

Accommodating Prospectives

Despite Sheet Shortage, Fraternities Make Do

GABE WATSON '13
NEWS EDITOR

Last weekend’s Honor Scholar activities successfully brought 359 prospective students to campus for tests, information, and a taste of the Wabash experience. But the real work comes from campus leaders behind the scenes. Fraternity leaders especially bear the brunt of the prospective load while trying to impress each visitor with a positive Wabash image.

Sigma Chi President Matt Page said the chaos of the weekend was manageable and well worth the effort. “This is the biggest weekend of the year for us,” he stated, “so you’ve got to do what you’ve got to do.”

Each Fraternity is largely left to feed its guests. Sigma Chi received catered food as well as pizzas throughout the weekend courtesy of associated alumni, and they grilled hamburgers outside to provide a low-key socialization atmosphere.

Sleeping is another major area of concern for fraternities because the campus is unable to provide extra mattresses for any prospectives. By converting the cold dorm and utilizing extra couches in the house, Page was adamant that “no prospect slept on the floor.”

Beta Theta Pi dealt with the same challenges, but with some added difficulty because of the College shortage of sheets. They did not receive the mattresses and sheets they requested but made do the best they could. With a less involved Housing Corporation, Beta Theta Pi was left with much higher food expenses throughout the weekend.

Beta Theta Pi Treasurer Billy Powers said that of course the fraternity was willing to do this for their guests. “That’s why you come here, because someone pulls out all stops for you. But at the same time we have over 40 kids that they’re giving us as recruits when we’ll only have 20 of them living in next year,” he explained. “It is a lot of pressure to pay attention to kids and make sure they see Wabash at its best even if they have no intention of pledging the house.”

It seems logical that, if prospects do not want to be at a



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

With more prospective students staying in fraternities than in dormitories, many houses got creative over the weekend by shuffling prospective students between couches and beds. Each year, houses struggle with the logistics of having additional guys on campus.

location, they should be sent to another one. Yet 72-percent of prospects were assigned to fraternities while the campus is more evenly split with the independent lifestyle. The largest inconsistency comes when dormitories like Wolcott receive only two prospective students while the more popular fraternities overflow.

The high school students request the type of living unit they prefer, but the number of independent spaces available is directly tied to independent volunteers, who become responsible for the students who stay with them. Fraterni-

ties have common spaces through which they can share the burden of guests, and they also have pressure to recruit the students.

“The bottom line is for the guys coming to have a good experience and explore the aspects of Wabash that are most critical to them, so we try to honor their requests,” Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Stephen Klein said, “but we also run into occupancy limits. We just try to find

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International Students: Finding a Niche on Campus

JOHN DYKSTRA '13
STAFF WRITER

When stepping into Sparks on a given afternoon or evening, it is hard to ignore the cultural cliques. Asian international students tend to sit next to each other every day. Are they being integrated with America students and culture?

The reasons Asian international students are often seen together consist of more than nationality. International freshmen are the first to arrive on campus each fall and thus have more opportunities to get to know one another.

Regardless, Asian international students have not been the only clique recognized throughout campus.

“I think a lot of people see the international students in a group because they stand out more,” said Ian Low ’13, last semester’s President of the International Students Association. “I think the main issue is because they share something in common. You see the African American students in one group, the swimmers in a group, and so on – you always see that kind of clique going on and that is mainly because they start out knowing each other first, so they have a closer relation and can connect to each other.”

After his first eight months at Wabash, Vietnam native Anh Nguyen ’14 feels cultural differences have made it difficult for him to integrate himself with American culture.

“Men at Wabash like sports such as football and baseball,” Nguyen said. “When I first came here, I did not have any knowledge of football and everyone kept talking about it. So, cultural differences have had an effect on my communication.

“Socially, I do not feel like I am totally integrated in with the environment. I have good friendships with some guys from the College. People are nice to me, but I feel we cannot be friends in the way that people treat me like their guest and help me out. I am not really comfortable with talking to strangers and people



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

International Students tend to sit together in Sparks, but their group seems not to be any different from any other Wabash clique.

here are very open. I am not that open and still don’t feel like I fit in with this College.”

Shanghai native and former President of the International Students Association Jackson Ding ’11 suggested looking beyond the nationality of individuals and finding common interests.

“If we step back and not really look at the nationality issue, at the end of the day it is a group of people with similarities that decide to sit together and chat,” Ding said. “I do encourage international students to open up more and associate themselves more with American culture.”

Ding first experienced American culture his second semester freshman year when he started attending Wabash. He first formed friendships with other international students before integrating himself with American students.

“Naturally, I think it was international students that I first associated myself with, but then I started mingling with other groups,” he said. “After participating in several school events

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Barnes Researches, Writes, and Publishes

RILEY FLOYD '13
EDITOR IN CHIEF

After 44 years of teaching, Professor Emeritus of History, Jim Barnes is still being published. In fact, his latest book *The American Revolution Through British Eyes* has been accepted for publication and will be out next year.

“It’s a collection of documents—probably a two volume collection of documents—mostly of letters and dispatches written in America by British officers and officials documenting what was going on at that time,” Barnes said.

But Barnes doesn’t work alone. His wife, Patience, is his collaborator, and Barnes sees all of their work as a joint effort.

“My wife and I have been working together on all our projects. So, we’re co-authors.”

Beside their most recent work, the Barneses have published work on Nazi Germany, England, and the American Civil War through British eyes. They travel together and work together sifting through documents in libraries all around the world.

For Barnes, reading through those documents is somewhat of an unconventional process. In 1931, he was born legally blind with 2200 vision. What someone with normal vision would see at 200 feet, Barnes could only see at 20 feet. Then, in 1956, in his mid-twenties, Barnes lost his vision entirely. At the time, he was working to complete his master’s degree at Oxford University.

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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.

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

Announcements

Monday, March 28
An Evening With G.K. Chesterton
8:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Korb Classroom

Tuesday, March 29
The Write Stuff
11:00 a.m. MXI

Tuesday, March 29
An Evening With George Orwell
8:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Korb Classroom

Tuesday, Feb. 1
shOUT presents *Out in the Silence* film
6:00 p.m. Korb Classroom

Thursday, Feb. 3
O Brother Where Art Thou film 7 p.m.
Hays Hall 104

More Than Profit. . .

Film Committee Selects Coen Brothers for Screenings

SAM BENNETT '14
STAFF WRITER

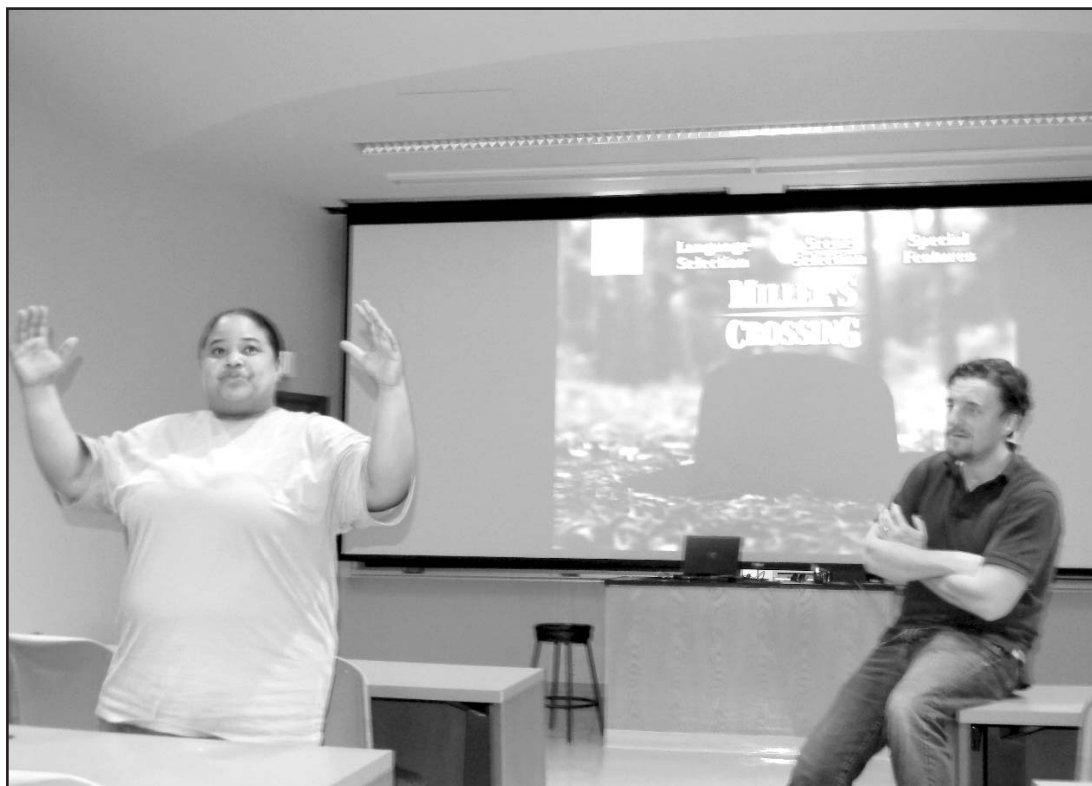
The content necessary for a definitive liberal arts education is debatable, but the general reasoning for its existence is not. It is necessary that students become acquainted with many areas of knowledge so that they might have a broader understanding of knowledge in general, something that can be applied in any specific field. This definition, then, would most assuredly include the study and furthered understanding of meaningful films and the directors of those films, an idea of study and understanding that the Faculty Film Committee stands behind wholeheartedly.

