

IN THIS
ISSUE

BASKETBALL
UPDATE

FREE
Valentine's
CARD

‘Biggest Loser’ Contest Aims to Promote Health and Happiness

TAYLOR KENYON '15
STAFF WRITER

Wabash’s own Biggest Loser Competition is underway to create a healthier community. During the semester, participants will drop pounds to win prizes as one of five Biggest Loser champions.

Biggest Loser competitions sprouted up in numerous college and university campuses over the past few years. Director of Athletics and Campus Wellness Joseph Haklin brought the idea for the program to Wabash after its success at Marion University—where Haklin served as Athletic Director prior to coming to Wabash.

The goal of the competition is to improve the community’s health. “The whole idea is not just to change your ways for 12 weeks, but to start lifestyle changes that could be ongoing,” Haklin said. “We all need motivation to change a lifestyle.”

The program lasts 12 weeks beginning Feb. 1. Each week, participants weigh in confidentially with Assistant Wrestling Coach and Fitness Consultant Casey Bradley to measure their losses. Bradley runs the weight measurement and weight loss education aspects of the program. The competition is divided into five groups: all students; women 35 and under, women 36 and over, men 35 and under, and men 36 and over.

At the end of the 12 weeks, the “Biggest Loser” of each competition group will receive a \$50 gift card to the bookstore. In addition, the living



COREY EGLER | WABASH '15

Wabash Athletic Director Joe Haklin has brought the idea of the “Biggest Loser” to campus, motivating students to get into better shape with a top prize of \$50 at the Wabash College Bookstore and a cookout for the living unit with the most pounds lost.

unit that loses the most pounds will receive a cookout later in the spring.

The program started successfully with 97 participants; this blew over Bradley’s expectation of 42 participants.

“The University of Georgia did a similar program,” Haklin said. “The first year they had about thirty people, by the third year they were in the nineties. We have 97 [participants] with

almost half being students. That’s a pretty high percentage of the Wabash community. We have almost reached 10 percent of the Wabash community. For, an initial program [this] is pretty good.”

After each weekly weigh-in, incentives are given out both to keep participants involved and to promote their wellness goals. Haklin and Bradley think

See BIGGEST LOSER, Page 3

On the Road to Recovery

PETER ROBBINS '12
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In the past three weeks, four current Wabash students were involved in serious car accidents that resulted in injury. Thankfully, no Wabash men lost their lives in either of the two crashes.

The first accident, which occurred on Jan. 20, was a seven-car pile up involving Jake Peacock '12 outside of Spencer, IN. Peacock suffered skull, hip and arm fractures and was sedated for several days, but he has made a lot of progress. He is now recovering at his parents’ home in Crawfordsville.

Early last Saturday morning, Hoan Nguyen '13, Long Pham '14 and Truong “Bruce” Nguyen '15 were involved in a single-car accident outside of Crawfordsville on State Road 32. The Montgomery County Sheriff’s Department has turned over the investigation to the prosecutor’s office to determine the cause of the accident.

Dean of Students Mike Raters commented on the effect of

See RECOVERY, Page 3

How to Be Successful in Business

Saturday’s Entrepreneur Summit Attracts Thriving Professionals to Wabash

TYLER HARDCASTLE '15
STAFF WRITER

This Saturday Wabash will host the 2nd Annual Entrepreneur Summit. The summit will play host to keynote speakers, Cory Levy and Kelsey Timmerman, who will be joined by several Wabash Alumni. They will address such issues as start-ups, financing, legal and marketing aspects of entrepreneurship.

“We have many more students who are entrepreneurial-minded, students who have decided that they don’t necessarily want to go into the established business world, they want to create their own,” said Director of Career Services Scott Crawford. “We’re excited to have someone from a student perspective.”

The summit will focus on beginning the entrepreneurship process while still in college. One of the two keynote speakers, Levy, is a twenty-year-old college student. He came under the spotlight after procuring \$1 million worth of grants to launch his startup company “One”. The company has launched its first product, a social networking application that connects the user to people with similar interest who live close by. Timmerman is an author and fellow entrepreneur.



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

At last year’s Entrepreneur Summit, speakers included Mike McCarty '90 (above), a former police officer who created an independent background checking business serving 1,500 clients. This year’s event will feature several speakers from different sectors.

The program will feature other speakers, including Jason Bridges, who began his own bicycle tourism company in Nantucket, Ma. Some of Wabash’s lawyer alumni will also be in attendance to speak about the legal issues involved with start-ups.

“The speakers and other attendees are people who have actually been through the process. The summit also allows people to connect who could potentially help each other,” Crawford said.

“There are several students here on campus who have already started a business or are in the process of doing so.”

Adam Miller '12, who is involved in planning the summit, has been actively working on his plans for a non-profit called, Lets Have a Ball.

The company will sell donated equipment (balls, jerseys, gloves, etc.) from professional athletes online. The profits will then be used to purchase and deliver sports equipment to children in need.

“I had an internship in Greece two years ago through the small business fund and while I was over there I saw elementary school children playing soccer with a pinecone,” Miller said. “That image stuck with me.”

Miller came up with the idea for his company while working at a camp in Florida for seriously ill children with Cancer, Aids and other life-threatening diseases. He saw how much they enjoyed playing sports.

“One morning the idea for the company came to me while I was playing basketball with the campers,” Miller said. “I just knew that this was an opportunity that I had to pursue when I got back to Wabash and after I graduated in May.”

Miller plans to bring his experience from planning events like the community fair and attending other entrepreneur conferences to the Summit.

“At the conferences I was working with other students from across the country and the world, establishing connections with the hopes of pursuing my non-profit idea full-time after I graduate in May,” Miller said.

Miller hopes the Summit will give students the tools in knowledge and networking to make their idea happened. Crawford agreed.

“Entrepreneurialism is a perfect way to use your liberal arts education,” Crawford said. “They are a way to offer a different perspective on career opportunities and that’s what we do.”

Students interested in trying to attend the Entrepreneur Summit should contact Scott Crawford or Mark Osnowitz.

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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.

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

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

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

Announcements

Friday, February 10
Casino Night, Allen Center, 8 p.m.

Saturday, February 11
Entrepreneur Summit, Allen Center, 8:30 a.m.

Monday, February 13
PROFILE and FAFSA Due February 15th

Sophomore Interviews (continued all week)

Tuesday, February 14
Valentine's Day

IFC Meeting, Senate Room, 11:10 a.m.

Student Senate Meeting, Lilly Library, 7 p.m.

Wednesday Feb. 15
Women on Campus Luncheon, Detchon Hall, 12 p.m.

APO Meeting, Baxter 101, 7 p.m.

Roger Ide Organ Recital, Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 16
Chapel Talk, Michael Brown, 11:15 a.m.

Hays Visiting Writer: Kwame Dawes, Korb Classroom, 8 p.m.

