

OCTOBER 2, 2020

Students Weigh in on Biden–Trump Debate



COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

Wabash students, including the leaders of the Wabash College Republicans and Wabash College Democrats share their reactions from Tuesday's Presidential Debate.

LIAM GRENNON '24 | STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, President Donald Trump took to the stage in the first of three televised events organized by the Commission for Presidential Debates along with his Democrat counterpart, former Vice President Joe Biden. The third most-viewed presidential debate in United States history drew boisterous reactions from both sides of the aisle. It was moderated by Fox News anchor Chris Wallace who questioned the candidates on pre-approved topics on the subjects of the Trump and Biden records, the Supreme Court, COVID-19, the economy, race and violence in our cities, and the integrity of the election. Lasting just over 90 minutes, the spectacle was dubbed chaotic and unstructured by many observers.

That sentiment was echoed around Wabash College's campus. The Wabash College Democrats and Republicans produced a joint survey that was sent to all students Wednesday morning to gauge students' reactions to the debate. 74 percent of respondents

found the debate discouraging, while a measly 8 percent woke up the next morning feeling hopeful. When it came to the productiveness of the debate only 15 percent of respondents felt they changed their views on any issues. Furthermore, only 5 percent of students who took the survey said they felt the debate changed who they plan to vote for. Students felt that race in violence in our cities was the most important issue, followed by the state and future of the economy.

Both Bryce McCullough, President of the Wabash Republicans and Liam Buckley, President of the Wabash College Democrats, shared the same argument about the debate itself claiming, "America deserves better." When it came to who won the debate, 36 percent of students felt Biden won while 21 percent felt Trump won. The other 43 percent of students were undecided about who was the victor.

"The problems that arose surrounding President Trump were nothing new," McCullough said. "His constant interruptions and attacks may

not play well to moderate Republicans or Independents, and many questioned the factual basis for some of his claims."

Buckley also signaled disappointment with Trump's debate performance, though in much starker terms.

"Donald Trump's performance can be aptly described as a drunk uncle completely unwilling to engage in a debate of ideas," Buckley said. "His campaign has no message, no policies, and his inability to describe a healthcare plan, a coherent environmental agenda, and to defend his record was blatantly obvious to those who watched."

Wabash students gave President Trump an average of 2.01 out of 5 stars on his performance in the debate. By contrast, students gave former Vice President Biden 2.57 out of 5 stars on his performance.

"The debate pressed Joe Biden to distinguish his agenda, and I believe he made it clear that his campaign and the Democratic Party platform are not a Trojan Horse for the more

liberal left-wing by articulating his clear opposition to the Green New Deal and Single-Payer Healthcare," Buckley said. "Instead, he articulated a vision that includes expanding the Affordable Care Act, undoing Trump's billionaire tax breaks, and reclaiming America's place as a world leader."

He felt hopeful Biden's plan could appeal to moderates and leftists alike. On the other hand, McCullough disagrees about Biden's newly defined agenda being moderate, saying "Vice President Biden proved that he isn't as moderate as people thought – he refused to condemn Antifa, accused all of America's systems as racist, misled people to believe Amy Coney Barrett will take away our rights, and refused to answer whether he would pack the Supreme Court."

The Vice Presidential debate between Mike Pence and Kamala Harris will be held on October 7th at the University of Utah. Both the College Republicans and Democrats holding events for that debate as well as the Presidential Townhall on October 15th.

In Pictures: Chinese Club Mid–Autumn Festival



COURTESY OF BEN HIGH '22

Ordinarily in the Detchon International Hall, the annual Mid-Autumn Festival this year was on the Mall to allow for a more spacious, COVID-friendly environment.



COURTESY OF BEN HIGH '22

Ziyu Wang '22, Chinese Club Treasurer addresses the crowd of students and faculty while they enjoy food from Yamato.

The History of Sourdough

CHEF PROF. RICHARD WARNER | GUEST CONTRIBUTOR • Sourdough bread is a delicious treat! I lived and cooked in San Francisco for a while in the late 1970s (actually lived in Haight-Ashbury, if that rings a bell). They take their sourdough bread very seriously there. San Francisco sourdough is known for its great crust, texture and slightly tart flavor. I did not do much baking in my chef's days, to be honest. Professional restaurant kitchen staffs are divided between cooking and baking, with the majority of us working in the first area, which was my situation.

I've long been amazed by sourdough, even though I have made very little with it. This may be partly due to my day job as a historian, not just because of my interest in all things food, but because sourdough itself is living history. Bakers maintain a quantity of sourdough starter, which can be "fed" and reused for many years. Thus, there is history in that loaf.

In fact, a chef named Pauline I knew in my early cooking days in Vermont kept a sourdough starter for quite some time. She brought it with her to Boston, where she continued her career. She has since passed away, perhaps ten years ago. Through the magic of social media, I have kept in contact with her daughter Amy off and on over the years. Recently I learned that after Pauline died, Amy was cleaning out her refrigerator and found the starter. She gifted it to a chef friend of her mothers, who has not only kept it going but has distributed portions of the starter to friends. Pauline literally lives on in loaves of bread. There are dozens of people who participate in this project, and they post their outcomes on a Facebook site.

Hopefully you thought that story is cool.... So I'll share a little more sourdough history. Like most histories that predate writing, there is considerable conjecture as to when sourdough baking began. It predates

the use of yeast to leaven bread, of that we are sure. It is likely to have originated in the Fertile Crescent some five thousand years ago. Historians need to rely on imagination to theorize this sort of early history. I think that it is likely that sourdough was accidentally discovered as a messy cook somewhere left unleavened bread dough hanging around in a warm atmosphere, and wild yeast spores developed causing the dough to rise. Who knows, perhaps the cook had been sampling one of the early beer products that we know were produced with grain, and fell asleep before finishing his work. Once baked, the dough magically rose and leavened bread was discovered!