The Faculty Film Committee is composed of BKT Assistant Professor of Theater James Cherry, Assistant Professor of History Tracey Salisbury, and Associate Director of the Wabash Center Thom Pearson. After years discussing how best to run it, "we decided we could do these mini film festivals where we take a particular genre or director and span their films over a period of time," Cherry explained. The purpose of these collective screenings is to introduce the campus to films that they probably have not seen on their own and possibly never even come across.

This spring, the Committee has been and will continue to screen films directed by the Coen brothers. The films *The Big Lebowski*, *Miller's Crossing*, and *O Brother, Where Art Thou* have been chosen by the committee in order to exhibit the many intricacies and motifs inherent within much of the corpus of the Coen brothers as much publicity for their most current film, *True Grit* abounds throughout much of the current entertainment sphere.

The value inherent in this "mini film festival" approach is that "It's valuable to look at a group of works by a particular director, because then you get a sense of what this director is all about," Cherry said. "We're looking at these films as objects of art." But students could easily traverse to the nearest video proprietor or navigate through the pages of the Internet to easily find these films individually, without the assistance of these "mini film festivals" and the Faculty Film Committee.

However, the committee firmly believes in and advocates for group film study: "Watching



FRANCISCO HUERTA | WABASH '11

The Faculty Film Committee selected three films by the Coen Brothers for this year's screenings. *The Big Lebowski*, *Miller's Crossing*, and *O Brother, Where Art Thou* all made the cut. The Committee chose the films for their purpose, vitality, and willingness to stray from the typical film-making mode.

films in a collective group is better than watching them by yourself, which is how I think most people watch films these days," Cherry said. "We're missing the collective experience of going to the movies. Partly because tickets are ten bucks and a lot of times the movie isn't worth ten dollars."

Broadly, the Faculty Film Committee focuses on films that contain vitality, hold purpose, and reflect something important rather than films created primarily to please audiences momentarily and accrue immense profits. This is the dichotomy between art house cinema and mainstream cinema. Films such as those directed by the Coen brothers embody an intrinsic, artistic worth whereas films directed primarily for mainstream audiences do not usually embody that sense of worth.

This opens up an interesting notion for the Coen brothers' films. "The Coen Brothers started as art house and then became mainstream,"

Cherry explained, "How often can you do that transition without being seen to sell out?" But it is widely accepted and claimed by art audiences that the Coen brothers have not "sold out," so to speak.

"These are films that straddle the line between art house and mainstream," Cherry said.

These are films that bring something meaningful to those who observe and immerse themselves within the subject matter and directing styles.

Audiences have usually consisted of about 25 people, and enough popcorn and soda are provided at these events for however many people decide to show up. Plans for future "mini film festivals" are not written in stone and are open to faculty and student suggestions, but there will be another collection of films screened in the summer as a means to entertain students who are on campus for various reasons.

Brigance Forum Examines Climate Change



JOSH SAMPSON '14
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, March 22 Wabash College welcomed esteemed speaker Dr. Robert Cox for the newest installment of its Brigance Forum, which honors the late Wabash professor William Norwood Brigance. Cox is the Professor of Communication Studies and the Curriculum in the Environment and Ecology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and he spoke to Wabash students and faculty about the growing trend of the public's ignorant attitudes toward climate change.

Cox was invited to Wabash College by Visiting Assistant Professor of Rhetoric Jennifer Hamilton, a friend and colleague that uses one of Cox's books: *Environmental Communications in the Public Square* in her Rhetoric 270 class, Special Topics on Environmental Communication.

According to Cox, scientists are all but completely in agreement about the fact that climate change is occurring and that human factors are greatly attributing to its

rapid development. However, he states that because of irresponsible journalism, downsizing of expertise in news teams, and poor or biased coverage of events concerning global warming, most people are now confused or misled regarding the truth about climate change. His talk, lasting approximately an hour in Korb Classroom, was highly thought-provoking and caused many Wabash men to reconsider the manner in which they receive and interpret information from the media.

Cox noted that this was his first visit to the College and that he enjoyed it thoroughly. "It is similar to my *alma mater*, the University of Richmond, and I just felt at home here immediately." Cox then explained how he had began to be interested in the fields of ecology and communications, especially in regards to climate change. He began hearing about global warming in the 1990s. When the growing evidence eventually became too much for him to ignore, he knew his students would bear the consequences of misinformation. Cox's observations inspired him to begin teaching and speak-

ing about the subject in order to raise awareness.

Cox connected Wabash with the issue by commenting on the need for the truth in a media system saturated with inaccuracies: "The skills you learn at Wabash will teach you how to be a critical consumer of information. Your study and research will teach you to judge your sources according to a certain standard of evidence." According to Cox, the only way to be properly informed on current events on our society is to examine our sources to determine if the information we are receiving is worthwhile and accurate.

ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

Dr. Robert Cox gave this year's Brigance Forum Lecture. Tuesday night, Cox spoke on climate change and the lack of public knowledge on the topic. Visiting Assistant Professor of Rhetoric Jennifer Hamilton uses Cox's textbook for the Rhetoric 270 class on environmental communication.

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About 350 high school seniors visited campus for tests and activities over Honor Scholar weekend and were hosted by Wabash students during their stay.

Internationals

From Page 1

and clubs, I got to know more Betas, so I decided to pledge Beta as a sophomore. “I think it is definitely the time you need to adjust to a different culture is a big issue. Second of all, think of it like this: even if you are already adjusted to American culture, these are the group of people you hang out with in your first month or two while you are not quite used to the American culture yet.” Low believes Wabash can help integrate international students into American culture sooner by making changes to freshman orientation. “There is a problem with integration,” Low said. “I think that is something that needs to be worked on, especially in orientation. I suggest cutting the orientation time shorter and splitting the international students up. You give them enough time to adjust and then you mix them in with American students.” Hanoi native Hung Duong ’13 said the close friendships international students have with each other are the result of the orientation for international students, which takes

place approximately two weeks before classes start in the fall. “During the orientation for international students, we develop our friendship and connection to one another better, so it is normal for international students to reach out to each other compared to our communication with American students,” Duong said. “I think as the semester rolls on, we look into the Wabash community as a whole and communicate with American students more and form better relationships with them as well.” Ding believes the issue of international students integrating themselves into American culture has been overly associated with nationality rather than individuality. “My advice to incoming international students is to not feel pressured to have to hang out with American students,” Ding said. “I think by the end of the day we are all human and associate ourselves with people we like to be around. But on the other hand, do not feel the pressure that you have to hang out with international students – try to get to know people from different backgrounds and people that you have common interests with.”



FRANCISCO HUERTA | WABASH '14

Students naturally associate with others with whom they have the most in common. Cultural traits can provide a sense of familiarity for international students.

