

THE BACHELOR

THE STUDENT VOICE OF WABASH COLLEGE SINCE 1908

WEIGHING IN ON RFRA

TYLER HARDCASTLE '15 | NEWS EDITOR • Last week, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence signed Indiana's Religious Freedom and Restoration Act. The law provides that "a person whose exercise of religion has been substantially burdened" may assert "a claim or defense in a judicial or administrative proceeding." The signature set off a frenzy of activity in Indiana and across the nation.

On Monday, Wabash College joined other Indiana colleges in issuing a statement calling for "immediate action to make it clear that Indiana is a state that will not tolerate discrimination of any kind." According to Pence and proponents of the law, it ensures respect for religious freedom in Indiana. Critics claim that it enables businesses to discriminate against members of the LGBT community.

Regardless of stance, the sheer amount of information surrounding Indiana's RFRA makes it salient for the Wabash community: in the classroom, at work, and in everyday life. President of Sh'Out Joe Mount '15 fears the impacts of the legislation may be immediate.

"If I were to organize an event that we wanted to get catered by a company in Crawfordsville this act

enables them to say no," Mount said. "It's related to weddings, but touches on things as small as Sh'Out, that's kind of a freaky thing for us."

Mount refers to widespread coverage of 111 Cakery, an Indianapolis business that declined to provide a cake for a same sex couple in 2014. The shop eventually chose not to renew its lease and closed. Indianapolis native Kurt Miller '16, who is considering a professional career there after Wabash, has followed the case of the shop in the news closely. As a Libertarian, Miller explains that he is not a strong supporter of the bill, but not a huge opponent.

"I think it's funny that in that one case, the consumer ultimately ended up choosing not to shop there and the shop ended up closing," Miller said. "I thought it was pretty cool to see the bigotry that's out there and the hate that people have is not as powerful as the free market."

Though nothing has been brought to court under Indiana's RFRA at press, the potential and intent does exist. According to ABC News 57, a small-town pizza shop in Walkerton, Ind. has publically stated that because of their Christian views, the business would not cater weddings for homosexual couples.

The concerns carried by citizens of Indiana goes far beyond weddings.

"It sounds like Indiana is taking a step back from the idea that we want the best and brightest talent," Marc Nichols '92 said.

Nichols serves on the NAWM Board of Directors and lives in Indianapolis where he works as Legal Counsel & Director of Compliance for Rolls-Royce. Speaking in his individual capacity, not on behalf of Rolls-Royce, Nichols went on to explain why the reaction from Indiana businesses has been so strong.

"Having been in corporate America for a long time, I think the prevailing thought and the reasons that so many people are upset is that competition for talented employees is really at a fevered pitch," Nichols said.

Companies like Salesforce, Apple, and the NCAA have all commented. The comments have ranged from asking for clarification as to the impacts of the bill to the statement from Salesforce CEO, Marc



COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING / PHOTO

Nichols gives a Chapel Talk called 'Voice to the Voiceless.'

Benioff. In a statement he announced the cancellation of all programs that call for employees "to travel to Indiana to face discrimination".

"Coming from a state or country where same sex marriage is permitted... one of the major concerns potential employees are going to have is, to take spouse, family, etc. into a potentially hostile situation where they might face discrimination," Nichols said. "They'll ask, 'why would I do that?'"

He goes on to explain that this can result in needed talent in Indianapolis going unfilled. The risk goes beyond employing workers in Indiana, to keeping employers in the state. Recently, Angie's List announced the removal of its proposed \$40 million

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OUR TAKE--
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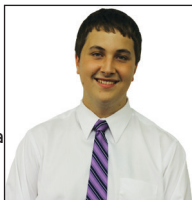
Club sport finds success on campus **P 14**

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

ADAM ALEXANDER '15 TO INHERIT KINGDOM

Special congratulations go out to Adam Alexander '16 for his appointment as Editor-in-Chief for the 2015-2016 *Bachelor*. The state-run media will end when Bryant steps down in May.



GET YOUR DIPLOMAS!

Get your free diploma frame and then learn about the Real World, or something like that. The *Bachelor* - and perhaps the English Department - will forgive the gender binary of a 'Gentleman's Collective' for the fact that they won't be serving Johnny P's.

WE'LL TAKE YOU PLACES

The *Bachelor*'s own John Dykstra '13 announced recently that he'd accepted a position with the Daily Journal in Kankakee. To take this job he'll leave the Journal Review. The *Bachelor* wishes him well, but wonders what the Journal Review will print without him?

MORRIS COUP D'ÉTAT

This past week, Morris Hall resembled Game of Thrones (without all, or really any, sex). The former Student Senate Representative of the house was voted out last week in a poorly attended meeting. He was replaced by a proxy who represented Morris in the Senate. In typical Wabash fashion, an email war ensued where agitators requested a new election, held last night.

CROWD SURFING

Once a year, the Allen Center suspends rules for a bit. Though not as bad as the shocking amount of smoke that came from the audience during Mac Miller's performance, the crowd got rowdy. Crowd surfers at All American Rejects last week were stopped by security last week, but then were allowed to resume later.



WABASH ANNOUNCES NEW SCHOLARSHIP FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

ADAM ALEXANDER '16 | STAFF WRITER

Wabash College has partnered with the Noble Network of Charter Schools to announce the Pritzker Access Scholarship. The primary purpose of this scholarship is to make college affordable for undocumented immigrants. The College has announced two winners of the scholarship this year; both winners will receive \$12,000 annually from the Scholarship itself, and will be expected to pay \$2,000 from their families. The rest of their financial aid will come from other scholarships and grants, so that their tuition as well as room and board are fully paid.

The Noble Network of Charter Schools is a group that serves 10,000 students at 16 different public high schools in Chicago, Ill. According to its website, Noble prepares students for college with high expectations, rigorous academics, and development of character. The Noble program's results show in its students attaining triple the college graduation rate compared to students from similar backgrounds. Unfortunately, many of Noble's students are unable to attend college due to their immigration status.

Scott Feller, Dean of the College, sees the issues faced by undocumented students as unfortunate problems which need to be addressed.

"At Wabash, we accept students without regard to their immigration status," Feller said. "Here's where the issue is, though—a student who is undocumented is ineligible for Pell Grants, ineligible for state grants, ineligible for most student loans, and they're ineligible to work through our WISE program. So that takes away a lot of our tools to help meet someone's financial need. If you can't get Pell, a loan, or WISE, then your Wabash need-based aid probably won't be able to cover you. So it's a financial challenge for students who are undocumented."

