

IN THIS
ISSUE



Seniors Learn Their Fate

SCOTT MORRISON '14
NEWS EDITOR

The results are in! Eighteen members of the Class of 2013 earned distinction on their comprehensive exams.

In all, 15 distinctions from 12 different majors were earned in students' first majors and six were earned in a second major. The number of first major distinctions this year is exactly the same as last year and is right on par with the average per year.

Along with the distinctions, there were also 41 first major high passes and 117 passes. In addition to those numbers, 22 seniors from nine different majors failed a portion of their first major. Seniors who failed comps received a phone call from Dean of Students Mike Raters '85 earlier this week before results officially came out. Those earning distinction do not receive notice beforehand of their results and find out when the College officially releases the results.

Comprehensive exams, which seniors took the week before all students returned for the second semester, are one of the many distinctive facets of Wabash. "Not many institutions have

these anymore," Dean of the College Gary Phillips said. "I think there are seven or eight in the country that have them, and I think we are even more distinctive in that we have the written and the oral [parts]. It says, like the Gentleman's Rule [says], we look to you to uphold your end of the bargain here; take responsibility for your behavior and, academically, take responsibility for your work."

Many alumni look back on comprehensive exams as one of the crowning achievements of their time at Wabash and life. They serve as a cap to the four or five years a student spends at Wabash and can be a daunting trial. "Comps feel a bit overwhelming," Jimmy Kervan '13 said. "How do you study for two tests and a 50 minute board that will cover four years of material and will determine if you graduate or not? Overall, it is another one of those Wabash experiences you are glad to have completed but don't ever want to have to do again."

For some students, the stress of comps did not end when classes began on Jan. 14. The time up until this week can bring a lot of anxiety. "The waiting period is unbearable," Victor Wagner '13 said. "You want to know

so desperately [how you did] and can't do anything but wait. You try to get answers from professors, but they can't do more than keep you guessing."

Peter Santa Maria '13 shared that sentiment. "The stress of the weeks leading up to the tests and the month follow was so much to bear that I am just glad it is all over," Santa Maria said.

Despite the stress that Wagner and many other seniors feel each year in anticipation of learning their results, they should be thankful – the wait used to be longer. Before three or four years ago, oral comprehensives occurred throughout the early part of the second semester which pushed back when the College could release results by three or four weeks. "While [the new format] compresses and makes intensive the work of that first week back out of the holiday period, pedagogically it really serves the students in a better way," Phillips said.

Students who failed comprehensive exams do have a chance to retake the portion they failed, and those retakes occur at some point before the midpoint of the semester.



Peter Santa Maria '13, a chemistry major, joined many other seniors in breathing a big sigh of relief that the comps scores were posted earlier this week. Comprehensive exams are an annual tradition at Wabash.

Take Me Out Set to Challenge Community

JOHN DYKSTRA '13
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

One's response to controversy or adversity says something about his or her character.

Wabash's Theater Department is ready to challenge the Wabash community and its perception of homosexuality, racism, and gender through its performances of *Take Me Out* next week.

"We have done material here over the years that challenges our students and the community to think about things in ways that they perhaps never thought about before," Chairman of the Theater Department and *Take Me Out* Director Michael Abbott said.

Take Me Out portrays the interactions between baseball players in a locker room and how athletes may respond to an athlete publicly announcing he is gay. The play's protagonist, Darren Lemming, a successful, mixed-race athlete, comes out of the closet.

"I think one of the central themes in the play is not so much focusing on a gay guy; it is focusing on everyone's reaction to a gay guy," Joe Mount '15, who plays Christopher Sunderstrom, said. "With Wabash being an all-



Larry Savoy '14 and Noah Eppler '16 play Darren Lemming and Mason Marzac respectively in *Take Me Out* which premieres this coming Wednesday in Ball Theater.

male environment where gay people are scarce, it allows Wabash to look back at itself and see how it has aspects of homophobia and not being comfortable being around a gay guy."

Assistant Professor of English Crystal Benedicks agrees that the play is suitable for Wabash.

"I think it is a wonderful choice for Wabash," Benedicks said. "Wabash is a homosocial environment, which

means that it is largely members of one gender interacting with members of that same gender. Many cultural and literary critics say that male homosocial spaces are especially given to what they call homosocial panic: men's fear of being labeled gay."

The complexity of the play's characters and playwright Richard Greenberg's straightforwardness made the play appealing to Ab-

bott, who tried to have the play performed on campus two years ago.

"What interests me most about the play as a piece of art is that it is not dogmatic," Abbott said. "It is an exploration of an issue. It explores it in a way that refuses to create a hero-villain dichotomy."

"The main character is problematic in a variety of ways. He is both sympathetic and arrogant. I think he is also very clever because he understands American culture and its particular interest in sports."

"The play does not go the easy way, which is to say, 'Oh, this poor guy. He is gay. He comes out. People are mean to him. Nobody understands him. He is a victim,'" Daniel Sandberg '13 said. Sandberg plays Shane Mungitt, a homophobic relief pitcher, also believes the characters are complex.

"Shane is really a tragic case," Sandberg said. "He comes from a terrible family life, which becomes apparent during the play. It is not so much that he is a bad guy—though he seems to be the 'bad guy' of the play—it's just that he is a product of the way he was raised."

Abbott said the play allows the

audience to make its own conclusions since it is not a thesis-driven play.

"The audience will read whatever inspirations it wants to read," Abbott said. "One can see that the play is about a gay baseball player. The audience can also read it as a play about someone who falls in love with baseball and sees it as a kind of superior meditation on American life."

The majority of the play takes place in a locker room.

"Part of what the play covers is the responsibility of that gay athlete, when he comes out, to understand that there will be ramifications and that you have to take that into account."

Larry Savoy '14, who plays Darren, hopes the audience will come to the play with an open mind.

"I have talked to a lot of professors about the play, and they are excited about it because it deals with several issues, such as racism and homosexuality," he said. "I am hoping people come in with an open mind and understand what the message of the play is."

The play will run next Wednesday through Saturday, starting at 8 p.m. in Ball Theater.

Symposium Explores Movie Culture

TYLER HARDCASTLE '15
STAFF WRITER

Later today, Wabash will host and supply speakers for the Wally at the Movies symposium. The event is the fourth of its kind, having been preceded by Wally at the Wheel last year. The symposium aims to foster connections between faculty, students and alumni.

The colloquium will be led off with President White giving a talk at 1 p.m. Faculty, staff, and alumni will give a number of lectures throughout the afternoon. After the conclusion of the lectures, a reception will be held at 6 p.m. for the keynote speaker, Jo Throckmorton '87. Throckmorton's talk, entitled "Block, Light, Prop, Shoot," will conclude the evening. Each year has brought out the interests of various speakers and the symposium has seen a great variety in speakers. This year's theme piqued Assistant Professor of Political Science, Alexandra Hoerl's interest.

"I've had a long interest in the contribution of medieval texts [to film], broadly construed," Hoerl said. "Medieval notions of romance perpetuate themselves throughout the centuries and create sort of expectations, codes, and notions of chivalry that we really respond strongly to."

Hoerl has seen this kind of study become more widely accepted within the field of political science. Hoerl will give her talk, "Hollywood Gentlemanliness and Codes of Chivalry in Film", in Hays 319 at 2:45 p.m. today. Her interests question how attitudes shape film, but also how film shapes attitudes.

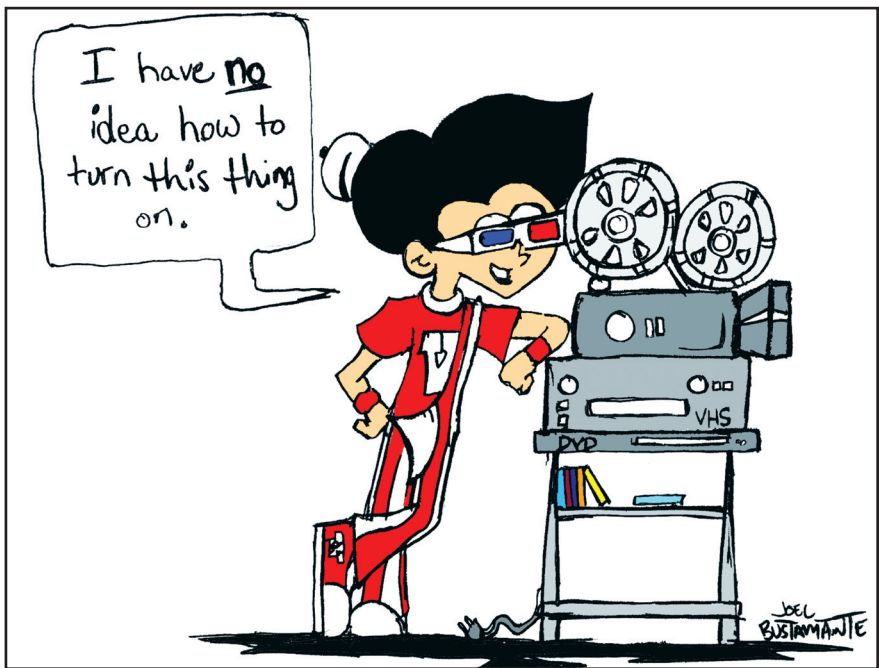
"The connection to Wabash is how is the idea of a gentleman changes, that word probably means very different things to very different people," Hoerl said. "Do we see meanings of gentlemanliness changing at Wabash in the same way that the changes are reflected in popular film?"

Hoerl expands this question into her own field, political science.

"This can be taken into the political arena as well," Hoerl said. "If men and women expect each other to behave a certain way that's going to affect how they will interact with each other when they interact democratically."

Hoerl views the event as a great opportunity – for those involved – to examine academic, yet accessible questions like this in a current medium. Hoerl worked on a committee, but also credits BKT Assistant Professor of Rhetoric Sara Drury and Associate Professor of Art Elizabeth Morton with completing much of the preparations. Alumni have also been crucial in putting together this event.

"This is not the Celebration of Student Research; classes are still happening in the afternoon, and students are expected to put any of those classes first. But if they have some free time, certainly come join



Wally at the Movies is the College's fourth annual symposium on the liberal arts led by faculty, staff, and alumni. Sessions cover topics from gender in film to heroes and villains to the art of and process behind creating a film. The first presentation is at 1 p.m. and they run throughout the afternoon. All of the colloquium are free.

this expression of the Wabash community," Hoerl said. "Listen to professors that you've never had open classes with and meet some alumni." All colloquium are without reservation.

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Mosley Shines in Wabash Performance

DAVID MYLES '14
STAFF WRITER

Last weekend, Wabash hosted the Midwestern premiere of the solo play, “Mo[u]rnin’. After.” Written by and starring up and coming playwright Brigham Mosley, “Mo[u]rnin’. After.” discusses familial relationships, the universal need for acceptance, and the consequences of one’s own actions through the lens of a homosexual protagonist.

Mosley refers to “Mo[u]rnin’. After.” which premiered at New York City’s 9th Space Theatre in February 2012, as a mythic autobiography. Mythic because of hyperbole, but more so in the sense that Brigham fits the mold of a tragic hero. He has the best of intentions and a natural charisma about himself, yet his tragic flaw is his homosexuality. Or at least the citizens of the Oklahoma town he hails from think of it as a flaw.

