

Farewell, not Goodbye

*Joe, Leslie Day,
Tom Campbell
End Careers*

JOHN DYKSTRA '13
STAFF WRITER

At the end of this semester, Wabash will bid farewell to three professors who have a combined teaching experience of over 100 years: Professor of English Thomas Campbell, and Professors of Classics Joseph and Leslie Day. These professors have enjoyed their tenure—filled with unforgettable memories and strong connections between colleagues and student—at Wabash, and they will continue to be academically active in retirement.

Campbell has taught for 41 years; the last 35 were at Wabash. He was the Department Chair for the English Department for seven years and was the Division Chair and Head of Literature and Fine Arts for five years. Throughout his time at Wabash, Campbell has been grateful for the students and colleagues he has met as well as the support the administration provided him.

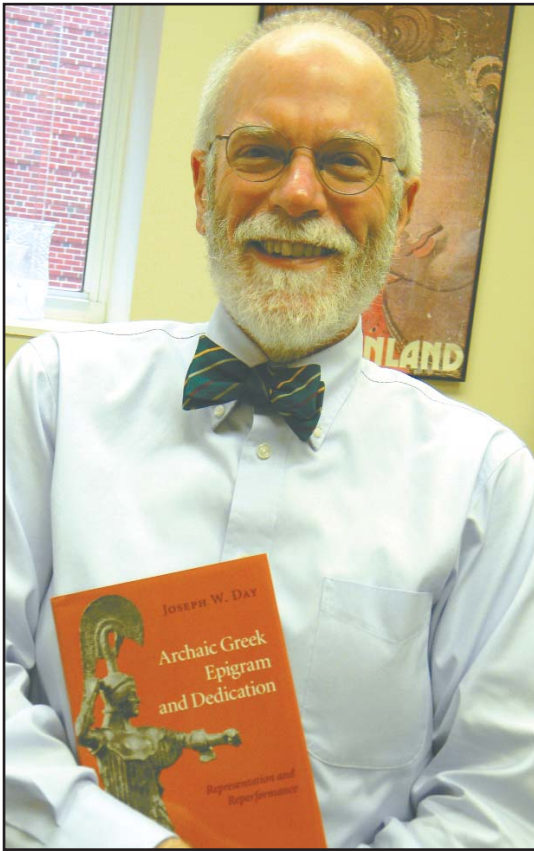
“The students are ambitious and work hard; they have kept me on my toes academically,” Campbell said. “My colleagues have been good friends, and great models for teaching, scholarship, and learning. The administration has been supportive of my teaching and learning. I think Wabash is a special place to have taught for so long, and I’m glad I came here.”

The Days have taught at Wabash full-time for the past 25 years. Leslie Day was a sabbatical replacement for John Fischer during the 1977-78 and 1983-84 school years and has taught for a total of 39 years. Joseph Day also taught at Wooster for five years; IU Bloomington for two years; and USC in Los Angeles for one year before joining his wife as a sabbatical replacement for Fischer in the 1983-84 school year.

Joseph Day has appreciated the connections he has made at Wabash and the joys of watching students learn the material he teaches.

“It’s been a long time,” Day said. “I think about friends on the faculty whom I would not have met had we not come here, including too many who have passed on: Bill Placher, “Bugsy” Williams, Jack Charles, Ted Bedrick, Eric Dean, and others. I think of wonderful, smart, polite, hard-working, wacky students who have made teaching a joy—that’s the real reward:

See, **FAREWELL**, Page 3



FRANCISCO HUERTA | WABASH '14

Professors Leslie Day, Joe Day, and Tom Campbell have inspired generations of Wabash men with their zeal for teaching and passion for their disciplines. After their retirement at the end of this semester, all three faculty members plan to stay in touch with the campus.

Seniors Give Back

REED HEPBURN '12
STAFF WRITER

With the culmination of their four-year journey quickly approaching for the class of 2011, seniors are sure to spend the next two weeks reflecting on their Wabash experience and anticipating their various and promising futures.

Twenty-one of these students, hand-picked by the college’s Alumni & Parent Relations staff, have signed on to help their class declare this experience “worth it,” by becoming spokesmen for the annual Senior Gift Campaign. Devoting time and effort this semester to serve on the 2011 Senior Gift Committee, these students spread the word about the campaign to their entire class and encouraged their brethren to give back to the College as they metamorphose from students into alumni.

The students on the Committee represent every fraternity and many independents who live both on and off-campus.

“Some come from the Sons of Wabash, some we just know,” Director of Annual Giving Joseph Klen explained. “We’ve got a pretty good cross-section of the whole student body.”

The goal is for at least one person to reach out personally to every member of the senior class. The idea is that if each Committee member spreads the word to 10 classmates, then every senior will understand what the campaign is about and

See, **CAMPAIGN**, Page 4

More Than Just Reds & Whites



IAN BAUMGARDNER | WABASH '14

Graham Youngs '11 was one of approximately 20 students to learn wine education and etiquette during a session Wednesday night at Trippet Hall. The wine education event was sponsored by Career Services. See page 3 for the full story.



IAN BAUMGARDNER | WABASH '14

Season Nears End

Junior Kevin McCarthy competed in the steeplechase last weekend. The outdoor track and field season is nearing an end. See page 9 for the full story.

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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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Announcements

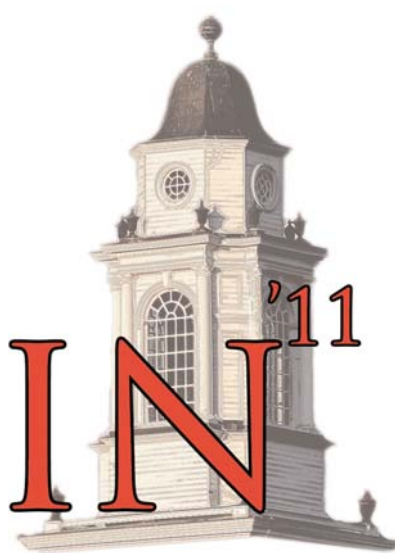
Friday April 29
Wabash Ave.
Presbyterian Church
presents Godspell
7:30 - 9 p.m.

Sunday, May 1
1832 Society
Dinner 5:30 p.m.

May 2 - 7
Final Exams

Wednesday, May 4
Retirement
Reception for Leslie
Day, Joe Day, and
Tom Campbell
4:30 - 6 p.m.
Caleb Mills House

May 9 - 11
LSAT Bootcamp
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Baxter Hall 114



GABE WATSON '13 NEWS EDITOR

Luke Robbins '11 wants to make people laugh. He has known this about himself since a young age, and through Wabash he is making his dream a reality by pursuing a career in comedy.

"When I was real young, my grandmother when she would babysit us she would watch Saturday Night Live," explained Robbins, "so that's always been the dream – to someday be on Saturday Night Live."

Growing up he had many musical and athletic interests that brought him to success in virtually every area. "My parents influenced me and my siblings to play instruments," he explained. "We all play at least three instruments." This talent led Robbins to record a full-length album in high school that is still on iTunes. He even had a very successful tennis career that culminated in a state championship his senior year.

"Basketball had been my main sport growing up, and I had always wanted to be a Pacer," he smiled, "but then everyone else grew and I didn't. But the value of laughter always permeated Robbins's life, and a few years ago he got an opportunity to see the world of comedy first-hand.

"The summer before my junior year Wabash got me an internship at Saturday Night Live in New York City," Robbins said. As a censorship editor, Robbins received about sixty pages of potential scripts each week to read through. "So for a whole semester I got to see what kind of comedy SNL wanted," he explained. "I got to see first-hand what I would have to give them."

And while viewers probably support many misconceptions about work put into comedy, Robbins clearly understands the art form that humor is. "It's not just about saying a joke that's going to shock somebody," he said. "It's taking a very intelligent comment or observation

Offering Comedic Relief



STEVE ABBOTT | WABASH '09

Luke Robbins '11 says he has found no experience in the world more gratifying than making people laugh, and he ultimately wants to find this gratification through a career with Saturday Night Live. Robbins will graduate from Wabash this year to pursue comedy with sketch comedy group Second City.

and saying it without being funny. That's 60 percent of the joke. And then what makes it a joke is in the last few seconds you say something ridiculous to twist it and bring two things together that might not make sense."

"Right when I graduated high school I had wanted to take a year off and just try standup," Robbins continued. "But my dad said absolutely not, and now I'm really glad he did. I would have been an awful comedian back then. With a developed sense of comedic complexity Robbins now values his college experience for expanding his facility to make successful jokes.