Conservative Union Endorses Romney

JACOB BURNETT '15
STAFF WRITER

The Republican Primary results are pouring in. Mitt Romney wins one state, and Rick Santorum wins others. Then, Gingrich wins one, and Ron Paul tags along for the ride. Wherever you may be, the newspapers, blogs, or websites discuss the potential winner who will snag the GOP nomination. With many politically active groups on campus, this issue resonates through living units and classes. Therefore, the student opinions are endless. "Mitt Romney, hands down, will win

cord with healthcare, Wentzel believes that he maintains true conservative values. "The [political] positions Romney currently holds are not of the left," Wentzel said. "He has implemented certain laws in his state such as the healthcare law. The law might have been a correct choice for his state at the time. As a governor, he had every right to make that decision for his state. If it was cost effective to make that decision, then he had a basis to make it." However, can the GOP produce a candidate to beat Obama? "No, all this division of the GOP field will cause a major divide when it comes



COURTESY OF POLITICS.BLOGS.FOXNEWS.COM

Despite the fairly diverse results in the Republican primaries, Mitt Romney still appears to be the favorite. The Wabash Conservative Union has jumped onto the Romney bandwagon and believes he will be the GOP nominating against President Barack Obama.

the GOP nomination," said Director of Events of Wabash Conservative Union Jeremy Wentzel. "Mitt Romney has had a recent victory in Nevada and in previous primaries, and Newt Gingrich has been sliding in the polls. Mitt Romney has the momentum at this point." Wentzel explains that Romney embodies what every conservative should want. He holds pro-business values, and he resists excessively raising taxes. Romney also holds the conservative perspectives of social values. Even though Romney has been criticized as not holding true conservative values, given his track re-

down to backing one candidate," said President of Wabash College Democrats Andre Adeyemi. "All [the GOP candidates] are doing is attacking each other instead of attacking Obama. We saw a little of this in Romney in the beginning when we all believed he was the presumptive nominee, but things have changed and Republican voters have spoken. I am waiting for a candidate to essentially tune out the noise and attack the real issues instead of going tit-for-tat with the other candidates." Adeyemi says that his brain says Mitt Romney will when. However, he explains that Rick Santorum is not out of the race

yet. Given his recent wins in Missouri, Minnesota, and Colorado Caucuses, Santorum seems to be the rising alternative that resonates with social conservatives. At the beginning of the presidential race, the GOP candidates lined up to establish their position to run for presidency. The race started with nine presidential hopefuls. Now, the race contains four: Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum, Newt Gingrich, and Ron Paul. Also, the candidates faced off in a substantial number of debates. Did having numerous candidates and debates hurt the chance of electing a GOP hopeful for president?

"I thought that social issues would be put more to rest, and in the initial debate it wasn't the case," Wentzel said. "Since we have narrowed down candidates, it is no longer the issue. We have never seen this many debates. Therefore, they are less important when there are more available to watch." "I think the GOP hurt its chances by pushing right wing extremists into the ring against Obama," Adeyemi said. "Clearly, Obama's message on the helping the middle class, his shellacking on Congress' performance, and his foreign policy agenda [during his State of the Union address] will resonate with voters over the GOP's persistent dwelling on 20th century social issues like abortion." Even though Wentzel and Adeyemi perceive Romney as the winner, it does not mean that he is their preferred choice. "I would have hoped for Mitch Daniels because he has a very clear record of success in the state of Indiana," Wentzel said. "He is fair minded and not afraid to take on unions and serious education reforms that involved private initiatives." "In a perfect world, John Huntsman because he was smart, understood the diversity in the American population in his stance on social issues, and has real foreign policy experience with China," Adeyemi said. "In today's world, Rick Perry because his poorly ran campaign and insulting campaign advertisements would have had moderate to liberal Republicans seriously considering President Obama." The presidential elections provoke intellectual discourse throughout the College's atmosphere. On February 11, Maine will be conducting its primaries. Make sure to keep watch for who has a chance, big or small, at becoming the next President of the United States.

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Students Meet with College about Rocha

KENNY FARRIS '12
NEWS EDITOR

Passionate discourse flowed from students and administrators during Monday evening's forum concerning the status of Owen Duston Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Teacher Education Sam Rocha.

Racial, financial, and licensing issues marked the hour-long forum in which around 50 students, faculty, and staff members participated. Students spoke directly with President Pat White and Dean of the College Gary Phillips about their desire to keep Rocha in his current position beyond this spring.

"What can we do to keep Rocha here?" Tyler Griffin '13 asked. The question sparked students to tap their fists on the tables in Baxter 202. "We've done a lot. We've signed petitions, we've protested at the trustee dinner."

With Terrance Pignes '14 as their moderator, students asked White and Phillips questions regarding many topics—including the hiring process, the direction of the Teacher Education Department, and the retention of minority students and professors. When the forum ended, both administrators spoke with students for another hour about their concerns.

"I found the exchange to be frank, honest, and intense," Phillips said after the forum. "It was clear that my judgment about what the Col-

lege can and should do differed from what some in the room wanted."

To each question, one or both of the administrators responded in ways Pignes felt were productive.

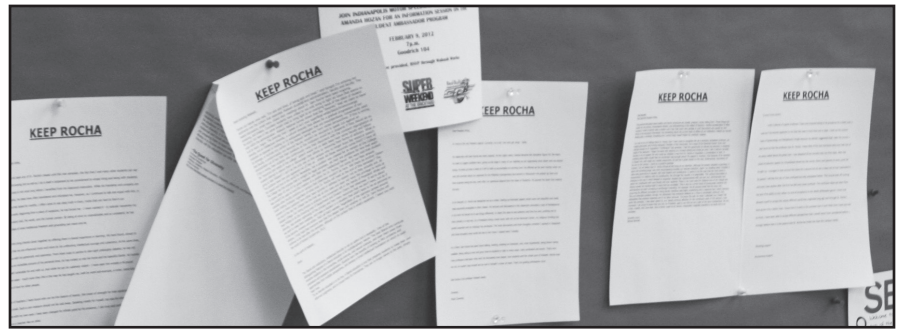
"I do believe that the forum was productive on both the students' behalf as well as for the Dean and President of the College," Pignes said. "The students got a real perspective of Dr. Rocha's future. We also got clarity on how the hiring process works and other vague concepts that needed an explicit definition."

"Sam Rocha has done good work for you and this College," White said. "Your leadership at this College is more important than one professor, one administrator, one coach."

While neither side resulted to name-calling, both sides spoke passionately about Rocha's impact on students and the debate's emotional impact.

"To be identified with someone who lynches, maybe that's the passion in you, just like the passion in my voice," Phillips said referring to recent comments made over all-campus e-mails. "I respect you even if I disagree with you."

Transparency concerns factored into many of the students' questions at the forum. Some students felt the College had not demonstrated adequate attention to students' concerns nor an effort to retain minority faculty members.



COREY EGLER | WABASH '15

Flyers at the entrance of Detchon Hall read "Keep Rocha" in support of Owen Duston Visting Professor of Philosophy and Education Sam Rocha. Students met with President White and Dean Phillips to discuss the situation on Monday.

"If you're trying to teach students to live humanely, you need to bring mostly every race together," Alejandro Maya '13 said. "If a professor can do that, then you should do everything you can to keep him."

Phillips and White relayed the importance of conducting hiring searches that promote the needs of Wabash. Multiple times throughout the forum, the pair noted that these needs have been stressed in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis.

"The College has not been in a position to make new tenure-track hire positions pro domo," Phillips said. He noted that although there have been discussions in the past about a hire associated with the Teacher Education department, these discussions were limited by the "reality" of the College's financial situation post-2008.

"You cannot hire by race, it's against the law," Phillips said. Even so, Phillips said the College asks departments "to show evidence" that they are trying to allow the candidate pool to be filled with a wide variety of backgrounds.

In the end, Phillips noted that the forum displayed to all in the room the complicated nature of conducting business at Wabash.

"As I said that evening, these are complex institutional and community issues and different positions can reasonably be taken," Phillips said. "These positions should be thought through carefully and discussed in a way befitting the best of the critical thinking Wabash avows."