The Noble Network has partnered with 16 different colleges and universities across the nation to address this issue. Noting that undocumented students often miss out on the opportunity to attend college because they are ineligible for most forms of need-based aid, Noble hopes to use the Pritzker Access Scholarship as a tool to open up educational opportunities for all of its students. The Scholarship will allow students to attend schools like Wabash without worrying about the price of attending. To be eligible for the Scholarship, Noble students must have qualified for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, a temporary federal relief from deportation, and plan to attend college to earn a four-year degree.

Kim King '99, Associate Director of



Dean Scott Feller

Admissions, stressed that the Scholarship will not lower Wabash's standards, but instead has attracted great students to the College already.

"We're talking about young men who are high-achieving inside and outside of the classroom," King said. "One of the winners this year came on Honor Scholarship Weekend, and won a scholarship. But he did that by taking all four exams on the Friday of that weekend. He did that so he could get back on Saturday to his school to join his choir for a competition they had been preparing for all year. I think it's something to say that he was committed to his future, but he was also committed to his high school community. I think that demonstrates a depth of character that, quite frankly, seems to be typical of the Noble Network."

Feller added that undocumented students will not be new to Wabash, but the Pritzker Access Scholarship will make it easier for those students to receive a Wabash education.

"We have for many years had undocumented students at the College," Feller said. "I have had advisees who were undocumented. So in some ways, this is not that new for us. This is just making it easier. Before, the family might have had to provide those pieces which took the places of the Pell Grant and student loans, and that just wasn't possible for a lot of families. So now this partnership will allow some students to make up that difference."

King noted that this Scholarship will help establish an important voice within the student body, which will help shape the College's future.

"The Noble Network is doing remarkable things," King said. "Not only are they helping students prepare for college, but most importantly, they're shaping young lives. So long as Wabash has the opportunity, I think it would be a shame if those young lives couldn't come to Wabash and impact us."

Feller emphasized King's point, adding that making Wabash more accessible to these students is one of the key goals of this partnership.

"I'm excited for us to find ways to partner with other organizations that want to see young men go to college," Feller said. "We want to provide access to a life-changing education. This partnership with Noble is a chance for us to broaden the pool of students who can access the Wabash education."



Kim King '99

BACHELOR

301 W. Wabash Ave.,
Crawfordsville, IN, 47933

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Patrick Bryant • pfbryant16@wabash.edu

NEWS EDITOR

Tyler Hardcastle • tjhardca15@wabash.edu

OPINION EDITOR

Cole Crouch • cacrouch17@wabash.edu

SPORTS EDITOR

Derek Andre • dmandre16@wabash.edu

CAVELIFE EDITOR

Fritz Couthie • fwcouthie15@wabash.edu

PHOTO EDITOR

Corey Egler • cjegler15@wabash.edu

COPY EDITOR

Joseph Reilly • jsreilly18@wabash.edu

Ian Artis • idartis16@wabash.edu

BACHELOR ADVISER

Howard Hewitt • hewithth@wabash.edu

The purpose of The *Bachelor* is to serve the school audience, including but not limited to administrators, faculty and staff, parents, alumni, community members and most importantly, the students. Because this is a school paper, the content and character within will cater to the student body's interests, ideas and issues. Further, this publication will serve as a medium and forum for student opinions and ideas.

Although an individual newspaper, the Board of Publications publishes The *Bachelor*. The *Bachelor* and BOP receive funding from the

Wabash College Student Senate, which derives its funds from the Wabash College student body.

Letters (e-mails) to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. They will only be published if they include name, phone, or e-mail, and are not longer than 300 words.

The *Bachelor* reserves the right to edit letters for content, typographical errors, and length. All letters received become property of this publication for the purposes of reprinting and/or redistribution. Profanity may appear in the publication, but only in cases of direct quote or if profanity is necessary to the content of the story. Please do not confuse profanity with obscenity. No article or picture of an obscene nature will appear in this publication.

The *Bachelor* is printed every Thursday at the Purdue Exponent in West Lafayette. It is delivered freely to all students, faculty, and staff at Wabash College. All advertising published in The *Bachelor* is subject to an established rate card. The *Bachelor* reserves the right to deny requests

for publication of advertisements. Student organizations of Wabash College may purchase advertisements at half the listed rate.

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

CAVEMEN TO GENTLEMEN: COLLECTIVE PREPARES STUDENTS FOR REAL WORLD

SIMON DOUGHTY '18 | STAFF WRITER •

Thanks to the new Gentleman's Collective, Wabash men can now join the ranks of The Most Interesting Man in the World, as seen in the Dos Equis commercial. Wabash graduate John Castro '97 began a program 'for students, by students' to equip Wabash students with skills to succeed after graduation. These skills are not taught in the classroom, but are fundamental to every gentleman--they could include tying a tie, doing taxes, or knowing what wine to order during a business venture. Castro clearly stated the final goal: "we want our cavemen to evolve into gentleman."

Students interested in getting involved can find information on Handshake about Real World Week, which is from April 6-9. Students can also contact either Cassie

Hagan at Career Services or Aaron Becker '17.

The idea for The Gentleman's Collective brewed in Castro's mind for a few years. After he graduated, Castro landed a floor job in the stock brokering business, and then worked his way up. This 'floor culture', where an office assistant could rise to become a Vice-President, has since dissipated. College graduates needed a new strategy to succeed in the real world now that the floor culture was diminishing. He eventually reconnected with Wabash at his 15-year reunion, and noticed that many Alumni were interested in giving back to Wabash.

"The first inkling of an idea was when I was a senior and [Wabash] did an etiquette dinner. I always thought that was a cool

thing," Castro said. He built off of the idea of teaching young men etiquette, and now he and other alumni donate time and money to teach young men the skills needed to become an asset in the 21st Century workforce.

This is something Wabash already teaches - how to be a gentleman - but Castro thinks

there is room to improve.

"You go to law school, but you don't learn how to be an attorney," Becker said. "You can learn about chemistry, but you don't learn how to buy an apartment. When you

SEE **GENTLEMEN**, PAGE FOUR



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Tiger Zuo '16 (left) with John Castro '97 (right) during Zuo's externship in Chicago.



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graduate, there is a bunch of stuff you don't know. The Gentleman's Collective focuses on those things that are expected but not everybody knows how to do."

Castro made it clear that although he started the program, he did not do it alone. "Career services has been super supportive of it because they think it's a good idea too," he said. "I've gotten in touch with some alumni. We have a bunch of alums supporting financially. I don't want this to be a financial burden on students."

Other than that, Castro wants students to take over.

"I need input from guys on campus. Eventually I hope the guys embrace it and make it their own and I'm just a resource." In fact, Castro sees this program becoming as much a part of Wabash culture as Chapel Talks or The Sphinx Club.

Castro has a vision for the future. He hopes to create a title position for 'the most interesting man'. A leader who can coordinate between Castro and Career Services. He also hopes that each living unit will have a Distinguished Gentleman that can spread the word about upcoming events. At the same time, he wants the students to shape The Gentleman's Collective how they want.