"My ability, thanks to Wabash, to look at things critically is now so much better than it ever had been," he said. He added that, as a theater major here, "the supportive and encouraging styles of our directors made me feel comfortable experimenting and trying new things on stage, which is what stand up is all about." He has also been able to reconnect with his passion for tennis at Wabash. Though he no longer plays competitively due to a knee injury, Robbins acted as assistant coach for the Wabash tennis team this



STEVE ABBOTT | WABASH '09

Robbins has excelled in much and chose to develop his career in comedy.

year. "It has been a huge part of my life," he said.

Robbins is beginning to become recognized nationally and has been chosen to compete in the World Series of Comedy next week in Dayton, OH. After graduation he plans to move to Chicago to take

lessons with Second City comedy group and hopes to build his way into acts like Saturday Night Live. On his website, www.lukerobbinscomedy.com, fans can find some of his material. The most helpful thing for fans to do is simply spread the word about him, Robbins says.

Senior Commencement Schedule

Check-Out Card Pick Up — Pick up your check-out card from Terri Fyffe in the Business Office in Center Hall and return completed forms and checkout card to the Deans' Office no later than Wednesday, May 11, 2011.

Sunday, May 15

Seniors and Faculty must arrive at 10:30 am for Baccalaureate and 2:00 pm for Commencement. It takes 30 minutes to line up seniors by name. Be on time and quickly find your place. Seniors march in alphabetical order—led by the two Commencement speakers and followed by the men who are receiving academic honors (also in alphabetical order). At the head of the procession is the Marshal, Professor Tobey Herzog, who will direct the seating.

8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. — Cap and Gown Pick Up in the Chapel Basement. Seniors obtain their caps and gowns (provided free by the college). Return caps, gowns, and hoods (received during Commencement) to the same place immediately following Commencement. If you wish to purchase a hood, place an order with the Bookstore. You may keep the tassel from your mortarboard.

2:30 p.m. — 173rd Commencement Ceremony on the Wabash College Mall. (In the event of rain, the ceremony will be held in Chadwick Court.)

Download an RSVP form from the school website and return it by mail or by fax (765-361-6229) NO LATER THAN MAY 9, 2011. Contact Tom Keedy with any questions (765) 361-6227.p

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More Than Just Reds & Whites

Career Services Offers Wine Tasting

SAM BENNETT '14
STAFF WRITER

With only one week left this academic year, students around campus strive to maintain the tradition of Wabash excellence as they finish papers and prepare for upcoming exams. Schoolwork rightfully holds an important place in the minds of these Wabash men.

But the College hopes to prepare students for other aspects of life. Career Services helps students become prepared for real-life activities after Wabash both in the workplace and in outside social gatherings.

One of these preparatory events, a wine tasting hosted by Director of New Media and Web Content Editor Howard Hewitt, occurred Wednesday. It dealt with tips on how to order wine, appropriate wines to order at fine restaurants, and which wines a young person can comfortably afford.

Six different wines were tasted, and the students discussed how to judge wine in general.

“A number of students who know of my interest in wine have asked me to do a wine

education event,” Hewitt said. He partnered with Career Services to organize wine education for approximately 20 interested Wabash students. “I’m hoping the guys will leave having learned something, tasted new wines, and had some fun,” said Hewitt.

Career Services’s value on campus is evident, as it acts as an institution of human development and advancement. But it has remained underrated as of late, and few students are not fully utilizing it.

“Students don’t necessarily understand that we have a variety of resources to help them tremendously,” Director of Career Services Scott Crawford said.

The number of student events diminishes as the year comes to a close, but some still remain. The wine tasting event has passed, but Career Services still offers the upcoming alumni and seniors golf outing event. The deadline for the signup of this event is May 6.

And plenty of events will return in the following years for underclassmen to obtain the full benefit Career Services has to offer.

“The wine tasting and the golf outing we have coming up are both based on teaching students how to develop themselves,” Crawford explained. “You never know who you’re going to be dealing with and what your role may be in hosting them.”

Crawford and the rest of the staff at Career Services take satisfaction in the fact that they are helping students develop themselves for various future undertakings, whether that means internships, jobs, or merely the understanding of how to handle ordering wine at fine restaurants.

“We see our role at Career Services as preparing students for life after Wabash,” Crawford said, “We have a lot of graduates who look back and wish they had been involved in these things. We see that often.”



IAN BAUMGARDNER | WABASH '14

The Career Services staff seeks to give students real world advice for their lives after Wabash. In the past, Career Services has hosted etiquette dinners, etc. This week’s wine tasting served as a new way for students to learn more about life outside the cave.



Farewell

From Page 1

when students respond and actually begin to learn. Then you know all the work has been worth it and your heart sings.”

“My joy in my Wabash career is very closely linked to my joy in my own academic discipline, he continued. “I don’t love college teaching in and of itself. What I love is teaching Classics, especially the Greeks. I’m delighted to expand beyond that in moderation, C&T every other year or so, for example. But my love of this place is not separable from my love of my discipline. And as the health of my discipline at Wabash goes, so goes my feeling about this College!”

Leslie Day thanks the College for supporting her through the years and has sent students on to careers in classical archaeology. She has served the College as Chair of the Classics Department and as the Distinguished LaFollette Chair in the Humanities during her tenure at Wabash.

“It’s been a great place to have a career,” she said. “I have loved the students, and I have even sent on a few into my own field. That feels good. The colleagues have been excellent, and the College has been very supportive of me and my work—particularly my archaeological work on Crete.”

She was honored by the College with a teaching award in 1996.

“It was a complete surprise, and it was wonderful to have the Dean say all those good things about me in front of students and colleagues,” she said.

Joe Day will be leading his Greek Athletic Seminar to Greece for 10 days starting May 7.

“I’m hoping that’ll be a sort of career cap,” he said. “But up ‘til now, there is no specific moment: it’s a repeated occurrence,

whenever a student (or a group of students) responds to what I’m doing by learning something about the ancient Greeks or Romans,” Day said. “It’s when I somehow spark a student’s interest and help his skills so that he goes off on his own initiative and learns something about the Classical world.”

Despite retiring from teaching at Wabash, the Days will be academically active. Joe will be a visiting E. A. Whitehead Professor at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and Leslie will write and edit books about her excavations on Crete.

In June of 2012, the Days will return from Greece to Crawfordsville. They still plan on being active in the College.

In June of 2012, we’ll come back to C’ville,” Joe said. “For the time being at least, this will be our home. We will be in close contact with Wabash, have (I hope) offices on campus, and teach occasional courses (perhaps). Certainly, we will maintain social contacts and come to College events. I will miss that intense relationship one develops with students, so I do hope some teaching will materialize.”

Campbell will also remain academically active with learning Kanji characters and continuing to work on his collection of creative nonfiction.

“I will continue my work with Japanese literature, both medieval and modern. I also have a goal of learning a fair number of Japanese characters so that I can read works in the original language. I will be working on a collection of my creative nonfiction, which I have been writing over many years. I keep very active (golf, gardening, biking, etc.), and will probably increase that activity during retirement.”

Campbell and his wife recently moved to Carmel, Ind. after living in Crawfordsville



PHOTO COURTESY OF LESLIE DAY

After retiring from Wabash, Professor of Classics, Department Chair, and Distinguished LaFollette in the Humanities Leslie Day will continue her academic work. While her husband Joe serves as E.A. Whitehead Professor at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Leslie will write and edit multiple books about her excavation on Crete.

for over 30 years. He has several memories of Wabash that will make him miss teaching, but Campbell plans to visit the College in the future.

“There are many favorite moments, even during a semester, when a student surprises me with the depth of his response, or the degree to which he improves,” Campbell said. “There are moments when I’ve been especially proud of my colleagues—a new book, a great speech, a significant honor. There was the moment when I discovered that my great-great grandfather, whose

name I bear, was a Wabash man. There was the moment I received tenure; or the moment I finished a Chapel speech or the LaFollette Lecture; or the many moments I said, ‘Now THAT was a memorable class!’ Mostly, however, it’s just arriving in the morning, knowing that we’re all working together on the same honorable enterprise, the same goal we’ve had here for nearly 170 years. I’ll miss those moments.”

“This is a special place, and you don’t leave it easily,” Campbell said.



