

Wabash Honors Student Research for 20th Year



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

William Borland '22 presents his reaserch to attendees at the 20th Celebration of Student Research. Presentations included 15-minute information sessions and poster boards.

DREW BLUETHMANN '22 | STAFF WRITER • “Our students are not passive learners. They are investigators,” Professor Lon Porter said.

Faculty sponsors appointed students to present their independent research last Friday at the Celebration of Student Research. This year marked the 20th anniversary of the event. “It is a little bit of a flip; it is the one afternoon where the students become the teachers, they teach us about what they have done,” Professor Porter said.

Professor Porter has been the chair of the Celebration of Student Research Committee for over a decade. “The celebration holds a special place in my heart because when I visited Wabash during my job interview, it was during the celebration in 2003,” Professor Porter said. “What struck me was that Wabash was the kind of place that puts student scholarly and creative achievement and independent work front and center,” he said.

Some institutions may have research days. However, Professor Porter points to the fact that every year the faculty votes to cancel classes for the event. It is rare for research events to happen at such a central time. And it is especially rare for Wabash to cancel classes. He also said, “Every year, I am impressed by how students across the different departments and divisions show the significant and diverse achievements that they have taken on beyond typical course work.”

Many students attended the event. Freshmen Ben Axel said, “I think it is a great opportunity to see the great work my fellow Wabash men are

doing. The research is creative and thought-provoking.” Also, professors took the chance to go back to their undergraduate roots, when they became students for the afternoon. “It is very gratifying to see how students and faculty collaboration leads to these independent projects that come out of the work they do with faculty,” said Professor Tucker of the German Department.

The day started when student-alumni pairs presented with keynote research. The keynote pairs were Aaron Webb '20 and Greg Castanias '87; Benjamin Grubbs '20 and Richard McCombie '77 presented; Vincent D'Angelo '20 and John Deschner '97 presented.

Many students presented research in the form of fifteen-minute presentations. “It’s a humbling experience to step in front of your peers and present a robust project and see it accepted with open arms. And I encourage everyone to take advantage of this day in the future,” said Charlie Esterline. Esterline '21, Mohammad Adnan '20, Christian Redmond '20, and Christopher McNally '21 presented their research on student government. In the last Wabash Student Government elections, there was a seventy-two percent voter turnout. Most other campuses only have about a twenty percent turnout. They concluded that peer pressure was the driving factor at Wabash. Also notable, Esterline ran for President in the election with McNally as his running-mate, and Adnan won the presidential election with Redmond as his campaign manager.

Wade Haesemeyer '21 presented

his podcast titled, “Rescue or Theft – a Podcast About the History of the Acropolis Museum and Its Missing Marbles.”

Haesemeyer said, “Creating a podcast and researching for a podcast is a heck of a lot more fun than writing a paper. The whole process of making a podcast is interesting. I think writing out and researching things when you plan on them being listened to, rather than read, changes the writing process. First of all, it does not have to be as formal... You also think outside the box on voices you hear in the podcast. I had one of my professors read a quote from a book... to signify that it was not my quote.”

Eric Murphy '20 presented his research titled, “The Effects of National Identity on International Cooperation.” He analyzed the Union of South American Nations and why it failed. He determined that there was no link between national identity and leaving the union. He believes that it was an inefficient institution and that this was the primary factor for South American countries leaving it.

Henry Egan '22 presented his essay titled, “Spies and Bi-Guys: The Men Who Do Exist.” He analyzed the representation of bisexual men in the media. He mostly focused on a novel called, My Name is N by Robert Kargel. The novel is a classic plot with spy themes, but it happens that the character is bisexual. Egan believes that the positive outcome of representation like this is that people may see themselves and realize that certain character traits do not have to connect.

Chris Barker '20, Sam Henthorn '20, Joseph Ballard '20, and Ian Gale '22 presented their experiences they accumulated while studying abroad. The presentation was titled “A Daily Research on Living Abroad.” The presentation focused on stories about culture, language, food, and the people they meet. Sam Henthorn said, “Participating in this research presentation led me to solidify and make concrete the benefits and lessons that I learned from abroad. Boiling my experiences into a five-minute presentation made me cut out some of the fringe stuff and look at the meat. So, it was an illuminating experience in that way. It was great to work with Chris, Joe, and Ian on this project.”

Sam Phillips '23 presented “The Natural Home: a Home Design for Community.” He designed his dream house with a philosophic approach. The design had a minimalist and modern feel. It includes large windows, large spaces for entertainment, and balances between private space and community space or natural design and modern design.

Some students presented research in the form of posters. Alex Rotaru '22 presented his poster titled “Monetary Public Health and Geographic Information Services.” He analyzed maps of prosperity metrics, opioid use, and homes unfit for human habitation.

Joey Ballard, Thach Huynh '20, and Alex Rotaru won the Celebration Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Awards. Nathan Biggs '20 and Benjamin Manahan '21 won the Robert Wedgeworth Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Awards.

Wabash Announces Mental Health Partnership with Jed Foundation

COOPER SMITH '23 | STAFF WRITER • As the spring semester begins, the administration is focusing on mental health programming. Laura Dolph has joined Jaime Douglas in the Counseling Center to help continue providing 1-on-1 counseling services for all students. And Dolph has joined the Wabash family just in time for an upcoming mental health initiative: our partnership with the Jed Foundation.

The Jed Foundation is an organization designed to improve mental health and suicide prevention programs at colleges around the country. Starting this semester, Wabash will begin a four-year

strategic partnership with Jed. Jed will assess our current mental health programs and provide feedback. As we improve our programming, Wabash will become a Jed Campus, giving students additional resources and a network of over 250 schools. But most importantly, we will improve our community – we will be more able to respond when a brother is in need.

This increased focus on mental health includes all members of the Wabash family. When this partnership was in its early stages, alumni stepped in to make this idea a reality. While we partner with Jed, we will need student and faculty input.

But most importantly, we need all Wabash men to encourage each other to seek help when in need.

“Support for emotional well-being... must be seen as a campus-wide responsibility...It is the responsibility of everyone on campus to promote and protect the mental health of the student body,” Jed said.

Yes, Wabash is an academically challenging school. Yes, we have outstanding athletics and arts programs. But what separates Wabash, what keeps our scarlet banner flying free, is our brotherhood. So let’s all work together and continue looking out for our brothers.

A Q&A with Laura Dolph

AUSTIN HOOD '21 | NEWS EDITOR • This week, “The Bachelor” sat down with the Wabash College Counseling Center’s newest staff member: Laura Dolph. A Crawfordsville native, Dolph served the Montgomery County community as a private practitioner of mental health counseling since 2008. She holds a B.S. in Psychology and M.S. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Colorado Denver.

Prior to her work in private practice, Dolph worked for Cummins Mental Health Systems as a caseworker. She is a proud dog-mom of three. This is Dolph’s first semester as a member of the Wabash Staff.

Q: How has your time on campus been so far?

A: I’m settling in really well. There’s a lot to learn. I did my orientation on the first day and learned a lot about the culture around here. I’ve actually just learned about study tables and I’m getting to know different traditions and things like that. So it’s been really interesting. One thing that’s really struck me as really different is just that you guys are all so young. I’ve had a much more varied population in my private practice so it’s been interesting to see such lively people.

Q: What do you think might be some of the challenges of serving the College population in your role?

A: Well, I think generally men tend to be hesitant to seek help. That’s a generalization that’s changing somewhat but it still holds true. Usually, by the time a man has said “I need help” he’s really in bad shape. So that means that generally speaking by the time people come to the counseling center they’re hurting a lot already. Part of it, which is something Jamie [Douglas] has really emphasized, is that with young people, their relationship between cause and effect has not totally formed yet, so they struggle just to remind themselves to not be impulsive, to think things through before they do them. I’ve met with the Student Mental Health Concerns Committee and one thing I got out of that is there’s a lot of people much, much more open to these conversations than before. I think that’s a good thing. We’re getting healthier, more quickly. But it’s also a sign that society is a lot more stressful for young people nowadays. I don’t have the magic answer for why that is but I think there’s a couple factors that are making it harder for young people to function.

