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Presidential Search Offers Three Finalists



Wabash presidential candidate Richard Myers offered a straightforward, focused speech in the first of three presidential candidate public presentations held last week.

Myers is currently the Senior Associate Dean for the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Virginia. Prior to that, he was Director of Finance and Associate Treasurer, Chief Planning and Budget Officer, and Director of Budget and Financial Planning at Smith College. He has also worked at Williams College and holds a Ph.D. in Higher Education from the University of Virginia.

Myers touched briefly on what attracted him to the Wabash presidency. “Wabash is about people,” Myers said. “Wabash knows who it is ... and Wabash is clearly committed to access and diversity. Wabash sees these advantages not simply as reasons to celebrate but also as imperatives for action, to move forward, to innovate and to lead moving forward. Like most colleges today there are challenges ahead.”

He gave an intensive presentation exploring aspects of the future Wabash will have to address to thrive. “Wabash faces critical questions, the answers to which are going to define its future for decades to come,” Myers said. “It’s essential that the college grapple with these questions now. You can’t kick the can down the road. You can’t muddle through. That is not an optional for liberal arts colleges in the highly competitive environment that we find ourselves in.”

Myers focused on creating a competitive admissions processes to face changing economic models facing liberal arts colleges like Wabash. He mentioned potentially raising tuition and net tuition revenue, which are areas Wabash has been weak in compared to other prestigious colleges. “Institutions like Wabash are going to seize the moment to reposition

themselves in the marketplace, not to allow things to happen to them, but to take charge of their own future.”

Myers spent a great deal of his presentation on economic problems and plans for Wabash. He was forthcoming with these remarks and posed some difficult topics like cutting back operational costs, fundraising, and tuition.

After the heavy emphasis on the economics side of a liberal arts institution like Wabash, students posed many questions on student interactions and the personal side of Wabash. Myers was quick to quell fears that he would be too wrapped up in administrative efforts to be part of everyday campus life.

“I spent nearly twelve years at small liberal arts colleges, and my job there was the same as will be expected at Wabash—that considerable interaction with students,” Myers said. “I am focusing in on the economic issues in my talk because I think they are some core issues facing Wabash, not because they are the most important things to consider about Wabash. I don’t see the biggest challenges for Wabash being in the classroom.”

Other questions addressed diversity, the liberal arts curriculum, and the role of Greeks on campus. Myers assured the audience on hand he was drawn to a place like Wabash to help answer these questions and others.

Reporting by Scott Morrison ‘14

HESS

As the third and final Presidential candidate, Gregory Hess spoke in the Chapel last Friday night to a crowd of Wabash students, staff, and faculty. Hess presented his ideas for the future of Wabash and its place in the liberal arts in a talk titled “Wabash College and the New 3 R’s of Higher Education.”

Among many other ideas for the College both academically and fiscally, Hess proposed to replace the traditional three R’s of “reading, writing, and arithmetic” with “re-

sources, recruitment, and relevance.” To adapt new resources, he spoke of “a new era that relies less on endowment spending” and of “find[ing] new ways to support our education program.” He also asserted that “there is more urgency for Wabash to this economic challenge than you might think,” said Hess, whose doctoral degree is in Economics.

To improve recruitment of students, faculty, and staff, Hess advocated drawing from pools outside of Indiana. Wabash’s potential as a stand-out school in its niche, an all-male liberal arts college, is great if it can draw outside of and thus connect with the wider world.

ILLUSTRATION BY TIANREN WANG | WABASH ‘13

To maintain relevance, Hess took technology in the classroom as a viable option to connect with the outside world, but admitted that more research is needed to see if that is really how the College should allocate its resources. He also emphasized leadership and attention to the “important questions” of life after Wabash. Creating leaders who know how to define and answer these important questions is how Wabash stays relevant with the world.

Hess’s focus for Wabash is the cultivation of the whole student so that “Wabash College can be a focal point for this national conversation of how to transform guys to gentlemen.” He embraced the personal, traditional,

Presidential candidate

Roger Brooks and his wife, Bridget McShane, visited campus January 16-17. Brooks spoke to students, faculty, and staff last Thursday morning in the Chapel.

As part of the presidential selection process, Brooks’ speech

focused on why he is interested in becoming the next president of the College, his solutions to issues in higher education, and what the Wabash and Crawfordsville community could expect from him.

Brooks said he is interested in becoming the College’s next president because of the College’s approach towards education, its history and tradition, and its ability to define what it means to be a modern man.

“I want to be the next president of Wabash College for the same reason you are all here,” Brooks said. “At its core, Wabash College educates students through a series of high-impact practices you are all familiar with—small class sizes, immersion learning, and rigorous capstones. These pedagogical processes produce graduates who are interested in and prepared to take on problems of the 21st century.”

Brooks stated that demographics are moving toward fewer college-bound students. That trend, he said, will continue until at least 2017 and then slowly level off. He acknowledged that economic issues and

the rising costs of tuition have made it difficult for families to produce college-bound students.

Brooks argued that the current business approaches at liberal arts colleges and higher education cannot continue. He said Wabash needs to “identify and then protect the core of” its education while it creates “new entrepreneurial approaches to the liberal arts around it.”

Brooks does not view online classes as a solution to higher education. “Open the page of the chronicle of higher education, and you will see that the perception is that technology can collapse

the distance and hence bridge the gap between faculty and students,” Brooks said. “The technological solution does not match the problem at liberal arts colleges. I believe there is not much of a gap between faculty and students at Wabash.”

However, Brooks believes technology could enhance Wabash’s classroom environment. He suggested that the College could further improve its relationship with students by replacing sketchpads with iPads.

Brooks said the Wabash and Crawfordsville communities can expect him to bring his commitments and values with him. He talked about three of his commitments during his speech.

The first commitment he discussed was his devotion to personal and institutional integrity.

“Personally, I want you all to know that I am a man of my word,” he said. “I make decisions using evidence and I listen carefully. Institutionally, I will relentlessly seek the alignment of our programs and our action with our mission to educate men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely.”

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Students asked questions related to fiscal concerns, technology, student retention, Hess’s previous work with the Fed, fraternity life, the President’s role in curriculum, and diversity. In his responses, Hess emphasized his ability to ask the hard questions in business situations and an involved but not overbearing attitude with campus life.

Hess is currently Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs and a Professor of Economics at Claremont McKenna College in California.

Reporting by Gabe Watson ‘13

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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.

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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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Announcements

Friday, January 25
Celebration of Student Research Detchon Center 1 p.m.

Saturday, January 26
Board of Trustees Meeting

Basketball at Denison
3 p.m.

Monday, January 28
Internship Week Begins

Tuesday, January 29
IFC Meeting 11:10 a.m.

Student Senate Meeting
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 30
Experiencing Racism Discussion Sparks Center Student Senate Room 12 p.m.

Basketball vs. DePauw
7:30 p.m.

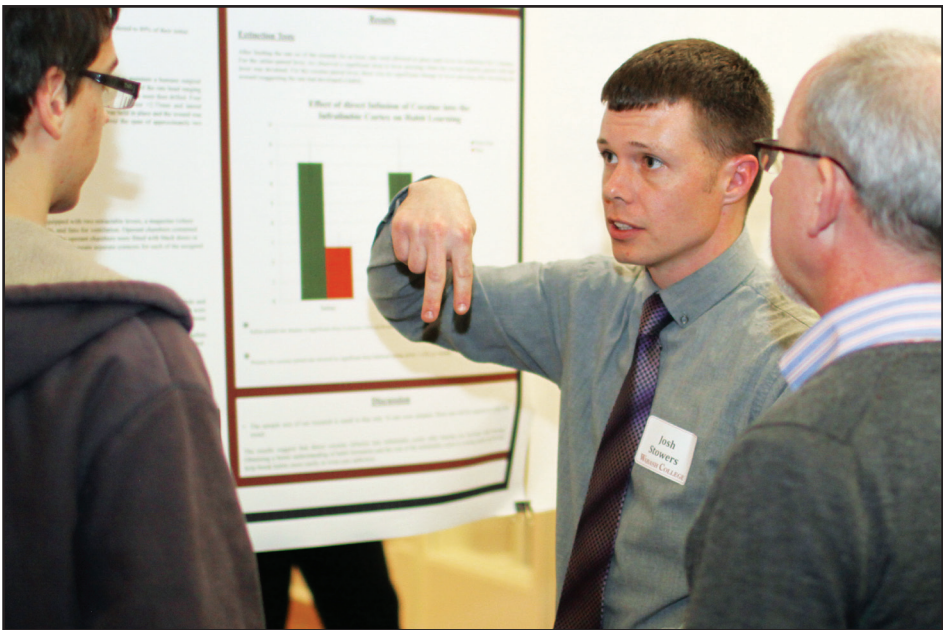
Thursday, January 31
Chapel Talk: Dr. Wetzel 11:15 a.m.

Students Showcase Variety of Research

PATRICK BRYANT '16
STAFF WRITER

Today, 95 students will be participating in the 13th annual Wabash Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work. The event,

which will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. in Detchon Center, is meant to showcase the collaborative work that comes from a school with very strong faculty-student relationships, Porter said. The event, for which afternoon



Students like Josh Stowers '14, above, have participated in the Celebration of Student Research over the past 13 years showcasing their research which is an integral part of Wabash's liberal arts education.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

classes will be canceled, will feature two types of presentations, oral presentations with a question and answer session and poster presentations. Porter said the Celebration provides an opportunity for students to present their work to their own Wabash community.

"This celebration does a number of things," chairman of the Celebration's planning committee Lon Porter said. "First of all, it allows us to take a moment and look at what's going on because I think sometimes we get very focused in what we're doing from a day to day thing, or just our [own work]. It's really amazing, I think, to bring this liberal arts model together and say, 'here's a way we can feed that intellectual curiosity that we have and think about what's going on across campus.'"

Today's Celebration provides the opportunity for biology major Kalp Juthani '15 to present work he did over the summer at the IU School of Dentistry Oral Health Research Lab. In his talk entitled "Relative Susceptibility of Human Permanent, Deciduous and Bovine Enamel to Cariogenic Challenges," he will be talking about his study of the

role fluoride plays in protecting enamel against a high concentration of acid. It means a lot to Juthani both personally and professionally to have a venue like the Celebration to present his research.