Watson Returns to Wabash from Down Under

GABE WATSON '13
STAFF WRITER

America can be a pretty cool place, I have to admit. But sometimes taking a step or three away from the land of opportunity lends some much-needed perspective to life. Living in Adelaide, South Australia last semester, I found the new viewpoint I needed.

Just to get a few things out of the way – yes, I got to play with kangaroos; and no, the toilets do not flush the other way.

Traveling abroad is always both enlightening and humbling, but my program, IFSA Butler, at least made sure I got there safe and pointed in the right direction. Once I came to terms with the fact that it was winter in Australia while my friends across the Pacific still lived in the summer, adjustment was easy.

Australian culture receives enough influence from the United States that fitting in would be easy enough even if the people weren't so incredibly nice.

In all honesty, getting settled could hardly have been easier. After getting settled in, I was free to explore the place.

As an Indiana resident for 19 of my 21 years on Earth, I understand how easy it can be to forget that a world exists away from cornfields and the familiar Midwestern American dialect. For anyone who finds this hard to believe, Oceania is waiting.

I scuba dived and surfed in Byron Bay, drove the 2000 kilometer coastline from Sydney to Adelaide, spent three days diving and snorkeling in Fiji, read more books than ever before in my life, participated in international Judo competitions, and generally made myself quite at home on the beach three miles from my apartment.

But in all honesty, the stories I made often weren't the important parts to me. Simply being in such a new and far removed place is mind-altering. It is nearly impossible to realize just how many people are on this planet until you start exploring it

and realizing that everywhere you go, you'll be greeted by new individuals. And unfailingly each one will seem like the nicest person you've ever met.

From street vendors who strike up conversations to Austrian bunkmates in a hostel – and yes, even some surfer dudes – the number and uniqueness of the people in the world is staggering.

Kurt Vonnegut Jr., an Indiana man like me, once said that every child should understand that his culture is not a rational invention: "There are thousands of other cultures, and they all work pretty well; [all] cultures function on faith rather than truth; [there] are lots of alternatives to our society."

He says this realization is a source of hope for him because "it means we don't have to continue this way if we don't like it." Knowing I was returning to Indiana after only five months abroad, I took this explanation to heart.

My re-entry to "the real world" of Wabash classes and serious athletic competition was definitely

a harder transition than moving abroad. It was tempting at the least to think my adventure was over. It took a slow readjustment to make me realize I was not the same person who left five months before.

When new perspectives change you, they don't just fall away when you return to your old view.

America has its perks. But if the advice of a self-seeking college student is worth anything, I recommend that everyone find some new perspectives in any way. The important parts of you always remain, and what's arbitrary gets shuffled. Without having this experience, it's awfully difficult to tell which bits are which. After a good shuffle, you are ready to take those big pieces and put them together just the way you want them to be.

Biggest Loser

the incentives will help to keep morale consistent throughout the competition.

"Most weeks we will provide a small trinket," Haklin said. "Last week we gave Wabash Wellness drink sleeves; tomorrow we will give a fresh apple. We also have some Nutrilite products to give them as we go along. We will give these as an incentive to come in every week to weigh-in."

Along the way, informational pamphlets will be handed out to assist weight loss. Additionally, Bradley has his office open to help participants and the Wabash community reach their health goals in hopes that the 97 participants will finish strong.

This first annual competition has many weeks to go, but it has already been a success with strong participation. Both Haklin and Bradley

are beginning to think about the next year and how they can get even more Wallies involved.

"What do you have to loose?" Bradley asked. "Are you happy with where you are at? If you're 100% happy where you are that's fine, but we're here to help people reach their goals."

Recovery

so many life-threatening accidents in such a small period of time.

"Needless to say this has been a rough few weeks for Wabash," Raters said.

"This is a caring community that doesn't want to see these things happen to our guys," Raters said. "It's another reminder of how fragile life is and how careful we all need to be, particularly when driving during the winter in Indiana."

Upon admission to Bloomington Hospital, Peacock's prognosis was unsure, but his recovery has been nothing short of remarkable.

"It's going about as well as it could possibly go," Peacock said. "According to some therapists at the rehab hospital, I won't need anymore therapy for my memory or the brain injury, which is pretty incredible considering we're less than three weeks out from the accident. I should be able to resume normal living in the next six weeks."

The news of Peacock's accident and injuries spread quickly around Wabash. He received many emails and messages from concerned members of the community.

"Everybody went out of their way to make

sure I knew I was in their thoughts, including people I didn't even know," Peacock said. "It's nice knowing I've got the entire Wabash community behind me. The support I've gotten has been pretty incredible. I probably won't be cleared for a couple of weeks to go anywhere without supervision, but anyone who wants to come see me at my parents' house is welcome to contact me."

In the case of Nguyen, Nguyen and Pham, who are from Vietnam, Raters outlined some of the difficulties involved with international students in emergency situations. A major complication involved acquiring precise information about the students' statuses in the hospital since some details can only be released to direct family.

"When situations like this occur in the middle of the night, I don't have every students' parents' contact information at my disposal at 3:00 a.m. without contacting [Director of International Students] David Clapp," Raters said. "So from 3:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, a lot of time and effort was spent trying to track down the parents' contact info. It was pretty complex, but Mr. Clapp has talked to their families."

Raters was able to share that Nguyen '15 has re-

turned to campus, and Nguyen '13 and Pham '14 are out of ICU and were expected to be released in a matter of days. He also shared some insight on the College's procedures in the more long-term future.

"My first and foremost responsibility is to determine how we help any of our young men on the health and support side," Raters said. "As they improve, we kind of morph into the academic side. With Jake [Peacock], here's a second-semester senior who I'm sure would like to graduate on time, but he's missed school so he needs to gauge the landscape of what he's looking at and let him decide if he wants to try and finish."

"Each individual faculty member has to be responsible for their own class in determining the course of action in these situations," Raters said. "Helping to coordinate all that is my job."

As the students recover start to get a sense of normalcy back, Raters reminded Wabash to take a sigh of relief.

"What we all need to focus on is that these guys are lucky to be alive," Raters said.

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M.I.A. Saves Madonna from Herself

Nearly 100 million viewers sat transfixed in front of their flat screens and chicken wings last Sunday night to watch the Super Bowl XLVI. As my fraternity brothers screamed at the TV and rooted for Eli Manning, I flipped through some post-structuralism reading. But I did free myself to witness the half-time show. Eager to see what Holy Mother Mary of Pop could do after a lengthy sabbatical, I was not surprised to see that Madonna's "Moves like Jagger" had slowed to a bizarre, off-beat, seemingly drunken shuffle. At 53 years old, her zesty black sequined leotard and effervescent persona drew the crowd in. Then "she" came like the black plague.

Barely recognizable and riding off a once major hit, M.I.A., a disgruntled attention seeker, turned this "classy" display of arts into a raunchy club-esque dwelling. In the heat of the moment, the pop star turned towards the camera and gave the millions of people watching the finger. In her cheap imitation of a Cleopatra gown, she stunned the world and officially pushed Madonna and her walker off the stage and skyrocketed into international infamy.



TYLER GRIFFIN '13
OPINION COLUMNIST

The incident incited hundreds of articles and, within minutes, took first place on Twitter's trending topics. Some praised her for her gutsy display of artistic license, but the majority of people hissed at her for being obscene and unlady like. Americans felt insulted that she would disrespect such a sacred and traditional pastime.

