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# Admissions During COVID-19



CREDIT OF BACHELOR ARCHIVES

Scarlet Honors, a staple of Wabash Admissions, will look different for all involved. Even with all of the issues present, the number of applicants and new marketing strategy provides reason to be optimistic for the next class of Wabash men.

JAKE VERMEULEN '21 | MANAGING EDITOR • Filling out a class of incoming freshmen is hard in a normal year. Doing it under the restrictions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic is even harder. Admissions offices around the country are trying to adjust on the fly to a challenging situation that has thrown things up in the air for applicants and colleges.

In an article from February 24th, *The New York Times* reported that more selective, well-known colleges have seen a jump in the number of applications - including Harvard University, which has seen a 42 percent increase in applications relative to last year. Meanwhile, many other schools, including small private colleges, have seen significant drops in application numbers.

For its part, Wabash seems to have done well. Dean of Admissions Chip Timmons '96 said that, as of Monday, March 8th, the College had received 1,591 applications, up from 1,496 at the same time in 2020. That number, itself, was up from 1,279 in 2019. The

college has also received the second most deposits in its history at this point in the year. That kind of growth is significant at a time when other small colleges are struggling around the country. Timmons said, "Most of this year's gain has come from international students, but also students from contiguous states and remote states. We've not seen application growth in Indiana. But from some meetings I've attended with other Admissions Deans and VPs from around the state, they're seeing the same thing. We'll see how the rest of the year plays out, but their Indiana numbers were the ones that were falling behind."

Timmons also credited the College's recent marketing strategy as part of why Wabash has seen robust application numbers despite widespread uncertainty. "The new marketing initiatives we've developed to talk about the outcomes of having a Wabash College education and degree... those messages tend to resonate most with our families and those students." He also said that they have made sure to let students know that Wabash has remained open residentially

for the entire year, and has done so with significant success. At a time when many schools have gone primarily or entirely online, that is one way Wabash can differentiate itself from other schools in recruiting.

Despite the successes that the College is seeing in Admissions so far, it has not been without its challenges. In a normal year, Wabash would have held several large visit days to bring in students who were considering attending. But this year, those events haven't been able to happen. Instead, they have had to rely on smaller scale visits that allow for the kind of social distancing and contact tracing that are essential in our current situation. Timmons said, "We're trying to do that in smaller doses over a longer period of time, and that's been the biggest challenge. How do you show this campus and introduce its people over the span of like six months and four different interactions instead of at one or two more intensive overnight visits."

There are also indications that there is reason to be concerned about the College's ability to attract a more diverse

student population, something which has moved more into the spotlight as racial and economic divides around the country have been highlighted. In an all-campus email yesterday, after mentioning the growth in applications and that the GPA of deposited students has increased, President Feller said, "I am concerned, however, by national trends and our own analytics suggesting we are missing students disadvantaged by a combination of virtual school, overtaxed guidance counselors, and missed opportunities to visit colleges." This concern is echoed by reporting in the *New York Times* piece which suggested that, while applications are up generally, applications from students who would be the first in their family to attend college and who qualified for admissions fee waivers are both down. That story showed that those percentages dropped by 3 and 2 percent respectively.

As significant as these concerns are and will be, the College is no doubt happy that the incoming class of students is shaping up well at a time where many small colleges are struggling.

# Moot Court Case Breakdown



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Due to COVID-19 complications, the last Moot Court transpired in October of 2019, where finalists (pictured left to right) Jake Vermeulen '21, Caleb Dickey '21, Bryce McCullough '23, and winner, Cooper Smith '21 at Salter Hall in the Fine Arts Center.

COOPER SMITH '23 | ONLINE EDITOR • Next Saturday, Wabash students will face off in the 27th Annual Wabash College Moot Court Competition. Little Giant advocates will argue Constitutional questions in front of alumni judges, many of whom are practicing attorneys. In past years, moot court topics have included LGBTQ+ protections, police searching requirements, and firearm possession restrictions. This year, it focuses on voting rights.

Moot court cases include details and arguments from real US Supreme Court cases adapted for a collegiate competition. In this year's case, the fictional state of Grammy passed a law granting some felons the ability to vote. However, those felons could only become eligible by completing all terms of their sentences - including paying any court fines and costs. The petitioner, Lil Wayne, represents a class of felons who are unable to pay those fees yet have completed all other terms of their sentences. Lil Wayne argues that the law violates the Fourteenth and Twenty-Fourth Amendments.

Wabash students will argue both sides of the case in different rounds. When arguing on behalf of Lil Wayne, students will argue that the state's law violates the Equal Protection

Clause, as it deprives otherwise eligible felons of their voting rights simply because they cannot afford to pay fines. They will also argue that the state's law constitutes a poll tax, which is unconstitutional under the Twenty-Fourth Amendment. Because there are relatively few cases brought under the Twenty-Fourth Amendment, Wabash students will soon become some of the few advocates grappling with the meaning of the Twenty-Fourth Amendment in oral argument.

When advocating for the State of Grammy, students will argue that the state's law is rationally related to a legitimate, permitted goal: disenfranchising felons and re-enfranchising those who have been fully rehabilitated. They will argue that the law does not discriminate against a protected class and that the fees in question are penalties, not taxes.

The competition is open to all Wabash students, regardless of major or past classes. Success in the competition does not require background legal knowledge - and three freshmen have won. One of those victors, Kwaku Sarpong '22, gave his advice to new competitors:

"Take the time to really dig into the issue. Wrestle with it and try to come at it from

different angles and really challenge yourself with the question. But do it because you enjoy it, do it because you like trying to see whether an issue is a violation of the Constitution. Do it because you love taking on the hot topics of the day."

William Osborn '21, President of the Wabash College Pre-Law Society, said, "Moot Court provides students with a fantastic opportunity to engage with the law in a way that is unavailable to other undergraduates across the nation." He added, "It allows for our students to make lasting connections with influential alumni in the legal field." Osborn mentioned the quality of the judge panels, which in past years have included professors, state supreme court justices, and federal judges.

Advocates answer a barrage of questions from the judges. They cannot merely plan speeches - instead, they must be prepared to answer all of the judges' questions, moving with ease between different elements of the case. To prepare, students read the cases until they can seamlessly transition between talking points. Good oral arguments look more like conversations than speeches.

For the first time, this competition will be conducted remotely, creating new challenges

for student advocates. More notably, the American Bar Association puts it, "remote arguments simply aren't the same as an in-person argument."

Yet this is the same struggle that practicing attorneys deal with today. Hearings, motion hours, and even appellate arguments now occur over Zoom. So how should advocates prepare for remote arguments? After all, no one wants to repeat the unfortunate mistake a current Supreme Court Justice made early in the pandemic: forgetting to mute before flushing the toilet.

The ABA recommends standard video conferencing etiquette: clean backgrounds, good mic and video, and muting capabilities. As for delivery, *The Indiana Lawyer* recommends spending extra time practicing introductions and transitions to help attorneys overcome the communications barrier. Other recommended practices include speaking slightly slower. As always, advocates should practice their speaking with their planned tech setup.

Though this year's competition will look different, it will continue to provide an opportunity for Wabash students to hone their speaking skills and spar with successful attorneys.



# Beyond Binary Thinking

Alex Rotaru '22

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We’ve all seen those movies where robots will have become so advanced that they will wind up dominating the human race. However, at the core of every code are zeros and ones - i.e. binary thinking. Unfortunately, throughout the Anglo-Saxon world, including the United States, people are also trapped in binary thinking. Hopefully, this opinion piece

will help you learn more about what happens beyond binary thinking, and how you can incorporate it into your daily life.