"Not only will it prepare me for presenting in the future, when I actually do present in front of larger audiences, it will give me a lot more confidence and it will give me some of the skill sets necessary in presenting in the future," he said.

A priceless part of the experience will be simply receiving feedback on his work from the various students and faculty Juthani interacts with on a daily basis but isn't necessarily presenting to if not for opportunities like this.

"I look forward to new reactions from fellow classmates as well as some of my own professors," Juthani said. "It's something that I would only get through [making] this presentation at a small liberal arts school."

An item of note for those looking to conduct research or explore a project over the summer is that the same committee overseeing the Celebration will also be providing research grants

See CELEBRATION, Page 3

Oware Explores Development of Rap Culture

PATRICK BRYANT '16
STAFF WRITER

In a talk given on Monday, Dr. Matthew Oware, a professor of sociology at DePauw University, discussed rap music, its origins and its effects, especially as they pertain to the masculinity of African-American males.

His talk was entitled "The Brotha Who Loves: Complicating Hegemonic Black Masculinity in Rap Music." In it, Oware said the idea of an urban culture that eventually lead to mainstream rap music came as a result of, starting around the 1960s, a loss of manufacturing jobs in factories that moved to more suburban areas or overseas. Access to quality education and the existence of quality health systems and social services suffered as a result and drastically altered the role of African-American males in their families, Oware said.

"The consequence of [a movement of manufacturing jobs] is you

lose a primary means for individuals to make a living," he said. "Some individuals, essentially to make a living, they turn to gang-related activities or engaging in illegal activities."

Since then, according to Oware, the role of African-American men has switched to that of a "provider" to that of a "player of women."

A crucial and devastating effect has been the loss of the family unit. Oware shared a speech made by then-Senator Barack Obama who said that fathers in the African-American community need to become men and stop acting as boys. Obama went on to say that the responsibility of a father does not merely end at conception.

The ideas of violence, subjugation of women, and disregard for the family unit, according to Oware, are certainly glamorized in the lyrics of many rap songs. After sharing examples of profanity-laced excerpts from songs, many of which included racial slurs, Oware

then shared excerpts from other rap songs which included appeals to family, a calling to provide for family, and the beauty of a child's birth. One of the issues, Oware said, is that what sells in

the market right now are the songs that glamorize ideas of violence, infidelity, and sexism, are consumed in many cases by young, Caucasian males. In

See RAP, Page 3



PHOTO COURTESY OF IAN BAUMGARDNER | WABASH '14

Dr. Matthew Oware led a discussion on Martin Luther King Jr. Day on the effects of rap music on African-American males.

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White Prepared to Help College Transition

JOHN DYKSTRA '13
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Presidential Search Committee has already submitted its recommendation to the College's Trustees, and the College will announce its new president within the coming week. Yet, President Patrick White is focused on performing his duties as president until his tenure ends.

White, who has been president since the 2006-2007 school year, is prepared to help with Honor Scholar Weekend, the College's plans for a new Lilly initiative, and the College's transition with its new president.

"Since I announced that I am going to step down, one of the things that has been difficult is that there is still a lot of work to be done," White said. "Some things might slow down a little bit once the new president is named, but I am still president until the end of June. Honor Scholar is coming up very soon, and I am helping plan a Lilly initiative that has a March 31 deadline."

White said the goal of the Lilly initiative the College is planning is to increase opportunities in Indiana for Wabash men after they graduate. The Lilly Endowment has realized that a significant amount of Indiana college graduates leave the state after graduating.

"In some ways, you may wonder how Wabash is going to help with that," White said. "We are trying to modify our internships and business leadership program in ways that

we can increase the entrepreneurial abilities of Wabash men. On the other hand, we are working on ways in which we can continue to foster the success we have already had in getting Wabash men internships in the state so that they know about the opportunities that are available."

The College has already received a \$50,000 planning grant from the Lilly Endowment and will have the opportunity to apply for a \$1 million grant in the future.

White will also travel often this semester to meet with alumni to help the College maintain its relationships with alumni after he leaves.

"I sort of do not like the notion of a farewell tour, but part of that is people wanting to say goodbye but also me wanting to nurture those relationships and hand them off to the next president as best as I can," White said.

White has been working with Dean of Advancement John Stern to help with the College's transition in relation to alumni relations.

White will also participate in other events on campus. He will give a talk at Wally at the Movies in February about women in film. He will also lead a Senior Colloquium discussion (on Thoreau's Walden) later in the semester with Visiting Professor of History and Religion Bill Cook.

White has not decided on plans for his life after Wabash. He has considered teaching again and volunteering.

"It might be quasi-retirement; it might be another position," White said. "I do not know yet. My friends



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

President Patrick White has many tasks to complete before the end of his presidency. He will work with Admissions in preparation for Honor Scholar Weekend and will help the College plan its new Lilly initiative. He will also meet with alumni throughout the country to help with the new president's transition.

tell me I am too young to retire, and people keep warning me about getting bored, but there is always work to be done, even if you are not getting paid for it. There is tutoring and volunteering, but being a good student of the liberal arts makes you curious about many things. There is stuff I would like to learn and there are certainly many books I would like to read. One of the real burdens about a move is that I have to move the books again."

White and his wife, Chris, are also uncertain about where they are going to live. Two of their children and all of their grand-

children live in Indianapolis.

"A very big part of our hearts does not want to be far away from our family," White said.

This semester will be difficult for White. Wabash has always been a place he holds dear to himself.

"One thing I am going to miss about this place is how much there is to learn," White said. "I have often tried to learn how Wabash shapes men into entrepreneurs and generally the men that they become. There will always be a lot to learn about at this College. It is a magical place."

Celebration

From Page 2

for the endeavors of collaborative work of students and faculty. Porter said he can be contacted for more information regarding that process.

Porter spoke of the rarity of classes being cancelled on the Wabash campus and he said it speaks to the volume of the campus's embracing the work of students.

"I think part of the liberal arts is having a love of intellectual curiosity and a natural excitement about learning," Porter said. "It's really just an idea to celebrate, come support each other, come enjoy yourselves, come learn, and see what the community has to share. I think that it's definitely worth taking a moment during a busy semester, to recognize that and support it."

Rap

From Page 2

many cases, rappers are forced to "appeal to market forces," he said.

The glorification of these is not limited to the rap genre though, Tyler Griffin '13, Chairman of the Malcolm X Institute for Black Studies, said. Griffin said country music videos often portray scantily-clad woman and emphasize a heavy usage of alcohol. The difference as it pertains to the African-American community is the fact that rap music is almost an obligation when one grows up in an urban area, he said.

"The same discussions that we take from rap we can also take from [country music]," Griffin said. "It's more pertinent to the black community because in the inner-city,

hip-hop, rap – if you don't know that stuff, you don't really survive."

What can be done begins with communication, Oware said. He said that he grew up listening to rap music, and although students should not stop listening to the genre, discussions need to take place.

"My major point is, even when we see instances of misogyny, sexism, and homophobia, it's complicated," Oware said, "[The rappers] are saying other stuff too. This is a complication; this is the complexity that we need to bring to the floor. I think it definitely needs to be critiqued, it needs to be discussed, but we also need to have a fuller picture."

Since the talk was meant to be a part of the College's and the MXI's

observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, Griffin said King would be sympathetic to the income inequality that exists in today's urban centers, but King would be extremely disappointed in the lyrics of rap music, especially the usage of racial slurs that King worked to take out of vernacular altogether.

"I think if Dr. King rose from his grave today, he would not only be fighting the injustice of the American economy," Griffin said, "but he would also be fighting people within his own community because unfortunately they are perpetuating [some of] the things that he fought against."

Brooks

From Page 1

Brooks also discussed his commitment to diversity and how diversity improves learning.

"Diversity experiences of every kind require all of us to stop to interrupt our habitual cognitive processes," he said. "Wabash College during my presidency would provide that sort of diverse environment because that is how we will be our very best."

To conclude his speech, Brooks emphasized his belief in shared governance and having frequent opportunities for conversation.

"I am committed to sharing governance to the significant personal and professional satisfaction that arises when people have not just an issue, but a genuine role in guiding the College," he said.

Brooks currently is Dean of the Faculty and Chief Academic Officer at Connecticut College.

Reporting by John Dykstra '13



PHOTOS COURTESY OF IAN BAUMGARDNER AND COREY EGLER | WABASH '14, '15

This weekend the next president of Wabash College is expected to be named. The Presidential Search Committee has already offered its recommendation after interviewing each of the three finalists. All three candidates, Richard Myers (top left), Roger Brooks (bottom left), and Gregory Hess (top right), came to campus last week for a series of meetings and interviews. The candidates met with faculty and staff, administration, and the student body to present their plans and strategies they would have if they were to be named the next president. Many students and staff were present at the student body presentations. These sessions made the search for the next president a campus-wide effort and offered a great deal of transparency to the selection and search process.

Leadership Summit Meant to Help Clubs

DEREK ANDRE '16
STAFF WRITER

The beginning of the new semester brought about a change in the student government administration, and with it a different way of leading off the semester. January 17th marked the first time the Wabash Student Government has hosted an on campus Club Leadership Summit for the Presidents and Treasurers of each club. This event was intended to serve as a starting point for the leadership of the Wabash clubs and as a time to have questions about the student government system answered by President Jeremy Wentzel and Vice President Seton Goddard. For Goddard, this event has been something that was appearing to become necessary with all the confusion that had surrounded the student government, and especially the budgeting process, in recent semesters.

"It had become clear to us that when people were attempting to turn in budgets, people weren't exactly sure how to go about it," Goddard said. "A lot of people were not doing it correctly and that was inhibiting their ability to get funding. What we learned was that there was a lack of education, nobody was being shown how to put together their budgets. This was a way to clear some of that up."

