

THE BACHELOR

THE STUDENT VOICE OF WABASH COLLEGE SINCE 1908

SEEING THE FUTURE?

RUSK INSPIRES B-BALL
MILLER '17, P. 16

SEE PAGE 4

PHOTO BY KENDALL BAKER

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

GRIFFIN '13 APPEARS ON AMERICAN IDOL

Who could forget the fun loving personality of Tyler Griffin '13? While participating in Teach For America in Atlanta, Georgia, Griffin auditioned for American Idol. With a voice of an angel, Griffin made it to round five – in front of the famous judge panel of Jennifer Lopez, Keith Urban, Harry Connick Jr. Unfortunately, he didn't get that gold ticket. With the show going down the tubes, it is definitely their loss. He possesses some true talent.



CANDIDATE TALKS FEED THE HUNGRY

With open positions in Philosophy, Economics, Biology, and English, the campus has seen an influx in lunch talks. The talks provide lunch to attendees and thus have saved some lunch money from many members of the Wabash community. Johnny P's might be wearing people's appetites thin, but free food is free food. Hopefully, Jimmy John's or hot sandwiches will start to make an appearance.

"HOUSE OF CARDS" KEEPS MANY SINGLES COMPANY ON VALENTINE'S DAY

What more can be said? The popular Netflix series "House of Cards" will add some comfort to those individuals who will repeatedly forget that Valentine's Day even exists. Watching a political drama takes the excitement one would experience from spending the day with their significant other to investing it into pure entertainment.



COLLOQUY BRINGS CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TO CAMPUS

The Department of Rhetoric brought Associate Professor of Communication Studies and Director of the Center for Public Deliberation at Colorado State University Dr. Martin Carcasson. In addition to the address, the campus welcomed student and faculty representatives from Allegheny College, Colorado State University, Providence College, Colby College, and Kalamazoo College. There were workshops, office hours to meet with these representatives, and informational sessions.

ETIQUETTE DINNER SEEKS TO ADD CLASS

Wabash Career Services will host Mr. Anthony Cawdron, event planner for Purdue's president, to educate Wabash men on the do's and don'ts of professional dining etiquette. For an added bonus, a sorority will be joining for the event. The classy evening will hopefully reinvigorate the "gentleman"-dimension in all Wabash men.



PHOTO BY COREY EGLER '15

Volunteering for the Special Olympics allows for the Wabash community to live humanely.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR INCLUSION

TYLER HARDCASTLE | STAFF WRITER

• Wabash provides numerous opportunities for individuals to live humanely. Ranging from certain clubs to service trips, one will always have the chance to give back. One such chance will be Sunday, February 16, 2014 when Sigma Chi will be hosting the Special Olympics Basketball tournament.

This Sunday the Allen Center will host the annual Special Olympics Basketball tournament. At 9 a.m. the teams will arrive for the first games. The event promises to draw a record number of 60 teams this year. Chris Stazinski '16 has played an active role in planning the tournament after working as a volunteer last year.

"The event is for the participants enjoyment," Stazinski said. "That's my drive to do this, so that they have a great and memorable time."

The Special Olympics of Montgomery County, Wabash, and Sigma Chi sponsor the tournament. Stazinski has spent the past few weeks working with a Special Olympics representative named Russ Switzer, securing facilities and finding volunteers to staff the event.

"We do still need volunteers in the morning," Stazinski said. "Volunteers are either referees, timers, or score-keepers. They're [time slots] or only an hour, but I'd encourage people to sign up for longer because it helps me out and it's really not a lot of time."

The volunteers don't have to have formal experience to referee. Some of the games will be more relaxed; however, other game participants will prefer a fair and rigorous official.

VOLUNTEERING

WHEN: Sunday, February 16 starting at 9 a.m.

WHERE: Allen Athletic Center

FYI: There are volunteer positions for officiating, time keeping, and score keeping

Those interested in participating can contact Stazinski via email at cjstazin16@wabash.edu. This year's large number of teams makes the number of volunteers important.

"It's awesome to see their eyes light up when they make a basket, it's a humbling experience," Stazinski said. "There were a few teams here this past Sunday playing some games, they were talking about this Sunday's tournament and it was really cool to know that I played a role in organizing that. That's why we need volunteers to help it go smoothly."

The partnership between the Sigma Chi house and the Special Olympics of Montgomery County has persisted for years. Furthermore, Wabash has had a Best Buddies chapter that also seeks to build healthy friendships between Wabash students and individuals with developmental and physical disabilities.

These chances of inclusion illustrate the value that Wabash men and the college community have in treating all people with respect. The Special Olympics provides the opportunity to witness passionate and talented individuals play a sport with vigor.

BACHELOR

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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.

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MENTAL HEALTH DEMANDS PRIORITIZATION

THROW THE STIGMA AROUND MENTAL HEALTH OUT, IT'S TIME TO TACKLE THE ISSUE HEAD ON.

SCOTT MORRISON '14 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • Conversations about mental health can be taboo at times on a small all-male campus. The prevailing mindset can become that Wabash is tough but that each man here can toughen up and bear it alone.

Nothing can be further from the reality of college life. A heavy course load, athletic injuries, a loss at home, shortened winter days, or lower than expected grades can all take a toll on a student's mental health. "In the counseling center, we are about mental health," Counselor Jamie Douglas said. "We are about that positive end of it. Of course we address the symptoms that people come in with, but we are a resource on this campus that you are blessed to have for no additional cost. We are all here to help you be successful, so we want that stigma to be lessened with regard to mental health counseling because we all need it at some point in our life."

One of the biggest goals of Douglas

COUNSELING

WHEN: 11 am - 1 pm Mon-Thurs

WHERE: Armory Basement

COST: Free

and Director of Counseling Kevin Swaim has been to make students aware of the fact that the counseling center is a resource on campus for students. "Not every student who goes through four years here is going to have a mental health issue defined as impairing or longstanding or meets the criteria for some diagnosis," Swaim said. "Certainly people are going to have the normal depression, anxiety, disappointment, break-ups, so amongst the whole group of people those normal events are likely to happen."

The key, according to counselors, is to have enough students are aware of support services on campus that if someone needs help, a fellow student will be able to point them in the right direction. "As a small, compact campus, I think we are in much better



Kevin Swaim

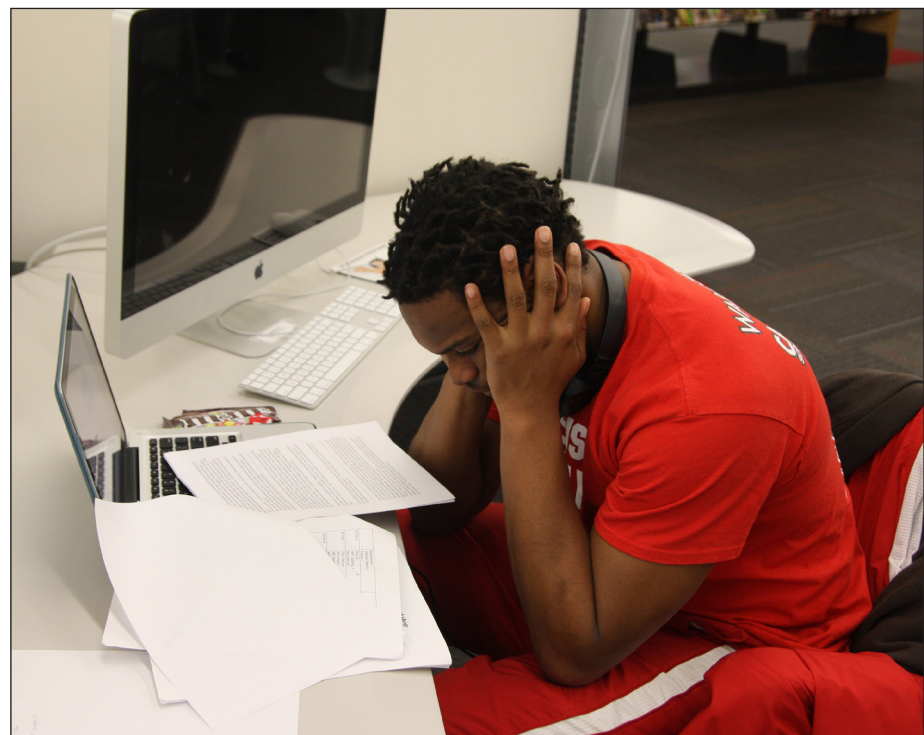


PHOTO BY COREY EGLER '15

With the rigorous Wabash schedule, often time academics can cause serious stress.

shape to extend that consideration to students and peers on campus simply because there is no real corner of cam-

pus that is hidden from view," Swaim said. "From that standpoint I think

SEE **HEALTH**, P5

CO-ED ENVIRONMENTS OFFER BENEFITS, DRAWBACKS

COLE CROUCH '16 | STAFF WRITER

• The experiences students receive studying abroad or off-campus are much different than the experiences students receive studying here at Wabash. Traveling across the world introduces students to several different experiences that Wabash does not provide; one of the most obvious of these experiences is living in a co-ed environment.