With binary thinking, everything is black and white. What I’m trying to say is that you should look into the gray area between them. To better visualize that, imagine a spectrum, or a line, going from black to white, through all the shades of gray. You may have learned that everything that is lighter gray belongs to the white side of the aisle, while the darker gray to the black side. I am more used to ditching the ends of the spectrum - the black and the white - and focusing on the many variations of gray you can find. That is one way you can break free of binary thinking.

This debate about what parts of the spectrum we should focus on dates back millennia, to the time of Ancient Greece. Parmenides, who founded Eleatics, took the side of categories, saying, among others, that people cannot think about the unthinkable, and that

logic should control experience. Thus, Eleatics prompts a desire to categorize everything into neat little cubby holes - which resulted in the binary thinking we know (but we don’t necessarily love). On the other hand, you have Heraclitus of the Ionian School, who said, among other things, that “everything flows” (“allis flux”). In this situation, he would argue for the middle ground and the flow between every two ideas.

Fast forward 2000 years or so, and this idea of Heraclitus was developed into a whole system of thought: Hegelian dialectics. As with Parmenides and Heraclitus, there are whole books on Hegelian dialectics, so I will just give you a crash course. Basically, you take an idea - which is your thesis - and then negate it - which results in your antithesis. Then, you need to figure out how the two can co-exist - which is your synthesis. The great thing about dialectics is that you can also turn your synthesis into your thesis, negate it, and then reach a whole new

synthesis - ad infinitum. As a side note, dialectics proves that the potential for innovation is infinite, and that we can build permutations upon permutations, forming an infinite upside-down pyramid of ideas.

Granted, in order to use dialectics, you need to overcome a fear of the unknown that is inherent to such pursuits. This is completely new territory for some, and it can result in many conflicts with deeply held beliefs. But, remember, through dialectics, everything can exist at the same time - with the caveat that, just because it can exist, doesn’t mean you should necessarily do it. This is where critical thinking comes along to save the day. For instance, crime and racism can and do exist, but I strongly recommend against becoming a part of them.

In sum, binary thinking prevents exploring the entire potential of the world around us. This is why we, as a society, need to remove the cubby holes in our lives, and let things flow by themselves. Believe me, it’s liberating.

# Does Wabash Still Defend Critical Thinking?

Matthias Einterz '22

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There is likely no need for me to recite Wabash’s mission statement to any of you as a reminder of our shared values here. Chief among these values is our emphasis on thinking critically. Carrying out, or simply understanding, the other calls requires critical thought. I would posit that most of the unique aspects of Wabash emerge from our quest for critical thinking. Our small size and all male status serve to remove any barriers a student might feel towards expressing their thinking. The theory is that by making our classes more intimate and removing many societal pressures to appear attractive in a romantic sense, the men of Wabash are free to share those

thoughts which may be controversial or embarrassing. These aspects of Wabash are not without sacrifice. There has never been a Wabash student who hasn’t at least once cursed our school for having no women or no big school social life. At the end of the day though, we wouldn’t change those things, because they serve us in our unwavering quest for well-rounded, societally valuable, and all too rare critical thinking. What makes it a noble sacrifice is that it brings about something which is truly good. What value then is there in making these sacrifices if Wabash is no longer a bastion of free thinking and intellectual conversation?

In previous generations and different political climates, removing those barriers in the classroom and on campus was enough. Whatever protection critical thought needed, this institution provided, and for those efforts Wabash truly was in highest ranks instated. However, today’s world seems to be less forgiving to the “no claim unquestioned” requirement of critical thinking. Our culture is quick to judge a person’s character based on an intellectual viewpoint. Look for example at the issue of race in America. Making almost any claim on the topic whatsoever can quickly lead to one side or the other attacking and labeling you as an

individual. However, this struggle is far from limited to that one topic. Nearly any social issue carries the same risk. There is seemingly no separation between the character of a person and the validity of their argument. This lack of separation has, as I can tell, only two possible outcomes. Either it incites division among neighbors who might otherwise be quite aligned, or it silences people for fear of social persecution. Critical thought and social progress do not arise from these types of interactions. In fact, quite the opposite. This ad hominem norm threatens our ability to freely discuss and foster critical thought. The identification of truth comes from the competition of many ideas and perspectives. Silencing any of those ideas hinders our ability to discern truth.

Our traditional Wabash safeguards do nothing to ease a student who thinks he might face social scorn for raising a point that might be controversial or land him in a position of social scorn. Those labels on an individual hurt just as much in a small group as a large one or a group with women or without. At this point if you’re still thinking this atmosphere may be a good thing, because it limits any chances of an individual getting offended, let me ask you this—do you believe those thoughts will simply dissipate at

graduation if they are not actively shared, contested, and refined while here in an institute designed precisely for the refinement of thought? I don’t. I believe that if a Wabash man is too fearful to posit a controversial thought while here, Wabash has failed its mission of fostering critical thought, and we might as well eliminate our other sacrifices and enjoy the pleasures available to other colleges.

I am uncomfortable being so cynical. Instead, I like to focus on winning back our honor as a bastion of free thought. What will that take? Well, I’m open to suggestions, because the only method I see is rather unpleasant. As much as I would love to unload this challenge on the faculty, administration, or even alumni, I believe the only way forward is for us the students to be bold and speak up even when we know the potential scorn in store for us. To rebuild a culture that considers all ideas without resentment for the individual who spoke them, we need to first build a culture that hears those ideas whether it’s comfortable or not. Then hopefully we can respond differently than our politicians and media and forgo the divisive practice of judging an individual on the ideas they consider. We need to return to a culture that is critical of thoughts, not the individual.

# Save the Doctor

Cooper Terry '23

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In 1998 the National Education Association advocated for a day to celebrate reading all across the United States. They soon decided to hold the occasion on March 2, the birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, also known as beloved children’s author Dr. Seuss. You might remember celebrating this day by eating different colored foods such as green eggs and ham, or a teacher dressing up as The Cat in the Hat. These activities were designed to get students excited about reading books. Many of Dr. Seuss’s books taught people valuable lessons. From issues of acceptance in *The Sneetches* and *Other Stories*, achieving your dreams in *Oh, the Places You’ll Go*, standing up for yourself

in *Thidwick the Big-Hearted Moose*, learning what Christmas is all about in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, standing up for what you believe in *Horton Hears a Who*, confronting your problems head-on in *I Had Trouble in Getting to Solla Sollew*, and the importance of environmental issues in *The Lorax* - just to name a few.

In 2017 the National Education Association rebranded Read Across America away from Dr. Seuss’s books and activities. Educators and School Districts in different areas of the country have started to distance Dr. Seuss’s books from children due to recent controversy. Drawings made by the artist depicting racial stereotypes dating back to the 1920s during his time at Dartmouth College have come to light. Even some of Seuss’s more popular books have become centers of debate due to “racial undertones” and “a lack of diversity”. *The Cat in the Hat* has been criticized for its depiction of looks and actions which can be traced back to blackface minstrelsy. Dr. Seuss Enterprises announced on March 2 of this year that they will discontinue six books that were written between 1937 and 1955 with the exception of *The*

*Cat’s Quizzer*, a 1976 product. Many of these books explored the imaginative world that children often see. Going from a place in reality to the world of imagination and back again to reality is a concept very easy for children to follow and understand as it often relates to how they see the world. To lose these books would be to lose their message.

As it appears we are on the descent to ridding the shelves of Seuss’s books. To discontinue books that are not selling is one thing, but *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*, one of the six discontinued books, sold over 5,000 copies in the U.S. last year. This is not a matter of logical business, it is a matter of censorship. In the same year that awarded Cardi B’s song *WAP* song of the year according to NPR, we attempt to tear down Dr. Seuss. The same Dr. Seuss whose books have sold over 600 million copies in 20 different languages. The same Dr. Seuss who was chosen by Time Magazine in 100 People Who Changed the World. The same Dr. Seuss who has received a Pulitzer Prize, Academy Awards, Emmy Awards, a Peabody Award, a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and much more. Dr. Seuss has impacted the lives of millions of children

for almost a century. He once said, “It’s not how you start that counts. It’s what you are at the finish.” Although he may not be perfect, with a controversial past, his impact on the greater good should not be forgotten.