Right now, Castro wants to see more students get involved like Becker, who began

helping with the program when Career Services recruited him. "Career services is here to serve the students. I see The Gentleman's Collective as my way to give back to do that--to give back to Wabash," Castro said. He also mentioned that the best time to get involved is now. Real World Week includes a different event each day, such as a keynote speech from John Castro, a dinner to meet Wabash alumni, and a lesson on financial literacy.

Students can also create an event that entices them, such as a wine-tasting, a formal dinner, or a meeting with alumni to learn how to conduct yourself during awkward networking events. The program is the opportunity for students to cast their weaknesses into a campus-wide cesspool, and together, turn them into strengths. "To share knowledge. That's what this is all about," Castro said.

In that way, Wabash can launch themselves ahead of competition. Now Wabash students can do it in a fun way. Castro made it clear that The Gentleman's Collective is not another class; it is not a burden at all. It is an opportunity for Wabash students to connect with alumni and create fun, beneficial events that will prepare them for the real world. "Everything we teach and put together relates to the Gentleman's Rule. That doesn't stop after commencement."

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FBI, TSA ADMIN COMMANDS AU

ADAM ALEXANDER '16 | STAFF WRITER • John Pistole arrived at Anderson University on Monday, Mar. 2 to assume the role of the University's presidency. Anderson University, a private, Christian, liberal arts school, is located in Anderson, Ind., about 80 miles to the east of Crawfordsville. Pistole arrived at the University President's Office through a unique path. Although most college presidents spend a great deal of their lives in academia and earn PhDs, Pistole has never worked as a faculty member at any academic institution, nor does he have a PhD.

Pistole does have a multitude of unique experiences that have prepared him to manage and lead Anderson University. Pistole worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for 27 years, including a six-year stretch as the Deputy Director of the FBI. Following his career with the FBI, Pistole was nominated by President Barack Obama to serve as the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Prior to Obama's election, Pistole had given President George W. Bush routine briefings regarding national security.

"I actually started [briefing the President] before I was Deputy Director," Pistole said. "It was typically the Director's job, then the Deputy Director. The Deputy Director before me didn't like doing that, and so he asked me to do it. I thought, 'Okay, that's not something I thought I'd be doing!' It was pretty awe-inspiring, being in the Oval Office and looking at the portrait of Washington. A lot of history in there."

Former Director of the FBI Robert Mueller accompanied Pistole to his first briefing with Bush.

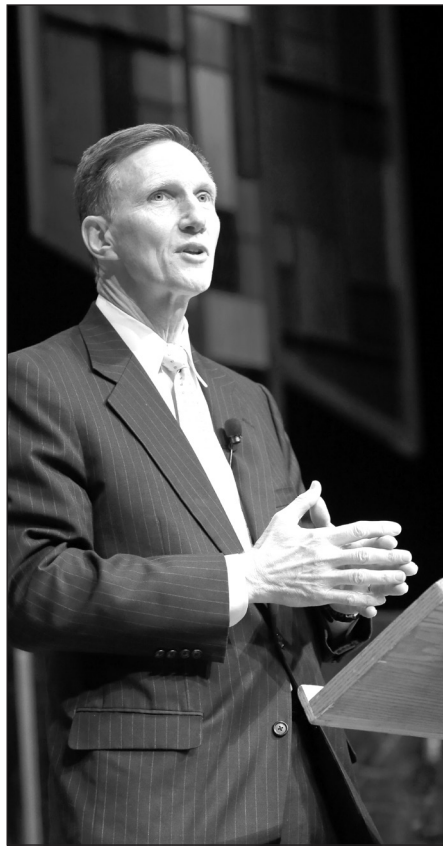


PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDERSON UNIVERSITY

Pistole became President of Anderson University on Mar. 2, 2015.

"He took me the first time to go along with him," Pistole said. "And Director Mueller said, 'Here's the President, the Vice President, the National Security Advisor, the Chief of Staff, and you know the Attorney General.' And the one piece of advice he had for me was, 'Be as well prepared as you can. If you don't know the answer to one of their questions, just say 'I don't know that, Mr. President, but I'll get

an answer and get back with you.' Because some people never want to tell the President that they don't know something, so they would make up an answer. Once you do that, you lose all credibility, and that's the one thing in Washington—if you don't have credibility, then you don't have anything."

Pistole was very impressed with Bush during their briefings, but he was equally impressed with Obama once he was elected.

"Obviously, [Obama] is a really smart guy, and everyone knows that," Pistole said. "But I don't think people gave President Bush enough credit for as smart as he really was. They both had good questions and good follow-up."

Eventually, the Obama administration asked Pistole to assume the role of Administrator of the TSA.

"My first thought was, 'Now there's a thankless job. Who would want to do that?' I was kind of fat, dumb, and happy as the Deputy Director of the FBI, and I had over 35,000 people under me," he said. "I only had one person above me, and he was a presidential appointee. I thought, 'Wow, why would I give that up?' But at the same time, in the past 20 years, I've had a sense of God's guidance and direction. I prayed about it and decided to at least say yes to the vetting process."

As the Administrator of the TSA, Pistole changed the agency's outlook. Prior to Pistole's administration, the agency's unofficial motto was 'Everybody and anybody could be a terrorist.' Pistole said that his biggest challenge with the TSA was moving away from a one-size-fits-all approach to a risk-based and intelligence-driven approach.

At this point in his life, Pistole

is turning away from government service in order to use his celebrity to draw more attention to his alma mater, Anderson University.

"It's a Christian liberal arts school, and I'm a product of the school and all of the Anderson Community Schools," Pistole said. "I just think there's great opportunity to help current and future students, as well as faculty and staff, to really have an expansive worldview about dealing with real issues that transcend central Indiana. So I hope to be able to do things – for example, students could have internships in DC, through friends I've worked with, head agencies, or think tanks. I'm hoping to create a distinguished lecture series. I've invited a number of people who are known, who I think would draw attention not only to the school but also to the city, the county, and the area."

Ultimately, Pistole does not credit himself to his lifetime of success.

"This is not about me," Pistole said. "It's about what I sense is God's calling in my life. This wasn't on my radar as a career goal; I practiced law in Anderson for a few years, I was an FBI agent for 27 years, and worked for the TSA for 4.5. That was not necessarily the career path to become a college president. There's an old expression that 'Coincidences are when God decides to remain anonymous.' There are so many coincidences that led me to this position, and I just have a strong sense of guidance and direction. I felt that my job was to be obedient to what I discerned as a potential calling. Whatever result came out, I was at peace with that. Because I had done my job of being obedient to what I had discerned as a call. It worked out, and so here I am."