Barnes

From Page 1

“Fortunately, by that time, I was married—which was a big help, not surprisingly. Also, having been born with very limited vision, the adjustment to being totally blind was a lot easier than if I had gone from normal sight to total blindness. It was challenging, and at one point, we had to make our decision as to whether we’d try finish off my second of two years and take my 10 3-hour exams. They have all of these exams that your whole degree is based off of. . . . Fortunately, it worked out. I got my degree, and we’ve been working together ever since,” Barnes said. Barnes and his wife met while the two were in college: he at Amherst in Northampton, Mass., she at Smith College. He later completed a master’s degree at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar and his Ph.D. at Harvard. Together, he and his wife have published ten volumes of primary source documents along with several articles. Now, Barnes uses a combination of Braille, digital books, and a hired reader to complete his work. Although, Barnes’ wife often helps Barnes with his research and assists him with reading. “We work very closely together gathering the material at various libraries and archives. . . . Then, when I’m back here, I often pay a reader to work with me so she is able to do other things,” Barnes said. “But I do the first draft usually of something, and then she starts to tear it apart editing, and then we try to reconcile our differences . . . so she puts the finishing touches on things.” “I’ve also paid readers over the years, because I didn’t feel that it was feasible to have my wife, Patience, read everything. She had her life to lead too, and we had children to raise,” Barnes said.

Intellectualism runs in the family. Both of Barnes’ children hold Ph.D.s. “We have fun comparing notes on that,” Barnes said. Barnes’ son, a Ph.D. in education and music therapy and his family live outside Boston, Mass. And Barnes’ daughter lives on the east coast of England. A Ph.D. in musicology, she is the president of one of the small colleges at Oxford. As far as his teaching style, Barnes favored discussion over lecture. And that favoring was different from the typical, traditional lecture environ-

ment that defined the Wabash curriculum in 1962 when Barnes first came here after three years of teaching at Amherst, his alma mater. “I was one of the first to try to shift the emphasis to discussion,” Barnes said. Last week, Barnes gave a Chapel Talk on his relationship with his dog, “Rex”—Barnes sixth dog since 1958. The two have been together since 2002. “He’s a wonderful dog,” Barnes said.

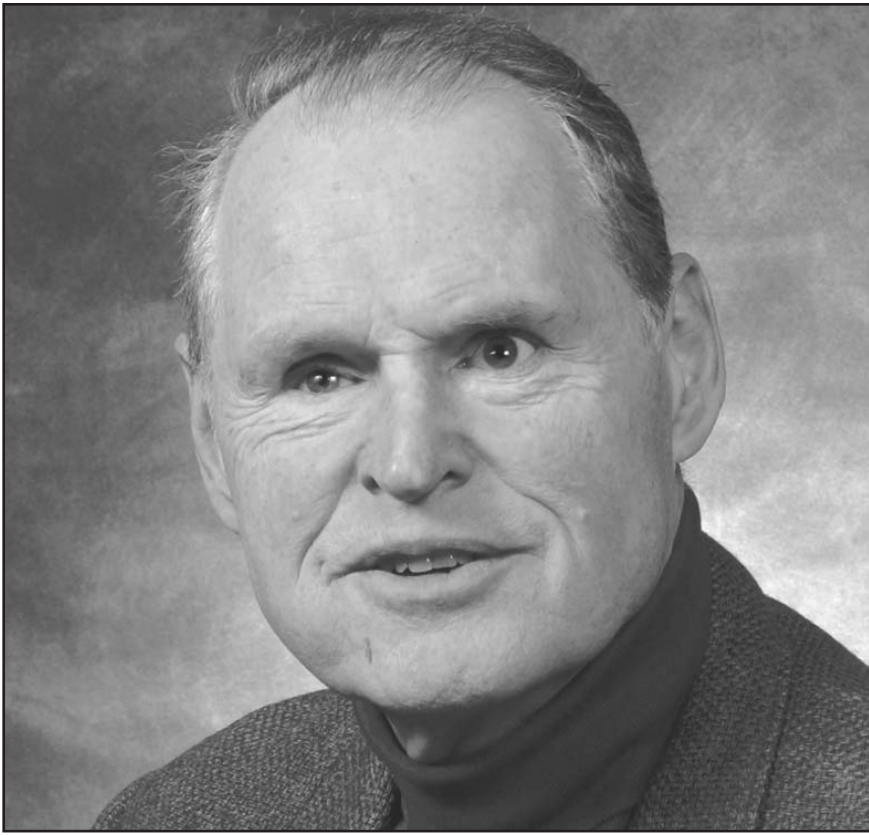


PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

After 44 years of teaching, Professor of History Emeritus, James Barnes still writes and researches from his office in Baxter Hall. Barnes’ most recent book, *The American Revolution Through British eyes*, will be published next year.

Accommodations

From Page 1


a happy medium between where kids want to go and where we can support them.” While this ultimately lands on the capable shoulders of fraternity members, Klein said that the unplanned things are the only real concerns. “Ultimately, as the host, we need to know where each young man is staying,” Klein stated. But students often move houses or rooms in order to better enjoy the weekend, which is the second priority. Klein was very pleased with what he saw over the weekend, especially the relatively new parents program, run by parents for parents. “This is the second highest number of attendees in my tenure here, and that’s a great thing,” he explained. “That’s what we’ve been working toward all year. I was really pleased with the turnout.” The issues with which fraternities cope are a

bit of a necessary evil in which they take part for the sake of their pledge class and the promotion of Wabash on the whole. “We can only provide what they ask for,” added Klein. But sometimes a simple request cannot always fix logistic problems like bedding supplies. A meeting between Klein and fraternity rush chairs is currently being planned to address some of these pragmatic issues. To address them, however, honest evaluation of what takes place is essential. Once the weekend is underway, Administration can be largely uninformed about students who switch housing units and even concerns like feeding so many people. “Our students do a great job, all of our students,” Klein concluded. “When you think about it, bringing in close to 400 high school seniors and having them hosted by our college students, that takes a lot of planning and a lot of commitment, and our students pulled it off extremely well.”

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Was Honor Scholar Honest?

The tests are over, the rush banners stowed away or falling off, the bids given, and the parents gone. Honor Scholar weekend 2011 is officially behind us. Now life at Wabash, both for students and administration, can return to normal.

But how different does life really become over this weekend of most-touted importance? Aren't students and admins alike always busy, always struggling to balance the daily workload with preparation for the next big event? This is undoubtedly the case, but over Honor Scholar weekend, we—students, clubs, even the *Bachelor* itself—fundamentally change not only our activities and workload, but our behavior, resulting in an inaccurate portrayal of our character. Some amount of adjustment is justifiable and desirable, of course, when, like this past weekend, we entertain “guests,” as it were. “Be on your best behavior” is a mantra that deserves consideration. But it is also possible to take this too far.

A glaring example of this is the strict moratorium on drinking in residences housing prospective students. Wabash's culture of drinking and partying, which is normally handled with a remarkable level of responsibility, is difficult to hide. Most current students are honest enough with prospects to admit that drinking is a prominent activity and a huge aspect of our social life. Answers from the administration, however, tend to deflect the question of drinking through the Gentleman's rule—“Wabash men... are responsible citizens.” This politically correct stance is then imposed on students by, at the most direct level, their fraternities, which are in turn under pressure by the administration. It is not hard to imagine prospective students passing through the entire visit and admissions process, including Honors Scholar weekend, and retaining an exaggerated idea of Wabash's temperance.

In surveying current students on their expectations coming into Wabash, I encountered this very phenomenon, this lack of prior comprehension of our drinking culture, indicating that we have indeed perpetrated a deception on these visitors. Of course I can not go as far as to support the provision of alcohol to high school seniors, but the compulsory spokesperson role foisted on current students not only inconveniences the of-age students who would like to behave naturally, but contributes to a diluted portrayal of Wabash's true environment.

Not only can students not act as



REED
HEPBURN '12
STAFF
COLUMNIST

they normally do, but even speech is censored to the point of compromising our honesty. The ritual of rush is steeped with the dubious integrity inevitably accompanying such marketing-heavy interactions, but systemic obligations require dishonesty of Greek men, both about their own fraternities and others. We all, Greek and independent alike, carry our own personal notions of what each fraternity is like, with varying levels of substantial basis. When we know the pros and cons of each house and certain houses have more of the latter, in our eyes, than the former, and a prospect asks our opinion, must we lie? While the discouragement of “dirty rush” has good intentions, it hinders the conveyance of a true picture of Wabash social life.