Spending a semester abroad or off-campus requires adapting to different environmental, educational and social conditions. In many ways, these differences contrast with the conditions of the Wabash all-male experience. Nevertheless, those students studying abroad or off-campus must adapt to living a semester in a co-ed environment.

"If I had to describe it, I'd say it was kind of like a British version of Friends," Will Folsom '15 said via email. He is currently studying abroad at the University of York in England, and he is living with three other guys and six girls. "Can I walk to the shower with no pants on? No. Do we have house conflicts? Occasionally."

One difference is that clothes and a good sense of hygiene are required in living units. Besides environmental dif-



Will Folsom '15

ferences, the co-ed experience offers educational and social differences.

"The social scene was a lot more fun and prevalent," Andrew Dettmer '15 said. He studied at the University of Edinburgh, and he lived in a flat with three girls and another guy. "Seeing girls in a social setting was not just confined to Friday and Saturday."

In the classroom, he mentioned the girls were very articulate, and he noticed that on many controversial topics his male classmates would shy away from answering.

In fact, when Dettmer asked those guys why they would shy away so quickly after a girl challenged them, those students responded by saying that they "did not feel comfortable with the confrontation, or they were interested in the girl and didn't want to blow their chances."

It doesn't always take a journey to Great Britain to note the differences. Tyler Hardcastle '15 spent last summer and fall studying at the Kelley School of Business in IU Bloomington.

"It was an incredible difference from Wabash because it was a huge school as opposed to the gender difference," he said. "There was not a lot of class interaction, so I didn't really notice the



Tyler Hardcastle '15

co-ed experience in the classroom."

Students considered these environmental, educational, social experiences, and they compared them to their semesters spent thus far at Wabash.

"Overall it's been good, but as positive as my experience here has been, I wouldn't trade my bros at that ramshackle 13 Harry Freedman Place of ours for the world," Folsom said.

Outside of the social arena, Dettmer described the other characteristics he has witnessed at Wabash not present at the university he studied at abroad.

"I absolutely appreciate Wabash more after studying abroad," Dettmer said. "The academic environment, camaraderie between faculty, staff, and students is far superior; and I believe that our all-male aspect breeds that environment."

Hardcastle echoed Dettmer's sentiments regarding faculty-student relationships.

"I appreciate Wabash because the interactions here between students and faculty are going to be invaluable in the scheme of things," Hardcastle said.

Hardcastle, Dettmer, and Folsom have had the opportunity to compare these environments. However, it seems



Andrew Dettmer '15

"The academic environment, camaraderie between faculty, staff, and students is far superior; and I believe that our all-male aspect breeds that environment."

DETTMER '15

that the single-sex environment with its drawbacks yields benefits many students can appreciate. Wabash also has the added perspective given by our female faculty and staff members. As the debate that surrounds single-sex versus co-educational learning environments, these students have contributed valuable insight into the discussion.

ARCHITECTS SEEK TO INTEGRATE TRADITION AND MODERN LIVING

SCOTT MORRISON '14
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • Tradition meets modern living. The initial drawings architectural firm Shepley Bulfinch brought to campus this week epitomize that simple phrase.

Representatives from Shepley Bulfinch unveiled initial drawings to students, faculty, and staff that included a multitude of floor plans including singles, doubles, triples, and quads in varying layouts and styles. "Providing a diversity of unit types and choices for the students was a very important thing when we started having the conversations with student groups and then we talked to Dean Raters and Associate Dean Oprisko," Project Architect Jeremy Kotter said.

A preliminary estimate of the total cost of the project is 14 million dollars, but that could be influenced by additional factors such as preparation of the site, grading, parking, and utilities among others.

Another emphasis for the firm was to create buildings and spaces that were consistent in scale with the rest of campus. The tallest planned buildings called halls are only three stories, which is similar to what Morris and Wolcott are now. Shepley Bulfinch also had designs for medium sized buildings known as lodges and the smallest,

most contemporary townhomes.

Not only do the buildings offer a plethora of comfortable modern spaces, but the hope is that they will also resemble the traditional style of the Wabash campus. In order to achieve this goal, as well as others, Shepley Bulfinch worked with the College to draft a set of guiding principles to think about as they began designing spaces.

"One of the guidelines that we developed is that we want to respect the tradition on campus, the existing Wabash tradition, but sort of create timeless buildings that can be a timeless architecture that still can look to the future a little bit," Kotter said. In order to capture the traditional look, the firm plans on using red brick, limestone bases, and the same kind of roofing which can be found at the top of buildings like Hays and Detchon among others.

Maintaining tradition is important to Wabash men in almost all aspects of the College. The more than fifty students who stopped by to review the drawings responded to them very positively. "I was ecstatic to hear that the architects are very much about keeping Wabash, Wabash," Alejandro Reyna '17 said. "They know how much we care about tradition and the College's past and have mirrored that in their master

plans."

The hope is that the traditional look of the new housing will create a space that meshes with the rest of campus. One of the primary goals is also to strengthen Crawford St. which already sees traffic from the fraternities on the Northwest side of campus down to the Allen Center. As Crawford St. takes on more importance and gets a facelift, Harry Friedman will take on more importance as a connection between the mall and the new area.

Despite the excitement the drawings provide, the College and the architectural firm are still very early in the process of designing and creating this new space on campus. Based on feedback received this week, Shepley Bulfinch will do another set of revisions to provide the steering committee in the next few weeks.


After that, a few more rounds of revisions will follow before a schematic pack is put together for approval by the College trustees, the steering committee, and the College. If those three groups give the thumbs up at that point, the drawings will be able to be finalized.

Because it is so early, these designs could slightly change. "Part of why we are here on campus is to make sure that we listen to feedback so we don't

get too far down the road and we get constant feedback on what we are doing, so that we can make sure and adjust," Kotter said. "We actually made a big adjustment from just two weeks ago when we were on campus to adjust the mix of the units from singles to doubles because we heard some pretty strong feedback, so we are constantly taking the feedback we get and modifying to get closer to what feels like the best solution for Wabash."

When building does commence in the next few years, there will be multiple stages to the construction and other projects on campus. "We think after the new housing we would probably want to look at possibly renovating Martindale," President Gregory Hess said. "Then after that we would probably start thinking through the campus center, but the sequences can change depending on financing options or other opportunities. We are building new housing, so that requires less sacrifice in the immediate run. The campus center would require something to be done about Sparks. That takes a lot of planning."

A survey should come out in the next week or so for students who were unable to stop in with the architects this week can give their own feedback on campus housing and food options.



IAWM
The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men

"Hey, man, is that WallyTunes?"
"Well, turn it up, man!"

IndyWabash.org



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we are much better than a campus of 20,000 people and people living in private apartments. It's heartwarming to believe our students provide that level of compassion for one another that I think we benefit from. Don't be afraid to be direct. That is a significant tip."

Communication is a major key between students to maintain a healthy mental state. In addition to communication, Douglas believes in a foundational philosophy. For her, sleep, nutrition, exercise, and time management are four major pillars of mental health.

While it can be difficult as a college student to get eight hours of sleep a night, counselors like Douglas stress the importance of getting long periods of uninterrupted sleep at night. "The number one thing guys do not get enough of and do not get quality is sleep," Douglas said. "Sleep is so, so critical. I get that it is hard, but if you make a concerted effort to have a fairly good routine and if you are shooting for eight hours a night and you make your environment good [you can do it]."

Sleep takes on extra importance because of how much the brain of an 18 to 22-year old works during the

day. The brain needs a time to rest and process information at night.

In contrast to sleep, it is also key to get exercise on a consistent basis. Getting exercise can be especially challenging as the winter months drag on because of the snow and bitter cold weather this year. Swaim encourages students to try to find a substitute for outdoor activities during the cold weather.