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AGUILAR ‘15 EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS, ACHIEVES GREATNESS

ADAM ALEXANDER ‘16 | STAFF

WRITER • If someone had told Emiliano Aguilar ‘15 ten years ago that he would one day earn distinction on his Comprehensive Exams, he might have scoffed at the idea. Aguilar came to Wabash from East Chicago, Ind., a city with one of the worst school districts in the state.

“Considering where I was growing up, it was definitely a risk when Wabash accepted me,” Aguilar said. “I was part of a federally funded college prep program called Upward Bound, which geared me towards a better mindset towards college. And I wouldn’t have been seriously committed to college if it weren’t for that program. I work for the program every summer. Upward Bound has given me the opportunity to tutor students who came up through communities like I came through – the single-parent home, the poor education, and the roughness of the urban lifestyle in Northwest Indiana.”

Aguilar did not grow up in the traditional middle class background; on the contrary, he was raised by his grandparents and later by his mother once she finished getting her college degree. Both his grandmother and mother are college educated and have pursued lives of public service, inspiring Aguilar to always help others in need.

“I grew up in a college-educated family that was always stressing doing good towards others,” Aguilar said. “Seeing how they’ve succeeded and how hard they’ve worked for their family is definitely something I’ve always kept in my mind.”

Aguilar’s kindness toward others has not gone unnoticed. Aminta Perez, Owen Duston Visiting Assistant Professor of History, has worked with Aguilar extensively throughout his time at Wabash.

“Emiliano has proven he is a strong, resilient, honest man, wrapped up in a humble and calm exterior,” Perez said. “I have seen only kindness and thoughtful regard for his fellow man. On more than one occasion I have witnessed Emiliano attempting to help a fellow Wally with some homework assignment that his peer did not seem to grasp. Calmly and with patience and maturity, I watched as he explained concepts he obviously understood, without a hint of sarcasm, or impatience or contempt...always with kind regard for the person.”

Aguilar has taken his kind regard to building the philanthropy program at Wabash’s chapter of Phi Gamma Delta. He said that his membership in the fraternity has been the most rewarding aspect of his Wabash career.

“I’ve made friendships with a lot of guys that I’m going to cherish and remember for the rest of my life,” Aguilar said. “I’ve gotten to really find out what I wanted to do and how I wanted to give back to this house.”

Aguilar is also noted on campus for having an incredible work ethic. Professor of English Warren Rosenberg worked closely with Aguilar as the Coordinator of

Faculty Development.

“From before he came to Wabash Emiliano was interested in teaching, so when I needed to put summaries of important books and articles on pedagogy on a faculty development website I asked Emiliano to actually write them,” Rosenberg said. “This would be a challenging task for a professor, but Emiliano did a wonderful job of reading and summarizing a number of difficult works, putting the ideas into a clear form that professors could easily and quickly digest. I think this helped Wabash faculty but also Emiliano as he studies in our teacher education program. I know he will make an outstanding teacher, at whatever level he chooses.”

Aguilar plans to teach at the collegiate level once he finishes graduate school, where he will earn a degree in Chicano studies. He chose this field because he believes the Latino-American community has been underrepresented in the historical lens. He also has personal reasons for pursuing this field of study.

“I’ve really gravitated toward Chicano studies because that’s part of my identity,” Aguilar said. “Because of the color of my skin, I have to be cognizant of the skin that I walk in. I also just don’t think I’m done learning yet. There’s so much more I feel that I need to learn. No matter which professor I speak with, something always comes up where I just want to learn more. I definitely have a desire for life-long learning that a lot of Wabash students probably feel their senior year.”

Perez is confident that Aguilar will become a leading voice in academia soon, and believes Wabash has benefitted from his presence on campus.

“I believe he represents the best Wabash has to offer the world,” Perez said. “He is a man of character: a critical thinker, a responsible, honest person, an effective leader, and a humane person. There is no doubt in my mind that Wabash and Emiliano are both better because he is a Wally.”

Rosenberg also has high expectations for Aguilar, but both professors are confident that the distinguished senior will do great things after he graduates in May.

“It may be an odd thing to say, but of the many students heading for graduate school that I have taught at Wabash over the past 34 years—a number who are now successful professors—Emiliano stands out as someone I see as a ‘born student,’ Rosenberg said. “He loves the interplay of ideas. He loves to read. He loves to write. And now I believe he has found a rich direction in studying a field that is so close to his own identity—Chicano/a studies. A ‘born student.’ That is Emiliano.”

Aguilar will be attending Purdue University Calumet in the fall to pursue a master’s degree in Chicano studies, and intends to pursue a PhD after he earns his master’s degree.



COLIN THOMPSON '17/PHOTO

Aguilar believes the Latino-American community has been underrepresented historically. Aguilar plans to pursue a graduate degree in Chicano studies at Purdue University Calumet.



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expansion project.

"Part of technology is that it changes so rapidly," Nichols said. "You have to be lean and nimble to react to the marketplace. That experience has infused not just the technology aspect of what these companies do, but the Human Resources side as well.

"[The technology sector] needs to be able to move very quickly, cut costs, and remain competitive. One percent revenue margins can be the difference between being in business today and out of business tomorrow, in certain parts of the market."

The technology sector is one that has experience in diversity. According to Nichols, the industry usually has higher numbers of GLBT people as employees.

"... These issues and they've been dealing with for a decade, or two, or more," he said. "Hearing a state say that [they] might discriminate against your employees... sort of harkens back to something they dealt with a decade ago."

To businesses, much of the consideration comes down to competitiveness, yet all of this still comes down to the individual.

"It's an unnecessary law, a political divide, and downright unneighborly," Nichols said.

"My significant other and I are having conversations that we didn't want to have over whether we're going to stay in Indiana. I'm sort of in a wait and see mode. It's one more thing that my family has to think about that we shouldn't have to be thinking about."

Nichols came to Wabash from upstate New York, he has lived in Indiana several times and has lived in Indianapolis since moving from Washington D.C. just over four years ago. New York is one of the states that has banned state funded, non-essential travel to Indiana.

"As a New Yorker, I'm proud of the actions that my home state has taken and hope that my adopted state will do the same [change the law]," Nichols said.

Mount is opposed to some of the actions taken in protest to Indiana's RFRA.

"I was raised in Indianapolis, I love Indiana, this is where I want to do things," Mount said. "I've committed for Teach for America in Indianapolis

for the next two years. You don't make things better by boycotting things or leaving them."

Though Miller - who also grew up in Indianapolis - does not stand as opposed to the bill as Mount, he views staying in the state as crucial to making it better.

"To anyone who's thinking about leaving the state, I'd challenge them to stay in Indiana and help make it a better place," Miller said.

Christian Lopac '16, Editor-in-chief of The Phoenix, takes a different perspective on the issue.

"I see it as a law that is regulating what should be entirely a private matter between individuals," he said. "I think just because of the media coverage surrounding it and reaction, the results of the law will largely be negative. We've even seen businesses like Angie's list respond."