Subsequent civilizations in Medieval Europe and elsewhere would use the byproduct "bram" from the beer-making process as a leavening agent in bread-baking. Finally a couple of centuries ago yeast was cultured intentionally for baking. Yet sourdough baking did

continue. In particular, sourdough leavening was useful for rye bread in northern Europe, since that grain is not gifted with significant gluten. The chemistry of rye flour works better with the lower pH level of sourdough starter, yielding a better product. Later in history as the California Gold Rush was underway, French bakers brought sourdough technology to the San Francisco Bay area, where it has remained a stalwart presence in cafes and bakeries.

The process of sourdough bread begins with a starter. Typically what is involved is mixing white flour with water, allowing wild yeast to form. The natural yeasts and bacterial spores in flour, when placed in contact with water, will allow the enzyme amylase to break the natural starch down in glucose and maltose. In this way the natural yeast can metabolize.

Or you can buy the starter. Or get it from a friend...

Sourdough

Prof. Rick Warner's Recipe

1. Combine ¾ cup flour and ½ cup warm water in a glass or plastic container.
2. Stir vigorously to incorporate air; cover with a breathable lid.
3. Leave in a warm place, 70-85°F, for 12-24 hours.
4. At the 12 or 24 hour mark you may begin to see some bubbles, indicating that organisms are present.

Prof. Dan Rogers' Recipe

Ingredients :

5 cups bread flour

1 ¾ -2 cups of water (the amount can depend)

1 tablespoon salt

½ cup of starter.

1. Mix everything by hand. Gently knead. Then, let it sit in the fridge for 24 hours.
2. Take it out and let it raise. Takes several hours. Be patient!
3. Form a loaf, let it raise again for an hour.
4. Preheat oven to 425. Place dough in a Dutch Oven and cover. Bake for 35 minutes covered. Take cover off and bake for another 25 minutes until crust is well browned.



COURTESY OF PROF. DAN ROGERS

A loaf of sourdough baked by Dan Rogers, Professor of Spanish.

In Defense of The Battle Royale

ANDREW WORLEY '24 | STAFF WRITER • Battle Royale, a genre of gaming that has been a staple in recent years has become a normal and recurring product throughout major companies. Originating by the development of PlayerUnknown's Battleground (PUBG), created by lead developer Brenden Greene, has stunned the world with a vibrant and entitled game mode. This genre has indeed one feature that very few games have achieved in the history of gaming: endless replay value.

Yet, with this major feature in-play, is it always a good thing to have? Since the beginning weeks of smash-hit games such as Fortnite, or more recently Fall Guys, the main question of this genre is simple: What makes a good battle royale, what makes one bad? Well, the answer to that question may be between the secrets of its development, to the personal opinions of others.

Looking through the history of battle royale games, the first thing that insights a good piece of the genre stems from the most obvious, which is a player's feedback. Staff at GameStreet, a large source of gaming news, implies this with data from various games, including PUBG, where "Despite a slew of ongoing technical issues, PUBG collected an estimated \$712M in revenue by the end of 2017." On the other hand of this propounding evidence, there will always be a game that never makes the cut.

From the development of Boss Key Productions, a gaming studio based out of Raleigh, North Carolina, had a take on the genre called Radical Heights, which by words at GameStreet explained, "...lost 80% of its initial player-base within two weeks, and was shuttered along with the studio shortly thereafter in May, 2018." This tragic event shows the sensitivity of the genre, and how a single take on it can destroy entire studios, but it isn't always like that.

In February of 2019, Respawn Entertainment, a subsidiary gaming studio of the largely-known company Electronic Arts (EA), created Apex Legends, a fast-paced battle royale that had included new additions to the genre, such as a more-robust armor system and respawning. GameStreet said that "Apex Legends brought in \$92M in revenue its first month and boosted publisher Electronic Arts' struggling stock value."

Now alongside feedback from the majority, many presume that there must be a formula that makes these games so addicting, but what lies in these games is nothing but genuine consideration and design. Daniel Horowitz, a freelance writer, made an article for HP that explained such considerations that make the battle royale genre popular. He said



COURTESY OF PLAYSTATION.COM

Call of Duty: Warzone is a popular free-to-play battle royale game that was released in March.

that "Because of how the game is structured, every kill feels satisfying and defeated players often drop a great variety of loot that can be used in the ensuing moments."

This is one of few ways that the genre has become what it is today, simply due to the fact of satisfaction. When a player gets a wins a battle royale, the prolonged endurance that each match creates ensures that the value of replay was worthwhile; In the player's mind, the meaning of tribute and triumph becomes the main point, to which they soon centralize themselves around.

In the heart of the genre's gameplay though, there are more user-interface (UI) designs that entail what makes the genre good or bad, such as the common Battle Pass system that gives players cosmetics and other small rewards for in-game purchases, as well as progression. Kyle Viveiros from GameRant said, "What determines a good battle pass is subjective; however, it seems that some of the factors that players will take into consideration are price, quality of battle pass rewards, as well as the progression of the rewards."

These are only a few of the simple objectives

that makeup a battle royale. As you look deeper into the corners and crannies of how the games are created upon the hands of such developers, the time they take to uphold such satisfactions are important. Such considerations of design can actually uphold the value of future directions upon each and every game, especially since so many systems, and even in-game interactions of the unique genre, require constant tuning and additions to makeup a 'satisfied and content' player.