Q: Just to press you on that last point

a little bit, would you say that one of those factors would be social media?

A: Yes, of course. People get so wrapped up in “do people like my posts?” So there’s a kind of instant rejection or approval that is almost like an addiction. It keys into the same parts of the brain that flirting, sex, and drugs key into [...] I also think that for young people it isn’t something new, that’s all they’ve ever really known. I have clients who don’t want to go see their girlfriend, they’d rather just talk to her on the phone. So people really get accustomed to that shallow kind of approval or disapproval. People don’t really know you from social media and you don’t really know them and yet their opinion somehow matters deeply to you. The other thing about social media, and just the computer age in general, is that people have super easy answers. Most of the time we have such easy access to information that we grow used to not really having to wrestle with questions that concern us. “What do I do when my girlfriend breaks up with me?” is a little bit harder to find an answer to than most things. So I think people don’t know what to do with more complex questions that maybe I grew up talking to friends, or my parents, or other adults about.

Q: How did you decide to be a Mental Health Counselor?

A: I like being there for my community it’s very important to me. God gave me gifts and I feel that it’s my duty and my responsibility in many ways to make the world around me a better place.

Q: What goals do you have for your time on campus?

A: Well, first off I just want to get my ear to the ground and know what the conversation around mental health is like. Other than that, the main thing is just to give people the tools to recognize early signs that things are going wrong. Plus, I want people to start thinking about mental health care in the same way we think about athletics conditioning. You know, they stretch and do all these things so they don’t injure themselves and can perform their best. When mental health care is done well it’s the same thing: it teaches us to think more fairly to ourselves, make good decisions - all that stuff before there’s a problem.

Q: What advice would you have for all Wabash students?

A: Aim high. Go for it. Be prepared for hard work.

Chinese Club Celebrates Lunar New Year



DAKOTA BAKER '22/ PHOTO

Ian Gale '22 enjoys authentic Chinese cuisine. Students at the celebration enjoyed many Chinese traditions including games and lucky envelopes.



DAKOTA BAKER '22/PHOTO

Yao Li, Visiting Professor of Chinese, and Hsinyu Hsu, Foreign Language Teaching Assistant, address the crowd.



DAKOTA BAKER '22/PHOTO

Hsinyu Hsu, Foreign Language Teaching Assistant, demonstrates a traditional Chinese game to attendees.

Wabash Magazine Editor Retires

JAKE VERMEULEN '21 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • During his time at Wabash, Steve Charles reshaped Wabash Magazine into a top-flight alumni magazine. Charles was named an honorary alumnus of the Class of 1970 at Homecoming Chapel in 2008 as a recognition of his exemplary career of service to Wabash. On Friday, January 24, students, staff, alumni, and fellow staff members joined to honor him at a retirement reception in the Scholars Lounge of Lilly Library.

The reception included remarks from Charles’ longtime boss, President’s Chief of Staff Jim Amidon ’87, President of the National Association of Wabash Men Marc Nichols ’92, President of the Board of Trustees Jay Allen ’79, and Professor of English Emeritus Mark Hudson. They all spoke glowingly of Charles’ commitment to Wabash, as well as the skill and humanity with which he went about his work.


Charles came to Wabash in 1995, and immediately received praise for his work on the Magazine. Some of his best work has come in recent years, however. Charles talked specifically about the issue *Walking Beside Each*

Other, from 2017, as one of the best he had been able to produce while at Wabash. That issue explored men’s mental health issues in response to an ongoing increase of awareness about the need to prioritize mental health. In an interview last fall, he said, “It was kind of a response to [the fact that] I’ve lost some friends to suicide, and so it was a real pent up desire to address this [...] Everything about it was just beautifully and carefully done. You can see the love for this place on every page of that [issue]. We got more letters for that [issue] than anything we’ve done lately. A lot of people wanting to tell their stories, a lot of people suddenly not feeling alone, and that was my favorite thing that I heard from a couple of people. ‘I read this and realized that we’re not alone. I’m not alone.’ That’s a good issue.”

When he took the podium at the reception, an emotional Charles said that he was planning to spend more time with his family after his retirement. The Wabash community will certainly miss a storyteller of his magnitude. We wish him the best of luck as he moves on to the next chapter of his life.

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Austin Rudicel '20

Reply to this editorial at amrudice20@wabash.edu

A year ago, I arrived in Sydney, Australia to start my semester at the University of New South Wales. At the time, Australia was in the middle of a heat wave with temperatures spiking to 40.6C (105F). Anytime I was outside, regardless of how much Australian Gold (deceptive name for a company founded in Florida) shielded my skin, I could feel my skin burning from the dry heat. My sunburns would eventually recover, but unfortunately, the effects of the 2019-2020 bushfire season have caused unrecoverable damage. The bushfire season occurs annually with fires breaking out in the “bush” (wild area) across Australia, but this season is one of the worst in Australian history. Australian government estimated 17 million hectares (nearly the size of Syria) burned, over a billion animals died, and a record 32 lives and 3,000



Simon Hacker '21

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On Tuesday, September 24, Nancy Pelosi announced that the House of Representatives opened a formal impeachment inquiry against President Trump to investigate his dealings in Ukraine. I do not intend to bore you with my opinion concerning the President’s guilt (or lack thereof) in this case. That is a job for the House of Representatives. Instead, I would like to take a closer look at how President Trump has defended himself in this case and how his defense is indicative of a larger problematic discourse he has used throughout his entire political career. So far, President Trump has not admitted any wrongdoing whatsoever. In fact, he has repeatedly insisted that his phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky was “perfect.” He also consistently referenced Zelensky’s comments that he “never talked to the president from a position of a quid pro quo”. Other than those two points, President Trump does not spend much of his time discussing the substance of the call itself or any of the evidence against him that has come to light over the course of the impeachment inquiry. Instead, President Trump has spent almost all of his efforts

homes were lost because of the bushfires. The effects of the fires continue to affect those living in Australia and the rest of the world, with the smoke creating hazardous living conditions and spreading across the globe. As of last week, the smoke has circumnavigated the globe. There are many causes for the increased outbreak for the fires. The heatwave from 2019 left wild areas very dry, so fires would spread further than in a normal bushfire season. Some “sources” claimed deliberate arson was responsible for over half of the fires, but this statistic was proven to be spread primarily from social media bots to misdirect attention from global warming issues. The statement “183 people were arrested in NSW for arson” comes from the statistic that 183 people faced legal charges for fire-related offences such as breaking fire bans, failure to properly put out campfires, lighting barbeque grills, and even throwing out lit cigarettes. Only 24 were charged for deliberately starting fires (and even some this number comes from fires unintentionally spread from campfires). It is hard to ignore global warming when a whole continent is on fire, but false information such as the arson rumors attempts to undermine the effects rising temperatures play in the scale of the fires. Prime Minister Scott Morrison has failed