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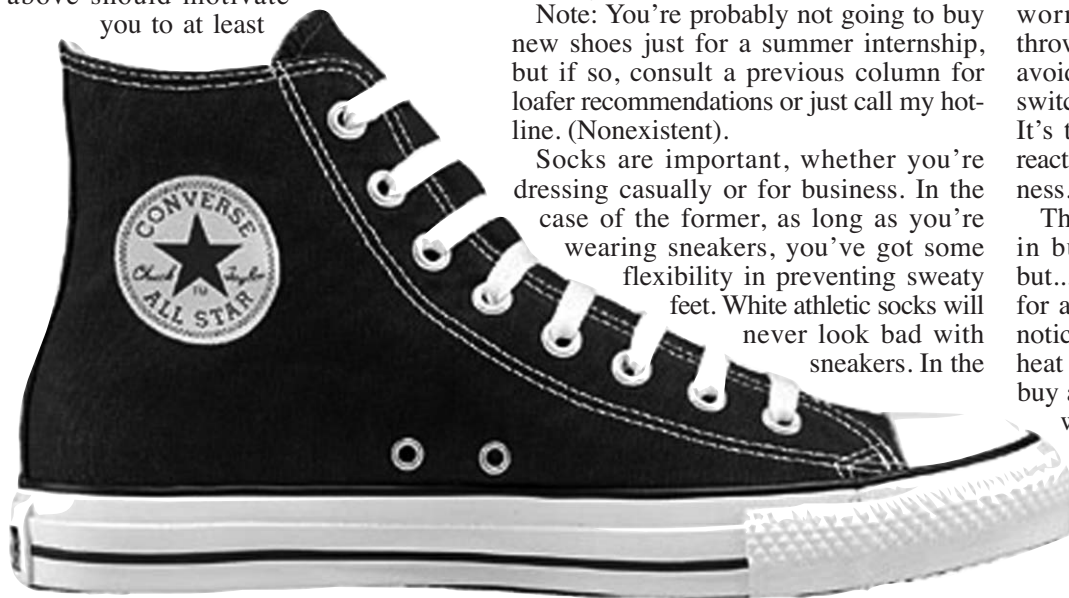
A Summer of Socks and Shoes

When school ends, what will you wear?

MICHAEL CARPER '13
CULTURE COLUMNIST

In case you haven't noticed, summer is pretty darn close. That means hot weather, less school stress, more spare time, hopefully some money, and, even more hopefully, the company of ladies. All these factors point to an obvious action to be taken: buy summer clothes.

Sure, summer clothes can mean the same gym shorts and T-shirt you wear during April and May. (But maybe not this April and May, if you permit me a quick jab at our weather). However, if you're called upon to dress in business casual or business attire for your summer internship, you're going to have to get creative, because I very much doubt you want to wear a black suit or khakis and a cotton shirt all summer long. Even if you're not, the reasons listed above should motivate you to at least



pay some attention to your wardrobe. Putting on a uniform of even shorts and a shirt mentally prepares you to do something, even if that something is reading.

The first thing you should think about, internship or no, is tennis shoes. I don't mean ridiculous, oversized basketball shoes, but real sneakers. Basically, Chuck Taylors that don't make you look like a middle schooler (No offense, but it's true). However, Converse does sell a line by John Varvatos that looks a little more adult. Van Authentic and their incarnations are a cheap option. Sperry makes some CVOs (looks like Vans) that are a little more mature and, of course, nautically-influenced, for a respectable \$75. Seavees is a lesser-known brand with some very aesthetically pleasing models, all a little under \$100, including my favorite, their "Pantone." CLAE produces more fashion-forward designs for around \$100; and they are very attractive.

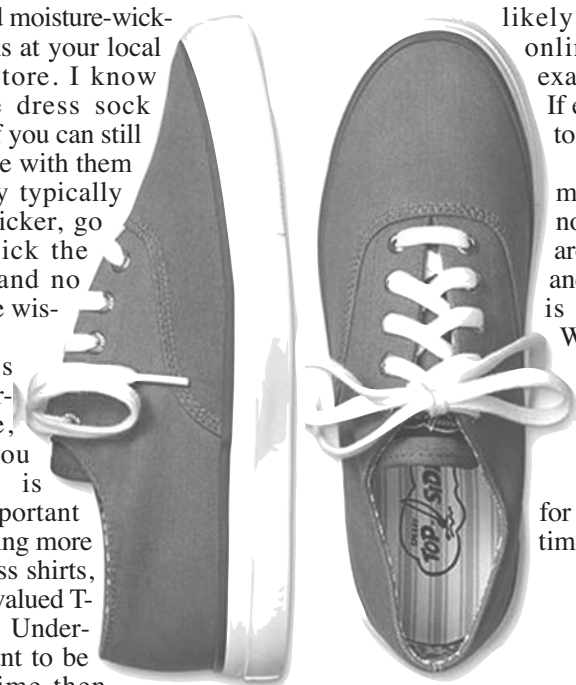
Note: You're probably not going to buy new shoes just for a summer internship, but if so, consult a previous column for loafer recommendations or just call my hotline. (Nonexistent).

Socks are important, whether you're dressing casually or for business. In the case of the former, as long as you're wearing sneakers, you've got some flexibility in preventing sweaty feet. White athletic socks will never look bad with sneakers. In the

latter case, find moisture-wicking dress socks at your local department store. I know they may be dress sock material, but if you can still fit in your shoe with them on, since they typically are a little thicker, go for it. Just pick the right colors and no one will be the wiser.

Undershirts are also important, because, you know, you sweat. This is especially important if you're wearing more expensive dress shirts, but applies to valued T-shirts as well. Undershirts are meant to be worn for a time then thrown away. However, you will find they avoid the infamous yellow pit stains if you switch anti-perspirant for plain deodorant. It's the aluminum in anti-perspirant that reacts with the sweat and causes the yellowness.

This is more pertinent if you're dressing in business attire for your internship, but...What the heck am I supposed to wear for a shirt!? Because in case you haven't noticed, cotton shirts under wool suits can heat up pretty fast. You might not want to buy a whole suit, but a cotton navy blazer will aid many wardrobe decisions. The other cooler materials you should consider are seersucker and linen, in the capacities of both jacket and shirt. Both breathe better than cotton and wool. However, these items will most



likely have to be found online, as they are not exactly JCPenney ware. If eBay scares you, head to Brooks Brothers.

Summer is a time for many things, but it is not a time for lounging around in athletic shorts and workout shirts. That is what your time at Wabash is for. When you're outside the Wabash bubble, you should dress like you're in the real world, because, for that limited amount of time, you are.

"Note: You're probably not going to buy new shoes just for a summer internship, but if so, consult a previous column for loafer recommendations or just call my hotline. (Nonexistent)."

Campaign

From Page 1

will hopefully decide to donate.

"The challenge for us," Klen expressed, "is getting out to the independent students, and even some of the fraternity guys who don't live on campus. [They] are really spread out so our hope is that the senior committees will reach out and get everyone to participate."

The Committee members ask their fellow students to make either a one-time monetary donation to the College or a multi-year donation pledge. Generally the request is a gift of \$25, but gifts of all sizes, both larger and smaller, are always appreciated. According to Klen, the Senior Gift Campaign usually results in 65 to 75 percent of seniors participating.

"A lot of people are giving small gifts that really add up to have a huge impact," said Klen. The donated funds generally go to the "annual fund," which benefits the entire

student body. However, Klen pointed out, "students are also encouraged to restrict their donations to funds they're particularly interested in, for example—immersion learning, athletics, etc."

Each year the Campaign concludes on the weekend of commencement, with a board meeting of the National Association of Wabash Men on Friday and then that evening, the Senior Cookout. It is here that the total results of the Campaign are announced (and celebrated), and a raffle is held for those who donated—this year, prizes include diploma frames and free registration for the five-year Wabash 2011 alumni reunion, as well as various Wabash memorabilia. Students at the celebration also get the chance to meet and get to know the NAWM members and to share their experiences and make valuable connections, both personal and professional.

This year, the stakes are raised for the Senior Gift Campaign, spurred on by the Challenge of Excellence. Most senior gifts

this year, unless earmarked by the student for a few of the specified departmental funds, go toward this fund. The main focus of the Campaign, however, remains to raise awareness within the senior class of their change in role from student to alum and to encourage them to become involved alumni.

"It's not just about giving back," Klen said. "It's about staying connected. If you can't make a large monetary donation, think about going to Wabash day, helping out with recruitment, that sort of thing."

Klen said the campaign is "not just about dollar support, it's about alumni giving back in a variety of ways." The Senior Gift Campaign seeks to impress upon future alumni the mindset that, "If I can mentor a student or provide an internship through Career Services, I can have a big impact on the college."

"It's not just about giving back. It's about staying connected. If you can't make a large monetary donation, think about going to Wabash day, helping out with recruitment, that sort of thing."

Dean of Advancement Joe Klen

To Our Readers:

This issue marks the final issue of the *Bachelor* for this semester. We will resume publication with our annual Back to Campus issue on Friday, August 26. Good luck to everyone on final exams! We wish you all an enjoyable and restful summer.