Exercise does not have to be extensive to contribute positively to a student's mental health. "You don't have to be part of an organized sport," Douglas said. "My mom would always say 'just get outside and get the stink blown off of you.' Walk, move, run, play some ping pong, go shoot some hoops. Do something. That helps with our quality of sleep. Exercise is really beneficial in helping with depressive symptoms."

Time management has been key for leaders on campus like former Sigma Chi President and Glee Club Member Clay Lengerich '15. "I worked out quite a bit in the afternoon to get rid of the stress from the day before getting into my homework grind," Lengerich said. "Second, I have found that getting up in the morning and having enough time to sit and relax for a little bit before class or activi-



Clayton Lengerich '15



Jamie Douglas

"We are all here to help you be successful, so we want that stigma to be lessened with regard to mental health counseling because we all need it at some point in our life."

DOUGLAS

ties helps wake you up for the day and makes everything seem a lot less stressful. Third, just stay organized. Stress really sets in when you forget something important - keeping your schedule organized really helps alleviate that."

While time management is key, it is not the whole story, and support can be needed at times throughout the year. "It's not necessarily a heightened workload and rigor that seems to get people in a bad spot," for-

mer Student Body President Jeremy Wentzel said. "It's when personal trials and emotions are overwhelming, in combination with heightened workload and rigor. Unfortunately, this state of being becomes ground for symptoms of depression. Students should, in that circumstance, seek conversation and advice from Jamie Douglas in the Counseling Center, in the basement of the chapel."

The Counseling Center is open Monday through Thursday from 11 am to 1 pm. "Jamie Douglas is an amazing counselor, and most Wabash men who visit the center see her, but she is unfortunately stretched thin," Wentzel said. "I am confident that our counseling center will be radically improved and services expanded, in the coming months. Although, students should be encouraged to hold the Dean of Students office and other administrators to account, through continuing to set expectations higher for the counseling services offered here."

"There are many ideas among many students for expanded services, but without students pushing for them, Wabash may continue to be outpaced by our peer institutions in counseling services offered. This is not an area where the common 'Wabash is unique' line of reasoning is even close to an acceptable answer. On the topic of depression, students' lives can be at stake; therefore action on behalf of our student life organization is greatly needed."

CURRENT BUILDINGS FACE HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY CHALLENGES

IAN ARTIS | STAFF WRITER •

Wabash is old. Very old. That's something Wabash prides itself on, because with age comes a distinguished and beautiful tapestry of history. Wabash's buildings are embodiments of its history. They are historic brick buildings with historic names. While these structures are a source of pride and beauty, some pose problems for students who may not be as mobile as others.

Some buildings just aren't as accessible as others, and it can pose a serious problem. Center Hall, one of the oldest buildings on campus, is not wheelchair accessible past the first floor. Because of its age and design, Center Hall would be a nightmare to renovate.

So, what if a student in a wheelchair or on crutches desires to take a class taught on the second floor of Center Hall? That situation has arisen in the past and is something that the administration is prepared to handle. "I was talking with Dean Raters about a student who might need some assistance [a few weeks ago]," President Gregory Hess said. "He said if we need to, we can always move the classes. I think

the College, as it designs facilities (much like with some fraternities and other new buildings done or major retrofits) has added opportunities to be more accessible for all students. We realize that some of our older buildings don't go as far as we would like, but we will address them as we get the chance."

What if that student also desired to rush a fraternity that wasn't wheelchair accessible? "Most of the buildings have been updated and have access to get in and out," Hess said. "The buildings where there will take bigger conversations are ones like Sparks, Morris, Wolcott and the Armory. Those are probably the big ones that don't have all the access they need."

While there are buildings on campus that aren't as accessible as the College would like, new spaces being planned like new independent housing and a new student center would be accessible for all.

Andy Carpenter '15 is one such student on campus who must think about what building accessibility is like from a wheelchair. "I don't really need to be in most buildings that don't have

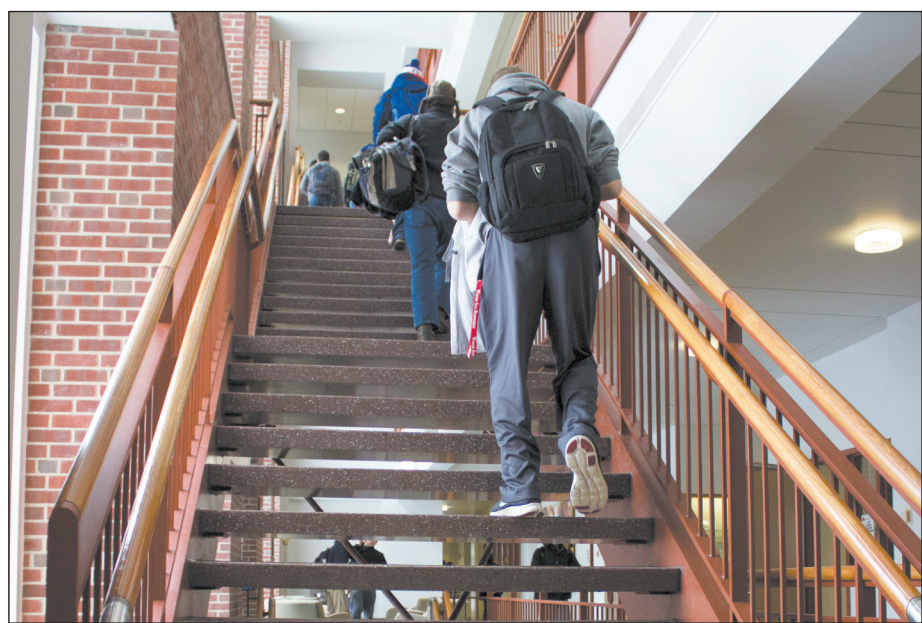


PHOTO BY KENDALL BAKER :16

Many buildings at Wabash lack elevators. However, students with physical disabilities face challenges with a lack of accessibility in those older buildings.

elevators," Carpenter said. "For fraternities, it stinks sometimes because I need help getting in and out, but I

really don't care anymore," Carpenter said. "I'm used to it; you have to change and adapt to everything."

GREEKS: STEP UP AND SELL

In my article last week I talked about the fact that numbers among Greeks are supposedly down, and after a brief talk with Dean Raters I have discovered that while on the face this is true, there is more to the story. Greek housing is only 30 students short of maximum capacity right now, and if you added back in Delta Tau Delta, Greek life at Wabash would be at one of its peak numbers. And while bringing back Delta Tau Delta may take years, there is something the current Greek community can do right now to help speed up that process. Stop complaining, get to work, and step up and sell your product.

I've heard far too often from Greeks on campus this semester who fear that new independent housing will make it harder to keep the fraternity system alive at Wabash. Well I'm here to tell you, that you're just plain wrong and if that is the attitude you have; you are doing far more to hurt Wabash Greek life than any new housing ever could. Greek life at Wabash is unique and has much to offer to any student who comes to Wabash; but we as a community must step up and both improve the product and sell our product in a better way.

On this campus we have several



Andrew Dettmer '15

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THE PROBLEM:

Greeks on-campus are being too complacent in how they market themselves during Honor Scholar weekend.

THE SOLUTION:

Look for ways to constantly improve. Reach out to faculty, advisers, and within.

houses who have been recognized by their nationals for outstanding success, we have houses that have turned out hundred of successful alumni and graduate brothers, we have houses who are consulted by other chapters on how to improve their own situations, but most of all we have chapters filled with men who care about one another. All of these things

are what we should be selling on Honor Scholar Weekend.

And of course, talk about the great parties you throw, your amazing formals, and the huge tailgates for the football games; but those things are only incidental to why you should have gone Greek, and what's going to convince the next generation of guys to join your house. These guys are coming to campus looking for a place where they can grow, excel, change, and find themselves during college. A Greek system which highlights the chances for leadership, the improved scholarship, networking possibilities, and a lifelong brotherhood, in addition to great parties, will be the Greek system that thrives on this campus.

All of our houses have grown far too complacent, and we as a Wabash Greek system have believed that because it has always been that way, it will always be that way. We are incredibly blessed that the College puts so much trust in us for Honor Scholar Weekend and other recruiting events. Not too many colleges would place hundreds of prospects in fraternity houses. We need to repay them for their trust and always be working to improve the product that Wabash is showing to its prospective students. If your house is

struggling academically, talk with other houses, the College, your alumni, and most importantly yourselves and find ways to improve. If your house lacks a signature philanthropy event that shows the community outside of Wabash that your house cares about more than just drinking and girls; start planning one. If your members aren't getting involved with campus organizations, challenge your brotherhood to each join one new organization and participate. If you're low on numbers, consider looking at freshmen who might consider pledging next year. It will not be new independent housing, President Hess, or society that kills Greek life at Wabash; it will be apathy.

