

Keeping up with the McCullough administration: Campaign promises and ‘realistic realities’



COURTESY OF BRYCE MCCULLOUGH '23

Student Body President Bryce McCullough '23 participates in a debate against competitors during his election campaign.

COLE BERGMAN '24 | STAFF WRITER • In the Spring of 2022, Bryce McCullough '23 ran a campaign for Student Body President to improve campus unity, bring more transparency to the Student Senate and improve student life on campus. Along with his running-mate, Benjamin Sampsell '24, the nominees made several promises during their campaign, including to mandate that

Senators serve on Student Senate committees, to advocate for a revised academic policy that prohibited assignments from being given around breaks and to host multiple town halls where students could voice their opinions before the cabinet.

Throughout the campaign, McCullough enforced his message that he would take Student Senate off “autopilot.”

Now, reaching the half-way point of the McCullough-Sampsell administration, we asked McCullough how well he was able to keep his campaign promises.

Overall, McCullough believes that, while his goals for his tenure as Student Body President haven't shifted, the realities of the position have made him realize what is more realistic.

“I think goals drive us to do good work, but I think my awareness of being realistic and practical has increased over my time.”

-Bryce McCullough '23

“I've learned, especially in this position, that I'm a bit of an idealist,” McCullough said. “I like to think that things are going to go the way I hope they do, but the reality is, at Wabash, everyone is doing a thousand different things. So I can be as excited about a project or an idea as I want it to be, but you've got to get the people to show up. You've got to get the people to do the work. So in that way, maybe my goals haven't changed, because I think goals drive us to do good work, but I think my awareness of being realistic and practical has increased over my time.”

With a semester as President behind him, the McCullough administration has had an opportunity to reflect on how well they kept the promises they made during their campaign. Among these promises was to require

Continued page 3

Anti-Asian hate crime at IU sparks campus conversations

SARVIK CHAUDHARY '25 | STAFF WRITER • Just about seventy three miles south of Wabash, an 18-year-old Asian American student was stabbed by a 56-year-old Bloomington resident, Billie Davis, on January 11. The victim, a student at Indiana University and a resident of Carmel, Indiana, was about to get off at her bus stop when Davis started stabbing her in the head several times.

According to a police report, Davis told Bloomington Police officials that she targeted the victim because of her race, and that “it would be one less person blowing up our country.” The victim was rushed to a hospital, but her current condition is unknown.

The incident traumatized IU students, especially underrepresented students.

“We were all extremely shocked that this happened in our own community,” said Simone, a student of Asian descent and a junior at IU. “The Asian American Association (AAA) chat was blowing up and that was how I had initially heard about it. People were saying how jarring it was and how we couldn't even feel safe on public transportation anymore. It was scary to see that someone had gotten attacked like that on the same bus system that I frequent.”

Simone fears that, as more days pass, people might forget about this and simply move on.

“I think everyone is still a little on edge but honestly, people have stopped talking about it, and I hear less and less about it as time goes on,” said Simone. “Less people posting about it on their social media and the decrease of conversation surrounding it once the initial shock has subsided has played into a lack of continuous discussions about it.”

Even though the hate crime happened on a different campus, it has also sparked conversation and concern among students and faculty at Wabash. Richard Pan '24, President of the Asian Culture Club (ACC) on campus and resident of Crawfordsville, said that he felt deeply for all the students at IU, especially Asian or Asian American students who would have to live in a constant fear of something like this happening to them.

Professor Yao Li, Instructor of Chinese, said that she appreciated the news and media coverage this incident received, but it should also be matched with the same amount of action to prevent such cases in the future.

“Over the past several years, hate crimes have targeted not just Asian communities, but

Continued page 2

Campus wrestles with ChatGPT

JAKOB GOODWIN '23 | MANAGING EDITOR • Gone are the days where if you complain about an essay on Twitter, a bot replies and you can pay someone to write your essay. Now, the plagiarism game can be much simpler: students can instead ask OpenAI's ChatGPT to write your essay. Or so they think.

Last year, OpenAI, an artificial intelligence company, launched ChatGPT, which takes a submitted prompt and answers it to the best of its ability. While something like this might be helpful and ethical for use in some business contexts and in personal use, students across the nation are using ChatGPT to write their papers for them.

The GPT that ChatGPT uses stands for Generative Pre-Trained Transformer, meaning it takes all the knowledge of human language and data it can collect from the internet to write a response the way a human would. Additionally, as users provide feedback to its responses, it learns and adapts to get better at answering prompts. However, it frequently gets things wrong in sophomoric style—and professors can tell.