Two developers that talk about such thoughts are David Curd, the creative director of PUBG, and David Vonderharr, a veteran developer of the Call of Duty franchise, alongside being a developer for Black Ops 3's battle royale mode, Blackout. Curd explained, in an interview with The Guardian that, "One of the big challenges of designing a battle royale map is that players can approach from any direction, including landing right in the middle of it." Developers from many fields try to combat this challenge in different ways, but with one simple idea in mind, as Curd explained perfectly, "...to create bottlenecks and chokepoints, and to intentionally

encourage certain types of gameplay."

This solution can be seen throughout all types of games, including most open-world games (if you look hard enough). That sense of a chokepoint is purposely there for a reason, and for most games, especially a battle royale, it has it be there for a main purpose of pushing the character forward. Vonderharr said that "If you put cities too close together, players aren't incentivized to leave, but put them too far apart and players get bored of the journey in between. Also, you don't want five or six cities crowded together or you can run into too many assets loading at once."

For what seems to be a complicated genre of our era, in reality, it's just like any other game. The genre of battle royale seems fun to those who play it: dropping in fast, keeping pace with enemies, grabbing rare loot while running away from a deadly circle which closes at every moment, and finally getting that victory as the last one standing. Yet, all those simplistic drives that we hold so dear, must be questionable in some way or another. All in all, the battle royale genre is subjective, without a doubt, with many considerations to have in the future.

YouTube Review: Digital Orchestra



COURTESY OF YOUTUBE.COM

Musicians from around the world performing remotely. You can find the video on Andrew Kwon’s Youtube Channel.

IO MAEDA '24 | STAFF WRITER • Shutters are closed all the way along the street with no people walking outside. Even though it is summer, the wind chills and deepens loneliness. People spending time with each other, in-person, is the story which we are almost forgetting. There are lots of thing which we have lost since the pandemic. By losing these, we recognize how glad we were having those things in the past. As people wear masks, self-expression gets difficult by depression and sadness covering our hearts. Music has left from our daily life. If it were to be played, then it would be a Requiem for the victims of the pandemic. Many musicians have lost their job because they do not have the opportunity to perform at concert hall or theaters. Not only they have lost their incomes, but also lost connections with the audiences. Thanks to the modern scientific techniques, they can still survive through the use of the internet. Joshua Hung from Shepherd School of Music formed an online orchestra with his friends from all over the world. Although the performers are facing problems due to the pandemic, they have opened the new possibilities of music through using the internet. However, it has not solved all their problems; it has brought new difficulties which musicians have never experienced before. For example, they cannot play the same music

simultaneously because the current technique cannot overcome the time lag yet. Therefore, they need headphones to listen to the recorded music to play in the same tempo. Then, each of their videos are collected into one video, which is the new style of orchestra. While they are struggling with difficulties, it has brought new style of music. Nowadays, they can perform music anywhere at any time. People who are not able to spend their time with their important friends are now able to share the joy by performing the same music through the internet. Even though each plays alone, the harmonization of music keeps their bond strong. The notable thing is that using the internet is not only tentative survival for professional orchestras. It has reminded us that music does not recognize any border and nationality because music is for everyone. In Hung’s video, people from all over the world participates without restrictions on social distance. Like the Reformation has resulted in music separated from the Church, the pandemic has made music away from the concert halls, which brought new environment and style to enjoy music without any restrictions. Overcoming the pandemic is possible because our ancestor had also survived. We should learn new things the world from all kinds of experiments. Some people might come up with a question what the conductor’s role in his video is. He is the only one who

does not play any instrument to sound but waving his baton. Before talking about his necessity in the video, let’s remind the original conductor’s role in the orchestra. In summary, he groups all the performers who are playing different instruments and melodies. Without the conductor, it is impossible to make music because each performer should concentrate themselves at first. In the video, he can be the symbol of orchestra by being there. Orchestra members continue performing music as their emotional support. Therefore, he serves as mental guide for the orchestra members in the video. The music which they played is Sir Edward Elgar’s “Variations on an Original Theme “Enigma” - Variation 9: “Nimrod”. “Enigma” means “secret” in Greek. It is composed of fourteen variations on an original theme. He metaphors his friends by expressing in each unique varied melody and giving each of their nickname as a title in each variation. Although he had secretly expressed those, most of the secrets have already been revealed. He is from England and lived from 1857 to 1934. He is the composer of “Love’s Greeting” and “Pomp and Circumstance”. The main melody is repeated four times having some changes each time in this music. There are no additional sounds but just genuine sounds by the instruments. Each of them expresses their feeling directly on the melodies they play.

First, it begins with all string instruments whispering with very quiet sounds. In the score, Elgar directs to play in “ppp (pianississimo)”, which means that they should play in quiet as possible as they can. It brings relax to the audience because the range of music is relatively low. The first violin plays in refined tune like a mother singing a lullaby while the second violins, violas, cellos, and contrabasses nestle by holding a baby. Then, while the strings repeat the same melody, all wood instruments, which are bassoon, clarinet, flute, and oboe, and the horn come from above by covering the warm silk blanket by playing in the same melody. Those instruments add colors on music through each unique tone. It becomes louder not only by more instruments joining, but players putting each heart and soul through their breathes. Third, the melody appears again played by all instruments after the transition. The piece reaches the climax through the timpani’s thundering beats. Also, the trumpet and trombone’s stirring sounds bring the brightness of golden light to the music. The first violin risen their melodies one octave without having smoothness like in the beginning. It sounds like a scream for something that they are trying to gain. It ends by playing the melody again, but not completely. They play the last notes gently. They play as if they pray for the end of the pandemic and the victims of it.