Throughout Brigham’s whirlwind performance, he takes the audience on a tour of his life. With

gloves, rags, underwear, and a quilt haphazardly strewn on clotheslines serving as the background for his performance, Mosley discusses with the audience significant people and events in his life that have made him the person he is today. With a focus on the passing of his grandfather two years ago, Mosley seems to drop all personal and emotional shields. Never afraid to sing, dance, scream, and all out cry on stage, he ensures that “Mo[u]rnin’. After.” will be a rollercoaster of emotions.

With witty and often times hilarious dialogue, intertwined with clips from the musical Oklahoma!, Brigham Mosley has created a piece of art that not only will stand the test of time, but provide lessons for similar individuals who struggle to express themselves.

The performance of Mosley’s “Mo[u]rnin’. After.” was only one of several events last week that were aimed at students interested in pursuing a career in the fine arts. Mosley, who graduated from Southern Methodist University with a BFA in The-

atre Studies, led a question and answer session on Friday afternoon that also featured the founders of Chicago’s Odradek Theatre Company, Ashley-Marie Quijano and Jonathen Wikholm, and Odradek’s Finance Manager, Milan Vydareny '66, who coordinated the event with Career Services.

Graduates of North Park University’s theatre program, Quijano and Wikholm stressed that there will always be reasons not to pursue an artistic career, but that doesn’t mean you shouldn’t do it. “Don’t think you can’t do it. All these things are in front of you, but you can,” Quijano said. “So realize that it’s going to suck and it’s going to be hard, and then go do it.”

On Saturday, Mosley, Quijano, and Wikholm finished up their time at Wabash with a writing workshop aimed at developing solo performances. Warming up with theatre exercises and letting our own emotional shields fall away, Brigham encouraged us to not censor ourselves, and to find a moment within our lives that deeply affected who we are today. Having the



COREY EGLER | WABASH '15

In addition to his Friday night performance last week, Brigham Mosley also offered a workshop for students in the Experimental Theater.

opportunity to see Mosley’s writing process, develop personal work, and have crucial questions answered made the workshop invaluable to those that attended. Next up for Mosley is the Chicago premiere of “Mo[u]rnin’. After.,” his second work produced by the Odradek Theatre Company.

Bowie’s Departure Leaves Important Shoes to Fill

TAYLOR KENYON '15
STAFF WRITER

The departure of former administrator Jerry Bowie '04 has left the administration with big shoes to fill. Bowie served as the Immersion Coordinator for the College as well as a significant figure on campus.

Bowie recently left his long relationship with Wabash to continue his career. Bowie is an alumnus who worked in various positions throughout the campus including tech support and eventually travel support through the Center for Academic Enrichment. His final position at the College was as the Immersion Coordinator. Bowie’s exit causes two important questions to form: who will take his respon-

sibilities for this semester, and who will permanently fill the vacancy?

Bowie worked under Dean of the College Gary Phillips during his time as the Immersion Coordinator; therefore, it is logical that Dean Phillips is in charge of the temporary filling of the position until the semester ends. “[Bowie] is a man of lots of talents and capacities; because we don’t have a lot of staff people, we need people who can go and do lots of different things,” Phillips said. “If you don’t, you have to figure out how to disseminate responsibilities across the campus and that’s what I’ve had to do in response to Jerry’s departure.”

Once stability is achieved, the long-term search begins. “This is all for the balance of the semester un-

til I have a chance to work with the division chairs – David Clapp, Rick Warner, and Larry Griffith – to think about that position and to configure it to support the faculty and students, because that position, as Jerry filled it, did so many things,” Phillips said. “We want to stand back and look at things that most need to be organized and done by the person to replace him.

“Jerry was also responsible for arranging travel for visitors to campus from pickup at airports to coordinating drivers for the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning Theology and Religion and for the Center for Inquiry,” Phillips said. “What I will be doing is working with the people I mentioned, Warner and

Clapp, to think about the best support for immersion travel and class travel support; and then the other part – that I’ll work with Larry Griffith on – is how do we execute travel support [for visitors]. I will likely peel those apart and find that the work for international travel [immersion] will be centered around Jerry’s position and travel support will be vested elsewhere.”

Bowie’s departure has left the College in a search in a candidate who can meet his wide range of skills; yet, because Bowie’s involvement

was so vast due to his unique skills, it is not practical for one candidate to fill. Phillips explained that the administration is likely to separate the responsibilities into two spheres to contemplate positions: immersion support and travel support. While the faculty shares the responsibilities of Bowie’s position this semester, Dean Phillips and others will analyze the function of Bowie’s responsibilities in order to define positions.

Indiana Law Threatens Vote

ADAM ALEXANDER '16
STAFF WRITER

A bill recently proposed to the Indiana State Assembly could soon take the right to vote for Indiana officials away from out-of-state students. Representatives Peggy Mayfield (R-Martinsville) and Jim Baird (R-Greencastle) have authored House Bill 1311, a bill concerning election law.

While the overall bill deals with election law, one part of the bill is stirring a particular bit of controversy: “A person does not gain residency in a precinct into which the person moves for educational purposes if the person pays a nonresident tuition rate.” In layman’s terms, students who pay out-of-state tuition would be ineligible to vote for Indiana offices.

Christian Lopac '16, who hails from Cokato, Minnesota, sees no problem with the proposed legislation. “I think it’s fine,” Lopac said. “As long as you’re not really a resident, then you’re not really necessarily a part of the community or the state of Indiana, officially.”

George Vinihakis '15 from Orland Park, IL understands Lopac’s mentality, but doesn’t agree that the bill is acceptable.

“I feel the bill is fair to a degree,” Vinihakis said. “I understand that since I am not a year-long resident of Indiana, I do not have a complete stake in the elections. However, I still live here for the majority of the year and I think I should have a say.”

Many out-of-state students choose to vote absentee, citing a greater attachment to their local politics than Indiana politics. Lopac counts himself in this group.

“I go to school in Indiana, but I don’t really feel like I’m a part of Indiana, in that sense,” Lopac said. “So I’m not really technically a resident of Indiana, so I don’t know why I should even be able to vote for Indiana candidates since I’m not really a part of it.”

Many opponents of the bill, like Vinihakis, say that all students living in Indiana, whether they are from the state or not, do have a stake in who makes decisions for the state. Proponents of the bill argue that students not living in Indiana should have no stake in its elections; thus, it would be illogical to allow them to vote for Indiana officials. Lopac considers this to be a worthy debate, but he agrees with these proponents. “I think there are probably good

arguments for both sides,” Lopac said. “But I think, in that sense, it was kind of your choice to attend. You could almost think of it as – what if you’re going to school in a foreign country? In that sense, let’s say you’re attending college in Canada or Great Britain. I mean you might be spending a lot of time there, but you’re not really necessarily a part of the nation.”

Vinihakis thinks that there is more to the bill than simply limiting the elections to those who call Indiana home.

“I am concerned with the principle of the bill, which disenfranchises voters,” Vinihakis said. “I am against the bill because it is restrictive of the voting process. The bill affects a younger population, college students, who typically vote Democratic. It’s worthy to note that a conservative presented the bill, which could indicate a political agenda. However, I do not think that is the sole purpose of the bill.”

Local Representative Tim Brown (R-Crawfordsville) could not be reached for comment.

If it is passed, HB 1311 will take effect on July 1, 2013.



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Opinion Introduces New Series

I am tired of people tackling hot button issues from their own perspectives. I am not an exception. When we think about issues such as gun rights, marijuana laws, gay rights, or welfare, we become victims of selfishness. A person who has experienced the benefits of owning a firearm will probably have a different opinion than someone who has seen the negative consequences of owning firearms. We can't force ourselves to look at an issue from neutral or objective perspectives. In essence, this may never be possible because life experiences color the way in which we view issues. However, can we simply live life without being able to put lessons in perspective and walk in someone else's shoes? This



JACOB BURNETT '15
OPINION EDITOR

even applies to something we love so closely – Wabash. There are many perspectives students can offer to help understand challenges and successes they have faced Wabash. We have the chance to learn from our peers, which is something we can all benefit from especially at a liberal arts school. In order to encourage such a discussion, I am initiating an Opinion

series in which Wabash students who have the ability to offer a perspective on the Wabash has either positively or negatively affected them will write a piece explaining such experiences. The basic premise is that students will reflect on their Wabash experiences. This series is not an opportunity to push for a more diverse campus by any means. It might actually show students that we may be more diverse than we seem at first glance. Also, this is not an opportunity for an audience to reduce an individual to their race, class, sexuality, etc. This is an opportunity for a Wabash student to offer a unique perspective that others can't conceptualize. Now, I will not be able to ask every student who pos-

sesses a unique perspective, which would be everyone (no two people are alike). However, I will try my best to present as many perspectives as possible. I hope this helps encourage discussion amongst the student body. When we discuss, we are able to learn completely different perspectives. This happens in classes every day. By bringing this experience into the general student body, it can strengthen Wabash unity. No two people are the same, as stated above. We have so much to gain from this series. A medical school applicant and a law school applicant see Wabash in somewhat of a different lens than one another. At the same time, there is a possibility

to witness the intersection between all experiences at Wabash. Students rave about their immersion experiences and how that completely changed or influenced the ways in which they view life and education. I believe that when we are presented with the opportunity to take a deeper look at issues, Wabash students act. The first person I approached to kick-off the series "Reflecting Back: A Wabash Student Perspective" was Joe Mount. He will be the first person to offer his perspective on Wabash. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Reflecting Back: A Wabash Student Perspective
Wabash Works Towards Acceptance

JOE MOUNT '15
OPINION COLUMNIST

Wabash, I have something to tell you. I don't know how you're going to take it, but I have to get it off my chest. Wabash, I'm gay. There! I've said it. You all know now. What a huge relief! There's only one thing wrong with this; I don't need to "come out" to any of you. It's not a secret. The thing is, I stopped thinking that this was some bit of myself that I had to keep secret not too long after I came out of the closet. A month after all those tearful discussions and difficult talks, I realized that those never should have been tearful or difficult. This wasn't something I could help, and I really didn't consider it shameful. In fact, I like being gay. I'd be just as comfortable downtown New York City during the Gay Pride Parade (to which I've never been to), as I would be if I were dropped in the middle of the woods with a roll of duct tape and a knife (I also happen to be an Eagle Scout. Go figure). I've tried to keep this mentality since those "closeted" times, but it's not always been easy. For the most part Wabash, you've been great. I've talked on a panel in Dr. Rosenberg's multicultural class about my experiences with being gay, I've participated in sh'OUT events on an all-male campus, I've watched a queer artist perform in the Experimental Theater, and now I'm in "Take Me Out", a play that examines the challenges of homosexuality unapologetically. Wabash, you've made huge strides, and that should be applauded. I'm proud that you've been working so hard towards acceptance, but even I can remember a not-so-friendly time. Honors Scholar weekend, my senior year of high school: amidst the craziness of meetings, learning where I was, and trying to understand what college was exactly, I was also checking out the local fraternities. I managed to find a

place that seemed cool, and I was interested in going Greek. I liked the idea of being in a fraternity, and I was excited this group seemed interested in me. But I had one question before I made up my mind about anything. "What do you guys think of gays?" Suddenly, the welcome I had been getting disappeared. It was explained to me that some of the guys wouldn't be comfortable with the idea of a gay guy becoming part of their house. I didn't need to hear any more. They weren't comfortable, and I wasn't going to force a fraternal connection where none could happen. I refused to go back into the closet, to hide this part of myself, to try and fulfill some bigot's definition of what a real man should be like. I left, not angry, but definitely hurt. But my hopes for fraternity life weren't ended. I found a home at TKE, which continues to be one of the best decisions I've made since coming here. I found a group of guys who didn't care that I was gay. They accepted the fact that I was kind of a freak about Lord of the Rings, that I had an odd Mormon background, that I had played sports and done show choir in high school, and that I was gay. My brothers at TKE got to know me as a person, instead of limiting me to one aspect of my life. Despite the jokes that I'm not really gay, because I'm way too masculine-acting, I know that the guys don't mind. Which is how things should be. Do I love Wabash? Certainly. Has it done incredible things for me? Obviously. Has it been perfect? Not quite. There's a lot of acceptance here in this community, but we're not perfect. I'm not talking about using "gay" to describe things, or calling each other "faggot". Those things aren't important. What is important is realizing that being gay doesn't define who I am, and it doesn't dictate every decision I make. Wabash, I'm gay, but there's so much more to life than that.