Lopac is not far off the mark. This past Tuesday, The Indianapolis Star ran a front page staff editorial calling on the state to "Fix This Now." The editorial is careful to clarify what it asks for: "Gov. Mike Pence and the General Assembly need to enact a

state law to prohibit discrimination in employment, housing, education and public accommodations on the basis of a person's sexual orientation or gender identity."

This call for immediate action to clarify Indiana's stance is similar to the one issued by President Hess that relied on the Faculty Statement of Principles Concerning Diversity. The College's and other voices might have been heard.

According to The Star, a measure was before Pence Wednesday that prevented the religious freedom law from being used as a legal defense to discriminate against an individual based on sexual orientation.

"I do want to commend President Hess for taking leadership on this issue as a community," Nichols said. "I thought it was important to see the statement that he made that Wabash is and will be an inclusive community. I think the faculty statement was really helpful.

It's a good start and perhaps there's even more we can be doing, looking at the College's non-discrimination policy and strengthening it where we can and should."



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HESS RIGHTLY CONDEMNS RFRA

STAFF EDITORIAL

On Monday night, President Greg Hess issued a statement condemning any discriminatory intent in the Indiana legislature's recently passed Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA). Noting its vague and unknown legal implications, Hess called on the Indiana General Assembly to "take immediate action to make it clear that Indiana is a state that will not tolerate discrimination of any kind."

The Bachelor applauds Hess for this statement, and we believe his statement adds an important voice to this debate. Butler University, Indiana University, Ball State University, and yes, DePauw University, have all made statements condemning our legislature's recent action. In his statement, DePauw's President Brian Casey wrote that while he wouldn't want to chill discussion at DePauw on any issue, he felt legislation condoning discrimination must be addressed. Similarly, Hess included an excerpt from the Faculty Statement of Principle Concerning Diversity indicating he has no desire to abridge the free exchange of ideas.

It is vital that we oppose any legislation which could lead to discrimination in our state. If Hess' statement sparks a conversation on campus, great. That's what Wabash is all about. But if Indiana gets away with passing this law as it stands, it will send a message to LGBT students everywhere that Indiana – and therefore Wabash – is not a welcoming place. Sending such a message would not be consistent with Hoosier values, and it would not be consistent with Wabash's Mission Statement. Indeed, the Gentleman's Rule commands us to behave as responsible citizens, which we believe includes opposing any discriminatory laws affecting our students, faculty, and staff.

Wabash men are brothers. This proposed amendment directly harms our brothers, and we have a responsibility to stand up for their rights as human beings. We could not live humanely while simultaneously tolerating discrimination. It would be tragic if we, as students, were denied the potential instruction of legendary Wabash professors because they happened to be LGBT and decided to steer clear of Wabash due to RFRA. Anyone who thinks critically about RFRA can see that it could have far-reaching discriminatory effects on many of Wabash's alumni, faculty, staff, and students. It would be embarrassing to see a College that teaches its students to lead effectively sit idle and watch as significant numbers of its people are harmed.

Evil thrives when good men do nothing. President Hess was right to speak out against this legislation, especially when considering Governor Mike Pence refused to answer whether it could be used to discriminate against gay Hoosiers. This is a time of moral crisis for Indiana, and it is certainly not an appropriate time to remain silent. We are proud to be Wabash men, and we are proud to have Hess as our President. He took a principled stance, and he should be commended for acting responsibly by voicing his opposition to legislation that could be horrible for business in Indiana – and for human rights in general. Hess has demonstrated that Wabash can lead effectively in this effort, rather than taking the easy way out and staying silent. With the nation watching, President Hess has shown that Wabash College will not stand for discrimination in Indiana.

*Don't agree with what we say?
Send your response to the Editor-in-chief at pfbryant16@wabash.edu.*

TO DIE OR NOT TO DIE

It's always a tad exhausting when you hear someone has shouted the words, "Die, faggot!" on your campus. It reminds you that there are people out there who are actively seeking to undermine your entire way of life; ready to write you off as a violation of some world view they cling to. It's amazing how much power such hateful words can have, piercing right through that façade you've worked so hard to maintain, and forcing you to question such a fundamental aspect of your identity. Is this part of your identity worth dying for?

Most of the time you're not faced with questions of life or death. Most of the time you have to choose between exploring or expressing your sexual orientation, or facing persecution and cruel jokes from your family and friends. You're faced with this choice every day as you live and work alongside your peers and professors, not always sure where they stand on the whole "gay thing". Most of the time, it's easier to say nothing, so you keep quiet. If everyone assumes you're straight, then you don't have to worry about them making fun of you. Sure, you have to deal with the flippant remark or the slightly offensive joke every now and then, but at least no one's shouting "Die, faggot!" at you.

And hopefully you're one of the lucky ones. One of the ones whose speech patterns or walks don't automatically peg them as a gay before anyone even cares to ask. You know that those guys get it the worst, so you're always sure to drink an extra beer and make a particularly graphic comment about how hot that chick was. You listen to the right music, wear the right clothes, and you manage to ignore that part of yourself, because giving in to those feelings could jeopardize everything. You're afraid of people trivializing your entire identity into one category, and you're terrified of how your dad will react if he finds out. There's no way you could ever let on that you might feel that way, to anyone. It's just so much easier living like this.

But you're tired. You're exhausted. You lie to your best friends, you lie to your parents, and you lie to yourself.



Joe Mount '15

Reply to this editorial at jmmount15@wabash.edu

You push it down and bury those feelings, and that confuses the hell out of you, because you're rejecting some fundamental part of you. And why? Because your whole life you've been told that having those feelings are wrong, unnatural, sinful. You've heard all the jokes, even told some of them. You've watched the political wars over gay rights and marriage, and the families that have been torn apart because of it. You've been told from day one that boys like girls, and girls like boys, and that's the way it is. So you're now faced with a choice, one that you must face every day. Do you live your own life, or do you live a life dictated to you by others?

You've been lied to. You know this. Deep down you know that there's nothing wrong with you. You know that this silence that has been forced upon you isn't right. Allow yourself to rage against it, rail at the injustice of it all, assert yourself. Not just part of yourself, or most of yourself, but your whole self. Who cares if you kiss another guy? Who cares if you marry one? It's your life. Make it your own.

If you find yourself faced with this particular dilemma, may I offer a bit of advice? It will always be a bit frightening, but there are always those around who will be there to help. The people around you who accept you, for who you are, not always easily at first, are the ones you should stick with. And there are people, like me, who have been in that situation, who respect how difficult and life-altering it can and will be. As daunting as it is to reach out to someone, we're always willing to help. It takes courage to take this step, but know that if you do, there are people ready to fight for you.