So as we all start to prepare for the Honor Scholar Weekend, and the accompanying rush, we all need to take the time to look at our houses' strengths and weaknesses and sell what is great and improve what isn't. We as a Greek community are in a place similar to Wabash, we can choose to be defined by others and choose to endorse the status quo; or we can choose to define ourselves, sell our unique benefits and brotherhoods, and grow stronger than ever before. I've made up my mind, gentlemen; I hope you're with me.

HOW WE ADDRESS CLASS SIZE AT WABASH

Aside from the whole "all-male" thing, nothing seems to astound Wabash-newcomers as much as the size of our student body.

For a moment I'd like to see if we can set aside the portions of our brains that are already decided on whether Wabash's 900-man campus is the optimal size; I'd like to approach the topic the same way that a high school senior might, or a long-lost alumnus seeing the campus and its workings for the first time in years.

There is a good amount of standard, pro-Wabash rhetoric thrown around on flyers and pamphlets; many of us were swayed into attending Wabash by similar marketing. These brochures and cardstock booklets suggest a few reasons for why our size might be beneficial or even optimal.

First and foremost on most of the Wabash advertising is our student-to-faculty ratio, which then becomes a natural transition into discussions about average class size. The conversation ends with a flourish on the unique



Ryan Horner '15

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opportunity at Wabash for student-professor collaborative relationships.

Of course, the recent and unending snowfall reveals the real reason we're all so pleased with a small student-body: a small campus that is almost bearable in the snow.

However, I'd like to attempt an explanation at a less-obvious (and yet possibly the most important) reason for why our small student body size is optimal.

To some degree, as a freshman the sheer number of possibilities we were afforded on campus overwhelmed me. We are given the opportunity to join

teams, clubs, societies, or informal social circles; if none of those groups fit our needs, we're invited to create our own.

Academics at a liberal arts college functions in much the same way, it turns out. During our first few years here, it seems we are fair game to persuasion by professors of all departments; do well in their classes and they'll quickly pose the "Have you considered majoring in X or Y?" question. Our distribution classes lead to reconsidered minors or double-majors, and the plans that we entered Wabash with inevitably change.

Friends introduce us to new friends; Advisors introduce us to professors that teach an interesting class or participate in an interesting club. Over time, out of the muck and chaos of sheer possibility comes a faint trajectory, hints of a plan. Much like Risk or other board games based on world domination, soon the original mess of missed connections becomes a strategy that you can point to and adjust.

I think that my fellow juniors are arriving at that point. It's true that the

phrase "after Wabash" still gets our blood pumping with the wrong kind of excitement. However, by now we know our ways around the inner workings of academia and we can navigate the sea of possibility to find a place that we can make a difference.

That feeling of control (the eventual point where we understand who pulls which puppet strings, and why) is a long time coming. But because our campus is of such a small size, we can eventually arrive at the control center of our own Wabash experience. We can eventually gain control over our own route through Wabash, and we finally leave this College as empowered individuals, ready to take on an even larger form of chaos.

And in the end, Wabash might be most useful to us because it becomes the biggest game of Risk that we have played yet in our lives. By the end, if we can figure out which levers to pull and which to avoid, we can manage our way through the mess of possibility that is a college education at a small school like Wabash.

VALENTINE'S DAY FROM THE MALE'S POINT OF VIEW

People make plans in preparation for Valentine's Day. Big surprise there. There are flowers ordered, rings monogrammed and placed in champagne (don't choke), giant teddy bears purchased, and cards carefully picked out. Hallmark CEOs wring their hands greedily in anticipation of this day. Edible Arrangements laughs at your budget. Stores everywhere throw open their doors with a slew of every color in between crimson and magenta so that you may take part in the festivities – that is, if you want, or more likely need to take part in these festivities.

No, the worst part of V-Day isn't all of the gushing, nor the sweating over details. It isn't the squealing over cutesy Victoria's Secret gifts or Bath and Body Works bags overflowing. The worst part isn't the "I love you" written on the back of a Starbucks gift card (someone please slide one of those my way ANY day of the year), and it's not even the outpouring of vomit-worthy sentimental



**Ian
Artis '16**

Reply to this editorial at
idartis16@wabash.edu

tweets and Facebook statuses and pictures that make you want to empty yourself to the point of spitting bile.

The worst part is people who complain about the day because they are single. And bitter. You can't be both, people. Pick one struggle and stick with it. Bitter singles are the number one cause of throwing the phrase "you're sipping haterade" nationwide. These people pretend like they can't stand the pink hearts and candy. They throw

dirty glances and eye rolls at people freaking out over a date, or mooning over the "perfect" bouquet. Don't hate the players, hate the game. Seriously – it's not that bad. There's no reason to feel bad on this day just because it's mostly celebrated by couples – and for those of us in relationships, don't let V-Day be the only major outlet for affection. Do stuff like that periodically.

No need for ladies to drown themselves in sad movies and Haagen-Dazs, and no need for guys to pretend like they didn't want a lady to spoil. It's okay to want love and affection and to "give in to the hype" of V-Day. Just be honest with yourself about it. It's just unhealthy to spoil someone else's good times because you can't face facts: you're single and unhappy. Do something about it. Get out there, get active, say hello, and meet someone new. Nothing worth having comes easy, and you can bet that anyone who's spent double-digit years with the same valentine would say the same thing. Don't be

the person that pretends to gag when they see a giant bundle of roses poorly hidden behind some dude's back – unless you're me, and you really might gag, because cute stuff is gross. But I won't do it audibly!

While I'm here, I'd like to throw this in: I'm so sorry (sarcasm) to collectively burst some bubbles, but my pin is sharp, so here goes – Valentine's Day isn't just for the ladies. Not to come off as misogynistic or anything else that would make a feminist frown, but men deserve to be doted on by the ladies as well. Don't make this all about YOU because a relationship involves TWO. Make sure he knows he's loved and appreciated by getting his favorite cologne, sports magazine subscription, tanning package, or hair frosting kit – yeah, I caught some of you guys. Let's have a safe and happy Valentine's Day, and be safe driving back and forth to restaurants so pricey they'll have your debit cards chuckling. Be sure to bring me leftovers – I love rolls.

WELCOME TO YOUR NEW GOVERNMENT

The year is 2048; Jimmy is sitting in a nicely decorated office. He is one of the first people in Indianapolis to use the Employment-Matching Machine Assistant (EMMA) to find his new job. A young woman pulls his data on a miniature projection device and asks him to verify his identity. Jimmy does not need to enter any of his information; the machine is able to pull his legal information from a government server, his interests from his personal communication devices, and his education, accolades, references and legal issues from various public data servers. Jimmy verifies his identity using his personal identification card and slowly sips his coffee. Within minutes EMMA selects his career, Jimmy is now a customer service representative with a major internet market place. Jimmy is pleased and chuckles to himself that his parents had to actively find employment, work five days a week and spend an hour a day commuting.

Now that his career is decided, Jimmy sends a message to the vehicle he shares with his three neighbors telling it to come pick him up. When the vehicle arrives Jimmy will punch in his destination and watch his favorite program or maybe video-chat his girlfriend.

I do not present the above scenario as mere science fiction; Jimmy lives in a Datatocracy, we likely will as well. A Datatocracy is a government run by "Big Data" Analytics, it functions similarly to stereotypical socialism: centrally planned economy, little personal privacy from the government, it benefits most the working poor and middle classes, and a limited ability for individual political participation.

The Datatocracy facing the United States may not be severe as the one defined, much like the democratic and capitalist systems



**Fritz
Couthie '15**

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which govern are not as severe as their respective definitions. The transition from the current system to the Datatocracy will be gradual and a majority of the citizens will welcome the individual changes. I will present one hypothetical path to Datatocracy.

The combined implementation of "smart grids" for utility transfer, systems such as IBM's Smarter Cities, and hubs that can collect both individual's meta- and personal data, will provide the infrastructure and framework that will develop the future government.