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Coming Out Soon...

Openly Gay Major League Athletes

The locker room is the medium between personal life and professional life for major league athletes. It is, as Richard Greenberg says in his play *Take Me Out*, the “sacred place” that the media and fans often do not see.

To date, not a single major league athlete – an athlete who plays in MLB, the NBA, the NFL, or the NHL – has ever stated publicly that he is gay during his playing days. However, many athletes have “come out of the closet” after they retired. The changes in American society’s perception of homosexuality and the enforcement against anti-gay slurs in Major League Baseball suggest that the first homosexual athlete will publicly express his homosexuality in the near future. But, that athlete will need open support from his teammates before that is possible.

ESPN recently posted a poll on its homepage, asking viewers when they think the first major league athlete will publicly announce that he is gay. Thirty-two percent of people voted that a major league athlete will come out soon. The majority of voters (35 percent) said within the next five years, while 12 percent said within 10 years and the remainder voted beyond 10 years.

It is more difficult for an athlete who plays a team sport to “come out” than it may be for an athlete who plays an individual sport because of the locker room environment.

Glenn Burke, the late outfielder of the Los Angeles Dodgers and Oakland Athletics, was the first former player to publicly state his homosexuality. Burke informed his teammates and the owners of the Los Angeles Dodgers that he was gay when he still played for the team. Then-general manager offered Burke approximately



JOHN
DYKSTRA '13
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

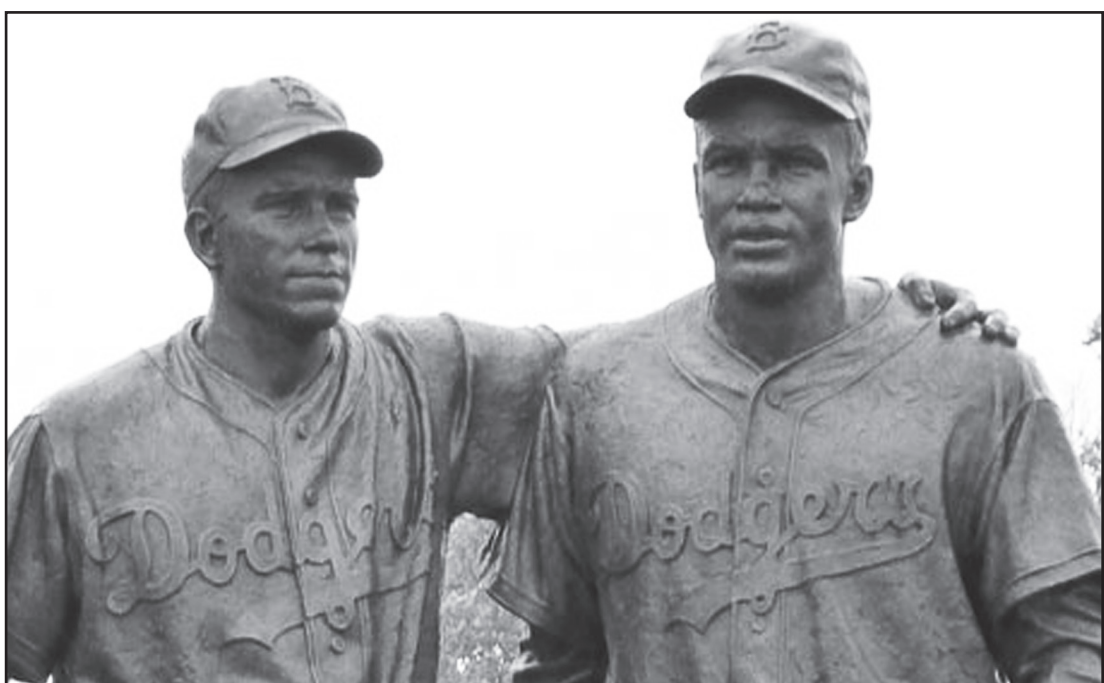
\$75,000 to get married, and Burke refused the offer. The Dodgers traded Burke to the Oakland Athletics for a less talented player, indicating that the trade was sparked by homophobic influences. In Oakland, Burke was introduced to his teammates as a “faggot.”

Now, the perception of athletes is a social construct that is rightfully being challenged. People often associate athletes with masculinity and being masculine with being straight. Honestly, what does sexuality matter in sports? What difference does it make outside of the locker room? An athlete’s job is to play baseball, basketball, football, hockey, or whatever sport he plays. His lifestyle should not interfere with his employment, nor should he be discriminated against to begin with.

One commentator said it right on the ESPN poll:

“No one should care,” the commentator said. “If Joe Montana slept with men he’d still be one of the best QBs ever because that’s who he is. His sexuality wouldn’t change that. It shouldn’t be an issue.”

As fans, we only see what the media portrays to us. We see a player’s highlights on ESPN every day, and sometimes we hear about



COURTESY OF RANDOMBASEBALLSTUFF.COM (TOP), COURTESY OF SALON.COM (BOTTOM)

Top: A statue depicting the iconic photo of Pee Wee Reese putting his arm around Jackie Robinson. Bottom: Minnesota Vikings punter Chris Kluwe wrote an influential letter defending gay people.

the charity the athlete works with. We do not see the locker room or the true interactions between the athletes. We see what the media sees, and the media has limited rights in the locker room.

Individual sports challenge the barrier between athletes and the media because individuals are more forthcoming in individual interviews; the athletes do not have teammates to talk about or share personal problems with. Featherweight boxer Orlando Cruz is an example of an individual athlete successfully coming out.

Cruz publicly announced that he is gay October 4, 2012, 15 days before he defeated opponent Jorge Pazos. Boxing fans embraced Cruz after he publicly came out. Cruz is preparing to take a shot at the world title this year. Keep in mind that Cruz does not have to share a locker room with anyone, because boxing is not a team sport.

Go back to Glenn Burke. Burke was a highly regarded prospect when the Dodgers drafted him. Many scouts said he would be the next Willie Mays, but he only had 525 at-bats in the four seasons he played. Burke’s career was cut short because he was gay. He did not publicly come out until 1982, three years after he retired.

MLB made a significant stance against homophobia in sports during the 2012 season by suspending then-Toronto Blue Jays shortstop Yunel Escobar three games for having a homophobic slur written on his eye black.

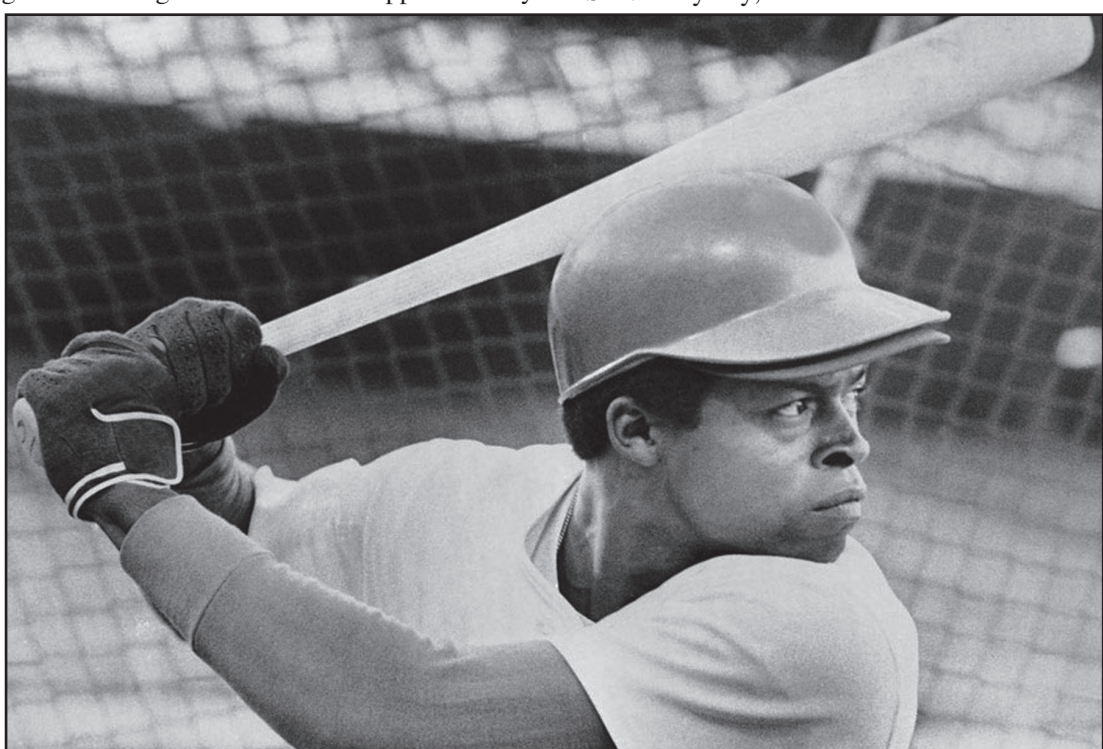
Yet, the other three major leagues have not suspended athletes for anti-gay remarks. In the week leading up to the Super Bowl, San Francisco 49ers cornerback Chris Culliver said gays should not play football. The NFL has not suspended Culliver, even though players like Seattle Seahawks punter Jon Ryan believes Culliver



should have been.

Nonetheless, many current and former NFL players have supported the idea of being on the same team as an openly gay player, including former Pittsburgh Steelers running back Jerome Bettis, Minnesota Vikings punter Chris Kluwe, and Baltimore Ravens linebacker Brendon Ayanbadejo. Ayanbadejo is an ambassador for Athlete Ally, a non-profit organization that intends to get rid of homophobia in sports.

It is the responsibility of players and fans to welcome athletes regardless of their sexuality. When the first major league athlete comes out, it will be another Jackie Robinson story. All the first publicly gay major league athlete needs is a teammate like Pee Wee Reese to walk across the field, put his arm around him, and face the crowd.



COURTESY OF BLOGSPOT.COM

Glenn Burke was the first former player to publicly state his homosexuality.

Going Greek Reaps Benefits

I already had the transfer application printed out. Just one year earlier, the University Of Notre Dame sent me their admission decision: denial. It broke my heart. Blue and gold has raced through my veins since the moment I was conceived. I went to a Catholic high school an hour and a half away from South Bend. I mean my baby picture is signed by Lou Holtz, what more do you want! Anyway, after a 3.92 GPA my freshman fall semester, and an even stronger spring semester, I knew I would have a competitive transfer application. After all, it has always been my dream to attend Notre Dame.