In October of 2019 at the Obama Foundation Summit, Former President Barack Obama spoke on the matter of cancel culture. “This idea of purity and you’re never compromised and you’re always politically woke and all that stuff, you should get over that quickly,” he continued on saying, “People who do really good stuff have flaws.” No one is without flaws. Even the most exceptional people can and do make mistakes. But that does not warrant the need to abolish them from history. We have to be willing to stop the censorship or we may lose everything. It can be a slippery slope. If a popular children’s book still in demand can be censored, who’s to say anything is safe. If we are not careful we may soon find ourselves living in Ray Bradbury’s fictitious world. It is a dangerous game to play allowing for the censorship of books. It is something that our society must cautiously tread for if we are not careful may lead to the expulsion of everything that we know.

# Expressing Gratitude During These Hard Times

Derek O’Connor '21

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What an interesting time this past year has been. With all of our routines and expectations being kicked around by COVID-19, everyone has had to make adjustments simply to stay afloat. While some people have witnessed COVID-19 take family members away from them, others have only experienced it as a small nuisance to daily activity. This virus has changed so many things, but what has it not changed? Amidst a global pandemic, we are still able to attend a nationally recognized institution to educate ourselves at a

higher level than most other people in the world. We are still able to spend time with our friends on a daily basis. Even with supply chains being disrupted across the globe, we never have to worry about food being on our table. We do not have to worry about sleeping on the streets or outside at all for that matter. Look at everything we have. Look at everything COVID-19 has not taken away from us. Every day at Wabash, I learn something new about myself, my friends, God, the world - anything and everything. What a blessing this is. We have so much time,

freedom, comfort, and stability, that we get to spend our days not working full-time, not living behind bars, not fighting a war, not falling victim to the plethora of evil that exists in the world, but instead, we get to spend our time learning in this small bubble at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Seriously, we are so blessed. I realize this is not much of an opinion piece, but I hope this message impacts you in some way. Take a second. Take a breath. You are in college. You are here to learn. You are fortunate, cared about, and blessed.



# Spring Has Sprung (Almost): Asparagus Frittata



PHOTOS BY PROF. CHEF RICK WARNER

Professor Chef Warner prepared Asparagus Frittata this week, which he kindly shared with his Big History students. One student said, “It reminded me of the Big Bang in my mouth.”

PROF. CHEF RICK WARNER, WITH CHEF JEN HARDING| CONTRIBUTING WRITER• Well, I would say that we are more than ready for spring to come, on both sides of the Atlantic. My British colleague Jen and I thought it would be inspiring to feature a classic early season vegetable this week, asparagus. Much like the emergence of daffodils, asparagus begins poking through the soil about this time of year to remind us that winter is finally leaving us. These plants are both “perennials,” that is, they tend to come up each year in the same garden bed.

Though I have been cooking asparagus since my early cheffing days in the 1970s, there is one mystery that occasionally occurs to me. Why does asparagus make my pee stinky (or green)? I finally have a good answer from Chef Jen, who actually is a “cookery” teacher in England. While I focus on the history and culture of food in my Wabash classes, Jen teaches the science of food and spends a little more time teaching students how to actually cook. Jen tells me that the asparagus pee phenomenon is related to the high level of sulphur and related chemical aspects of the vegetable. Many but not all of us have difficulty digesting it without the smelly outcome.

Well, that’s probably more than you want to know about asparagus today. We thought we would offer a good breakfast or brunch recipe with asparagus. I personally believe that asparagus works well with shallots

(tiny onions used as seasoning like garlic) and the herb tarragon. Today we are making a simple “frittata,” essentially a crustless quiche. The word “frittata” comes to us from the Italian, roughly translated as “fried.” The dish is something between a quiche and an omelette (or, as Jen would say, an “omelette”) in that it can be prepared either in a skillet or in the oven. Unlike an omelet, it is not turned, though can be flipped at the end to reveal a nice browned texture... Or you can flash it in a broiler. I tend to take the easy road when offered, so I am a fan of just baking it in the oven.

Consider investing in good eggs. Yes, you can buy a dozen commercially produced eggs at the supermarket for \$1.50. Apart from the unsettling fact that these were produced by chickens in huge rooms who rarely or never see the light of day, the eggs themselves are not as good as farm fresh eggs. These you can buy at Four Seasons market in town. I have been eating eggs from the Feller farm for twenty years (yeah, THAT Feller, our president now). The difference is astounding.

Like quiche and omelets, a frittata can feature all sorts of different vegetables and meats, from bell peppers, mushrooms, spinach, bacon (I mean, what is not made better by bacon?), and of course cheese. In this case we will use asparagus with some cheap minced ham and swiss cheese. But hey, you do you – most anything will work. One thing that the Yank and the Brit agree heartily on: recipes are

## Asparagus Frittata

Ingredients (substitute at will!)

- 1 bunch of asparagus, chopped (break off tough bottoms first)
- 1/4 red bell pepper, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup minced ham
- 1 shallot, minced
- 2 small yellow potatoes, thinly sliced
- 1 teaspoon tarragon or 2 Tablespoons if fresh

- 6 eggs
- 1/4 cup cream (or milk)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 8 oz. grated swiss cheese

Saute first group of ingredients until al dente (not quite soft). It might help to add a bit of water to steam them until soft enough. Sprinkle cheese into an oiled baking pan. Beat eggs in a bowl, mix in cream and salt. Pour sauteed vegetables over cheese, gently pour egg mixture on top.

Bake at 350F until set, about 20 minutes.

# The Most Frat U.S. Presidents

DREW BLUETHMANN '22| CAVE LIFE EDITOR• This is an objective list of the most frat U.S. presidents. The main index used in this study is the WT BAGS (Would They Be A Geed Scale?). This scale rates individuals on a scale of Geed (1) to Frat (10).

### 1. John F. Kennedy

Jackie Kennedy. Marilyn Monroe. Man on the moon. Sailboats. Daddy has money. Need I say more? It would be a shame if Kennedy did not top this list.

### 2. Bill Clinton

“I did not have sexual relations with that woman.” Well, it turns out he did. Not to mention, he plays the sax and looks cool doing it.

### 3. Ronald Reagan

As a sun-baked Californian actor turned Republican stooge, Reagan could be anyone’s Fraternity president. He took a gunshot to the chest like a champ and hated communism so much that he asked Mr. Gorbachav to tear down the Wall.

### 4. William Henry Harrison

He stood outside in the cold rain to deliver his inaugural address without a hat or a coat just to prove that he was frat. Thirty-one days later, he died. Now that’s frat.

### 5. George W. Bush

Was he a good President? Not really. Can he complete his sentences or thoughts most of the time? No. But try to tell me that you wouldn’t want to spend an evening hanging out on his ranch, herding cattle with him, and talking about life. George even threw a strike in post-9/11 Yankee Stadium. That’s frat. Mopeds anyone?

### Honorable Mentions

“Barry” Obama, Theodore Roosevelt (Got shot and still gave a speech), Lyndon B. Johnson (Called his member “Jumbo”), and Dick Cheney\*

### Dishonorable Mentions

Richard Nixon (He’s def a narc), Andrew Jackson (Genocide=not frat), Harry Truman (WMD=not frat), and Donald Trump (small hands).