Although much of the meeting centered around the budgeting process and how the use of p-Cards works, there were also portions dedicated to how to maintain membership, use a listserv, and arrange for the use of a room for a meeting or event. The student government even invited Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton to come and discuss how to effectively run a meeting, a discussion which later morphed into how the students of Wabash can become more involved with the town of Crawfordsville. This latter portion of Mayor Barton's presentation was something that Vice President Goddard had not intended to happen, but felt fortunate that the subject had been brought up.

"A good part of having him [Mayor Barton] there was that it led into a discussion that was led partially by him but also by students who wanted to know more about what they could do to become more involved in the Crawfordsville community," Goddard said. "That was kind of an unintended component but it ended up being a really good opportunity for those who wanted to get more involved."

The Wabash Student Government has, in the past, had difficulties with the budgeting process on the whole. Clubs would submit a budget to the AFC improperly or would subsequently have items or money removed from their final budget with little reasoning given. This is something that the Leadership Summit, along with a new budgeting process and a more hands on approach from Student Government leadership should help to prevent according to numerous club Presidents and Treasurers.

"I think it was really useful because historically leaders of clubs have been exposing loopholes that student senate hasn't been able to address," College Democrats Treasurer George Vinihakakis said. "I feel that the current leadership is taking a real hands-on approach to address these issues and this approach should certainly be reflective of decisions that will come from them."

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Social Media Breeds Narcissism

In December 2012, I deleted my Twitter account. I had about 120 “followers”. In April 2011, I deleted my Facebook account. I had about 900 “friends”. Some may call me a counter-culturist, others a progressive (I prefer anti-hipster). Those are all titles and labels that I reject, much like not associating with a political party (even though Ted Nugent and I could high-five over gun-control ideas). I simply reject social media, and I am proud of it.

I haven’t always thought this way. I used to love Facebook, especially when I got to college. Facebook helped me stay in touch with everyone from my high school, and it helped me pretend people still cared. Also, I was an avid tweeter. I was a big fan of the sarcastic and funny tweets and accounts like Goldman Sachs Elevator. My original idea in deleting Facebook was that I did not want the distractions heading into finals week. I would get lost in the status updates, the debates about things that did not matter, and the funny pictures from last Friday night for hours. Deleting these social media accounts worked too. I received a great GPA for my hard work that semester, and my preparation during finals week was definitely a part of that.

I deleted Twitter for a whole different and much more cynical reason. And here, is where this article gets juicy.



SCOTT CAMPBELL '13
OPINION COLUMNIST

Some people blame politicians for the state of our country, others blame our gun control policies, some blame the lack of a functioning welfare system, etc. Well, I blame social media. It has tricked my generation into thinking we are important.

Our generation sucks; it really does. We have accomplished very little. The United States has tricked itself into thinking our problems actually matter. Our problems consist of whether we are going to have chicken or steak for dinner and what College or University is going to be the best fit. Haitians and Africans wonder if the mosquito bite they just received contains malaria. People in Afghanistan wonder which car on the side of the road has a bomb in it. We do not have problems; we just think we do.

I blame this on social media. Social media allows individuals who have profiles to be the celebrity in their own lives.

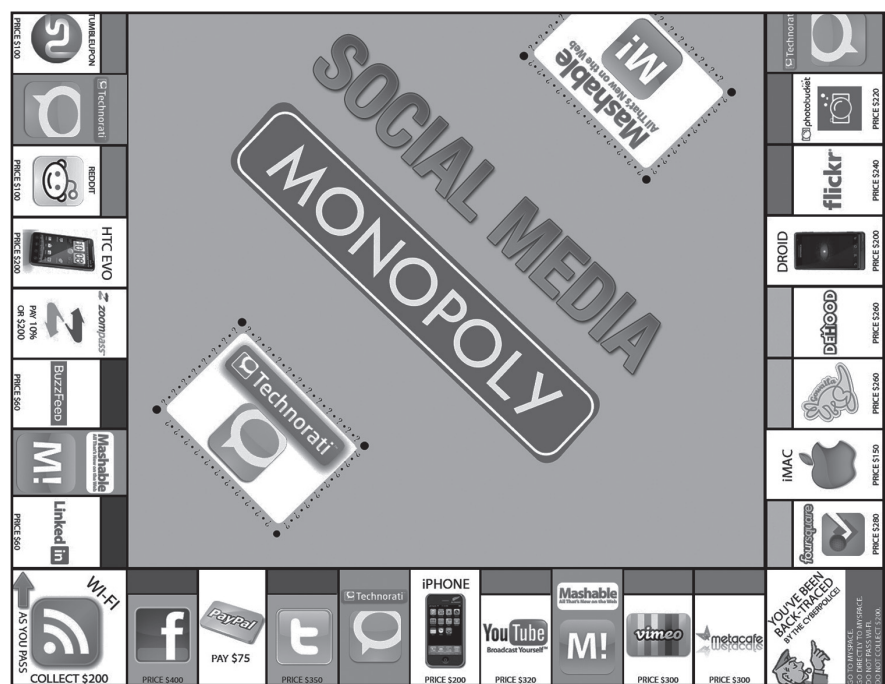
In Twitter, you have “followers”. This means that a person has agreed to follow your life and whatever it is you care to tweet about. Do you re-

alize how crazy that sounds? I used to follow one of my high school buddies that went to IU. I really did not care what he did or had any interest in actually “following” him. The only reason I followed him was because it felt cool to hear about the parties he tweeted about attending.

On Facebook, I used to be friends with all the cute girls from my high school or those brave souls that had come to Wabash to party. We were not really friends. I doubt Susie Lou actually knew who I was or that I was only her friend to look at what pictures she had. But guess what, Facebook said we were friends, so we have to be, right!

If you thought that, you would be wrong. My generation needs to stop falling into the trap that technology can replace things in our lives. You cannot live a life through World of Warcraft (this has correlation to sports video games, where you can “create a pro”). Just because you have Facebook does not mean that you have 1,000 friends. And just because you have Twitter does not mean that there are 200 people that actually care how boring you found your first class of the day. We have bred a generation of narcissists. This narcissism is tearing this country apart limb by limb because we actually think we are important, and we’re not.

The sad part is that there is science to back this up. People in our



Courtesy of RITZHOLD.COM

Social Media has evolved as a powerful tool for human “interaction”. Are you addicted?

generation are more likely to say they are “gifted” than ever before. The Huffington Post, in their infinite wisdom, has described my generation as “everyone feels super special about themselves”. My generation is less likely to have a religion or believe in God, thinks they are entitled to more things, and believes they are the “best” more than the previous two generations (according to “science”).

What this means, I don’t know. I like to believe science and all the conclusions they come to find. But my generation is often cited as finally

overcoming the ideologies that persist in culture wars, and we are more likely to participate in service work than other generations. I would hope to think that these are good things. I just hope my/our/your generation is in for a reality check so we can fix the problems that social media has created.

If you think I am wrong, you are surely entitled to your opinion. Maybe I am simply too cynical, and our generation really is doing great things. But don’t let that get to your head.

Christianity Brings Costs of Learning to Light

As a Christmas gift, my grandmother sent me several works by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German theologian, political activist, and martyr. While titles by Dr. Bonhoeffer were not on my Christmas list, I will admit that my grandmother knows her grandsons and literature both very well. I am sure that some of you are much more familiar with the life and work of Dr. Bonhoeffer than I am, but already after reading a few pages and the introduction to “The Cost of Discipleship,” I am no less than astounded by the resonance of Bonhoeffer’s work to the College we call home.

Bonhoeffer, a man who was executed after years spent in a Nazi concentration camp for his political voice against the Reich, writes in “The Cost of Discipleship,” about the nature of



Courtesy of UMC.ORG

Dr. Bonhoeffer coined the terms “Costly Grace” and “Cheap Grace”.



STEPHEN BATCHELDER '15
OPINION COLUMNIST

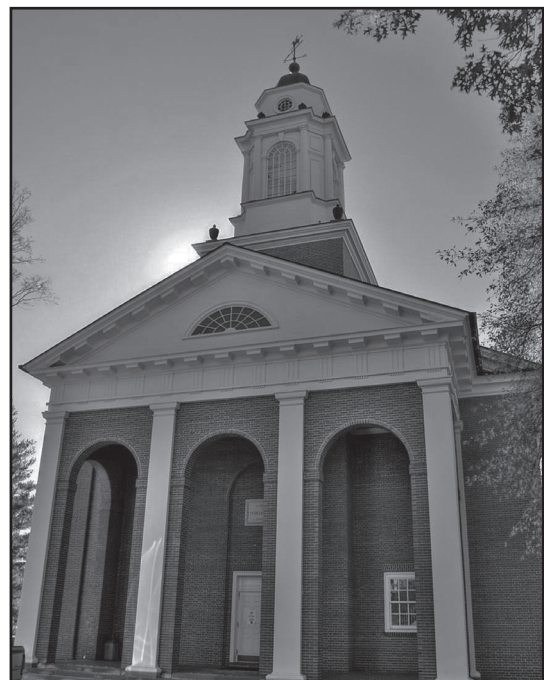
a working Christianity. To Bonhoeffer, Protestant traditions, especially, have rested their confidence for centuries on justification by grace through faith. As a result of what Bonhoeffer calls “cheap grace,” a so called Christian is free to carry on with his Sin filled, unrighteous life. This “cheap grace” does not merit a strong hold in Christian thought. To Bonhoeffer, the very idea of the gift of God’s grace is laden with a responsibility that first calls the Christian to follow Christ and secondly to participate in the often times uncomfortable work of Christ. This two fold responsibility, much simplified in my words, Bonhoeffer calls “Costly Grace.”

Now, if you have read the above paragraph and are tempted to put down my column in fear of being taken on another Christian crusade, please stay with me. The reason I discuss in brief Bonhoeffer’s work is because I believe that his ideas mirror nicely something of our own dilemma as a college. After spending a few days at home this break, I was struck that of my three closest high school friends, only one was still enrolled in college. Not that I find this as a reason to lose trust and compatibility with these dear friends, but realizing this helped me understand how often I view undergraduate education

as routine. In many areas of the country, a college education may seem commonplace, but in a small northern California town like my home, the opportunity to attend a state college even an hour away is limited. In light of this, I wonder if I should consider more deeply the “costly” portion of an education and our how that “cost” pertains to Wabash College?