Even student-run publications hide things that normally would be exposed to the campus. Opinions that are too critical and quotes that are too negative are omitted or saved for later issues, free from the appraising eyes of prospectives and their parents. Wabash has been struggling for years with a high attrition rate. Wabash's jam-packed and even grueling freshman orientation week makes an attempt, with thinly-veiled desperation, to ameliorate this trend by instilling college loyalty into its new students once they have already enrolled.

But perhaps some of that energy would be better used if diverted to showing prospectives what the school is really like before they make their decision. True, some would be turned off by our stout appreciation for fine beverages, or other controversial features that are pushed under the rug in adherence to the current paradigm. Others, however, may develop a greater admiration for the school for these very characteristics, and if not, surely they will respect our candor, which itself could persuade them of our school's merit. If nothing else, whether we were to lose or to gain enrolled freshmen by loosening up and talking straight with prospects, at least we would know without a doubt that we had fulfilled the last part of our mission statement—“living humanely”—by maintaining our integrity.

NPR Shows Us Our Worst

After the most recent NPR incident, no one can claim that news needs to be sensationalized more than it already is; the scandal, which broke a little over two weeks ago, provides lavish quantities of excitement and entertainment. The duo of undercover journalists, secret dinner meetings, and clandestine recordings all rival the best Bond and Bourne scenes. Not to mention the still-surfacing backlash of thrills such as mudslinging, redacted statements, and avant garde independent journalism.

Incidents like the one mentioned above showcase the media industry in a bad light and recur once in a blue moon—and when they do, they usually re-ignite a litany of age-old tropes, such as media bias, excessive liberalism, etc. While the gripes are justified to some extent (the historic record of liberalism as a mainstay in the American media is a difficult phenomena to deny), they normally serve to remind the American public of a need for balanced reporting and productive discourse. Hands get slapped, individuals face up and America moves on.

In this case, though, a large and unprecedented act of retribution accompanies the incident. In a movement begun by the House majority, the American Congress is currently attempting to reform and rid itself carte blanche of the responsibilities of federal radio broadcasting.

The *Bachelor* agrees that freethinking Americans, in observing the tightening economy, have every right to bristle at media bias from a federally-funded enterprise. But that assumes two separate, yet related, things: first that there is a true media bias and second that the federal funding is significant to the extent that it merits such an action.

The Issue:

The NPR debacle represents a growing trend in America to politicize institutions based on the individuals who represent them.

Our Stance:

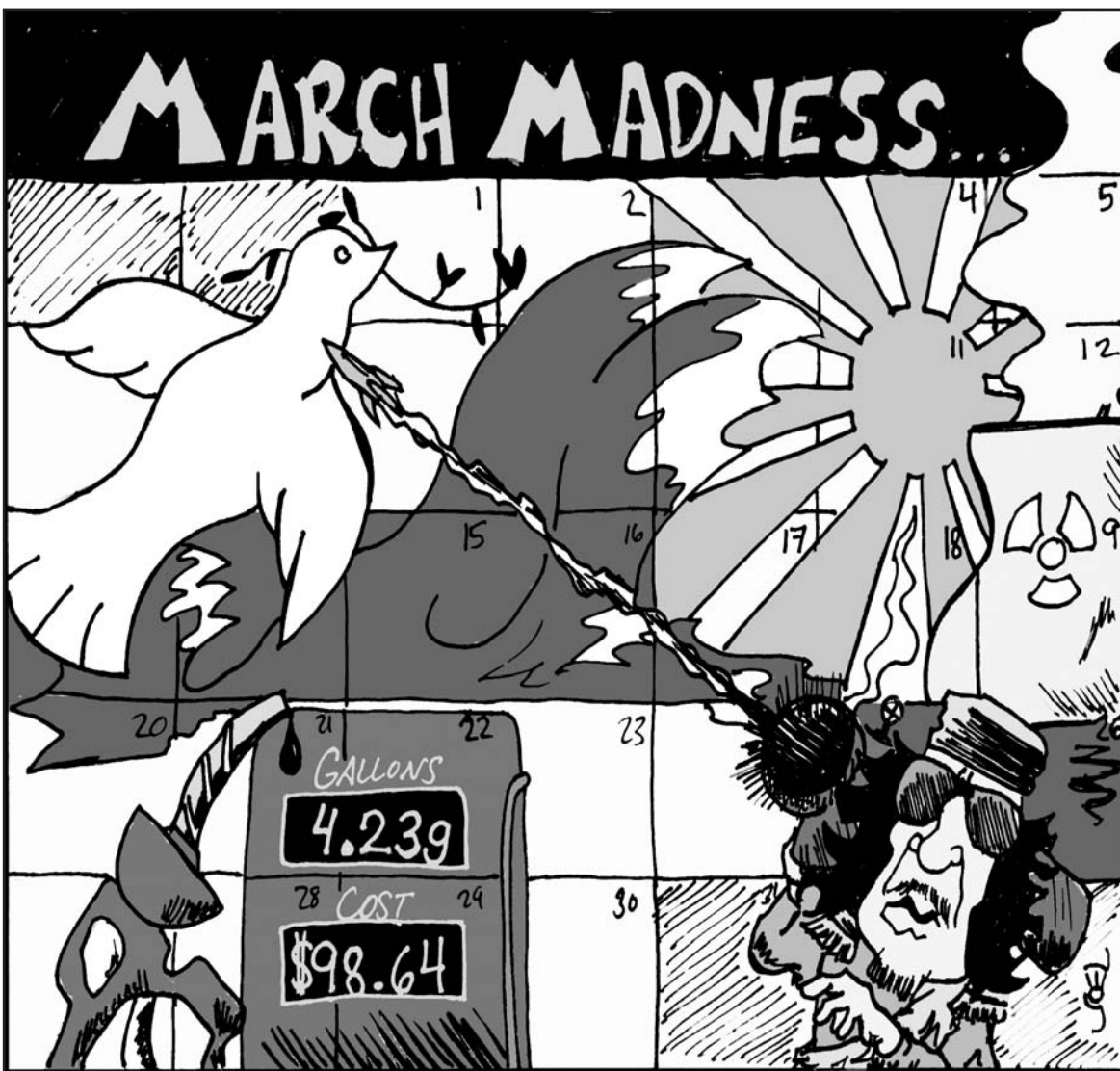
Individual political stances do not always reflect the political leanings of a publication.

Both claims, however, are false. In response to the first, consider the incident itself, which involves the declared “personal opinions” of the executive fundraising director. His off-the-record opinion does not, by its definition, represent the entire organization. Any organization of individuals will, by necessity, carry a slew of wide-ranging personal beliefs—and their balancing and/or self-cancellation is neither a realistic nor practical goal.

Moreover, NPR's federal funding is not any different than most public community stations which carry their own set of bias and beliefs. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting is a separate entity and doles out significant amounts of funding to stations nationwide—of which NPR only receives roughly \$5 million. To put that statistic in perspective, the amount stands as a mere .0003% of the federal deficit.

In conclusion, the *Bachelor* only desires to remind Wallies how easy it is to get swept up in whistle blowing and ruckus. Consider the situation outside of the rhetoric.

“The *Bachelor* agrees that freethinking Americans . . . have every right to bristle at media bias from a federally-funded enterprise.”



America, We Need Nuclear Now

The anti-nuclear environmental crowd is shamelessly using the crises in Japan to further their own agenda. The world media has created hysteria over the Japanese nuclear power plants. Never mind that thousands of people are dead and millions have been left without food or fresh water, their focus is on making the environmental damage look as dreadful as possible. They are blowing the nuclear reactor leak way out of proportion. Millions of Americans have been scared into buying iodine tablets for radiation poisoning despite the fact that the radiation will disperse in the jet stream into a negligible concentration before it reaches the U.S.

To get some perspective, consider the four chief environmental catastrophes of the last 50 years. These include the Three Mile Island nuclear accident, and the Chernobyl nuclear reactor fire in Ukraine, the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska, the recent Gulf of Mexico oil spill last summer. Both oil spills were just as devastating, if not more so to the environment as the nuclear



TED PLUMMER '13
STAFF
COLUMNIST

accidents. It should also be noted that one died at Three Mile Island. And despite the fear mongers saying that Chernobyl would be lifeless for thousands of years, the radiation has done little to impede plant growth after only 20 years. All of these events were of course tragedies, but their long-term environmental effects have been minimal.

