

FEBRUARY 18, 2022

Forecasting Possible Shifts in COVID-19 Policy on Campus



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

As the Fall 2021 semester went on, the College lifted COVID restrictions regarding masks and social distancing, making it possible to pack the stands for the Monon Bell Game. As this Spring 2022 semester drws on, the College has been reticent to lift those guidelines, but due to low COVID numbers on campus, the administration seems poised to make that same move again.

REED MATHIS '22 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
• Almost two months into the new year, daily life at Wabash continues to the shadow of COVID-19 present. However, the mask-wearing policies and protocols relayed by President Feller and the Healthy Student Campus Task Force are tempered compared to what the campus has seen for much of the last two-and-a-half years.
While other institutions are buckling down and facing their own COVID surges and uptick in testing, Wabash has seen relative success thus far into the semester. The developments are starting to lead to conversations about a campus environment that has not been present for a considerable time.
Three weeks away from spring break and almost three years from the initial wave of hitting the United States, students, and the Wabash community, alike are itching for a move away from masks and indoor

restrictions.
At the same time, the success in curbing breakout cases this far into the semester is not a coincidence. "I do think a lot of people have changed their behavior, students and staff. In the past, we'd just come to work sick and it was never a great idea," said the College's Head Nurse, Chris Amidon. "I hope that's the one thing that COVID instills in us that's a long-lasting effect."
Even in communities near Crawfordsville, different institutions are still seeing backsliding when shifting towards looser restrictions for students and community members. As of February 14, DePauw University still requires N-95 masks for all indoor areas and settings. Also, the 2022 Indiana Small Farm Conference, tabbed for March 3, is shifting to a virtual setting.
"Before the semester began, we were concerned that it was possible that we could

have large numbers of cases on campus once everyone was back. We even set up a second on campus isolation house in anticipation of a surge," said Dr. Ann Taylor, Senior Associate Dean of the College and Head of the Chemistry Department. "Indeed, other colleges in the GLCA saw this; Denison reported having more than 200 cases in a week, despite having a nearly 100% vaccinated campus ... [and] Wittenberg had virtual classes for the first couple of days (with students on campus) and tested everyone; they found a lot of positives."
The differing situations seen in the state of Indiana and other institutions in the GLCA do make one wonder about the determinative reasons why the Wabash community is performing better. Even more impressive with the comparatively high risk that COVID-19 still presents to Montgomery County - New York Times still has the county at an "extremely high" area for unvaccinated individuals.

"I cannot imagine why we have such low case numbers compared to peer institutions, particularly those that required the vaccine. Having a highly-vaccinated campus is definitely helping, but it's hard to know what else is going on," said Amidon.

"... A highly-vaccinated campus is definitely helping, but it's hard to know what else is going on."
-Nurse Chris Amidon

While that might be true, the possibility of positive cases going undiagnosed or recorded remains possible. However, recent COVID cases at the local and state level suggest another possibility.

Chapel Features MXI Leaders



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

MXI Leaders Kenny Coleman '22, Jackson Clayborn-Smith '22, and Allen Johnson Jr. '23 spoke at chapel last week in their talk, "F.or U.s B.y U.s (FUBU)." Throughout the talk, members of the Malcolm X Institute held up potraits of Black leaders (left to right) John Cuffey, William Leidesdorff, Malcolm X, Katherine Johnson, Stephen Smith, and Gladys West. The MXI is hosting events all February to celebrate Black History Month.

Wabash Reconsidering COVID, Continued

“We had lots of cases from Dec. 26 until a few weeks ago, consistent with the Omicron surge, and in the last two weeks (knock on wood), we’ve only had one diagnosed case of COVID,” said Amidon.

Over the last month or so, the surges throughout Indiana with the Omicron-variant have significantly decreased. Coupled with the cautious, calculated approach administered by the College, the campus is in store for a period of relaxed COVID-policies. “I think the protective measures are going to lighten up significantly in the coming weeks; we’ve been following the science all along, and Pres. Feller is working closely with the Student Health team to do that safely,” said Amidon.

While the next couple of weeks do not offer much variance or opportunity for students to be exposed at a higher rate than usual, the beginning of March with spring break and the return to classes will remain at the top of mind for professors and the College, alike. “Wabash is a bit of a bubble, we are not a closed system, and the surrounding community is a factor too. The key to being able to take off masks is being

willing to put them back on when conditions merit it,” said Taylor.

“I think the protective measures are going to lighten up in the coming weeks . . . ”

-Nurse Chris Amidon

As the Wabash community knows, COVID-19 is synonymous with the unpredictable, so going back or moving forward from protocols is never a close and shut ordeal. “Kenyon is having a spike as we speak—They’ve had 86 cases in the last two days. So knock on wood, we’re doing comparatively well. But as the Kenyon case illustrates, that luck can turn quickly, especially if individuals ignore mild symptoms and don’t get tested, leading to spread,” said Taylor.

Shifts back to normalcy are in place, but that does not mean to expect our shields and individual responsibilities in combatting COVID-19 to be gone. “Testing will not ease up—the NCAA requires the handful of “exempt” individuals to be tested 3x/week, and we’ll still test anyone who reports any symptoms,” said Amidon. “That’s key to having an early identification system, and



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Wabash men have adapted to the changing rules regarding COVID-19 and masks.

the only way we can try to keep things as close to normal as possible for the rest of the semester.”

Progress is being made, and while the threat is not gone, there is a reason

for optimism heading into spring break. Individual responsibility and being your brother’s keeper are still necessary for the Wabash community to continue making strides toward a new normal.

Lilly Scholar Weekend Brings Talent to Campus



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

During Lilly Scholar Weekend, candidates for the Lilly Scholarship go through a rigorous academic process to prove that they “show high potential and future promise” and “are likely to have an impact not only on Wabash, but on their community and thus on our world.”

SAM BENEDICT ’25 | STAFF WRITER
• On February 20th and 21st, 18 high school seniors from across the country will arrive at Wabash College to compete in the Lilly Scholarship contest. These finalists have gone through a rigorous application process that considered extracurricular involvement, leadership, and academic success. In order to apply, applicants had to have either a 3.5 GPA, 1240 SAT, 26 ACT or finish in the top 10% of their class. The initial application asks students to write about 3-4 things that they are proud of. Topics include: charities they’ve started, involvement in their church, etc. Finally, students are given the mission statement of the College, “Wabash College educates men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely” and are asked to write about a situation in which they have demonstrated the mission statement in their community. Julia Wells, Associate Director of Admissions and head of the Lilly Scholarship Program, said, “We are looking for leaders. People that are dedicated to their community and

are well rounded, who have separated themselves from their peers.” The finalists will compete for an opportunity to be awarded a full ride scholarship covering all four years at Wabash College.

The Lilly Scholarship has been active since 1974 and is a prestigious honor that students take pride in. With that honor does come responsibility that the scholars recognize. Former award recipient Nathanael Mertz 24’ said, “When I found out that I had been chosen to be a Lilly Scholar, I was ecstatic. It’s truly a great honor and a life changing opportunity. As a winner, I feel like I have a responsibility to give back to Wabash in every way I can. It’s rare to come out of college without any debt and I owe that to Wabash.”

While on campus, students will participate in various academic activities and engage with faculty, students, and alumni. Wells said, “They come on Sunday night and they have dinner together with the committee and their fellow finalists. The event really starts on Monday where they have a

30 minute interview with two alumni and two faculty members. Then, in the afternoon, they participate in a class discussion with a reading that is previously assigned to them.” However, the event isn’t solely focused on the competitive aspects of the weekend. Students are given an opportunity to tour living units, sit in on classes, meet with coaches, engage with clubs of interest to them, and do anything else that they want to explore. Wells said, “They make connections with the classroom, with the professors, and the students, and really see if Wabash is a good fit for them.”