trying to discredit the impeachment process. In the last month alone, President Trump has described the inquiry as a “phony scam,” a “witch hunt,” a “hoax,” “fake,” and a “total and complete circus.” He has also stated that House Democrats are “hysterical,” “shifty,” “corrupt,” “Do Nothings.” In summary, President Trump is pushing the narrative that he is being unjustly attacked by the evil Democrats through unfair means, so that they can accomplish their ultimate goal of removing him from office. For many people, this narrative is very appealing. Members of the public can easily relate to someone who they believe is being screwed over because almost all of us have felt the same way at some point in our lives. Justice, fairness, and due process are all cornerstones of our shared set of American values. However, this narrative is problematic because none of his attacks on the impeachment process have any merit. The first popular complaint among President Trump and House Republicans was that there needed to be a formal vote to begin the impeachment probe. This is false. The Constitution does not require a vote to begin an impeachment inquiry. The next complaint from the President was that the impeachment hearings should not be held behind closed doors, but instead on live television for the whole world to see. Despite the fact that Chairman Schiff had no constitutional obligation to hold public hearings, the Democrats decided to acquiesce to their request and hold the hearings in public. Also, Trump consistently complained that he was not being afforded full due process because Republicans were unable to call their own witnesses in the initial hearings. This is also false. Nowhere in the Constitution or in

to fund proper measures to combat the increasing dangers of bushfires, which is partially to blame for the severity of the 2019-2020 bushfire season. While fires blazed and fire services tried to contain and put out the fires, Morrison took a family trip to Hawaii. Only after two firefighters lost their lives did Morrison return to Australia, and when he returned, firefighters refused to shake his hand at his publicity-focused photoshoots. One news channel filmed a team of firefighters putting out fires and as one fell to the ground from smoke inhalation he says, “Are you from the media? Tell the prime minister to go and get f**ked from Nelligen. We really enjoy doing this s***, s***head! I’ve lost seven houses already in Nelligen. I’m not going to lose any more, you f***head.” When an Instagram model offering nude photos to donors and Metallica brings in more money fire relief efforts than the Australian government, one starts to question the government’s effectiveness. Many animals were killed from the fires, but even those that survive still struggle with relocating to a new environment. Wildlife preserves are overloaded with rescued animals and spend a lot to feed and treat these lives, but the animals are not the only ones forced to relocate. Indigenous Australian people (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) lived on much of the land

the House approved impeachment rules does it state that the President is allowed to call witnesses during the investigation process. Instead, the President will be allowed to call his own witnesses if the case were to reach a trial in the House (allowing Trump to call witnesses during an investigation would be like someone bringing their mom to a police interrogation room as a character witness). The President has continued to launch similar attacks against the impeachment process and will most likely continue to do so until its conclusion. The idea that the most powerful man on the planet is actually a victim is puzzling. This is especially confusing when we consider that the entire executive and judicial branches along with the Senate are controlled by conservative leadership. However, as nonsensical as this idea is, it is a position that the President has put himself in several times throughout his term. In fact, President Trump uses this same strategy for almost all of his prominent controversies. For example, with regards to immigration President Trump stated that Democrats wanted to open our southern border entirely in an effort to allow dangerous people into the country and boost their voter base. This too is false. Literally not a single Democrat in Congress has advocated for completely open borders in the entire time the President has been in office. He also used this same strategy during the Russia investigation. He routinely accused Special Prosecutor Robert Muller of corruption and refused to admit that Russia meddled in the 2016 Presidential election. Shockingly, this is also false. Robert Muller is a tenured veteran of the United States intelligence community with a sparkling record of being a non-partisan individual that has worked under several different

that is now uninhabitable. Many Aboriginal communities are still not acknowledged as original owners of the land by the government, and now, after stealing the land, the Australian government fails to assist them in relocation. The fires in Australia are significant to me because I lived in New South Wales right where a majority of the fires and casualties occurred. Seeing videos of the fires from news outlets, I can barely recognize some of the places I visited from the fires. It is devastating to see how things have changed in just a year, but if Wabash taught me one thing, it is how to effectively take action to solve problems. Many US firefighters flew to Australia to put out the fires, but for those lacking firefighting training, one way to help is donations. From conversations with friends I met in Australia, I found a handful of organizations that use all of the money from donations to help the people and animals affected by the fires. I’ve included links for each of these organizations and encourage you to donate just \$10 dollars to a meaningful cause instead of buying yourself a pack of Juul pods. Thanks to continued effort, many fires have been put out already, but the fires blaze on and the effects are lasting for those in the area and will require help. Please help me protect this special place so that it will still be there for when I come back. Presidential administrations. Also, the CIA, FBI, and the National Security Agency all concluded with “high confidence” that Russia did interfere in the 2016 election. Lastly, President Trump has reputedly labeled Hillary Clinton as a criminal for her “e-mails,” in spite of multiple congressional investigations (led by Republicans) concluding that she was not criminally liable for her actions. After all of this, you may be wondering “How does the President keep getting away with spouting blatantly false information while still maintaining support from his constituents?” The answer: President Trump has created a false discourse of power that places himself as a victim constantly under attack by unhinged and corrupt liberals. This strategy allows President Trump to shield himself from criticism by shifting attention and blame to his opponents. Essentially, this allows him to make the argument that any evidence presented against him should be discredited because the individuals producing the evidence have some sort of personal vendetta against him. Going forward, I encourage all of you to see past this rouse to understand where power truly lies in our country. The wall isn’t built right now because it is a bad policy, not because Democrats love criminals and hate Trump. The Russia investigation was a legitimate inquiry that uncovered several troubling truths about the 2016 election and ultimately found 34 people guilty of criminal charges, not a witch hunt. This new impeachment inquiry is a completely legal search for information surrounding a possible misuse of presidential powers, not a phony scam. Finally, the President of the United States of America should be a leader, not a victim.



Drew Bluethmann '22

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Will all small private colleges close? Does campus culture and tradition mean anything anymore? Will the liberal arts persist? Questions like these are circulating at all small colleges in America. One institution we can look to is our friend down south. DePauw is facing a crisis on campus. On December 4, 2019, DePauw Professor Lili Wright wrote an article in “Indianapolis Monthly” titled “DePauw’s Big Mess On Campus.” She summarizes the situation saying, “With declining enrollment and a wave of professors set to depart, DePauw University faces a crisis. But even its Ph.D.s can’t agree on a smart solution.” Her analysis of DePauw’s firestorm is excellent. Although she never directly states it, one factor is clear: DePauw has lost its identity. The institution has financial difficulty. Its leadership has been poor in the past, but not destructive. And, the university has failed to send a unified message to prospective students about the value of the experience at DePauw. I have decided to analyze Wright’s article because, even though we learn from our mistakes, it is better if we can learn from other’s mistakes. Learning from other’s downfalls and triumphs is a cornerstone of the liberal arts education. Wabash and DePauw are two similar institutions, in the sense that we struggle with many of the same issues. In spite of a few fires this last semester, Wabash is in an age of relative prosperity. DePauw has a forest fire on campus. So why is DePauw struggling while Wabash is holding strong? The short answer is culture. The long answer is our preservation of relevant traditions and our belief in one Wabash Community. Most small private colleges in the United States are struggling financially. St. Joseph’s College is an example of a college in Indiana that went under due to finances. The college closed in 2017 while it was \$27 million in debt and needed much more to stay in operation. However, DePauw and Wabash are not facing

