

FEBRUARY 4, 2022

Nichols '92 Appointed FAA Chief Counsel



COURTESY OF LAMBDA CHI ALPHA FRATERNITY

Nichols served as the President of the National Association of Wabash Men from 2019 to 2021 and serves as High Alpha for the Lambda Chi Alpha chapter at Wabash. This is not the first time Nichols will be working at the national level, as he did spend time as the Inspector General at the U.S. Government Printing Office.

ZACHARIAH ALVARADO '23 | STAFF WRITER • Wabash alumnus Marc Nichols '92 did it again in showing that Wabash really can take you anywhere. Rising to the rank of Chief Counsel of FAA, Nichols is only a few doors away from Secretary Pete Buttigieg. Nichols was appointed and sworn in by President Biden on January 5th, 2022. Nichols has earned himself many titles and positions during his post- Wabash career, among them President of the National Association of Wabash Men that he has left in the hands of alumni and friend Kip Chase '03. Past experiences have prepared him well for this role and taught him the importance of ensuring all on his team are heard even if their approaches differ. This is but one of many skills that Wabash taught Nichols and continues to implement in his work. The Chief Counsel is immensely grateful for all the lessons

that his time at Wabash taught him as they have prepared him for a lifetime of learning that have earned him this esteemed position.

The issues before the FAA is, in Nichols words, “complex and always cross-disciplinary.”

This is where his liberal arts education comes into play as well as his previous positions in various industries. Nichols said, “To excel in this type of post, you must absorb the history of the laws governing the agency, so you can understand their evolution.”

“Take the unplesant assignment, and yet still succeed in making a good effort in producing an excellent result.”

- Marc Nichols '92

This makes his role as Chief Counsel daunting in some aspects, but Nichols has never been one to stray from challenge.

He does not have any fears in doing his job and simply wants his team and colleagues doing their best with their individual abilities to ensure flying continues to be the safest mode of travel in the world.

“The greatest honor of my life,” said Nichols when asked on the significance on being selected. That is why he accepted such a position.

During his time at the FAA, Nichols hopes to “cultivate relationships and set policies amplifying the FAA’s already sterling reputation as the premier air safety organization by helping to empower my team and dissolve any barriers to it doing its best work, while setting the stage for the talent to come.”

There were a lot of things that

Nichols had to sacrifice in order to earn this position.

Nichols encourages people to “take the unpleasant assignment, and yet still succeed in making a good effort in producing an excellent result.”

In other words, do your best to make something awful wonderful because its benefits show what type of person you really are by making the sacrifice worth something.

During his time as a Wabash student Nichols had the honor of learning from individuals like Bill Platcher and Melissa Butler that taught him the important lesson of reading voraciously.

“Whatever it is you like reading, read a lot of it,” said Nichols.

An education is one of many tools that Nichols continues to develop spanning from his collegiate days.

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President Hess' H'15 Officical Portrait Unveiled



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

President Hess will be best remembered for establishing the WabashX programs, building new housing, and stabilizing the College’s long term finances. Under Hess’ tenure, the beginning stages of the Campus Master Plan was put into place, which will see renovations of what is currently the Lilly Library and the Sparks Center.

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Nichols '92 to the FAA, Continued

“Education is ultimately just a vehicle used to reach a destination that you’ve set out upon. You can drive recklessly with it and endanger others or use it to bring people along with you.” This has only made his appreciation for his liberal arts education greater.

Although it has been three decades Nichols’ time as an undergraduate student, he hopes that Wabash students are still being taught, “critical thinking and analysis, thinking unconventionally, questioning one’s own assumptions, and employing the Wabash model of collaborative learning and acting.” These skills are the ones that have earned Nichols numerous prestigious positions and the role of Chief Counsel of the FAA.

There are a lot of people that Nichols wants to thank for getting him to this position. Among them are President Biden, Secretary Buttigieg, FAA Administrator Stephen Dickson and the selection committee. In a show of humility, the largest thanks goes to his former intern Adam, who got him on the White House’s radar for this specific position of Chief Counselor.

This amplified a lesson that Nichols continues to exhibit in his interactions every day.

“Treat everyone you encounter with equal investment and respect. You never know how the kindness and humanity you bestow may be revisited.”

Furthermore, Nichols’ husband Jamie is another individual he wanted to thank. His husband “eschews anything political related almost at any cost”



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Nichols and others pictured at the Shelbourne Wrestling Center Dedication in 2016. Before accepting his new position, Nichols acted as the Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Company Secretary at SAAB.

which shows how devoted he is, as his husband is in a political role. Jamie has had to put this discomfort aside and, in some ways, serve alongside Nichols who is immensely grateful.

There are also numerous friends that Nichols wants to thank who continued to teach him the skill of servant leadership. Despite his failures, he appreciates all the help he has gotten along the way.

Nichols is an excellent example of what hard work, servant leadership, and humility really look like in action. Learning when to act and when to stand still is one of the most important lessons Nichols has had to learn and has helped him immensely.

“Like a point guard, you have to know when to let the play develop and then know when to make the play or when simply to force the play; you

can’t do any of this at the same time well,” said Nichols. “Most successful people have mastered this essential skill. Wabash is training you to learn its application and how to make you successful when you do force the play.”

In a world that is about action, Mr. Nichols watched and waited for the best time to act. He hopes to continue applying this skill in his new role and encourages all to learn it as well.

Breyer’s Retirement Presents Opportunity for Biden



COURTESY OF NPR

Justice Breyer spent more than 42 years as a federal judge, more than 28 of them as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

JAKOB GOODWIN '23 | NEWS EDITOR • Last Wednesday, the legal and political worlds got ready for a phenomenon that often happens only once or twice in a presidency: a Supreme Court vacancy. After 28 years on the high court, Justice Stephen Breyer officially announced his retirement last Thursday. In the week since then, commentators across the spectrum have begun speculating on Justice Breyer’s legacy, who will replace him, and the fight that is coming to get them confirmed.

Upon his nomination and confirmation to the Court, Justice Breyer began cementing his legacy as a consensus builder. Regarding Justice Breyer’s legacy, Political Science professor and Pre-Law Advisor Scott Himself '85 said, “Justice Breyer cared a great deal about trying to build consensus across the lines that formed on the Court over judicial philosophy and the proper role of the court and American government.”