A Deep Dive into Netflix

LIAM GRENNON '24 | STAFF WRITER • With the pandemic restricting and reducing the number of events on campus, we at The Bachelor have created a list of Netflix recommendations for your socially distanced nights. If you are looking for a documentary or an investigative piece, check out the Netflix Original *The Social Dilemma*. Released just recently, it explores the world of social media as well as the dangerous effects it can have especially, on young people. It addresses the ethical concerns that arise within modern tech companies by interviewing high-ranking ex-employees of companies like Google, Twitter, and Facebook. Another recently added and highly acclaimed film is *Spotlight*, is also a good watch. *Spotlight* follows an investigative journalism unit of The *Boston Globe*, depicting how they reported on sexual abuse within the Catholic church. The *Spotlight* team is credited for starting the widespread uncovering of massive efforts by the Catholic church to hide thousands of cases of molestation and rape committed by church officials. If you want to be more informed when it comes to prevalent issues today like race and racism, When *They See Us* would be an excellent choice! Director Ava DuVernay is no stranger to civil rights films, best known for oscar-nominated *Selma*, her newest film explores the story of the Central Park Five. It’s a four-part

mini series and well worth the watch! A similar film to *When They See Us* is *The Trial of The Chicago Seven*, which is set to release on October 16th. Another older release mini series, but recent Netflix add is *Waco*. It follows the 51-day standoff between the FBI and the Branch Davidians in Waco, Texas. If you have been around the block more then once and are looking for something new, check out *Unorthodox*. The 2020 mini-series has a bit of everything, following the story of a teen bride who flees Brooklyn for Berlin where she is studying music. *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt* and *The Good Place* are good choices for those trying to find something a bit more upbeat. Shows like *Grey’s Anatomy*, *The Office*, and *New Girl* are all long-running series you can jump into before winter break! Both *Avatar the Last Airbender* and *The Legend of Korra* are both now available on Netflix. Also, *the Great Hack* would be a great choice for anyone interested in the presidential election. The documentary shows how interest groups used targeting advertisements to influence specific opinions and would be eye-opening for those on both sides of the aisle. Regardless of what you get into, Netflix can be perfect when we need a break from school, sports, or life!

Stay up to date with all of the latest news by following these official *Bachelor* accounts:

Instagram:

@WabashCollegeBachelor

Twitter:

@WabCoBachelor_

Website:

WabashCollegeBachelor.com

Remarkable Grades: How Discussion Will Help You Get There



Jeremiah Eaton '22

Reply to this editorial at jpeaton22@wabash.edu

During the first semester of my senior year of high school, I took the mandatory U.S. Government class that all seniors had to take. Before senior year started, I assumed that this class was another boring lecture class that would teach us about the basics of how our government works. This assumption was derived from most of my high school classes having been that way: lectured bases that I was never really engaged in. However, upon my first few days in the U.S. Government class I had an epiphany. The class turned out to be a heavily discussion-based class that required a lot of student engagement. The readings were long and sometimes difficult to understand but having discussions about these difficult concepts changed my entire mindset on education. I became so enveloped in the idea of discussion that I became

motivated to a high degree to do my readings and to do them well. This class made me realize that learning is supposed to be much more than a PowerPoint and notes; that discussion in the classroom allows for an exchange of ideas and opinions based off of information gained through readings and, in turn, allows for a greater, more personal learning experience.

While I found my new favorite format for learning, not many students shared my excitement for discussion in the classroom. Many times, a student might not do a reading required for a deep discussion, or a student feels as though their ideas are so wrong that they have no desire to say anything in class. I have been guilty of both. The problem then becomes: how can we make discussion in the classroom more tolerable for a greater number of students?

I had a second epiphany during the first semester of my sophomore year at Wabash. Many nights in my Wabash career have been dedicated to random, spontaneous discussions about politics with my roommates, typically around midnight. These discussions became intense, and many arguments and counterarguments were made. We talked about the new threat of COVID-19, we talked about the presidential candidates for the 2020 election, and

we consistently discussed whether life outside of Earth exists. No matter what the topic was, I realized that we as Wabash students love to discuss things outside of the classroom, but, for some reason, we are much less interested in discussion inside the classroom. Is it because we talk about topics that are disinteresting to us in the classroom? Is it because people aren't used to having so much discussion, especially when it counts for a grade?

I thought about these questions, and my epiphanies motivated me to do something to foster better discussion inside and outside of the classroom. So, I created a club called the Wabash Think Tank. The goal of the club is to allow students to have fun, meaningful discussion outside of class that will transfer over to class discussions. By having discussions about topics that students want to talk about, I hoped that they would find an affinity for discussion to a greater degree than before they joined the Wabash Think Tank. If they can find an affinity for discussion outside of the classroom, I believe that students will then be more engaged in discussions in the classroom. A great side effect of this idea would be higher grades in class. In most classroom discussions, professors would prefer that you talk during the

discussions and be wrong rather than not talk at all. So, wouldn't discussion outside of the classroom make this idea easy to comprehend?

Here's what I'm trying to say: discussion outside of the classroom is just as valuable, if not more so, than discussion inside of the classroom. If students were to engage in or lead more informal discussions outside of the classroom, I would argue that we would see a rise in student engagement during classroom discussions. I try to do my part by having bi-weekly discussions through the Wabash Think Tank. We just had a meeting the other day about whether men and women can really "just be friends" and had a fantastic, one-hour discussion.