Obviously since I am writing this to you now, going to Notre Dame for undergraduate was never in God’s plan for me. I was not denied again, I just simply never turned in the application. After filling it out I sat down and talked with some upperclassmen in my house. I wanted to pick their brains about why they were still here, what made them stay, do they wish



SCOTT
CAMPBELL '14
OPINION
COLUMNIST

they would have transferred, etc. After about the second person I noticed a general theme. They all said it was their pledge brothers and their house that convinced them to stay. And none of them regretted it.

I love being a Beta. I love what my General Fraternity stands for, I love what my house has accomplished since my time here, and I love having 63 friends. I love my pledge brothers and everything they have done for me, and all the fun times we have had together and all the ones to come. Being a Beta changed my life, and being a Beta kept me at Wabash. Unfortunately, not everyone thinks Greek life is all that great. At a time when Greek

participation is at a low, I think it’s important that Greeks finally fight for themselves and speak up.

I will address a common criticism of Greeks that just blows my mind, and it’s something I have heard a lot on campus lately. It is that we are too “exclusive”, and we don’t really care about independent life. Well, darn right we are. That’s the point! In the spring of 2010 I accepted a bid and made a commitment to what Beta Theta Pi at Wabash College stood for (if you are curious at all, go to betathetapi.org and you will find out everything about Beta, it’s not like we are some big secret. I’m sure all the other fraternities have resources like that as well.). Greeks are Greeks because we all took a commitment to what we believe in together, live with a bunch of guys who believe the same thing, and help each other through college. At its foundation, that is what the Greek experience is about. If that is too much of a commitment for you, then so be it. Being a Greek is not for you. But just because going Greek wasn’t the best decision for you doesn’t mean that it is a bad decision for everyone. Stop assuming we are all the same; stop assuming that all we do is party; stop assuming that we all have below par GPA’s and miss class all the time. It’s simply not true. And it really bothers me that the best decision I ever made is casted in that kind of light. I wrote this article to fight that stereotype.

I hope to speak for all Greeks with



COURTESY OF WABASH.EDU

Wabash’s Beta Theta Pi chapter cheers on the Wabash football team.

this article. Unfortunately, our relationship with the rest of the world is a little strained. People get the wrong idea about what we are about. Maybe we are victim of media today, but people only hear about us when bad things happen or when poor decisions are made. No one knows that Beta gave \$500 to trustee Ray Jovanavich, in honor of his wife Belinda, to help kick start his cancer awareness program over in Hong Kong. No one really knows that Sigma Chi helps put on a basketball type deal for the Special Olympics or that Greeks lead in clubs like CMFK, Best Buddies, FIMRC, and the local Habitat for Humanity, etc. Yet, rest assured, would God forbid someone make a poor decision and has to go to the hospital from a Greek party, everyone would

find out and make the same assumptions they always do (which are usually wrong).

I love my house and I love Wabash. They go hand in hand. I wouldn’t be at Wabash if it weren’t for my Beta brothers, and I wouldn’t have my Beta brothers if it weren’t for Wabash. Wabash College is not a place for the faint of heart, that’s for darn sure. Being a Greek gave me a support system, something to hold on to as I tried to make it through this very important and trying time in my life. I cannot say I would still be at Wabash if it weren’t for my participation in Greek life. And because of that, I can honestly say that going Greek was the best decision I have made so far in my life.



BETA THETA PI
FRATERNITY

COURTESY OF BLOGSPOT.COM

The Wabash’s Beta Theta Pi chapter changed the life of Scott Campbell ‘14.

Grammys Surprise Again

ALEX TOTTEN '13
CAVELIFE EDITOR

Since Arcade Fire won Album of the Year in 2011, each year I've been watching and reading reports on the year's awards. They continue to impress me with their selections; choosing Esperanza Spaulding over Justin Bieber for best new artist in 2011, showing that the selection committee has a pulse and a sense of musical talent, choosing Bon Iver in 2012 as the "Best New Artist", prompting many twitter posts about who "Boney Bear" is, and now, in 2013, continue the trend of giving credit to more Indie artists. Since 1993, there's been a vortex of horrible popular music, filled with gritty rock bands pretending to be Nirvana and horrible pop. These wins show a change.

Record of the Year
Gotye ft. Kimbra
"Somebody that I
Used to Know"

I spent about three weeks in Europe this summer in between Spain and France and every single grocery store I went into was playing this song. Every. Single. One. I would visit one at least once a day and, without fail, "Somebody That I Used to Know" would be trickling through the speakers in the background. My memories of going into a Monoprix are now fixed to this song. So, I guess it deserved it because of it's addictive quality and international appeal. Even though it completely ripped off of The Human League's "Don't You Want Me".

Best New Artist
fun.

This is the one I actually don't agree with, when looking at the other artists in the category, specifically Frank Ocean and The Alabama Shakes. Fun is fine and all and Some Nights was a decent enough album, but, when compared to Frank Ocean, who had a complete album in channel ORANGE and countless guest spots and The Alabama Shakes with an interesting and diverse sound, fun. just doesn't compare honestly. On top of that, they just won song of the year, at the very least, the academy could spread the joy around a bit and give it to a band that deserves it more.

Netflix Provides First Original Series

DAVID MYLES '14
TELEVISION COLUMNIST

On February 1, I did something I had never done before. Having arrived home after class, I promptly turned on my television, plopped down in my recliner, and switched on Netflix, a routine I had completed so many times before. That day, however, I wouldn't be watching old episodes of The Office or some random indie movie. No, instead, history was made, as Netflix released its first original series House of Cards. Adapted from a novel by Michael Dobbs and based on the 1990 BBC miniseries of the same name, House of Cards stars Kevin Spacey as Francis Underwood, a South Carolina Democrat and the House majority whip.



Kevin Spacey, seen above, is the star of Netflix's *House of Cards*. The advent of an original series on Netflix may signal the end of normal television.

Album of the Year
Mumford and Son's
Babel

Mumford and Son's made waves in 2009 with *Sigh No More*, and, since then, they've always had a more commercial sound. It's folk, yes, but it's not as folktastic as Paper Rival or Jeremy Messersmith. As a result, they've always had a bit more of a following than more earthy folk artists, so this selection makes complete sense. *Babel*, as an album, is exactly what one would expect from a follow-up performance from *Sigh No More*, with the basic construction of the songs essentially the same. Did *Babel* deserve it? Maybe. Did anything else better than it come out last year? Probably not.

Song of the Year
fun.
"We Are Young"

I know this song is featuring Janelle Monae, but her part actually detracts from the song so I'm not including her in the credits. I'm glad that "We Are Young" won this category because it was up against some truly horrible songs, like "Call Me Maybe" and "Stronger" and two songs I actually couldn't recognize. This song has some pretty cool construction and instrumentation, and yes, it did get incredibly overplayed (I haven't encountered overplaying of this magnitude since Kings of Leon's "Use Somebody"), so it is deserving of the recognition.

Best Urban Album
Frank Ocean
Channel ORANGE

So, this is a new category, introduced, solely to give Frank Ocean a Grammy because they realized that he was going to get robbed in all the categories that he actually deserved. According to the Wiki on the award, it is, "albums containing at least 51 percent playing time of newly recorded contemporary vocal tracks derivative of R&B. This category is intended for artists whose music includes the more contemporary elements of R&B and may incorporate production elements found in urban pop, urban Euro-pop, urban rock, and urban alternative", so yeah, channel ORANGE.



Mumford and Son's, seen above, accepting their award for Album of the year



fun., stylized in this weird way, seen here being complete hipsters



Frank Ocean is clearly the only living example of the perfect man

Suicide Bombing Incidents Rising

NOAH EPPLE '16
MIDDLE EAST COLUMNIST

Last Friday, a suicide bomber detonated an explosion that left 21 dead and 33 wounded in a local market in Hangu, Pakistan, a city located in the northwestern region of the country. On the exact same day, at around 1:15 p.m., another suicide bomber killed both himself and a security guard, left a Turkish TV journalist in critical condition and lightly wounded two other security guards at the US Embassy in Ankara, Turkey.

These suicide bombings are, of course, just two from a long list of similar attacks that have been occurring in the Middle East and worldwide in recent history, yet what makes these attacks notable is that not only did they occur on the same day and are both claimed to have been linked with domestic militants and insurgents, but that in addition between the two attacks exist clear contextual distinctions.

To begin, the Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility for the Hangu attack, and furthermore, according to a telephone interview with Abu Omar, the Taliban commander in the neighboring region of North Waziristan, the attack was an act of vengeance on the behalf of a Sunni cleric, Mufti Abdul Majeed Deenpuri. An unidentified gunman apparently opened fire on a vehicle carrying Mr. Deenpuri at a heavily trafficked intersection last Thursday, thereby prompting the Pakistani Taliban to provide a violent sectarian response of their own. In contrast to the Hangu attack, officials believe that the suicide bombing in Ankara, although still nebulous in its origins, is linked to a domestic leftist group instead of Muslim extremists. Furthermore, as is obvious from the previous description, the bombing that occurred in Hangu was the result of a feud between local extremist groups, whereas the bombing that occurred in Ankara was a symbolic statement from (officials believe) the DHKP-C to the United States. In addition, the regional, religious, economic, ethnic and social distinctions that exist between these two nations, although a lengthy discussion of these distinctions is beyond the scope of this article, certainly apply when considering the events that unfolded last Friday.

Why, then? Why is it that two different terrorist organizations in two different countries with different motivations and different levels of activity in recent years, use the exact same method of suicide bombing on the exact same day? The answer is that suicide bombing is becoming the standard model of reprisal, regardless of the context in which the terrorists are operating. From the tragic events of September 11, 2001 to the Tamil Tigers of Sri Lanka, it appears that suicide bombing has been established as normative weapon for extremists and insurgents of almost all variations. Why? Perhaps because of its incredible efficiency in causing multiple deaths and many casualties in an instant makes the option more alluring. Perhaps the (albeit somewhat twisted) notion of martyrdom that is associated with suicide bombing allows for terrorist organizations to construe suicide bombing as a noble and heroic act. Whatever the case may be, this much is clear: suicide bombings in the post-modern world are here to stay.

House of Cards examines political relationships and asks the question, does the end justify the means?

Aside from the stellar performances from the entire cast, the first thing you will notice when you sit down to watch House of Cards is the sheer beauty of the shots. According to a USA Today article from January 31, Netflix reportedly agreed to a \$100 million production deal for the first 26 episodes. That kind of budget is unheard of in the television world, and the producers of House of Cards didn't waste a single penny. The colors in each scene are vivid and realistic, and one can make out even the slightest of facial expressions on an actor's face. Apart from this astronomical budget, House of Cards is produced by director David Fincher (The Social Network, The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo) and writer Beau Willimon (Farragut North, The Ides of March). Directed by Fincher in its first two episodes, House of Cards oozes talent, with Willimon serving as head writer and show - runner throughout the series. While the show is set in Washington D.C., taking the audience on tours through the hallways of the Capitol and the streets of Georgetown, Willimon acknowledges that House of Cards has more to do with power than politics. Gary Levin from USA Today quotes Willimon as saying, "Politics just allows us to see master power players at work: people who are experts at manipulation, intimidation, persuasion, seduction and deception. It's like watching grandmaster chess players at a game."