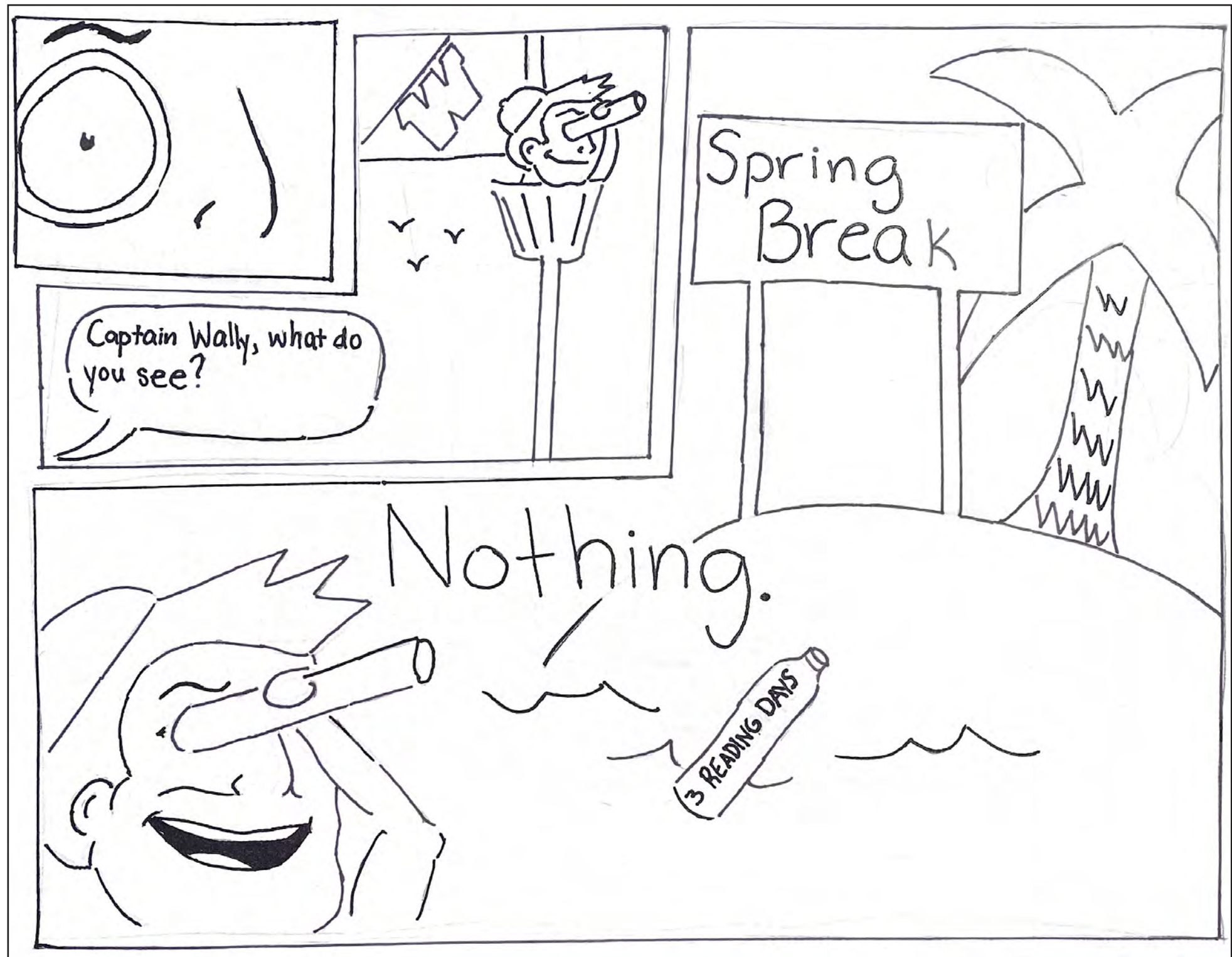


PHOTO COURTESY OF CLASSICBOATS.CO.UK

President Kennedy enjoyed sailing boats while wearing Ray-Bans and thinking of women.



# Comic by Collin Johnson '24



## Jake Anderson '21 Senior Recital

From the  
Ramsay  
Archives



PHOTO BY BENJAMIN HIGH '23

Jake Anderson '23 titled his senior recital “We’ve Come This Far By Faith: An Evening of Gospel Music.”

### SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY RE-ESTABLISHES CHAPTER

The grand chapter of Sigma Chi, in convention assembled, recently granted a charter to the following students: Clair McTurnan, of Anderson, Ralph E. Edenharter, Robert L. Hubbard, Smiley Chambers, of Indianapolis, Eugene Thornton of Lebanon, Conrad Arnkens and Walter Beck, of Frankfort, Frank Kastner of Buffalo, N. Y., Thomas Artman of Lebanon, and Merrill Morris of Rockville. A big initiation will be held shortly at which the men will be “put through” the initiation. Many prominent “Sigs” from all over the state will be in attendance and the affair promises to be a big success.

*From The Bachelor of  
March 22, 1909*

*The Sigma Chis were lucky to have a powerful, and loyal, Sig Chi alum on campus in the person of President Mackintosh*

*Doc Mack, as the students called him, offered the former president’s house, which we now call Kane House, for the use of the fraternity on campus.*

*The Sigma Chi fraternity lived there until the purchase of the old white house on the corner of Wabash and Crawford, where the “new” TKE house now stands.*



PHOTO BY BENJAMIN HIGH '23

Featured in Anderson’s recital were Andrew Handley '23, Drums and Scott Pazera, Bass. The Recital was on Friday, February 26th in Salter Hall.



# What About Me? Recap and Takeaways



COURTESY OF HEART &amp; SOUL

With discussion moderated by Sara Drury, Associate Professor of Rhetoric, and Deonte Simpson '18, the event addressed the lives of African American men and boys throughout American history, and how it warrants further consideration amongst the contemporary United States.

KIHYUN KIM '24 | STAFF WRITER  
 • “As an alum of the College and MXIBS, I have always found the opportunity to speak directly with politicians, activists, creators, authors, etc. to be life-changing moments. When such opportunities present themselves, you have to seize the moment.” Steven Jones '87, Dean for Professional Development and Director of Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies, explained why he planned the What About Me meeting. On March 11th at 7:30, about fifty students, faculty, and staff members, including President Scott Feller, joined the Zoom call hosted by MXIBS to discuss *What About Me* for which Taroue Brooks is Executive Producer of the documentary.

This meeting took place by accident. When Dean Jones

sifted through his Amazon Video account, the information on *What About Me* caught his attention. The documentary delves into the difficulties African Americans face when the media intentionally distorts their image. He watched it and was impressed by it.

Happy helped facilitate the conversation with Brooks, Jones said, “Relationships are so important! A couple of days after viewing the documentary and suggesting that family and friends take time to watch it, a good friend congratulated Brooks on his recently released documentary via his Facebook account. I reached out to her to inquire about her potential influence in getting Brooks to virtually visit the Wabash College campus. She assured me she could and five minutes later, I received a

phone call from Brooks. I reiterated my appreciation for the documentary and told him about the role of the MXIBS on the campus. That 15-minute conversation resulted in an agreement for him to visit campus!”

With skillful moderators Sara Drury, Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Director of WDPD, and Deonte Simpson '18, the Zoom call went smoothly. After the opening speech of President Feller, the rest of the meeting was a question-and-answer session. Brooks enthusiastically answered questions such as “Do (you think) we need a YouTube channel on this issue,” that were submitted by students before and during the meeting. The conversation lasted one hour. Jones thought the meeting was successful. “If one student went to bed last

night feeling inspired to continue in the struggle for equality or another captured an additional insight on how to become a better advocate for addressing systemic racism in America, then success was achieved Wednesday.”