any short-term financial crisis. DePauw’s Endowment is \$731 Million (about \$338,000 per student). Wabash’s Endowment is \$349.7 Million (about \$397,000 per student). Wright cites money as the main issue at DePauw. The University did not balance the books and drew from its endowment for years. While money might be the most direct factor for keeping a university running, it is not the ultimate factor. Drawing from the endowment is bad, but DePauw has an alumni base like Wabash—they have deep pockets. DePauw is about to start a \$30 million renovation of its library, while Wabash is currently building a new \$13 million football stadium and will begin renovating the library as well. Infrastructure projects are a good sign for both institutions and reveal that there is enough money to run and maintain the campuses. One of Wright’s main concerns is a \$5.1 million tuition shortfall, mostly due to being 200 students short of their enrollment goal for 2019-2020. They planned on having 650 freshmen, and only have 450. That is more than 30% short of their goal. But this shortage is indirectly a money issue, and more a cultural issue, or an issue of the administration. The real question is, where are the students? The communities at Wabash and DePauw have criticized their administrations and leadership in recent years. However, criticism of DePauw’s administration has been much more serious than Wabash’s administration. Criticism of President Hess and his administration started at the beginning of this academic year, mostly from students and some alumni. “The Commentary” announced that sheep-skin diplomas would no longer be a tradition for the graduating Wabash Men. The main criticisms can down to the administration’s failure to effectively communicate to the student body on many issues: sheep-skin, raising tuition cost, and parking. However, the administration has maintained the confidence of most of the community. I would say that about half of the student body does not look down upon President Hess. Most Alumni are mostly in support of President Hess (even though they may be disappointed in the sheep-skin situation): just look at the capital campaign last spring. And the faculty has not voted no confidence against the administration (or even considered it as far as I know). Yes, Wabash faces issues in its administration, but the fixes do not require a complete overhaul or coup to fix. In contrast, DePauw’s administration is

facing many of the same issues, only much worse. Last year, DePauw faculty voted no confidence against their president. The institution offered buyouts to over 100 faculty members. And the incoming freshman class was 200 students short of the expected 650. Faculty at DePauw cited “President Mark McCoy’s lack of communication, transparency, and vision,” when they voted no confidence against him. Administrative issues are a direct cause of the crisis at DePauw. An institution cannot succeed without good and stable leadership. If DePauw finds stable and reliable leadership that regains the trust of the community, they will be well on their way to success. However, Leadership cannot account for most of their crisis. There is a deeper and more pressing issue at play. The root of DePauw’s campus crisis is culture. Professor Wright mentions culture in her article, “What the school needs, sociology professor David Newman says, is a well-defined niche.” Although Wright addresses culture, she ignores it in favor of finances and leadership. DePauw is a liberal arts school. However, the liberal arts are not a niche on its own. In a world where businesses want more hard skills from employees and students usually want a degree that has a job title on it (accounting=accountant), the liberal arts can be a hard sell. DePauw’s mission statement is, “DePauw University develops leaders the world needs through an uncommon commitment to the liberal arts.” The liberal arts may be “uncommon,” but it is not exactly unique. Holistic education is unspecific. DePauw can be committed to the liberal arts, but they need something more defining. They attempted to bridge this gap with the Gold Commitment. Wright says it is, “a pledge that all grads will be either employed or in graduate school within six months of receiving their degrees or they can return for a tuition-free semester or be placed in an entry-level position for at least six months.” As Wright points out, this is a safety net for a school that has a 97% placement rate after graduation. DePauw has a lost identity and they should look to Wabash as an example. Without a defined identity and culture, it is very difficult to establish a leadership that will properly manage finances. At Wabash, we have our identity set in cement. We are a liberal arts college for men. The idea that Wabash is a college for men does not lean too heavily on the liberal arts. DePauw’s mission statement leans too heavily on abstract ideas like leadership.

But at Wabash, we can say that we are unique by providing education for men. This commitment to education defines the school culture, experiences, and tradition (at least the ones that matter). Wabash’s undergraduate population is culturally male. The average Wabash Man watches Sunday Night Football, belongs to a fraternity, plays a sport, and lets loose on the weekend. However, the average Wabash Man does hours of homework every day, has deep and meaningful conversations in and out of the classroom, and is generally accepting and curious about different cultures and ideas. And the all-male student body is the root of many of our traditions that would not likely exist at a coed institution: Chapel Sing, the Gentlemen’s Rule, and competition between fraternities. And the underlying theme to four years at Wabash is the all-male education. I can speak to alumni from the ’90s, the ’70s, and the ’50s, and they would all have a general understanding of what life is like at Wabash now because of the all-male experience. The all-male experience at Wabash is the unifying factor for our campus’s culture. Some might say that we are losing culture and tradition. One only needs to cite the Sheep-Skin debate. But the truth is, some traditions are dependent (or at least only likely) with all-male education. Sheep-Skin has no connection to the all-male experience. Another example is the Arch superstition. I do not walk underneath the arch on my way back to Lambda every day. Duh, I do not want to fail comps. But this tradition has no connection to Wabash being an all-male intuition and does not add to my experience. You do not experience the sheep-skin, you receive it. Our traditions are as safe as we value the experience of an all-male institution. And the greatest tradition of all, all-male education, is what defines our institution. In conclusion, Wabash’s all-male status is our defining feature and greatest asset. If Wabash were to turn co-ed, we would be another liberal arts college in the Midwest with nothing unique to promote. We would be lost in a sea of failing small colleges that fail to get alumni to give back, that have bad leadership, and that have no unique identity. As we look toward the next decade of Wabash College, and the upcoming centennial, we should reflect on how important all-male education is to the health of our community. Without it, we might not exist. And to DePauw: you will recover, but you must know how to talk about the unique value you bring to potential students.

Mac Miller's Emotional Final Album

CHRISTIAN REDMOND '20 | OPINION EDITOR • Mac Miller's sixth and final album, "Circles," came out on January 17. This is his first album released posthumously. Miller died on September 7, 2018 because of an accidental overdose. The album carries a soft and somber tone driven by Miller's lyrics addressing his mental health, drug addiction, depression, and relationships.

The album starts off with two melancholy songs, "Circles" and "Complicated," that continue what Miller discussed in *Swimming*: his mental health. In past interviews, Miller discussed his struggles with substance use many times. In an interview with *Complex*, Miller says he started heavily smoking marijuana to cope with the stress of being on tour in 2012. Miller believed marijuana was the gateway of his addiction to many other substances, including lean. "My friends couldn't even look at me the same," Miller said in the interview. "I was lost." In the song "Circles," Miller uses circles to depict the cyclical nature of addiction with such lines as "I cannot be changed, I cannot be changed, no. Trust me, I've tried I just end up right at the start of the line. Drawin' circles."

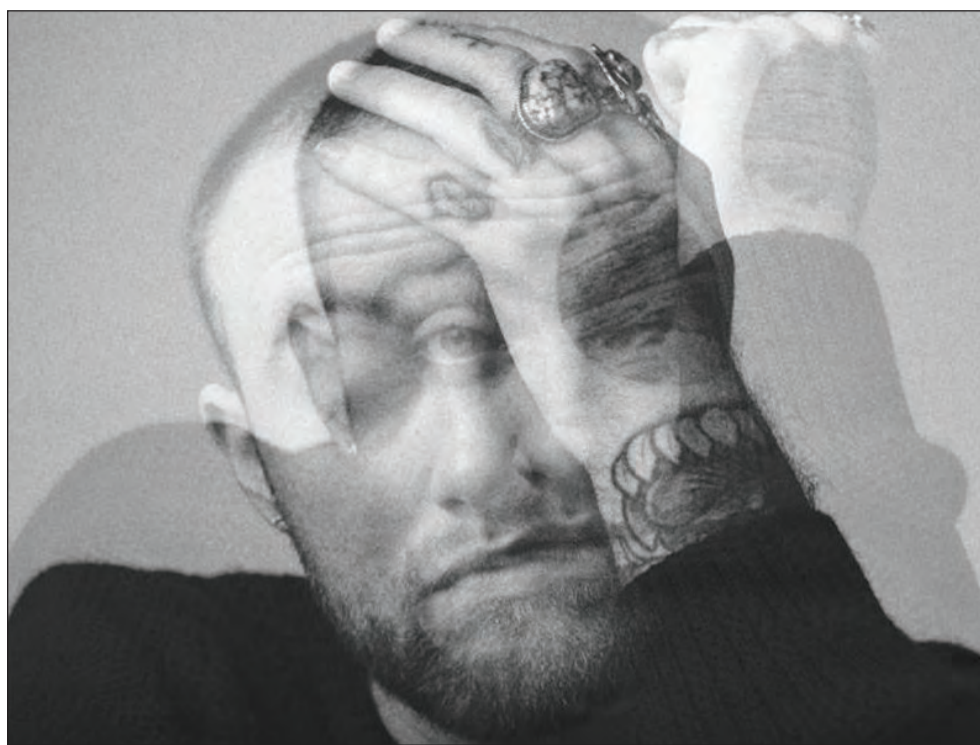
In "Complicated," Miller discusses his struggles with getting through the day. He notices that some people desire to live forever. But Miller is just focusing on getting through a day, as he struggles with substance use and mental illness. "Inside my head is getting pretty cluttered. I try, but can't clean up this mess I made," Miller said. "'Fore I start to think about the future. First, can I please get through a day?" The concept of a cluttered head appears in many of Miller's songs including a line from the track "Come Back to Earth" on the prior album, "Swimming", where he

says "I just need a way out of my head. I'll do anything for a way out of my head."