The tragedy in Japan should not be any cause to hinder nuclear progress. Simply because a 40-year-old nuclear power plant was damaged by the fifth largest earthquake ever recorded, doesn't make safe nuclear energy unattainable. The fact that the Japan-

ese were able to contain the radiation at all demonstrates how potentially safe nuclear facilities are. Consider the minute amount of harm that nuclear radiation has done over the last 50 years relative to the harm other energy resources have done. There is much more environmental damage done from extracting and burning non-renewable coal or natural gas, and damming up rivers for hydroelectric power.

Natural gas and coal are very dangerous. There are hundreds of natural gas explosions around the world every year. Yet there isn't any big outcry from people against natural gas. Coal mining is not only dangerous, but very damaging to the environment as well. Coal pollutes the air with mercury as well as many other chemicals that cause radiation! What's more, resources like coal and fossil fuels are fast running out. There would be nothing to lose, yet everything to gain from converting coal and natural gas facilities into nuclear power plants.

Many contend that wind energy is the way to go. But wind farms are simply not

efficient. The labor costs alone for maintaining thousands of windmills make them much costlier than maintaining a nuclear facility that would put out the equivalent amount of energy. They would also be much more prone to damage because of the vast amount of land they would have to cover. Windmills have even been found to cause health problems for the people who live near them. They can cause insomnia and headaches because of their intense low-frequency vibrations.

Nuclear power plants today require very little labor or fuel. They are much less damaging to the environment, yet are much more efficient. But the world media has propagated a very sinister image of nuclear power in the minds of people. With more and more countries developing modern economies that require vast amounts of electricity, the world can no longer rely on the depleted supply of coal and fossil fuels, nor dangerous natural gas facilities and inefficient wind farms for power.

When Do We Become Adults?



PHOTO COURTESY OF COURSESITE.UHCL.EDU

The second I utter it, I will forever regret it, but I think I am ready to move on beyond Wabash. Very few times in my life have been accompanied by feelings where I am so torn between opposites: half of me wishing I were lugging around a green course catalog, half of me wishing graduation were this Sunday. I am in love with Wabash. In fact, I cannot even hardly fathom where I would be had I gone to another college. I suppose there is a chance I would still possess a medical school acceptance letter, but how different the path to such would be. I am prone to evoke Aristotle's description of the soul as a blank tablet which we must write through our experiences in this world. Pushing aside all other implications, this model seems to me to represent an utmost potential for ALL learning and places the responsibility of our souls firmly within our own trembling hands. It is up to us to write them ourselves. Had I attended any other fine academic institution, the writing on my soul would be entirely different. We grow up too fast at Wabash. The immediate reality of our environment which calls us forth to act as Gentlemen catalyzes transitions from boys to men far easier than most other places. Forgive me for insisting on my Division I background, but appease my metaphor. A catalyst does not make a reaction happen faster, guarantee it to occur, or otherwise do anything except make a transition more energetically favorable; that is, it requires less energy to force a reaction to proceed to the next state. Expounding upon this example, consider life at Wabash. There is no guarantee that your attendance here will make you any more a man than you could become at any other institution; yet, I really do believe the "push" required to force a boy ripping from boyhood into manhood is much less than that required at another college. Growth always follows tragedy.



JAKE EZELL '11
OPINION
COLUMNIST

This growth does not happen in some areas but not in others. We do not become mature socially and not academically. It seems to me they occur simultaneously. The smarter we become, the more critical we view our daily practices. Nonsensical activities we once engaged in gradually become exactly that: nonsensical. Eventually we lose our obsession with a perfect physical body either due to time constraints or the revelation that in the grand scheme of things it just does not matter if we have the body of a Greek god. As a senior moving onwards, it makes me wonder, "When do we become adults?" To most people I already am, yet I do not feel like one. When do we acquire tiny quirks, define our limits, and become grown up? I am entering a field where professionalism now becomes a legitimate concern. Think of the implications of a patient seeing his doctor at the Cactus. Still, as time ticks onward, something within me continues to yearn for adulthood, while my heart still believes itself to be a child. But the question lingers, do we, growing up so fast, miss out on life? For most of us, the first three years are hellacious academically until senior year things come to a screeching halt and most of us find ourselves at the Cactus every Thursday. Or wandering campus staring into the sky, blowing spit bubbles. The regression back to what my friends have done for the past three years elsewhere is enjoyable on the surface, but becomes old fast. It makes me think the writing we do on our soul is not with a pencil, but some indelible marker such that we cannot unlive what we have done. Call it senioritis, Apollonian-Dionysian, adulthood-childhood, or whatever you wish, but it is real and sadly, I am ready to move onward, I think?

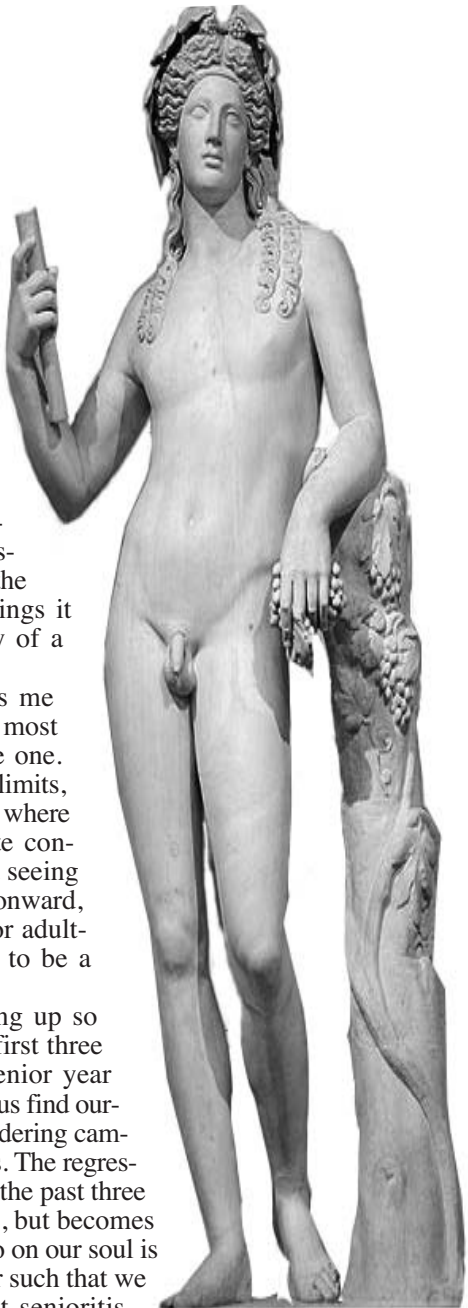


PHOTO COURTESY OF MLAHANAS.DE

"I really do believe the 'push' required to force a boy ripping from boyhood into manhood is much less than that required at another college. Growth always follows tragedy."

Should Germany Receive SC Status?

Since the early development of the European Community/Union, France and Germany have had an interesting relationship, resulting mainly from the Second World War. This strange dynamic, which is unlike any alliance the USA has, is very much active today. The original European post-war alliance was France, Italy, West Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands and Belgium. In other words, it was three big countries and three little countries, and two of the big countries were Axis power in WW2. This meant that France was basically able to do whatever it wanted when it came to Europe in the 50s and 60s – France was the most important country in Europe which had (officially) won the war. For example, when René Pleven proposed the European Defense Community in 1950, France voted against it, so it was never created. After all, how could Italian and German soldiers dominate the "European army" only five years after the war ended?

But things have changed. Germany is unified now and is the dominant economic country in Europe, with the largest population and the most resources. And when Greece (among others) had their troubles with the Euro in 2010, it was Germany that came to the rescue. However, some French media are reproaching the Germans for, precisely, not coming to the rescue in Libya last week, when France, the UK and the USA led UN-sanctioned airstrikes. Chancellor Angela Merkel and Germany chose not to participate. On Sunday, an editorial in *Le Monde* condemned Merkel's decision. It fully supported Germany's desire to be a permanent UN Security Council nation, but was almost incredulous at the fact the Germany did not help other SC countries in what it perceives as a good-versus-evil situation. The article reads: "The German non-

"Germany is unified now and is the dominant economic country in Europe, with the largest population and the most resources."