According to Jones, there will be a future chance to discuss *What About Me* and America's race problems. “These conversations must continue. I anticipate more thought-provoking documentaries from Brooks and others who will set the stage for all of us to bring about more inclusivity and equity in America,” Jones said. The Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies continues to promote equality and justice for over fifty years since its establishment, and it will continue its commitment to diversity within the Wabash community.

## Pre-Law Society Welcomes Recent Alumni



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Nine students over the course of the College's history have received the Rhodes Scholar, which include Jacob Burnett '15. Before attending the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, he spent two years at Oxford College.

ZACHARIAH ALVARADO '23 | STAFF WRITER • On Tuesday, March 21st, the pre-law society hosted a power house of panelists from three prestigious law schools. Among them were Jacob Burnett '15, Wabash's most recent Rhodes Scholar, who is currently studying at the Pennsylvania School of Law, Erich Lange '19, Wabash's first student athlete to receive the NCAC's Hunsinger Award, who is studying law at Georgetown University,

and Luke Doughty '18, who won Wabash's Butler Prize and is studying law at IU Maurer School of Law. Each of these men are impressive recent graduates and have earned their places among these law schools.

The panel opened up with a very simple question, “How did you guys decide between law schools?” After being denied to Yale again and again, Burnett decided University of Pennsylvania was the best

choice for him and even said, “Going to Penn is the best decision of my life”. This was because the school offered him the most financial aid and has a 100 percent job placement upon graduation. Erich had very similar things to say about his choice of Georgetown. He was continuously told that you either go to the best school that you are offered or you go where you are offered the most money. Unfortunately, Lange was waitlisted at many schools that he applied to and Georgetown was the first to let him in. He advised current students aspiring to law school to consider the BAR passage rates at the schools they are applying to. Luke was the only one of the panelists not at one of the top 14 law schools but he still had wonderful advice. He wanted students to think about where they were getting their advice, as he got it from real attorneys practicing law. Luke also wanted the students to understand that those who do not go to a top 14 law school can still be very successful at what they do.

The panelists were also asked to share some advice to the audience of students. Jacob, who is a very work-oriented individual, stressed the importance of physical activity and finding a good group of friends. This is because you need time away from the books to keep yourself healthy as well as to surround yourself with those that understand what you are going through. For those that are getting ready to enter law school, Burnett also advised them to take notes for the readings during

class. Lange had similar advice but he lives his life a little differently than the rest of us. This is because Lange breaks up his days into twenty minute intervals and he prepares these every week, making him very disciplined. He also stressed the importance of finding time for yourself while in Law school. It is very important to do well in your classes while understanding that there are things outside of it. Luke had advice that pre-law students can begin to apply now, such as getting used to not taking phone breaks during reading. He wants students to get comfortable reading for an entire hour without taking a break and advised students to delete social media if necessary.

The panelists were then asked how well Wabash prepared them for law school. In short, all of them were well prepared in terms of workload because Wabash taught them how to work hard. If you work hard at Wabash then you will work hard in Law school. The only aspect that each panelist was not prepared for was the curve that law schools have. This means that your grades in Law school do not always reflect the work you put into a class. Your professors need to know that you are putting in the work and all of your classmates need to be working hard as well for your sake. The most appalling part of law school is that none of the panelists, nor any of us, will be prepared for a multiple choice test since Wabash does not do multiple choice. All we can do is hope for the best when that time comes.

## In Pictures: Twisted Tales of Poe



BEN HIGH '22/PHOTO

Standing centerstage, Eli Akers '22 was part of the ensemble performing dramatizations of Edgar Allen Poe's most notable stories. Those include The Cask of Amontillado and Hop-Frog, where Akers starred in both.

# IAWM

**The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men**

## Dr. David Phillips H'83

### 1937-2021

## Teacher, Mentor, Colleague, Friend, Some Little Giant



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# Wabash Introduces WPPP HI-FIVES



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Already off to a hot start, the WPPP invited esteemed Oxford political theorist, Dr. Teresa Bejan as she delved into her 2017 book, “Mere Civility: Disagreement and the Limits of Toleration,” last Monday.

JAKOB GOODWIN '23 | STAFF WRITER

Over the past year, the United States and the entire world has been rocked by crises reaching from the COVID-19 pandemic to natural disasters and the most contentious election in decades. President Feller saw these crises that our nation and world faced in the past year and knew that Wabash needed a resource to connect Wabash men to DC and the public policy sphere all over the United States. With aid and funding from our wonderful alumni, President Feller has tapped Professor Scott Himself '87, Professor Sara Drury, and Special Advisor to the President Lewis McCrary to lead the WPPP in its mission to provide non-partisan, interdisciplinary, student-centered experiences devoted to public service and its intersection with politics, the economy, and civil society. I spoke with Mr. McCrary to ask him more about the WPPP and what it will do.

Because this program is so new, *The Bachelor* asked McCrary to explain what the WPPP is going to do. He explained the goal of the WPPP is to connect students to Washington DC and public policy experiences. This may be through bringing speakers to campus to discuss what they do, but this will primarily be done by connecting students to alumni and internships based in public policy. McCrary hopes that the WPPP can place itself between the practical role that the WDPD plays and the academic role the political science department plays.

The WPPP had a quick start on campus. Just last Monday, the WPPP invited Oxford political theorist Teresa Bejan to give her

talk “Mere Civility”. She gave her talk and then opened the floor to questions for a discussion about civility and its role in politics today. Lewis called the talk a success, noting that students and faculty were able to discuss a vital political issue. He looks forward to more talks in the future that will engage students on controversial issues of public policy.

The WPPP has also begun connecting students to public policy internships. Mr. McCrary told me that he has already begun helping students refine their resumes, cover letters, and applications for their internships. One of those students is Bryce McCullough, Class of 2023. He'll be interning with Sen. Todd Young's office in Washington DC. Bryce will get to learn about the Senate's role in governing while doing policy research, serving constituents, attending hearings, and assisting other staff in the office. He told me that without the WPPP's help, he would be unable to have this experience due to the high housing costs and other living expenses that accompany the beltway's high cost of living. The internship with Senator Todd Young is unpaid, but because of the WPPP, Bryce will have a stipend that will pay him for his work with Senator Young.

Moving forward into the rest of this year and the future, McCrary and the WPPP will continue reaching out on students' behalf and connecting them to alumni and opportunities based all over the nation in the public policy sphere. Wabash men are the future of public policy and the WPPP is the first step to putting them there.

## FIVE THINGS WORTHY OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

### BYRON = SAVIOR

*Hi-Five to Senior Council giving seniors free coffee this week. Nothing says “sorry the most important year of your Wabash career was ruined” like a couple of free iced mochas.*

### CARRY-OUT CRAWFORDSVILLE?

*Hi-Five to Wally's being open this weekend. The only way to makes this news better is if they announced they were partnering with Club Coyote.*

### MORMONS KNOW THE DEVIL

*Hi-Five to Utah Senator Mike Lee for making the much-needed observation that H.R. 1 looks like “it was written in hell by the devil himself.” We are in absolute agreement that expanding voter access in the United States is at the top of Satan's to-do list.*

### LEARN MORE. EARN MORE. PLAY MORE?



*Hi-Five to the D\*\*\*\*\* administration for actively spying on their inmates in Greencastle in the name of COVID protocol. Can't go a couple of months without sex? Another reason you would have not made it at Wabash.*

### MARTINDALE TEA PARTY?


*Hi-Five to Meghan Markle for doing what Americans have done best since 1776: spilling British tea. Tred lightly Ben Bullock.*



# SPORTS

## VOLLEYBALL:

 Mount St. Joseph 3  
 Wabash 0  
Mar. 6 (1 & 4 p.m.)

## BASEBALL:

 Alma 4  
 Wabash 0  
Mar. 6 (12 p.m.)