Caleb Everson, finalist for this year’s scholarship, said, “I am ecstatic. Of course, there are nerves, but I am more so just super excited for the weekend. I am so thankful to be given even just a chance at such an amazing opportunity. It’s an honor to be selected as a finalist in such a great pool of students.” When asked about what he is most looking forward to, Everson said, “I am most looking forward to being back on campus in general. I loved the feel of

the classroom during Scarlet Honors Weekend, and I am happy to experience it again. I am also looking forward to staying with other students. I am staying at the Fiji house, just like I did at Scarlet Honors, and everyone made me feel so welcome, so I am excited I get to see them again. Obviously, I hope to leave as a winner, but I’m just excited to have the experience.”

Regardless of the outcome of the award, finalists will be able to get a firsthand experience of the culture at Wabash and hopefully solidify their decision to attend next fall. Historically, 50-60% of Lilly Finalists end up attending Wabash. Wells said, “There’s a bond with the Lilly guys that come during those two days. So they really learn that ‘Wabash is a great place for my high academics.’ The quality of the student that also comes to Wabash and their commitment to high academics is important. They see that in each other and then see that in the classroom and in the other people that they meet throughout their day. They find their community.”



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

The Lilly Scholarship recognizes the Eli Lilly and his family. The Lilly Award covers tuition, costs, and fees for all four years of the Wabash experience. Prospective students go beyond competing for the award and get to know Wabash’s culture.

IAWM

The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men

There’s No Place Like Home...



wabash.edu/alumni/ra/indy

@IndyWabash

Letter to the Editor: Pay Attention, Wabash. You’re Part of History (Maybe) Jim Amidon ’87, Director of Strategic Communications

Chris and I have gone to maybe seven restaurants – total – over the last two years, trying to be vigilant in the face of COVID-19 and reducing the risk that one or both of us get knocked down by the virus. Yet we do like to watch Wabash student-athletes perform, so we mask-up and cheer on the Little Giants when our schedules permit. The five-game homestand by the basketball team provided an amazing opportunity to shake off the winter blahs, stretch our vocal cords, and cheer on these young men we’ve watched develop into one of the finest teams in our college’s rich history. To no surprise, Chadwick was rocking when Wabash blew out DePauw on a Wednesday night in January, and it was a thrill to watch Jack Davidson ’22 become only the second player in Wabash history to score 2,000 points. February rolled in and the long winning streak continued. Jack shot down the all-

time scoring record, Kellen Schreiber ’22 reached 1,000 career points, and Tyler Watson ’22 set the single-game record for most assists. Tyler’s record came in the second of the back-to-back, blizzard-postponed games against Allegheny and Hiram a couple of weekends ago. Perched in the crow’s nest at the end of the court, several members of the faculty and staff cheered every time Tyler made another brilliant pass –12, 13, 14! It was amazing team basketball – the best we’ve seen in two decades – from ten players Coach Brum routinely uses. After the Hiram game, Chris and I were talking about how surprised we were that more students hadn’t turned out for the weekend’s games during this never-ending winter. We figured that maybe a lot of guys went home to do laundry. Or whatever. But the following Wednesday – when Wabash ended the home stand by beating

a really good Ohio Wesleyan team – the student section was the smallest we’d seen since the dannies were here. We Hoosiers, whether native-born or adopted, know good basketball when we see it. So, where was everybody? Studying? Couldn’t give up 90 minutes to jump up and down, cheer on a great team, and blow off stress? Lord knows there’s plenty of stress to blow off this year! Wabash closes the season at home Saturday on Senior Day when the Little Giants host Kenyon. I hope we pack Chadwick Court to pay tribute to one of the finest group of seniors EVER assembled at Wabash – three 1,000-point-plus scorers and Jack Hegwood ’22, who is the most positive, supportive, and funny player on the bench. As one of the greybeards around campus, I can say – historically – that these kinds of basketball seasons don’t happen very often. The last time Wabash won a conference title was during the

1997-98 season; *the Jacks, Tyler, and Kellen weren’t even born!* None of our opponents in the old ICAC of that era ever wanted to play at Chadwick because our student sections were so big and so loud. And it was even louder when Wabash hosted the ’98 tourney and played incredible basketball to win the championship. Emeritus Coach Mac Petty tells me that the 1982 national quarterfinal against Augustana was the loudest Chadwick Court has ever been. I would argue that our students broke a few decibel meters during the ’97-’98 ICAC tourney and first round NCAA tournament games. Wabash, if you pay attention in the next week, more basketball history will be written into our legend. Better yet, put on something red or white and come to Chadwick to be part of that history. You can reply to this column at amidonj@wabash.edu

So, What Are You Doing After Wabash?



Latham Davies ’22

Reply to this editorial at lldavies22@wabash.edu

An ode to the seniors getting ready to raise the sails on the next voyage of life toward perhaps a familiar or strange destination in a new mode. It might be the first time in 18 years where we won’t be in some form of school. It’s both exciting and scary to imagine. The chaos of the economy lies before us. Hopefully, equipped with our college degree, we have gained the skills to inhabit the “workforce.” Lately, I have been reflecting on a lot of the work experiences from past lives trying to derive a potential next step from being a college student to someone who actually stimulates the economy. In being on the hunt, I’ve felt quite fortunate to have had a wide range of work experiences. I personally have had many

jobs, the majority of which were out of convenient openings, recommendations, attempts at resume building, but much of the mortar between them was scheming to make a buck. And each step of the way, there have been experiences that have solidified what I will and will not do for work. A song lyric by the folk artist Dan Reeder from his song “Troubled Soul” comes to mind,

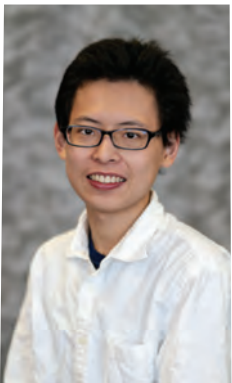
“The hard ways all hurt your back and tend
To cost more time than you’re willing to spend
Make you feel like you’ve been robbed in the end
You think, ‘I wish I never had to do that again.’”

That feeling of over-excursion and stress is probably familiar to many of us, and sometimes it’s not our choice with things like school. But when it is our choice in terms of our livelihood, how do we maximize that time and cultivate success, money, and vertical mobility? Well, luckily, there will be fewer stressful days self-imposed the more freedom and control you have. Having to settle for an opportunity strictly out of convenience and then not enjoying it because of extraneous circumstances like a bad boss or too many short notice deadlines shouldn’t come as a

surprise. But feeling like it’s not working toward anything is the ultimate waste of time. A huge retrospective that I must remind myself of is how much opportunity there is out there. At Wabash, it becomes a sort of echo chamber at times where you hear about people going to medical, law, or graduate school all in their pursuit of a rigorous career. But what if those things aren’t afforded to you? Perhaps you don’t have enough money for more schooling, debt unsettles you, or you can’t see yourself becoming a doctor, esquire, or master in something just yet. That’s normal. Something that is serially discounted are the options that don’t fit into the conventional mold. Working for a family friend or discovering a trade on your own time can be a gateway toward a corner of a market you never knew was there, a fun microcosm that really fascinates you, or simply something that is lucrative during a liminal period. What may lead you to those opportunities is to avoid doing what everyone else is doing. Do something unique. I learned how to fix bicycles. Sure, it’s not motorcycles or cars. Sure, it’s mostly working on people’s junk most of the time. But the resources to do it were readily available online, the tools were inexpensive, and there were people willing to pay me to do it as a freelancer, a rando. Additionally, something that is