A "smart grid" links all utilities through an automated hub, sensors can compute the amount of energy delivered to each house without having them checked by people. "Smart grids" can better integrate alternative sources of energy into the energy transmission media and can be centrally managed. Theoretically one computer could control the power grid of an entire state. Smart grids are currently being pushed by the United States Government through the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

IBM's "Smarter Cities" initiative is one example of a multitude of fully integrated city management systems being developed and piloted throughout the world. The "Smarter City" would be able to use the

existing sensory and data collection equipment to optimize the efficiency with which law enforcement and emergency services operate by using a centralized computing center to analyze collected data and almost instantaneously send it to the proper authorities. Metadata will allow cities to optimize traffic flow, aid in future planning, and increase healthcare efficiency. The smart grids will work within the computing hub of the city management system. Honolulu, Hawaii implemented a component of IBM's Smarter Cities approach using cloud-based government files and studies to increase efficiency in delivery of city services.

Before Edward Snowden leaked classified documents to the United States, I assumed that the data collection, both meta- and individual, would organically filter to governments after private sector success. Currently metadata is public record; it does not identify any specific individual, only patterns. Data collection hubs are crucial to the development of a Datatocracy. The combination of the public metadata and the private records that the government can access will allow for very specific demographic groupings. These groupings will allow for the "Personalized Socialism" that will drive the future Datatocracy.

The transition between the implementation of these systems and the new socialism is natural. It will begin at the local level. Mayors, council people and city planners will rely on the computer systems to indirectly create optimal budgets, direct emergency personnel, build city planning initiatives, and best provide the delivery of services. Cities that well utilize integrated computing systems will have an incredible advantage over those who do not. The smart grids will lower utility costs for

individuals. The improved traffic flow and service delivery will help attract new businesses to the cities that first implement these systems. Other cities will then adopt the same computing systems to compete economically.

Once there is widespread adoption by cities, states will adopt similar systems to help facilitate the transfer of information between cities and to collect the civil information. States will be able to better utilize their law enforcement agencies, optimize social welfare programs and control the smart grids. In this framework city officials become figureheads, their main purpose is to present the computer's suggestions to the public. Legislatures become dependent on the governmental computer systems and their technicians for information from which to create laws. The governor's executive powers are also reliant on the computer system.

Self-driving street-legal vehicles are being developed; when they are put into production the ownership structure of cars will be drastically altered. It is nonsensical to own a vehicle that is only driven a couple of hours a day if it can be shared seamlessly with three or four others. How can the United States maintain a high standard of living with a shortened average work-week? Probably by guaranteeing an annual income and standardizing the rates of pay for certain job functions.

With standardized incomes, irrelevant executive branches in state and local governments, legislatures that are entirely dependent on computers, strict census-taking, lack of personal privacy in information and computers running day-to-day operations, we have arrived at the modern-day Socialist revival. Welcome to the Datatocracy.

COIN APP CRUSHES CREDIT CARDS

FREE KASHON '17 | STAFF WRITER • Imagine going shopping and suddenly realizing you left your credit card at home, or that you grabbed your Target charge card, when you actually meant to grab the one for Kohl's. Even if this is never a problem, there is still a new invention out there that could make carrying a card much more convenient for all of us.

Made up of computer technicians, software engineers, and even a former NASA engineer, the company known as COIN has created a new system that allows a consumer to keep all of their credit, debit, loyalty, and gift card information all on one device. The card utilizes an app for iOS and Android systems that connects the phone to the card via Bluetooth and allows users to keep track of all the information found on their cards. This will allow users of the device to make purchases anywhere that they use a normal card.

The card works by displaying a credit or debit's card name, last 4 digits of the card's number, and the CVV/CVC. This allows COIN to be scanned like any other card, even allowing customers to accumulate the rewards points they would earn with a loyalty card program. The device comes in midnight black, and is meant to be used mostly in the United States.

With so many cases of identity theft occurring each year, and due to the information that can be gathered from credit card purchases, it is not surprising that customers are worried about the safety of owning a device such as this one. COIN has done an excellent job of covering their bases, however, incorporating several smart security features. The card can alert you if you have left your device behind via a message from the app, and also will shut down certain features if not within twenty five feet of your phone. The app that supports the card is password protected, and allows users to set a certain time of non-usage before the card shuts down.

There are some setbacks to owning this device, and many will wonder "what's the point anyway?" One of the frustrations that consumers have is the fact that COIN only lasts for two years and must be replaced when its internal battery dies. At a cost of one-hundred dollars a card, this can be pricey for some. Also,

though convenient, anyone with a wallet should really have no qualms with carrying multiple cards.

When asked about the possible effects COIN could have on the market, Economics Professor Peter Mikek said that "it's not that important what is going on with COIN; I'm not sure what could happen with it. Consumers like having new payment systems, so in short, it's a great idea."

This ingenuity is indeed an innovation, but Mikek also explained that a previous burst in payment technology and banking occurred about twenty years before the last economic crisis, suggesting that "When you start something new, you bring about many opportunities, but also many risks, and the risks are not known, for this card at least."

So whether you think COIN is a great idea or not, it is always good to be aware of the available payment options and security risks that come with having a credit or debit card. Though COIN provides a convenient alternative for carrying a wallet full of plastic, it also comes with a cost. COIN will be available this summer, and is available for a pre-order price of fifty dollars while supplies last.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLTHINGS.D.COM

COIN will be the size of a regular credit card, with roughly the same thickness as well.

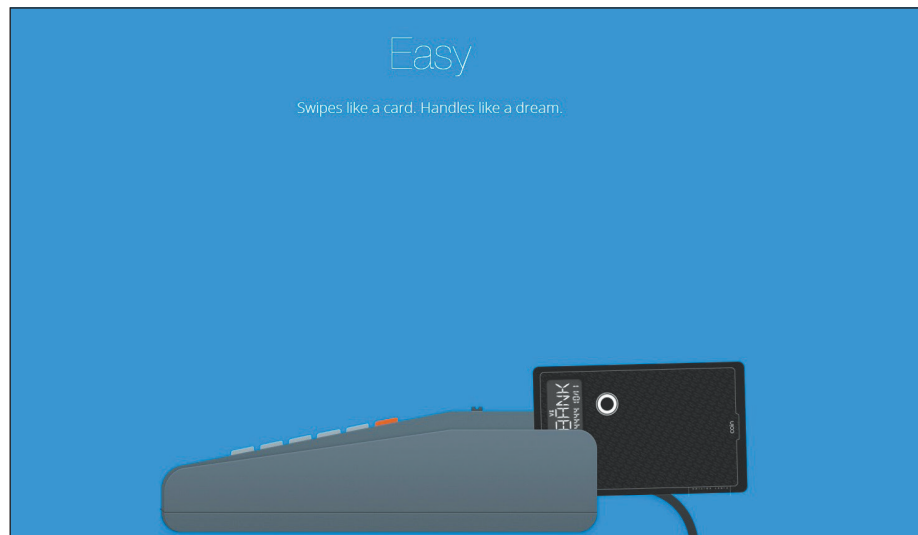


PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDROIDPOLICE.COM

Swiping like an actual credit card, COIN is poised to make shopping much easier.



PHOTO BY COLIN THOMPSON '17

Shane Brown '14 mimes weighing the option of using an entire wallet vs. a single card. In the future, that may not even be a thought.

HOW TO DATE YOURSELF

A BACHELOR GUIDE TO VALENTINE'S

WHAT'S ON?

THE RADIO,
THE TV, THE MOVIES



HOUSE OF CARDS: SEASON 2 NETFLIX

One of the best shows on television returns Friday, as Netflix will dump 13 new episodes of "House of Cards" onto the world. When we left Rep. Frank Underwood (Kevin Spacey), he was just appointed Vice-President of the United States, as a team of journalists prepare to wage war on the Washington power broker. With more Shakespearean themes than most shows on the air, it will be interesting to see if Season 2 is a comedy of errors or a heroic tragedy.

PHANTOGRAM VOICES FEBRUARY 18TH



An electric music duo from New York, Phantogram has torn up the festival circuit since the release of their debut album, 2009's "Eyelid Movies." In "Voices," Phantogram harnesses their experience working with Big Boi, The Flaming Lips, and other musical stalwarts to produce a well-rounded and eclectic album.

MIKE TYSON: UNDISPUTED TRUTH NOW ON DVD

A film by Spike Lee, this documentary of Tyson's one man show provides a no-holds-bar look into the life of the former heavyweight champ. One of the most controversial athletes of all time, Tyson discusses his crimes, his victories, and thought processes in this utterly entertaining and enlightening performance.