Just eight years ago, Justin Timberlake ripped off part of Janet Jackson's suggestive top and exposed her nipple. The boob seen around the world served as great material for countless parodies and catapulted both artists into the limelight. After CBS shelled out an impressive \$550,000 fine, the Federal Communication Commission set

some severe guidelines on the Super Bowl performance. M.I.A.'s young rebellious spirit got around these regulations and placed herself among the controversial and alluring artists of this decade.

Why was it so bad? The profanity that spews from the mouth of our beloved Wallies is far more toxic than her finger. "DePauw Swallows," our war cry against the inferiority of our neighbors just a few miles south, is far more damaging and insidious than M.I.A.'s cutesy gesture. Aren't trash-talking, provocative gesticulations and gutsy chants an inextricable part of a good sporting event?

I was not shocked or hurt by M.I.A.'s actions. I was more upset she stole the spotlight from my soon-to-be wife, Nicki Minaj. M.I.A. embodied what the Super Bowl is all about: courage, brawn, and surprises. By this time next year no one will be talking about Brady's yet again failed Super Bowl attempt but will instead be waiting to see if another artist will rise to challenge and outdo M.I.A. Now, let us take a moment of silence for Madonna's washed-up career and embarrassing notion of a comeback.

I.D. Bill Defends Critical Thinking

On Tuesday of last week, the Indiana Senate passed a bill that aims to provide legal coverage for science teachers who present "various theories concerning the origin of life" in public school classrooms. The bill does not require the teaching of any specific theories, but simply ensures that teachers (or the schools of teachers) who expose students to alternative explanations will be protected from potential lawsuits. One theory specifically named in the bill is "creation science." An idea that immediately thrusts many academic noses skyward with indignation, the introduction of this plurality of opinions should be heralded, regardless of one's scientific and religious beliefs on the origin of life (because all beliefs on this topic are inherently religious), as a potential crucial victory for critical thinking and liberal education.

While "creation science" may indeed bear strong implications of a specific underlying religious tradition, the proper name for Darwinian macro-evolution's most researched alternative is the theory of "intelligent design." True, the bill's terminology is troublesome, but the goal of a more comprehensive and critical inquiry into a question as profound as the origin of life is one that should be welcomed, not jeered, by academia. The excuse most often proffered for silencing criticism of evolution in public schools is that the only alternative is "religion," which supposedly has no place in a science classroom. What opponents of meaningful discussion on this topic misunderstand, however, is the problem inherent in the question which both evolution and intelligent design seek to answer.

The determination of the origin of life is fundamentally different than that of the chemical composition of a given compound or the terminal velocity of a golf ball. Answers to these lat-

ter questions can be reached through the scientific method-- conducting controlled and replicable experiments. No experiment, however, can show us how we came to be what we are today. Any answer claiming to be scientific, then, must acknowledge its inevitably provisional nature and that it is categorically less certain than other conclusions, such as the theory of gravity or that of the heliocentric solar system. Micro-evolution, the gradual adaptation of existing traits within species, is one of these empirically-verifiable phenomena, and has rightly earned its place as a foundational assumption of modern science. The idea that this process alone is capable of the miracle of abiogenesis and producing the vast diversity of the five kingdoms of life from a single cell, on the other hand, is a proposal that is impossible to test in the same way.

The second thing that public school administrators, teachers, and most politicians fail to recognize is that any answer to this question will have inescapable philosophic (and even religious) implications. If evolution, or any other completely natural explanation, is true, then we have good reason to believe that humans are the highest form of intelligence in the universe (or at least in our perceivable sphere of experience), and are responsible, ultimately, to no one but ourselves. If human life, and life at large, however, required a prime mover, then our role in the universe is fundamentally changed-- we must inquire into our relation to that entity, whether that entity is still involved in human events today, and whether (or how) our behavior should be affected by this knowledge.

Evolutionists, firmly-ensconced in the establishment of canonical Darwinism, claim that



REED HEPBURN '12
OPINION COLUMNIST

introducing interpretations of scientific data which point to any non-natural cause represents "mixing religion with science." If this interdisciplinary implication precludes a theory from examination in public classrooms, however, then evolution must be stricken from syllabi with equal alacrity. This rigidly-departmentalized educational policy is one which not only tragically underestimates the intelligence of our youth, but stymies an open-minded pursuit of the truth, conditioning students to accept only truths which come in convenient, clear-cut, black and white packages that never interconnect. Further, intentional silencing of dissent engenders a classroom of passive learners who take no agency in their own education, but simply sit back and absorb what is spoon-fed to them. This process is not education, but indoctrination masquerading as such. As scholars of the liberal arts and interdisciplinary learning, we at Wabash should applaud the efforts of these senators to ensure that our students are given the opportunity to think critically and pursue truths which transcend scholastic department and shed light on how we are to live as humans.

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Santorum's Wins Change Nothing

Former Senator's Big Night Far from Pronounced "Clean Sweep"

They don't count. That's the bottom line. Rick Santorum's campaign has made an impressive effort in the Republican race for the party's presidential nomination. However, he has no real wins and he surely did not sweep Tuesday night's contests. Sure, he has received the most votes in four states—Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Colorado—but these are false positives for the former Pennsylvania Senator.

Only one of the aforementioned states was a primary state. The other three were caucuses. There are several problems with his victories in each of them.

First, Missouri primary actually does not count, for real. Missouri, for Tuesday's results, will award zero delegates, none. Their 52 delegates will be handed out in March after another electoral process takes place. (And, let's think about the fact that Newt Gingrich was not on the ballot, meaning the anti-Romney voters who have always voted for Newt voted for Santorum along with all of the regular Santorum voters.)

The other problem is that caucuses do not seem to carry any real weight. Santorum won the Iowa caucus after a lengthy recount, but the news means so little nobody seemed to notice when the recount results were returned and Romney's apparent win was wiped away. And Minnesota and Colorado? Only 28 delegates from those states are bound to vote for Santorum at the Republican National Convention and six of them, despite Santorum running

away with vote totals, are bound to Romney. So, in the end, Romney only loses by 22 delegates, rather than what would be 128 delegates in a true sweep.

The other problem for Santorum is that he has only made waves in two states that Republicans care about—Missouri and Colorado, two states that Republicans consistently win that they cannot lose in 2012.

But Minnesota and Iowa do not matter. Minnesota has not voted for a Republican candidate since 1972 when they voted for Richard Nixon's reelection. In 1980, Minnesota was one of only four states to cast a ballot for Jimmy Carter, and in 1984, Minnesota was the only state in the Union that voted for Walter Mondale. (Washington, D.C. also cast a vote for Mondale, who Ronald Reagan defeated 525 electoral votes to 13 electoral votes.) And allow me to quickly make a statement on behalf of a good number of Republicans—If you voted against Ronald Reagan twice, you do not deserve to vote in the Republican nomination process. Iowa did not make the mistake of voting for Carter or Mondale, but they have only voted for a Republican once since Reagan, in 2004 when they voted for George W. Bush's reelection.

Plain and simple, Santorum has won the wrong states—the wrong states based on their respective processes and non-binding delegates. Republicans care about a handful of states—Florida, Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia—several of which a Republican has to win to become



ALEX ROBBINS '13
OPINION EDITOR

President. One of those has already voted, Florida. (Romney absolutely destroyed the field.) Two more take place on Super Tuesday and each of the other two in late April and early May.