automatically seen as regressive is getting a job that you could otherwise get if you didn’t have a degree. Being an apprentice is the first thing that comes to mind. Apprenticeships sound like something that died with the first World War, but one would be surprised at the amount of them that are still out there. The federal government has a webpage for available apprenticeships in trades and advanced certification across the country (www.apprenticeship.gov). First thing that came up when I looked at Indianapolis was working for Cummins, a company that will pay for anyone to get an applied science degree in Diesel Engines and pay you \$40k a year while you do. There are more opportunities like this the more you look and it’s a foot in the door kind of deal. If you can get in front of them, the Wabash wizardry will more than likely do its magic. I really believe that. All to say, if you’re like me, sometimes you feel like you’re approaching a dead end, like it will be a long and grueling way to your career, or you feel like you’re going to have to settle for menial work to keep yourself afloat, know that you have options. They are around every corner and may require more involvement than any job description, but they are very real, cash in hand, self-starter, and ready for you. You just have to be there. As the saying goes, 50% of a job is showing up.

Io Sono Io – I Am Io



Io Maeda ’24

Reply to this editorial at imaeda24@wabash.edu

To begin with, I do not think there is anyone else on this campus like me. I am the bisexual Japanese violinist. These three short words are good enough to describe who I am. I used to suffer from a sense of inferiority and insecurity, but I am fine now as I genuinely accept myself. Pursuing Music demands plenty of time to be alone. Although I am a first violinist of the Wabash College Chamber Orchestra, I practice alone a lot to prepare to participate in the weekly orchestra practice. The orchestra is not teamwork. No one can help me whenever I fail while I am playing. It is my personal responsibility not to disturb the entire harmony. Also, I suffered a lot being Japanese on this campus. Besides the generous scholarship, another reason why I chose to come to Wabash is because of the interview with an admission office staff. He told me that there had been no Japanese students for more than ten years. That made me interested because I thought I would be very special! D***** university was my second choice (Oops!). I was interested in their program because the students can study music and the liberal arts at the same time. I thought I would be safe when an admission office staff told me that there are fifteen Japanese students on their campus.

Wabash or D*****? This was a tough decision for me. I had to decide without having campus visits due to the pandemic. However, I chose Wabash. I wanted to make my studying abroad experience meaningful by having a bash at anything. And how has it been going? It is tough... Everyone asks me often whether I like sushi or anime whenever I introduce myself and say that I come from Japan (or even doing a peculiar deep bow...). Identifying myself as bisexual was the hardest thing to accept. Japan is farther behind in terms of promoting LGBTQ+. For example, Japan’s Liberal Democratic Party, the ruling party, shelved the LGBTQ+ bill due to the conservative factions’ opposition last year. One of their arguments was that it can result in people having less children. I could not even have time to comment when I read the news. Is Japan really one of the G7 (Group of Seven) countries? My school was much worse. I had gone to a conservative Christian international school for 12 years. I regret that I kept going even though I did not want to. My parents persuaded me to go because it will bring huge benefits in the future since it is an “international school.” However, I hated going to a “Christian school”, but I had no idea to refuse going to school because I was well known as a good student. I did not want to hurt my reputation. All of the staff and teachers were Christians, but some of them were crazy. For example, my second grade homeroom teacher strongly refuted Shintoism, which means he denied the existence of the Emperor of Japan. Aren’t you Japanese? Another example is a physical education teacher who always favored female students. And what was the result? He was the teacher who received the most chocolate on Valentine’s Day! And what the male students thought about? Many of them really hated him!

I hated him for different reasons. He always said to male students “Otokodaro! (You are male!)” I really hated that because unlike other boys, I do not have a strong body as I have arrhythmia. Without knowing that, he always condemned me “Funyafunya suruna! (Don’t be limp!)” I am glad that I do not have to take any PE class at Wabash because of this trauma. The worst person was the president of the school. One time for the sex education, he comically talked that his first son was born because the condom broke during their honeymoon. He was lucky because there were only male students in the room. I cannot imagine what would have happened if his wife had heard about it.... Also, one of his outlandish theories was about women who identified as lesbian. He claimed that 90% of women who identify themselves as lesbian had an experience being raped, so that is why they are lesbian due to the trauma against men. Can you believe that!? I asked politely whether he had any evidence to prove. He said that it was common sense. Oh God, please help me...I could not oppose him furthermore because I was afraid that he would not write a recommendation letter for me if I made him angry. I confessed that I came out as bisexual when I was in 10th grade. Why did I do it? I just wanted to change the school environment since I was so stressed about the lack of understanding against LGBTQ+. However, many students started to mock me as a “gay”. I was so confused. You think having a crush on boys is a weird thing, but no problem in girls? What made me so often irked was that they looked at me whenever they heard words sounded like “gay” such as “geijyutsu (art)”. So what? Do you guys know that “gay” actually means “lighthearted and carefree”? Listen “I Wonder” from Disney’s Sleeping Beauty (1959) - “I wonder why these / Little

birds has someone / To sing to, sweet things to / A gay little love melody”. Or “I feel pretty” from West Side Story (1961 film) - “I feel pretty / Oh so pretty / I feel pretty and witty and gay”. I was humiliated when I decided to run as a Treasurer for the student government. One student said to me, “Why don’t you try to make the restroom for the handicapped people to be also used as the gender neutral restroom?” I was struck speechless by the insane remark. Although I was luckily chosen as the Treasurer, I could not do anything. Why? Because the PE teacher was the Supervisor for the student government! I am glad that I was able to escape from Japan during the pandemic. Wabash College is a much better place for me to live. That is why I do not go back to my hometown, but keep staying here even during the break. I miss Japanese food, but I do not miss my hometown. I think the College is trying to improve themselves more as they recently established the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. However, I do not think I will benefit from that. I have my own world. I spend most of my time in the Fine Arts Center (therefore, I “sleep” in Martindale, but I “live” in the FAC). I am not totally interested in participating in a Unity Walk. If I had time to walk, then I would study or practice. I do not want to do what everyone can do, but I want to be truly who I am through spending my time doing what I really want to do. Some people said that I am having a lonely college life, but I think that I am enjoying living in solitude. I tried to change myself by joining a party or having a movie night with other students. However, it did not work because those did not make me happy. Finally, I have realized that I, myself, should be my own best friend. I am who I am.

Wabash Welcomes the Year of The Tiger



COURTESY OF WABASH COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Cole Borden '24 (blue) learning how to use chopsticks at the Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration last Tuesday at the event in Detchon International Hall.

IO MAEDA '24 | STAFF WRITER •

The Chinese Club and the Asian Cultures Club hosted an event to celebrate Chinese Lunar New Year on Feb. 15 (Tue) in Detchon International Hall. This Tuesday was the last day of New Year's festivities, which is called the Lantern Festival or Shangyuan Festival. A great many people enjoyed playing the traditional games with prizes and eating refreshments.

Chinese Lunar New Year Day is known as the Spring Festival or Chunjié. It changes every year, unlike the Gregorian calendar, because their calendar is based on the moon's cycle. This year is February 1 (Friday), but the last year was February 12 (Tuesday). "For us, the Chinese Lunar New Year is still the most important celebration for the holiday [than January 1]," said Yao Li, an instructor of Chinese at Wabash College.