The album then picks up the pace with "Blue World," which has an upbeat tone over a chopped-up sample from "It's a Blue World" by The Four Freshmen. In the last two songs, he describes himself as cluttered and in a circle, but "Blue World" shows a more confident side of Miller. Lines such as "Yeah, well, this mad world made me crazy. Might just turn around, do one-eighty" and "When the devil tryna call your line, but shit, I always shine. Even when the light dim. No, I ain't God, but I'm feelin' just like Him," show how Miller can pick himself up to face his problems. However, the song contradicts this confidence with anecdotes of betrayal. He talks about former best friends leaving him and how is "hand got bit" presumably refereneing his ex-girlfriend Ariana Grande.

The next track, "Good News," is Miller's first single since his death. "Good News" gives the listener a taste of the artist's "cluttered" mind. He hears and understands the critiques of his behavior from others. He hears people say, and even says to himself, that "It could always be worse" and "There's a whole lot more waitin'" for him on the other side of his illness. Even though, he still is "so tired of being tired." This is a powerful line that articulates, again, the cyclical nature of depression and addiction.

The next two tracks, "I Can See" and "Everybody," brings the concepts of life and death into the album. Miller looks at his life through a different lens in "I Can See." He observes that his life is guided by the desire to feel normal. He realizes he can achieve that feeling through multiple avenues, but he has been taking the avenue of drugs. In the first verse, Miller



COURTESY OF POST-GAZETTE.COM

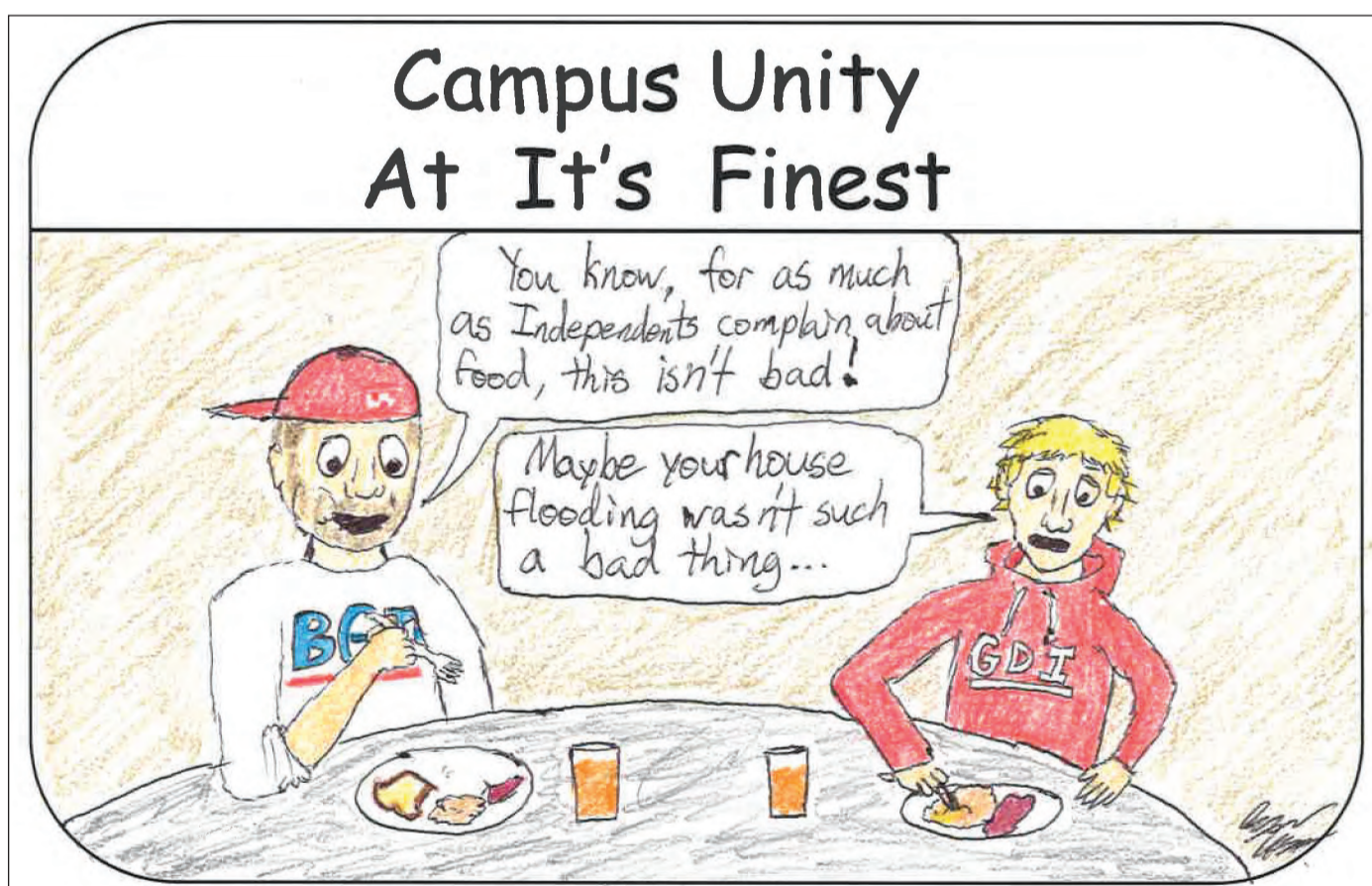
Mac Miller leaves fans in the feels with his final album, "Circles".

recognizes he needs help and find an alternative avenue to feeling normal. However, in the second verse he seems to conclude that there are no other ways for him to find normalcy. He desires something real to feel. "And now I know if life is but a dream then so are we," Miller says. "Show me something, show me something, something I can see."

For the majority of the rest of the album, Miller acknowledges his own fragility and problems. He understands he has a problem with anxiety, saying "I'm busy trippin' 'bout some shit that still ain't even happen yet," on "Hands." He understands his problem

with drugs, an addiction that he finds detrimental to his mental health. On "Surf," Miller says, "Sometimes I get lonely. Not when I'm alone. But it's more when I'm standin' in crowds. That I'm feelin' the most on my own." Even through this pain though, Miller end the album with a message to his fans. He tells them to not keep their emotions and problems bottled up for them to deal with on their own in the song "Once a Day." "Don't keep it all in your head. The only place that you know nobody ever can see," Miller says. "You're running low on regret. No tears, that's keeping you wet. I think you gettin' it now."

Comic Relief by Sam Hansen '22



Predictions for the New Decade

ALEX ROTARU '22 | ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR • A new decade is upon us, which is a great time to reflect on the past 10 years and start anew. We, at The Bachelor, decided to make some of our own predictions for the new decade, about Wabash and the world around us.