—The Staff

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EQ: Students Offer Mixed Reviews of Eclectic Course

SEAN HILDEBRAND '14
STAFF WRITER

This semester served as an experiment for the Enduring Questions course, which replaced the previous All-College course, Cultures and Traditions. In this course, students were asked to read and analyze challenging texts and come to class with thoughtful questions. So how successful was the course? According to a couple of teachers, the course worked very well. Wabash freshmen, however, were indifferent on EQ's success.

Dean of the College Gary Phillips, also an Enduring Questions instructor, asserted that the first-year course was a success.

"It worked very well. It invited the students to raise difficult questions and engage with each other in responding to them. I thought this course really embodied what it means to be liberal arts students."

Associate Dean of the College Cheryl Hughes, another EQ instructor, agreed with Phillips on the success of the course.

"I have enjoyed working with my group of freshmen in the new course and we've had some very good discussions," Hughes said. "I think that some of the books deserved more time for careful reading and discussion, and I hope that we will adjust the pace of the course to make that possible. I've had some interesting conversations about EQ films and texts with freshmen who aren't in my section, so we get the benefit of that shared experience for the whole freshman class and quite a few faculty members—that was one of the important aspects of C&T that we've preserved. It has been a good semester and a good first run for the course."

According to Phillips, this cohesion of the students and faculty exemplifies what is most important with this course.

"What is most important with the course is, first, what we do to engage students with each other," Phillips claimed. "Second, it gathers the faculty to work and learn together. And third, it creates a comparable experience between students' freshman and sophomore years."

Wabash freshmen, on the other hand, did not think quite as highly of the course as the professors. A survey showed that 54 percent of the freshmen considered the course pro-

ductive, and the other 46 percent proclaimed the course was unproductive.

Phillips wasn't at all surprised by the near 50-50 split.

"It doesn't surprise me; the questions and assigned readings were very difficult. Plus, students have gotten more and more fatigued as the semester progressed. It will take some time for students to realize the benefit of the course until you look back at it years later."

"The course raised a lot of questions that you wouldn't ordinarily think about, and it makes you think more about words that you've never given a second thought to," argued Riley Gault '14. "I liked it because it makes you realize that education never stops, you are always learning about the world around you, and you are always asking questions."

Opposing freshmen from the course retaliated that lengthy readings were more tedious than mentally challenging. It can be difficult to find incentive to keep up on readings in which one is uninterested, but learning and subsequently challenging the beliefs of others is inherent in a liberal arts education.

Dissecting the Diploma

ALEX MOSEMAN '11
PHOTO EDITOR

On May 15, the senior class will receive their diplomas. But theirs will be different than many other colleges and universities. The *Bachelor* staff decided to deconstruct the enigma that is the Wabash diploma.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX MOSEMAN '11

Latin Text: Although not every Wabash man takes Latin, the diploma appears in the same language as it did for the first graduating class. Why? Because it's tradition.

Sheepskin: Yes. Real sheepskin. And rumor has it that a "vegan option" exists for those students who conscientiously object to the use of animal products to "spread the fame of her honored name."

Handwritten Calligraphy: We don't know who does it. In fact, that's a secret. But the point is, it's tradition. And that's all that matters.

President's Signature: President White will sign each senior's diploma. And he won't do it electronically. Why? You guessed it. Because it's tradition.



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Go to Chapel?

President Must Set Expectation

It's one thing to talk about poor Chapel attendance. It's quite another for the administration to assist the Sphinx Club in encouraging students to be a part of the "grand conversation." Better Chapel attendance starts with the administration, faculty, and staff setting a better example.

We have a lot of conversations at Wabash. And for the most part, many of them are the ones we need to have—excepting of course the ridiculous e-mail wars that showcase the "maturity" of everyone involved and the never ending debate about whether to use the classifieds. But there is one conversation that we do not take seriously: Chapel attendance.

This year more than last, the weekly e-mails from the Sphinx Club remind us that attendance has been worse than ever before.

The Issue:

Chapel attendance is abysmally low.

Our Stance:

Increasing attendance begins with administrators, faculty, and staff setting a better example.

Why is that the case? The *Bachelor* staff believes that this question deserves to be answered. It involves introspection at all levels of our community.

Indeed, many students on our own staff don't attend the weekly talks. And while we aren't judging the merits of everyone's

excuses not to attend Chapel, we do see it fit to state that attendance is not where it should be. There's a certain degree of serendipity to entering the Chapel and not knowing what you are going to hear. And sometimes, those unexpected moments provide the best learning opportunities.

We could go on and on about the merits of Chapel Talks. More importantly, we need to consider why the encouragement to attend stems mainly from the student body. Improving Chapel attendance starts from the top, and that means the administration. Perhaps the campus should truly honor the block of time that is carved-out for Chapel each week. And that means no "optional" athletic practices/weightlifting sessions. And that means no meetings for faculty and staff called by administrators.

It just doesn't seem right that the Chapel is packed with faculty, staff, administrators, and students for Dean Phillips' talk but not for Professor Barnes' talk where the Chapel was nearly empty. Or for the Monon Bell Chapel where athletes who otherwise never attend pack the house. And it goes without saying that attendance declined precipitously in the spring once pledge classes were no longer required to attend.

Sure, Dean Phillips had great things to say. But isn't it an insult to other speakers for them to see that attendance is based on their popularity and/or power? We pride ourselves on being a campus that loves discussing ideas. Isn't it time to listen to those who try to spark that discussion—regardless of their position on campus?

20-Plus Students Take Storytelling Seriously

Journalism: Why Do We Do it?

I've thought a lot about the column I'm writing now. I thought I'd reflect on my time as Editor in Chief, but I don't see it fit to print what my time with the *Bachelor* has meant to me. I think those conversations are best left to those between friends over dinner. But as I flipped through the pages of last week's issue, I started to wonder why it is that we print a paper every week. Why is it that nearly 20 students take time from their already busy schedules to go out, talk to people, and tell their stories?

Whole dissertations have surely been written on the value of journalism—especially print journalism. And while the academic and societal discussions are already ongoing, I'd like to speculate on what it means to each of us who sit in a basement for several hours each week while we crank out the 10 pages that are in your hands (or on your screen) now.

For me, it's the details. I love the fact that there's something each week that can be designed and perfected. And while I've always been anything but an artistic savant, I can tell you that I love graphic design



RILEY FLOYD '13
EDITOR IN CHIEF

and typography. There's a certain neurotic satisfaction one can derive from the precision of design. Even though I'm an English major, perhaps that explains why I've always been drawn more to the design side than the writing side of the publication.

Which brings me to writing. Each week, it's easy to get bogged down by the fact that you have to come up with fresh ideas for that issue. You peruse the calendar and check to see what's going on around campus. But when I take a step back, I think about the point of it all. Perhaps I'm idealistic. But I firmly believe that so much of the point of producing this paper each week

is the ability to tell someone's story. In fact, that was our goal with the IN '11 profiles that have spanned the last few issues.

Dean Phillips spoke about the shape of the question in the first Chapel Talk of the year, and I think that so much of journalism hinges on the question. I love asking questions. And I think everyone on this staff would agree. It's why we do what we do. Much has been said about journalism as exposing Truth (capital T intended). And I think that's probably true. But it's certainly not the primary thing that drives us when we receive a story assignment. I tend to see each assignment as more of an opportunity to tell a story. And if something is clarified along the way, so much the better.

And then there's the staff dynamic. Anyone who has ever spent time in a newsroom knows the oddities of the enterprise. Each newsroom I've been a part of has had some kind of whacky wall where we keep things that, for some reason or another, mean something to us. The *Bachelor* office is no exception. Layout each week is frustrating, sometimes dreaded, rewarding, and

fun all at the same time. And it's the part that I've enjoyed the most about my time as Editor. I've gotten to know each of the guys that I work with, and the hilarious conversations we had in the office will become some of my fondest Wabash memories.

To the staff who quickly became my friends, thank you for a great year. We continued a legacy. And we did it collaboratively. We made improvements, but we still left room for the many generations of Bachelor staffers to come. And that's exactly how it should be.

To the readers, we appreciate your support. In a world of Huffington Post, Twitter, Facebook, and kamikaze journalism, credible storytelling is not dead. And you prove it each time you pick up an issue.

To Peter Robbins, our next Editor in Chief, best wishes.

It's hard to believe that 26 issues later, we've put another volume (104 to be precise) to bed. And while this reflection won't be the last thing that I write for the *Bachelor*, it is my last as Editor in Chief. I'd be lying if I said that I won't miss it.

On Reaching Past the Scarlet

The last issue of the year, the *Bachelor* gives its senior staff the chance to offer a reflection. I have enjoyed working with my colleagues for the last two years.

Here goes mine.

The word reflection refers to the late Latin ‘reflexio,’ or the act of bending back. Unfortunately, as a second semester senior, I am not in the mood for bending back—instead, I am eagerly reaching forward. I am reaching ahead to my graduate school, my job, and my life post-Wabash. Exciting prospects present themselves at every second.