Go deeper, see pg 5

“Now, for those students who ask, ‘Oh, well they won't notice,’ yeah, we do,” said Dr. Zachery Koppelman. “It doesn't write that well. Yes, it answers the ques-

tion, but oftentimes the content is wrong. And it's really pretty obvious, especially if you're trying to do anything long.”

Just as professors and higher education leaders across America are worried about the use of ChatGPT, Wabash faculty are worried about the effects of students and their potential use of AI on papers.

“Papers are important because they ask students to delve deeper into a topic than they would in class discussion or shorter questions on exams,” said Dr. Joyce Burnette, Chair of Division III. “ChatGPT could potentially make it more difficult to accomplish that goal if students can turn in papers without investing much thought. This would mean that students wouldn't get the quality education that we advertise.”

Dr. Brian Tucker, Chair of Division II, echoed that sentiment.

“My humanities perspective is that learning to write well is about learning to read well and think well,” said Tucker. “I would hope that Wabash students wouldn't want to short circuit that process by having AI produce papers for them.”

Some professors have talked about tools they can use and actions they could take to catch students who use ChatGPT and stump it in the first place.

Registrar and Dean Jon Jump has advocated for a checker that claims



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it can identify AI writing, but some professors are skeptical, saying it doesn't work and is too inconsistent.

“I would hope that Wabash students wouldn't want to short circuit that process by having AI produce papers for them.”

-Dr. Brian Tucker

Dr. Shamira Gelbman, Chair of the Political Science department, has advocated that, rather than using a tool to catch students, pro-

fessors ought to write their questions in a way that makes them impossible for AI to answer. She's found that by writing questions that explicitly ask students to reflect on their personal experience or specific material in class, the AI is stumped. Because of ChatGPT's function as a language model that simply aggregates data and regurgitates a reasonable response, it cannot answer from experience and it cannot generate new, genuine reflections on material.

At the same time, professors all over the nation act as if the sky is falling down, there seem to be some potential benefits of technology like this.

“The most legitimate uses are for students who for whom English is not their first language, or for stu-

Continued page 2

Rep. Jim Banks announces candidacy for open Ind. Senate seat

COOPER E. SMITH '23 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • U.S. House Representative Jim Banks (R-IN) announced his candidacy for the 2024 Senate election in Indiana. Banks's announcement came on January 17, roughly one month after incumbent Senator Mike Braun '76 (R-IN) announced that he would not seek re-election in order to campaign for Governor of Indiana, leaving an open 2024 Senate seat in Indiana.

Banks, a staunch defender of former President Donald Trump, has cast himself as a conservative combatant against perceived Democratic overreaches.

“I just believe now more than ever that we need conservatives in the Senate who are going to fight back against radical Democrat policies instead of going along with it,” said Banks, speaking with The Associated Press. “Republican primary voters are looking for a conservative fighter, someone to go to Washington and fight for Hoosier family values and against the radical, socialist and woke agenda that Democrats are pushing

in Washington.”

Banks's announcement has been welcomed by Republicans across the state.

“I'm for federal legislation, I'm for stronger laws at the state level, whatever we can do, to save lives, to protect babies. That's what this fight is all about.”

-Jim Banks

“I am excited to hear that Jim Banks is a candidate for the open Indiana senate seat,” said President of the Wabash College Republicans Gavinn Alstott '25. “Jim Banks definitely has a proven track record in the Indiana Senate and current House of Representatives which would make him a valuable candidate for the position. However, I

look for Jim Banks to be one of several prominent Indiana Republicans that will announce their candidacy. Hoosiers deserve a conservative Senator, and it's my hope that the Republican Party will unify around a single conservative fighter like Banks despite the possible competition to come.”

Banks currently serves as the Representative for Indiana's 3rd Congressional District, and he is currently the only person to have formally announced his candidacy for the open Senate seat.

Banks has already come under fire in the week since his announcement due to an interview with Fort Wayne radio station WOWO-AM, where he approved of a travel ban to prevent Hoosier women from leaving the state to seek reproductive care.

“If a young lady can hop in a car in Fort Wayne, and in an hour and a half she can be in a place in Michigan, or in just under three hours she can cross the line into Illinois, and achieve what she was [un]able to do with abortion clinics



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Rep. Jim Banks (R-IN) speaks on Capitol Hill.

here in Indiana, the fight is far from over,” said host Pat Miller.