The Lunar New Year typically begins with the first new moon that occurs between the end of January and the beginning of February. The festival lasts 15 days from the first day of the lunar calendar until the full moon arrives. It is the important period for Chinese people to

get together with their families and friends in their hometown after staying away for a long time.

"You want the whole family to come back together and then you know, just catching up after a year or kind of a long period of time, and then really enjoying the moment to be together," Professor Li said.

Each year in the Lunar calendar is represented by one of 12 zodiac animals. This year is the tiger. "The year of the tiger is considered to be strong, always being energetic and vibrant, not easily giving up. And then, you want to really take advantage of those traits," she said.

This year's theme for the event was "The Temple Fair" or Miaohui. It is kind of a Chinese Christmas Market held by local temples during the Lunar New Year. She chose the theme because it is one of her favorite childhood memories that she spent time with her family. "Temple fair is something that I consider from the very base or bottom of the whole society, just like us as very common people trying to experience some feeling of the celebration," she said.

Unfortunately, she has not been able to celebrate it in Beijing, her hometown, with her family since 2015 after coming to the U.S. Moreover, the clubs were not able to host the event last year due to the pandemic restrictions.

However, she has always overcome difficulties by her flexibility. Instead of having an in-person event, she held a poetry contest last year, during the year of the ox. "I never want to get the same theme because I always want to introduce something new or interesting but also from my own or our own culture to the community here," she said. "But at the same time, I also want to be kind of creative and localized in a good way."

She was delighted to see many international students and the American students at the event. "Culture is really something that you cannot hold in your hand or attach to it. It is the influences, always, gradually kind of accumulated there," she said. "While they were participating in the games, it was also the immersion trip, so called at Wabah in Crawfordsville, Indiana. Their hearts were already taken by me and I took them to travel

a bit back to Beijing."

Richard Pan '24 also took the leadership as the president of the Asian Cultures Club. He thought that the event ended with huge success that he had never experienced before. "Like normally, we just do cultural foods and just tell people a little history about whatever Asian culture we decided to do on the run," Pan said. "But today, it was more like an activity type thing, a cultural activity very few well, and I really enjoyed that. It was fun and very interactive, which was nice."

It was also a great experience for him as a Chinese American. "I myself have learned this as well because I did not do it as a child because I grew up here in Crawfordsville Indiana," he said. "I guess I basically just take away, just learn and also get to interact with Chinese culture."

He thought the event brought awareness of the Asian community on this campus, also as a committee member of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. "I saw people from all sorts of fraternity houses, all just from anywhere," he said. "They just seem interested in the temple fair. It really brought people together."

Love '22 Looks to Finish Out Strong



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

James Love III '22 speaking during Malcom Luther King Day his junior year.

ZACH ALVARADO '23 | STAFF WRITER

In honor of one of campus's current seniors, who keeps us caffeinated late into the night, James Love III '22 is a person that this campus will miss in just a few short months. A member of both the Malcolm X Institute and shOUT, we can safely say Love has made an impact on every organization he has been a part of during his four years here at Wabash. Love, a brother of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, will be graduating this year as an art major with a minor in English. Within the art department, Love has continually brought his own personality and creativity into many mediums, working specifically with acrylics and canvas. His work will be on display during the senior art show from April 15 to May 15.

You might have seen Love working the late night shift at the 1832 Brew before. He can often be found jamming out to some good tunes and cracking jokes while keeping fellow students sufficiently

caffeinated. He said that, "he puts love into each of his drinks which is why they taste so good", and if you haven't had a drink made by him yet then get one before he graduates. Being a barista for four years has given him the ability to be everyone's friend with the added benefit of being 'real' with everyone. In other words, Love doesn't care who is across the counter because he will say what is on his mind. Depending on his mood he'll either destroy your self-esteem or praise you with compliments if you deserve it. Unfortunately, despite all the faces that Love comes across in his fraternity, at his job, and in his clubs he has learned that not everyone will be his friend.

You may have heard him in one of his four, soon to be five, Chapel Talks that he has given which is quite possibly more than any other current student. These talks have been in collaboration with his membership with the Malcolm X Institute and shOUT and are a testament to the power that his

voice has. He continues to bring attention to very real issues he has experienced as a student, and is never afraid to speak his mind. In his last Chapel Talk with 'shOUT, Love improvised his speech, giving a short but powerful account of his own journey with self identity and learning self love. His ability to unapologetically be his authentic self, even on some of the biggest stages, is often what draws people to him and makes his words so powerful.

Love has seen firsthand the homophobia and racism that happens around Wabash and has become quite acquainted with calling it out when he sees it. Despite the struggles he faces on a day to day basis as an openly gay black man, Love continues to throw himself into everything he does with kindness first. From serving drinks with a smile to being there for his fraternity brothers, he continues to be true to himself. With this perspective, Love has learned to really empathize with other students and seeing the suffering of others hurts him. This is a part of the reason why in the years to come past his graduation, Love hopes to see the Malcolm X Institute and shOUT thrive on campus and to finally see Wabash accept trans students. The criticisms that both of those organizations receive are nothing short of ignorance. "We can only call students 'men' when they finally accept themselves and those around them, those who spread hatred and ignorance will be known as 'boys'," said

Love. He knows that his own experiences are something he can be proud of, and he wants to share his unique experiences with friends to learn some of the lessons he has learned over his time at Wabash.

Love reflects on his time and regrets nothing, in fact he did a lot more than he expected during his time on campus. When he can find the time, he loves to write poetry and draw, finding them both a good way to curb his depression that most twenty-somethings have by now. When asked what advice he'd like to give to incoming freshmen it is to, "just breathe". According to Love, "Wabash wasn't nearly as hard as everyone made it out to be," which allowed him to enjoy his time here the best he could. There are a lot of people that James could thank for getting him through four years of college, but he wanted to thank K'tren Wilson '24 for being the only one on campus who can match his energy in all the best ways. If you want to thank James before he graduates then tip him extra or buy him his favorite drink, a hot raspberry mocha. As Love gets ready for a world that isn't ready for him he wants to say, "If I got the campus to know my name then I want the world to know my name in the best way possible." Love has done all that he could during his time here and is an example of what Wabash can offer its students for those who take risks and try something new.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Love '22 during the Glee Club Trip to Taiwan in May of 2019.

Adventure Awaits: The 39 Steps



COURTESY OF SARVIK CHAUDHARY '25

Logan Weilbaker '25 (right) Emilie Prince (middle) and Luke Fincher '24 (left) during a rehearsal this past week. The production is set for opening night next Wednesday, February 23 and run until Saturday, February 26.

SARVIK CHAUDHARY '25 | STAFF WRITER • The theater has played a huge role in bringing up the spirits of the Wabash Community as we try to get through all the stress of homework and papers. Once again, the Theater Department is bringing a hilarious play, *The 39 Steps*, to Wabash.

The *39 Steps*, is a play adapted by Patrick Barlow, who was inspired by Alfred Hitchcock's movie by the same name. A cast of four actors plays over 150 characters in this fast-paced tale of an ordinary man on an extraordinarily entertaining adventure. "[Barlow] always had a love for things like Monty Python, and Hitchcock," said Rob Johansen, the director of the play. "And he took them both, and kind of smashed them together."

Johansen said that he has always been a fan of taking two styles and blending them to see what you can get. He thinks that this was the perfect play to bring to Wabash at this time, as "it's a style that is in my wheelhouse. I'm so grateful that Wabash wanted me to teach here," said Johansen. "One of the things that they wanted me to teach was my strengths: comedy, farce, and physical comedy. And we thought this play would be a great vehicle for those things. And those are elements that Wabash students may not always get with other shows. It's a very particular style.