Thing is, I am not abashed in saying it. I want to leave Wabash. I want to feel the excitement that graduation will bring; the thrill of packing the last box and closing the apartment door the last time; the grief of saying goodbye to my fraternity brothers and best friends; and the pleasure of depart-



ALEXANDER AVTGIS '11
OPINION EDITOR

ing from my Alma Mater for the foreseeable last time.

These yearnings are not out of spite, anger, or disappointment. Nor do they stem from the desire for a sense of closure, accomplishment or anything of the like.

Rather, I look forward to these emotions because I acknowledge that my College days are indeed coming to a close—whether I want to accept it or not.

I recognize I have given everything as a Wally—and, in return, the hallowed halls

granted me unimaginable possibilities. Which is to say: it provided travel to four continents, access to multiple internships, and personal contact with professors—outside of the confines of professional interaction. It also collected a cohort of like-minded gentlemen and turned them into brothers, all who will champion and share in my future successes. Most importantly, though, Wabash offered a top-notch education—unlike the training one receives from any ol’

“Though I prize the Scarlet era ... I am orienting myself towards the next: one of Gold and Blue and the great swell of the Mississippi River.”

‘school’—and reignited a passion for learning and self-knowledge.

Those things are why I came to Wabash. Those things are also why I am not sad to leave. In my mind the act of leaving is an essential part of the Wabash experience, which validates and confirms the school’s majesty and greatness. That I strive towards Notre Dame and eventually Jackson, Miss., I am honoring the gifts of Wabash.

Though I prize the Scarlet era of formation and growth, I am orienting myself towards the next one of Gold and Blue and the great swell of the Mississippi River. By ending this chapter, I may properly go forward into the next—and truly cherish the lessons which are taught, generation after generation, at this small, liberal arts college in the middle of nowhere.

Please Obama, Fix These High Gas Prices

CNN’s tendentious tendencies are sickening. As gas prices continue to approach \$4.00 per gallon, CNN is giving President Obama a free pass where they gave President Bush nothing. Back in 2008, the last time gas prices soared so high, CNN relentlessly berated the President on his failure to reduce prices. Reporters often stated, “Americans are looking for more action”, insinuating that it was the President’s inaction that perpetuated gas prices. President Bush, in fact, was acting to lower prices. He attempted to lift the ban on offshore oil drilling and allow drilling off the coast of Alaska only to be thwarted by the Democrat controlled congress.

Now, with Obama as president, CNN seems to have changed their perspective on the President’s power to control gas prices. Now they state that, “There is almost nothing a politician can do about it, at least in the short run”. The



TED PLUMMER '13
STAFF COLUMNIST

hypocrisy here is plain. The supposed neutral news network is clearly less critical of more liberal politicians. CNN is wrong in not faulting President Obama for the high gas prices.

Instead of blaming Obama, much of the media is mistakenly attributing the cause of the recent high gas prices solely to the increasing unrest in the Middle-East. While the price of oil has risen because of the political turmoil in oil producing countries, the price of oil isn’t nearly as high as it was the last time gas prices were pushing \$4.00 per gallon. Oil is only \$112 per barrel now compared to the \$147 per barrel

price in 2008. So why are gas prices rising so much faster than oil prices? The answer is that the culprits responsible for the current high gas prices are speculators.

Speculators are more often than not the ones guilty for soaring commodity prices. The way speculation works is that financial institutions will buy and sell large amounts of a commodity on behalf of investors in order for them to make a profit. In a situation where it seems that the price of a commodity will be much higher in the future, a financial institution will hang on to the commodity for as long as prices keep going up to sell it at a huge profit. This hoarding of commodities can cause the price of anything made from these commodities to go up. If oil were hoarded, for example, the price of gasoline would have to go up because of the shortage of oil. This means if speculators thought that

oil were going up in the future, the price of gas would go up much sooner than the price of oil.

Despite the political turmoil in the Middle-East, there hasn’t been an oil shortage for the United States because Middle-Eastern countries are continuing to export and the United States imports most of its oil from Canada and Mexico anyway. But speculators are creating an artificial shortage. There is reason to believe that countries in the Middle-East will not be able to continue to export oil if their governments become less stable. If this were to happen it would surely drive the price of oil up in the future, which gives speculators incentive to hoard oil now while the price is cheaper in order to sell it later at a higher price.

So while Middle-Eastern unrest is a contributing factor to the increasing gas prices, it is speculation that perpetuates them. According to Bloomberg, speculators own

contracts on 269 million barrels of oil. JP Morgan is holding so much oil that the company is even renting supertankers to store their excess reserves offshore because they have simply run out of space on land. This hoarding of oil is the reason for \$4.00 per gallon gas. And the price of gas will continue to climb until investors have reason to believe that the price of oil will be less in the future.

The President does have it within his power to curb this speculation. Just as Bush attempted to do in 2008, Obama can manipulate investor’s outlook on future oil prices by increasing oil production right here in the US. If investors believe that the supply of oil will increase in the future, then oil will probably not be worth as much, and they will begin selling their reserves of oil now. CNN can contribute by holding the right people responsible.

On God, Education, and Happiness

Since this is my last article for the Bachelor, let me thank my hosts for their hospitality. It has been fun. In fact, I originally wanted to write this last column on why education should be fun. I was going to inquire into why we do not talk enough about being happy at Wabash. The life of the mind is hard, but thinking carefully and clearly about life is one of the chief ingredients of happiness. We humans are born to think. And thinking leads us on and on, into the mysteries of life, and beyond life itself to the order of the cosmos, the source of that order, and our place in it. If life was merely a problem to be solved, and we would soon grow bored (with both life and thinking). But life is deeply mysterious. Anybody would be a fool to deny that.

But I’m not going to talk about being happy, even though teaching at Wabash has given me depths of happiness that I am still exploring. I mostly divide Wabash into two worlds: the world of teaching and collegial friendship that grants me realms of happiness, and anything that impedes teaching and friendship, of which there is plenty.

Instead of talking about happiness, I want to take advantage of the trust and collegiality of the student editors of the Bachelor to talk about the way in which thinking is inevitably drawn into questions about the source and ultimate end of happiness. I have written before about spiritual needs at Wabash, and I must admit that I think it is obvious that what we can call transcen-



PROF. STEPHEN WEBB '83
GUEST COLUMNIST

dence is a natural desire (and not simply a manufactured want). We have a natural desire to seek happiness of a kind that is not exhausted in the things of this world. We need more meaning than facts can give us. Every aspect of our existence cries out for values and ideals that whet our appetite for some kind of ultimacy.

If I had time to make a philosophical case for a natural desire for transcendence, I would appeal to its spontaneity, universality, and utter ordinariness. There is, to me, only one reasonable argument against this natural desire, and that critique is based on a Darwinian account of human nature. It is possible to accept the naturalness of our desire for transcendence but to redescribe that desire in terms of some kind of biological adaptation. Evolution “designed” us to be seekers of ultimate meaning, even though there is none, and so our own genes have played a mean trick on us. They viciously lead us into waters of deep meaning only to

let us drown with despair when we discover that we are programmed to reach out for a rescue that is not forthcoming.

The only other plausible critique of a natural desire for transcendence is simply to reject the idea that there is a human nature. Indeed, it is fashionable today in the humanities to argue that human nature is socially constructed. Humans desire what culture and society, not their genes, tell them to desire. Such relativism flies in the face of both historical and biological facts. If social constructionism is true, then this belief itself has been socially constructed for a specific purpose and by a certain kind of culture, and thus there would be no reason to believe it.

By transcendence, of course, I really mean God. Unless you can give an evolutionary account of transcendence that you are willing to live with, or unless you simply dismiss the rigor of thinking by waving the magic wand of social constructionism, then you have to take very, very seriously the idea that God is the ultimate satisfier of our natural desire for transcendence. All the roads of thinking lead to Him. Every question leads us further into a search for natural, social, and personal order that can be satisfied only by positing an ultimate answer to the mystery that is our lives.