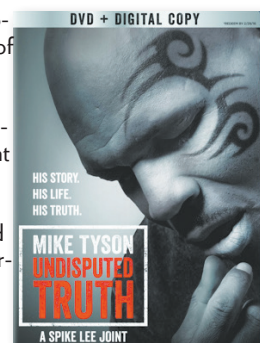


PHOTO BY COLIN THOMPSON '17

Rhyne Ryan Anzalone '16 sulks in snow and heartache.

of the year. I know that people might say Valentine's Day is a silly excuse for Hallmark to sell cards, but I think carving out an excuse to show myself how much I truly love me every February is a good thing.

Oh, and everyone is going to be super jealous when I tweet a picture of my awesome steak dinner.

yourself think you're nervous. Try dressing a pair of dark jeans up with a blazer. It's important to dress for the occasion. If you take yourself to a nicer restaurant, make sure you dress appropriately. Nothing screams "not boyfriend material" if you under dress on the first big date with yourself.

What to Do: Whatever the hell you want! This is your night to show yourself how much you truly mean to yourself. Think about what really makes you tick. Do you love sports? Have you mentioned that you are craving Italian lately? Whatever you do, stay away from the horse tracks. I've been on enough bad Valentine's dates with myself to know petty gambling is best left for another night.

At the Night's End...: Look, if nothing's there then nothing's there. You can't force it, but, if everything goes well; invite yourself in for a drink after dinner. Make sure you pick up a bottle of wine before you go out, and don't serve it in a regular glass—Both you and yourself deserve better.

Truth be told, I love taking myself out for a night about town. I feel like both me and myself work so hard all year long that it's nice to hit life's pause button, if only for one night out

MICHAEL WITCZAK '14 |
ADVICE COLUMNIST • There was an age when things like Valentine's Day, long-term relationships, and writing letters were popular, but we don't need that stuff anymore. We have the Internet and Smartphone's now, and it is time we brought Valentine's Day into the 21st century. We need to recognize this old-fashioned holiday for what it could be: an annual opportunity to pay some attention to the person we really love most in the world: ourselves.

Listen. People might think you are a loser if you take yourself on a date on Valentine's Day, but those people are stuck in the past. They live their simple little lives believing that loving other people will somehow make you happier, as if that makes any sense. How could I love myself if I waste it all on some other schmuck?

The only person I need to love to make me happy is me, which is what I do every year on February 14th. I've scratched down a few pointers I think might help some Wallies who have never planned a romantic Valentine's date for himself before.

What to Wear: You want to look sharp without appearing like you tried too hard. The last thing you need is to make

EXHIBIT INSPIRES ART MAJORS

FRITZ COUTCHIE '15 | STAFF WRITER • When juniors Jesse Caldwell and Patrick Embree arrived on campus as freshmen neither expected to major in Art. Now both are art majors focusing on the medium of photography. The ongoing photographic exhibition in the Eric Dean Gallery serves as inspiration for both students.

As freshmen, Caldwell and Embree enrolled in art history courses to fulfill distribution requirements. "Freshman year I took some art and art history courses as distribution; I enjoyed them, I've always enjoyed the creativity aspect. I enjoyed art through high school and middle school, but to come here and practice at an advanced level took my enjoyment to a love," recalls Caldwell.

The transition to an Art major was similar for Embree. "When I got to Wabash I never considered majoring in art. I was always drawn to photography and took some art history courses to fulfill distribution requirements." Those courses drew my interest and I decided to take a photo course. The more courses I took the more I enjoyed art."

Photography has been a long-held interest of Embree. As an eighth grader, he enjoyed taking pictures of his backyard and looking at the photographs of others. Visiting the current exhibition drew him back to his childhood hobby and changed the way he views the medium.

"The exhibition has influenced my photography. Going to the exhibition is what drove

me to return to photography as my medium of choice. Looking at Gordon Parks's work has caused me to change the way I look through a lens and see something. I am trying to be poetic, rather than stand behind a camera and just make pictures that look good. I want [my photography] to tell a story implicitly, people should be able to question what it means," said Embree.

Caldwell's reaction to the exhibition is slightly different. He knew he was planning to focus on photography and the exhibition serves as a goal. "The exhibition is inspirational; it doesn't persuade me to change the direction of my art. There work changes the way I think about art, [the exhibition] gives me a greater appreciation of art. In the exhibition there is only black and white photography, film photography. All of the pictures are perfect; [one] could spend a week in a dark room trying to get one perfect photo. These artists have many of them; it shows how strong their technique is both in the dark room and behind the camera," said Caldwell.

Although neither plans to pursue a career in art, both will continue to practice photography as a hobby after graduation. Before graduation Embree has one artistic goal: "I would like to produce art at Wabash that can inspire others in the same way the photos in the exhibit inspire us art majors. I want elementary students, high school students and even undergrads to see my work and say 'I could be an art major I could do that.'"



PATRICK EMBREE '15



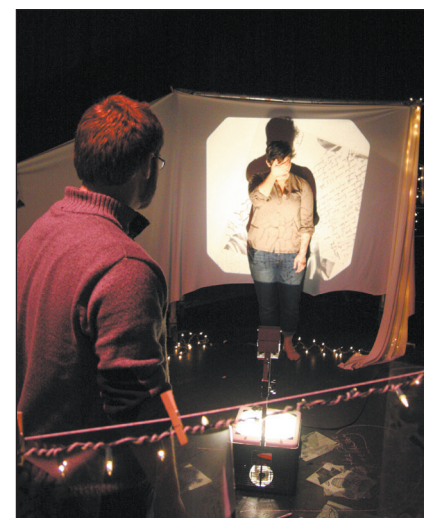
JESSE CALDWELL '15

LAUNDRY ROOM: AN IMMERSIVE THEATRE PERFORMANCE BY CHELSEA PACE



Chelsea Pace watches as Prof. Lynne Miles and her daughter participate in the performance.

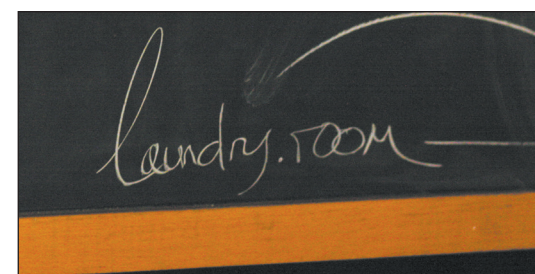
Last week, professional stage-combat coordinator Chelsea Pace spent several days on campus hosting workshops on various aspects of the theatre. Culminating in an immersive performance in the Experimental Theatre last Friday, audience members were free to roam the space, sketching, acting, standing, sitting, whatever, as long as they participated. These are merely five of many great photos from the event, all of which can be found in the Photo Gallery on Wabash's homepage.



Left, several students sketch pictures. Above, Pace performs for the audience.



Participants were welcomed by yarned-chaos as they entered the Experimental Theatre.



PHOTOS BY COREY EGLER '15

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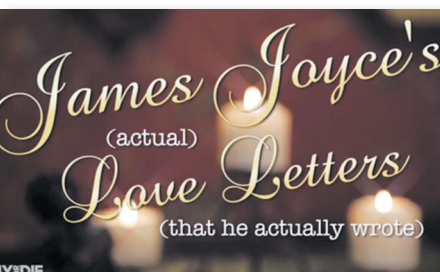
This parody store is out of business, but the video is hilarious. Created by comedian Nathan Fielder, star of the Comedy Central show, "Nathan for You," Dumb Starbucks takes copy-right infringement to the next level. Or does it?



GAME OF THRONES

A FORESHADOWING
YOUTUBE.COM

A 15 minute preview of Season 4, HBO included clips and cast interviews in this not-so revealing teaser trailer. There will be bloodshed and there will be nudity, that much is certain. To find out what else happens, tune in April 6th.



JAMES JOYCE'S ACTUAL LOVE LETTERS

FUNNYORDIE.COM

Sure, "Ulysses" can be a slog, and "Finnegan's Wake" may be unreadable, but take the time to check out Joyce's letters. Profane, sexual, and wholly shocking, Joyce sounds more like Henry Miller coming off a brothel binge. Enjoy.

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NOBLE MESHES WELL AT WABASH

AFTER TAKING OVER MID-SEASON, NOBLE FINDS PLACE WITH WABASH

SCOTT MORRISON '14
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • DePauw, Texas, East Carolina, Sacred Heart, and now Wabash are certainly different institutions at varying NCAA divisions. A list like that is quite the résumé, but during his young coaching career, Head Swimming Coach Brent Noble has not been able to plant any roots with one program. That is, until he found the right fit at Wabash College.