Netflix won't be stopping with House of Cards either. This year alone there are plans for 5 other original series, one of which is a revival of the Emmy - winning sitcom, Arrested Development. Not longer solely a competitor with YouTube and Hulu, Netflix is gambling big on these series', putting them in the cross hairs of quality programming giants like HBO, Showtime, and AMC. Having outbid Showtime for the rights to Arrested Development, and HBO for the rights to House of Cards by offering an unprecedented two seasons before a single frame was filmed, Netflix has positioned themselves as the first company to make television specifically for the digital generation.

House of Cards is one of the best television shows currently on - air. With its high production value, stellar acting talent, and cleverly humorous script, House of Cards has raised the bar for other television series' in a manner similar to how The Sopranos, Mad Men, and Dexter raised the bar for their own networks. By being the first program marketed toward the downloadable generation, House of Cards has the potential to revolutionize the way television is made and enjoyed.

Pokémon is Serious Business

The Popular Children's Game isn't as Simple as it Seems.

GABE WATSON '13
POKÉMON MASTER

Most college students have played a Pokémon game at some point in their lives. But it was likely years ago, when only 151 Pokémon existed — an era known in the biz as First Generation. If that is the case for you, here's what you've missed:

Second Generation brought two new types and the introduction of held items; Third introduced double battles, which more than double the required strategy; Fourth Generation made moves' physicality a variable independent from type of the move, a huge step forward in the logic of the game. But what could Fifth Generation contribute? At first glance, not a lot. The gameplay was superb, but the Pokémon themselves seemed a bit strange, even over the top. The reason? They were geared toward a new purpose: a competitive meta-game.

International Pokémon battling has been done through Gameboy games since the Fourth Generation, and it continues now. In fact, the Pokémon Video Game Championship tournament is now running, and you can find your regional qualification tournament at www.Pokemon-VGC.com. For these tournaments, gamers have to train on levels about which most people know nothing.

IVs (Individual Values), for instance, are randomly assigned stat modifiers each Pokémon has. These values randomly provide inherent caps on each Pokémon stats (like speed or defense) and determine the type and power level of the Pokémon's Hidden Power attack. But the odds of getting perfect capacity in every stat is one in a billion (actually, 1.138 in a billion). Trainers can spend hours breeding their Pokémon to produce one with favorable IVs.

EVs (Effort Values) are earned by

training. Those familiar with the game will understand that a trainer's Pokémon will be stronger than a seemingly identical wild one. EVs are responsible for this difference: when your Pokémon gains experience in a battle, the game keeps track of the opponent. A Pokémon who trains in an area full of Gastly will gain Special Attack at an expedited rate, while one who trains against Geodudes will gain Defense. This training can vary any stat by an average of 63 points — a significant amount in a competitive situation.

These statistics are also affected by the Pokémon's Nature, a concept introduced in Third Generation. Natures distribute randomly in a population of Pokémon, and do not necessarily carry over to progeny (though some held items can help this happen during breeding). These Natures boost one statistic by 10% and diminish another by 10%, a change which combines with IVs to produce significant effects.

An example: by manipulating IVs, EVs, and Natures, one Starmie can have 361 Speed and 157 Defense stats while another of the same level could have a 211 Speed stat and a 295 Defense. But to make these changes takes the trainer countless hours of breeding and training.

The cool part is that now there are online programs that allow gamers to simply set a Pokémon's IVs, Nature, and EVs in seconds to let them battle online. Pokémon Showdown and Pokémon Online are the most popular, with thousands of users online at any given time. They are completely designed and operated by fans but stick very closely to actual battle programming.

These venues give gamers the chance to test out team combinations and movesets at their leisure before building them up on their game.



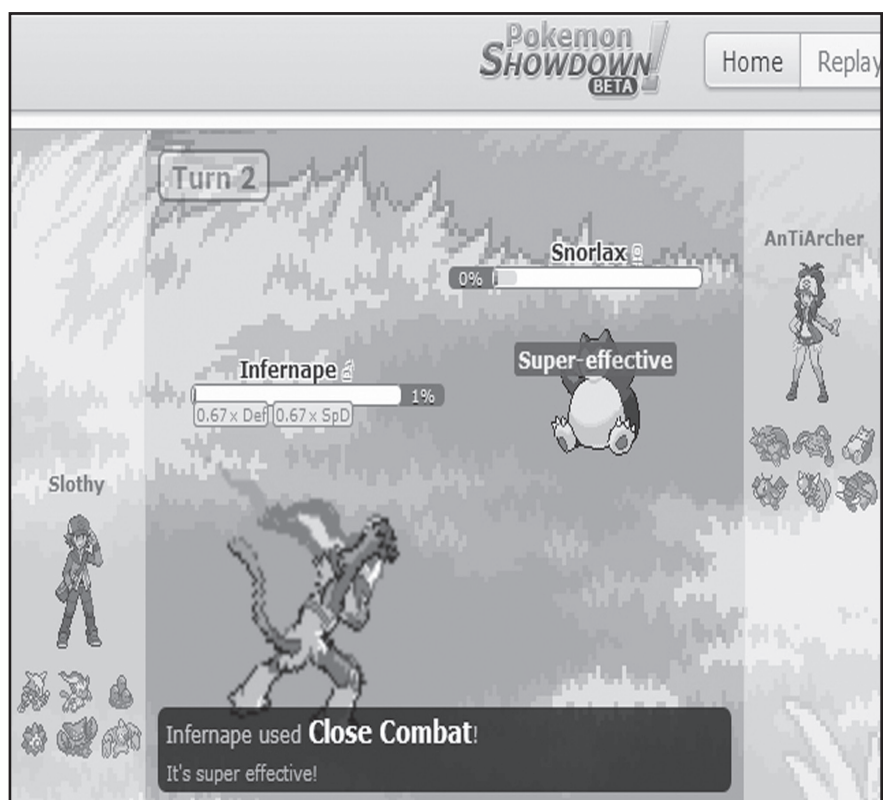
COURTESY OF DEVIANART.NET AND POKEMONSHOWDOWN.COM

Gabe Watson '13, shown as Slothy, fighting the good fight in the competitive battling seen below.

Once a trainer is comfortable with his team, he (or she; yes, girls play Pokémon too) can focus on developing them on his official Nintendo game.

Showdown and Online are also great places to battle in other tiers: Over-Used is the most common (these are all the Pokémon you likely know and love), but Under-Used and Never-Used are extremely fun and wide-ranging tiers of competition that use less familiar Pokémon. You can even battle in Little Cup tournaments with only first-evolution Pokémon like Gastly and Charmander or Random Battles (my forte) with randomly composed teams of which you have to make the most.

So while our generation may find it is time to wave goodbye to the games on which we were raised, Pokémon is not dead. In fact, it may be more alive than ever.



Halloween Fall Short of Expectations With New LP

ADAM SOSHNIK '13
METAL COLUMNIST

Despite the previous slew of records rooted in dark subject matter, Helloween's latest release, *Straight Out of Hell*, pumps charismatic attitude back into the mix for both cover art and song writing. No doubt does the band desire to return to their roots after the particularly opaque 7 Sinners, but the change is astonishingly drastic and hearkens back to days of yore when these Germans were developing as a metal institution and emerged as one of power metal's great pioneers. Indeed, the music here aims to soothe rather than punish, and the end result is something of a cross between modernity and classic Euro power metal.

In spite of that, *Straight Out of Hell* can be a mixed bag. Filler-like numbers taking backseat to stronger ones, the track listing of an inconsistent record places the weaker songs near the end of the album and assumes fans might forgive and forget strategically placed material. *Straight Out of Hell* omits the practice entirely and creates a black hole in the middle of the track listing, making the music, as a whole, feel far more inconsistent than it really is. Sadly enough, the center of an otherwise great product is marred by three poorly written tracks—one of which is hardly a song—with the other two cheesy and generic in comparison to stronger cuts like "World of War," "Far from the Stars," and "Church Breaks Down."

Feeling like three divided musical movements rather than one cohesive product, *Straight Out of Hell*'s bonus tracks tack on mindless filler not worth the premium price. "Another Shot of Life" strikes as a churning, uninspired mess of guitar, synth, and production, while the Hammond organ-laced rendition of "Burning Sun" impersonates '70s progressive rock with mindless soloing and poorly placed instrumentation. The regular edition rejects the two, saving



COURTESY OF BLOGSPOT.COM

Helloween takes as many opportunities as possible to ruin this album.

an already perilous tread on thin ice from becoming even more dangerous.

Not all is lost, though, because the front and back halves of the album are utterly fantastic and contrast the underwhelming midsection. The opener, "Nabataea," winds through ancient Arabia both lyrically and melodically and points to earlier days when the band was immersed in mystic and spiritual folklore. "World of War" quietly opens the back door, letting modernity in, and chugs aggressively toward an uplifting chorus typical of vintage Helloween. Had the six-piece stuck with the menacing romp of a syncopated guitar riff and rhythm-generating double bass, Helloween might have an entirely different record on their hands. A closer to the first section, "Far from the Stars" utilizes the same idea while intoxicated on melody, and "Live Now!" and "Burning Sun" slow down to mid-pace and orchestrate with cleverly lead synthesizer passages.

Skipping the next three songs, "Waiting for the Thunder," "Hold Me in Your Arms," and "Wanna be God," the album picks up again, albeit with the title track's painfully average melodies and predictable song structuring. Lacking enough power and finesse to have a record named after it, "Straight Out of Hell" falls short of expectations and narrowly avoids being lumped in with the lifeless mid-

section. Nevertheless, the record's experimentation with "A*****s" syn-copated guitar riffs, humorous antics, and strange transition into an overly poppy chorus redeem any dissatisfaction the prior left behind. But as expected, songs like this are instead fit for the 7 Sinner's track listing. "A*****" appears out of place here, no matter how fun its shenanigans are.

The last three songs are different enough from one another that *Straight Out of Hell*'s closing feels like quality. "Years" fashions another take on the time-perfected Helloween sound and tastefully sprinkles Hammond organ and orchestral tidbits around the sonic landscape. "Make Fire Catch the Fly" contrasts downtuned chugging with spitfire alternate picking, and "Church Breaks Down" opens eerily to a choir's lament before letting all hell run loose.

In light of *Straight Out of Hell*'s aggravating issues, the core material is actually very good and worth repeated listens. The first and third sections of the album fall in line with anything else the band has released recently, but poorly placed songs make the record worthy of only a mediocre rating. What *Straight Out of Hell* lacks is a fluid flow and careful arrangement of songs. Too bad because Helloween could have a seriously wonderful album on their hands, not a half-baked smorgasbord of music.

FRITZ COUTCHIE '15
RELIGIOUS COLUMNIST

On Monday, Pope Benedict XVI announced that he will retire on February 28. This marks the first time in 598 years that a pope has stepped down from the position. The 85 year-old Benedict cited infirmity and his diminishing strength as the reasons for ending his eight-year tenure. A disgusted product of Nazi Germany, Benedict furthered relations between the Jewish community and the Catholic Church, while trying to reaffirm traditional Catholic values within the Church. His reign was not without controversy; however, Benedict's papal views often appeared to run contrary to popular trends in opinion. He has been criticized as one who holds archaic and harmful views about Islam and homosexuality. In an increasingly secular world, with the majority of Catholics living outside of Europe, Benedict has also faced criticism for focusing too much attention on doctrine and tradition rather than trying to heal the ailing Church. Despite the criticisms Benedict has acted, as one would have expected as pope, and many of the criticisms should be aimed at the modern Catholic Church.