And if there is a God, do you think he would make himself so knowable that it would not require any thought on your part? God as the source of our lives and the gracious depth of the mystery that we are is not

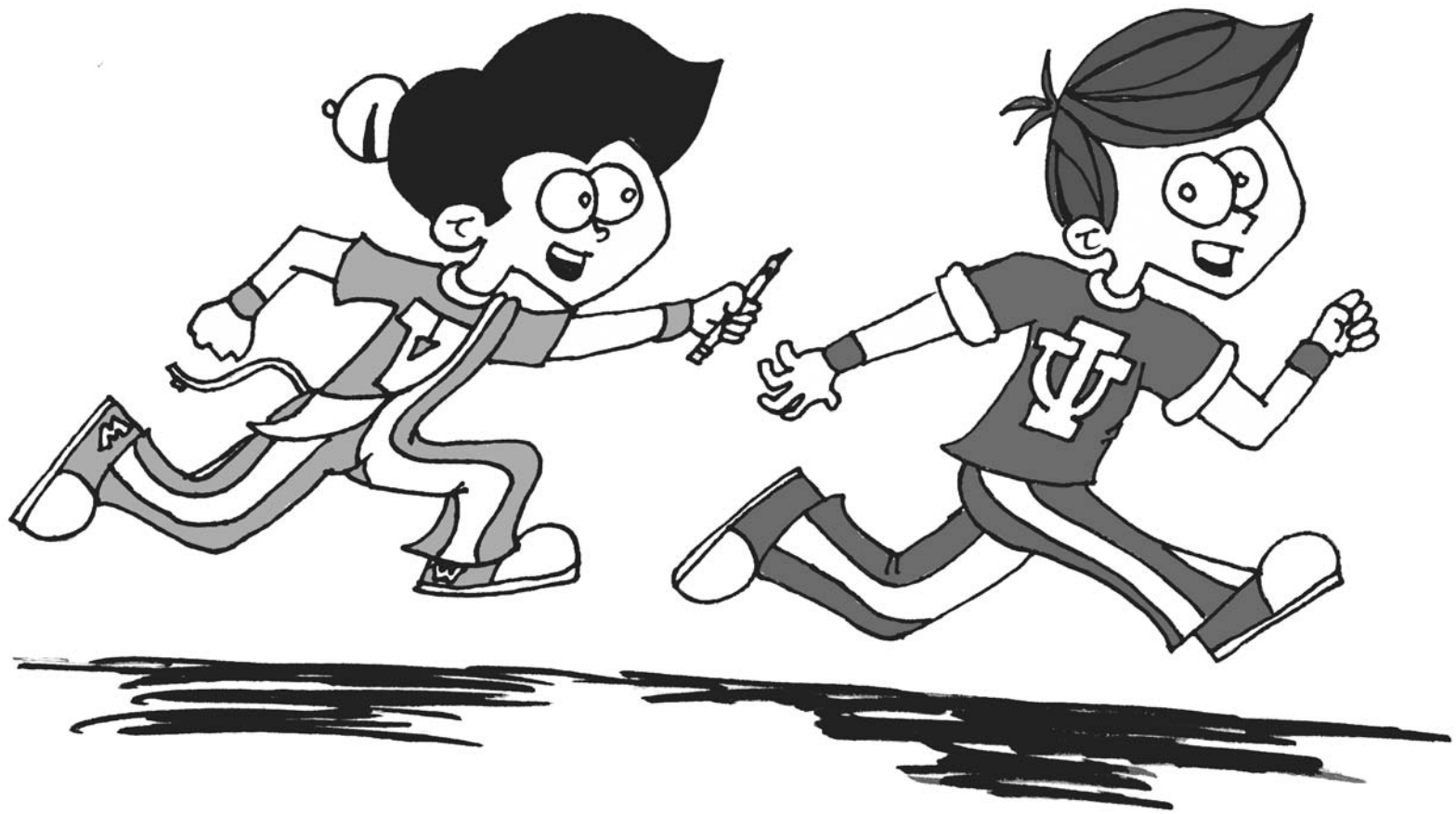
something that can be figured out like a riddle or a puzzle. That we long for God, moreover, suggests that God wants us to want Him. That is, he gives us the freedom to seek Him, and he honors that freedom by letting us fool ourselves into thinking that we do not need Him.

In sum, either our desire for God is a trick of biology or it is planted in us by God Himself. Or we do not have any natural desires at all, since everything we seek is the product of social and cultural factors. The choice is up to us. I believe in God for many reasons, but one reason is that I know I need God, that my soul desires God.

I guess I am amazed when I meet intelligent people who have spent no time thinking about God and even less time really thinking hard about whether God would reveal himself to us and if so, what form that revelation might take. God will surely hold us accountable for not considering His reality and for not welcoming the opportunity to know Him through his self-revelation (for how else would he reveal himself except to give himself to us in human form?). In the end, there is no rational excuse for apathy toward the divine.

If God exists, your happiness depends on coming to know Him. If Wabash trains you to think without asking you to think about God, then your education will hardly make you happy. I wish all of you a very, very happy summer.





Well Played, Wabash

Maybe I'll see you around sometime

Within two weeks I will be walking down the aisle, eagerly awaiting my sheepskin. Then, it's no more Wabash—just the real world.

And I am terrified.

Sure, there's plenty to be excited about. I am now eligible to purchase any number of "Proud Wabash Alum" sweatshirts or coffee mugs. In fact, after a few years of saving up, I may even be able to begin to afford the Wabash College golden bookends that my presumably fancy office will require!

But my fears outweigh my excitement. My terror culminated when I told a freshman that I'd "be back all the time—like every weekend. Not only is this ridiculous and monetarily impossible, but it shows just how much Wabash has meant to me. I assume my situation to be the same for all seniors, so I've put together a small list about how to deal with the outside world.

1.) There are a lot of cars on the streets, and they typically don't stop for pedestrians. Gone are the days where two vehicles on Grant Street constituted "Rush Hour." Every city I've been to seems to have a constant stream of cars, and frankly, I don't see them stopping for students that often. My solution is simple: wait until the street is clear, and then run like none other to the other side. Problem. Solved.

2.) The real world certainly has a lot more genders than I'm used to—and in higher frequencies. None of us have seen an academic world with the opposite gender, and regardless of whether or not that is positive or negative, it will take some getting used to initially. Face it, Wabash. We're pretty much a cult of testosterone and the color red. I don't see it becoming a problem in life, but more of a culture shock.

3.) Even more of a shock comes from just how big that world is. My campus tour of Indiana University took nearly an hour; conversely, the longest Wabash tour I'd been on lasted a little over six minutes (and that's only because our guide had to retie his shoes twice). My solution: just take it one step at a time until I've gotten to where I'm going, and then a nice ice bath for my feet.

4.) Additionally, it's apparently not socially acceptable to yell conversations with your friends over long distances. On any given day you can see a Wally greet a fellow friend with a loud "HEY" or "HI" or even the seldom-heard "TSUP." Doing that in large crowds draws other people's



JOEL
BUSTAMANTE '11
CAVELIFE EDITOR

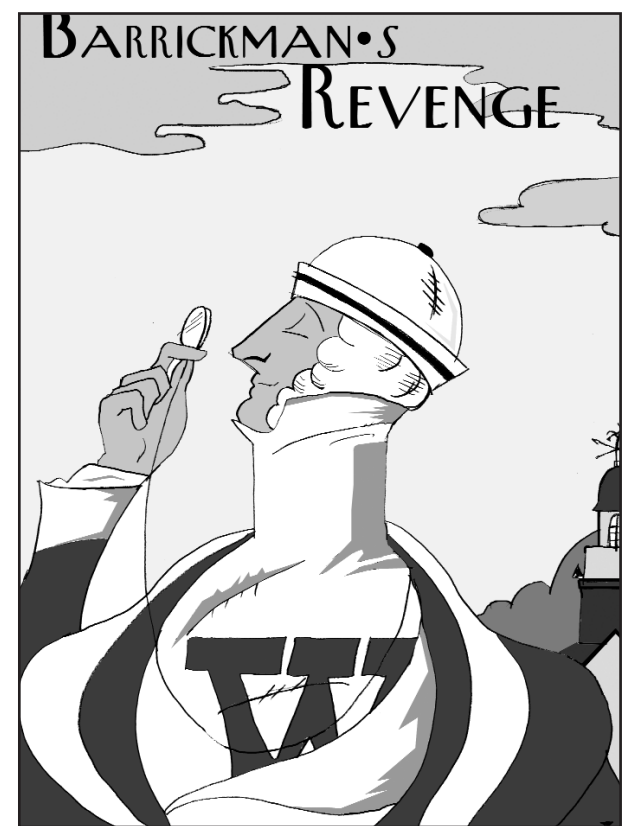
attentions, and may even lead them to believe you may be mildly insane. I've been working on this by waiting a certain amount of time and allowing my target to get within a reasonable range. Then, I say it like I always do. The hell with onlookers.

5.) Your red-dominated wardrobe isn't useless! A handful of us will be at Indiana University, and last time I checked, red was pretty much the same as crimson. Only better. For everyone else, red is statistically shown to attract romance more than any other color. Studies have shown that the opposite sex is considerably more attracted to a person if he or she is wearing red, and luckily for you, that's the foremost color in your closet! It is considered the "sexiest" color, and could very well help you in the future.