Now, I will not count Santorum out as this race has taken so many odd twists and turns that I would not be surprised by the ultimate result. However, I would be truly shocked if Santorum won any of the five states I mentioned. His über-conservative politics won't play in these moderate swing-states and, I must think, that a Romney win in each of those states would effectively clinch the nomination.

So, in the end we are in no different of a place today than we were on Monday. Santorum still has less than half of the delegate count that Romney has and is yet to win a state we care about.

Iron Lady Should Be Next President

"You turn if you want to. This lady's not for turning." "If you just set out to be liked, you would be prepared to compromise on anything at any time, and you would achieve nothing." These two quotes by former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher show how she led as someone who stuck by her principles and did not flip-flop on issues. Her leadership style is why she is viewed as such a divisive figure in British politics even to this day. Thatcher was referred to as the "Iron Lady" because of the steadfastness of her beliefs and having no fear in

acting on those beliefs. This depiction of Margaret Thatcher gave rise to the title of the biopic film about Lady Thatcher titled *The Iron Lady*.

The film itself was done masterfully. The way the life of Margaret Thatcher is looked at in the film is very similar to that of Shakespeare's play *King Lear*. It deals with a very powerful political figure at the end of her life looking back on what she used to be. The movie starts with the old Thatcher struggling with her husband's death while having dementia. Anyone who has had a relative with

dementia will appreciate Meryl Streep's representation and realize it is spot on. The way that she has conversations with her dead husband, thinking that her son still lives in the U.K., and occasionally thinking she is still Prime Minister makes the audience members realize how this disease distorts the mind of even the most intelligent people. Let me be the first to say that I wish the movie would have focused more on her becoming Prime Minister and her as Prime Minister than on her as an old lady dealing with dementia. However, it is a great way to look at both sides of her life and gives an accurate



STEVAN STANKOVICH '12
OPINION COLUMNIST

representation of her life. Especially by using a disease like dementia, which makes memories more permeable and not stuck in time, it gives a very good segue to look back on her life.

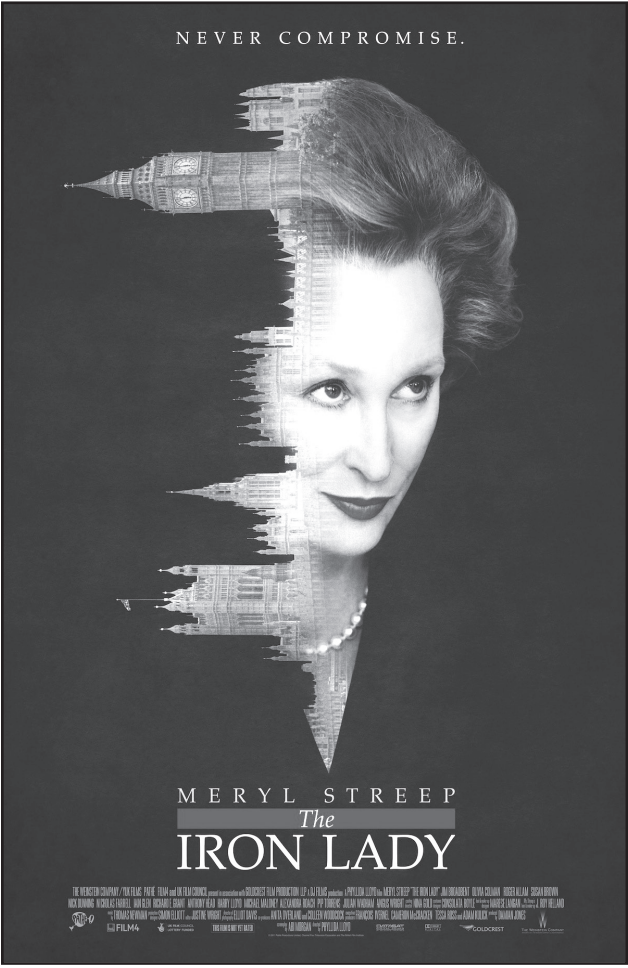
Streep's ability to act completely like a woman who has dementia in her 80s makes her worthy of an Academy Award on its own. However, her ability to also act as Prime Minister Thatcher is also striking. Anyone who has seen a speech or an interview by Margaret Thatcher would undoubtedly be able to confuse Meryl Streep with Thatcher. However, enough about Streep and how she deserves the Academy Award for her performance, and back to the focus on the life of Margaret Thatcher.

The movie depicts Margaret Thatcher as a devoted mother as well as a ruthless ideologue who stands by the principles she thinks is right for her country. She leads with authority and conviction in such a way that even makes members of her own party loathe her. However, her ability to lead is also what caused the economy in Britain to get out of its doldrums and caused her party to win a record breaking three elections in a row. Also, one has to respect a woman who came from the middle class and became the leader of a party of old rich men. Also her ability to manage cooking dinner for her family every night while being Prime Minister is remarkable.

If you are going into the movie

as a partisan, you will not like it. If you are a liberal, you will argue it is too sympathetic towards Thatcher and does not focus on her flaws. If you are a conservative, you will argue it does not show all her accomplishments and portrays her in a bad light. However, if you go into the movie having an open mind, you will see Thatcher as a person who led by her convictions and, as a result, sometimes went too far but was good for the country. And you will see the positives and negatives of her leadership style and her private life. If you look at Thatcher's life, you will also see that she was a stalwart conservative on economic international issues and a liberal on social issues by being pro-choice and standing up for gays in her cabinet.

Overall, the movie was very good, and from watching interviews and speeches by Thatcher, I would argue America needs the Iron Lady. We need a President who stands on principles and argues his or her point of view. If the Republicans could find the American response to the Iron Lady, that person would be the next president. However, if the Republicans nominate a moderate like Romney or Gingrich who has flip-flopped on every issue, President Obama will win. Come on America, elect somebody who stands on his or her convictions and does not blow with the political wind. That person will be able to put our country back on track like the Iron Lady was able to do in the United Kingdom.

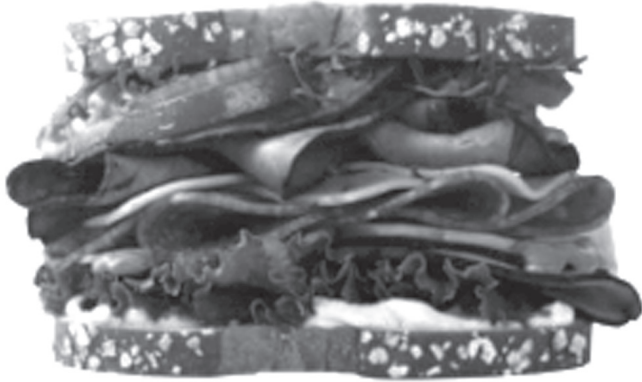


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Food for Thought from Dr. Hollander:

Would birthdays be more interesting if we celebrated them by counting backwards from the average life expectancy?