Wabash expands while maintaining its Tradition

With the campus master plan overcoming the planning phase, Wabash will be renovating its facilities, expanding its fields of study and exploration, and, overall, preparing for its bicentennial in 2032. A lot can happen in 12 years, and, most likely, Wabash as it is today will look completely different from Wabash in 2032.

At the same time, Wabash exemplifies how tradition can be adapted to modern times, and, while it will don a renewed look, the campus will still have the spirit that has guided generations of Wabash men. The professors will still be guides through the marvels of the world, the administration will still uphold the Gentleman's Rule, and the entire campus will never cease to fight with the challenges of the day.

Also, the students are showing increasing interest in Wabash history, and there will most likely be a book

written about the first two decades of Wabash. More likely than not, students will uncover and revive lost traditions that will prove valuable in a contemporary context, increasing the diversity and depth of campus lore.

Montgomery County will return to its former Glory

For the past 5 years, multiple initiatives on campus have created a symbiosis between Wabash and the county: students get a chance to learn and hone skills in real-world situations, while the county tackles more easily its pressing issues. With initiatives like Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse or the Global Health Initiative identifying issues and facilitating their solution, the county is in good hands.

Also, in terms of Public Health and Public Safety, the county will become more proactive in addressing issues, through Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This technology can plot all incidents on a map, in order to find correlations between issues and clusters of addresses where said issues are most prevalent. Using GIS, the county agencies will communicate more effectively, and use resources more efficiently in helping the community thrive.

The Social Revolution continues For a couple of years now, the "I

believe in the future there will be flying cars" meme has been going around the internet. While we are not flying around in our cars, we do communicate with each-other across the globe through messages that travel thousands of miles in an instant. This, I believe, has become a catalyst for a new kind of revolution started in the 1960s: the social revolution.

Just like the industrial revolution brought in new technology, the social revolution brought change in how humans relate to one-another, in diversity and inclusion, and in destigmatizing how people behave. We are becoming more accepting, yet more polarized each and every day. For the 2020s, we will learn from the 2010s, and reduce the polarizing hate speech that has dominated social media platforms in recent times.

People. Stories. Humanity With the social revolution in full swing, and with artificial intelligence taking over a plethora of jobs around the world, humanity and people have become more important than ever. Accepting each-other, putting human touches, and hearing the stories that connect us will become the focal points of the next decade. It is prime time to hone those journalism and storytelling skills (by writing for *The Bachelor*).

Activism and Change

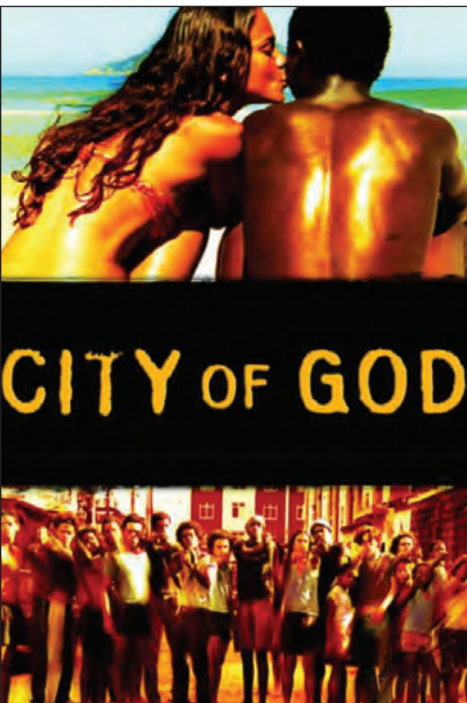
The status quo has remained in check for too long. With politics around the world getting severe critique, poverty and hunger still going rampant, income inequality, discrimination, and sexual harassment being daily occurrences, and global warming destroying the Earth, something has to give. Most likely, it will be the people's patience.

I see a lot of change coming with the new decade. Yet, it will be for the better: it will be a perfect time for society to re-evaluate its status, to reinvent itself, and to, hopefully, create a better future for the next generation. And this change starts with all of us.

So, what are the key themes of the next decade?

The fundamental theme for the 2020s will be change. We will have to re-evaluate our standards and values, our habits and mindsets, and our beliefs and hierarchies. It will be a time of starting anew, and of great peril. The best skills to have for the 2020s will be compassion, empathy, listening, and initiative. We will be questioning ourselves and others more, particularly institutions. We will innovate, but we need to challenge first. We will build, but we need to destroy first. In any event, they're going to be a new, unique kind of roaring '20s.

Expanding Your Horizons to Foreign Language Films



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City of God shines light on the troubling upbringing of kids in Rio de Janeiro.

AUSTIN RUDICEL '20 | CAVELIFE EDITOR • Foreign language films are far too often passed over by American theaters because of public distaste of subtitles. Bong Joon-ho's speech after accepting the award for Best Foreign Language Film for *Parasite* encouraged many (Americans) to "overcome the 1-inch-tall barrier of subtitles" to experience a diverse range of amazing films extending beyond US borders. Film Festivals and the award season are good places to start for someone looking to discover some of these international films, but if you don't have the time to sit through the mediocre jokes and Meryl Streep's seemingly endless nominations, we made a list of the best films from across the world.

Dangal (2016)- India
Dangal is based on the true story of the Phogat sisters and their



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA.COM

Dangal is about a father who teaches his daughters to wrestle.

development into world-class female wrestlers. The father's dream was to win a medal at the Commonwealth Games, but when he had to choose a job over wrestling, he gave up from wrestling and vowed to train his son to win a medal. After having four daughters, he believes his dream is lost, but when he sees his daughters roughhouse, he begins to train them to wrestle. Even with a runtime of almost three hours, the film never falters in bringing intense moments. If you enjoy sports films, this one is a necessity.

City of God (2002)- Brazil
City of God tells the story of the rampant violence and drugs in Rio de Janeiro. Children grow up in these dangerous conditions and it shapes the way they grow up, if they survive. As the young kids grow up, their experiences lead them to vastly



COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

Oldboy is a thrill for those who can stomach it's violent fight scenes.

different lives. This is one of the best crime films that gives Scorsese a run for his money.

Spirited Away (2001)- Japan
You might be familiar with the art style of Miyazaki thanks to Disney distributing the film outside of Japan. Miyazaki is known for his other films like *Princess Mononoke*, *My Neighbor Totoro*, and *Howl's Moving Castle*. These hand-drawn animated masterpieces are visually appealing and fun for all ages. *Spirited Away* is the highest grossing Japanese film and for good reason. The story is charming, funny, and moving and is something everyone should see at least once.

The Intouchables (2011)- France
The Intouchables is about the unlikely friendship between a rich quadriplegic and his black in-house nurse. An American remake of this French film



COURTESY OF FATHOMEVENTS.COM

Spirited Away is beautiful and rated as one of the greatest films of all time.

called *The Upside* was released in 2017 starring Kevin Hart and Bryan Cranston, but that version is not worth mentioning, so stick to the original. The film is fantastic at implementing humor into the traditionally disadvantaged portrayal of disabled characters in movies allowing for a balance of many serious and comedic moments.

Oldboy (2003)- South Korea
Hailing from the same country as *Parasite*, Oldboy is a film that should be watched instead of summarized. The plot is unforgettable and has twists that will make you want to watch it again. Another victim of a subpar American remake, do not waste your time with the US version (even though it stars Josh Brolin). The only warning is the film is intensely violent, so squeumish ones with weak stomachs should avoid watching this one.

Word on the Street

Introducing a new weekly section, Word on the Street asks you, the students of Wabash, the important questions about campus life and the world.

This week's question:

If you could teach one course at Wabash, what would it be?