As per the “costly” aspect of an education, on whole there is much more to be said than what this column can discuss, but I hope you will humor a reflection or two. In large part, higher education is a gift, or a grace of sorts, that begs men and women into a life of service to the learning of high ideals and virtue. This service is accompanied by the heavy burden of the tuition statement, intensive course work, and social commitments. These stones we all are familiar with, but more so I believe that before these burdens should come the often-misplaced commitment to the high ideals that a university attempts to instill in its students. As a student of the humanities, I often find what I study uncomfortable, not only in its rigor, but also in that what I learn calls me into a sense of duty to act upon what I have been taught. I don’t think this sense of duty is exclusive to students of humanities, but across all disciplines accompanying the knowledge we receive often as a gift are callings to then do something with what we have learned. It is only a matter of neglect that when enlightened by the high ideals of an education to not see also a world in need.

Now, I will close with a few meditations on Wabash. I want to refrain from discussing the Wabash Man, because I feel the “costly” and uncomfortable work of a disciple of high ideas extends to all who are employed and associated with this, not college, not exclusively



Courtesy of BLOGSPOT.COM

Does Wabash’s education worth the “costs” in which Dr. Bonhoeffer alludes too?

its undergraduate members. Wabash teaches a life committed to effective leadership, acting responsibly, critical thinking, and humane consciousness. To say that the life of the college is built upon and maintains such a bold statement, is in itself not something to be taken lightly. Dr. Bonhoeffer followed these same principles to his own torture and martyrdom. As we welcome a new year and a fresh semester that will no doubt be driven by change, I find it especially important to focus on the cost of what we will learn. How we answer the call that this college asks of us will determine how we can be of service where service is needed most.

Call-Out Lunch for *The Bachelor*

When: January 30, 2013 at 12:10 PM

Where: Second Floor of the Sparks Center

Who: Anyone interested in writing for *The Bachelor* including Cavellife, Opinion, News, or Sports

ATTENTION

Gabe Watson '13 has ended his term as Editor-in-Chief of *The Bachelor*, and John Dykstra '13 will be serving as Editor-in-Chief of *The Bachelor* for the spring semester of 2013.

Inauguration Sparks Media Scrutiny

Ode to America for having such wonderful traditions. As we commemorated the life of Martin Luther King Jr., Obama spent another nippy morning in Washington swearing to protect our constitutional rights confirming his second term. No matter how right you are, everyone was left with feelings of patriotism as hundreds of America flags flapped proudly in the wind of the nation's capital. However, America was not the only one vying for the limelight that day. Our faithful media, rather than focusing on the inauguration as a time honored ceremony, seemed to be preoccupied with a yawn, a rolled eye and inaudible lips.

While her father ignited the crowd with fiery words regarding the need for better education, little Sasha Obama let out a gaping yawn. The camera managed to pan out and catch her as she tried to clap away her fatigue, but it was too late, the tweets began rolling in. Bloggers lobbied for her to attend etiquette workshops and some lambasted her for ungratefulness. Also, how many of us at that age were so eagerly concerned with politics, sitting on the edge of our seat with round indulgent eyes hungering for a premature national agenda. To think a yawn could garner so much attention is

Sasha wasn't the only Obama to receive unnecessary attention from the all-powerful American media lens. What they are now calling the "eye roll seen around the world" Michelle Obama apparently rolled her eyes as



TYLER GRIFFIN '13
OPINION COLUMNIST

House Speaker Boehner spoke at the inauguration luncheon. Reports can't seem to understand what would illicit such a response, but my response is as follows, who really cares? Why are we bringing in body language specialists to analyze how Michelle was eating her food? Is it a sin for a First Lady to dislike somebody?

Yet, the real media star of the 2013 inauguration was Beyoncé Knowles for her now highly controversial singing of the national anthem. Minutes after she finished, every media outlet praised it as the classiest display of talent ever bestowed upon the song. However, after the spokeswoman from the U.S. Marines reported that Beyoncé lip-synched the song, everyone from ABC, CNN, New York Times to Fox News rushed to get on the Beyoncé-gate scandal at Washington. Soon the Marines sent another person to the press to nullify the claims, but it was far too late. Beyoncé's squeaky-clean image and prestige has now been cast into scrutiny. However, she is set to perform in front of the biggest audience in

the world, the Super bowl Halftime Show, and some are left wondering if this is a publicity stunt.

Does any of this really matter though? So Sasha snuck in a little expression of fatigue. Michelle for a split second managed to be human and outwardly express her disdain for a politician who has fought her administration from day one. And Beyoncé, along with the Whitney Houston, Mariah Carey and even Michael Jackson may have lip-synched to preserve her vocals in strenuous conditions? Shouldn't we be celebrating the inauguration itself? The inaugura-

tion is one of the rare moments in history in which the transferring or the continuation of power is met with no violence or fury.

Obama should be dancing alone in the spotlight of the media for again creating history. His speech served as the first inaugural address to include the struggles of LGBT folks and a desire to create equality for those that have been denied their human rights. He cited Stone Wall riots, along with the March on Selma and Seneca Falls, as one of the premiere places that led a people to fight valiantly for their civil rights. Obama goals reso-

nate with much of America and their growing trust in same-sex love. The momentum has shifted and no matter how many nuggets are dunked into a zesty sauce, Chick-fil-A supporters are quickly dwindling. Obama's courage is the real hero of the day, not Sasha's yawn, Michelle's eye or even Beyoncé's powerhouse vocals. All the single ladies and men who have waited so long to "put a ring on it" will hopefully be able to do it in their home state with another influential blow to the homophobic regime thanks to the inaugural address.



President Obama thanking the crowd after finishing his second Presidential Inaugural address.

Courtesy of SALON.COM

Dying Professions Need Attention

Over winter break, I got to head back to working at the old bowling alley. First off, I absolutely love working here during high school and on short breaks. It's a simple, enjoyable job. While I was working at the snack bar, the manager's husband, Brian, was working in the kitchen. He is in his sixties had had a successful career as a blue collar, high school educated machinist.

Brian worked on the production of parts for airplanes and such at a factory for almost all of his adult life. He earned a very good living, enough to support his 6-person family and retire early.

While business was slowing down, he asked how school was going at Wabash. Of course, I said it was the most magical place in the land. He asked what I was doing after Wabash, and I gave him the whole law school-helping people bit. Out of this conversation, we got on the topic of the multiple dying professions in the world.

Many professions like farming, machinery, and other blue-collar jobs are experiencing a decline in individuals looking to work in these fields. There are numerous factors that contribute to this decline. Possibly, individuals might not have the skills to work these particular jobs anymore; people might see these jobs as too much work for little pay, or any other factor you can think of that contributes to the decline.

However, I would argue that the most important contributing factor to this decline is the current culture of the United States that you must attend college to get anywhere in life. We need to have a post-secondary education to provide for our families, but at what cost?

Now, I am not advocating that college is only reserved for the select few. I am just implying that college isn't for everyone, and that is okay; our society needs to accept this fact. Going straight into the work force, military, or vocational school is just as important to the



JACOB BURNETT '15
OPINION EDITOR

stability of the economy as attending college. I have respect for people who are skilled in construction, farming, and other hands on professional skills that I lack.

I can't think of a time where I saw an advertisement, getting advice, or being encouraged to not go to college. I never felt pressured to attend college, but I never felt comfortable with the thought of not attending college. I love college, don't get me wrong, and I believe that I made the right decision to come to Wabash. However, I would hate to be a student who doesn't feel comfortable in a collegiate atmosphere and failing.

Neither one of my parents earned a post secondary education. My family does experience economic troubles, possibly due to, but not limited to, their lack of education. However, my mom will tell you that school wasn't for her, and she had to rely on other skills to make a living. Therefore, she works as a Home Healthcare Aide working with elderly people who can't help themselves. Before that, she worked at Steamatic cleaning up after houses flooded or experienced any other damages. My mother is a perfect example that college isn't the only option after high school.

Admit it, you sometimes look at people and bet they didn't go to college and judge them for it. The emphasis on the need to be educated definitely influences the way we view people who decide college isn't for them. Now, is the time to change this culture.



Courtesy of CENTIVES.NET

Farming is a dying profession in America. A discussion needs to happen to identify the reasons for this downfall before it crushes our economy.

Armstrong Comes Clean

"I'm deeply sorry for what I did. I can say that thousands of times."

After over a decade of smoke and curtains, the truth is finally out: Lance Armstrong used performance-enhancing drugs as a professional cyclist. Meanwhile, Oprah managed to market the huge reveal in a bigger and better way than LeBron sold his decision to take his talents to the sunshine state.

As an avid Lance defender over the years, I'm obviously devastated that I've incorrectly placed my faith in an athlete that has cheated the sporting system. I had read each of his books, researched the facts of the USADA testing program and their case against him, and watched far too many videos of his more celebrated stage wins. For years, I knew the ins and outs of his defense against doping claims.

But in the after-math of Hurricane Lance, I've been struck not by the wrongful possession of seven yellow Tour de France jerseys but instead by the fates of cancer patients around the world. While any doper's coming-clean story shakes the foundations of sports, Lance's secret shook a very different set of foundations for me.

While Lance's betrayal of the sacredness of sport is certainly disturbing, I am much more perturbed by his interactions with ailing cancer patients.

Through his work with The LiveStrong Foundation, Lance has been encouraging hurting individuals for years. While we can't deny that he has impacted the lives of many patients over the years, I shudder at the method he employed.

In the books he's co-authored, Lance mentions how he's used his own recovery from cancer as an example for others. To patients bed-ridden from treatments, he's said some form of the following: "If I can do it, so can you. I went from a hospital bed like yours all the way to the victor's stand of the Tour



RYAN HORNER '15
OPINION COLUMNIST

de France all by myself. You can still reach your goals too, if you just fight back." Oh, and take PED's, because in reality, I didn't make it to the podium on my own. I had to cheat.