His decision to step down creates many questions within the Catholic Church. Benedict's retirement officially starts February 28, and the conclave to decide who will be the next pope will be held 15 to 20 days later. The selection conclave can last for a couple of hours or a couple of weeks. There is hope that the decision is made by Easter, which falls on March 31 this year. There is already speculation, as to who will be Benedict's successor. Although the majority of the world's Catholics live in Latin America, the majority of electors still come from Europe. The church is at a crossroads; it is still mired in scandal from numerous accounts of sexual abuse, many women feel discriminated, but the Church is at a high

in theological discourse and is more financially transparent than ever.

The arguments that will take place in the election of the new pope will deal with changing demographics, dwindling numbers of Catholics and whether the new pope should be a theological conservative or liberal.

Post retirement, Benedict will remain in Vatican City and there are still questions as to what his role in the Church will be. Benedict has stated that he will serve the Church through prayer without taking any direct influence in the Church unless asked to do so by the next pope. Catholic officials have also stated that Benedict will have no influence on the choice of his successor. Although there is canonical law about the retirement of a pope, there is still much to be decided about Benedict's life and title once his retirement occurs. Expect either Benedict or his successor to lay out some guideline for retired popes.

Benedict may best be remembered for the positive precedent he is now setting by retiring from the position of pope. Men lose strength, both mentally and physically at a certain age. Benedict's stepping-down at this point in his life may encourage others to do the same.



COURTESY OF CMGDIGITAL.COM

Pope Benedict, shown above, in that silly pope hat.

Posthauer, McManus Lift Track Over DePauw

Little Giants Continue Winning Ways

DEREK ANDRE '16
STAFF WRITER

Last weekend was another record setting weekend for the Wabash College Track and Field team as sophomore Ronnie Posthauer lowered his own record in the 60-meter hurdles at the Hoosier Hills Invitational at Indiana University this past Friday evening. Posthauer blistered the track with a time of 8.12 seconds, seven one-hundredths faster than his previous record of 8.19 seconds. Posthauer was one of only a few Wabash men to compete in Bloomington of Friday evening, as the team also competed in the DePauw Indoor Invitational on Saturday morning and afternoon.

The competition at DePauw boded very well for the Little Giants as the team was able to take the team title for the second time this season. Wabash scored a total of 133 points, which put them 14.25 points ahead of second place Rose-Hulman. Individuals on the Little Giant team also garnered significant success at the DePauw invitation this past weekend. The 60-meter hurdles dynamic duo of Ronnie Posthauer and Nathan Mueller took first and second, respectively, in that event while three other Wabash runners finished in the top eight. Mueller also placed third in the long jump with a distance of 6.27 meters.

In other events, Billy McManus finished first in the 3000-meter by

running a time of 8:33.41, a personal record for him. The 800-meter relay team of Joey Conti, Derek Rowe, Joel Whittington, and Chet Riddle placed first in that relay with a time of 1:33.24. Whittington also finished second in the 400-meter dash, running a time of 50.49 seconds, with Conti taking third in the event. Fabian House took second in the 1000-meter run, turning in a time of 2:35.79.

Three of the top four distance medley relay teams were comprised of Wabash runners, with the teams taking second, third and fourth respectively. Joel Beier took second for the Little Giants in the shot put with 14.97 meters, a season-best. Kris Nickle made another strong showing for Wabash in the high jump, placing second in the event with a mark of 1.88 meters.

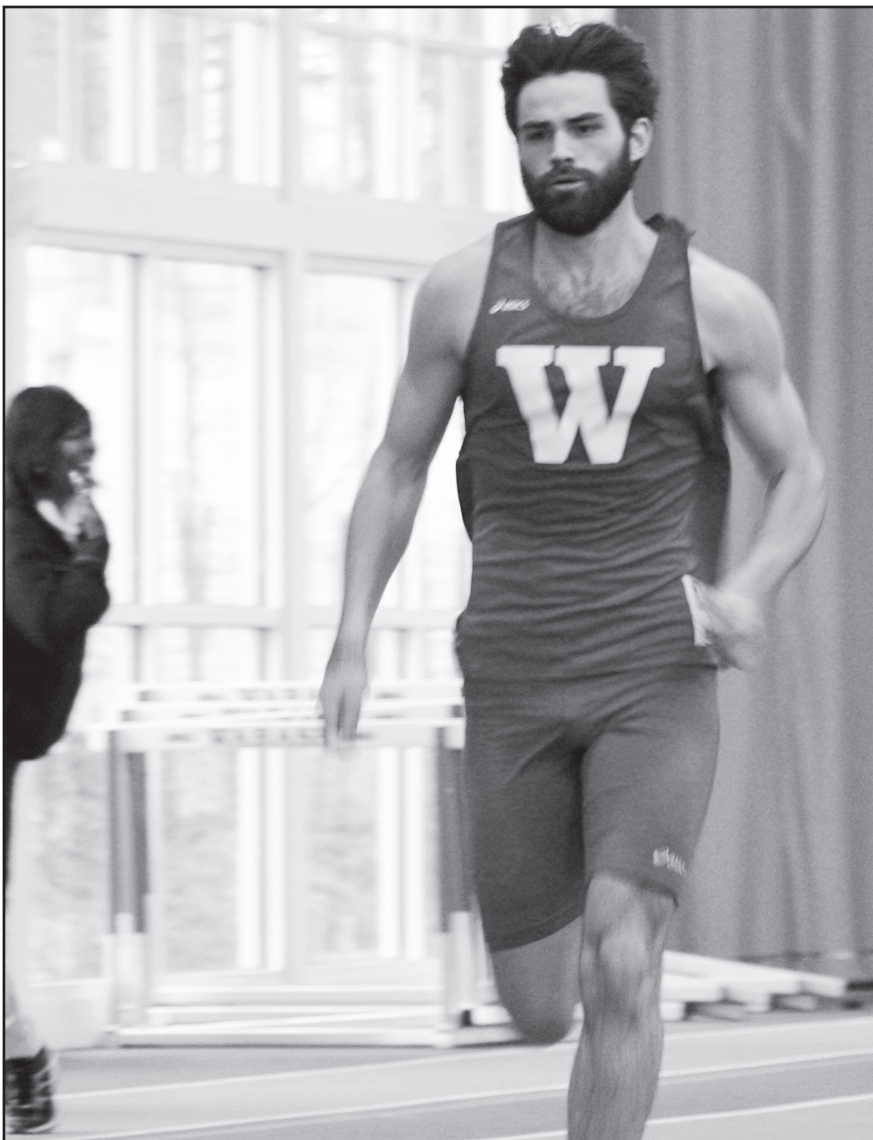
This season has had it fair share of excellent performances by Wabash runners. One of these runners who is turning in solid performances week in and week out is sophomore Billy McManus. Having finished in first place three times so far in this indoor season, with one of those coming this past weekend, McManus is having a superb year for the Little Giants. So far on the season, McManus has yet to finish outside of the top seven in any event he has participated in. For McManus, the success he is currently experiencing is most likely a direct

result of the hard work he put over the Christmas break.

"I have been having consistently good workouts since coming back to campus after winter break," McManus said. "This is definitely a product of putting in hard work over winter break as that period is essentially the first half of our indoor season, as far as training goes. As far as racing goes, I have become much more comfortable this season in racing situations, and it has been a goal of mine to work on the mental toughness aspect of racing so that I can begin to compete on a higher level."

The sky could be the limit for McManus after this hot start to the track season. He has had success so far through the season, but now the goal has to become trying to maintain this level of success. Despite the impending difficulties of continuing to compete at a high level, McManus still has lofty goals for the rest of the season.

"I am definitely excited for the rest of this indoor season and beyond because running fast is a lot of fun, and it is really my escape from classwork while I'm here," McManus said. "It is exciting to realize that I can make a big impact at the conference meet this year, and hopefully make it to the national meet with the DMR and certainly have a lot of fun there."



JOE SUKUP | WABASH '15
Chet Riddle (pictured above) was a big part in Wabash's win Saturday in the DePauw Invitational.

Wrestlers Prepare New Sense Of Urgency

FABIAN HOUSE '16
STAFF WRITER

Nothing can stop the Wabash Little Giants from winning the 2013 Mid-States Conference Tournament, except possibly injuries. The wrestlers, who are coming off of a five-win-streak and an undefeated home record, will be competing for a second straight conference victory at 9 a.m. at Alma College in Michigan.

Tim Locksmith '16 (133 pounds) said, "We don't put a whole lot of pressure on this week. There are some teams there that are in our regionals, so it is a good opportunity for the guys on our team to wrestle them and see what kind of competition we might have at regionals."

"This week doesn't mean a whole lot," Head Wrestling Coach Brian Anderson said, but the meet could mean something for Abraham Hall '16 (285 pounds).

"My personal goal is just to wrestle," Hall said. "So if I could wrestle my goal would be to win. We have not really talked about conference that much, obviously our goal is to do as well as possible, but our ultimate goal is to win regionals as a team."

The conference is not as significant due to the small number of teams in attendance, in addition to the fact that

there are no actual teams represented from the NCAC. However, Josh Sampson '14 (157 pounds) is looking forward to wrestling on Saturday.

"The tournament is not as tough as some of the other tournaments that we've been to, but still plays kind of an important role on how some things are going to fall at the end of the year," Sampson said. "It's a good opportunity for some of the guys that are nonstarters to get some good matches in. This is the last tournament that they will wrestle in for the year."

Not only that, conference will probably be the last opportunity Sampson and other wrestlers on the team have to qualify as Scholar All-Americans.

While many of the starting lineups will not compete due to injuries, starters competing look to conference as the last opportunity to prepare for nationals. Locksmith, who will be on the injured list Saturday, said,

"It is only three weeks for regionals, which is the most important time to qualify for nationals."