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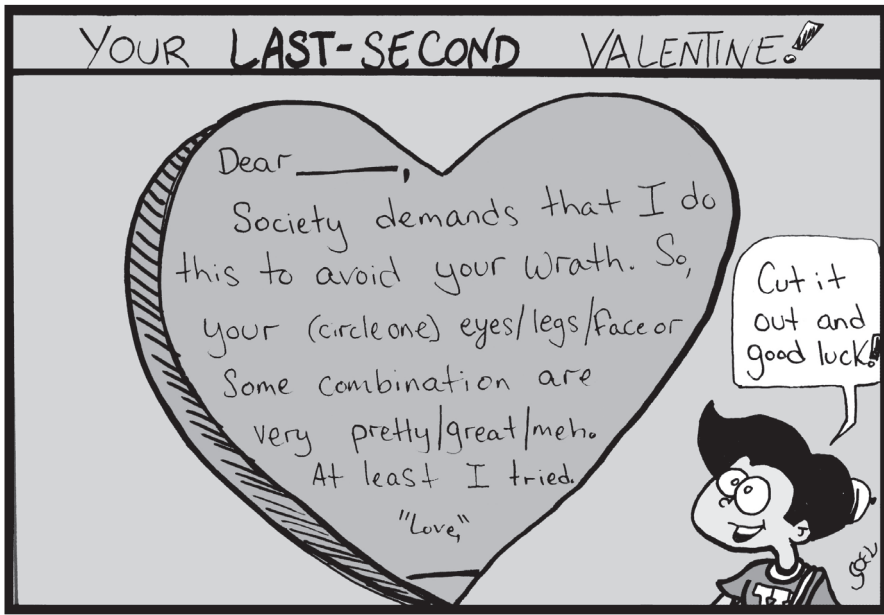
JOHN DYKSTRA '13
CAVELIFE EDITOR

An all-male campus can make the normal world seem exotic at times, and students can lose their understanding of normal social queues when it comes to dating. That can make for an interesting Valentine's Day.

Wabash students face the challenges of being a poor college student and trying to impress women on dates. For these struggling Wallies, the ramen noodle date is cheap and can easily be pulled off to save the romantic customs of Valentine's Day.

Do not get lured into buying Hallmark cards or chocolates. Be rebellious and be original. After all, Wabash men are made to think outside of the box, and conjuring up a cheap but successful date is no different.

For the ramen noodle date, all you need is a coffee maker, a pack or two of ramen noodles, and anything else creative. Embrace the humiliation for this date, because that is what makes it successful. The key to pulling this date off is your personality. Make it fun and lively and take pride in being a college kid. Honesty goes a long way, and there will certainly be more Valentine's Days in the future for you to go big or go



JOEL BUSTAMANTE | WABASH '11

A perfect example of underachieving on Valentine's Day.

home on. But for now, show your humor and be the college kid you are.

What girl would anticipate such an informal date for Valentine's Day? Well, it does not have to be informal. In fact, the contrast between informality and formality makes it fun. The ramen noodles are obviously the informal part. To formalize the date, find a card table and set it up in your dorm or fraternity room. You can even use a bed sheet (preferably a clean one) for a tablecloth. Add a candle to the equation, and this date can gain 'formal'

status through the eyes of a college student. Use a vase of flowers as the centerpiece, if you are an overachiever.

Making the ramen noodles is easy: simply heat up some water using a coffee maker, put the noodles into two separate bowls, and put a plate over each bowl until the noodles are soft enough to eat.

What makes ramen noodles ideal is how accessible they are; they are in just about every dorm or fraternity room—there's almost no need to leave the room for the night. Ramen noodles

are also very cheap and spare your nearly empty wallet. Heck, if you want to spice things up a little, buy different kinds of ramen noodles. For instance, Wal-Mart sells Chinese-style ramen noodles for only a dollar per pack.

Twenty-one year olds can purchase wine to complement the romantic environment. Since this is for college students, buy a cheap brand, aged a month; a 1978 bottle of Montrachet is out of the question. Wine glasses are ideal but not necessary.

As for music, play some classy jazz or slow orchestra to set the romantic mood. You can even throw in a dance here and there, or change the type of music to suit the mood you emerge into. If all goes to hell, have Puddle of Mudd's song "She Hates Me" on your iPod, ready for immediate use.

Something that will impress the lady when it comes to this date is wearing a suit and tie. Have her dress-up too. Or do not. It's your call.

What goes on beyond dinner is up to you.

The ramen noodle date is humorous, humiliating, and successful. The contrast between ramen noodles and a romantic setting should make this Valentine's Day one to remember. It's the gesture that counts.

SB Commercials Fail to Amuse

ALEX TOTTEN '13
LIFESTYLES COLUMNIST

For people forced to watch the Super Bowl who aren't fans of the game, I offer my deepest condolences. For fans of the sport, they couldn't have asked for a better game. Good triumphed over evil in glorious fashion, but for those who watch for the commercials, I understand how disappointed you were. This year's commercials were a grab bag of rehashed ideas, predictable clichés and overall not funny segments, unlike any year before it. Here are the winners and losers of the super bowl.

Winners:

Kia: Kia made a fun commercial with Matthew Broderick where he reprised his role as Ferris Bueller. Going through the day in his Kia, he rolled around town doing many of the things he did in Ferris Bueller's Day off, including riding roller coasters with small children and scaring people at the Natural History Museum. Unlike most of the hackneyed ideas that plagued Super Bowl commercials, this one was fresh, original and playful. The fact that it was promoting a KIA wasn't even in the forefront of the commercial; it was meant to entertain first.

Chrysler: Another car commercial winner, Chrysler brought in Clint Eastwood in a much more serious and impacting commercial. Usually these commercials are known for their entertainment value, but Chrysler struck at America's heartstrings with a motivation commercial about the recent downswing in the auto industry and its



COURTESY OF NOVA.COM

Mathew Broderick plays a grown-up Ferris Bueller for a Kia commercial.

return to form. "It's Halftime America" was a nice breath of fresh air after watching a series of very unfunny commercials.

Losers:

Coke: Coke decided to stay classic with not one, but two ads involving their trademarked Polar Bears. Not only is this ad unoriginal, even for Coke's standards, but it just simply wasn't good. These commercials detail the bear's tragic addiction to their beloved drink, to the point of tossing other bears around in order to preserve their precious ambrosia. They were tired and unfunny, with

dated slapstick humor trying to hold them up.

Any ad with a dog: It seemed like the theme for this year was dogs. I get it. I understand that the puppy bowl is super cute and you're trying to emulate that idea. First, please stop. The lead dog based commercial of Sketchers killed that chance for anyone with dog commercials. It was so bad, so unfunny, so cliché that I was taken completely out of the dog ads. The Honda commercials that came after just seemed tired. Wow, dogs chase cars, what a concept. Dogs can be funny, but they were over extended and underutilized this year.

Del Rey's *Born to Die* Worth a Listen

FRITZ COUTCHIE '15
MUSIC COLUMNIST

Elizabeth Grant recently released her second studio album under the guise of Lana Del Rey; the album is titled *Born to Die*. The album has achieved success; it debuted at number one on the UK and Irish Album Charts.

Del Rey sets a somber tone with the aptly named *Born to Die*. She describes her work as "Hollywood Sad-core," and she reinforces this description on the first track. The first track "Born to Die" sounds as if it was written exclusively for a touching scene in a tragic romance. Del Rey's voice is almost chilling over a down-tempo electronic beat. She transitions into the busier "Off to the Races," where she introduces a sensual aspect. She transitions into the busier "Off to the Races" where she introduces a sensual aspect to *Born to Die*. Del Rey's vocals are reminiscent of the '60s. She introduces an airy hiccup vocal creating incredible vocal contrast in one



COURTESY OF COURANTBLOGS.COM

Lana Del Rey mixes several genres and musical elements from different music ages in her album *Born to Die*

track. The third track, "Blue Jeans," emphasizes Del Rey's sultry voice with a soft percussion driven background. It is this track that cements

Del Rey as a hybrid between modern hip-hop and the Hollywood of old.