RELIGIOUS THOUGHTS ON RFRA

I'm not writing to argue the politics of the recently passed Religious Freedom Restoration Act. What I would like to argue is that from a Christian theological tradition, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act is simply bad theology.

First and likely foremost, Christianity at its core is a religion of acceptance of others and unmerited love. The gospel of Christianity tells the followers of Christ that we are to accept and love even those we would find it easier to disagree with. I do not intend to give a sermon; however the "Parable of the Good Samaritan" tells the story of a Samaritan, a non-Jew, bandaging the wounds of an injured traveler who was passed first by a priest and a Levite. Jesus asks the lawyer to whom he is speaking the parable, "Which of these three, do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy" [Luke 10:36-37]. A follower of the Christian faith



Stephen Batchelder '15

Reply to this editorial at
scbatche15@wabash.edu

cannot be identified by naming his or herself with the title of a Christian, rather it is a duty that we must constantly lift as a way of living with those who share different beliefs and world views. It is also a reminder that a Christian is one who lives for those in greatest need of our love and support including: the imprisoned, the sick, the elderly, the ostracized of society, and especially the poor.

Secondly, I find that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act is inappropriately named. The bill fails to state which specific "religious

freedoms" it feels are in need of "restoration." As a Christian whose ancestors fled Europe in search of 'religious freedom' and have enjoyed tolerance in America for nearly three centuries, the name of this bill seems to suggest that we have returned to a state in which all religious peoples find heavy burdens placed on their religious liberties by local, state, and federal governments, and therefore, religious liberty should be restored. Yet, I cannot find a circumstance in which a Christian organization was driven out of its place of worship or persecuted for their practices. While the circumstances may be different for minority religions, the name seems a disservice to those who have actually suffered because of their religious identity.

Finally, the fear for many liberals is that this bill intends to protect business owners who find it a "substantial burden" to provide goods or services to people who identify as LGBTQ. The religious

rhetoric used by organizations who wish to exclude, discriminate against, and, for lack of a better term, 'get rid of' people whose sexual orientations and gender identities differ from what is deemed appropriate by the 'word of God,' is essentially a desire to return to a law based theology. While different Christian denominations believe different things about the law of God, one thing almost universally accepted is that we all succumb to sin. It is that power in the universe which makes loving God and neighbor a burdensome thing to do. To be one's self is not a sin. To be lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer is not a sin. Yet, those who would attempt to use a Christian tradition as grounds for finding faults in groups of people is certainly a sin. While it is not a profound theological point, it is important for my personal faith to understand that all are called and all are loved.

THE QUESTIONS ARE ENDURING, BUT NOT TIMELY

The questions are enduring, but are they timely?

The EQ professors are fantastic. They foster intellectual and thoughtful discussion with freshmen, encourage excellent writing habits, and mentor their students. The committees of professors that craft the class are also all heroes, putting together a great syllabus full of meaningful texts and assignments. There. A concession. #APLanguage – but with that said, is it enough?

There is value and worth in asking the fundamental questions of identity; of what friendship is; on autonomy, choice, and creation; on crime and punishment; on freedom and oppression. The problem is that it's a little too early for that. Yes,



Ian Artis '16

Reply to this editorial at
idartis16@wabash.edu

this is Wabash; you dive right in, get asked the tough questions, and a lot is expected.

I'm not saying that EQ is too challenging or far-reaching; my argument is that the class themes and discussions may be on topics too meaningful or complex for freshmen to appreciate or be able to

apply in their lives. One could argue that the class helps mature the freshmen, and teaches them to look around at their place in the world while maturing their discussion and writing abilities, but I maintain that these lessons would probably make the most impact as the students have more of Wabash under their belts. Again, the class themes are valuable and have weight and worth and are at the very center of the liberal arts. For right now, however, a sociological look at behavior, interactions, and expression could be of more value.

A student asking himself the questions, "why do I behave the way I do?" or "how has my environment shaped my opinions or thoughts?" might be less overwhelming, and

have more of an impact on our freshmen's lives. Things like "what impact has living in the western world for so long had on me?" or examining cultural contexts and having ethnic explorations could benefit the new guys in a deep way.

EQ wasn't always EQ – it used to be C&T, or Cultures and Traditions. It was replaced by EQ before I stepped on campus. Maybe a look into re-shaping EQ and making it a hybrid blend with C&T, or even a survey of the difference EQ has made on freshmen would be in order.

Whatever the case, EQ is being run well, and has wonderful faculty members keeping it a well oiled machine – but a critical look into optimizing this mandatory all-college course wouldn't hurt.

CHASING RECORDS

TENNIS TAKES AIM AT FINAL STRETCH WITH TEAM RECORDS IN SIGHT

MICHAEL LUMPKIN '18 | STAFF WRITER • The Wabash tennis team is on the verge of history. The team only needs a few more match victories on the year to eclipse their previous number of total wins in a season. The success has come as a result of solid leadership and great effort from every team member. Wabash Tennis will match up against conference foe Wittenberg University on Saturday. As the regular season winds down the team looks ahead to tough matches against NCAC powers Depauw and Denison.

Mark Troiano '15 said, "This offseason

we've played a lot more than these past seasons. Most of the team was really invested in coming and being around each other." Troiano recognized how the offseason has paid off in matches thus far. Troiano said at the beginning of the year "we were closer to midseason form than usual. In the past few years we've gotten off to slow starts and then we weren't performing our best until later in the season, and by that time it was too late to recover."

Coach Hutchison realized the team is special. Hutchison said, "This is my 11th year, and while I have enjoyed every team and season that I have had, this one is probably at the top." Hutchison was pleased how the whole roster has played a role in the success so far. Hutchison attributed the team's success to "leadership, work ethic, intrinsic motivation, and a desire to see every member of the team get better."

"This is a vital NCAC West match [for us]."

JASON HUTCHISON

The next test for the Little Giants comes Saturday against conference foe Wittenberg University. Troiano said, "It is a big match for us for the conference and the tournament. We need to beat them badly if we want to have the opportunity to get a higher seed." Coach Hutchison said, "This is a vital NCAC West match and we have to come out ready to battle. At this point in the season, we cannot overlook any team." Coach Hutchison remarked that Wittenberg was

talented, but said, "I have heard that some of their players are no longer on the team, which really hurts them." Daniel Delgado '16 said, "We need to focus on ourselves and be prepared mentally to play by approaching this match expecting Witt to give us all they've got, just like they have done every year."

Hutchison wanted to see his team jump out to a commanding lead by sweeping the doubles events that occur first in the match. Hutchison said, "Two things happen when there is a sweep: Our energy is high and positive and our opponents know that they have a steep uphill climb ahead of them in singles." Troiano and Hutchison both said that the key to the match is focusing on their own play and not their

SEE **TENNIS**, PAGE 13

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KJ Zelenika '16 gets the assist against Anderson University earlier in the season. Zelenika is batting .281 on the year for the Little Giants with seven runs scored and five RBIs.