Now, I understand that regardless of the lies, he still encouraged thousands of patients. But to stare a bald, chemo patient in the eye and blatantly spout fallacies, takes a special kind of fraud.

Perhaps I'm just too familiar with the situation. As a senior in high school, my stepfather was diagnosed with cancer. In the following weeks, I reread every Lance book I owned, and when my step dad finally lost his hair, I stressed to him that life would eventually return to normal. I needed to believe in that, and so did he. My stepfather, with chemo-weakened arms, dreamed of someday bench-pressing 300 pounds again, and I reminded him that if Lance could dominate post-cancer, so could he.

Today, there are thousands of cancer patients that would like to believe that they can return better than ever to their dreams and goals. This week many of them lost a hero, and some may have even lost the hope of a normal life after cancer.

To me, the true tragedy of the Lance Armstrong scandal lies in his mistreatment of the hopes of countless cancer patients, not the undeserved Tour wins. While he will be remembered mainly for seven certain yellow jerseys, we can't forget an equally big portion of his crime: giving false hope.



Courtesy of NONEXISTE.NET

This is an obviously photoshopped picture of Lance Armstrong. Our society has encouraged winning at all costs, so where do we draw the line?

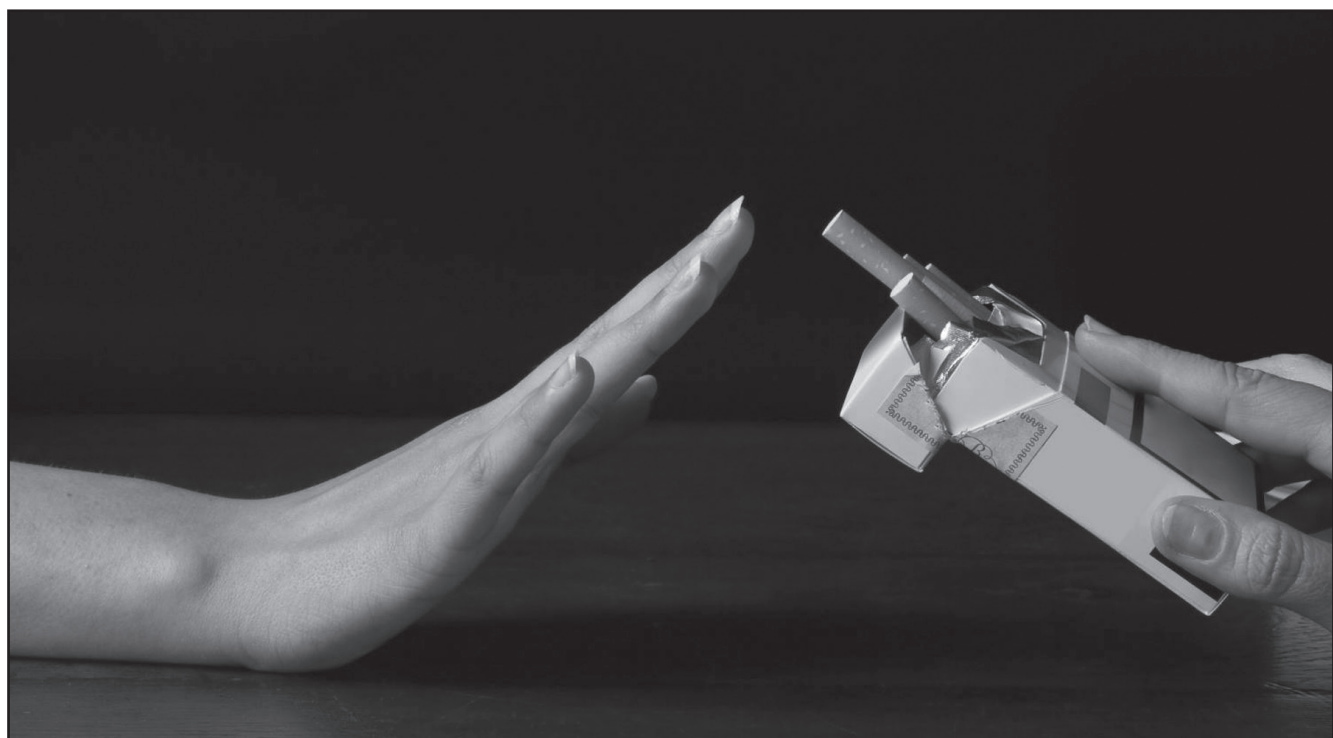
The Joys of Quitting Smoking

ALEX TOTTEN '13
CAVELIFE EDITOR

I was a weird case in high school. I took the hardest classes and excelled at them, my teachers liked me and knew me to be a fine student, I was the captain of my school's academic team, and I partied all the time. It seems like an anomaly, an ace student by day, and a deviant indie rocker by night, smoking and drinking with my friends in condemned houses, open fields, and warehouses. But there I was, defying stereotypes, the nerd that plays video games and wins at quiz bowls, partying and drinking since he was fifteen. By seventeen, I was a smoker, but I knew I didn't always want to be.

It's a horrible habit to pick up, but it's so alluring. The coolness of your peers, mostly my friends, smoking cigarettes and not caring for the consequences. When I was seventeen, I bought my first pack. An older friend bought it for me, but I had it tucked away in the bathroom in my house's basement. Each night, I would sneak outside and have one, Parliament lights; I was completely classy. The high nicotine gives the smoker, at first, is simply wonderful. I still remember winter nights, sitting in the snow and puffing away, waiting to get numb. For those who've never smoked, it relaxes your body and gives you a sweet mellow feeling. It's nice. But I would smoke one a day, no more, and it wasn't even that consistent.

But slowly, I would start smoking more. Senior year, I started partying in downtown Indy with some of my older friends. I would find myself at their house every weekend, playing beer pong and smoking cloves or American Spirits. I started hanging out with other smokers, and we would smoke every day after school, and, leading up to coming here, I was fully entrenched in it. I knew I didn't want to be a smoker when I left, but, while I was here, I was going to smoke. I made some of



COURTESY OF HYPNOTHERAPYANDMEDIATION.COM AND MYSMOKESHOP.NET

Quitting smoking has been put in the same sphere as quitting heroin and alcohol. If you're trying to quit, seek out a medical professional for help.

my closest friends smoking outside of Center Hall and Detchon, talking about class and readings and new cigarettes. But, over break, I decided to quit.

As any smoker knows, nicotine addiction is pretty rough, and the withdrawal can be bad. I decided to wean myself slowly off of cigs. I started at 6 a day for a week, and worked down until I won't need anymore. As I write this, I haven't completely quit yet. It's difficult. This weekend I didn't smoke at all. I was horribly tired, and, weirdly enough gassy. Nicotine is amazing when it comes to regulating the GI tract, making it work better. Without it, my body is a touch lost. It's been annoying, but nowhere close to how bad it can be. But the cravings are constantly on my mind.

As I write this, I want to go outside and have a smoke. I've been told that these invasive thoughts will continue for half a year after I completely stop smoking. It's hard to bear, honestly. If I don't keep myself constantly occupied, my mind



slips to smoking. It's a siren's call of smooth, full-flavored tobacco. But the worst of it has yet to come.

I'll probably hit my peak of withdrawal sometime in the coming weeks, where the symptoms will surge hardest as my receptors cry out in pain for sustenance. In terms of quitting and withdrawal, cigarettes

usual ranks with Heroin and Alcohol in terms of difficulty to pull off, with some studies putting cigarettes at the top of the three (Alcohol withdrawal has been known to kill people, so if that's indicative of the severity of this withdrawal). So, we'll see how it goes, and hopefully I'll graduate without cigarettes in my life anymore.

Winter T.V. Rebounds with Premiers

FRITZ COUTCHIE '15
TELEVISION COLUMNIST

With a new semester comes new television programming, this winter offers a diverse range of programming that may appeal to the average Wabash College student. Listed are three programs which endeavor to explore and demonstrate different types of inter-personal relationships, in a way that is entertaining and often funny.

MTV continues to produce addicting trash-television with its new stylized-reality program "Buckwild." "Buckwild" airs in the same time slot as former MTV show "Jersey Shore" and capitalizes on the similar themes of sexual tension, drunken mistakes and roommate complications. "Buckwild" highlights the lives of a group of friends living in the back country of West Virginia. In addition to the drunken dramatized tomfoolery, there is an element of "Jackass" to the show. The "Buckwild" friends have created a swimming pool out of a dump truck, rolled down a hill in a tire and set fire to an empty car. Senator Joe Manchin, of West Virginia, requested that the program be removed from the MTV network for the way it portrayed some of the youth in a letter. "This show plays to ugly, inaccurate stereotypes about the people of West Virginia," Sen. Manchin wrote. Those ugly, inaccurate stereotypes create great television for those looking for mindless entertainment. "Buckwild" airs Thursdays at 10 PM on MTV.

New this season, "The Americans," airing on FX, promises to be one of the breakout shows of the season. Starring television regulars, Matthew Rhys (Brothers and Sisters) and Keri Russell (Felicity), "The Americans" aspires to challenge the typical American view of the Cold War. The show is set in 1981; Rhys and Russell play a set of Russian spies posing as a typical suburban-American married couple named Philip and Elizabeth. Elizabeth, a strong Russian patriot, worries that Philip and her kids are too enamored with American culture;



COURTESY OF SCREENCRUSH.NET AND REMOTELYINTERESTING.WORDPRESS.COM

Bottom: Community has gained complete cult status, known for its great cast and witty writing. Top: The Americans comes to the table with a fresh idea, based around sleeper agents during the cold war.

while Philip seems to believe that in order to maximize his ability as a spy, the family must be fully immersed in the American way of life. From the beginning of the season, it is apparent that the relationship between Philip and Elizabeth will reflect certain elements of the relationship of the U.S.S.R and the United States of America in 1981. "The Americans" has been largely well-received by critics who praise it for having the right combination of action, pace and plot with a great musical score.