To improve your discussions skills or your enjoyment of discussion, you can take these easy steps: find a topic you're passionate about, get a group of friends together who share that passion (virtually or socially-distanced), find arguments that are debatable in the topic, and get to discussing! It is important to keep things as civilized as possible so that no one is turned off by the discussion. By taking these steps, you will also realize that discussion outside of the classroom is just as important, if not more so, than discussion inside the classroom.

You Gotta Protect Yourself



Tony Brunenkant '22

Reply to this editorial at tpbrunen22@wabash.edu

I must be completely honest with you before I start my first opinion piece: I had no clue what to write about. Perhaps there are too many things I could write about—how Wabash will get through this semester while maintaining residential learning, or maybe about the grave importance of the upcoming election in November, or maybe how President Feller should allow conjugal visits to campus. That's a conversation for another day, though. The conversation about mental health, on the other hand, is always appropriate to entertain.

For half a year, uncertainty has clouded this nation and our generation. Internships were cancelled, students moved back home, and plans were scrapped. It sucked and it still sucks, quite frankly. I mean, how many times

have you read an email that has said, "In these unprecedented times..."? I cannot be the only one who rolled their eyes every time they read that line, yet email etiquette persists. During this time away from what was once our "regular" lives, we have discovered there is only so much we can do as humans, while basically stuck indoors, to distract ourselves from the fact that we've not only lost 200,000 American lives to COVID-19, but that we're also living during an existential climate crisis and a brewing economic implosion. Naturally, we turned to mental health professionals. Their general message is to take care of ourselves. Of course, this message is positive. However, I think college students deserve to hear a different message: you gotta protect yourself.

There's a particular culture that surrounds college students that isn't necessarily the best for one's mental health, making it easy to lose sight of motivations, goals, and the like. I believe most students on campus would agree with me when I say that this culture promotes pleasure over peace, encouraging instant gratification over delayed gratification. For example, this culture has been perpetuated and found easily on LinkedIn. I would say

that 95% of posts on this ungodly site are purely success stories, skewing student's perception of their position professionally, forcing them to compare themselves to others. Sure, I bet we've all fallen victim to the seduction of posting your "wins" on social media—I know I have—but how do we take care of ourselves when all we see are our peers achieving their goals when sometimes you just don't feel like getting out of bed? As young professionals, to be connected to the world, you must expose yourself to the toxicity of social media.

It's unrealistic to be productive 24/7, but when you go online and all you see is constant productivity, it's difficult to not feel like you're behind everyone else. One must stay connected online to stay in the loop professionally and to be aware of happenings around the world—an inevitable force, unequivocally for college students. You gotta protect yourself before it all gets too overwhelming by checking out in order to check in on yourself and where your energy and focus lie.

Protecting yourself is a precautionary step taken before you have a conversation with yourself about questionable habits and behaviors you may develop. The culture I refer to

champions productivity over leisure, work over sleep, and instant success over learning through failure. It sounds unhealthy, but it's so easy to fall in these cycles. These cycles sneak up on you, masking themselves as that "work groove" that we're all too familiar with. Downing coffee and energy drinks become part of your daily regimen, beating you up physically until you finally decide to rest. There's a stark difference between being intentional with your work and being overly productive—one is under control and the other leads to mismanagement and eventual helplessness.

Wabash students fortunately have access to our best friends in a close proximity, allowing us to experience social interaction safely in a pandemic and unwind, so there is really no better time for Wallies to seek peace over pleasure. So, don't worry if you haven't been as productive as you think you should be, we're all experiencing this pandemic for the first time, too. Be your brother's keeper. Keep competing without malice. Get to know each other, share stories, relax, and be vulnerable. It's okay to take a breather. You're okay.

As always, Lakers in four, 'Bash by a zillion.

Get Hep



Ian Gale '22

Reply to this editorial at iwgale22@wabash.edu

I was so taken aback by Mr. Caputo's piece two editions ago regarding the music of the 1970s that I could not bring myself to write a response in time for the last edition. Then Prof. Morillo came out with a zinger of a response that, while much more digestible than Mr. Caputo's inflammatory remarks, does not entirely get to the heart of the matter. What we are dealing with is a matter of taste. Therefore, I would like to set this warped, scratched, bargain of

a record straight.

Firstly, the 1970s was the driest period of music in recorded history, bar none. The only good things to come out of the '70s music scene were Suicide and the death of Jim Croce. Here, I must agree with Prof. Morillo's judgments; the list of '70s dreck would make Rabelais shudder. There is no other way to say it: the 1970s bore no musical fruit. So much for Mr. Caputo's piece.

Now, regarding the other two points Prof. Morillo makes in his piece. To the media bit, if one grew weary of the top-shelf, Casey Kasem-approved albums, one had only to move to the very darkest corner of the record shop to find the neglected disks of true music. More on that later. To Prof. Morillo's point regarding bad trends, I must agree. Honest production values seemed to end with Sly and the Family Stone's There's a Riot Goin' On. After that, producers hid behind veils of reverb, phasing, and soundproof booths. The '70s was a

decade of polished pop hits, smooth but soulless like a stillborn. However, this point does not aid Prof. Morillo's push for the "cool new stuff" of the present; the music industry is still saturated with heavily-compressed digitalia, greeting card lyrics, and soullessness. True, the occasional bedroom pop artist will make a quick wave with a seemingly genuine piece of music, but even this has become a burnt-out fad. So, where can one turn?