Lead single, "Video Games" is one of the most hauntingly complete tracks produced in recent memory. Del Rey manages to sound broken and still possess a smoky vocal quality, conjuring images of a neglected vintage socialite. Del Rey not only contrasts a faded Hollywood sound with modern domestic struggles, she perfectly contrasts low and high pitches to draw empathy from the listener.

Del Rey's fifth track marks a shift in the album. "Diet Mountain Dew" strays from the formula of passionate vocals over rich tracks and instead supplants it with an airy structure that leaves something to be desired. It is in the fifth and sixth tracks that she exposes the largest weakness of *Born to Die*. In the sixth track Del Rey turns hip-hop and raps over a calm beat. She spends much of the song forcing nonsensical phrases to rhyme in order to sustain the rhythm.

After listening to the fifth and sixth tracks, it becomes evident that she has room to develop as a lyricist.

The second half of *Born to Die* is plagued with mediocrity. Del Rey alternates between beautiful somber melodies and pop driven tunes. "Dark Paradise" and "Million Dollar Man" return to her bluesy robust sound. "Radio" and "This Is What Makes Us Girls" are an odd mix of a pop-driven, almost bubbly-beat, pouty vocals and almost empowering lyrics. The two songs may be well composed, but in the context of *Born to Die*, they do not fit and disrupt the albums continuity.

Overall *Born to Die* is an album that is worth a listen. It borders on greatness and inadequacy, and there is little doubt that the second half of the album will leave the listener desiring something more. Yet, Lana Del Rey's rich sound and engrossing tracks will captivate and move the album near greatness.

Wabash Knocks Off Witt

BRANDAN ALFORD '12
SPORTS EDITOR

After dropping five of its last eight games, the Little Giant basketball team was in desperate need of a big win. With conference-leading Wittenberg coming to town on Wednesday night, Wabash had an opportunity to get just that.

Led by sophomore Andy Walsh's hot shooting off the bench, the Little Giants got the win they needed, upending the Tigers 55-49.

Just as he did a week ago at rival DePauw, Walsh came off the bench to spark the Little Giants, scoring a game-high 18 points and hitting several clutch shots down the stretch.

"We have a lot of guys on this team who can shoot and we all have confidence in one another," Walsh said. "Those shots fell for me today."

While he played sparingly through the first half of the season, Walsh has played himself into a prominent role off the Little Giant bench. Against the Tigers he played 24 minutes and knocked down seven of ten shots from the field, including a 4-6 performance from deep.

Walsh headlined an outstanding bench performance against Wittenberg as the reserves nearly outscored the starters (27-28) for the game. The Little Giants also got big

shots out of freshman Kasey Oetting and junior Jordan Surenkamp who both came off the bench to hit big three pointers in the first half.

At intermission, the Little Giants led 26-19 in a defensive struggle, but were sparked by their shooting from deep. Wabash shot 43.5 percent from the field in that first half, but those numbers were bolstered by a 6-12 performance from three-point range.

Coming out of halftime, the Little Giants shooting touch cooled off, and the Tigers jumped out to a 9-2 run, erasing the seven-point lead Wabash had built. The Little Giants responded with a pair of buckets by senior Derek Bailey to regain the lead.

In a back-and-forth second half, one of the strongest performances by a Little Giant might have come from a player who only scored one point in the game. Matched up against the Tigers' leading scorer, Clayton Black, senior Nick Curosh rose to the challenge, holding Black to only five points on 2-7 shooting.

"We knew coming into the week, that guarding him was going to be a tough matchup," Curosh said. "The team isn't really expecting a lot of scoring out of me, but they know that I am going to eliminate the other team's big scorer."

And eliminate Black is exactly what Curosh did. Limited



GRANT MCCLOSKEY | WABASH '12
Senior Nick Curosh defends Wittenberg's Clayton Black in the post on Wednesday night. Black entered the game averaging over 15 points per game, but Curosh limited him to five in the Little Giants' win over the conference-leading Tigers.

to only seven field goal attempts, Black also only attempted four free throws in the contest, making one.

As the lead dwindled to two with less than six minutes to play, the Little Giants went back to Bailey, and the senior came up with another big basket from the short block area.

The senior finished with 15 points and five rebounds, hitting some big baskets when his team needed it.

But no basket was bigger than the one that came with less than 2:30 to play and Wabash clinging to a one-

See HOOPS, Page 8

Baseball Looks to Build Off Success

BRANDAN ALFORD '13
SPORTS EDITOR

Last spring was a season of firsts for the Wabash baseball team. The Little Giants won their first NCAC title as well as making their first appearance in the NCAA tournament, scoring an upset win over then-No. 1 Christopher Newport before being eliminated in the following game.

The Little Giants are looking to build off that success, counting on a nucleus of returning starters with plenty of experience. Wabash returns four position

players with at least three years of starting experience and a pair of pitchers from last year's playoff rotation.

Headlining this year's team will be five returners who were named all-NCAC performers a year ago. Senior first baseman is the most decorated of the bunch, having been named first-team all-conference, NCAC Player of the Year, All-Mideast Region first-team, and a d3baseball.com honorable mention All-American.

Senior Chris Deig and junior Montana Timmons were also first-team all-conference performers a year ago while senior Andrew Swart



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Senior Andrew Swart is one of eight seniors on this year's team and one of three four-year starters returning in 2012. The right-hander is just seven wins shy of the school record for wins in a career.

was named to the second team and senior John Pennington was an honorable mention selection.

Coach Cory Stevens returns for his sixth year at the helm of the Little Giant program with high expectations and higher hopes for a team that made a statement on the regional and national level in 2011.

"I think we have a group of guys that, while it was special to win the North Coast and make it to the NCAA tournament last year, are tired of talking about that," Stevens said. "That is in the past, and they want to move forward. The expectations are higher this year."

"The bar has been raised, and they expect to win the North Coast this year, and our goal is the World Series and a national championship."

Stevens will be leaning on an eight-man group of experienced seniors this season, including a quartet of captains in Swart, Pennington, Deig, and Jeff Soller. This year's seniors were a part of the first Wabash team to qualify for the NCAC tournament three years ago, and have gone every year during their Little Giant careers.

"I think we have great senior leadership," Stevens said. "In order for us to build upon last year's success, we are going to follow their lead throughout this spring."

Holm and Swart have had impressive careers in Little Giant uniforms as Holm already holds school records for single-season RBIs, career home runs, and career RBI's and Swart is within striking distance of the school record for career wins, only seven short entering the 2012 season.

That pair, along with this entire senior class, has raised the bar for incoming Wabash players, including this year's freshman class of 23 players.

"For our freshman, and younger guys especially, to look up at John Holm and Andrew Swart and see what they have done individually and for the team, I can't think of any better example than those guys," Stevens said.

While this year's group certainly has a wealth of experience and talent returning, there are several

See BASEBALL, Page 8

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This Weekend in Wabash Sports

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Saturday		
Wrestling	@ Midstate Conference Champ.	9 a.m.
Wrestling	@ Eau Claire Invitational	9 a.m.
Track & Field	@ DePauw Invitational	11 a.m.
Basketball	@ Kenyon*	3 p.m.
Tennis	vs. Westminster	5 p.m.