Returning for a much anticipated fourth season, "Community" pre-

mieres February 7 on NBC. The show has attracted a cult following during its first three seasons that refused to allow the show to be canceled despite every indication that NBC would pull the plug after season three. The show returns without its former creator and executive producer, Dan Harmon, after a squabble with network executives. Harmon was, by all accounts, a hands-on producer, so it will be interesting to see if the show takes a new direction after his departure. The main cast returns though; which includes established stars, Chevv Chase, Joel McHale, Yvette

Nicole Brown and Jim Rash, as well as rising stars, Danny Pudi, Gillian Jacobs, Ken Jeong, Alison Brie and triple-treat Donald Glover. "Community" places these actors portraying a mix of community college students and faculty that spend much of their time together trying to get out of the community college phase while making the most of their time there.

So, returning and premiering shows have promise in terms of creativity, innovation, and potential. Check out these shows, rot your brain and tune in,

Modern Propaganda, Egregious Portrayals

ALEX TOTTEN '13
CAVELIFE EDITOR

This Monday, the Air Force published an article on their Air Force Global Strike Command website about Dr. Martin Luther King and his ideals put forth in this "I Have a Dream" speech. An example of profound oratory in a time of great speakers, the "I Have a Dream" speech is pedagogical and truly ingrained into America's consciousness to the point that most of you can hear Dr. King's voice reading off the opening lines as I write this.

What could have been a piece in reverence of Dr. King turned out to be not only illogical, but unethically incorrect.

Monday was Martin Luther King Day, prompting this piece I'm sure, and it would have been swept into the thousands of other pieces on the issue that were published on Monday if it weren't so egregiously incorrect. The final paragraph is such.

"Dr. King would be proud to see our Global Strike team - comprised of Airmen, civilians and contractors from every race, creed, background and religion - standing side-by-side ensuring the most powerful weapons in the U.S. arsenal remain the credible bedrock of our national defense. . . Our team must overlook our differences to ensure perfection as we maintain and operate our weapon systems. . . Maintaining our commitment to our Global Strike team, our families and our nation is a fitting tribute to Dr. King as we celebrate his legacy."

So, what stands out is that the author of the article is commending the Global Strike Team for being ethnically diverse and able to do their jobs while overlooking their differences. That is simply fantastic, that these people can overlook their differences to do their job, but it, in the same breath, is exploiting the legacy of Dr. King and his message of nonviolence.

As many may recall, Dr. King was an advocate for racial equality, but by means of non-violent actions. Civil Disobedience, where he and his advocates would perform peaceful marches, sit-ins and boycotts, in order to make people take notice of their cause, were his weapons, and to say that Dr. King would be proud to see that their group is racial diverse is completely ignoring the fact that they are a facet of war and destruction.

Dr. King is being exploited, his image thrown onto something that he would not have supported. As one of the 20th century's greatest non-violence advocates, next to Gandhi alone, it is doubtful and foolish to think that he would have supported the idea of war. A man who said, "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom," hardly sounds like someone would support the AFGST in their bombing campaigns.

The DoD and the Marines were fast to jump into the train as well; publishing an article about how King would support the war and tweeting a King quote about dying for something. I hardly think that King's advocacy of non-violence would leave him wanting to support the wars we are currently engaged in. These are all exploitations of his message, and they are propaganda of the most heinous form, he himself seen as a threat to the government in his time, now being used as a tool of persuasion against his ideals. Tragic, really, that on his day, he can be made to play the part of his opponent unwillingly.

U.S. Action in the Emerging Mail Stage

With France Entering the Fray, Should the U.S. Step into the Battlefield?

NOAH EPPLER '16
WARTIME COLUMNIST

Monday of last week, rebel forces in Mali, which almost every popular media outlet currently describes as “Islamist,” (a term I do not care for) overran the city of Diabaly (located in central Mali) with the intention of advancing to the state’s capital Bamako. This prompted the French government to launch an invasion in Mali later last week, of which French President Francois Hollande stated that the intervention will not cease until “political stability and an election process” were fully restored, and “Islamist” groups are “wiped out.” The French intervention in Mali led to a hostage situation in Algeria, in which foreigners were kidnapped last week Wednesday and held in an In Amenas gas factory. Tragically, the hostage situation continues with approximately twenty-three dead, with seven hostages killed in the stand-off between Algerian Special Forces and the kidnappers that occurred last Saturday. Among those dead included Abdul Rahman al-Nigeri, who was believed to be the leader of the al-Qaida splinter group responsible for the kidnappings. The number of total deaths and the nationalities of those hostages who have died fluctuate, but it is evident that among those dead include one American.

In light of all these recent events, coupled with the apparent resolve of the French President regarding the invasion, it is obvious that this event is anything but fleeting. The tantalizing question is this: what role should the United States play in the events that will follow? Few can reasonably dispute that US superiority in the international arena is a central reality of current foreign affairs, and how the US decides to act in this situation will influence the outcome.

For those who believe that we should join France and combat these “Islamists” without haste, I chasten you with this: The US has already

invested a remarkable amount of resources into developing Mali as a bulwark against Islamists, all of which backfired against us last year when a rebellion that began in the north of Mali led to a coup that overthrew the Malian elected government. The majority of the Malian forces that the US cultivated defected when they were needed most, preventing the US from quelling the insurrection.

The most poignant and painful part of the whole scenario was that the coup was led by a Malian army officer named Captain Amadou Sanogo, whom the US lavished with special training. Sanogo utilized the extensive knowledge he gained from our programs to demolish years of US and European work in preserving Mali’s delicate democracy. It is certainly safe to say that the US has a history of clumsy handling of fragile situations.

At the same time, one American has died in the unfolding Algerian hostage situation—a fact which will inevitably put immense pressure on the Obama administration to become directly involved. Whether or not it is ethically justified to risk and possibly sacrifice more American lives because of a single death is subject to debate, but the unraveling circumstances will almost invariably spur the US into taking action.

Why is this event significant? Once again, it appears that the US may again directly involve itself in the seemingly perpetual war against Muslim extremists, and while on the surface it seems necessary for the US to exploit its global presence in order to combat these “Islamists,” our track record of cumbersome decision-making and blatant ignorance, both of which evolve into blunders such as Sanogo, calls into question our efficiency. For now, the best that we citizens can do is educate ourselves to the dynamics of the global arena, instead of allowing ourselves to remain complacent behind our high brick walls in our insulated and isolated community.



COURTESY OF SMH.AU.COM AND ENGLISH.FRI.AU.COM

The two combatants in the Mali conflicts, the French Military, featured above, and the Islamist Mali insurgents, featured below, are poised to make battle for the control of Mali. Should the U.S. enter this conflict?



Defense Against A Deadly Flu

KEVIN KENNEDY '16
CONTAGION COLUMNIST

The flu season is upon us yet again. While many of our friends and family members get sick, we often wonder how or why it is happening. How is the virus spread? Why is this year particularly bad? How can we protect ourselves?

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the flu is primarily spread in the air through respiratory droplets. In fact, these droplets can spread up to six feet away! Another way that the virus can spread is by touching an object which has the virus on it, and then touching your face or mouth with your hands before washing it. As for how early it can begin to spread, healthy adults have the capacity to be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5 to 7 days after becoming sick. In children, the virus can be passed on for more than 7 days after being sick. This, in theory, means that one student or one worker at a business or school could potentially start the infection in their office

or school and that it could run amok for weeks. On top of that, each worker or child would go home and spread the virus there. It could also be spread at shopping centers, sporting events, and anywhere else you could imagine.

The truth as to why this year is worse is hard to come by. In an article published in the St. Louis Business Journal, Dr. Ronald Kennedy, a professor at Saint Louis University was only able to give one potential cause. In the article, he hypothesizes that it may be because people do not get the vaccine they need. A large amount of people choose not to get the vaccine for various reasons. Some are deathly afraid of needles. Others are just afraid of doctors. Some don’t believe they need it because they have already gotten through multiple flu seasons and been perfectly fine. Also, some people are just against the idea of vaccines, seeing them as a potential risk instead of a helping hand. Finally, the most interesting excuse is that some people say their immune systems don’t need the help. They believe that their immune systems are strong enough on their own.

The easiest way to protect yourself is to get the vaccine. It is not that expensive. In fact, many campuses and businesses offer free flu shots for employees to prevent sickness from breaking out. People should take advantage of these opportunities. Also, good hygiene is very important. Washing hands repeatedly during the day is a fantastic way to lower your risk of infection. Finally, if you are sick, institute a personal quarantine as much as you can. Don’t go to class or work. Stay home, rest, recuperate, and then get right back at it. The seasonal flu isn’t something to be afraid of. With a little common sense, and a little knowledge, we can all get through this flu season easily and without much fuss.



COURTESY OF SMITHSONIANSCIENCE.ORG

Flu Mist is becoming a more convenient alternative to conventional shots, which totally hurts.

Diemons Shines in Debut Album

ADAM SOSHINICK '13
MUSIC COLUMNIST

Despite a vocalist lacking a stable range and deep roots in a beaten to death genre, Diemons feel genuine in both spirit and at their attempt to be an incarnate of a hard rock band popular years ago. Inspired by classic horror films and novels, the Canadian five piece takes the theme to heart, differentiating their work from the usual spiel, but the idea ends up a little too tongue in cheek for their videos, particularly “Get the F*** Outta Here.”

It’s no doubt a nice throwback to the cheesiness the ‘80’s constantly pelted listeners with, but the apocalyptic imagery quickly gets old and poses the question: how long can a

band rely on gimmicks before their fan base jumps ship for the next big thing?

True to the musical pomp the guitars lay down, any cheese is hastily devoured, and the pursuit of the ‘80’s seems less vain. Diemons’ sortie against a decade littered with throwbacks and imitators is admittedly tough—considering the absence of a prevalent female front woman in any metal era (aside from Doro)—but sassy, almost prissy vocals save The Bad Pack from the dreaded bargain bin at the local music store. Gritty and vitriol, particularly in the tougher to reach higher range, Priya Panda saves the band from a slow, forgotten death among sound-alike after sound-alike.