Ecce! For the discerning gentleman, there is one--only one--musical avenue: the music of the 1930s. Let it not be twisted, brethren. If ever there was a peak in musical creativity, in musical honesty, it was the 1930s. Consider the context: all the pent-up energy of Prohibition making its way onto the staves of composers like Raymond Scott, Cole Porter, and the Gershwins; once-hidden hedonism made public in the jumpin' jazz of Fats Waller, Cab Calloway; and, of course, the poetic beauty of the inimitable Al Jolson. Why,

the Ink Spots could take on Led Zeppelin at any stage in the latter's flimsy career and end up on top. With the limited recording techniques of the era, each and every '30s platter is pure, undiluted emotion. The music industry, which was in its infancy, was much more cautious with its choice of talent, so there was not one unskilled mongrel on the entire roster, I guarantee you, reader. So often overlooked, these are the records that occupy the dusty bins by the bathroom of every record store across the United States, being sold for less than a candy bar. Think! Musical truth at your fingertips for just a few coppers! I beckon the unlearned of Wabash to cultivate a love of the finer musical strains, to get hep, as it were, and do it right: discard your digital device, get a gramophone! Living sound! Listen to the music God wants you to hear. Listen to the music of the 1930s.

Then again, listen to whatever you want. After all, it's a matter of taste.

The Worst Types of People



Rodney Hendricks '22

Reply to this editorial at rlhendri22@wabash.edu

Disclaimer: This list does not include any form of criminal. Anyone who commits a crime would be considered worse than these people to me.

Today's society is filled to the brim with divisiveness, so I hope to be a beacon of connectivity at least for the Wabash community. I never thought that I would have to bring this up to the entirety of the campus, but this week

has opened my eyes to this issue.

There are people who perform simple actions that make them some of the worst types of people. My article will consist of a countdown of the top three. Coming in at a crisp number 3 is the person who brought COVID-19 to the United States. How hard would it have been to stay out of the country for two weeks while your body fights the virus and then return home? This type of person is why everyone still has to wear masks and socially distance. One could argue that the virus inevitably would have made its way to the United States no matter what these people did. To that I would say that inevitability is immeasurable and we should not make such vast assumptions. Another person could argue that the person who "ate the bat" and began COVID-19 is worse than the person I have described. As far as I am concerned eating bats in a street market should be considered a crime so they did not make the list.

Number three could be considered controversial, but in no way does that word describe number two. The second worst type of person is the loud chewer. Few things are worse than sitting next to someone who can not chew properly where they are making lip smacking noises or making gulping noises as they drink. This person is borderline intolerable and heaven forbid you encounter an entire family of them. Unlike number 3 this is solvable at the family level because every parent should teach their child how to eat properly. With as bad as this is, it still does not have anything on number one.

The worst type of person that is not a criminal has to be the person who has their keyboard clicks noise on their phone. This is simply an inexcusable act that must be met head on. The act is completely unnecessary, there is never any reason that you need to be hearing an annoying sound every time you touch a letter on your

phone. There's just no point. Again, one could point to the creator and be like "Uh that guy is worse than me (whiny voice)," but you have to be on some sort of drug to think of that and consider it a good enough idea to put it on 12 generations of iPhones. And yes, drugs are illegal. For that guy, drugs are probably a serious issue that he has to deal with that could take years to fix. For you all you have to do is go to your settings then sound and turn it off, the world will be a better place. I will not thank you or applaud you for doing so as no one else should because that's how it should have been from the beginning. There are some who say nature would be better without humans, well humans would be better without keyboard clicks. I think the biggest message I would like to send is that we can't be silent about the worst type of people or they will never realize they are in the wrong.

Thank you all for reading, God bless.

The Power of Support: Tyler Watson '22

THOMAS JOVEN '24 | STAFF WRITER • “Be the change you want to be,” said Tyler Watson, junior at Wabash College. Watson attributes this motto to his inspiration for organizing the community service events that Wabash students have partaken throughout the past few Saturday mornings in the community.

Watson and his peers have been going out to clean different locations in Crawfordsville by doing tasks such as pulling weeds from the train tracks. “Every single week I’ve been in contact with Mayor Barton,” said Watson. The Mayor assists him in choosing projects to work on.

There are businesses that will potentially be establishing branches in Crawfordsville that come into the community and make assessments. “They account for everything. They

look at how well the flower beds are taken care of, are there any trash in the streets?” said Watson. One of his main goals is to clean up the city by focusing on details that others may not pay attention to, in order to better attract those businesses here.

Watson plays on the Wabash basketball team, so he began by recruiting his teammates to help on the projects. Watson loves Crawfordsville. In a time when he cannot give back in an athletic sense, Watson wants to continue to demonstrate his appreciation by serving the community.

Next came other athletic teams, fraternity men, and any Wabash students. Watson realizes that people do not have the opportunity to do their normal activities whether it be playing a sport or hosting social

events. Of the men who have helped him out and will continue to assist, Watson said, “They’re not sitting in their dorm rooms or fraternities, and they’re actually getting up and making something out of nothing.”

Modestly, Watson gives credit to these men who have come out to help for finding a silver lining during a difficult time. “I’m just providing them the opportunity to do it.” Nevertheless, the service does not go unnoticed by those around him and the Wabash community.

In President Feller’s September 21st community update, he wrote, “We have a Crawfordsville community that is supporting us, which is not the case in many college towns right now, because our students have gone into this community to volunteer each of the past four Saturday

mornings. Thank you.”

Watson believes that President Feller is a major reason for why this has taken off. He said, “When I have a project and I request help, I think the students are seeing President Feller’s support and information and they’re like oh this stuff really matters.”

Indubitably, the service of Watson and others has illustrated part of what Wabash is all about. Being a place where not only academics and athletics are important, but leadership and goodness are also emphasized. Especially, in a time where initiative is desperately needed. Or as Watson said, “The culture of going out and helping the community, giving back, with no benefit to us, just because it’s the right thing to do.”