From his days serving as counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Justice Breyer understood the need for compromise and he will be remembered for his moderate stances that garnered votes from everyone on the Court, from both the left and the right. If there is any doubt on that point, one need only look at the statements of his fellow Justices. His colleagues commended him on his “boundless optimism”, “utmost civility”, and “commitment o seeking consensus and ensuring collegiality in all we do.”

With a vacancy on the Court, President Biden has an opportunity to make a lasting impact on America and its system of laws. President Biden will not get to shift the Court as much as President Trump did, but it appears that President Biden will take this opportunity to solidify a progressive seat on the Court with someone who could sit in her chair for more than three decades. In the week that has passed since Breyer’s retirement, two main candidates have come to the forefront as contenders. Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, who Biden appointed to the DC Circuit Court of

Appeals just nine months ago appears to be the frontrunner. Before serving on the Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit, she served on the DC District Court. Prior to judicial service, she had served as the Vice Chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission and a federal public defender. Notably, Judge Jackson clerked for Justice Breyer and would be the first criminal defense attorney on the Court since Justice Thurgood Marshall. The other frontrunner is California Supreme Court Justice Leondra Kruger. Prior to judicial service, Justice Kruger had served as the Principal Deputy Solicitor General of the US, who is essentially America’s attorney at the Supreme Court. In her favor is her age and heritage. Justice Kruger is slightly younger than Judge Jackson and if nominated and confirmed, Justice Kruger would continue the tradition of the “Jewish seat” on the Court, an institution that has stood for most of the last 100 years.

Both Jackson and Kruger would be historic picks for the Court, as both are Black women. On the campaign trail, President Biden promised to appoint the first Black woman to the Supreme Court. This promise, and Biden’s recommitment to making good on it has drawn ire from conservative commentators and politicians who say that Biden is not picking the best candidate for the job, but instead looking to essentially put affirmative action into practice on the Court and pick a lesser Black woman for the Bench. These accusations have begun the conversation on what it may take to get President Biden’s choice confirmed.

With it looking like no Republicans willing to confirm Biden’s SCOTUS pick, this falls to the Democrats’ razor-thin majority in the Senate. All eyes have turned to Senators Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ) who have opposed filibuster reforms and stood in the way of the president’s social agenda. However, fears that they will leave Biden at the altar may be misplaced. Manchin and Sinema have been generally supportive of Biden’s

judicial nominees, making some think they won’t play games with a branch of the government that is getting more and more conservative.

Justice Breyer’s retirement signals a last-ditch chance to change the Court for a while. Upon Justice Breyer’s retirement, the oldest member of the Court, Justice

Clarence Thomas, will be 73 and seems to be in good health, meaning it could be another decade or more before another president gets to change the High Court. Justice Breyer will be remembered for his consensus-building and his successor, who will be the first Black woman to ever serve on the Court, will have large shoes to fill.

IAWM

The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men

8th Annual Leadership Breakfast

March 17, 2022 • 7:15 a.m.

Ivy Tech Culinary Center, Indianapolis



Patrick McAlister '02



Todd Bess



Cody Stipes '11

**Honoring Ryan Vaughn '00
IAWM Man of the Year**

Register at
wabash.edu/events/iawm-breakfast



Letter to the Editor: The Reality is...

James Love III '22

Dear Wabash, What's even the point of repeating myself? Black people have said, repeatedly, that we are constantly put down for reasons that many people in this age cannot even put into words. A reason may be that it was what was where one grew up or an environment not exactly open for inclusivity. Still, little did they know that those lessons that they are taught stem from a fear of something, or someone that is different from you, and everyone knows that different is bad, right? The reality is that one does not care unless these injustices that Black people face do not have to be big to affect us and our mental health. The little microaggressions that happen on a daily, the dirty looks on the street, the stares in a restaurant, or maybe the job interviews that Wabash men work so hard to perfect, are all obstacles that we must

work past and that's where the problem is! Here's a good question, why is a race of people having to constantly prove that they belong in a country that they didn't choose to be in in the first place? I may have an answer, but I'm not too sure how you'll like it. The answer I have is this: it is because we were never seen as human beings, we were instead seen as a free workforce that would not know any better from the POV of our white saviors. It was from those narrow-minded thoughts that we have a perpetual, significant problem in the United States right now, racism. It is not just the racism that plagues the African American communities in this country, but due to the fear and disregard of anyone that is different from the majority, anyone who isn't White still pays the price of the close-mindedness of those that came before us! I say this not to make one specific

type of individual feel guilty, but to help realize that the reality is the world is not all sunshine and rainbows. This is not me insulting anyone's intelligence, reader. This is instead a call to action. In this world, we have enough hate, war, greed, and envy, and I would like to call out to those of you that have the motivation and drive to challenge what you know about the world and make it better! I urge my fellow Wabash community to not be on the sidelines and let those in power, or even those that grind the usual nine-to-five, make this world an even worse place for the younger members of your families and even your friends. All I'm saying is that I should not be seen as someone attempting to disband your sense of comfortability or of your loved ones about making a better change in the world. In conclusion, We are the futures of this world that

we live in, and anyone of us can make more of an impact on the world than making money and climbing the corporate ladder in our respective careers after graduating. There are more important things in this world other than being the richest investor or real estate agent, there is peace and the love of your neighbor to look forward to. We can look toward a better future where not only do you have the success that you're looking for, but there's peace of mind you can bring to others by being the best, and kindest, person that you can be. That's the very reason that we came to this College in the first place. All I ask is that we do what we came to do: think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely. You can reply to this column at jelove22@wabash.edu

The Green M&M isn't "Sexy" Anymore; Here's Why That's an Issue.