PETER ROBBINS '12
ABROAD
COLUMNIST

involvement in the Libyan affair reveals a hesitation which could be perceived, by the members of the German federal republic, as a lack of solidarity (read maturity)" (*Lemonde.fr*). As the article points out, the blame cannot be solely placed on Merkel's shoulders. A German chancellor, unlike an American or French President, is not Commander-in-chief, meaning she would need the support of her Parliament to engage in military operations. And when it comes to the Japanese tsunami/nuclear meltdown, the news story that chased Libya from the headlines last week (and, some have argued, allowed Qaddafi to slaughter more of his people under the radar), France and Germany's differences are very much on display. French power is 80% nuclear, whereas Germany is almost exclusively powered by fossil fuels. The *Lemonde.fr* editorial even mentioned that, indicating that such a "hot" difference is on people's minds even when it isn't pertinent to a particular story. So the debate continues: should Germany be a permanent member of the UN Security Council? And has its reluctance to intervene in Libya (the same decision taken by China and Russia) affected its fate? On one hand, if compared solely with France and the UK, Germany is totally worthy of permanent Security Council status. On the other hand, would it really be right for there to be three (four if you count Russia) European countries on the Security Council, considering that Europe is supposed to be unified? Furthermore, it is basically America's (and France's) 70 year-old nightmare to see Germany, Russia and China unite against them, which would have happened last week (Libya) were Germany a member (obviously only diplomatically, not militarily, the true nightmare).

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Send your letters to:
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rhfloyd13@wabash.edu

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Time for a Change

MICHAEL CARPER '13
CULTURE COLUMNIST

What's on
your
wrist?

As the sun emerges and you ponder the eternal question of what to wear in the absence of the practical considerations of cold and rainy weather that inhibit winters of free expression, watches ought to get their fair consideration. Especially in warmer weather, since your wrists will no longer be covered by jackets or long-sleeved shirts. And, of course, because summer is a time for color.

However, not any color will do. By that, I mean the ridiculous Casio G-Shocks that plague so many innocent students' wrists. The faces are too large, the colors are overly bold, they're overpriced, and, though I hesitate to say it, they form a shared interest between the wearer and Justin Bieber, who's quite the G-Shock devotee. I know they're "indestructible," but I've got a hunch you already own an actual sports watch for activities that require a practical timepiece. However, if you're looking for an eye-catching, you can do much better, and for much cheaper than the \$80 or more that G-Shocks command.

The first is a classic, at least for me. **the Lego Watch** was an ingenious find, and after buying one, I didn't look back. (I now own three). As you might expect, a Lego Watch is the combination of a bright face and plastic colored pieces you can arrange at whim to form the "band." Once you own two or three, the possibilities for colors and patterns are almost as fun as playing with actual Legos. And who doesn't like that?

The Lego website or Amazon, \$30

Much like Lego Watches, **field watches** are valuable because of the potential designs. Start with a basic field watch with a removable nylon strap. Then, buy a bunch of colorful replacement straps. Field watches are not only more durable, but they're more formal. Despite the Bieb's habits, bright plastic watches should not be worn with suits.

Field watch: *USCav.com, \$32*

Straps: *CentralWatch.com, Five for \$30*

You don't need to be colorful to be eye-catching. In fact, you can be quite the opposite of new and original, and be original. **The Casio Classic Bracelets** are scattered on Amazon in a variety of materials and colors, but all scream "retro." Right now, I'm eyeing a stainless steel digital watch. The face is extremely boring, and literally, a square, but that's what makes it so unique—you just don't see those anymore. You can choose from a variety, including gold-colored or black plastic versions.

Amazon, >\$20.

Swatch may have surpassed its American heyday, but that doesn't mean the Swiss plastic watch manufacturer is any less appealing in the pursuit of interesting wristwear. The famous watches come in a greater variety of any of the watches in this list, ranging from sleek monochrome models to bright faces paired with zebra print bands.

Swatch.com, \$50-\$100

Casio G-Shocks have really nothing on **Freestyle Sharks**. They're watches built genuinely for surfing, which is evident in the combination of a durable plastic face and nylon straps. What's most impressive is the onslaught of bright neon colors that dominate the watch. Unlike the G-Shocks, Sharks are nothing close to monochrome. They offer some monochrome models, but their jewels are the combinations of neon green, blue, pink, orange, white and black.

Zappos.com: \$55

If you're intent on a monochrome white watch, boy do I have the model for you. I ran into it over the summer—it's a simple white rubber watch, appropriately named "**White Rubber Watch**." That's it. The face isn't jagged like the G-Shocks but streamlined and round. The face isn't as large but it's still quite elevated. The face is the same bright white color, highlighted by a bold red hour hand. A bright metal knob and clip top off this very modern design.

OakNYC.com, \$28.

If all else fails, head to eBay, where you can find both new/used versions of many of these watches, as well as a plethora of bright, novelty watches ranging in sources from Happy Meals to Japanese gift shops. There is a huge selection of kids' watches on eBay, which can prove to be very unique and eye-catching. Trying searching for a favorite cartoon, while restricting the results to watches.

A gut reaction against "kiddie" watches might impede consideration of some of these choices. But style is awfully subjective, and the difference between a Casio G-Shock and any potentially objectionable watch on this list is just a matter of slight color or form changes. Not only are these cheaper, but you can avoid comparisons to teenage YouTube sensations.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LEGOWATCHES.COM

Endgame is Just the Beginning

Rise Against's patriotism brings out the best in band

JOHN DYKSTRA '13
STAFF WRITER

The Chicago natives of Rise Against return to the music scene to challenge American society with their newest album *Endgame*. The band has never balked at the idea of taking their reputation to the edge. This album distinguishes the band as an intolerant social force that critiques politics as well as portrays their call to arms – the renewal of individuality and the demise of hopeless structures.

Lead singer Tim Mcllarth best defines the band's stance in the song "Make it Stop": "I'm done asking, I demand / From a nation under God." Content-wise the band explores issues such as the Gulf oil spills, teenage suicide, and the newly-formed lost generation of Afghanistan and Iraq war veterans. Not to mention they also nostalgically express a desire for social revolution and criticize the false hopes politicians provide American people.

The album's cover reminds me of the movie *Patriot*. It displays a child wrapped in the American flag with a fading background consisting of tall grass, woods, and assumingly an old-fashion house. Such a cover reminds me of the American Revolution and might be suggesting the band's longing for our society to adopt the mentality and emotional stature of our founding fathers.

Most notably, the tracks "Architects", "Make it Stop", "Survivor Guilt" and single "Help is on the Way" all make strong impressions.

The exotic guitar riffs of opening song "Architects" capture the audience's attention and lead to Mcllarth's asking of individuality. He asks: "Do you care to be the layer of the bricks that seal your fate? / Or would you rather be the architect of what we might create?"

The single "Help is on the Way" also challenges the motivation of American people through lyrics that take a stab at the empty words of politicians: "We were told just to sit tight / Cause somebody will soon arrive / Help is on the way / But it never came."

"Make it Stop" and "Survivor Guilt" prove to be existential pieces of work. The band incorporates a chorus in "Make it Stop", a song pertaining to bullying and teenage suicide. The instrumental aspects of the song are catchy and are comparable to 30 Seconds to Mars' "Closer to the Edge." Names and ages of teenagers are mentioned in the song. "Survivor Guilt" presents calls to question how long America will last. In the opening lines, Mcllarth says, "All great countries are destroyed. Why not yours? How much longer do you think your country will last? Forever?" and continues to describe newly found war veterans as the upcoming lost generation. He continues to ask what purpose war actually serves.

Endgame demonstrates why the band has continually gained success. Even those who



PHOTO COURTESY OF RISEAGAINSTFANS.ORG

Rise Against's newest effort, *Endgame*, presents political themes with powering chords.

do not listen to punk rock music would appreciate the messages found in the album. To say the least, the band continues its quest for social and political justice and can be compared to author James Joyce in terms of their patriotism and passion for beneficial change for their society.

Baseball's Home Sweet Home

BRANDAN ALFORD '12

SPORTS EDITOR

Not too long ago, the baseball team was mired in an eight-game losing streak, wondering what to make of a season full of expectations.

What a difference a simple change of scenery can make.

Beginning with a come-from-behind victory of rival DePauw last week, Wabash (7-11) has reeled off four wins in its last five contests. In the middle of that stretch was the opening series at the newly christened Wabash Ballpark against visiting Wilmington College.