6.) Finally, and I'd like to think this is obvious, but we are Wabash alums. It is no longer personally acceptable for us to purchase bottom-grade beer; we've transcended to the next best thing. Thus, when I return for homecoming and the Monon Bell game, I refuse to donate a case of Keystone or Natty Ice. I will instead bring Busch; it's only a dollar more, yet somehow carries a higher standard of respect.

I'd like to close out my final article with a round of applause to those who deserve it. Remember, if you're not mentioned, then you probably should have made more of an impact on my life. My parents (you know who you are), my friends and brothers (I know who you are), and my mentors (Dr. Dan Rogers, Dr. Eric Freeze, and print gurus Tim Padgett, Howard Hewitt, and Jim Amidon) each of you is equally deserving of multiple words of praise and gratitude.

Also, if I lent anything of value out to you, I'm totally going to need that back before I graduate.



JOEL BUSTAMANTE '11

My very first cartoon as it appeared in 2007. Oh, how the times have changed. For context, the DUP guys actually wore skirts to the soccer game.

Carpenter Takes the Reins

BRANDAN ALFORD '12
SPORTS EDITOR

Wabash has its new head basketball coach, and he's no stranger to the school or program. This past Friday, Wabash College announced that Antoine Carpenter '00 would be taking over the Little Giant program. Carpenter, who has spent the last three years as the head assistant, will replace legendary coach Mac Petty who is retiring after 35 years atop the program.

For Carpenter, who has played and coached at Wabash, the opportunity to take over this program is a special one.

"It's always been a dream of mine," Carpenter said. "The process was an exciting one, and I was on pins and needles throughout that process. It means a lot for me to get this opportunity. Having been a former player and assistant coach, I know the tradition and responsibility that comes with this position."

In the two months since the completion of this year's season, Carpenter dealt with the uncertainty of the pending decision, while still working with returning players in preparation for next season.

"I still approached the spring as if I was going to be there as the coach next year," Carpenter said. "I owed it to those guys, no matter who was going to be the next coach, they have a season to get ready and prepared for. To me, those guys are so great as leaders, I had every belief that they would be successful no matter who was in place as the head coach. I couldn't worry about my mindset and whether I was going to get the job. My approach didn't change."

That hard work and patience paid off for Carpenter with this past week's announcement.

The transition from one coach to another is never an easy task. That task becomes tougher when the coach being replaced is someone with the accomplishments and reputation at a school like Petty has accumulated in his tenure in Crawfordsville. But Carpenter's relationship with Petty, as well as the relationship he has established with the current players will help make the transition as seamless as possible.

"Coach Petty has had a huge impact on my life, not only in basketball, but in life," Carpenter said. "He's had a direct influence on everything that I have done. With the players we have, there is already a relationship and trust between me and the players that has been developed. Those guys have had a belief in me. One of the things that I have learned in my time under coach Petty as a player and coach, is that the success of a team is determined by the players. It's a players' team. I won't be playing any defense, and I won't be taking any shots. I will be preparing them,



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

Beginning next fall, Wabash will have a new face of its basketball program, but it will be a familiar one as Antoine Carpenter '00 (right) takes over for legendary Mac Petty (left) who is retiring after 35 seasons at the helm of the program.

but they are the ones who are going to be out on the court and execute. I'm going to help them, and I'm looking forward to all the leaders we have helping me."

With the departure of all-American Wes Smith and his 22.0 point per game average from a season ago, Carpenter and those leaders he mentioned will come in the form of a five-man senior class which will have plenty of experience heading into their fourth and final year in Little Giant uniforms. Four of those seniors, Brian Shelbourne, Aaron Zinnerman, Nick Curosh, and Derek Bailey comprised the first recruiting class that Carpenter helped guide to Wabash when he joined Petty's staff. The ability to work with that group for four years and lean on them for leadership will be integral to Carpenter's success.

"It's very exciting to have those guys," Carpenter said. "This is the first time in my career that I have been able to

see a class develop over their four years. I have had high hopes for those guys, and those guys have done a great job in the classroom and have represented Wabash well. I am excited to see those guys have a great senior year, and those guys are doing a great job as leaders in the spring."

With Carpenter's acceptance of the position, it's clear that he has the full support of his players, particularly those leaders that Carpenter mentioned.

"It was the consensus on the team that coach Carpenter has been around this team and Wabash and he knows what this place is all about, and I think he will be able to come in and continue this program's improvement," Shelbourne said. "No one can replace coach Petty, but coach Carpenter has a real love and passion for the game, and I think he's going to succeed here."

NCAC Previews



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

Kevin McCarthy '12, seen here in the steeplechase, will be counted on for points for the Little Giants when they look to build off their indoor title in the NCAC outdoor championship

Down the Homestretch

RYAN LUTZ '13
STAFF WRITER

For the track team these next two weeks, they will be embodying the term student-athlete.

With a meet this week at Butler and the NCAC meet next week, the team has two meets that conflict with dead week and finals. Not an easy task for an athlete. "We have been telling them for a few weeks now that they need to stay focused, not look at conference yet, and get on top of their school work for finals" Coach Clyde Morgan said.

During these two weeks the track team will be tested. If they can get over this hurdle then the team might just be able to reach the "next level" that they have been talking about all year. "Our team will be tested" Morgan said. "We have been telling them to communicate with their professors and get everything done early. Because that is what being a student-athlete means."

With all of this happening in a short time the track team is just focusing on Stan Lyons Invitational at Butler this weekend. The team will be competing on the best track to qualify for conference. The track that the Stan Lyons invitational is on has hosted Olympic trials and National Championships. "The conference meet does not exist yet, it's in the back of the guys minds but they know that we need to take care of business this weekend in order to get to conference." Morgan said.

The team knows how important this meet is, because if they do not make their times this weekend then they will be sitting at home instead of competing at conference.

"This meet is the last meet before conference, and it will be the last time some guys compete this year. It also marks the last chance to qualify to run in the conference meet, knowing that it is pretty important for the guys who are really close to the qualifying marks. Overall I am excited for it and ready to keep up the momentum we have maintained all season" Chet Riddle said.

With that said the team is taking it one meet at a time and just focusing on making their times for conference and Nationals. Even with all the outside factors making it harder to have track as their number one focus. The team will also focus on their "nothing break us" mantra, balancing their finals as well as the push for NCAC and Nationals.

Another motivating factor for this weekend and next week at conference is that this year's team could be the first track team to win both the indoor and outdoor conference championships. "The chance to make school history is something that is in the back of everyone's mind right now" Morgan said.

We have been focused all season on outdoor conference, coming off of the victory in indoor we know that outdoor is not going to be handed over easily. The team has been preparing for what Coach Morgan describes as the heavy weight fight for the outdoor conference championship" Riddle said.

Finals and dead week paired with two track meets makes for a tall order. Having the shot to make school history also has motivated the team to tackle the next two weeks on the track and in the classroom. After all "that is what being a student-athlete means."

Tennis Is Upset-Minded

SETH HENSLEY '14
STAFF WRITER

The number two seed in the West Division in the 2011 NCAC Conference Tournament goes to the Little Giants of Wabash College. Taking the their talents to Oberlin, the tournament host, this weekend the team looks to build upon their strong third place finish from the past two years.

"We are deeper and stronger as a team than we were, at this point, last year," Coach Hutchison said.

The team has been practicing intensely in order to bring their "A" games this weekend.

"Conference is the biggest tournament of the year. It is what we prepare for all season and the weekend that our schedule builds up to. Knowing that these will be our last matches of the year helps us to go in with more focus and more determination." Senior Captain Ricky Ritter explains.

Ritter has been a great contributing factor the last three years for the Wabash Tennis team. This weekend being his fourth appearance in the conference tournament, Ritter understand the intensity of the weekend and that there are no guarantees.

With a lot of strong and encouraging wins on the year and with a final record of 16-9, the tennis team is not looking to

change much in their style of play. Conference may be the most important tournament of the year, but that doesn't mean you stray away from what you have been doing all season. Throughout the year Coach Hutchison has preached playing high percentage shots, playing big points well, and putting pressure on opponents early. This coaching strategy is not changing for this conference weekend. Another key to victory that Coach Hutchison emphasizes on is having the mentality when you walk on the court to that you will win this match. This confidence, as any athlete can attend to, is essential to beating your opponent.

Last year in the NCAC Conference Tournament, Kenyon took the title with Denison falling in to second place. Both Kenyon and Denison are nationally ranked powerhouses and put together impressive performances each year. More than five years ago the Wabash tennis team was towards the bottom of the conference consistently. In recent years and during the tenure of Ricky Ritter's career the tennis team has solidified a third place rank in conference yearly.