-Jeff Inman '21

"I would want to teach Enduring Questions because it's one of the few things that all Wabash students have in common. I feel like it would be really cool being the person who introduces students to critical thinking and discussion."



Levi Jones '22

"I'd teach Spanish 103 because it's really useful to be bilingual and it would be rewarding to help other people achieve that."



-Eugene Bhattarai '23

"Mass Communications because that's a class we don't have and a lot of people come from a small circle and don't know how to interact with a larger community."



Kyle Suico '23

"I would teach a class on cryptography because it's a mathematically beautiful subject that has a lot of practical applications."

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

Although an individual newspaper, the Board of Publications publishes *The Bachelor*. *The Bachelor* and BOP receive funding from the Wabash College Student Senate, which derives its funds from the Wabash College student body.

Letters (e-mails) to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. They will only be published if they include name, phone, or e-mail, and are not longer than 500 words.

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Conrad Delivers Annual MLK Day Speech

ALEX ROTARU '22 | ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR • Every year, on Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Wabash College brings in a speaker to campus, to talk about how society can become a more inclusive place, in the spirit of Rev. King's legacy.

"I think the life and legacy that [Martin Luther King] left was one of remarkable connectivity," Dean of Professional Development Steven Jones, Director of the Malcolm X Institute, said. "And, for us to allow the day to come and go without finding a way to connect with each-other [would be] unfortunate." Human connection and building relationships are some of the most effective ways to build the trust, support, and humanity necessary to overcome the contemporary challenges in race relations.

This year's speaker, Dr. Cecilia Conrad, shared the lessons she learned from observing her father break through the racial barrier in Dallas, Texas. Conrad's stories were a mix of humor, humanity, and wisdom, that have left their mark on everyone in attendance. "I think anyone who attended the lecture that night will recall her conversation about Sears, and the [segregated, white-only] water fountain, and her mother, responding to the clerk [for why she was drinking out of that fountain: 'That's okay. She can't read yet.' [...] That sense of

lightheartedness and humor, allows the [story to remain ingrained] in the mind of those who attended the lecture, 10-20 years from now," Jones said. Also, those stories were set in Dallas, traditionally known as a well-to-do city. "[Many of the students I talked to] have a particular view or perception of Dallas," Jones said. "To know that the stories that she shared in such a vivid way took place, allows them to see it from a different perspective."

The goal for the Martin Luther King Day Speaker Events is to foster conversations and understanding across Wabash's campus. However, at times, people get frustrated with the slow speed of progress in terms of how far society has come in terms of race relations. Still, "since the [event], our comments from students about how they received the storytelling from Dr. Conrad and their ability to fully appreciate the value her father brought to the Civil Rights Movement in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, and so long as one person walks away with a greater desire to make a positive difference, I'm satisfied with that [...] each movement starts with one individual making the decision that they are going to be the cause for change," Jones said.

The most important takeaway from this event is remembering that we are all people, regardless of race, origin, religion, or anything else.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WABASH COLLEGE TWITTER

Dr. Cecelia Conrad delivers the 2020 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Speech.

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

KOBE TRIBUTES ROLL IN

Hi-Five to the basketball community for honoring the lives of the nine people who died in the helicopter crash in Calabasas, California, including NBA legend Kobe Bryant and his daughter Gianna Bryant. Kobe was a legend who changed the game and was just starting the second half of his life, while his daughter was a promising basketball player in her own right. Rest in Peace to all those who passed.

CORONAVIRUS IN THE REGION

Hi-Five to the coronavirus for reaching Indiana. There is reportedly a case of coronavirus in Northwestern Indiana. Let's all be honest. If it wipes out The Region, is that really the worst thing?

MURDER BY THE TENNIS COURTS

Hi-Five to the murder of crows that carpet bombed the area around the tennis courts last week. It's always a good omen for the semester when universal symbols of evil descend on Crawfordsville.

DERSHOWITZ ARGUES FOR KING DONALD I

Hi-Five to Alan Dershowitz for proving that even the most respected Harvard Law Professors can end up making marginally coherent arguments in front of Congress. You give inspiration to all members of the Pre-Law Society!

RIP MR. PEANUT

Hi-Five to Mr. Peanut who gave his life for two actors who haven't seen screen time in more than 15 years. I'm sure killing a 104 year old national icon and paying Matt Walsh and Wesley Snipes thousands of dollars was worth giving those two 20 seconds of screen time.

SPORTS

Wrestling Stays Strong, Stands at 10-2



DAKOTA BAKER '22 / PHOTO

Riley Lomenick '21 battle for position against an opponent. The Wabash wrestling team has raced out to a 10-2 start this season, with its only losses coming against top-five teams.

LOGAN SMITH '23 | STAFF WRITER • Winter break is a time of peace and relaxation for the majority of Wabash men, but if you're a member of Wabash's wrestling team, break is more about sweat and hard work.

"Winter break for us isn't really much of a break," says Assistant Wrestling Coach Lincoln Kyle when explaining what they do with the days that aren't their eight days of no practice. "Winter break is where we get a lot of our two-a-days in." Coach Kyle talked about the grueling process of practicing and competing over the break, and how it pays off, "That Saturday, after a week of practice, we flew out to New Jersey and competed against three top-25 teams and came out 3-0."

Wabash was able to go 9-2 over the course of the break, losing only to No. 2 Wartburg College and No. 4 Loras

College. This success can be attributed to not only the amount of time spent practicing, but also the quality of each individual practice. "A lot of our practices depend on what happened in our last meet. We usually compete and then see what we need to work on. We get all the coaches together and talk about our flaws and where we need to begin, and then that is how we get our focus together for our week of practice." This is certainly a recipe for success which works, and this in turn leads to a happy coaching staff.

Coach was especially happy with the contribution of younger wrestlers over the course of the break. "Andy Posledni '23 and Kyle Holman '23 were big over break, stepping up and getting some good wins." With big injuries and other factors, Holman and Posledni stepped up and shined in their first year on the Little Giant

Wrestling team. Returning success has also been nice for the Little Giants as Carlos Champagne '22 and Kyle Hatch '21 are currently ranked #1 in their weight classes, with Maxwell Bishop '21 and Darden Schurg '20 also in the top 10 of their weight classes. Coach Kyle spoke on the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA) and their ranking system saying, "It's cool to see the rankings and the numbers, and it helps with the seeding at the NWCA National Duals, but at the end of the day it is really just a number on a piece of paper, we've had guys go into March unranked and come out to win. So realistically I think that rankings really don't matter that much."

Wabash was also able to overcome Milliken in their latest meet, where they squeaked by with a score of 26-20. This is especially concerning, since the last time Wabash saw Milliken they

seemingly ran right over them with a 42-3 win. Coach commented on this meet saying, "The week leading up to Milliken wasn't the greatest week of practice, we dropped a couple matches where we shouldn't have, but some guys came through at the end and we won the duel in the end. It definitely wasn't what we wanted, but at the end of the day we got the job done."

In the end, Coach was glad to get the win, but he knows they will have to be better in the future to get the results they want. The team will be looking to take advantage of their upcoming matchup at Kentucky Wesleyan University this Friday at 7 p.m., a team who they gave a clean sweep with a 43-0 victory earlier in the season. Coach was confident they would be able to repeat their previous performance and build further on the great season they have had so far.

Swimming Regular Season Recap

JIM DALY '23 | STAFF WRITER • Last Saturday, Wabash swim and dive traveled up to Chicago to take on the NCAA Division I University of Illinois Flames and their hosts, the top-10 ranked Chicago Maroons. The Flames ultimately took home the competition that afternoon. Because the Little Giants fell short to both teams, they are looking to step up their efforts and preparation as they advance into the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Championships.

"The teams were better, but the guys embraced the challenge and raised their level of competition," Head Coach Will Bernhardt said. "We [are] trying to work those small details that would make a big difference at the championship level."