It's very physical. It's very rigorous. And I think it's phenomenal training for an actor."

"This show is a particularly challenging one. Because not only is it very physically demanding, but there are also only four actors. And so all of us always have to be on our A-game 100% of the time, so that we can deliver a show that's top quality," said Logan Weilbaker '25, who played the lead role in last semester's play, *The Amateurs*. "Additionally, we haven't had a lot of time to prepare. So it has taken every ounce of energy that each one of the cast members has every day to make sure you're keeping your body physically healthy, your voice healthy, getting enough sleep, drinking enough water, and just taking care of yourself so that you can perform at the top of your game."

Drew Johannes '23, who was also in last semester's play and plays one of the two clowns in *The 39 Steps*, said this play is much different from other plays because of its fast pace. "We have half the time and it's very physical, and I'm sweating. Bricks, every practice," said Johannes. "I love the part I have. My experience with it has been fantastic. I love working with Rob and the cast."

For obvious reasons, Wabash usually has actors from other colleges close by to come here.

and do the female roles. Emilie Prince, a junior at DePauw College, who drives about sixty miles every day, just to come to rehearsals, will be playing the lead role for this play. "Wabash has a great theater department and it's so much fun to be on the inside of it, rather than just watching the shows. It's an honor because I feel great that even though I'm like an outsider, the cast and crew took me on to the team," said Prince.

The cast and crew of *The 39 Steps* had less than a month to get the entire production ready. "I'm playing three different characters. The clowns are playing countless characters. Logan is carrying the continuity through the whole show itself," said Prince. "So having to nail every single scene is definitely a challenge, but Rob is a great director and we've got a great team, so I'm not worried about it. I never felt like we weren't going to be ready. We all felt the timeline but I knew we were going to be ready. So it's exciting. We're almost there."

Luke Fincher '24 plays the role of one of the clowns and will be a part of a Wabash play for the first time. Luke is returning to the stage after almost two years, having done it last in his high school. "The cast was always way bigger at the high school, but things here are so much more fast-

paced. Like we would practice for a similar amount of time every day in high school and get a full show ready in like eight weeks," said Fincher. "And we have gotten to that same point that we would be about a week away from the show. Give it a day away from the show back in high school, right now, after three weeks of practice here at Wabash. And so it's cool to see the comparison between high school level and college level of acting just how much more streamlined everything is and how much everybody just works together."

"This place celebrates the lovely imperfection of theater and it celebrates the fact that we're always striving to do our absolute best. And sometimes when you are doing a high wire act, you might fall off that higher wire and you just pray there's going to be a net but we are doing a high wire act," said Johansen. "Don't be surprised if we stumble and fall a couple of times. But oftentimes it's in the falling. It's in the imperfection where the real beauty of theater, the creation comes out. Because you've got to invent your way out of a mistake. So I'm looking forward to our actors inventing their way out of things all day long."

The *39 Steps* will be performed in the Ball Theater from February 23-26, at 8.00 p.m. at Ball Theater. The tickets are available on the wabash.edu/boxoffice website.

Ramsey Archives

Frederick's First Chapel in 32 Years, Neither Black nor White

Adam Christensen
christea@wabashe.edu

During the introduction to Prof. Peter Frederick's Chapel yesterday, Sphinx Club President Scott Medsker said Frederick is a man who has "been there and done that." Entitled "On Being White During Black History Month," Frederick's speech discussed Black History Month, the progression of race relations since the 1970s and recent campus discussions involving race and color.

"You are different from your fathers," Frederick said to the audience. "You are much better than your fathers." Though he said he was worried recent campus race discussions took place via email in what he called "an impersonal means of conveying ideas, thoughts and feelings," Frederick voiced praise to the Wabash men for fostering open discussion on such delicate issues.

Still, Frederick was concerned many students on campus have yet to accept African American history as a "history for all of us." He told of a time when a student asked him why there exists a Malcolm X Institute on campus but

not an institute for white studies.

"The institute for whites, it's called campus," he said. Frederick further discussed the benefits whites enjoy for being white and said whites should not be guilty of that, but proud.

"Last time I checked we whites, especially white men, we're doing just fine," he said.

Regardless, Frederick said race relations at Wabash are far better than they were 30 years ago and are evidence of a successful social experiment that has taken place since 350 years of slavery and inequality dominated common American thought. What has replaced the thinking of old is a paradox on race's importance to American society.

"Race matters. Color matters," Frederick said, "and it doesn't." For Frederick there is a distinct difference between color consciousness and racism.

The talk marked Frederick's first Chapel in 32 years. In the early 1970s, Frederick proposed a motion to abolish mandatory Chapel, a motion that passed. Yesterday, he apologized for that motion.

"Here I am today making penance," he said.

ZACH ALVARADO '25 | STAFF WRITER • DC fans have been waiting quite a long time for a film release as exciting as "The Batman". It has been a long eight years since the last solo Batman film was released and a lot has happened since then in regards to superhero cinema. "The Batman" will feature some big changes, and is slated to be released on March 4. Robert Pattinson is cast as Bruce Wayne/Batman who some of us might remember for his main role in the "Twilight" saga. While that series has drawn criticism which has diminished this actors' notoriety, Pattinson is a much more skilled actor than he might be remembered as. In addition to this and much like anyone else in a superhero movie, Robert Pattinson has put on a significant amount of muscle which will no doubt come as a surprise to some viewers who only remember the scrawny vampire he once was. This should help to distinguish him for his former roles, and is what we Batman fans hope is a sign of his commitment to the part. In addition to this the film also features Zoe Kravitz as Catwoman who is meant to bring some much-needed levity to the dark film and believes in Pattinson's commitment to the role. Kravitz has been quoted as stating, "Rob is perfect for this role. He was incredible. His transformation was out of this world. [Director] Matt Reeves has a lot of heart, and he cares so much for these characters. I'm just very excited for him to be able to go on vacation because he deserves it. I hope the fans love it because we put a lot of work into this." This dynamic duo will be balancing each other as Catwoman will be flirty and sly and Batman far more brooding and mysterious per his usual custom.

"The Batman" takes place in the second year of Bruce Wayne as Batman which means he will still be learning and coming to

terms with his vigilante lifestyle. The film will be a thrilling murder mystery but also a story about personality as Bruce comes to terms with who is being helped and hurt by Batman. The film will be nothing like Christopher Nolan's gritty "Dark Knight" Trilogy but much more noir mystery and features Batman's detective prowess as he hunts down a recent serial killer in Gotham. This killer is none other than The Riddler who is the subject of many jokes among Batman's rogues gallery. The movie will be taking any past iterations of the character and turning them on their head as this one is on a killing spree throughout Gotham who only Batman can catch. Speaking of villains, The Penguin will also be featured in the film however lightly. There is also the matter of Gotham's Commissioner Gordon who is being played by Jeffery Wright. Finally, a Batman film isn't complete without his butler Alfred who is being played by Andy Serkis who has been a part of every movie franchise from Marvel to Star Wars.