"I talk about finding the fit when I talk to recruits," Noble said. "So I think I should practice what I preach and this is the right fit for me."

Three-and-a-half months into his first year as head coach, Noble and his team are posting top performances and gelling as a unit. The young coach will lead his Little Giants Feb. 13-15 into the NCAC Swim Championships.

Noble arrived at Wabash for his first day on the job on October 14. That date came three days after the first meet of the season at his former school, Sacred Heart, and two days after Wabash's season opening dual at Denison. Former Head Coach Steve Barnes had stepped down a month earlier and Assistant Coach Logan Simpson had taken the role of interim head coach.

In a matter of days, Noble packed up a U-Haul and travelled across the country to Wabash. It was not an ideal situation for Noble or the Wabash College swim team.

Despite the adversity, the team stood true to the motto "Wabash Always Fights," and began the season in stride. "I think that pretty much characterizes a Wabash guy," Noble said.

For freshmen who had been recruited by Barnes, the change was especially poignant. "Coach Barnes had this way about him that I felt drawn to come and swim for him," Joshua McCabe '17 said. "We started preseason, and I saw that he was a very good coach. I enjoyed the way he carried out his job, and I don't think anybody saw it coming. The transition was very difficult. I hadn't known him

long, but I felt like I had lost somebody that was really important."

The loss was real, but it was also coupled with excitement as Noble got to campus. "They understood; of course they were disappointed they were losing their coach, but they understood that it is what he needed to do for himself and it's what he wanted to do," Noble said. "There was a lot of excitement coming into a new regime. They were excited to have a fresh face, new ideas, and new things going on. So we were kind of able to ride that wave a little bit."

That wave is nothing new for Noble who has never been at one coaching stop for more than a year. "I have done a lot of bouncing around try-

SEE **NOBLE**, P. 15

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

2/14

Track @ Indiana University - 4 p.m.
Swim @ NCAC Championships - 6:30 p.m.

2/15

Tennis VS The College of Wooster - 9 a.m.
Wrestling VS Mid-State Conference - 2 p.m.
Track @ Purdue - 11 a.m.
Basketball @ Denison - 3 p.m.
Tennis VS Elmhurst - 4 p.m.

2/19

Tennis VS Earlham College - 5 p.m.
Basketball @ DePauw University - 7:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY IAN BAUMGARDNER '14

Coach Brent Noble shows his intensity coaching while Zech Banks '16 assists.



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THREE IN A ROW IN CHADWICK



PHOTOS BY IAN BAUMGARDNER '14 & COREY EGLER '15

Above: Daniel Purvlicis '16 registered a double-double Friday in the 70-68 victory over Hiram with 14 points and 11 boards. Top Left: Austin Burton '16 scored a career high 19 points in Saturday's 72-56 victory against Allegheny. Middle: Seniors Andy Walsh and Pete Nicksic embrace after Wednesday's 77-66 win against Ohio Wesleyan. Bottom: Fans and players celebrate Wabash's victory over #14 OWU. The Little Giants are in a three-way tie for fifth place with a 7-8 conference record.



TIME FOR A STATEMENT

JOCELYN HOPKINSON '15 | SPORTS EDITOR • The North Coast Athletic Conference Swimming Championships could just as easily serve as the national championships. Either Kenyon or Denison has won the national championship every year since 1980, and they rank first and second in the nation, respectively. DePauw, a perennial top-15 team, is currently ranked 13th.

Despite their reputations, the top three teams in the conference do not intimidate Wabash. Instead, the Little Giants want to develop the same reputation.

"We have a lot of guys who have been used to the top level of success," Coach Brent Noble said. "We have guys who won state championships. They're not used to low standards and they didn't want that here. This team has been used to fourth place in the conference. It's not something I'm going to be satisfied with, and it's not something they're not going to be satisfied with."

Wabash did manage to crack the top-25 in January, though it currently sits in fifth place in the NCAC, narrowly behind Ohio Wesleyan.

Elliot Johns '16 was part of three state champion teams at Carmel (2010-2012), and has passed along the winning culture to Wabash.

"I really think we're set to do something really special," Johns said. "If you look at our DePauw meet form last year and our DePauw meet from this year, we definitely closed a gap. Also, I think we're set up better to compete in the conference meet format."

The Little Giants lessened the differential in the Tigers' dual-meet victories from last season to this season. Also, after losing my for than 100 points at Denison a year ago, Wabash cut the deficit to 42 points at the start of this season. The Little Giants are closing the gap, but there's still more work to do.

"DePauw is our first target," Noble said. "Kenyon and Denison, no one has



PHOTO BY COREY EGLER '15

Jack Belford '16 and the Wabash swim team will look to close the gap on the NCAC's best.

touched them in 30 years. We know that and that's a process we plan to tackle over the next few years. We want to be closer to them this year than Wabash has ever been.

"DePauw is more in our crosshairs.

The Tigers are more attainable in the short term. We know who they are and what they're capable of doing. We plan to just go and do things better. It's a

SEE **SWIMMING**, P. 15

WRESTLING READIES FOR POST SEASON

TOUGH SCHEDULE HAS PREPARED WABASH FOR CONFERENCE, REGIONALS

BEN SHANK '16 | STAFF WRITER

The Wabash Wrestling team approaches this weekend's Mid-States Conference Championships veraciously with goals of not only winning the tournament but also dominating the competition. Goals extend beyond individual success to full team success as the team boasts an eighth place ranking in the latest polls.

Nationally ranked (seventh) Josh Sampson '14 elaborated on the team's upcoming schedule. "In addition to this weekend's wrestling tournament at home, we also have a dual meet Thursday night with Trine," Sampson said. "Our goal is to defeat Trine in as dominating of a fashion as the one in which we defeated Mount Saint Joseph. As far as the tournament Saturday goes, we will look to win that tournament as a team and have as many individual champions as possible, because this tournament will serve as our last tune-up before entering our national qualifier (Regionals), which will also be at home this year."

Reece Lefever '16 is the fourth ranked wrestler in the nation at 157 pounds. He has posted an outstanding 26-1 record in a season marked by Lefever dominance. "I'm excited to wrestle in it because I didn't get to compete in it last year due to an injury," Lefever said. "This is the last meet before our national qualifier, so it's encouraging to come out with a good performance at mid states."

The key to the weekend and other upcoming events will be for the team to stay hungry and avoid complacency. "Like many of the other events we have hosted this year, we are favored to win this tournament as a team," Sampson said. "That said, we have one of the toughest schedules in Division III. I say that only to say that we will enter this tournament like we would enter any other tournament with ranked opponents; we will prepare and wrestle the entire time as if we are the underdogs."

Although Lefever is expected to bury opponents at these upcoming meets, he stays supremely focused on his ultimate goal. "It's pretty easy to stay hungry for me," Lefever said. "I have a goal of being a national champion, so everything I do to prepare myself is to win a national title. I do not change my mindset against anyone I wrestle. Every time I go out on the mat

"It's pretty easy to stay hungry for me. I have a goal of being a national champion."

REECE LEFEVER '16

I'm prepared for a really tough opponent."

The sophomore elaborated on his individual as well as the team's success this season. "I feel like I have had a pretty good individual season," he said. "Individually, I have had a lot tougher schedule this year, as has the team. I feel the tough schedule has exposed me in some areas I need to improve on, and it will have me better prepared for the national qualifier and nationals this year."

Lefever's goal to be a national champion is in line with lofty team goals. "Goals for me moving forward are to just to go out and have fun at practice every day while also pushing myself and my teammates," Lefever said. "This will hopefully help me accomplish my main goal of



PHOTO BY COREY EGLER '15

Reece Lefever has only lost once in 27 tries.

being a national champion. Our team goals are still the same: 1st in the nation academically, five national qualifiers, and a top ten team finish at nationals. Our team is working very hard now to achieve and even surpass those goals."

With Lefever and a hungry senior in Sampson, the team looks poised to achieve all the goals listed above.

The Mid-State Conference tournament will take place Saturday at 2 p.m. in Chadwick Court.



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FROM **SWIMMING**, P. 13

really big milestone for us because they've been doing for a few years now what we've been talking about doing."