COURTESY OF JIM AMIDON '87

President Feller spots Zane Thomas '23 while painting walls last Saturday.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Along with his assistance to the Crawfordsville community, Tyler also acts as a CARE Team Leader on campus.



COURTESY OF JIM AMIDON '87

For the last few weeks, Watson has been leading a group of Wabash student-athletes and all of the Wabash community in aiding the community.

Colleges Makes Changes to Guest Policy

ALEX ROTARU '22 | OPINION EDITOR • Yesterday, October 1, Wabash College revised its guest policy to allow parents to visit campus. Their presence will be restricted to outdoor areas, and will not be allowed to enter campus buildings. “This restriction allows us to protect them as well as our campus community,” Associate Dean of Students Marc Welch '00 said in an e-mail addressed to the greater Wabash community.

Also, most Wabash classes switched to hybrid or fully in-person over the last few weeks, as COVID-19 positivity rates plummeted. In fact, the college has not had anyone test positive for the past two weeks of random testing.

However, the college will keep this policy in place only if campus will maintain a very low COVID-19 positivity rate. Should Wabash maintain its present course, the college will further relax the guest policy. “Allowing parents on campus is the first phase as we look to further revise our campus guest policy,” Welch said.

The greatest peril comes from students who visit other campuses. At many larger institutions, COVID-19 positivity rates are well over 10%, so students have a high chance of getting infected and bringing the virus back to Wabash. “Right now, we’re getting too many reports of Wabash College students on other college campuses,” Welch said.

Before October 1, Wabash students were not allowed to bring any sort of guests on campus. One living unit broke this rule, and campus wound up quarantining two fraternities. At the time, the positivity rate was above 10% in early September.

As of right now, no other guests are allowed on campus - that includes friends, significant others, locals who are not part of the Wabash COVID-19 monitoring system, sorority women from other universities, and the like.

While being able to have parents on campus will help many Wabash students, living on campus this semester can still be hard, having no in-person contact with significant others and old friends, as well as not having any sort of break until the semester is done. “Before enrolling at Wabash, you often heard that it won’t be easy, but it will be worth it,” Welch said. “Let this phrase keep you grounded, focused, and optimistic as we push through the second half of the semester and prepare for spring 2021.”

The Bachelor encourages everyone to continue following the 3 W’s and avoid the 3 C’s, to respect the Gentleman’s Compact in full - which includes getting vaccinated for the flu -, and to reconsider all but safe or essential travel off campus. This publication will also keep you updated on any future changes to the campus COVID-19 policy as they continue to update.

PRE-LAW TALK WITH VINCENT BUZZARD '64 ON OCTOBER 7TH

I A W M
The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men

When You Reach the Top of the Mountain, You’re Halfway Home.



Finish the Semester Strong, Wabash!

IndyWabash.org

@IndyWabash

BACHELOR

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

Twitter: @WabCoBachelor_
Instagram: wabashcollegebachelor

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Austin Hood • aghood21@wabash.edu

NEWS EDITOR

Reed Mathis • rwmathis22@wabash.edu

OPINION EDITOR

Alex Rotaru • arotaru22@wabash.edu

SPORTS EDITOR

Blake Largent • jblargen22@wabash.edu

CAVELIFE EDITOR

Drew Bluethmann • dmblyeth22@wabash.edu

PHOTO EDITOR

Benjamin High • bchigh22@wabash.edu

ONLINE EDITOR

Cooper Smith • cesmith23@wabash.edu

COPY EDITOR

John Witzcak • jbwitca21@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 500 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).

Profile: Spanish TA Veronica Barraza



COURTESY OF BEN HIGH '22

Outside of her busy schedule, Veronica enjoys staying active.

THOMAS JOVEN '24 | STAFF WRITER • “This year we had to be more independent and flexible. It’s different but it’s great,” said Veronica Barraza, a Spanish Teaching Assistant from Argentina. Being a teaching assistant fits the mold of the new normal, especially at Wabash.

Another Spanish TA, Camilo Calderon, said, “I’m very thankful that I was able to come here, and Wabash did everything to help that happen.” In his brief time here, Calderon has already noted that Wabash is a special place. In addition to Barraza and Calderon, the other two TAs are Léna Merpau from France and Benjamin Hahn from Germany.

The Wabash TA program has been around for over 20 years. TAs assist in the modern language programs by emphasizing oral skills and the culture of their respective countries. As Calderon alluded to, ensuring the arrival of TAs on campus this year was no easy task.

Dr. Jane Hardy, the director of the TA program, said, “I am absolutely thrilled that we were able to get TAs this year. I was afraid in the end that they would not be able to come.” Four of the five TAs that Wabash matched with were able to make it to campus.

The TA program, however, did not pan out for everyone. “Unfortunately, we were not able to get a TA from China, we had been matched with a TA from China, but in July President Trump signed an executive order that ended all Fulbright exchange students from China,” said Dr. Hardy.

This has affected the Chinese program and forced professor Li to do all of the teaching on her own.

When the TAs did arrive, they had to isolate for two weeks. “We had to teach on Zoom,” said Barraza. She noted that it is a bit harder than face-to-face teaching.

Barraza was especially glad when her quarantine ended.

Nevertheless, teaching still has obstacles, even as the TAs transitioned to in-person settings. “As a language teacher, what we teach is interaction, not being able to interact has been very difficult,” said Calderon. Additionally, he said, “It’s hard to teach pronunciations with masks on.”