Hunter Jones '20 put in a hard day's work, nearing victory in both the 100 and 200-yard freestyle events against some of the nation's finest-trained collegiate swimmers. "I didn't really have any expectations going in," Jones reflected. "... [I was] used to swimming [in Chicago] when I was young. [I] felt sentimentality in finishing my regular season at the place where we started. [...] Moving forward, [We hope to] win a

conference title, one or both of the main events, [and] beat DePauw."

Jones pulled off a third-place finish in the 200-yard breaststroke, clocking in under two minutes and nine seconds, and fourth overall for the 100-yard freestyle, where he clocked in at sub-1.

Preparing for the first-ever conference meet of his career, which is less than two weeks away, critical team captain Wesley Slaughter '21 stole the show for the Little Giants. Slaughter finished first in the 50 and 100-yard freestyle events, touching the wall in just above 21 seconds in the former and just beneath 46 seconds in the latter.

"I was mostly trying to compete with steep competition," Slaughter said. "I went into the meet honestly just trying to have fun. I didn't really have any expectations but I had my best times [...] so that was very exciting to see."

In spite of their previous obstacles, Wabash swim & dive remains resilient as they transition into the postseason. The NCAC Championships open in less than two weeks, on February 12 against Denison University in Granville, Ohio.

NCAC SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 12 at Denison University 7 p.m.

Thursday, February 13 at Denison University 10 a.m.

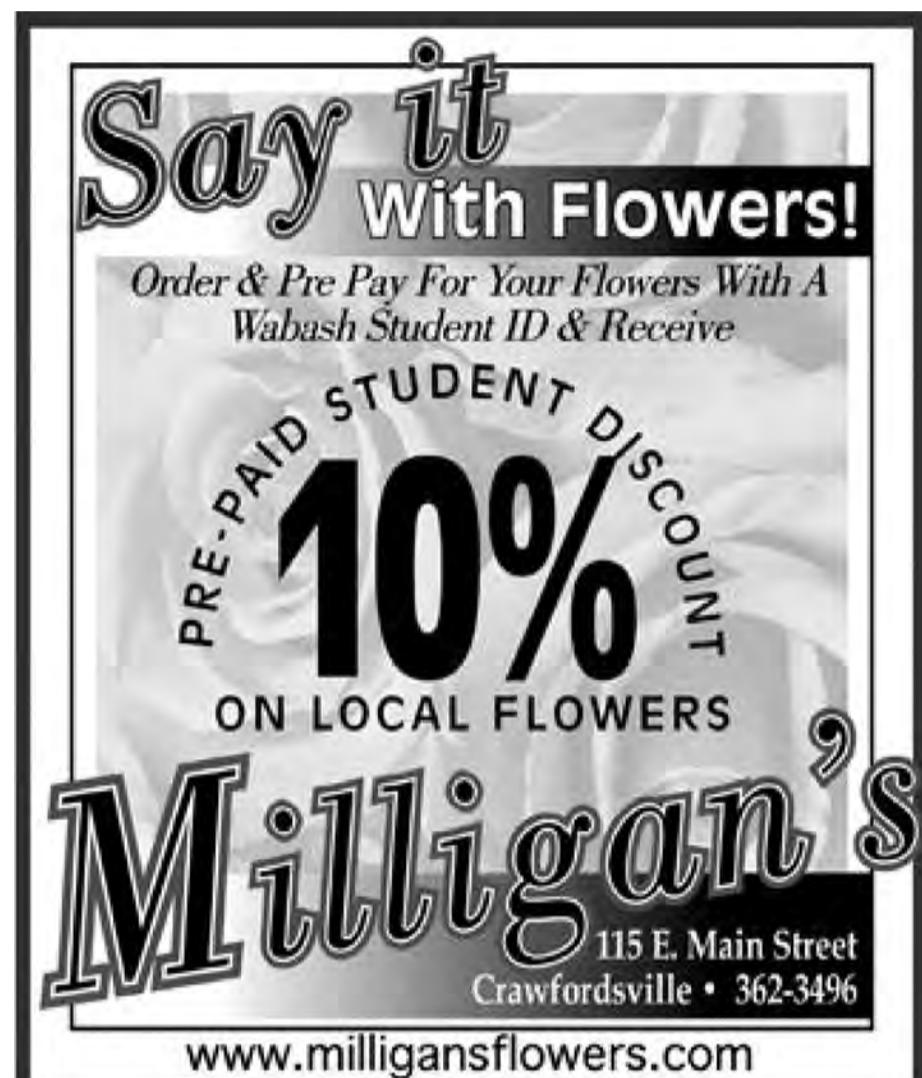
Friday, February 14 at Denison University 10 a.m.

Saturday, February 15 at Denison University 10 a.m.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Adam El-Khalili '23 swims in a home meet. The Wabash swim and dive team will compete at the NCAC Championships starting on February 12.



Track Continues Season Success with Top-2 Finish

JOHN WITCZAK '21 | COPY EDITOR • The Wabash track and field team competed in the Coach Rob Challenge at Wittenberg University last Saturday, January 25. This was the first time Wabash had competed in Wittenberg's new indoor track facility, and the team finished second, with a number of individual athletes having stand-out performances. Josh Wiggins '21 finished 4th in the 200-meter race with a time of 22.50, while Tyler Ramsey '21 came in 2nd in the 400-meter race with a time of 51.11. In the mile-long race, Wabash took home both the 1st and 2nd place spots, with Ethan Pine '22 posting a time of 4:26.14 and Clarke Criddell '22 a time of 4:32.62, a personal best. The Wabash team's total point tally of 99 fell above 3rd placed Wittenberg, who earned 84 points on the day, but well behind The University of Mount Union, who came in 1st with 313 points.

Head Track and Field Coach Clyde Morgan was pleased with his team's performance at Wittenberg. "This meet at Wittenberg, we were just coming off a break, so we were working through some things," Morgan said. "What I was looking for was making sure the guys were competing and working on things we'd been practicing the last couple of weeks. Looking to see that they were taking what we've been doing in practice and applying it in a more competitive environment."

The impact of a five-week break can be immense on any student-athlete, and the potentially negative effects of such a break is something Coach Morgan is keenly aware of. When asked about the break, Morgan said, "It's long. I've been doing this since 2000, so I know that some guys are going to put the work in over break, and some guys are not. I'm not going to get even more gray hair over it. So,

we are smart about it. Indoor [track] is a longer season than outdoor, so you have to be careful about injuries. When they're coming off break, we challenge them, but we're also careful about the volume of work that we're doing early. We try to work off that break in them early but keep them healthy at the same time."

The track and field team is headed to Rose-Hulman this Friday, January 31, for more competition. Morgan is still focused on easing his team back into an intensely competitive environment, but continues to hold high standards for his team. "We're backing off a little bit, because we are in a lighter week of training," Morgan said. "We got some expectations for some performance marks, and guys getting their legs back. The guys are just coming off break, and we've been really pushing them, so we are expecting some marks this Friday. Like always, we want to

see guys compete and fight through some adversity. That's going to come up, it always does."

Though point tallies and wins are of great importance to Coach Morgan and the track team, the intangibles are the subject of focus as well. Speaking of his team as a whole, Morgan said, "I'm very impressed with their comradery and their energy. Yesterday, the hurdlers got done with their workout, and the distance guys were finishing up, so the hurdlers circled the track and pushed them, hyped them up. I haven't seen or felt the fieldhouse like that in a long time, years. At most programs, the attitude is, 'If I'm done with my work, I'm out.' But we don't do that. And that culture in practice spills over to the meets."

The Wabash track and field team will return to action later today, with a meet at 6 p.m. against Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

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