“That's exactly right,” said Banks. “I'm for federal legislation, I'm for stronger laws at the state level, whatever we can do, to save lives, to protect babies. That's what this fight is all about.”

Banks's statement in favor of

Continued page 3

federal legislation further restricting abortion access came one week after the Indiana Supreme Court heard oral argument in a suit seeking to prevent the Indiana State Legislature's abortion ban from going into effect. The Court will likely issue its ruling in a few months.

Classified documents found at Pence’s Indiana home



COURTESY OF CNN NEWS
Former Vice President Mike Pence(R-IN)

TIERNAN DORAN '26 | POLITICS CORRESPONDENT • Twenty-four weeks after the FBI’s raid of Mar-a-Lago, and 12 weeks after classified materials were first found in President Joe Biden’s former office, it was announced on January 24 that clas-sified documents had been discovered at Former Vice President Mike Pence’ home in Carmel, Indiana.

The documents, appeared in taped card-board boxes, appear to be unopened. The boxes were first found by Pence’s lawyer a week ago and have been handed over to the FBI. This revelation comes after Pence previously denied having any classified material, saying there would be “no rea-son to have classified documents.”

Pence’s Lawyer Matt Morgan, who has experience handling classified materials, has been asked to conduct a thorough search of Pence’s home.

Upon discovery of the original docu-ments, Morgan immediately notified the National Archives, who in turn alerted the Justice Department. The FBI requested to retrieve the documents to which Pence agreed, leading to agents from the FBI field office in Indianapolis going to Pence’s home.

Pence’s legal team returned the classified materials to Washington D.C. on Monday, January 23.

Pence’s chief legal counsel, Greg Jacob, wrote a letter to the National Archives clarifying that what had been found was a “small amount of documents bearing clas-sified marking.”


“Vice President Pence was unaware of the existence of sensitive or classified documents at his personal residence,” wrote Jacob in the letter. “Vice President Pence understands the high importance of protecting sensitive and classified infor-mation and stands ready and willing to cooperate fully with the National Archives and any appropriate inquiry.”


James Comer, House Oversight Chairman and Kentucky Republican who is heading investigations into Biden’s classified docu-ments, praised Pence’s transparency.

“He has agreed to fully cooperate with congressional oversight and any questions we have about the matter,” said Comer.

“Former Vice President Pence’s transpar-ency stands in stark contrast to Biden White House staff who continue to with-hold information from Congress and the American people”

Former President Donald Trump has also come to Pence’s defense.



Donald J. Trump 
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Mike Pence is an innocent man. He never did anything knowingly dishonest in his life. Leave him alone!!!

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Reckoning with anti-Asian hate crimes, cont. from pg 1

also all other minority groups have been rising nationwide in the U.S.,” said Li. “When the pandemic started, there was this wave of anti-Asian hate crimes, but as an immigrant myself, and as the Special Assistant to the International Center, my first reaction to the IU Bloomington stab-bing incident was both sad and ‘happy.’ ‘Happy’ because the incident was cov-ered, exposed, and now many institutions, including our own Wabash, will take a stand. This is *not* a single case, and it never will be the last one. If we don’t take actions, make ourselves seen, and heard, and unite together, there would never be any changes.”

Amy Weir, Director of International Programs, works closely with internation-al students, and was horrified when she heard about this incident. Weir however feels that the Crawfordsville community and especially the Wabash community is a comparatively safer space for students representing minority groups.

“I do think that our own Wabash Campus Safety and Security team is extremely interested in the well being of especial-ly international students because they’ll talk to me of course, about international students, but I know they’re also interest-ed in helping the new majority students on campus,” said Weir. “Buck Waddell (Assistant Director of Wabash Campus Security and Safety) was recently talking to one of the local offices in Crawfordsville and had given me a local contact because they wanted me to do a presentation for the EMTs here in town about how they should approach or talk to international students in cases of emergencies.”

Pan, who has spent most of his life in Crawfordsville, also feels that it’s a com-paratively safe and welcoming environ-ment here.

“Although some people say there’s a



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New Yorkers protest anti-Asian hate on April 4, 2022.

lot of racist people here, which is slightly true but in my experience nothing crazy like this would happen in Crawfordsville,” said Pan. “But when I was young, my par-ents would tell me about how people were shot or assaulted for just being Chinese or Asian. They always said and the still sometimes say things like ‘be safe,’ and ‘don’t start anything’ and that if someone ever does something don’t try to confront them.”

While Pan and Weir brought affirmation about Crawfordsville being a safe space, Li recalled an incident when she was at Walmart with her mom during COVID, and some men yelled hateful slurs at Li and her mother.