Despite these challenges, the TAs push on daily in the typical Wabash fashion. Calderon said that he has been pushed to develop some new teaching methods and to be more creative.

TAs have a full workload. On top of their teaching responsibilities, the Fulbright Scholars are also taking some Wabash classes. Barraza is taking a class about musical and social conflict and another about landmarks of American cinema. Calderon is taking one class on Black studies and another on Spanish linguistics. He is taking the latter class to further his ability to teach Spanish, as he is working toward becoming a certified Spanish teacher.

These classes do not only teach the TAs about American culture while keeping them sharp, they also provide the rare opportunity for Wabash students to have a class with a woman!

Dr. Hardy said, “I think the current biggest challenge for TAs is isolation.” They all live together in a house which is a good cross-cultural experience for them, but they do not get to go out quite as much as TAs usually do.

With this in mind, Barraza is excited for what’s to come next during her time at Wabash. “It’s my first time in North America and I’ve enjoyed it so far,” she said. Similarly, Calderon wants students to know that he hopes to get to know them. He said, “I invite all to reach out so we can get to know each other.”

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

CAN CHEETOS BE RHYNES?

Lo-Five to Donald Trump for paying less in federal taxes than Rhynes do to get hazed by FIJIs.

KENTUCKY MOMS VISIT CAMPUS

Low-Five to Wabash for not actually changing the visitor guidelines. Quick question, if my mom is also my girlfriend, can she come to campus?

DEBATE DEBACLE

Hi-Five to Chris Wallace for proving exactly why elementary school teachers are underpaid and underappreciated. The next moderator should consider bringing a shock collar.

WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THIS HI-FIVE IS ABOUT EITHER

Hi-Five to Andrew Gonczarow '22 for sharing his spoils of war in Behavioral Economics with his fellow Wabash brothers. A true gentlemen lifts those around him up, and that's what you did.

FINALLY! AN EMAIL CHAIN...

Lo-Five to the first email chain of the semester. We know that GDIs are batting well below their average of one interaction every two weeks this year but there's no excuse for lame jokes flooding our inboxes.

SPORTS

eSports at Wabash

BLAKE LARGENT '22 | SPORTS EDITOR • A lack of sports and other student activities has left a void in the personal lives of many Wabash students. Bonding students together in a COVID environment is tough, but Wabash always fights and finds a way. While there have been many noticeable adjustments and additions to student life this semester, the eSports Subcommittee of Student Life has certainly become one of the more prominent additions thus far. Wabash needs variety and activity during the pandemic, and eSports are resoundingly answering the call.

Formed and headed by Bryce Looze '21, the eSports Subcommittee has created multiple eSports tournaments for students, with many more to come. These tournaments range from *Call of Duty: Modern Warfare* to *Rocket League* to *Super Smash Brothers*, and offer monetary prizes for those skilled enough to finish in the top three. Looze reflected on how this process initially came to fruition: “Charlie Esterline [’21] reached out to me after I sent an email to my fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, about a Modern Warfare Gunfight tournament I planned to host for the house,” he said. “He knew that I had ran eSports tournaments in the past and thought it would be a great addition to campus life. The eSports Special Committee currently only runs tournaments for campus, although we plan to host in-person events later this semester. I see the eSports committee as a force to bring together the Wabash gaming community for fun competitive and casual events. And I would like to see it expand to provide opportunities for students to compete in eSports at the collegiate level.”

While eSports are often not understood or viewed as a temporary phase, this uprising phenomenon is here to stay. According to Roundhill Investments, eSports is projected to garner a total viewership of 644 million in 2022. For perspective, the current viewership of golf is around 450 million, baseball is around 500 million, and basketball is around 825 million. eSports is clearly rising, and Looze’s familiarity with eSports and its potential has allowed him to seamlessly bring these tournaments to campus.

“I think eSports has been on the rise for a number of years at this point,” Looze said. “In terms of how I decided



COURTESY OF DOT ESPORTS

Student eSport athletes compete at the League of Legends College Championship in 2017. eSports have seen rapid growth over recent years and look to be a mainstay in competitive culture moving forward.

which game to run a tournament for first, it mostly came down to the number of students that expressed interest in playing a certain game. Modern Warfare and Rocket League had the largest support so they were the logical first choice. Sports games and other smaller (niche, if you will) games will be hit or miss. Some games might have a strong cult following on campus while others may not. The only way to know if people are interested is to engage with the community about what events they would like to see in the future. I try to do this at least once a week. This semester will be when I try out different formats and test how to engage the largest number of students possible every week.”

Looze also considered the effects

that the eSports tournaments have had during the pandemic: “For students, I’m not sure how crucial it has been for them during COVID,” he said. “I know that I played a lot more video games this past summer than I care to admit and that I probably wasn’t the only one. I hope that the tournaments have been welcome additions to the events students can participate in.”

Looze and the eSports Subcommittee have certainly seen success. There have been two tournaments so far, both with many players competing for the monetary rewards. Looze gave his thoughts on the subcommittee moving forward: “The first priority is to host more tournaments,” he said. “I want it to get to the point where students know when events will happen during

a semester so they can plan their schedules to compete for prizes. I would also like to promote the creation of an eSports program at Wabash. Gaming is here to stay and a lot of opportunities are available in the eSports industry. From media production, announcing, competing, and coaching, eSports has immense potential for student involvement. I think we have only touched the surface.”

eSports are certainly on the rise globally, and many Indiana colleges have already entered the wave of eSports. Wabash students need new and varying activities, especially during COVID. And in a world currently without Wabash athletics, eSports may have an opportunity to permanently enter the Wabash scene.