Hawk Ricketts '24
Reply to this editorial at rpickett24@wabash.edu

So as many of you might have heard, the Nestle company has announced that their M&M mascot characters are going under some slight redesigns. This choice has been met with a staggering amount of backlash, particularly in regard to their female Green M&M character no longer being "sexy." Yes, these are actual words you are reading within the pages of your college newspaper, and as mind-numbing as this might be for you to read, I can assure you an equal amount of brain cells are dying in my mind as I'm typing this out. Now I implore you to please ignore the equal distribution of mental damage I have caused the both of us within the opening lines of this opinion piece to entrust that when I say that the Green M&M's sudden design change

speaks to a larger issue, surrounding mega-corporations and their control over media conversation and I am not just going insane. For those of you unaware, cocoa plantations within the Ivory Coast of Africa are responsible for about 45% of the world's cocoa, one of the critical ingredients of chocolate. These cocoa plantations within West Africa have long been plagued with low pay, human rights, and child labor. In recent months around eight children have come forward accusing numerous large corporations who use these plantations to source their cocoa of "knowingly profiting" from the lower prices provided by the use of illegal enslavement of "thousands" of children on cocoa farms. The Guardian reports, "The legal documents allege that an 11-year-old boy worked for two years without ever being paid, often applying pesticides and herbicides without protective clothing." Of course, one of the most notable companies who profited from this was the Nestle company. This lawsuit is currently being fought, but in recent weeks the Nestle company has made some direct comments on the matter, claiming to have a "plan" to combat child slavery in the future; at the same time, the company chose to redesign the green M&M, guess which story was trending on social media and all over news outlets? That's right—the

M&M's "woke" de-sexualization, not the child slavery. In this terrifying age of social media, time and time again, we have seen examples of major corporations using their power to obscure or direct attention from damaging controversies and serious issues by manipulating media attention. Another prime example of a company using its power in media to control the conversation would be Blizzard, a video game development and publishing company. Way back in 2019, when the Hong Kong riots were in full swing, a couple of Blizzard-sponsored e-sports competitors made statements supporting the protesters in Hong Kong against the police brutality they were facing. In late October, these competitors were subsequently suspended and later banned from competing in future competitions for their comments. Obviously, this was met with an immense amount of backlash; the whole scandal was trending for weeks until the sudden and surprising announcement of "Overwatch 2," a sequel to their award-winning competitive co-op game, which ultimately dominated all the focus on social media outlets. The same can be said for the company's current sexual harassment lawsuit by the state of California. It seems that every time there's some news or development within that case, some new content in

one of their other video game properties is revealed, or they announce they're delaying the release of some of their anticipated upcoming games, shifting the media attention again. It is important to note that this tactic of shifting attention by flooding media outlets with less severe, somewhat useless information is not exclusive to major corporations. This strategy is also commonly used in politics and courtrooms; former President Trump comes to mind in using this strategy with his consistent controversial attitude, which often guided the focus away from some of the more serious policy changes he was making in the background of a wave of offensive statements. Overall, what I hope to have brought to people's attention is that on occasion, some of the most exciting, controversial, or trendy news circulating in our modern media climate could be the perfectly crafted result of a high-paid PR team trying to divert your attention from a more severe issue. So, as you see people like the infamous Tucker Carlson host a bizarre 10-minute rant on national television, furiously blaming the "woke mob" on the left for taming the sexual prowess of the green M&M, I implore you all as the intelligent Wabash men you are to do your research and investigate when suspiciously trendy topics like this start to make the rounds.

Halloween: Unequivocally the Most Superior Holiday!



Wade Haesemeyer '22
Reply to this editorial at labutrum21@wabash.edu

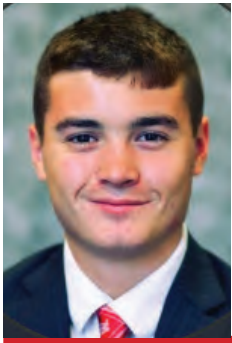
Mark your calendars, Wabash: there are less than 300 days until Halloween! It's the holiday most exciting for kids under 12, who get to dress up in polyester superhero suits, princess dresses, extinct animals, AND torture their parents with late-night walks in sub-freezing temperatures - all in the name of free sugar in small wrappers! Halloween isn't just for kids, though. It's a spooky occasion that provides the perfect excuse for early-to-mid 20's

guys and gals to don their "tasteful" outfits, physical representations of terrible puns, and group substance consumption. But that's not all! It's simply a fact that every American loves seeing plastic skeletons and rotting pumpkins littering their neighbors' lawns and scary movies that are fun for the whole family, and the more we all can see rats, bats, and cats the better! Are you foaming at the mouth for bite-size candy and fake blood yet? Who cares about Fourth of July—you can't get sunburnt or heatstroke on Halloween! Why would you want piping-hot burgers straight off the grill, or fresh, juicy watermelon cut into perfect wedges, or ice-cold beverages in the warm sun, when you can have lukewarm hot chocolate and nauseating amounts of Snickers bars peeled with shivering fingers! Fireworks are too bright and too loud for anyone REALLY to enjoy. Besides, does anyone actually care about American history anyway? Don't get me started on the rest of the "holiday" season following the

Hallow's Eve. Thanksgiving is so bleh, right? You don't go to work, you sit around with family, eat a home-cooked meal, and watch what—football? Wouldn't you rather be wetting your pants to Resident Evil? Of course you would! Devoting a day to being grateful seems like a waste of my time. Speaking of wasting time, the entire Christmas season is just so cheesy! You have to endure long-winded ramblings from Grandpa about his boring childhood in what's-it-called Kansas, on the farm, without internet, blah, blah, blah (aren't these the same dumb stories from that other stupid holiday a month ago?). There's always so much stress around the Christmas season, too: office white-elephants and dinner with your girlfriend's family and gifts to give people. You have to think about every little thing all the time, from putting up the decorations to putting actual thought into your mom's Christmas present. Candy and beverages are a universal gift, that's all I'm saying. I guess Jesus being born is important (to some people), but a

whole month devoted to it seems so excessive. Halloween isn't greedy like that—it's one glorious night, as a holiday should be. You may be thinking, "Wade, why all the fuss about holidays? These were months ago!" And to that, my friend, I would say that I wrote this piece on the greatest holiday—no, the greatest day of the year—to express my overwhelming passion for the 31st of October, a passion that does not simply fade as the snow falls, the rains come, and the sun shines. Another clever reader may say, "Wade is keeping us warm on this cold February day with a flaming-hot take!" And to that, I would be disappointed. Halloween as the best holiday is not a hot take, it is a simple fact. It is a fact that is not debatable, though you may try in vain. If you are reading this, Mr. Rotaru, know that this passionate, relevant, apt, and important literary piece of self-expression does not belong under OPINION—it should be considered wholly truth. Trick-or-treat Wabash College.