With this diverse cast of characters, grappling story, and a runtime of nearly three hours plus credits hopefully the film will turn fans back towards DC's darker and more grounded stories that have been on display like in "The Joker". The film won't be connected to the DCEU so come with the same expectations that you had for "The Joker" which showed the best portrayal of the character in Joaquin Phoenix since Heath Ledger. It is rumored that Joaquin Phoenix's Joker will be making an appearance in the film and fans have their fingers crossed to see Batman and Joker on screen together again. The film is directed by Matt Reeves, who is best known for "Cloverfield" and the reboot of "Planet of the Apes" and will be in theaters March 4.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Reed Mathis • rwmathis22@wabash.edu
NEWS EDITOR
Jakob Goodwin • jmgoodwi23@wabash.edu
OPINION EDITOR
Alex Rotaru • arotaru22@wabash.edu
SPORTS EDITOR
Blake Largent • jblargen23@wabash.edu
CAVELIFE EDITOR
Liam Grennon • wkgrenno24@wabash.edu
PHOTO EDITOR
Jake Paige • jwpaige23@wabash.edu
ONLINE EDITOR
Jacob Maldonado • jimaldon24@wabash.edu
COPY EDITOR
Drew Bluethmann • dmblueth22@wabash.edu
MANAGING EDITOR
Alex Rotaru • arotaru22@wabash.edu

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

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

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

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

The Bachelor is printed every Thursday at the Purdue Exponent in West Lafayette. It is delivered freely to all students, faculty, and staff at Wabash College. All advertising published in the *Bachelor* is subject to an established rate card. *The Bachelor* reserves the right to deny requests for publication of advertisements. Student organizations of Wabash College may purchase advertisements at half the listed rate.

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

Indiana General Assembly Update



COURTESY OF LEO WEEKLY

The Indiana General Assembly is in a “short session,” where the biannual budget is not done. The IGA is taking up many divisive issues, including voting rights, gun rights, abortion, and critical race theory.

JAKOB GOODWIN '23 | NEWS EDITOR • Last week, we did a profile on the major pieces of legislation that are working their way through the two chambers of the Indiana General Assembly. From issues like abortion, transgendered youth participation in athletics, and gun rights, this session looks to be an incredibly contentious one.

This week, Indiana Senate Democrats and Republicans announced a successful amendment to Indiana HB 1134, a bill designed to combat critical race theory. The amendment was proposed by Republican Senator Linda Rogers, who had this to say about her proposed amendment, “The changes I am introducing may not be where we end up on all of these issues, but I am offering them as a good-faith attempt at a compromise that respects the valid concerns of both parents and educators,” Rogers said. “I appreciate the thoughtful discussions I’ve had with hundreds of interested parties on this bill, and I will remain open to input as the legislative process continues.”

One of the major issues with the previous version of that bill was that it required teachers to publish their curriculum well before the school year started so that parents could review it. This placed an incredible burden that many teachers viewed as practically impossible to meet. This amendment maintains the hopes for transparency, ensuring that parents would be able to review any material used in the classroom upon request, but does not force teachers into that timeframe.

Within the previous bill, parents could sue teachers and librarians for distributing divisive or disturbing content. Rather than allowing for legal action, the new version

allows parents to appeal to the Indiana Department of Education for executive action if they remain unsatisfied with the local school’s action.

The Indiana General Assembly went partially viral in the past few weeks for a comment by Republican Senator Scott Baldwin when he said that teachers ought to remain impartial on their subjects, including Nazism, Marxism, and fascism. The new version of this bill makes clear that teachers do not need to remain impartial on historical concepts, only on current political issues.

The new bill also streamlines and defines what it means by “divisive topics” that are banned. The bill says that teachers cannot teach that one group is inherently superior or inferior to another, that any one group should be treated adversely or preferentially, or that individuals, by virtue of their traits, like race and religion, are responsible for the past actions of people who shared the same traits.

Indiana HB 1134 looks to be in a much better place than it did late last week. While the bill had a chance of passing the Republican super-majority in the Indiana Senate, it faced stiff criticism that it was too extreme and hurt teachers. Some opponents of the original bill still oppose this version, finding that this law, on the whole, is unnecessary and is being used to target teachers teaching the ugly history of America. Many proponents of the original bill seem pleased with these changes, finding that this new version has a much better chance of passing and being signed by Governor Holcomb. In a legislative session rife with controversy, this amended version of the bill signals some bipartisanship in Indianapolis.

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

WE’D PREFER FOUR LETTER WORDS

Hi-Five to Wordle for being a grim sign of our lunacy. You know you’re in the sunken place when you find word games fun.

THE HOUSE ALWAYS WINS

Hi-Five to the LA Rams for winning the Super Bowl. Maybe this will finally teach Wabash men to never put money on the tigers, of any kind.

A WIN FOR HOLLYWOOD?

Lo-five Aaron Rodgers & Shailene Woodley for splitting up. We could make a ring joke here, but the look of him in blue & white is too good to disparage him yet.

SHOWING OFF THAT D***** EDUCATION

*Lo-five to the D***** commentators saying that Wabash students travelled light to a game with a set attendance. Rather than banning fans, the Dannies should probably focus on the fact they have not won a single sporting event against Wabash this year. Ding Ding.*

THIS MAN IS m.A.A.d

Lo-Five to Charlie Kirk for calling the halftime show “sexual anarchy”. If 50 Cent hanging upside down does it for him, then who are we to question it?

SPORTS

BASKETBALL: W. Wabash 104 W Wooster 89 Feb. 12	W. Wabash 103 D DePauw 83 Feb. 16	VOLLEYBALL: W. Wabash 1 H Hiram 3 Feb. 13	W. Wabash 0 W Wittenberg 3 Feb. 13	TENNIS: W. Wabash 3 R IIT 6 Feb. 12
--	---	---	--	---

Basketball Stays Hot

Little Giants Secure First NCAC Regular-Season Championship

ETHAN WALLACE '25 | STAFF WRITER • The seemingly unstoppable Wabash basketball team extended its winning streak to 16 this week by picking up two more wins against Wooster on Saturday and DePauw on Wednesday. With these two wins the team’s season record shifts to 20-3 with a 15-1 conference record.

The nationally-ranked Little Giants clenched first place in the NCAC with their victory over the Wooster Fighting Scots on Saturday. This is the first time in school history that Wabash has been the NCAC regular-season Champions.

This was a sound victory for the Little Giants. The score was close for the early part of the first half. But with about 8 minutes left in the half, Wabash went on a 13-1 scoring run to take a 30-18 lead. The team kept up the pressure and extended their lead to 15 points. The first half ended with Wabash leading 48-33.

The second half got off to a disastrous start. The Little Giants allowed Wooster to close the gap and get the game within two points. Fortunately the team got its act together and went on another massive run, outscoring the Fighting Scots 19-4 over the course of four minutes. This time Wabash held its lead, and eventually pushed it past twenty in the last minutes of the game. The game ended with the Little Giants ahead 97-75.

The real difference in this game came down to three point shooting. The Little Giants hit 18 threes as compared to Wooster’s 8. Another contributing factor was the teams’ performances at the free throw line. The Little Giants shot 93% from the charity stripe, going 13-14, while the Fighting Scots shot a dismal 41% hitting only 10-24.

One area where Wabash struggled during the game was in rebounding. This allowed Wooster to make their comeback early in the second half.

“We anticipated that they would make a run in the second half that they wouldn’t just roll over,” Kyle Brummett, Head Basketball Coach, said. “I mean they’re really big inside and are great rebounding teams. And that was one of the things that was bothering us to start the second half.”

Tyler Watson '22 led the team in scoring with 30 points, while adding 5 rebounds and 5 assists. This was enough to earn him NCAC player of the week. Edreece Redmond '24 was able to put up a season high 13 points.