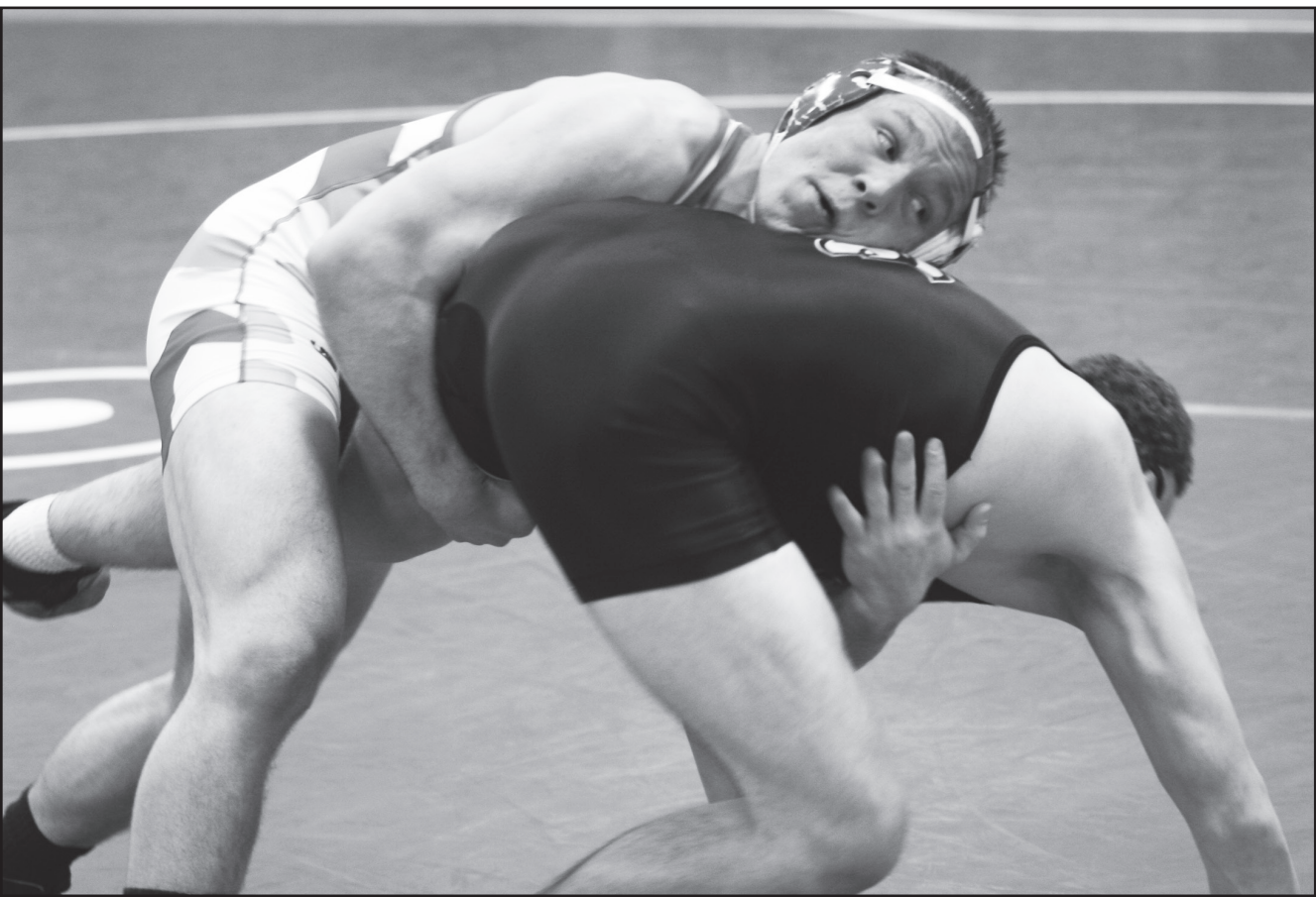
Injuries this year have been persistent problems for the grapplers throughout the season. Hall said, "It's kind of frustrating. Out at the Bud Whitehill Duals, we were wrestling the second day with five starters out and it's very easy to

say we would have won those duals had we had all our starters."

Hall is still excited about the potential the team has to perform at their best. "There are some guys that have pretty severe injuries that have hindered them in their abilities. We've got some guys that can be on the podium at nationals but their injury has hindered them. Hopefully they'll have had some time to heal . . . because if they are one hundred percent, they are easily top five in the nation," Hall said.

Mark Myers '15 (184 pounds) suffered a season-ending injury earlier in this season that has left his position needing to be filled. Reece Lefever (157 pounds) is also coming off an injury with a possibility he may compete at conference. It is a testament to the team that they have had strong individuals step up and compete at a high level.

Last week the wrestlers participated in their last home meet against Manchester College, cruising to a 46-4 victory. The victory is a good finish to the regular season, but this week the Little Giants have their focus on conference in hopes of heading into regionals with a victory.



COREY EGLER | WABASH '15
Austin O'Neal '13 (pictured above) will be the anchor for the wrestling team as they prepare for their push to the National title.

This Weekend in Wabash Sports

Friday:

Swimming @ NCAC 10:00am

Saturday:

Tennis @ Oberlin 9:00am

Wrestling @ Conference 9:00am

Basketball vs Oberlin 1:00pm

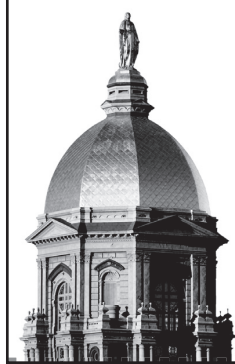
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For Basketball, Reason To Hope

BEN BRADSHAW '15
STAFF WRITER

After a slow start to the basketball season, the team is building momentum heading into its final stretch before the post season. This momentum has been fueled by three home victories in their last four games, with wins coming against Depauw, 8th ranked Wooster, and Kenyon.



COREY EGLER | WABASH '15

Ross Sponsler '16 will look to continue to be the spearhead of the Wabash offense as they continue their march towards the Conference tournament.

The team played tenacious defense in a win against Kenyon last Saturday at home. The visiting Lords came into the game with a 13-9 record on the season, but were held to only 27% shooting from the floor. With little offense, the visitors attempted to make up with their efforts on defense—they used this tactic a bit too aggressively, racking up 25 total fouls against the

Little Giants. Aided by free throw attempts, freshman guard Ross Sponsler had 19 points, senior post player Pete Nicksic had 9 points, and sophomore captain Kasey Oetting had 8 points.

Oetting returned to the hardwood floor after only playing one game this season before suffering a foot injury. He has missed the competition, but is looking forward to returning strong.

“It feels great to return from being injured,” Oetting said. “Basketball just isn’t the same watching it from the sidelines, especially in the middle of Conference play.”

He was dominant force last year when he played in 26 games; the team has undoubtedly missed the sophomore’s presence this season, especially in the close games where experience became a large factor. Looking ahead to the upcoming games, Oetting plans to step back into his role as a leader on the court. “I need to play hard and encourage the other guys on the team to do the same in order to keep our current momentum going into the postseason,” Oetting said.

Coach Carpenter noted Kasey’s prominent role on the team, both as a leader and a player. He’s glad to have the sophomore back. “I believe Kasey can have a huge impact on our run down the stretch. He provides another scoring option, rebounding, and most importantly, leadership.”

In looking at the current Conference picture, there are a number of things that could happen for the Little Giants. Coach Antoine Carpenter noted that by winning last Saturday’s game against Kenyon, the Little Giants moved themselves into 7th place in the Conference. With two Conference games left, against Ohio Wesleyan and Oberlin, there are many scenarios that could play out.

On Wednesday, the team traveled to Ohio Wesleyan to face a team that Coach Carpenter describes as a “very

talented, physical, and experienced team that plays extremely well together.” Currently, the Ohio Wesleyan team is ranked 2nd in the NCAC, so the Little Giants will surely have their hands full. On Saturday, the team hosts a mediocre Oberlin team in its final home game of the season.

“The Oberlin game is huge,” Carpenter said. “Not only will it help increase our standings in the conference, but it will be senior night and possibly our last game at Mac Petty court for the season.”

The NCAC tournament will begin soon after the weekend’s games, making a win Wednesday as well as a win in Saturday’s matchup against Oberlin even more crucial. “At this season, it’s very important to build momentum. If we’re able to get these two wins, I believe it’ll definitely help our confidence going into the tournament,” Coach Carpenter said.

Come out and support your Wabash basketball team at their Senior Day game against Oberlin. The game starts at 1 P.M. at Mac Petty court. Watch for seniors Pete Nicksic and Jordan Surenkamp to step up in what could be their last game on Mac Petty court. Also, watch for freshman standout Ross Sponsler to continue putting up points, and sophomore Kasey Oetting to make an immediate impact in the starting lineup.

Miller Takes Advantage Of Tennis Opportunities

FABIAN HOUSE '16
STAFF WRITER

When Wade Miller '14 is not playing tennis, you may find him on a study abroad trip in Ireland, working in California, or playing tennis at Wabash.

Miller is a math major and computer science minor who has taken advantage of his opportunities to experience life outside of Wabash, spending two months as a tennis camp counselor. Miller said, “Nike holds their tennis camp throughout the United States on different campuses, with Stanford being one of the predominate camping locations. They host a whole lot of kids ranked nationally.”

Miller first learned about this position through his coach. “Coach [Jason] Hutchison emailed the whole team about a job opportunity in California and I applied for it. He called me two weeks later to ask me a few questions and say they wanted me to work,” he said.

Miller is one of the individuals responsible for running the camp, “We weren’t just playing tennis all the time, we as counselors would organize events for the kids to have fun with.”

After he left on Sept. 2, Miller returned in December to the tennis team this year as the number one singles player and number two doubles. “Right now I’m really not in any other activities other than tennis,” Miller said. “This season I really didn’t expect much since in the fall I studied abroad in Ireland. So I really didn’t have time to hit. I hit twice while I

was over there.”

Miller is still overcoming lingering injuries as he is prepping for the next tennis match. “I’m still getting back into the groove of things; in practice, I am hitting the ball really well.” Miller is still working on translating results from practice into meets. “I haven’t been in match play for a while, so my practice game and match play are different right now. I am trying to work back into matches,” he said.

Miller enjoys getting to know his teammates, something he sees himself doing a lot on the team’s future trip to Orlando. Miller’s two and a half week spring break in Orlando is something he also looks forward to, not just for the experience of being in Orlando, but the bonding moments on the way to and from the meet. Miller enjoys pre-meet activities such as water pong and watching Nick Swardson’s “Seriously, who farted?” stand-up comedy on Comedy Central.

Miller’s study abroad was an opportunity to meet many people he would not often come in contact with. “I went through Butler and surprisingly, no one in my group was from Butler. I was the only one from Indiana, the closest person from here lives in Milwaukee.” Miller also got to brush shoulders with some very important people. “One of them was Dick Gould, who is the winningest coach in NCAA men’s history, he coached the Bryan brothers and the McEnroe’s. He coached some big names and it was pretty sweet. I worked with him for basically the whole time,” he said.



COREY EGLER | WABASH '15

Wade Miller '14 has taken advantage of all the opportunities that tennis has given him in his tenure at Wabash.

When it comes to coaching tips, Miller had this to say about Gould’s system. “His style is a little different though; he teaches basics and extra steps. It just puts a different perspective on how I learned how to play tennis. He would make even those all-time pros do those little tiny basic steps over and over again.”

Miller’s experiences overseas did not come without expense howev-

er. He said, “I spent a lot of money abroad traveling Europe and having fun; I went to 12 different countries. My bank account went from seven grand to about 50 dollars.”

Like many juniors, he is busy exploring other internship positions. “As of right now, I am applying for internships. I haven’t received any yet, but I have that job at Stanford still on the table so if I don’t get an intern-

ship I am just going to go back there. Which right now that’s what it looks like it’s going to be.”

But in the meantime, Miller can reflect with pleasure on his experiences out of state and overseas. “It was worth it and I had a great time, great experience, and I met a lot of cool people.”



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Support For L.G.B.T. Athletes Grows

RYAN LUTZ '13
SPORTS EDITOR

In the past month, the fight to end homophobia in athletics—at every level—has seen a tremendous surge. The most recent step was by Denver Nuggets forward Kenneth Faried, the first NBA player to publicly join Athlete Ally, a nonprofit organization aimed at combating homophobia in sports.

Faried was raised by his two

mothers in Newark, and had nothing but positive things to say from his experience.

“I have two moms and I love them both very much,” Faried said, in a statement to Athlete Ally. “I respect, honor and support them in every way. The bond I have with them has made me realize that I want all members of the LGBT community—whether they are parents, players, coaches or fans—to feel welcome in the NBA

and in all of our communities.”