You're Allowed to be Wrong



Zachariah Alvarado '23
Reply to this editorial at zcalvaraz23@wabash.edu

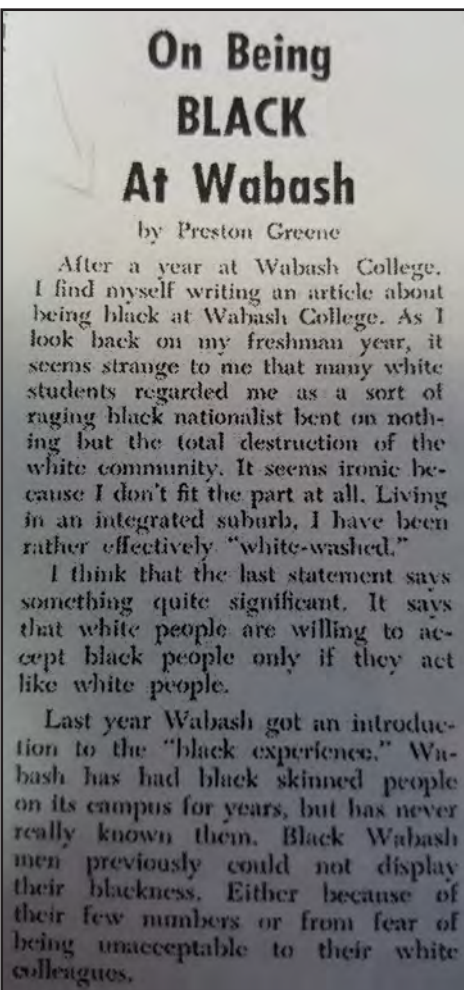
Classes have started again and now we all are getting up early again but still staying up too late. To add on to the misery some have dreadful 8 AM's and morning lifting sessions for their teams. All of us have heard the usual rant on our first class sessions and the questions they ask about us that no one will remember the answers to. Not to mention the overview of the syllabus that they only do because most of us don't read them. Then there are the situations where you don't know anyone in the class and feel alone and isolated accompanied only by

the awkward silence that breaks once the professors walk through the door. Among all of the first day rituals, I don't think many of you were told that you are going to fail: not the class, but in ways big and small in and outside of the class. This can mean missing the deadline, losing a debate, not maxing out, not getting a better time, oversleeping, staying up too late, getting broken up with, bombing an interview, and saying something wrong in class. Each one of these scenarios and many others are completely normal and happen to everyone; it happening to you does not mean you are going to fail at everything. A selling point of the College is that when we graduate we will be successful, but the staff doesn't always tell you that you are going to fail along the way. I have failed at A LOT of stuff and screwed up plenty of times, and I am sure plenty of others have to. Pressure is continually put on you that messing up at one thing makes everything else feel vulnerable. Building yourself a house of cards is dangerous, so give yourself room to breathe. Screwing up

is normal, and so is everything else that comes along with it, so allow yourself to feel pain, anger, remorse, and shame. Afterwards, move on and learn from whatever mistake you make. Embrace your failures and shortcomings this year so you can actually have a story to tell someday. Not making any mistakes or trying anything risky results in a fairly boring life, so, unless that is what you want, fail, hard. Believe me when I say there are worse things that can happen to you than getting a bad grade on an exam. People can set you up to be utterly humiliated or cheat you out of your last dollar so embrace each shortcoming you have no matter how smart or tough you think you are. No number of brains or brawn is going to protect you from the reality that life just sucks sometimes no matter what you do. There are an endless number of funny stories from people screwing up so own it the next time you do. When the story isn't funny, look back on it as a humbling experience for yourself and as something to teach to those around you. The start of the year is

fairly boring most of the time so make classes a little bit enjoyable if you can. Ask the uncomfortable questions in your Black and Gender Studies class. Be wrong, for goodness's sake, but if you feel completely lost, just talk to your professor - most of the time they won't be too mean to you. On days when you feel like everything is going wrong just stop and do something fun. If you want to hear a story about a failure that is actually a funny story just ask me, I have plenty of them since coming here. Before college started, I was a strait-laced student who never did anything wrong, and it was boring. It could be argued that I am still like this, but failure comes a lot easier now than it ever did before. Now I have a lot of really good stories that I share whenever I can. Despite these failures, I am doing just fine, and I am sure the rest of you are as well. Your failures do not define who you are, and they only make you more interesting. If you're reading this and think you are boring then you probably are. If you want to change that then do something you know is difficult and different.

“On Being Black At Wabash” 53 Years Later



COURTESY OF WABASHHISTORY.COM

An excerpt from Preston Greene '71 in his piece, “On Being BLACK At Wabash” published in *The Bachelor*, October 4, 1969.

K'TREN WILSON '24 | STAFF WRITER • Despite the efforts and strides for change that are being made, the most disappointing aspect of our campus culture is its sense

of consistency. A sort of unwillingness to change. It seems that we, the students, have accepted that we attend an institution that values tradition and have assumed the responsibility to protect those traditions. In this, however, we appear to have neglected our ability to determine which traditions we choose to value, protect, and uphold.

I believe this somewhat subconscious neglect stems from a lack of familiarity with our history as a College, and as a student body, especially. This almost binds Wabash to repeat its history, known or unknown. In reverence of Black History Month and in an effort to prevent history from continuing to repeat itself, I would like to highlight a specific piece of Black History at Wabash College. On Being BLACK At Wabash is an opinion piece by Preston Green, a Black student, in *The Bachelor* in 1968 in which he expresses feelings of being misperceived and expectations of fitting into a box in order to be “accepted.” He writes, “It seems ironic because I don’t fit the part at all. Living in an integrated suburb, I have been rather effectively “white-washed.”