*NCAC contest

Wabash Lacrosse Building a Foundation

KYLE BENDER '12
STAFF WRITER

Even facing the loss of its coach, the Lacrosse team is still eager to begin their 2012 season. With an experienced group returning and a 14 game schedule in the newly-joined Great Rivers Lacrosse Conference, the club looks to take another step toward its bid of becoming an officially sanctioned varsity sport at Wabash. Those hopes were slightly altered Friday, when Larsen told the team that he had accepted a job at Rhodes College to become assistant football and lacrosse coach, effective immediately. As an intern with the Athletics Department at Wabash, Larsen helped the lacrosse program position itself so that it could officially join a conference. He was instrumental in creating a team website, wabashlax.webs.com, which provided avenues for alumni and friends of the College to help finance the growing program. Finally, Larsen brought a wealth of knowledge regarding the sport, having played and coached extensively. Assistant Coach Tim Cheek '10 will step into the vacant position. Cheek played soccer and lacrosse during his time at Wabash and has some prior lacrosse coaching experience. Last year, he was an assistant at Carmel High School and has attended Notre Dame's annual coaching clinic. He also coached the Wabash team during the fall portion of the season, when Larsen served as wide receivers coach for the football team. "It is going to be tough shoes to fill, because Larsen has a lot of coaching experience,"



Senior Jordan Ferguson competing earlier this year.

Cheek said. "He was a great mentor to me in the coaching aspect of lacrosse and I'm excited to step in and implement some new ideas and get the guys moving in the right direction. "This is really the first year we've had a full-time head coach, so our captains have always played an integral role in the team's organization. I'm just here to provide some direction. We have an extremely dedicated group of players who want to play college lacrosse and be competitive in the new league. The seniors are especially pumped because many of them have been in the program four years now

and want to see the fruits of their labor pay off." The warm weather during the months of January and February has certainly helped the team's early practice schedule. Instead of working in the Knowling Fieldhouse, the team has been able to transition outside onto the turf of Sewell Field at Hollett Little Giant Stadium. "Our team has put in the long hours during the offseason to ensure we will be in good shape at the start of the season," sophomore midfielder Spencer Peters said. "By conditioning over the offseason, more time can be spent later on the little things that will help win games. Right now, we have been able to get stick work in much earlier than past years." For many on the 30-man roster, the sport of lacrosse has become something they picked up while at Wabash. Most Midwestern high schools do not offer the sport, so a huge learning curve exists for new players. However, a sprinkling of players with past experience helps to combat these obstacles. "Freshman year, my pledge brother Andrew Fulton (Executive Assistant of the club) asked me to play catch in the front yard," Peters said. "I grabbed a baseball glove and he grabbed a lacrosse stick. I played football, basketball, and baseball in high school. The sport of lacrosse is sort of a combination of all three. As a midfielder, I often feel like I'm part of a 2-3 zone on the basketball court." For the first time, the team has a full slate of games and a complex in Mud Hollow Stadium that comes complete with lacrosse lines. The team officially opens its season at home vs. IUPUI on Saturday, March 17.

Baseball

From Page 7

question marks yet to be answered. The graduation of PJ Tyson, David Seibel, Joe Johnson, and Tanner Coggins have created four openings in the field, while Brian VanDuyne leaves a hole in the starting rotation. "We have some holes to fill," Stevens said. "Some of those young guys are going to make an impact early. I think a lot of those guys have made the transition to college baseball well so far. "We are going to be relying on those guys to come in and play alongside that great group of seniors." In the outfield, with Deig and Timmons returning, there looks to be one spot up for grabs. A year ago, junior Robbie Hechinger burst onto the scene late, playing a big role in Wabash's postseason run. He, along with sophomore Trey Fankhouser appear to be the frontrunners for that third outfield spot. On the infield, second and third base are spots that will need to be filled to replace Johnson and Seibel. At second, sophomore Ross Hendrickson and freshman Tanner Watson will battle for playing time. At the hot corner, freshmen Andrew Rodgers and Lucas Stippler will battle for time.

Behind the plate, sophomore Scott Kickbush and freshmen Tyler Hampton and Jeff Samuel could all see time. Holm saw innings behind the plate a year ago as Tyson battled an arm injury, so the possibility exists for him to play at the position as well. With Coggins' graduation, a void was left at designated hitter. That spot could be filled by a number of players, depending on how battles at individual positions play out. Fankhouser, Hechinger, and freshman Clint Scarborough are front-runners at that spot. On the mound, the Little Giants return significant experience headlined by Swart and Widup in the starting rotation. Sophomore J.T. Miller appears to be a strong candidate for one of the top three spots. To round out the rotation, seniors Eric Foust and Soller have plenty of experience and will battle for that fourth spot. Senior Luke Zinsmaster returns after serving as the closer a year ago. He could see time in the rotation or at the back end of the bullpen. The Little Giants open the 2012 schedule when they travel to Memphis, Ten. on Feb. 18 and 19 to face Rhodes College for a three-game series. The next weekend, Wabash



Senior John Holm has rewritten the offensive record books in his first three years at Wabash. The All-American will be relied upon heavily this spring.

travels to Montgomery, Ala. for three games against Huntingdon College. "We want to find out what our best combinations are during those two trips," Stevens said. "As a coaching staff, we have talked about 50 different combinations we can play on the field, so it's important for us to find out who our best combination is." Wabash will again enjoy a warm-weathered spring break as the Little Giants travel to San Antonio, Tex. for seven games in seven days.



Sophomore Andy Walsh knocks down one of his four three-pointers on Wednesday. He finished with 18 points

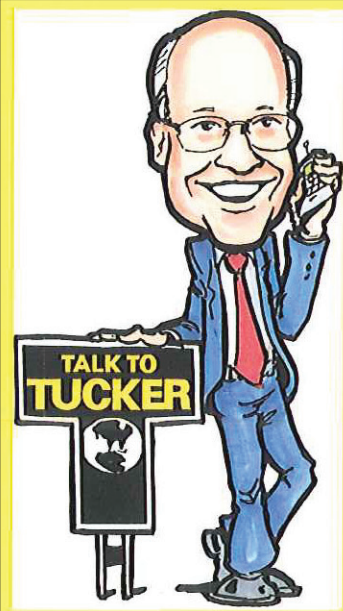
Hoops

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point lead. In a situation where the Little Giants likely were looking to milk some clock, Walsh found himself open in the corner early in the shot clock. Without hesitation, Walsh buried it, giving Wabash a four-point cushion. Wittenberg never got within a single possession after that. "I know that if I would have missed that shot, that it would have been a bad one," Walsh said. "But I had confidence in myself to take that shot, so I just let it fly." With three games remain-

ing in the regular season, the Little Giants are back in a position to earn a top-four seed in the conference. With a top-four seed comes the opportunity to host a first-round game in the conference tournament. The importance of that fact is not lost on the Little Giants. "Hosting is huge," Curosh said. "You could see it in the guys tonight, diving on the floor, getting loose balls. We didn't have that when we played Wittenberg in Springfield. We had a great turnout from the crowd, and it's a big boost for us." As the season winds down

with only two weeks remaining in the conference season, reality has started to hit this senior group. "I think you could tell tonight from the four seniors that we are trying to make the most of this last run for us," Curosh said. That three-game stretch begins on Saturday when the Little Giants travel to face Kenyon for a 3 p.m. tip. The final home game will take place on Wednesday when Wabash plays host to Ohio Wesleyan. That game will tip at 7:30 p.m. and will be the final home game for this year's four-player senior class.



Good Luck Tennis Team
against
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