 Alma 11  
 Wabash 6  
Mar. 6 (3:30 p.m.)

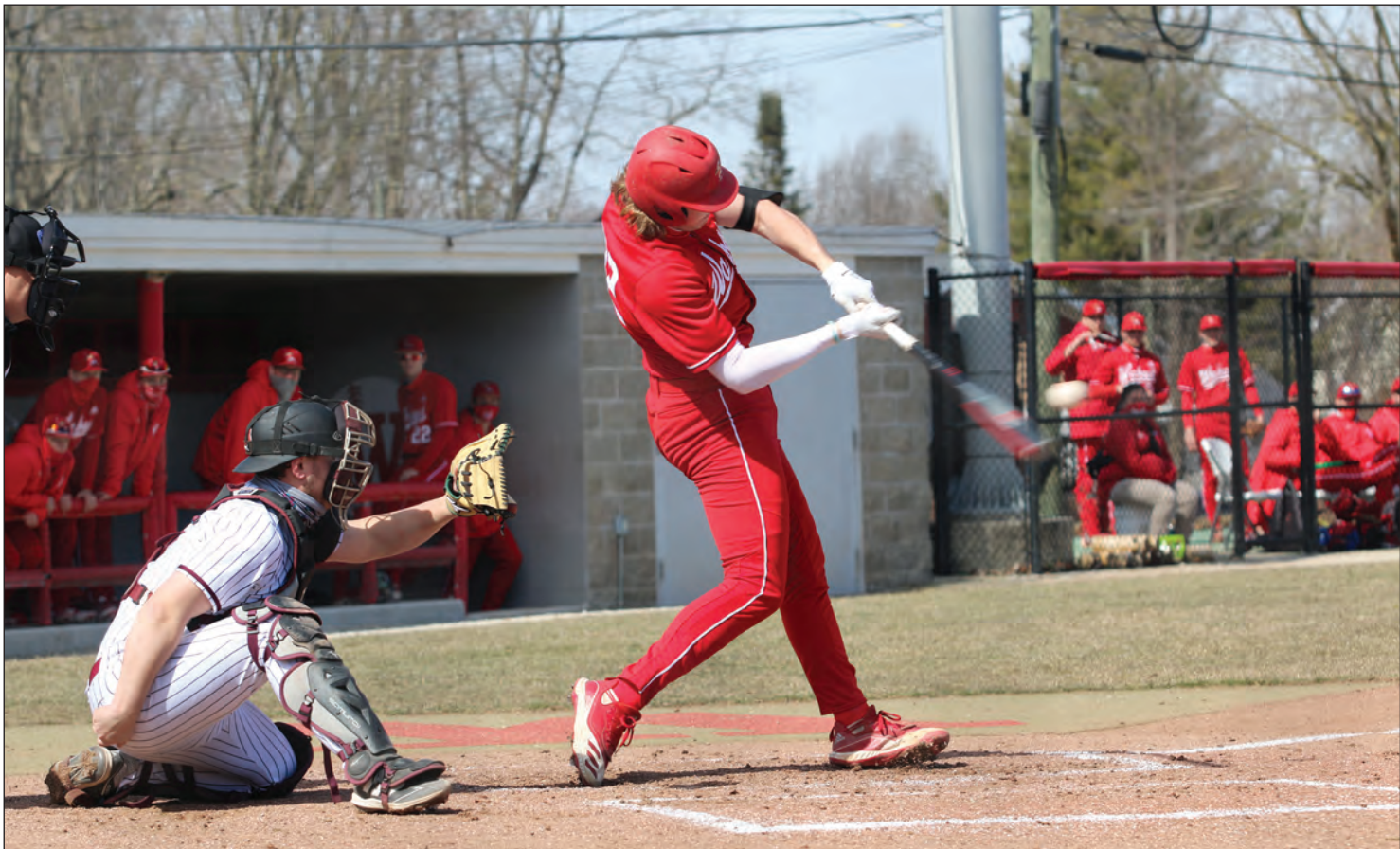
 Alma 10  
 Wabash 7  
Mar. 7

# Baseball Swept by Alma College in Weekend Series

LOGAN SMITH '23 | STAFF WRITER • With warmer weather comes more opportunity for baseball. In this age of COVID restrictions, it also means that the Little Giants have more practices that involve the full team. Building chemistry with a team is not an easy thing to do when the team is rarely able to work together, and this has been just one of the many difficulties for athletes who are playing during the pandemic. Baseball players are used to being flexible when it comes to uncontrollable events. I am sure we all know a time when our favorite team could not play because of a weather-related issue. However, COVID further adds to this by not only affecting the schedule and the amount of games that teams can play, but also affecting the types of practice that a team can have. It also limits the number of preseason workouts that a team could have, and despite all of this the players have come out and worked hard not only in sports, but in the classroom too. So, this is a reminder to support your athletes in all sports because they have been doing more than we should ask of any athlete, and we need to be mindful of this when we consider the difficulties these athletes are going through.

As for Wabash baseball, Wabash (1-4) hosted Alma College (4-3) for three games at Goodrich Ballpark, the first home field action for the Little Giants since April 28th, 2019. The teams played in a doubleheader on Saturday with a single game on Sunday. It was great for the team to finally get some home games, especially during a time where the team can't even practice together every single day due to Covid regulations. However, the results of the games were not what the Little Giants were hoping for.

Wabash went 0-3 on the weekend with scores of 4-0, 11-6, and 10-7. It is never fun to have a winless weekend on your own field, but there are signs that this team is going in the right direction. Last week, Head Coach Jake Martin had discussed the idea that he wanted his team to be more aggressive at the plate, and they followed through with 24 hits through three games over this weekend. That is an aspect that is



LIAM GRENNON '24 / PHOTO

**Liam Patton '23 swings at a pitch against Alma last weekend. The Little Giants were shutout in the three-game series and will look to bounce back this weekend.**

trending in an upward direction when compared to the previous weekend's games versus DePauw. Alma, though, did not make it easy on Wabash. The Scots' pitchers were able to limit the number of walks they gave up and their defense was able to make consistently solid plays to ensure that the Little Giants could not get on base with ease.

Alma was able to keep errors and walks to a rare occurrence, and it caught up to Wabash in all three games. The team is very close in all aspects of the game: experienced pitchers who can place the ball, aggressive batters who try to put the ball in play, and a solid defense that works hard. The first few

games just have not gone their way. However, as any baseball fan knows, there are plenty of games in a season and they are not all going to go your way. As long as the team continues to progress as Martin discussed they will be fine.

In this upcoming weekend, Wabash will once again get to play at home at Goodrich Ballpark against Spalding University of Kentucky, and then they will travel to Grand Park on Sunday to play against North Central College who is currently ranked third in Division III baseball. Wabash will look to have their hands full as both of these teams are off to a hot start in their seasons,

with Spalding University sitting at a strong 5-2, while North Central College is 2-0 after scoring 12 runs in each of their first two contests. The team will need to continue its pattern of being aggressive at the plate, but they will also need to limit errors and free bases if they want to beat these teams in the coming weekend.

Wabash takes on Spalding University in a home doubleheader tomorrow with games at 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. The Little Giants then face No. 3 North Central College on Sunday at 4 p.m. For live updates and statistics, follow the games on the wabash athletics website over the weekend.