Wednesday, Wabash basketball traveled to Greencastle to face DePauw for the second time this season. The game started with a shooting showcase by Davidson, who went 4-4 from beyond the arc to get the Little Giants’ first 12 points. After that the team slowed down



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Throughout the Little Giants 16-game winning streak, players like Edreece Redmond '24 (pictured) have stepped up to boost the offense to one of the premier forces in DIII basketball.

committing several uncharacteristic mistakes. The team missed a lot of shots, fouled too much, and turned the ball over 5 times in the first fifteen minutes. This allowed the Tigers to stay in the game. The game was tight for the entire first half with the Little Giants leading by 2 possessions for most of it. The half ended with Wabash ahead 36-32.

The second half was a different story. team was much more solid this half turning the ball over only twice in the whole half. Wabash controlled the game for the remainder of the half. The game ended with another Wabash victory. The final score was 81-72.

Davidson put up 26 points, getting 6 rebounds in the process. He was shooting lights out in the first half, and although he slowed down in the second half, he still shot 60% from three point range. Watson, who scored 20, did a fantastic job moving the ball around, and he led the team in assists with 8. Kellen Schreiber '22 did a great job of finding high percentage looks and went 4-4 from the field.

Looking to the future for Wabash basketball, the team will play its last regular season game at home on Saturday against Kenyon. Obviously, the big upcoming event is the NCAC

tournament. With this being the Little Giants’ first time winning the NCAC, this will also be the first time the tournament is hosted at Wabash.

Coach Brumett had this to say when asked about the impact of the Little Giants’ home crowd. “It does make such a big difference,” Brumett said. “And I think the majority of the players and coaches in our league would say that our home court is the toughest... It’s gonna be a big week next week and hosting on Tuesday and taking care of business and then having home games on Friday and Saturday. So we’re extremely excited to be playing.”

Tennis Falls Short v. IIT

After 0-2 Start, the Little Giants Hosts Manchester & Capital Tomorrow



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

The possibility of getting back to .500 (2-2) on the season is on the table with home match-ups against Manchester University and Capital University tomorrow. Cole Borden '24 & Alvaro Alonso-Sanchez '23 look to secure their first singles wins of the season at the #1 and #2 singles spots, respectively.

ANDREW DEVER '25 | STAFF WRITER • This past weekend, the Wabash Tennis team traveled to Chicago to face off against the Illinois Institute of Technology Scarlet Hawks for their first road trip of the season. Looking to bounce back from their narrow home defeat to Rose-Hulman from the previous week, the Little Giants unfortunately came up short again to the Illinois Institute of Technology by a final team score of 6-3 to move to 0-2 on the season.

In their second match of the Spring season, Wabash would fall behind early, coming out of doubles down 2- to the Scarlet Hawks. The match started off tight across all four courts, but some critical service breaks going against the Little Giants would mean an uphill battle trying to claw their way back into the doubles. Third doubles would fall first, with Elias Courter '24 and Chris Zimmerman '25 losing 8-2. Wabash would get back on the board, evening the score at 1-1 with sophomore doubles partners Liam Grennon '24 and Cole Borden '24 outlasting their opponents in an epic back and forth at one doubles, ultimately winning by a score

of 8-7 (7-3 in the tiebreaker). This was the second straight week that the pair triumphed in doubles, remaining perfect in doubles this season at the top slot. Unfortunately, the duo of Alvaro Alonso-Sanchez '23 and Jett Brownlee '25 would fall in a closely contested 6-8 battle at the second flight.

"I have been pleased so far through our first two doubles performances this year against two conference championship teams," said Bickett. "We are a young team and continue to learn and grow out there, but we are getting closer to where we want to be."

After the three doubles matches, the Illinois Institute of Technology would lead the Little Giants in the overall contest 2-1, setting up a tough battle for the Little Giants moving into singles.

The Little Giants struggled to get back into the contest in the singles portion of the competition, with only Grennon and Reed Mathis '22 capturing victories for Wabash on the day. Both Grennon and Mathis edged out their respective opponents in straight sets, but not without some struggle.

At six singles, Mathis edged out his opponent, Huy Ngo, 6-4, 6-3, to capture Wabash's first in singles win of the afternoon and Mathis' first victory of the season.

At three singles, Grennon took the first set in a tiebreaker over his opponent P Marroquin Borque. "I was serving for the set twice, once at 5-4 and once at 6-5 and he just came up with some really good shots to break me back," Grennon said. "I just focused on playing a lot of balls and weathering the storm and got it done in the tiebreaker." Grennon would take the tiebreaker and set set 7-6 (7-3 in the tiebreaker). Grennon then found some more rhythm on his own service game, closing out the match 7-6(3) 6-3. With his two victories on Saturday, Grennon remains perfect on the season and improved to an overall record of 4-0 this Spring. Despite Wabash losing the other four singles matches, Mathis' focused on the positive aspects of the Little Giants' success against Illinois Institute of Technology. "It was nice to see guys like Liam notch his second singles win of the season and Cole start off 2-0 in doubles... It is tough to lose

a close one... however, we are leaps and bounds more competitive and prepared for match play then we have ever been during my time here." Furthermore, Mathis held an optimistic tone for the upcoming matches in the schedule, saying that "I know the guys on the team are eager to secure our first team win of the season, and we expect nothing less than going 2-0 this upcoming weekend".

Looking forward, the Little Giants will be back home this weekend for a doubleheader against Manchester University and Capital University tomorrow. The first contest against Manchester University will commence at 9 a.m. while the match against Capital University will begin later that afternoon at 5 p.m. Both home matches will be played at the Collet Tennis Center. Additionally, the home stand will continue the following weekend with a doubleheader against Franklin College and Greenville University, on Saturday, February 26, before the Little Giants head to Hilton head, South Carolina to compete in an important tournament at Lake Forest College over Spring Break.

Volleyball Bears Setback

0-3 Weekend Sets Stage for Anticipated 2-Match Stretch at Home

ETHAN WALLCE '25 | STAFF WRITER • The Wabash volleyball team (2-3) played three matches over the weekend. The team lost all three, setting them on a four game losing streak. With these losses their season record has fallen to 2-6 with 0-1 conference record.

Friday the Little Giants played their home opener against the Illinois Institute of Technology Scarlet Hawks at Chadwick Court. Wabash played well during the match, but were unable to stop the Scarlet Hawks' powerful offense, and lost in three sets.

The Little Giants lost the first two sets 14-25 and 18-25. Late in the third set, down 20-24, the Little Giants mounted an impressive comeback. They managed to tie the set at 24 all. Zach Small '25 contributed greatly to the team's exciting comeback with several clutch serves. "Specifically in that third set, we were down, and it was just win or lose," Small said. "It didn't matter. We just wanted to fight and show the home crowd what we got. We weren't just gonna go out, we were gonna fight."

But despite their best efforts the team lost the set 29-31 on a put away shot by the Scarlet Hawks.

On Sunday, February 13, the team played two matches in a double-header at Wittenberg. The first match was against Hiram. The second matchup, against Wittenberg, was the team's first conference matchup of the season.

The first match against the Hiram College Terriers was a four set competition that resulted in a loss for the Little Giants. Hiram took the first set 15-25. Wabash bounced back to win the second set 25-20. Unfortunately the Little Giants struggled in the third set committing 8 errors and losing 13-25. The team performed better in the fourth and final set, but weren't able to stop the Terriers, losing 21-25.

The Little Giants lost in three competitive sets to the Wittenburg Tigers. In the first set the Little Giants did a great job of keeping up with the Tigers, getting to 21-21 before allowing a devastating four point run to end the set. The first set ended with a score of 21-25.