STARTING SLOW

BASEBALL LOOKS TO GET BACK ON RIGHT TRACK AGAINST WITTENBERG

JOCELYN HOPKINSON '15 | SENIOR STAFF WRITER • The Wabash baseball team found many ways to lose last weekend at Ohio Wesleyan. Now in a 0-4 North Coast Athletic Conference hole, the Little Giants will simply need to find one way to win against Wittenberg.

"Day one we had two extremely well-pitched games with Jensen Kirch and Josh Piercey," Coach Cory Stevens said about the series' first two games. "They definitely put us in a position to win, but we didn't get it done offensively. Day two, we didn't get it done all the way around."

Little Giant losses occurred in both heartbreaking and embarrassing fashions. A first-inning run off Kirch was all OWU needed in the series opener for a 1-0 win. Another dominant Wabash pitching performance was all for not in game two. Piercey struck out eight batters in eight innings of work and allowed no earned runs. However, six unearned runs in the bottom of the eighth propelled the Battling Bishops to an extra-innings victory. In games three and four, Wabash lost by a combined 24 runs.

"A lot of it had to do with the energy in the dugout," first baseman David Olinger said. "It felt like as a whole, there wasn't enough energy from top to bottom. As players, we feed off energy from others. If we're not getting that, it's hard to get yourself up and get excited."

Stevens shared a similar sentiment. "I don't think we need to work on anything different necessarily, we just need to refocus on what our approach is and what our team goals are," Stevens said. "We also need to get guys healthy."

Catcher Tyler Hampton, third baseman KJ Zelenika, and pitchers Cameron Glaze and Bryan Roberts all missed action last weekend due to various ailments.

"You get sixteen conference games within your division to see what you can do."

CORY STEVENS

Multiple wins against the Tigers will provide the best medicine. Wittenberg dropped its only two NCAC games last weekend and sits at 3-8 overall. The Little Giants (7-12, 0-4 NCAC) swept the Tigers last year.

"Last year against Wittenberg, our pitchers threw really well and had a good game plan for all of their hitters," Olinger said. "I think they can definitely go out there and dominate again against these guys. If we play like we're capable, I don't see why we can't get another sweep against them."

Wittenberg will pose a major challenge at the plate. The Tigers hit .314 as a team while outfielder Dalton Boucher is hitting a blistering .452 in 10 games.

"Witt always swings it well and has a few power arms," Stevens said. "They'll put pressure on you on defense with hit-and-runs and stolen bases."

The Tigers' performances on the mound have been a different story. Wittenberg has a team earned-run average of .790 and has allowed over nine runs per game.

Statistics aside, the Little Giants will feel extra pressure this weekend after a poor start to conference play.

"You get 16 conference games within your division to see what you can do," Stevens said. "It doesn't matter when you win them or when you lose them – every single one is important. There is added pressure when you go down 0-4 in the first weekend."

The Wabash-Wittenberg series will begin with a double-header Friday at 1 p.m. in Goodrich Ballpark and continue Saturday with a double-header starting at noon.

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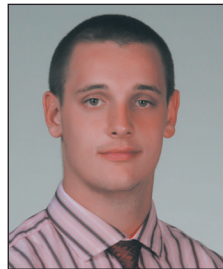
MAXWELL FIGHTS BACK,
EMBODIES WABASH
ALWAYS FIGHTS MOTTO

CLAYTON RANDOLPH '16 | STAFF WRITER • “Wabash Always Fights.” These three simple words embody everything a Wabash man is. We never give up, even when the odds are stacked against us. Wabash men just don’t quit. So, the following story should really come as no surprise. But, then again, everyone could use a little reminder of what that motto truly represents.

Jimmy Maxwell ‘15 has played baseball since he was four years old. But, his time as a baseball player at Wabash has been tumultuous, to say the least. Maxwell came to Wabash as a pitcher and first basemen, earning some playing time as a freshman. After his freshman year, he continued to work on his game over the summer, and by the time his sophomore

season rolled around, Maxwell was ready to get back on the mound and make an impact for the Little Giants.

“I came in and was one of the first guys out of our bullpen,” Maxwell said. “I threw probably 20 innings in the first couple of weeks.”



Jimmy Maxwell '15

But, it was during the middle of his sophomore season, when he felt something was wrong with his shoulder, something he had “never felt before.” Maxwell went to the doctor, who prescribed physical therapy exercises, but it ultimately was to no avail. He returned to the doctor after a month, and heard the words he had been dreading, “It wasn’t getting any better.” Maxwell would lose his season to a torn

“I felt it pop back in. And it was some of the worst pain I ever felt.”

JIMMY MAXWELL '15

labrum in his throwing shoulder.

Maxwell didn’t let this setback stop him. He opted for surgery and immediately started working towards his junior season.

“I worked really hard for the next twelve months to get ready for my junior year,” Maxwell said.

Maxwell felt good about where he was during the fall after surgery. He was able to throw some light toss and get his arm strength up for the spring. His velocity was down slightly in the spring, but that

was to be expected after coming off a major shoulder surgery.

And then, the hammer fell ... again.

It was during a spring intra-squad game when Maxwell heard a loud pop after delivering a pitch.

“The ball went straight up in the air,” said Maxwell. “Nobody really knew what happened. My teammates looked at me and saw my arm and said it looked like it was dragging the ground.”

Maxwell’s shoulder had literally fallen out of place. After all of the hard work he had put in, he was back to where he was the year before. The doctors had told him his physical therapy program had a 75% effective rate. But, that other 25%, the shoulders would just pop out. Maxwell had fallen in that 25% category.

“It felt like the only thing there was my skin holding it on,” he said. “I immediately fell to the ground, and my first instinct when I fell to the ground was

SEE **MAXWELL**, PAGE 13

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to stick my hand out to brace my fall, and I felt it pop back in. And it was some of the worst pain I ever felt. People told me after it was probably one of the grossest things they ever saw.”

He was told he could never pitch again. The doctor went so far to say he shouldn't play baseball ever again. But, he had played all of his life. He did not want to give up on it now. Not after everything he has been through.

“I still didn't want to quit baseball,” he said. “We have a group of 12 or 13 seniors that have been on the team since freshman year, all of us had been traveling. We have a camaraderie that I've not had on any other team I've been on.”

So he had to think about his future. Was it worth it to come back and play? For Maxwell, it was a relatively easy answer. He had caught as a senior in high school, so he figured he would try to catch again. Now, in his final season, he finds himself behind the dish in a reserved role.

“When he came in this year, he asked us to catch in the fall,” head coach Cory Stevens said. “We told him we would give him a shot and he has improved nonstop from day 1 to the point where, we feel

“He is absolutely a team-first guy.”