It’s hard not to mistake Diemons for another generic ‘80’s rock band

with track titles like “Lil’ Miss,” “Loud ‘n’ Nasty,” and “Trick or Treat,” even if further inspection yields death, destruction, and madness. Nevertheless, Diemons’ sleaze connection remains strong enough that, if you aren’t paying attention closely, you’ll mistake the lyrics for some far out sexual innuendo. Whether or not the band intended their lyrics to be interpreted that way is another story. But, in any case, the songs are fun, care-free, and subconsciously hummable.

Not all glitters are gold, however, and *The Bad Pack* sacrifices any hope for thinking outside the box in favor of standard guitar riffs and song writing. There’s a real sense of mediocrity looming over a few songs on the record, namely the midsection-cutting the track listing short by a song or two might rocket the record to the top of the year’s best of lists. “Left for Dead” sounds as its title would suggest, and “Overboard” hints at the overdone three chord progression every hard rock band since the caveman discovered fire uses as a crutch when throwing that last minute composition together.

Rather than revamp their sound entirely, Diemons’ future path should include a push toward inconspicuously wandering outside their comfort zone. By established definition, hard rock is an extremely limited genre and pushing to stand out is tough, barring using a female vocalist as a provocative object. Instead of using Priya as a center piece, the band should concentrate on bettering their music. Either way, though, *The Bad Pack* is a decent first full-length and cuts like “Take on the Night” and “Get the F*** Outta Here” are damn fine songs worthy of only the best modern revival bands. The delivery is good; all Diemons need to do is crank the volume knob past 11 and rock the house.



COURTESY OF SCREAMERMAGAZINE.COM

Diemons, seen here, looking clearly like an 80’s hair band.

Swimmers Aim To Take Conference

FABIAN HOUSE '16
STAFF WRITER

This week you may have noticed a lot more dress suits, sharp ties, and smooth slacks than normal for this time of year. The Swimming & Diving team has decided to dress for success leading up to their meet this Friday. Each member is required to dress in professional business attire during the day. The team hopes this attire will translate into success in the pool.

The seriously competitive nature reflects the goal of many of the Wabash swimmers to post strong finishes at conference. The team swam intensely over the past few months in preparation for the second half of the season. The Tankers are coming off of a winter break in Florida that sophomore Matt Fouts, mid-distance and distance swimmer, experienced for the second time. "Going down to Florida is a pretty good change from Indiana," Fouts said. Do not be misled into thinking that the warm Florida conditions meant long, lazy days on the beach for the Tankers. The annual trip to the Sunshine State was anything but restful.

"For the most part we go down there and we do two practices a day for the whole week," Fouts said.

The Tankers introduced a new member of the swimming team:

Zechariah Banks, a freshman transfer student from Indiana University. Banks is adjusting to Wabash life with the aid of his teammates. Banks swam the breaststroke leg in the 200 Yard Medley Relay of the team's winning performance against Franklin College last Friday.

The Tankers swam at a nearby middle school swimming pool because Franklin did not have one available. This adjustment was just one that freshman Arturo Granados had to contend with that night. Granados normally swims the 100 and 200 Freestyle, but swam his off events at the meet in preparation for the NCAC championships in Canton, Ohio. "[The goal was to] diversify for the 200 in conference and use it as a training experience," Granados said.

In the past week, many of the swimmers began tapering and dropping workout distances in practice. Chris McGue'16 swam in the winning 400 yard freestyle relay and placed second in the 200 Yard Freestyle.

"I think we feel pretty confident about conference. We can do good things," McGue said. "Since each individual for the swimmers qualifies for conference, the goal is to send a few relays to the National Meet. I hopefully will be on one of those relays. I don't know which one yet."

Earlier this month the Tanker's

competed in St. Louis, Mo. There they competed against a tough competitor in Washington University. The two lone first place finishers from Wabash in that meet were sophomore Aaron Troyer and freshman Elliot Johns. Both competitors dominated the 100 and 200 yard distances, with Troyer winning both backstroke events and Johns taking the 100 and 200 in the Freestyle. Top finishers included sophomore Carter Adams, who garnered two second place finishes in the 100 and 200 Butterfly, and Banks, who finished third in both the 100 and 200 Breaststroke.

The weekend meet will be a tune-up for the seriously competitive Tankers. While the team is predominately made up of underclassmen, that does not stop them from dressing professionally and focusing on improving in each meet. With the addition of talented freshman Banks, the Tankers are even better positioned for a strong conference finish. More important to the team is adding experience and sending individuals, or a few relays, to the NCAA Championship meet.



COREY EGLER | WABASH '15

The swim team has set its sights on the last home meet of the season this Friday

Burton Stays Close To Home, Continues Success

DEREK ANDRE '16
STAFF WRITER

On the surface, Freshman Austin Burton doesn't seem any different from any other Wabash Basketball player. The 5'10" guard has played significant minutes for the Little Giants this year as they continue to utilize the young players on their roster to fill holes in the roster left by last year's graduating class. Burton even started in the last home game for the Little Giants. What makes Burton unique, however, is that these home games take place in his hometown.

Burton is a 2012 graduate of Southmont High School and has grown up playing the game of basketball in and around Crawfordsville. Burton, who began playing basketball for his school in fifth grade, has always had the desire to compete and saw that he would have an opportunity to do so at Wabash. And while some may think that staying so close to home would affect his college experience, Burton says this is not the case.

"I don't think it's a lot different because I stay on campus most of the time and I've only gone home maybe three times," Burton said. "I had never been on campus as far

as living here so I still had to get used to that. But going into town is nice because I know my way around better than anybody else."

Despite beginning the season a weak later than his teammates due to football, Burton stepped in and began making contributions to the team almost immediately. In only his second game as a Little Giant Burton logged eighteen minutes and scored five points. These efforts did not go unnoticed by Head Coach Antione Carpenter.

"Since joining the basketball program, Austin has done a tremendous job and has helped in multiple ways," Coach Carpenter said. "First, we love his competitive spirit and toughness. He plays very aggressive on both ends, offensively, he can handle the ball, knock down the open jumper and has the ability to get to the rim and score."

Like all Wabash Freshmen, Burton has had to go through the struggles of his first semester at Wabash. Burton, who plans on being a biology major, said he has done "decently well" in his classes this semester, which include the infamous Biology 111. While Bio 111 has received a reputation as one of the more difficult classes at Wabash, Burton said it's not

impossible. Burton is also considering a psychology or religion minor.

While Burton has had to make the transition from high school to college in the classroom, he has had to do the same on the basketball court. And although the transition has been somewhat difficult, Burton felt that it should work out in the long run.

"Obviously [college basketball] is a lot quicker [than high school basketball]," Burton said. "Guys are a lot taller and stronger so you just have to adjust your game. But to play at the collegiate level you obviously have some skills and talent, so once you get adjusted you should be fine."

The basketball future for Austin Burton looks promising. He has only participated in four games as a Little Giant but has already established himself as an important part of the Wabash rotation. To Coach Carpenter, Burton's future is a bright one.

"As all of our players, we expect him to continue to improve every asset of his game," Coach Carpenter said. "I would say his basketball career looks bright as long as he puts time and effort to get better."



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Freshman Andrew Burton elected to stay close to home for college and athletics. His success has continued and he does not regret his decision

This Weekend in Wabash Sports

Friday:		
Swimming	vs Ill. Wesleyan	6:30pm
Saturday:		
Track	@ Rose Hulman	12:30pm
Swimming	@ Kalamazoo	1:00pm
Swimming	vs Hillsdale	1:00pm
Basketball	@ Denison	3:00pm

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Big Challenge Awaits Seasoned Wrestling Squad

BEN BRADSHAW '15
STAFF WRITER

After returning from Christmas break a few weeks early to prepare for the rest of the season, the wrestling team is eager for the competition ahead of them.

The team returned to campus around the first of January in order to prepare themselves physically and mentally for what will be a tough final two months of the season. The coaches were impressed with the young team's dedication through the break weeks. "The guys looked very good through our two-a-day practices, which tells the coaches that the team did their homework over break and we weren't just laying on the couch the entire break," noted Coach Brian Anderson.

On January 5th, the team journeyed to Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, where they experienced their first taste of competition since early December. The athletes grappled to a 3-1 record at the tournament, losing only in the finals to a Luther College team that was ranked in the nation's top 15. The next weekend, the team traveled all the way to Williamsport, Pennsylvania to compete in the Budd Whitehill Annual Duals. The 600-mile journey to the dual meet tournament turned out fairly well for the Little Giants.

"We ended up finishing 4 out of 20 of the nations top teams, but we knew we had a team capable of winning the

whole thing without a few injuries the first day," Coach Anderson said. The tournament was a good barometer for the team, which has suffered its fair share of injuries this season.

Last weekend the team won the Max Servies Duals for the second year in a row. In the process, they defeated two top-25 teams and had several prominent individual performances. Most importantly, the team showed that it could gut out tough wins with several injured starters.

The team includes many individuals with notable accomplishments already this year. Anderson noted the fact that 6 of the team's 10 starters are currently ranked in the country. This includes freshman Tommy Poynter (125 lbs) who took down the 7th ranked grappler in the country at the Budd Whitehill duals, freshman Robbie Carter, who bested the 11th ranked wrestler in the country at 125 lbs, and Tim Locksmith, who continued his excellent season by beating the 9th ranked grappler at 133 lbs. Senior Jake Strausbaugh and Sophomore Reece LeFever also continued their dominance at the 149 and 157-lb spots, with each earning huge wins in the past few weeks. Senior Austin O'Neal beat the 2nd wrestler in the country at 197-lbs, so things continue to look bright for him. Adding to the talent of his freshman classmates, Abe Hall is currently ranked at number 18 in the country at 285 lbs, which

was fueled by several key wins.

The team has been plagued with injuries this season, but due to sheer depth of the roster the injuries haven't held the team back. "We've had more injuries this season than any other year in my time at Wabash. Many we view as 'bumps and bruises' that we just need to train smart through, but we have a few season enders this year, which are very hard to take," Coach Anderson said.

On the first weekend of February, the team travels to Illinois to grapple at the Wheaton College Invitational. A week later, the team will compete in the Greyhound Open in Indianapolis. "The Wheaton Invite is one of the toughest D-III tournaments in the country; it will be a great challenge for the group we send, the Greyhound open is no cake walk either; we'll be competing against many scholarship wrestling programs with a mix of D-I talent," Anderson said.