The second set was even closer.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Although on the midst of a 4-game losing streak, the Little Giants are eager for the chance to win two home matches against Mount St. Joseph later tonight and Wittenberg on Sunday.

Early in the set Wabash established a 4 point lead, but allowed the Tigers to tie the set up at 8-8. The teams went back and forth exchanging points until keeping the set within two points, until Wabash led 21-20. Unfortunately the team allowed Wittenberg to go on a four point run. The Little Giants were unable to recover and lost the set 23-25.

The Little Giants did slightly worse

in the third set losing 19-25. Once again the team was tied late in the set, 19-19 before allowing the Tigers to go on a set winning 6 point streak.

The difference in this game was due mostly to serving. The Wittenberg team got 6 aces with only 8 service errors, while the Little Giants only managed 1 ace with 12 service errors. This is a big difference in a match where Wittenberg only outscored

Wabash by a combined 12 points. Another big issue for the team was allowing the opponent to go on scoring runs late in the sets, something the team will have to work hard to prevent in the future.

The Little Giants will play their second and third home matches of the season this weekend. The first will be another conference matchup tonight at 7.00 p.m. against Mount St. Joseph.

Swim & Dive Cap Season

McCarty '23 Sets Pace in Leading Little Giants to Third Place at NCACs



@WABASHSWIMDIVE / TWITTER

Wabash Swimming & Diving ended the season on a positive note, as they finished 3rd at the NCAC Tournament, and retain key swimmers and all of their current divers.

WILLIAM GRENNON '24 | CAVELIFE EDITOR • The Wabash Swimming and Diving team competed in Granville, Ohio at Denison University, at the North Coast Atlantic Conference championship across four days, starting February 9. They scored a total of 1117 points over 21 events. Swimmers Caleb McCarty '23, Daren Gore '22, Justin Dusza '22, and Jacob Penrose '23, lead the team in points, with McCarty taking the silver in the men's 100-yard freestyle. The Conference Championship brought the Little Giants toe for toe with some of the best in the country, swimming against second-ranked Kenyon and fourth-ranked and host Denison. In 52 percent of the events, the Little Giants raced resulted in personal best times, with 17 yielding season best times. The Little Giants took third place overall.

Heading into the meet, Wabash had claimed three straight wins over Illinois Wesleyan, Eastern Illinois, and Bethel. Additionally, the team scored an 80 point victory over rival DePauw University earlier in the season.

"We knew we wanted to go and beat both DePauw and Wooster, and compete with some of the best guys in the country," Gore said. "We always look to Conference for lifetime bests and school records, but I think everyone was just thinking, 'let's see how fast we could go'."

Glore led the team in long distance events, and was the second highest scorer for the Little Giants. The senior caps what has been an excellent career

at Wabash with a season best 4:37.30 finish in the 500 freestyle. He is one of five seniors who have driven the Little Giants to their top three finish.

"This last meet was pretty emotional for all of us," Glore said. "I just kept looking around at these guys and kept remembering the time we spent together. Watching everyone succeed at such a high level this season, it's just a testament to the work that's been put in. Conference is just a culmination of all of that."

McCarty swam a personal best 44.67 in the 100 freestyle, claiming second overall and breaking the previous school record. He shaved almost a half second off his time in the preliminaries, scoring a total of 78 points over 3 events, all of which he swam personal bests in. "I felt calmness and happiness, the two combined made an experience that felt almost unreal. Staying calm is half the battle. Once you have a calm mind, you can enter the 'flow state' and accomplish many incredible challenges," said McCarty. He was also a crucial part of the 800 free relay, 400 free relay, and the 200 free relay, with the last two relays earning all-conference honors. The Little Giants were disqualified for a false start during the 800 relay, which would have broken a school record if the time was kept. Despite this, the Little Giants fought through adversity and got back on track holding third place throughout the last three days of the event.

"It was kind of a wakeup call,"



@WABASHATHLETICS / TWITTER

The highlight of the NCAC Tournament for the Little Giants was the performance of Caleb McCarty '23 (pictured) in the 100 free with a school record time of 44.67 seconds. He also achieved the fastest split ever for Wabash in the 50 free - 20.07.

Dusza said. "If we wanted to accomplish the goals we set as a team, we needed to step up in some of our events to get where we wanted to be."

Dusza swam three personal bests and a season best, while contributing to three separate relays. The senior caps what has been a great season and career as a Little Giant.

"I felt like the bond we had throughout the season really paid off in the meet," Dusza said. "Guys would be done swimming, in between swims,

it didn't matter they still supported every guy in the pool."

The Swim team will head to Purdue University this weekend to compete in the "Last Chance Meet", where they hope to swim times which will qualify them for the National Championships. Dusza and the rest of the 800 relay are excited to get another chance at the school record. "We all know we can swim that fast. We all want that school record, and I think we are all grateful to have another go at it."

Wrestling Wins Mid-States

Wrestling Secures 7 First-Place Finishes; NCAA Cen Regionals Start 25th

COLE BERGMAN '24 | STAFF WRITER • On Saturday, February 12, the Wabash wrestling team headed east to compete in the Mid-States Invitational at Ohio Northern University. At the tournament, the Little Giants earned themselves a team championship, along with seven individual championships at different weight classes. The wrestling team also had fifteen other individuals place at this tournament.

At 125-pounds, Carlos Champagne '22 took the individual championship. Little Giants also rounded off the next three placings, with Reece Chapman '25 placing second, Ethan Bednarczyk '25 placing third, and Jaden Bird '25 finishing fourth. Brady Ester '24 also placed sixth at 125-pounds.

Blake McGee '25 was also able to capture an individual championship in the 133-pound bracket on Saturday. He finished the day with an undefeated record on the day, marking a staunch victory over his opponents.

TJ Driessens '24 also went on an undefeated run, pinning all four opponents he faced during the tournament, which won him the individual championship at 149-pounds.

At 157-pounds, Tyson Nisley '24 won the weight class after defeating four opponents on the day. Mawuli Nevis '25 also wrestled back after a first-round loss to win third-place by a pin.

Ray Arebalo '25 finished the day well with a 4-0 record, winning the 174-pound individual championship. Tucker Coffman '23 wrestled well at 174-pounds, finishing in second place in the bracket.

Chase Baczek '25 took the 184-pound class individual championship after an undefeated day of wrestling. Also at 184-pounds, Caden Friedt '24 won two matches to finish second in the bracket.

Jack Heldt '23 finished the day 4-0, with three of these wins being by a pin, to win the 197-pound individual title. Other wrestlers also finished well at 197-pounds, with Grant Johnson '23, who finished second by winning three matches on the day, and Nick Casad '25, who finished fourth in the bracket.

Other placers included Daniel Uribe '24, who finished second at 141-pounds with three wins on the day. Along with, Maxwell Bishop '22 who finished 2nd at 285-pounds after winning three matches on the day, and James Lewis '22 placed fifth at 285-pounds.

Nisley credited the strength of wrestlers who don't start with the large number of champions and placers in this tournament.

"We aren't surprised when we run into competition during tournaments because we are wrestling high caliber wrestlers every day in our practice



COURTESY OF BRIAN BISHOP

In the latest NWCA poll, the Little Giants came in as #3 in the nation.

room. [...] It's a good tournament for us to hone our skills a little bit and make sure that the little things we've been working on in the practice room are sharp."

Nisley also hopes that this tournament has made a statement for the team moving forward. "Mid-States

had a lot of teams that will be at our regional, so I think that although we were the favorite to win coming into Mid-States, we made a statement as to how tough our team is as a whole," Nisley said. "We aren't looking to be one of the best, but we want to be the best."