CORY STEVENS

comfortable bringing him in a varsity game if the situation calls for it. He is absolutely a team-first guy. He puts the team in front of his own needs.”

So far, Maxwell has played in four varsity games, starting two of those. Through those four games, he has gone 3-9 at the plate with two doubles. Even though he mostly plays in junior varsity games now, Maxwell still plays a vital role in helping the team by helping mold young pitchers into varsity-level throwers.

“Being a JV player isn't a glorious thing for a senior, and Jimmy has caught every inning so far of every one of our JV games,” Stevens said. “He basically understands if he doesn't catch, we don't have a JV team. And these younger guys don't get opportunities to improve or compete if he isn't a team guy and catches for us.”

It's this Wabash Always Fights mentality that has Maxwell in a spot to contribute to this year's team. The mentality has helped the younger players understand the value of hard work. As we were wrapping up, Jimmy left our conversation with this:

“Most people are able to either choose or at least know when they are going to play their last game. Whether it be senior year of college, or someone just doesn't love the game anymore, they have time to contemplate their career and come to closure with the fact they are never going to play again. I saw that opportunity flash before my eyes when the doctors advised me not to play anymore. Sure, the easy thing to do would have been to quit, but I didn't want the game I have loved for 18 years to suddenly end because of an injury without any closure. I knew if I really wanted it, if I really worked as hard as possible, I could still be a part of this team. And I did it. I may not be a starter every game, or the first person the team comes to when we need a pinch hit in the bottom of the ninth, but I'm still here, and from what I've gone through, I'm happy with that.”

opponents. Hutchison said, “I want to see the guys go out and focus on themselves, their games and their teammates, not what their opponents are doing.” Troiano said on Saturday he wants to “just go out there and swing away.”

Troiano knew that leadership was going to be essential as the regular season winds down. Troiano said that Coach Hutchison, Delgado, and himself, “want the team to win and do as best as possible.” Delgado said, “Now is the time to play at our best day in and day out.”

Troiano is excited about the teams achievements thus far. The team has reached new heights already with more than a month left to go in the regular season. Troiano said, “Tennis is not as talked about on campus, and I think that we just want more awareness, and appreciate all the support. We were unranked as a team in the preseason and have made the biggest jump in the standings in the region and we are now ranked 11th. We are currently on a 6 match winning streak and have won 10 out of our last 11 matches.”

The Wabash College Tennis team takes on Wittenberg University Saturday at the Collett Tennis Center at 1:00 p.m.



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FOOTBALL'S FORGOTTEN MOTHER

RUGBY EMERGES AS
SUCCESSFUL CLUB SPORT
ON CAMPUS

JAKE EAGAN '15 | STAFF WRITER •

Although not an officially sanctioned athletic program, the Little Giant rugby squad is quietly emerging as an elite Wabash sport. The team is 4-0 this season following a stellar, undefeated tournament performance hosted in Mud Hollow Stadium last weekend. Members of the squad enjoy the typical rewards that accompany club involvement, but also experience the physical challenges that are normally reserved for NCAA athletic teams.

Many opponents use club funding, or funds provided by the institution, to hire an official rugby head coach. However, the Wabash rugby president, captain, and head coach felt his knowledge was sufficient in elevating the program to new heights. Chris

Donahue '15 took over for John Decker '14 last spring and plans to apply his understanding of the game in the squad's approach to competition. He also serves as the starting fly-half, a position essential for whipping the ball and forcing movement up the field.

"First and foremost, I'm in charge of scheduling and securing our position in Indiana's rugby union," Donahue said. "However, the most difficult aspect of coaching rugby is creating productive drills that benefit each individual player. We cover tactical elements of the sport, as well as enforce enough physical conditioning so that we can compete without injuries. We normally play seven-on-seven style rugby in the spring, meaning our team consists of roughly 10 to 12 participants. But when the fall



COLIN THOMPSON '17 / PHOTO

American football descended from rugby at the beginning of the twentieth century, and both have found homes here at Wabash.

arrives, we compete in full, 15-on-15 rugby matches. I need to make sure our guys understand how to operate at both levels if we want to stay healthy and win on a regular basis."

Along with coaching college athletes and obtaining the necessary funding for participation, Donahue also

pushes for campus-wide recognition of this year's rugby squad. He believes that Wabash could implement the same approach to rugby as nearby universities to improve recognition.

"There are numerous benefits of being considered a sport at Wabash," Donahue said. "The most obvious

advantage would be campus support of the team. Club members represent Wabash on the battlefield, but we lack the supreme equipment of the officially sanctioned athletic teams and we are forced to go through

SEE **RUGBY**, PAGE 15

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Student Senate. The NCAA does not sponsor rugby, but many colleges in our area are funding top-notch rugby equipment and field-goal posts."

This notion of a "battlefield" in which rugby players vie for physical dominance is a familiar one for Americans. Coaches, media members, and players frequently utilize war metaphors to describe the intense, violent nature of the sport. Rugby also falls into this category, as noted by Jake Budler '17.

"Each time you play a rugby game, it feels like you're going to war with your opponent," he said. "It is a tough, rough, and close contact sport with constant challenges and tackles to make. Rugby requires a great deal of trust in your teammates, as you have to rely on other people to do their jobs so that you can prosper on the field."

Budler led the Little Giants with two tries in their 22-19 victory over the Northwest Indiana Exiles in the first game of the season. He has incorporated his experience playing the sport in South Africa here at

"The most rewarding part of the club is to see a collective improvement by the team"

KURT MILLER '16

Wabash College.

Moving forward, as long as the rugby team is restricted to club status, new members will always be welcome. Kurt Miller '16 never played a contact sport before immersing himself in rugby this year. He believes it was the missing element of his Wabash experience.

"The most rewarding part of the club is to see a collective improvement by the team," Miller

said. "Rugby is a sport that benefits the well-rounded squad that uses teamwork in their attack. The more our team practices and builds chemistry, the more likely we will come out victorious on the field."

"It's been extremely beneficial because the practices are physically challenging. We supplement our time on the field with a solid workout regimen, which has paid dividends in my personal health. This is one of the only clubs on campus that promotes both student unity and physical conditioning."

In essence, this club is far different from the average campus organization funded by the Student Senate. The brutal physical nature of the sport separates it from other clubs, while the lack of membership among college athletics omits it from other sport programs. The rugby club is caught in the middle of distinct campus identities, while exploding with on-field potential. The team boasts the best record in the area and is gearing up for some difficult opponents down the stretch.



COLIN THOMPSON '17 / PHOTO

Rugby is 4-0 on the season after defending Mud Hollow last weekend in their annual sevens tournament. The spring schedule consists largely of seven-on-seven events and the fall consists of full-sided games.

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