John Holm opened the new stadium in style, blasting a first-inning home run for the facility's first base hit, staking the Little Giants to an early lead they would not relinquish.

Junior Andrew Swart threw the first pitch in the new stadium, and finished with a complete game victory.



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

John Pennington's two home runs this week are tied with John Holm for the team lead in round-trippers.

Swart allowed two runs on three hits while striking out six. The win improved Swart's season record to 2-2.

"The new stadium was awesome," Swart said. "The atmosphere that the fans produced gave us an extra boost to perform well."

In game two, the Little Giants used a four-run fourth inning en route to a 6-4 victory. Montana Timmons, PJ Tyson, and David Seibel led the way offensively for the Little Giants, finishing with two hits apiece.

Starter Brian VanDuyn lasted 6 1/3 innings for Wabash, scattering six hits and allowing four runs to get his first win of the year.

On Sunday, the Little Giants picked up offensively right where they had left off, tallying 11 runs in 6-run victory in game one.

Tanner Coggins' three hits highlighted a 16-hit attack for the Little Giants. In all, every Little Giant in the starting lineup finished with at least one hit; six different players had at least two. Chris Widup earned his second win of the season for Wabash, allowing five runs over five innings of work.

The weekend's final game brought with it the end to Wabash's four-game winning streak. An eight-inning back-and-forth series finale went Wilmington's way, as the Little Giants were unable to close out the weekend sweep.

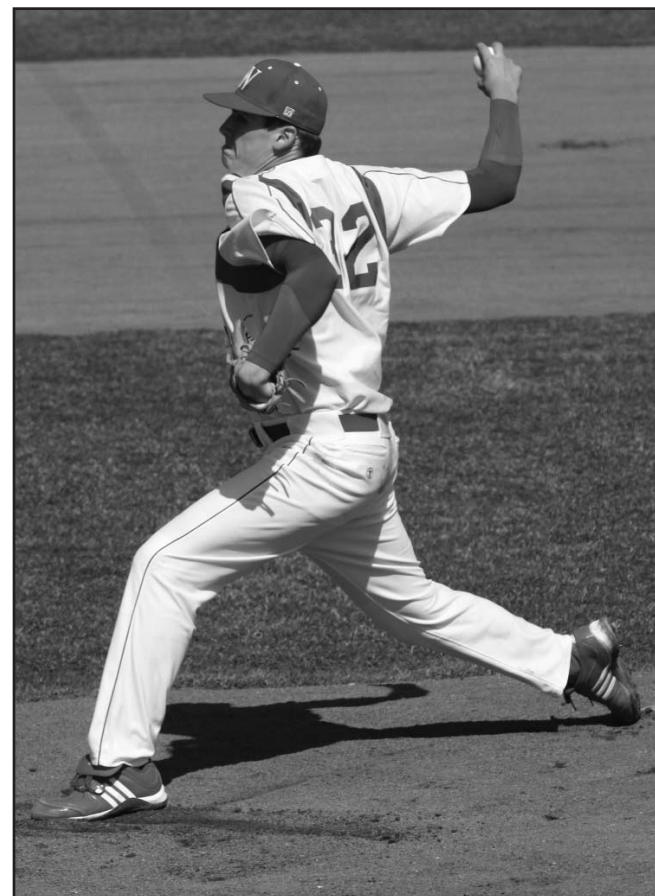
After falling behind 4-0 in the fourth inning, the Little Giants stormed back, scoring eight runs in the game's final four frames. Wilmington rallied for three runs in the top of the seventh to take an 8-5 lead, but Wabash matched them with three runs of their own to send the game to extra innings.

In the extra frame, Wilmington scored two runs on only one hit as Wabash relievers walked two and had a wild pitch in the final frame.

On Tuesday, Wabash got back to the winning ways, taking out the frustration of Sunday's loss on visiting Dominican University. The Little Giants continued their recent offensive onslaught with a 15-7 victory.

Brian Lares had a day to remember as the junior center fielder had two triples in his first two plate appearances, and finished the game 5-for-5 at the plate, adding two doubles to give him four extra-base hits on the day. Lares' performance overshadowed Holm, who had an impressive day of his own, going 4-for-5 with a triple of his own.

Senior Joe Johnson and freshman Trey Fankhauser



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Junior Andrew Swart threw a complete-game three hitter in the Wabash Ballpark's opening game, an 8-2 victory.

finished with three hits apiece as the Little Giants rolled up 23 hits against Dominican pitching on the afternoon. John Pennington added his second home run of the season to headline Wabash's 10 extra-base hits on the afternoon.

"After these past six games, we are starting to regain most of our confidence heading into a huge weekend against conference foes Wooster and Wittenberg," Swart said.

Those games against NCAC competition will provide a good barometer for the Little Giants as they look to contend for a conference title and continued improvement this spring.

Games start at 1:00 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday.

Must Next AD Be a "Wabash Man"?

Is it necessary for the next Wabash Athletic Director to be a graduate of the College?

Fresh off visits to campus by the search committee's "top two" candidates, it's a fair question to ask.

Especially when one candidate is an alum and the other isn't.

The hiring of past athletic directors can give us some clues as to what outcome we might see.

From 1900 to 1963, Wabash employed 13 different athletic directors. None were Wabash graduates and all but one served simultaneously as the head football coach.

Since 1963, there have only been four men lead the athletic program of the Little Giants. Three of them were Wabash graduates.

Leslie Remley '25 was lured away from a successful teaching position in Proviso, Ill. by President Byron Trippett. Trippett said of his new hire, "Remley's academic training and educational philosophy plus his success as a director of athletics provide a combo of qualities which are highly appropriate for Wabash College."



KYLE BENDER
SPORTS
COLUMNIST

One of the great stalwarts of Wabash athletics came next – Max Servies '58. Long-time leader of the College's wrestling program, Servies also held the athletic department's top job for 43 years.

In 1998, change was in the air. On the eve of a massive athletic facilities campaign that would later produce the Allen Center and Knowing Fieldhouse, Vernon Mummert was hired as the new athletic director. A graduate of McDaniel College, Mummert brought an experienced outside perspective to the job after Servies' lengthy career.

Finally, in 2008 Dean of Students Tom Bambrey '68 moved across campus from Center Hall to the Allen Center to fill Mummert's vacancy.

In an Aug. 8, 2008 interview with The Bachelor, Bambrey said of his new position, "I look at my job as somebody who takes [care of] the resources that the College gives the Athletic Department... We need to support the coaches because we need them to coach well and I don't want them overburdened, so that they can concentrate on their student athletes."

So what qualities are sought in the next person tabbed to lead our athletic programs?

The posted job description states Wabash "seeks an energetic, proven leader with the highest integrity, professionalism, and commitment to the fundamental values of NCAA Division III competition, the academic and athletic excellence of the NCAC, and the College's mission to educate men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely."

Furthermore, the College "is committed to a vision of athletics as a key component in the overall educational experience of Wabash student-athletes, who seek and demand excellence in and out of the classroom."

Wabash isn't Purdue, IU, or Notre

Dame (all, coincidentally, have AD alums who are also attorneys). These schools all have huge bureaucratic athletic departments where the Athletic Director's main responsibility is to pull hard at the pocketbooks of alums for more athletic scholarship donations.

While this practice may still rein true occasionally at Wabash, predominantly we are much different. Our Athletic Director is essentially on his own, save an office secretary and a part-time assistant.

But most importantly, the athletic director is a manager of a department that likely attracts more students to campus than any academic major. Over 40% of our student body plays a varsity sport and almost every student participates in at least one intramural sport. The athletic director is available to all students, not just athletes, in the same "Wabash spirit" we expect of our most revered professors.

To return to the age-old question, should we hire an alum for this job?

That's a debate for the search committee (and the financially generous alums) to decide.

Little Giants Win Relays

SETH HENSLEY '14

STAFF WRITER

The Wabash Track and Field team took a first place finish last weekend at the J. Owen Huntsmen Relays. En route to their first place victory, the Little Giants racked up some impressive numbers as well. These numbers weren't only impressive, they were record setting. First on the list is Sophomore Evan Groninger setting a new Huntsmen invitational javelin throw of 55.86 meters. Groninger and teammate Daniel Ambrosio went on to win that event.