I think that the last statement says something quite significant. It says that white people are willing to accept Black people only if they act like white people.” (Preston Greene, *The Bachelor*, October 4, 1968, seen to the left)

The social pressure and general desire to be “accepted” by those considered the majority that existed at Wabash in 1968 still exists on this campus in 2022. I also came to Wabash from an integrated suburb, and I too have considered myself “rather effectively white-washed” at times. Despite the implications of this term alone, I believe the statement following this in the original article, unfortunately, is one example of how our campus culture has remained consistent even over a series of decades. My personal thoughts and feelings of the accusation aside, I do believe that I have been awarded certain opportunities on this campus because I have been “white-washed,” and

this appears, to me, as a representation of Greene’s sentiments 54 years later.

Being Black at Wabash College today is and is not much different than it was in 1968. Greene chose to highlight what he referred to as “flagrant racism” in the fraternities on campus at the time. Of course, as a current Black student that is in one of fraternities that existed on campus, I can say that I genuinely believe that Wabash has progressed in this area of campus life at least, slightly. I feel that I have been fairly deeply immersed in the fraternal community here at Wabash, and maybe it is this that has made some aspects of social life on campus more accessible. It has not been uncommon, however, for me to receive the question of why Black students at large choose not to rush fraternities. Though, it sometimes is a genuine question, there seems to be a compilation of unresolved (and unlearned) history underlying it. More specifically, I do not think that it is fully recognized that Black students were not welcome in many of the same fraternities that exist on campus today.

Yes, we are a different grouping of students with different experiences and mores, but this is but one example of critical history about the institution that we have to be exposed to in a course after already being here. History that we are not afforded the comfort of not knowing. It is with this context that I no longer try to answer such questions on behalf of my community—because I recognize that it is not my job to, nor the job of Black students to assimilate to what is generally understood as the “dominant” culture, accepted or not.

Instances of racism are not as “flagrant” as they once were, but it seems that there is still an expectation for Black students at Wabash to be willing to compromise their comfort to become “accepted” by the majority. This expectation is harmful because it shifts the responsibility (or blame) onto Black students for potentially being uncomfortable with joining a fraternity as opposed to highlighting the lack of

familiarity with the history of fraternities and Black students at Wabash College.

I do not intend to assert that this specific example is the sole reason for an arguably low representation of Black students in fraternities, but rather to spotlight the fact that there is often much more to our realities than we are aware of. The issue then becomes not the history or even the lack of knowledge of the history, but the perception that we are removed from this history.

I believe that one common aspect of the Black experience at Wabash is frustration. Personally, my frustration stems from the fact that much of the history and knowledge that individuals lack is realistically quite accessible. Knowing, at minimum, that the history of race relations in America is complex and largely misconstrued, it seems almost counterintuitive to seek answers from communities that truly have been removed from their history as a result of centuries of erasure and narrative control. This is not to be confused with groups that intentionally or wishfully remove themselves from their history. I might argue that this behavior actually contributes to the erasure and further removal of others from their history.

It is much more convenient to assume that we are in a different time and that what occurred in the past will not be definitive of what and who we are in the present. However, it is foolish to assume that we will not be defined by the past if we are never made aware of it, and once we are aware of it, failure to apply what we have learned is not a shortcoming: it is a choice.

As we continue to grow as a community, we might find value in seeking to simply exist freely alongside one another rather than fixating on the few things that we do not share. In the end, we will never be able to share the entirety of an experience, but I believe that we, especially as Wabash students, can more critically investigate the components of what others might assume as “the way things have always been.”

“Midnight Family” Get Under Way Spanish Film Festival

ETHAN WALLACE '25 | STAFF WRITER •

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures announced a new weekly film screening as a part of this year’s Spanish Film Festival. Starting this past Tuesday with the showing of “Midnight Family”, the Festival is featuring a different film viewing every Tuesday through the month of February. The Spanish Film Club series was made possible with the support of Pragda, SPAIN arts & culture, and the Secretary of State for Culture of Spain. Pragda’s initiative is to introduce Spanish and Latin films to high school and university students to familiarize them with the language and cultures through cinema. This past Tuesday featured the film “Midnight Family”.

The film approaches the unique problem of large metropolitan cities having to rely on privatized ambulances to make up for a lack of public emergency services. “Midnight Family” focuses on that very issue in Mexico City, where, despite a population of nearly 9 million people, the Mexican government operates only 45 ambulances. The movie specifically follows the Ochoa family, who are one of the many private ambulance operators trying to supplement the insufficient number of emergency responders while still trying to afford their operating costs. It is a captivating documentary detailing the professional and

personal lives of those who live their lives waiting to respond to the needs of others. The gripping film shows the harsh reality these private responders can face, and the personal strife of trying to balance their own livelihoods with the critical care required in operating an ambulance. Of the Ochoa family, Fer Ochoa, Josue Ochoa, and Juan Ochoa are the main focus of the film. They are the main operators of the private ambulance and primarily work through the perilous nights in the city. In spite of their efforts to help those in need, they have to jump through hoops to keep their operation going.

One of their struggles is within the competition with other private ambulance operators. Several times throughout the movie the Ochoas have to race other ambulances so they can be first to get the patient. It’s a hard truth, but if they don’t get there first they don’t get paid. Additionally, the Ochoas are constantly harassed by corrupt police officers who set regulations for expensive registration and demand bribes to turn a blind eye to the private operators who can’t afford the paperwork. On top of that, many people the Ochoas help are unable or refuse to pay for the care they receive. There are many nights throughout the film where the Ochoas lose money. Ultimately, the people they help can not pay them. Subsequently,

the Ochoas struggle to afford the expenses of keeping the ambulance going, let alone a comfortable lifestyle. Throughout the movie, the Ochoa family is seen struggling to keep their life-saving operation going.

But the Ochoas are not totally innocent in their work. Private hospitals in Mexico City pay private ambulances to take patients to their emergency rooms. Some might argue they are just as bad as the police, going as far as lying to patients to take them to private hospitals. The Ochoa’s income was unstable, to say the least, but they even lie to patients’ parents during the film. The Ochoa family goes so far as to lie to the patients, so they can get paid. Eventually, leading to a girl dying because the Ochoas took her to a private hospital instead of a closer public hospital.

The film ends on a somber note, with the audience paralyzed by the stark reality of the situation. The private operators are just as bad as everyone else, but it’s what they have to do to keep saving lives. The only way they can continue saving people is if they are making enough money to keep the ambulance running.