The 800-meter freestyle relay was the oldest Wabash record until the team traveled to the Calvin Invitational in early December. Zech Banks '16, Johns, Jack Belford '16, and Joel Paquin '16 set the new mark at 6:53.47.

"The 800 and 400-medley relay are the two events that it's very doable to make nationals," Johns said. "Really all of our relays with guys swimming well have a shot at nationals."

Johns also noted the 200-freestyle has a strong chance. It consists of himself, Banks, Chris McGue '16, and Aaron Troyer '15.

The young team will try and grow on its fourth-place finish last season. Johns pointed out handling all three days will be key.

"I've been high-staked meets before, but last year was a little bit different," he said. "The biggest thing I learned was you got to warm down more. Swimming after the races helps get rid of the lactic acid and I didn't do that on the first day last year, and it affected me the rest of the meet."

Johns will try to handle the rigorous schedule in Granville, OH. The meet will continue Friday at Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

FROM **NOBLE**, P. 12

ing to find the perfect fit in coaching," Noble said. "I think I have. I am here for the long haul finally. I have been in new places every year so I have never coached without that new excitement. It's something I have developed a knack for, and so it's really easy and nice to ride that wave of the fresh, new excitement. The guys certainly had that, and it's been a lot of fun up through the last three and a half months now."

The constant transitions have meant a lot for Noble. He has never coached his own recruits for more than a month. He has never been able to build long term bonds with players and other coaches, and he has never been able to see success grow. Ben Briggs '17, despite being a freshman, has been able to see a lot of Noble's growth as a coach more than any other swimmer.

"He actually coached at my high school as an assistant coach my freshman year, and it's no real stretch to say he's the most accomplished coach of his age anywhere in the country," Briggs said. "His career progression over the past several years has been exceptional."

Noble can now call Wabash a more permanent stop on his hectic coaching career. "Obviously there are a lot of similarities between Wabash and DePauw," Noble said. "But I came up here for swim meets supposed to hate every-

thing that happened here and I loved it; I thought it was pretty cool. I liked the quirks, the traditions, and the things that were different at Wabash. I knew that Wabash was a place I could see myself."

DePauw had given Noble a taste of Division III and the liberal arts, and despite the initial draw he felt to Wabash, he didn't initially apply when the job became available. "I wanted to stay in Connecticut and keep building," Noble said. "I wanted that to be the job that I was going to stick with for a while. But I knew I would regret not at least trying, so I applied. As I went through [the process] it was a perfect fit."

That fit is something he shares with current players and something he can communicate to his first crop of Wabash recruits. "I believe in what Wabash stands for," Noble said. "I believe that Wabash is the perfect place for a lot of people who wouldn't give it the chance like me when I was 18. That really means a lot to the recruiting process. It already is making recruiting a lot easier for me both from an internal perspective but also in terms of just finding recruits and convincing them to come here because I think they can feel that



Coach Noble


sincerity."

Noble and his team have navigated the tricky waters of his first season. Swimmers have recorded some of their career best times, and the team is looking to make a splash at conference. Noble has brought an excitement and energy to the team that might help carry it to the next level.

"I would say that Coach Noble is more energetic and outgoing," McCabe said. "We'll be standing on the pool deck, and he will be yelling at us to get going and get pumped up. At the meets he is even a lot more energetic and he feels like a friend. We have that friendship bond that we can talk to each other about anything."

The NCAC championships are February 13-15, and despite the fact that they mark the close of the season for most swimmers, Noble and the swim team are just beginning to do big things.

"When I applied for this job I was very clear that I want to win a national championship here," Noble said. "It's not going to happen next year or this year, but we want to get closer and closer every year, and that is something that I say not just blowing smoke or trying to impress people. We want to be moving and growing every year and that fits the kind of guys that I am coaching. Guys who come and swim at Wabash aren't guys who want to get fourth every single year at the NCAC meet."



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ANDREW RUSK INSPIRES WABASH BASKETBALL

JUSTIN MILLER '17 STAFF WRITER

"Little Giants" and "Wabash Always Fights" inspire Wabash men. But the same words can be applied to one smaller giant with a fighting spirit.

The College basketball team recently welcomed a new member whose life fully embraces both mottos — Andrew Rusk. A 12-year-old native of Brownsburg, Ind., Andrew battles mitochondrial myopathy.

"Andrew's disease causes muscle weakness, muscle cramping, fatigue, lack of endurance and a poor operating pulmonary and gastrointestinal systems," Karen Rusk, Andrew's mother, said. "Because of his dystrophy, he fatigues so quickly he's never been able to go through a regular school day."

Rusk was united with the basketball team through the organization Team IMPACT. Richard Sword '76 and his daughter, Payson Sword who works for the organization, contacted Basketball Coach Antoine Carpenter to see if the team would be interested in welcoming Rusk.

"[Team IMPACT is] here to match kids with life-threatening and chronic illnesses with college athletic teams," Payson Sword said. "The kind of guys that go to Wabash and the type of community there make it the perfect place for a kid who needs that family and team-based support network and opportunities to have fun and become part of a team."

That was what the basketball team

provided Andrew.

"[Andrew] is never known what it's like to be part of a school, he's never known what it's like to be part of a team," Karen Rusk said. "So, for him to have guys texting him and saying 'Hey, how are you today? What's going on?' and to talk about video games and boys-stuff is huge for him. That's part of the normalcy of life that we all take advantage of and he has no concept of."

Andrew has not only bonded with the team; he's embraced the spirit of Wabash. "Wabash Always Fights" has become his motto.

"['Wabash Always Fights'] means you keep fighting and fight to win," Andrew said. "You keep fighting no matter what."

Andrew's attitude and vigor have not gone unnoticed.

"It puts it in perspective for everybody on the team just how blessed we are, blessed that we have the opportunity to play basketball at this high level and have our health," Kyle Aiton '17 said. "[Andrew] always has a smile on his face; he's always up beat. Even if we lose, he tells us we played hard and did well. He's just a joy to be around because of his upbeat spirit."

Carpenter sees Andrew's impact in all his players. "They really love the motivation in the words that he gives them to get them prepared for games."

"Coming from a kid that they know struggles on a daily basis, who travels from Brownsburg to Wabash to see

them practice or play — the bright spot of his day, it's wonderful and it inspires them."

Indeed, Andrew has a passion for basketball and his fellow Little.

"You can see [Andrew] just wants to be out there with all the guys during our games," Carpenter said. "After our games he congratulates them and tells them good job, win or loss, because the most important thing for him to see is for the guys to have gone out and played hard."

"He always harps on our guys about effort. Wins and losses are great, but he just wants to see those guys to go out, play hard, and compete."

Andrew had never really showed interest in basketball beforehand.

"He had never watched a basketball game, ever, before coming to his first Wabash game," Karen Rusk said. "And now he is up there telling them 'get the free throw' or 'get the rebound.' He's the one cheering them on. I believe he's got a passion for basketball, a passion for the guys. Those are his guys; that's his team."

Nevertheless, Andrew has embraced both basketball and the team. "It's very special," he said. "I love being part of the basketball team, and it's nice to be with the guys."

Andrew was made an official member of the basketball team Jan. 25 before the Oberlin game.

"You could see the spark in Andrew's eyes from being asked to sign an official letter of intent to



PHOTO BY COREY EGLER '15

Rusk celebrates a Wabash score with his mom Karen during Wednesday's game.

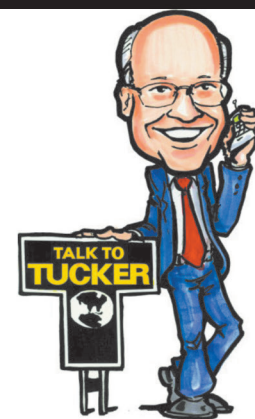
become an official honorary member of the Wabash basketball program," Carpenter said. "It was a great day. We gave him a Wabash basketball t-shirt, an official jersey — his favorite number is seven, and we just happened to have one that we weren't using that was number seven — a warm-up top, a hat and, to top it off, a signed basketball with all the guys' names on it."

Even before being named an official member, Andrew's impact was great. The season would not have been the same without him for the basketball team.

"The joy Andrew brings to us when he comes in and gives us our half-time speeches has just made it a real blessing to have him on the team," Aiton said. "We wouldn't have had the upbeat tempo without Andrew because he's that inspiration that a lot of people need in their life. Luckily for us, he has gotten to become part of our team."

GOOD LUCK SWIM TEAM!

Talk to Tucker Get Movin' With *TEAM RUSTY*



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