The upcoming tournaments will challenge a weathered squad that seems primed for their post season. The true test, however, will be how the teams injured starters perform with their 'bumps and bruises.'



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Nationally ranked senior Austin O'Neal (pictured above) will be a key contributor for the wrestling team's run at the National meet.

Locksmith's Injury Has Grapplers Crossing Fingers

JOCELYN HOPKINSON '15
STAFF WRITER

The 11th ranked Wabash College wrestling team has had a strong start to the season after it recorded a whopping 21 top-eight finishers at the Indiana Little State Meet at the University of Indianapolis on December 1. A week later, the team traveled to Chicago, IL for the North Central

College Invitational and the Little Giants came home with first place.

As the results from the Indiana Little State Meet suggest, the early accomplishments have been due to a collective team effort. One of the key contributors has been freshman Tim Locksmith, who has posted a 9-2 record through his first 11 collegiate matches. "He's definitely a wiry and lengthy

guy," Coach Brian Anderson said about the 5'10, 133 pound Locksmith. "I tell coaches all the time he has to be one of the biggest '33 pounders in the country. The bigger you can be in the weight class is obviously a huge advantage."

Any success by a freshman raises eyebrows, but what's even more intriguing about Locksmith is the adversity he's dealt with already. A shoulder in-

jury suffered in high school has reared its ugly head and is holding him back.

"I'm not at my best right now," Locksmith said. "I don't want to make excuses but I have shoulder issues that are bothering me. I tore my labrum and rotator cuff in my junior year of high school and it required some extensive surgery."

Anderson admitted to seeing some difficulties too. But he also holds a lot of excitement for when Locksmith is fully healthy. "His two losses are to the returning national champion and the guy that took third and he was in both of those matches," Anderson said. "To see a freshman with a banged up shoulder do those kinds of things, it helped drive us to the decision we've made for the next three weeks to rest and rehab him. I know if he's 100 percent, he's one of the best in the country, hands down."

Locksmith isn't the only injured Little Giant and he's not the only one to get some rest over winter break. The team decided to withdraw itself from a meet at the University of Indianapolis on December 15. Wabash's next meet isn't scheduled until January 5 at Knox College. Locksmith has had success with the bum shoulder before. The injury occurred the week before districts his junior year. The Kissimmee, FL kid showed some real grit and wrestled through the post season to finish in sixth place at the state championships.

"In retrospect, I sometimes regret not getting it looked at because I probably caused more damage to it," Locksmith admitted. "If anything, I proved to myself I can work through adversity. I was wrestling with one arm through districts and state."

Locksmith finished in third place in

healthy sophomore and senior seasons and qualified for state as a freshman.

"He's tough on top and when you get a guy that long and lengthy on top, it's almost like you have a blanket on top of you and can't get it off," Anderson said. "He's a leachy wrestler when he's on his feet. He stays low to the floor so he's tough to score on, and if he takes your wrist, you're not going to get it back. It's kind of like having a pair of vice grips on the end of his arms."

The freshman also has a grip on the reason why men go to Wabash. He's focused on his academics and aspires to be a craniofacial surgeon when he graduates with a Bio-Chemistry major.

"My dad is a doctor and he's always had me interested in the medical field," Locksmith said. "He talked to me about The Smile Train organization which sends doctors to impoverished areas and fix cleft lips in kids for free. That seems like something really nice that I would like to do; I could make a living and be happy with what I do." "He knows why he's here," Anderson added. "His maturity level is very high for a freshman, on and off the mat. He's still a goofy college kid that's fun to be around, but he takes his academics very seriously." Healthy shoulder or not, opponents will be taking him seriously.



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Throughout the season Locksmith has shown his ability against nationally ranked opponents. The status of his shoulder will play a major role in how successful the team's post season run is.



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Once Again, Track Dominates Competition

For Little Giants, Records Have Become Routine

DEREK ANDRE '16
STAFF WRITER

After nearly a month of rest and relaxation away from campus, the majority of the Wabash Track team returned to the running lanes this past Saturday by competing in the annual Robert H. Johnson Little Giant Track and Field Meet. Most of the team had spent the break doing training exercises and trying to improve on their own without running in any meets.

Despite the fact that there were only a few of the runners who competed over the break for the Little Giants, there was not a slow start to be found for the Little Giants in this past weekend's meet. One of the highlights of the meet was the record setting time of 8.23 seconds, which was run by Sophomore Ronnie Posthauer in the 60-meter hurdles. Posthauer was able to shave 7/100ths of a second off of his old record of 8.30, which he set only a week earlier. Posthauer's fellow sophomore Billy McManus also took an individual victory this weekend with his coming in the mile run. Senior Matt Knox was victorious in the pole vault. Shane Hoebert won the 5000-meter run with a time of 16:13.25. The Little Giants rounded out their winning ways with victories in the 3200 and 1600-meter relays.

Along with the first place finishes, the Little Giant's also had a number

of other high marks in the meet on Saturday. Nathan Mueller took second place in the 60-meter hurdles, as did John Haley in the 400-meter dash and Chet Riddle in the 200 meter. Shane Hoebert took third place in the 3000 meter run, as did Jared Burris in the 5000 meter run.

With this being Wabash's first meet back after returning from the winter break, spirits were high amongst the team. The winning ways of the Little Giants were well received and Head Coach Clyde Morgan noted the quality performances turned in by many of the runners. For Morgan, the successes of the past weekend were not total harbingers of further success. Instead, Coach Morgan feels that the team needs to keep taking things one day at a time and training to get better.

"We're just trying to get better everyday with our training," Coach Morgan said. "We've just got to make sure that the guys are understanding the training and how our peaking system works. There's a misconception with track and field that you should run a fast time every meet or hit a big throw or jump a high height. That's just not the case. A lot of meets you just train through in order to peak at the right times."

For all athletes that are returning to the grind of daily practices and workouts after the layoff of the winter break,



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Even after the winter break, the track team came out strong in their first meet of the second semester.

the transition can be a very difficult one to say the least. The challenge is amplified for the track and field team due to their short season, which only lasts a total of seven weeks from the first meet until the conference. The short turnaround of the second half of the season makes the workouts that athletes do over the break that much

more important, which is something that Coach Morgan is proud that his team has a track record of doing.

"Coming off our week this past weekend, I will say that most of our guys did something over break," Coach Morgan said. "I'm pretty proud of them about that. There's a few that sat on the couch

and now they're paying for it."

The Little Giants will return to the track next weekend in the Rose-Hulman Engineer Invitational in Terre Haute, Indiana. From here on out it will be a matter of peaking at the right time for the Little Giants, something that Morgan's teams have a reputation of doing

Basketball's Slide Continues Into Second Semester

JOCELYN HOPKINSON '15
STAFF WRITER

The Little Giants couldn't find an answer for the hot-shooting Battling Bishops Wednesday night as senior point guard Andy Winters led #22 Ohio Wesleyan (14-3, 7-2) to a

77-53 victory over Wabash (5-13, 3-6) in Chadwick Court. The Columbus, OH native had a very efficient line consisting of 16 points, 9 assists, and just 1 turnover.

"He makes them go," Coach Antoine Carpenter said. "He's able to get to the rim and kick it

to shooters, or dish it off underneath, or he can score himself. He is a perfect leader for that team."

Winters and his teammates combined to shoot 53.8% from the field and 42.1% from three on the night.

The game went back-and-forth for the better part of the first half, but the

Bishops closed the half on a 15-4 run. They came out of the locker room with the same focus and put together a 13-3 run before coasting to the victory.

Wabash did not have the same focus after half time. Numerous errant passes were made which led to turnovers. The Little Giants had 20 on the night but only 12 assists.

"Unforced turnovers are something we can't have," Carpenter said. "It's very disappointing to be this late in the season to still be careless with the basketball."

The Wabash offense shot the ball better than it had in recent losses (38.2%), but the turnovers led to fewer possessions and the smaller scoring output. Andy Walsh led all Little Giants with 11 points. Pete Nicksic continued his strong play since being reinserted into the starting lineup; he scored 10 and was one rebound short of a double-double.

Four players scored in double figures for Ohio Wesleyan. Forward Marshall Morris led the way with 20. Fellow big man Reuel Rogers scored 16 points along with Winters and guard Taylor Rieger had 13 points on the evening.

The Little Giants continued their slide since a gutsy victory over Denison on the first day of December. They have a 3-10 record in the following 13 games. In the 10 losses, the team is only averaging 59 points per game. One of the reasons for offensive struggles may be the loss of sophomore-captain Kasey Oetting. The wingman suffered a stress fracture in his foot and has missed the last eight games. However, he is expected back soon.

"He was our most experienced player from last year," Carpenter

said. "He's a 6'7 kid that can rebound and score the ball. Him not playing hurts but other people have been able to get some experience. He won't be 100 percent for some time but we'll get him back in the swing of things."

Two of the three wins in that span came in a thrilling fashion. On December, 17, the Little Giants eeked out a two-point home win over Hanover College, 61-59. Chadwick Court witnessed some more excitement on January, 5 when Allegheny College visited. Regulation and two overtimes were not enough to decide the winner, but the Little Giants outlasted the Gators in the third overtime for a 95-87 win.

Freshman Ross Sponsler scored 21 points in the victory over Allegheny. That output combined with the 29 points scored in the previous game against Hiram caught national attention; his performances earned him a spot on the D3hoops.com Team of the Week.

Wabash is now tied for seventh place in the North Coast Athletic Conference standings. Only the top eight teams out of ten will be invited to the post-season conference tournament.

"This was a game where we had nothing to lose but a lot to gain, especially in conference," Carpenter said. "Our goal is still to be a part of that eight-team tournament so it's important we get every win we can. Every game here on out is important."

The Little Giants will hit the road Saturday to face Denison (4-5) with a 3 p.m. tip off. Wabash will return home next Wednesday, January 30 for a showdown with Depauw (4-4).



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

With several key players injured the basketball team has continued its skid since they defeated Denison by three points in December



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