# Spring Sports Return in Full Effect



COURTESY OF WABASH ATHLETICS

**Reed Mathis '22 and Trevor McKinney '24 embrace during a match. The pair grabbed an 8-2 doubles victory, helping Wabash to a 7-2 win over Franklin College on Saturday. The Little Giants face Trine University tomorrow at 2 p.m.**

BLAKE LARGENT '22 | SPORTS EDITOR • March is in full swing at Wabash. And while this normally means spring sports are in the midst of season competition, athletics are just beginning to return to normalcy. Basketball and volleyball started the initial return of Wabash sports, and many other spring sports have followed. With golf and soccer (yes, soccer) still on the way, spring at Wabash will finally be returning to a multitude of athletic competition. “We started competing in late January and early February with sports that otherwise would be in the middle of competitive seasons, which is the reason basketball and volleyball were two of the first teams to restart,” Director of Athletics and Campus Wellness Matthew Tanney '05 said. “Indoor sports with higher levels of contact, such as basketball and wrestling, require extra attention due to the high-contact nature of the sport. The centerpiece of the operation is our campus testing program, which tests every athlete at least once per week,

enabling a safe return to competition thus far.”

COVID derailed Wabash athletics one year ago, in which the campus was sent home and sporting events were suspended until further notice. The pandemic has created and maintained uncertainty, claiming sports into that as well. And while the threat of COVID is still serious, Wabash athletics have returned - somewhat - to normalcy.

“It’s an intensive level of planning for every sport, impacting everything from team meetings to training sessions and competitions,” Tanney said. “The introduction of invited external spectators at athletics events in recent weeks, based on the campus color-coded operational level, is the latest wrinkle that’s required some adjustments [from athletics].”

And while many of the teams are without key players and are facing unprecedented challenges, Tanney considered it a blessing to simply be competing. “We like to win at Wabash, but the scoreboard this semester does not carry the same weight,” he said.

“Simply competing this spring is a real victory for everyone.”

So far, the basketball team is the only Wabash program to successfully wrap up a season this semester. The team certainly faced many scheduling difficulties, but showed fortitude in being able to complete a regular season. The success in terms of competing for the basketball team is inspiring, but the schedules still remain fluid for all teams.

“No competitions are guaranteed this semester,” Tanney asserted. “It’s a daily dialogue based on dozens of conversations in advance of each competition, considering our campus conditions, test results on both campuses, i.e. Wabash and the competing team, and the health and availability of game officials and operational staff. We’ve had to cancel multiple contests this semester for a variety of COVID-related reasons, so it remains an uncertain environment. [For example,] soccer contests this spring will not impact future seasons.”

Wabash, both in sports and

throughout the rest of campus, has put itself in a much better position than many other schools in the country. A mix of hope and despair still remains, but Tanney kept this in mind when thinking of the situation: “We’ve stayed ahead of the curve in many respects, including returning to competition in late January and admitting spectators at athletics events, as just two examples,” he said. “We’ll continue to implement the appropriate health and safety considerations while maximizing student opportunities. It’s a fine balance, but we’ve struck it through the first half of the semester.”

As of now, Wabash spring sports remain on schedule to continue competing successfully. Soccer comes to the mix on March 13 with an opening match against DePauw, and golf will return on March 13-14 against Franklin College. Fall sports sit around the corner as well. COVID remains on the near horizon, but Wabash athletics are slowly approaching a future beyond the pandemic.

## Lacrosse Overcomes Obstacles, Starts Season 2-0

ALEX ROTARU '22 | OPINION EDITOR • When COVID-19 interrupted ordinary campus life, sports took the biggest hit. Yet, after almost a year on hiatus, lacrosse is coming back strong, as the team already scored two consecutive victories, against Mount St. Joseph and Anderson University. In light of their strong return, *The Bachelor* is taking a closer look at how Wabash lacrosse is preparing for their upcoming game against Earlham College and their conference.

Though the team only played three games in 2020 before the pandemic shut down sports, Wabash lacrosse decides to concentrate on the future. “We were not able to finish out last season and lost out on the opportunity to compete and gain valuable playing experience,” Tim O’Shea, Head Lacrosse Coach, said. “We were not able to properly honor our 2020 senior class for all their contributions to the program. [...] While it was unfortunate to lose out on most of our 2020 season, I think it has given our guys a different perspective and appreciation for having the opportunity to get out there and play this season. We constantly remind them to think back to a year ago and feel fortunate we are where we are today.”

Training had to be adjusted to ensure the players’ safety while practicing. “Fall practice was different than ever before, trying to keep guys separated in workout pods and playing with face shields on our helmets, all while still trying to have effective workouts and accomplish something,” O’Shea said. These adjustments required plenty of Wabash Always Fights spirit. “To begin with, it was kind of hard to wear a face shield,” AJ Rogers '24, No. 5, said. “It always fogged up. [Other than that,] it’s been back to normal since we got back.”

Practice makes perfect, and the team learned plenty from their games against Mount St. Joseph and Anderson University. “We played well, but we also weren’t very good at communication, and we were just, in a way, playing selfishly at some points,” Conner Cochran '23, No. 12, said. “I think we learned that we must respect every opponent we play, and when we have the opportunity to put a team away, we need to take advantage of it,” O’Shea said. Now, Wabash lacrosse is using these lessons to tackle Earlham College. “The last time we played Earlham was 2019, and they were still a relatively new program,” O’Shea said. “They have since made a coaching change and have recruited some good players, so we are expecting them to be much improved. I also feel that we are much improved since the last time we played them, and we are deeper. We are expecting a



COURTESY OF WABASH ATHLETICS

**AJ Shaheen '21 possesses the ball in Wabash’s matchup against Anderson University. The Little Giants took down the Ravens 11-10, starting the season with an undefeated 2-0 record.**

tough game, but I am confident that we will show up and take care of business. We have had a great week of practice and feel like we are fully prepared.”

The freshmen on the team are among the strongest the Wabash lacrosse program has seen thus far. “Our freshmen are coming along just fine and seeing very significant minutes. We had three freshmen score their first collegiate goal against Mount St. Joseph (Artie Rogers, Caulin Fitzgerald [No. 4] and Anthony Nguyen [No. 25]). Freshman Cody Bevelhimer [No. 14] started at close defense and played very well. We have a strong freshmen class and are expecting great things from them as they continue through their Wabash Lacrosse careers.” Talent needs teamwork to succeed, and Wabash lacrosse has both. “Everyone’s coming in every day and just working hard,” Rogers said. “We’ve been getting better as a program.”

Conference will be looking different this

year, in an effort to reduce the COVID-19 spread. “The NCAC was split in half due to travel restrictions and no overnight trips this year,” O’Shea said. “We are in the West, with DePauw, Wittenberg, OWU and Denison. In my opinion this is the tougher division and playing each of these team twice; as well as a ‘non-conference’ against Kenyon to finish off our regular season, will be a challenge. It is no secret that our in-conference schedule will be much tougher than our out of conference schedule this season.”

Despite their difficult conference, the Little Giants are hopeful for a solid season, where they can grow and improve. “We’re pretty hopeful for the season,” Cochran said. “It’s just looking up from here. [...] We’ll eventually play some pretty tough opponents, especially in our conference, but I think we’ll just play it by ear and then go from there. But we definitely got a lot better.” “[One of my personal goals this year is] to get better and

just try to better myself and really take this in as my first year with all the upperclassmen and learn from them and just get better,” Rogers said. “Obviously, we are playing to win every game we play, but ever more important for us is just getting out there and having the opportunity to play,” O’Shea said. “We are a young team, and more than half of our roster has little to no college playing experience because of the way last year ended up. While we would love to win all our games, getting these guys playing experience and used to competing at this level will only help us in the future as we continue to build.”

Wabash lacrosse will be competing at home today against the Earlham College Quakers at 4 p.m. at Fischer Field. The Little Giants return to the field with an away match on March 17 against the Hanover College Panthers. If not viewing in person, the matches can also be followed on the Wabash athletics website.