The next film showing will take place February 8, with Los Lobos. The film will start at 7:30 PM in Detchon 109. Masks are mandatory and there are English Closed Captions for each film.



COURTESY OF IMBD

“Midnight Family” was the recipient of the prestigious Golden Frog for Best Documentary award.

T-Tones Set To Charm At Valentine’s Day Concert

IO MAEDA '24 | STAFF WRITER •

The T-Tones will host the annual Valentine’s Day concert on Friday and Saturday at 6:00 pm both nights in Detchon International Hall. It is a fundraiser for the Glee Club to tour every year. T-Tones is the smallest ensemble on campus consisting of eight to twelve singers selected from the Glee Club. The concert will have famous songs about love that everybody in the audience, no matter their age, can recognize.

This year’s event, Timeless Love, will include Valentine Day’s games and music. However, the event will be held twice due to the pandemic. The ticket price is \$15 (no dinner) on Friday and \$40 (including dinner) on Saturday. The event on Friday is open to the Crawfordsville community and beyond, while the event on Saturday is open only to Wabash folk and invited guests. Face masks are required for both events, except while eating on Saturday.

“We cannot offer food and drink - anything that would remove the mask for anybody outside of the Wabash bubble,” said Dr. Sarin Williams, the choral director of the Glee Club and the T-Tones. “What we are going to do is to split up the event into two nights and have slightly different events.”

The concert was not held last year due to the pandemic. The pandemic also made the Glee Club and the T-Tones have a hard time practicing for past year and a half. During the 2020 Fall, they were allowed to rehearse in sections of no more than 10 guys outside in front of the Fine Arts Center spaced six feet apart. Then, in the 2021 Spring, they were able to come inside, but they had to be spread throughout Salter Hall. Finally, they are able to practice together on the stage in the Salter Hall from the 2021 Fall. There were some periods when they were not required to wear masks.

“I think the Glee Club is feeling much more

normal this year,” Dr. Williams said. “It feels like one choir, and it is very nice to be back together.”

William Borland '22 is the president of this year’s Glee Club. He helps Dr. Williams through engaging in administrative tasks and having meetings to check the status of the group with other officers who are Joseph Julian '22 and Luke Fincher '24 in the spring (Ben Bullock '23 in the fall). He also inherits the tradition of conducting the Alma Mater as the president.

“I, especially as a student, have more contact even outside of practice with students, so I can better feel the members’ concerns and some of the questions that they have,” said Borland. “My job is mainly just to make sure students are happy and enjoying their time in the Glee Club.”

Although he is planning to pursue a career in the healthcare field, he thinks that he has gained the ability of dealing with peoples’

concerns and a wide variety of opinions. “Being the president of the Glee Club has really helped,” Borland said. “I definitely feel more confident. I can definitely handle situations better now.”

Both Dr. Williams and Borland appreciate the continued support from the Wabash community and they are looking forward to having the Valentine’s Day concert.

“We encourage students to maybe consider coming to both concerts,” Borland said.

“This event has traditionally not been a student heavy event, but we would love students to come this year. We think it’ll be really entertaining. Please feel free to join us for either evening, if you’d like to celebrate Valentine’s Day,” Dr. Williams said.

For more information about the event or to purchase the ticket, search for “Wabash Fine Arts Center Box Office” in Google. Wabash community and invited guests are the only people able to purchase tickets.

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The purpose of *The Bachelor* is to serve the school audience, including but not limited to administrators, faculty and staff, parents, alumni, community members and most importantly, the students. Because this is a school paper, the content and character within will cater to the student body's interests, ideas, and issues. Further, this publication will serve as a medium and forum for student opinions and ideas. Although an individual newspaper, the Board of Publications publishes *The Bachelor*. The *Bachelor* and BOP receive funding from the Wabash College Student Senate, which derives its funds from the Wabash College student body.

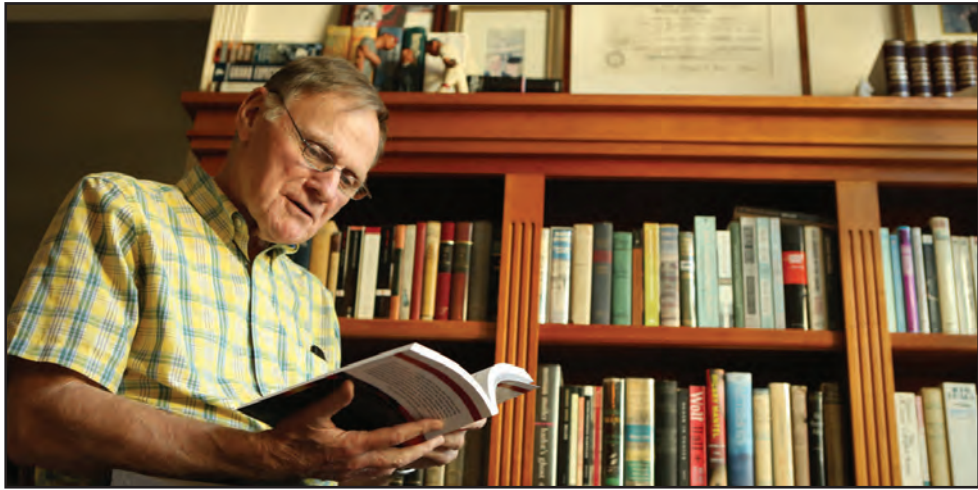
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Bowen Retires After HI-FIVES
Legendary Career



COURTESY OF WABASH MAGAZINE

Before being elected to the Wabash Board of Trustees in 1996, Bowen served in Chicago as Managing Partner at the law firm of Latham and Watkins.

SARVIK CHAUDHATY '25 | STAFF WRITER • In the fall of 1964, Steve Bowen '68 came to Wabash as a freshman, but being an alumnus is not the only connection he has to Wabash. In 1996, Bowen was elected to the Wabash Board of Trustees. In 1999, his son David graduated from Wabash. In 2007, Bowen became the Chair of the Board of Trustees. He met his wife, Joanie, when her son Paul Heinemann '07, was a student at Wabash. In 2015, Bowen joined the Wabash faculty, as a professor in the religion department, and retired after six years of incredible teaching, in December, 2021.