"Ideally, improving on our third place finishes in years past would be great, but realistically finishing third again would be a tremendous accomplishment." Ritter explains.

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COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Junior Zach Lowry will take his 15-13 singles record into this weekend's NCAC championship

It's All In the Family

KYLE BENDER '12
STAFF WRITER

There are 650 miles between Tulsa, Okla. and Crawfordsville, Ind.

For the past four years, Tulsa natives Curt and Nancy Coggins have made the ten hour drive almost every weekend to Wabash College in order to watch their sons Kenny and Tanner participate athletically for the Little Giants.

The 2011 baseball season has been an extra special one for the family. For the first time in five years, the Coggins brothers have been reunited as teammates during their last semester of college.

Older brother Kenny played four years of college football – two at Princeton and two at Wabash. Headed to medical school at Baylor University next year, Kenny wanted to be around his younger brother one last time, who will move to upstate New York to serve as a camp counselor.

“When I used up my four years of football eligibility, I still had one year left at Wabash,” Kenny said. “I really thought it over and told Coach Stevens I wanted to join the baseball team. The driving force was the opportunity to play with Tanner one last time. We’re going different directions next year so it has been extra special.”

Younger brother Tanner, a power hitter who has been in the middle of the Little Giants baseball team’s batting order since his freshman season, appreciates having his older brother in the dugout.

“One my favorite high school memories was playing on the same baseball team with Kenny,” he said. “To have a continuation of that shared career and to finish out college this way, it’s really special. He’s like another coach for me - always there to help me with my swing because he knows it better than anyone else.”

Perhaps the greatest story of “brotherhood” on a campus that prides itself on the term can be explained by how Kenny and Tanner made their initial college choices. Once Kenny chose Princeton, Tanner knew he wanted to go anywhere but Princeton, to branch out and get an experience away from his brother. During both searches, Curt and Nancy were very supportive of the boys looking outside Oklahoma to foster their intellectual and social full growth. When Tanner decided to attend Wabash, he never dreamed he’d later have his older brother as a classmate.

While Kenny excelled academically at Princeton, he struggled to adapt to the New Jersey social life. After three semesters, he decided to leave Princeton. Coming to Wabash, he developed instant friendships with members of the Wabash football team, as well as others on campus. Due to transfer requirements, Kenny now needed three years of instruction at Wabash to graduate, putting him in the same class as Tanner. The extra year has become an ongoing joke between the good-natured and fun loving brothers.

“We always joke that he’s on the five year plan, which is rarely heard of at Wabash,” Tanner said. “I told him a couple weeks ago that he’s lucky his first name comes before mine in the alphabet or I’d actually graduate before him during commencement ceremonies.”

“I think Kenny and Tanner really needed that time apart,” Nancy reflected. “They never fought as kids, but were

each other’s biggest competitors. It was good for each of them to shine on their own.”

With Kenny also at Wabash, it became much easier for Curt and Nancy to follow the athletic events of both boys.

“It was really important for us to let the boys explore colleges and wind up where they fit best,” Curt said. “But there is no way we could have ever anticipated a situation where they would graduate together.

“It’s definitely added to the fun for us. We came to watch Kenny play football and Tanner got to sit with us. Then we would come to watch Tanner play baseball and Kenny sat with us. Now, as we come to baseball games to see both of them, it’s extra special because they are together. It is fascinating to think how it all materialized.”

Curt and Nancy became faithful Wabash supporters, traveling not only to Crawfordsville, but also across the Midwest for Saturday conference football games and weekend baseball series. Curt has filmed entire baseball games that can be watched on the College’s website and Nancy shoots and organizes photographs of all the players that she later gives to their families.

“The best part has been meeting the players’ families,” Nancy said. “Wabash has been so good for our family. We feel like we have a home away from home on the weekends.”

Curt has a full-time family medical practice in Tulsa, which can sometimes make travel difficult. However, by working in the airport and in the car with the help of electronic medical charts, he rarely stays behind.

The dedication of their parents does not go unnoticed by Kenny and Tanner.

“They’ve been at all of my games since tee ball,” Kenny said. “When we left for college, I didn’t really expect anything different from them. That’s just the type of people they are. My mom didn’t work when we were growing up. She has devoted 23 years to Tanner and I, to make sure that we always had our heads on straight and to support us unconditionally.”

“My parents have made an incredible impact on me, I can’t explain all the things they’ve done,” Tanner said. “To have parents who are willing to drive 650 miles every weekend just to see you perform – they are the two most loving people I’ve ever met. I can’t ask for anything more. It’s been fun to have them buy into Wabash just like I did.”

Nancy believes the years spent raising and parenting the two created an emotional connection that cannot be fully described.

“Tanner always asks me why we come to so many games,” she said. “I tell him that I have grown to love watching him and his brother play; it truly brings me joy. It was my life dream to be a wife and mom and I’ve tried to make the most of it.”

As their commencement ceremony approaches and the day will soon come when the brothers are in separate parts of the country, the Coggins family can’t help but reflect upon the role Wabash has played in their lives.

“This college has been a great place for all of us,” Kenny said. “I think we are leaving here closer to one another than we were when we came in. It has prepared Tanner and I to be impact men in the real world and for that, we are grateful.”



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '11

Seniors Tanner (right) and Kenny (left) Coggins seen here with their parents during senior day festivities this spring.

What Took So Long?

From most indications, Wabash will be naming its next Director of Athletics in the coming days, if it hasn’t already done so by the time the paper goes to print. And that is great news. But I wonder, what took so long?

I have every faith the administration and all those who are involved in the hiring process will make the right decision. But the timeline for this hire leaves plenty of questions.

When the college offered faculty and staff buyout packages 18 months ago, it knew it would have openings for a Dean of Athletics and head basketball coach to be filled for the 2011-12 academic year.

Yet, this paper went to press on the last week of April with the alumni, students, staff, and faculty still wondering who would be in charge of Wabash athletics in 2011-2012.

Early this spring, the college hosted four well-qualified candidates for a chance to be interviewed and participate in an open forum for students and staff to get a feel for the next Athletic Director. The last of those publicly-known visits occurred on March 29. That was over a month ago.

In February, Dean of Students Mike Raters said that the committee, “would like the position filled, if possible, by the time a final selection has been made on a basketball coach.”

As is now known, Antoine Carpenter was named last week to the head basketball coaching position replacing Mac Petty.

While I’m confident saying Carpenter is a talented, young, energetic candidate who I believe was the best choice for the job, I have to wonder why a new Athletic Direc-



BRANDAN ALFORD '12
SPORTS
EDITOR

tor was not involved in his selection.

However, Raters made it clear that they would not name a Director of Athletics before a head basketball coach “to fill the position just to make the next call. These are two very important decisions.”

And while I have never personally been involved in any personnel decisions, I can appreciate that line of reasoning with regard to approaching hires. But with the situation as it is, it’s hard not to question the fact that it is nearly May, with the school year coming to a close and we are still in a position with no athletic director.

Moving forward, with the situation as it is, one must ask, is there an issue within the power structure which has prevented a consensus decision to be made and put a new A.D. in place? Is the Director of Athletics a position empowered to make important personnel decisions such as the hiring of a basketball or football coach? Or is it simply a managerial position, with the larger decisions pertaining to athletics to be made by those within Center Hall? I’m sure each of the four candidates had the same questions cross their mind during this process.

Upset

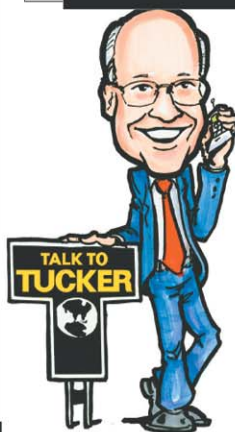
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The bracket setup for the NCAC is divided into two divisions, the East and the West. The East is made up of Kenyon, Allegheny, Oberlin, and Wooster. Making up the West division is Denison, Wabash, Wittenberg, and Ohio Wesleyan. With Wabash’s first match of conference being against Oberlin, the third seed in the East Division, the Little Giants look to get off to a quick start.

Coach Hutchison explains the importance of not over looking any opponent and staying focused on each point, “Winning the first round is our first goal and we cannot over look the early rounds.”

With a team full of competitors as Coach Hutchison puts it, the Little Giants will not back down to any conference foe. Every point matters in any match but it is multiplied in a conference match. Because there are no guarantees in a conference match Ritter said that fighting for every point is a must. The team has already faced off against five conference teams this year including Wittenberg, Denison, Ohio Wesleyan, Wooster, and Oberlin coming away with four victories in those matches. That being said, the Little Giants will know exactly what to expect this weekend and will put together strong performances as they know how.

*Best
Wishes
to the
Class
of
2011*



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