# Basketball Ends Season with Win Over Denison



BENJAMIN HIGH '23 / PHOTO

**Connor Rotterman '21 prepares to drive between Denison defenders. Rotterman played in his final Wabash basketball game on Wednesday, logging over 2,100 total minutes over his four-year career.**

BLAKE LARGENT '23 | SPORTS EDITOR • Wabash's basketball season is officially in the books. After facing uncertainty, COVID regulations, fan restrictions, and a multitude of other challenges, the Little Giants pulled through to the end. Last Saturday's away contest against No. 12 DePauw was a tough matchup for Wabash, in which the Little Giants fell 70-53 to the team down south. But the team managed to end the season on a high note. Wabash closed out the season with a 91-79 win over Denison University on Wednesday.

In Saturday's matchup versus DePauw, Wabash had its hands full. The Tigers entered the contest winners of four straight, including an 84-70 win over the Little Giants two days earlier. The result of this game was much the same. After both teams went back and forth in the opening minutes, DePauw grabbed a 10-8 lead with 15:11 remaining in the first half. The Tigers did not relinquish the lead for the rest of the game. Wabash remained in striking distance, keeping the deficit to 10 with a halftime score of 36-26. And after a 5-0 run off of two Tyler Watson '22 baskets, the Little Giants looked to have momentum opening the second half. But the 36-31 score with 18:49 remaining was as close as Wabash would get. DePauw regained control of the game, cruising to a season-ending 70-53 victory.

"[DePauw] not only had a very talented group, but they had a very experienced team," Head Coach Kyle Brumett said. "At Division III, that's really what you're trying to build [...] you know, guys that stick it out and continue to improve. One of the things we can take away from the games with them is, you know, in some ways push our guys to try and improve in the same way."

Saturday's loss was not the end for Wabash, though. The Little Giants faced the Big Red of Denison at Chadwick Court to close their season. And after dropping two straight to DePauw, Wabash closed the season with a win. While all eyes were on Connor Rotterman '21, who was playing in his last game as a Little Giant, Kellen Schreiber '22 carried Wabash to victory. Schreiber started the game on a tear, scoring the first 12 points for the Little Giants on 6/7 shooting. From start to end, Denison had no answer for Schreiber.

Both teams went back and forth to open the game, with neither able to grab separation on the scoreboard. Wabash and Denison ended the half with a 37-35 score in favor of the Big Red. The two teams also combined for 23 total fouls in the first half.

After a tight, physical game in the first half, Denison seized the momentum to start the second half. The Big Red pulled out to a 51-42 lead with 14:01 remaining. Wabash, facing its largest deficit of the game, looked to be falling



BENJAMIN HIGH '23 / PHOTO

**Kellen Schreiber '22 attempts a free throw in Wednesday's game. Schreiber led all scorers with 30, which is also his career high, and helped Wabash to a 91-79 win over Denison.**

with no way up. But with the season on the line, Schreiber led the Little Giants down the comeback trail. After scoring 14 in the first half, he continued to torch the Big Red on the offensive side. Schreiber scored bucket after bucket, finishing with a career high 30 points while adding five rebounds and a steal. Watson and Ahmoni Jones '23 added spectacular performances as well, scoring 23 and 20 respectively. Wabash took a 56-55 lead with 10:12 remaining and never looked back. The Little Giants cruised to the finish, grabbing a 91-79 win to close out the 2021 season.

"[Schreiber, Watson, and Jones] played great," Brumett said. "I think Ahmoni is a young player that's still trying to learn what it takes to be consistent in our league. But he was very good Wednesday against Denison. He's had, you know, some games in his first year and this year where, offensively, he was able to put points on the board. The second half especially, Wednesday night, could have been [Ahmoni's] best stretch of consistent minutes. With Kellen, he was coming off of two separate ankle sprains. We weren't sure how much we were going to get out of him. That backup punch with him and [Ahmoni] was really

effective on Wednesday."

The win was bittersweet. Rotterman played his last game in a Wabash uniform, finishing with four points, three rebounds, three assists, and two blocks. Rotterman anchored the Wabash defense on multiple occasions, providing a spark against the efficient Denison offense. He has served as a core member of the basketball program the last four years, and Brumett expressed the impact Rotterman has had for his team.

"[Connor] has been a really important piece," Brumett said. "He was the first guy in his class to commit [...] a really big recruit for us. He's been a really positive impact, not only in the games but off the courts, in the classroom, on our campus. Connor, he was a guy that his role changed a number of different times, in his four years of college basketball. A lot of guys struggle with that, you know? Connor really handled that extremely well. And while his role changed, he always not only embraced it, but gave our team a big lift in the roles that he took on. I think that was a great example that he was able to set and lead for our younger players. He's also an extremely positive guy. You need that within your team. [...] Connor

was really good at that. He's always been very coachable, but also always helping the other players improve with a positive message."

Rotterman's departure is a huge gap to fill. However, Wabash will retain the rest of its roster. That, combined with the returning players who took academic leave and incoming freshman, leaves the Little Giants with an abundance of experienced and young talent. As the team approaches the offseason and the 2021-2022 season, Brumett showed excitement for the program.

"I'm excited about what the future holds," he said. "I think we're in a great place. When we started the process, you know, seven years ago, we tried to build the program in a similar way to other successful championship programs on our campus. I think we're getting closer to that. Easily, 2020 and 2021 have been hard and unique experiences in and out of sports, on and off our campus obviously. But I'm really excited about the experience we were able to give these guys [...]. We are going to have a lot returning and the new guys that we will bring in. We're coming [into next season] with the idea that we can compete with championships. That's a really exciting thing."

# March Madness and Wabash: Ryan Vaughn '00

JAKOB GOODWIN '23 | STAFF WRITER • Just a short time ago, one year ago today, on March 12th, 2020, the NCAA cancelled both the men's and women's NCAA basketball tournaments after the Power Five conferences cancelled their own conference championships. These cancellations followed an announcement that the NBA had postponed the rest of their season and other sports leagues around the world stopped play. We all watched as the NBA held the remainder of its season in a bubble in Orlando, Florida and the NFL played its whole season without a major disruption. Now, it's the NCAA Tournament's chance to try again. Rather than follow its usual plan to play 67 games in cities all over the

country, the NCAA opted to play the entire tourney in Indiana. I spoke with Ryan Vaughn '00, President of Indiana Sports Corps to ask him about their role in bringing March Madness to Indiana.

The process of bringing the Men's NCAA Tournament to Indy began with the NCAA finding out if Indiana could host the tournament. Luckily enough, Indianapolis has been preparing for this for a while. If unaware, Indianapolis has become the home of many conventions and events due to the city's capacity to host events in the convention center, Bankers Life Fieldhouse, and Lucas Oil Stadium. Butler's Hinkle Fieldhouse, IU's Assembly Hall, Purdue's Mackey Arena, and the Indiana Farmer's Coliseum will

also be hosting games.

Another aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic that had to be navigated for the NCAA Tournament was fans. While Wabash is doing very well, and Indiana's vaccination effort is ramping up, COVID-19 is still infecting 800 Hoosiers every day. ISC has worked with health departments all over the state to create plans that will have fans sit with their housemates, eat and drink in their pods, and constantly sanitize their hands. These plans will allow 25% capacity at each of the seven venues from 9,100 fans at Hinkle to 17,500 at Lucas Oil Stadium.

ISC plays other roles in bringing March Madness to Indiana. ISC has worked with restaurants and vendors

all around Indy to ensure that players and teams are fed and that fans have access to some of the wonderful food and events that Indianapolis has to offer. They have also partnered with more than a hundred street performers in Indy to make it feel like its pre-COVID self.

I asked Ryan what a success looks like for ISC and the tournament. He told me that success for him is all 67 games being played on time and no players testing positive for COVID. He hopes that people who haven't been back in Indianapolis since last March will feel comfortable coming back into the city this year. Surely, the 2021 Men's NCAA Tournament will put Indiana under a national spotlight.