Bowen said that he could've done a lot of things after graduating from Wabash—he could've gone to law school, or he could've gone to graduate school to pursue some advanced degree in theology, with a view to becoming a teacher at college level. "The law school was, for a lot of reasons, much more realistic," said Bowen. "So I pursued that."

But it was years later, after having been a successful lawyer, when he had the idea to teach at Wabash, after he saw his daughter, an English professor, teach a class. "I went out to watch her teach and I really enjoyed that a great deal," said Bowen. "I was very proud of what she was doing and it sort of brought back all these memories like, oh my God, this is something, you know, I could have pursued and didn't, and watching her, made me want to really, try it."

In the fall of 2014, Bowen approached Derek Nelson, to see if he could teach a course at Wabash. Nelson was really receptive to the idea, and knew that Bowen had an interest in theology and ethics, so he decided to activate a theological ethics course that had not been

taught for a very long time.

"The idea was that he (Nelson) and I would teach it together," said Bowen. "But he really wanted me to teach it. He came to the first class and the last class and, and let me run with the ball in between. I really enjoyed it. I'm not sure that I was very good in the first year. But I started getting comfortable and I really enjoyed it."

In his first year here, Bowen had to make reports and write about his experience as a new faculty member.

"Going through those exercises just convinced me how much I really did enjoy this." Along with the theological ethics class, Bowen also started to teach a freshman tutorial course and a senior colloquium course. "Professor Bowen's freshman tutorial was the perfect introduction to Wabash for me," said one of Bowen's students. "He is the true embodiment of a "Wabash Man," and we, as students will strive to become like him some day."

After Bowen started teaching at Wabash, he literally bridged the gap between the faculty and the Trustees. While here as a professor, Bowen decided not to go to the faculty meetings, as he still considered himself to be a trustee.

"My view has always been that the administration runs the college, the faculty teaches the students and the trustees observe what's going on," said Bowen. "We might make recommendations to the President or the administration, but we don't give orders. We're not in charge, we're not running things."

Stephen Bowen's contribution to the Wabash community has been insurmountable, and for that, we will always be grateful to him.

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

WHAT IS LIFE?

Hi-Five to the G.O.A.T for calling it quits. Even the best of all-time can lose the Super Bowl three times, so keep your head up, King.

WASHINGTON IS IN
THE NEWS FOR TWO
REASONS THIS WEEK

Lo-Five to the NFL and team ownership for making the same mistake. In other news, Chiefs OC Eric Bieniemy still does not have a job and ex-Dolphins HC Brian Flores probably will not coach in the NFL again...

HOW TO FIND OUT
IF YOUR FRIEND IS
NORMAL OR OUT OF
HIS MIND

Hi-five to the 24th Olympic Winter Games for kicking off this week. Brace yourself for your roommate to go on about how they could compete in half of the competitions over the next few weeks.

2020 CALLED, THEY
WANT THEIR VIRTUAL
CLASSROOM BACK

Lo-five to the winter storm hitting millions of Americans earlier this week. For one, I appreciated that it not only made for better Snapchat stories, but more entertaining "Air Raids" for new rhynes.

THE "LIVING THE
GLORY DAYS"
SHOWCASE

Hi-five to all of the Wallies that participated in this week's blizzard football game at Little Giant Stadium. With all that talent on show, Liam Thompson and Co. might have to watch their backs.

SPORTS

BASKETBALL:

W. Wabash 86
D Denison 63
Jan. 29

W. Wabash 94
W Wooster 80
Jan. 30

VOLLEYBALL:

W. Wabash 1
M Marian 3
Jan. 29

W. Wabash 3
M Millikin 0
Jan. 29

WRESTLING

W. Wabash 55
K Kentucky Wesleyan 0
Jan. 27

Davidson Does It!
Little Giants Extend Win Streak to 11 with Allegheny at Home on Saturday

REED MATHIS '22 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • Almost reaching the century mark on a per-game basis, Jack Davidson '22 breaking the all-time scoring record for Wabash, and seeing positive contributions from starters and bench players alike, the Little Giants are hot at the right time of year.

Along with Davidson etching himself into the record books over this past week, starters Kellen Schreiber '22 and Tyler Watson '22 are now part of the 1,000 scoring club. While questions remain on the defensive side of the ball heading into the tail-end of the season, the offense led by these three can score with the best in the NCAC - perhaps even the entire nation.

While the three players above had weeks that will not be soon forgotten, players such as Ahmoni Jones '23 and Edreece Redmond '24 have only gotten better as the season has progressed—capped off by Jones being selected as a D3hoops.com "Team of the Week" representative. He excelled in matchups against Wittenberg University, Denison University, and the College of Wooster, with averages of 21 points and 8.7 rebounds in 27 minutes.

The momentum that the Little Giants have built up over the last two months is nothing short of impressive, especially when you consider that since December 30, four of the seven victories have come on the road. In fact, up to this point in the season, the Little Giants bolster an 8-1 record on the road (only loss to Marietta College, who was #3 in the nation), while they are 6-2 at Chadwick Court. In what will make the Little Giants and greater Wabash community excited, the next three games for the team are slated to be played at home. This is before a determinative conference matchup at Wooster on February 12.

Amidst the winning streak, the biggest storyline is Davidson, who has continued to scorch the NCAC on his way to another NCAC Player of the Year selection. Along with garnering national attention for the Bevo Francis Award - Top Small College Basketball Player once again (currently on the top-100 watchlist). However, compared to recent years, the scoring generated by Davidson does not necessarily dictate the outcome of a game.

Against Wittenberg (on January 26), Davidson scored 14 points, while others made the difference. Not only did this game show the offensive depth of the Little Giant squad, but it provided a glimpse of what this team is capable of heading into the playoffs. In the same game, Schreiber knotted a double-double, with Jones and Watson almost reaching the 20-point mark - at 19 and 18, respectively. Not looking too far ahead, but for the conference playoffs (and maybe even past that), secondary



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

With 9:10 left in the second half in this past weekend's matchup against Wooster, Jack Davidson '22 broke Josh Estelle's '00 program record of 2065 points. The Little Giants are poised to host NCAC playoff play for the first time in decades.

or even tertiary players need to make significant contributions for this team to reap success beyond the regular season.

