: Derek Bailey at Kenyon). They were preparing for top-ranked Wooster to come into Crawfordsville, giving the Little Giants the perfect opportunity to solidify their position among the national title contenders. Back then, the playoff picture was pretty clear. Now? Not so much. Following a heartbreaking 2-point loss in that Jan. 8 contest with the Fighting Scots (67-65) and a pair of road conference losses to Wittenberg and Ohio Wesleyan, the Little Giants are scrambling to regain their early-season form.

Playing in a traditionally top-heavy conference in the NCAC doesn't lend itself to a regular outpouring of at-large bids to non-qualifying teams in this conference. Over the past decade, Wooster's dominance in postseason play hasn't helped the perception that this league is nothing more than a one-team show. However, strong showings this year by the Little Giants and Tigers have made for an interesting stretch-run as the season comes to a close.

While there is definitely a level of uncertainty surrounding Wabash's chances, this week's release of the NCAA's first Regional Rankings of the season has certainly shed some light on how the league has been viewed this year. Surprisingly, the Little



BRANDAN ALFORD
SPORTS EDITOR

Giants three losses in four contests have not put much of a damper on their regional standing. Coming in at the No. 3 spot in the Great Lakes region, the Little Giants could not ask for a better position at this juncture considering their recent struggles on the road.

Trailing the Fighting Scots and Hope College (14-5) out of the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association, both leading their respective conferences, Wabash's in-region record of 15-3 is looming large, and in the best way possible. Even that loss to Wittenberg, which comes in at the No. 5 in the region, hasn't hindered Wabash in any serious manner. What this means is that, essentially, the Little Giants control their own destiny. However, their chances at securing an at-large bid will largely be contingent upon if top-ranked teams can handle business and secure their conference's Pool A automatic bid. With that said, rematches with Wooster Saturday and Wittenberg in two weeks could very well determine their postseason fate. How Wabash finishes the regular season and competes in the NCAC tournament will be integral factors in the selection committees eyes, obviously. But if this past football season showed us anything, the postseason selection process is anything but a sure bet, unless of course, you have that automatic bid.

Track and Field Sends Strong Message to NCAC Competition



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

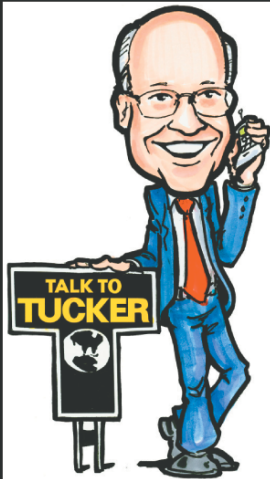
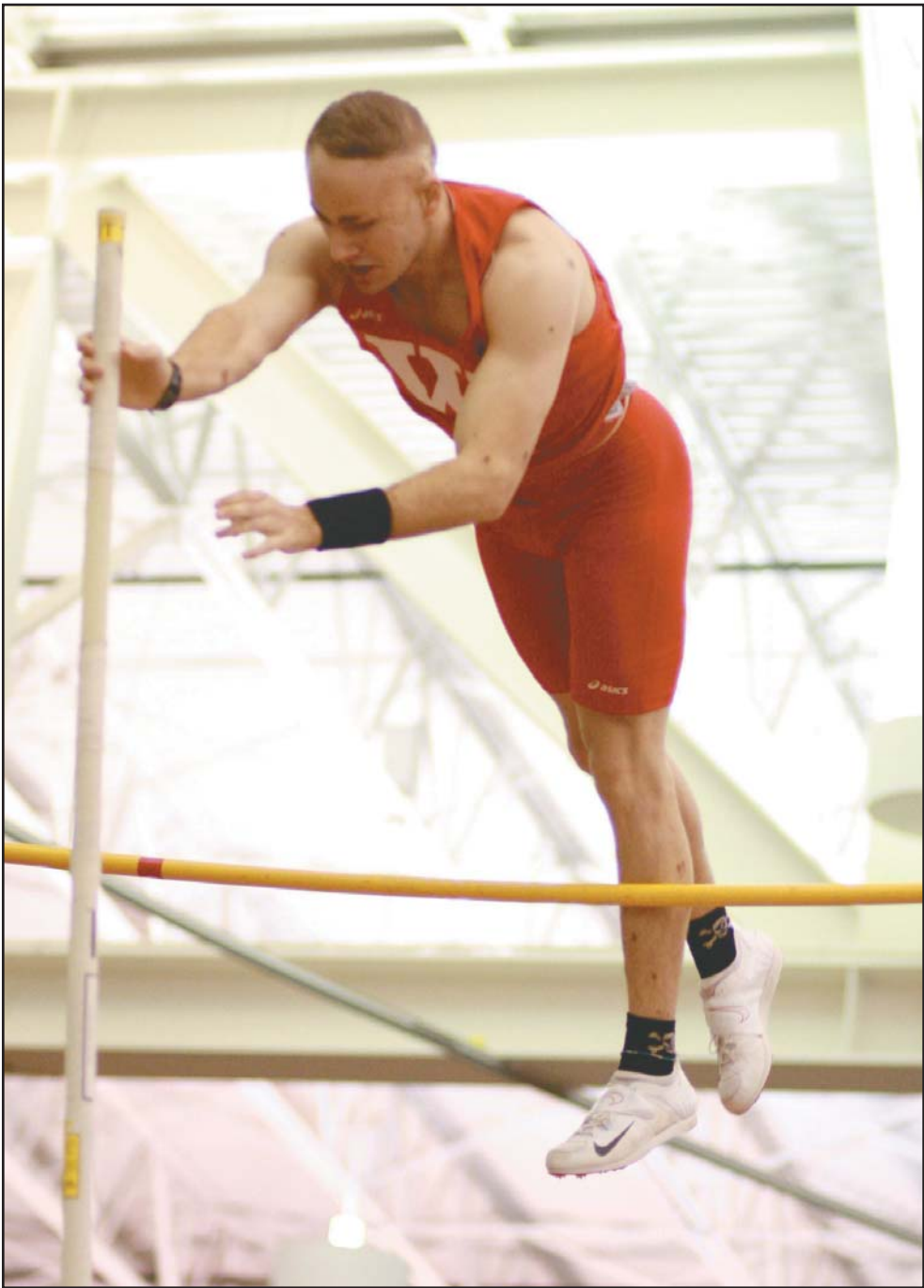
Action from Saturday's NCAC Indoor Relay meet at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. The Little Giants took home the crown, finishing first in the eight-team competition.

Senior Justin Allen (above) was a member of Wabash's 3200-meter relay team that finished second on the afternoon.

Sophomore Austin Hodges (top left) helped lead Wabash to a victory in the Sprint Medley competition.

Junior Sam Glowinski (left) finished second in the pole vault competition, in which Wabash had the top two finishers.

Freshman Brad Pusateri (bottom left) finished second in Saturday's shot put event.



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