Also joining Groninger with records of his own is Senior Matt Scheller. Scheller set a new Huntsmen Invitational record in the hammer throw with a distance of 50.80 meters. Not only did Scheller set a new record he also walked away with NCAC athlete of the week honors. Matt Scheller and teammate Alex Moseman went on to win their throwing event with a combined distance of 95.42 meters. On the track side of things, sophomore John Haley ran a qualifying time good enough for a Conference bid.

The J. Owen Huntsmen Invitational was Wabash's first outdoor meet of the year. The first outdoor meet may come with some unpleasant surprises. Including inclement weather and athletes not performing at best because they have been running inside for so long now.

Coach Morgan explained, "We always go in being careful, just coming out of indoor. We want to focus on ourselves and to make sure we get use to the outside." Sophomore John Haley also acknowledged the adjustment from



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

John Bogucki and John Haley compete in the hurdles at Saturday's J. Owen Huntsman Relays victory for Wabash.

indoor to outdoor.

"You have to get used to the size difference in the track," Haley said. "However, the biggest difference is getting used to the weather, especially the wind."

That all being said you couldn't ask for a better start to the outdoor season if you are a Little Giant.

After a strong start to the season the Little Giants look to continue this winning trend next weekend and beyond. This weekend the Track and Field team travels to Memphis for the Rhoades College Invitational. This meet will bring a little stronger competition than what they saw last week. This weekend might even bring Division I talent to the invite. Purdue, Miami of Ohio, and Butler still remain on the schedule for Wabash. The key to victory as Coach Morgan explains is being mentally tough. Combining mental toughness with a sense of team and togetherness is what will propel the Track and Field team to more victories.

"I tell our guys to focus on what you need to do and let the results take care of themselves," Morgan said. "This mentality is one of the reasons why our guys do well in big events against higher caliber teams. This kind of mentality also works so well because it is effective on and off the field. It is a good attitude to have in life."

Not only is the mental toughness going to pay off come later in the season, but the physical conditioning will as well. The track and field team is on a three-tier workout routine consisting off a light week, medium week, and hard week. However, each week gets progressively harder and more is added to the workout.

"We try to train the demands of each race and each field event," Morgan said. This workout program optimizes the highest potential for each individual.

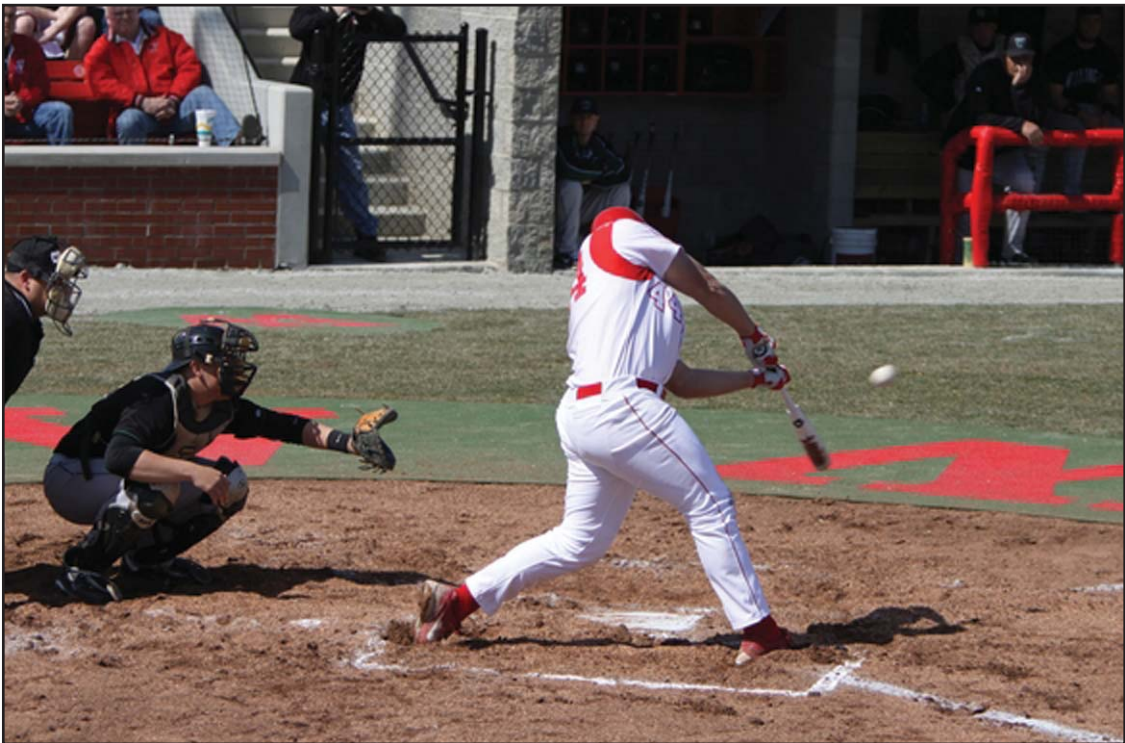
With momentum coming out of the Huntsmen, the Little Giants look to be on top again this weekend in Memphis.

Opening Weekend at Wabash Ballpark



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Nine individuals, including coach Cory Stevens, Dean of Athletics Tom Bambrey, Dean of Students Mike Raters, and President Pat White pose before Saturday’s opening game (top). After the pregame photo, White was one of three individuals to throw out a ceremonial first pitch (right). John Holm opened the stadium in brilliant fashion, belting a first-inning solo home run for the complex’s first base hit, which also happened to be on Holm’s 21st birthday (bottom).



Golf Prepares for Spring Season

RYAN LUTZ '13
STAFF WRITER

As the very beginning of the spring season approaches, the golf team is filled with optimism. Losing senior Charles Kelly to graduation after the fall term is a blow to the senior leadership on the team. The team still has a lot of optimism about this spring season.

“We had an ok fall season” Coach Petty said, “there was a little bit of inconsistency and we lost Charles Kelly to graduation. We can play better though, it’s just a matter of getting back on track”. The golf team is led by its four seniors Luke Moton, Jake German, Jordan Koch, and Andrew Palmer. Losing one of them to graduation hurts that senior leadership, but the team still feels that they can keep on improving.

Their first official competition of the spring season is this weekend. “This weekend will tell me a lot about where we need to improve” Petty said. Like he mentioned there were some inconsistencies in the team game last season. Working on golf through the winter was a big obstacle, especially since we are in a place that gets snow. This is where the golf team’s simulator room comes in handy. “The guys spent a lot of time in the simulator room” Petty said, “It is more to keep the rust off though than to drastically improve”.

“The simulator room is where we make our strides during the off-season” Jake German said, “It allows us to keep our swing during the off season when it’s snowing outside”. By using their simulator room to get back into the swing of things our golf team will try to hit the ground running this weekend at Hanover College.

The story for the golf team is the same as last season though, consistency is their x-factor and will determine in what direction the team heads this season. “I know we are capable” Petty said “they have shown that they are capable, it’s just a matter of getting more consistent”. The golf team has a trend where they go on hot and cold streaks. This could actually play to their advantage with the new conference tournament play.

The way conference is set up this year is there are two tournaments in back to back weeks in April. Every team plays in both



IAM BAUMGARDNER | WABASH '14

Terry Sullivan lines up a putt at practice this past week at the Crawfordsville Municipal.

tournaments and the total stroke count at the end of the two tournaments determines conference standings and who goes on to nationals. Being a team that can get on a hot streak could be a huge help for them if they are able to get hot at the right time. At the same time it could hurt them too if they have a bad day. “We are definitely looking to make a push into conference. Because anything is possible in that short amount of time” said Jake German.

One thing the team did to prepare for the spring season is take their annual spring trip to Phoenix, Arizona. The team has been making this trip for the last six years and have used it not only as a training trip but as a networking trip with alumni. The team did get some good competition out of the trip; they played Mesa Community College which is one of the top Ju-Co college programs in the country.

Petty has his own goals but he thinks that “they need to take ownership of their own goals, because they will be more likely to work harder for them.” So the team will once again be looking towards its senior leadership to set the tone for this spring season. But as Coach Petty put it, “the way this year is going with sports teams’ success I just hope we can pick up where everyone else left off.”



RUSTY CARTER
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