The Little Giants' latest game against Wooster showcased the top-end talent that this team possesses, in addition to what worked against an opponent who will prove difficult to beat come postseason time. While the Little Giants are at a disadvantage to most teams in the frontcourt, especially against Wooster (33-37), they more than made it up with having a +4 advantage in the turnover battle. Highlighted throughout the season, but mainly as of late, the key to Wabash victory has come through a

relentless offensive attack and forcing enough mistakes from the opponent to secure wins. Also, in this game, the Little Giants enjoyed a 28-point performance from Jones, who only made one three-pointer. Jones offers an alternative to Davidson against teams who prioritize stopping Davidson. Jones' ability to shoot from deep and score in the interior will only become more demanded against better defenses.

As the Little Giants keep winning, their positioning on the national level continues to grow. Although the team has not cracked the top-25, they are positioned for increased

attention. Having played two fewer games than Wooster and Ohio Wesleyan in NCAC play, the Little Giants look to the last three games as must-wins if they hope to secure the #1 seed. In a week, the Little Giants will line up across Wooster (#2 in the NCAC), which could prove to be the difference between the Little Giants having to win on the road to secure the NCAC championship or hosting at Chadwick.

The team concludes their regular season with the aforementioned Wooster, a trip down to Greencastle against DePauw, and the final game being played at home against Kenyon on February 19.

Tennis Kickoffs Season

The Pursuit of Becoming 1% Better Every Day



@WABASHTENNIS / TWITTER

Wabash Tennis pictured at the Hidden Duels Meet last September. The team includes players Liam Grennon '24 & Cole Borden who are coming off of All-NCAC seasons. Along with newcomers, like Alvaro Alonso-Sanchez '23 & Jett Brownlee '25, who show to be regulars in this season's lineup.

SAM BENEDICT '25 | STAFF WRITER • The Wabash College tennis team kicks off their season at home on February 5th, playing a double-header against Rose Hulman and Millikin University. The Little Giants are optimistic after coming off of a 4-12 season in Coach Bickett's 2nd year as the head coach, improving from their winless 2020 season.

Chris Zimmerman '25 describes the team's mantra as "getting 1% better each and every day." Zimmerman went on to describe the team as being a "confident group with lots of depth. Our offseason has shown the hardworking attitude that's rubbed off on myself and other new members of the team."

"Coming into an established program my freshman year and now my third year into a program putting the pieces together, I do not take for granted the insight and comfortability I have on the court and with my teammates," said Reed Mathis '22. "Although we are still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, I find that the combination of our determination to get better as not only tennis players but as a team is what stands out the most from my three previous years on the team."

Last season, the Little Giants saw Liam Grennon '24 and Cole Borden '24 earn West Division All-NCAC honors as a doubles team

along with Borden being an All-NCAA Singles player. The team believes that they will continue their upward climb, hoping to be competitive come playoff time on April 23rd.

The team will play a competitive non-conference schedule from February 5th-March 27th. Their non-conference schedule includes home matches against Manchester University, Capital University, Greenville University, and Franklin College followed by away matches against Illinois Institute of Technology, Adrian College, Trine University, and Hanover College. Most of these matchups will be against familiar foes.

"Being a multiple-time Captain as an underclassman and being part of this program's rebuild since day one are factors that always dictate how I approach my place on the team," said Mathis. "I am thrilled for the newcomers on the team, and I am intrigued to see how the team continues to grow and overcome obstacles in a season with added internal pressure. We must translate our success and work in practice and the weight room into success on match days."

Following their non-conference schedule, the Little Giants will take on NCAC opponents: The College of Wooster, Ohio Wesleyan University, Denison University, Kenyon College, Depauw University, and Wittenberg University.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Alonso-Sanchez about to strike a backhand. The team opens up with several back-to-back weekends of competition, which will prepare them for conference play.

Volleyball March Ahead

Starting the Season 2-2, the Little Giants Set Sights on First Home Match



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Ryan Bowerman's second year as Coach of Wabash Volleyball includes a healthy mix of returning players and newcomers, like Zachary Small '25 & Jackson Leeper '25.

MATTHEW FRANZ '25 | STAFF WRITER • After a tough first season last year, the Little Giant's volleyball team finished 2-14. The team faced many challenges including injuries, transfers, and a major coaching change.

This year, Wabash volleyball is looking to change things. Starting off with a 2-2 record, the Little Giants have swept both of their wins against Maranatha Baptist and Millikin University. Facing off against Maranatha Baptist on Saturday, the Little Giants secured a 3-0 victory with scores of 25-17, 25-9 & 25-9. Sophomore Ricky Sessions finished the match with 9 kills,

while Freshman Luis Rivera recorded 13 digs.

This Tuesday, the Little Giants again won 3-0 with set scores of 25-19, 25-15, & 25-16. Sessions again led the team with 10 kills, while Sophomores Luke Davis and Carson Meadors both had 7 each. Freshman Jackson Leeper finished the night with 5 blocks, while Freshman Zach Small led the team with 3 aces.

Wabash took a close loss in their opening match against St. Norbert's College. In their second match against Marian University, a top team in the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference (NACC), they were able to pick up

a set before losing in 4 sets.

The team has made leaps and bounds since last year. "I think we all wanted to just show how hard we had been working in practice," said Luis Rivera '25. "We had been practicing for so long and had faced so much adversity due to COVID-19. I think we all played well as a team. We played some tough, more experienced teams, but we played with tenacity and grit and showed we will not go down without a fight."

The success of the team do not merely rely on a few, but everyone doing their part in ensuring the young Little Giant volleyball team continues to improve practice-by-

practice, match-by-match.

"Our captains Evan Nichols and Carson Meadors do a really great job of keeping us positive and looking in the right direction," said Rivera.

Wabash will face the #2 ranked team in the nation, Dominican University next Tuesday at 8:00pm CST. Dominican comes off an NCAA Division III Final Four National Championship appearance, and just beat Carthage College, the defending national champions in a thrilling 5-set match.

The Little Giants are set to play their first home match at Chadwick court on Friday, February 11th, at 7pm EST.