Faried is not the only professional athlete to publicly oppose anti-gay bullying. Numerous NFL players have backed Athlete Ally’s cause, including Baltimore’s Brendon Ayanbadejo, Minnesota’s Chris Kluwe, Cleveland’s Scott Fujita and Houston’s Connor Barwin. Even rugby players from Australia are signing on their support for the antigay bullying movement. So far, there have been

no Major League Baseball players to public join Athlete Ally.

“A team achieves the most when every athlete respects one another,” Houston Texan linebacker Barwin said. “Supporting an openly gay player is a simple extension of that basic idea. Because of that and for many other reasons, I support and look forward to the first openly gay NFL player.”

If these men with their high status in society have signed on to fight against anti-gay bullying in sports, what is stopping society as a whole? Football and rugby players are often held up as some of the most masculine figures in athletics, yet they support Athlete Ally’s cause. Additionally, there have been numerous homosexual rugby players at the international level, which backs the fact that being gay doesn’t make you less of a man. Athletics is a prime opportunity to help combat unhealthy stereotypical notions of what it means to be gay.

Successes for equal treatment of LGBT individuals is gaining momentum all around us – from schools, legislatures, and board rooms across the country. Amazon’s and Microsoft’s CEOs have publicly spoken out for LGBT rights. Even the United States Military is starting to become a more welcoming place for those associated with the LGBT community. There have even been waves made in the hip-hop and R&B world when Frank Ocean made his announcement about romantically loving another man this past summer. The sports world is one

of the last closets in America.

It is important to realize that athletes have a certain level of influence on young people in the community. In the way that professional athletes have the ability to eradicate prejudice from sports, we have the same ability to do so in the Wabash community. In sports, it doesn’t matter how young, old, tall, short, gay or straight you are. What does matter is how well you contribute to the team and how you support your fellow teammates.

To talk about some of these issues, Purdue University professor Cheryl Cooky will speak this Tuesday, Feb. 19 on the sociology of sports and gender studies. Her talk, “Out in the Field: Understanding Homophobia in Sports,” is sponsored by the Gender Studies Committee and Enduring Questions.

People need to know they can be genuine and still compete at their highest level. One day Wabash College will have an openly gay athlete, and it is our responsibility to become a contemporary Pee Wee Reese. This breakthrough athlete will be a courageous man, going it alone in uncharted and choppy waters.

All it takes is one simple action to show our support. An arm around the shoulder is all that Pee Wee Reese and Jackie Robinson needed. And it is the little things that will determine how our school is viewed on LGBT issues. It is my hope that someday soon Wabash will be ready to accept an openly gay athlete into the pregame huddle.



COURTESY OF WM.EDU

Hudson Taylor (pictured above) is the founder of Athlete Ally, a nonprofit organization fighting homophobia in sports.

Tankers Focused On Times At Conference

JOCELYN HOPKINSON '15
STAFF WRITER

The Wabash College swimming and diving team will travel to Canton, Ohio today for the 2013 North Coast Athletic Conference Championships. The three-day event, which starts Thursday, will feature some of the top programs in the nation.

The NCAC is stacked with elite swimming programs. Denison, the defending NCAC champs and national champions in 2011 and 2012, is 19th in the CollegeSwimming.com rankings. Kenyon, winners of every NCAA men’s national championship from 1980 to 2010 until being unseated by the Big Red, is fifth in the rankings while DePauw, a third-place finisher at last year’s NCAC meet, is ranked 17th.

The Little Giants return nearly everyone from the group that placed fourth behind Denison, Kenyon, and DePauw at the NCAC championship meet last year.

Despite the national prowess displayed by the three conference foes, sophomore Aaron Troyer claimed Little Giant swimmers are only worried about themselves.

“As a team, we’re focusing on specific events and staying confident,” Troyer said. “We’re not necessarily worried about how fast Denison and Kenyon are; we’re concerned with our race and keeping our mind set on our own lane.”

Valentine’s Day won’t be the first time Wabash faces swimming powerhouses. Its first official meet of the year was at Denison in the debut of

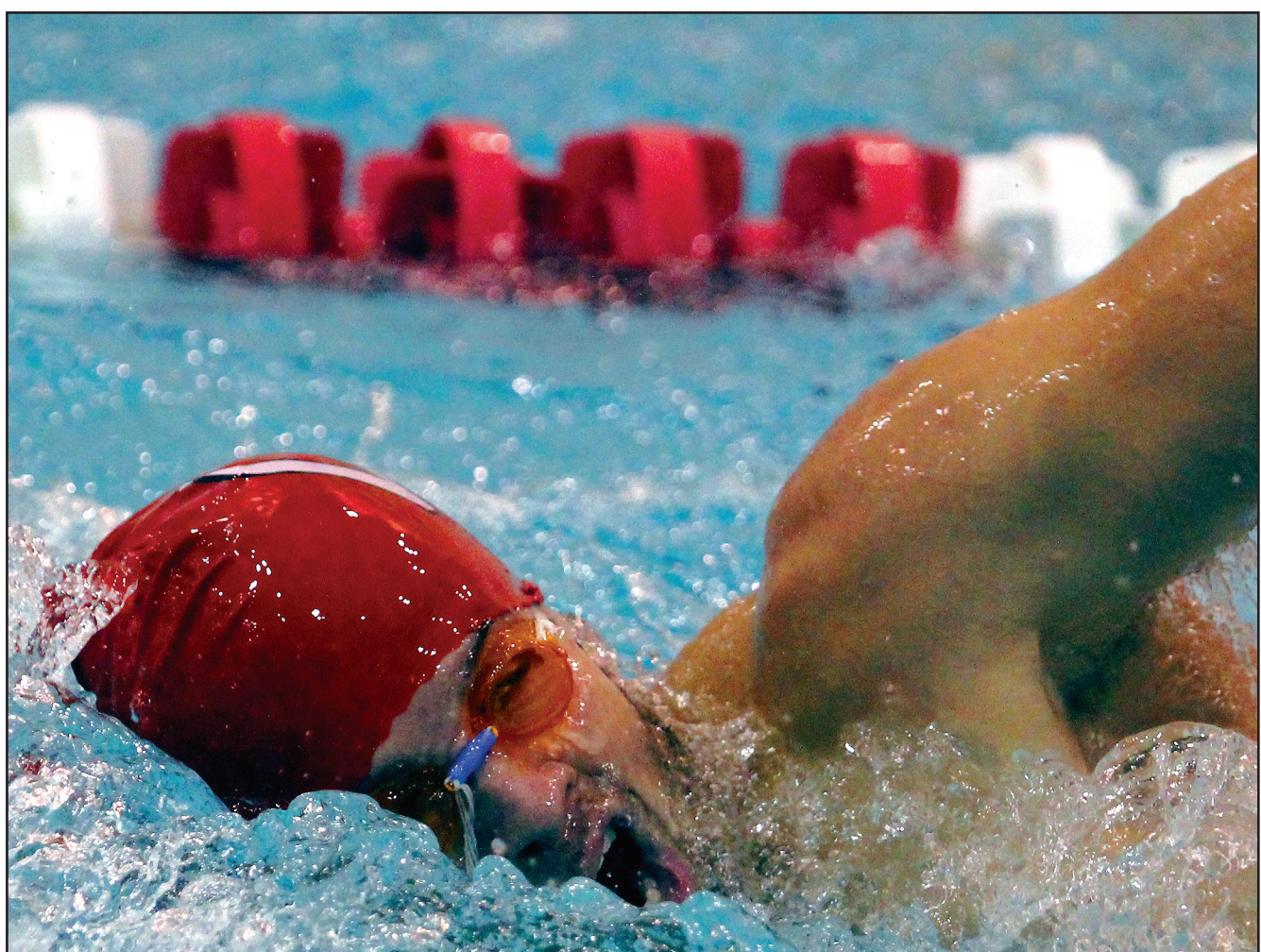
the school’s new natatorium — the future home of the NCAC championship meet. More recently, the Little Giants raced NCAA Division II’s University of Indianapolis and nationally-ranked Division III power Kalamazoo College. The exposure to these top programs is something Wabash will rely upon.

“Our guys know that nothing will surprise them in terms of times,” Coach Steve Barnes said. “If anything, our guys are just hungry. They want to win; they want to do well and perform at the level the other teams are at. For us, swimming against tough competition shows our guys where they want to be and how they’re going to get there.”

“We won’t be afraid of the competition, but instead, we’ll be ready for it,” Troyer added.

Troyer and his teammates are ready to do more than awe at Denison and Kenyon. Carter Adams, Zechariah Banks, Steve Batchelder, Elliot Johns, and Jack Belford are swimmers to watch for Wabash. Belford enters the week with the sixth-quickest time among NCAC swimmers in the 1650-yard freestyle (16:33.55) and is among the top-16 in the 500 free (4:45.76). Adams owns the best times for Wabash in the 100-yard butterfly (52.56), the 200 fly (1:55.36), and the 200 individual medley (1:59.29). Banks is in his first semester at Wabash after starting at Indiana University, but has already posted the team’s best effort this year in the 200 breaststroke (2:13.91).

Batchelder, along with Josh Bleisch, provide a powerful tandem



COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Aaron Troyer (pictured above) will try to anchor the Wabash swim team this weekend in the Conference Championships.

in the 100 breaststroke. Bleish is quickest with a time of 1:01.22 this year. Batchelder posted a 1:01.27 at the Calvin Invitational earlier in the season — a meet similar in structure to the NCAC Championship event. Johns holds top marks for the squad in the 100 free (47.09) and 200 free (1:44.08).

Troyer will also be ready to make

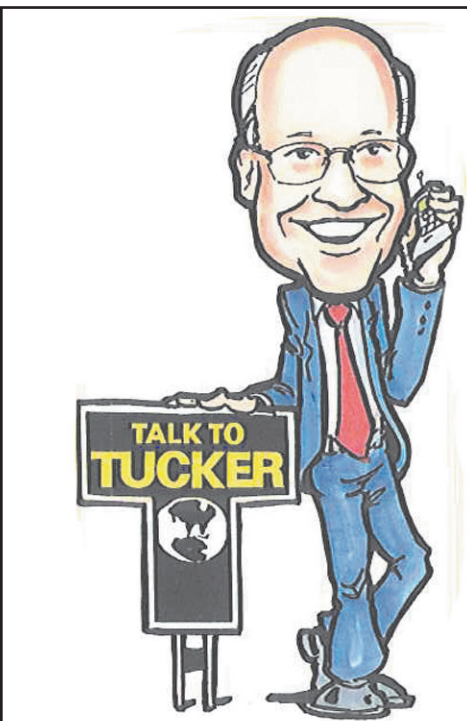
his mark at the NCAC meet. Earlier this year, he set the school record in the 100 meter backstroke with a time of 51.8 seconds.

“A lot of us are going for national cuts so we’re just we’re just concerned with ourselves and our team and no one else,” he said.

Troyer explained how he could still make nationals without obtain-

ing the qualifying time. If all the slots are not filled through automatic time qualifiers, then the guys with the fastest remaining times in the country will be invited to nationals—known as “B cuts.”

The conference meet will start at 10:00 a.m. February, 14 in the C.T. Branin Natatorium.



Good Luck At Conference, Swimming!

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