“But my Mom, knowing no English but

to see my face turn red, patted on my shoulder and said, ‘one of the famous fig-ures in Chinese modern history, Lin Zexu, used to say, ‘*Hainabaichuan, you rong nai da*’ (All the rivers run into the sea, so the sea is tolerant to diversity) think about it’,” said Li. “I admire her for her wisdom and the calmness under such circumstanc-es, but at the same time, not standing out as a group and facing straight to it will never solve the problem. Today we reflect, and express our feelings together. Soon I believe we are also going to have activi-ties, such as vigils and panels, to show our integrity and unity. I’m confident that our Asian and Asian American students will feel the support from the entire Wabash community.”

Admissions turnover provides growth opportunities

SAM BENEDICT '25 | NEWS EDITOR

- College admissions offices see new faces every semester. Wabash College knows this all too well. This year alone, there have been multiple new hires or employees being reassigned to other areas. The turmoil has created a shift in the Admissions office that will test their ability to function as important events linger on the horizon.

“It’s rare that someone stays in an entry level admissions counselor level for eight to 10 years, or staying in it for 26 years like me,” said Dean for Enrollment Management, Chip Timmons . “There’s natural attrition that occurs or transition because of what’s going on in their personal lives, like their families are growing or maybe they find that they’re called to work in some other part of higher education or another where they get some skills here that make them an attractive candidate for another job and that makes a lot of sense.”

The new Admissions staff will be dealing with the planning of second semester events for prospective students, while also picking up the torch on initiatives to better admitted student programming and summer programs.

“We’re really excited for admitted student weekend,” said Timmons. “Last year, we were really happy with the fact that we returned to an in-person event where students have ample time on campus decide if we are the right place for them. The one thing that

students say to us over and over again is that they want to spend more time on campus in living units hanging out with our current students. They want to see who are the people that I’m going to be surrounded with for the next four years: my teammates, my roommates, my classmates. And so we’re trying to build programming around what we know our prospective students and parents are saying, we want more of so it we’re excited to see how that plays out.”

While new staff will have to deal with the initiatives that others began before them, they also face the unique challenge of adapting to Wabash recruitment. Although recently-hired staffers come with experience from Indiana Wesleyan or DePauw University, Wabash is a different style of recruiting that will take more personal connection and effort.

“We have to spend more time connecting with them and staying in front of them,” said Timmons. “People don’t look at Wabash because they’re like, I’m going to this college because they have my major. You have to build the affinity with the institution and that takes prospect management to know that these are the three or four things that are going to be really important for that student. Then, it’s how do I connect them with the faculty member, the current student, the coach, or the alumnus who has experience in the field that they’re interested in.”

ChatGPT, cont. from pg 1

dents who came from very underprivileged schools,” said Dr. Koppelman. “Academic writing at a college level has certain intrinsic expectations. And that privileges students who go to schools who have more money.”

“Academic writing at a college level has certain intrinsic expectations. And that privileges stu-dents who go to schools who have more money.”

-Dr. Zachary Koppelman

Koppelman thinks that ChatGPT can serve to teach students from underprivileged backgrounds how to write in certain ways, like demonstrating argument structure or some of the odds and ins of English that are only learned through experience.

Still, ChatGPT is incapable of writing well enough to pass classes (even if it weren’t cheating) because it cannot think of its own arguments. It may be able to serve a similar purpose as Wikipedia, where someone can get a basic overview of a subject and find an idea of where to start with a paper, but its inability to form arguments renders it unus-able.

“Rather than using something like this, they should use the Writing Center,” said Koppelman.

Koppelman also made sure to condemn a new tool that Microsoft has rolled out in Word, called the Word Grade Level Checker, which claims to give you a grade for your writing simply based on its complexity.

For as long as students have had assign-ments, they have attempted to cheat on them. Sometimes they looked over each oth-er’s shoulders or paid someone online to write their essays for them. If anything is clear from the emergence of ChatGPT as a tool for lazy students, it is that they will be caught and that professors will find new ways to test students.





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Keeping up with the McCullough administration, cont. from pg 1

Senate members to join committees.

“We got a lot of positive feedback on that,” said McCullough. “All Senators decided to sign up for a committee. So we have both committee members who are senators and committee members who are at large and don’t have a Senate position. That’s the compromise we made. It’s not just Senators on committees, we’re getting everybody active. But if you’re an elected member and you’re representing your peers, you should at least be on a committee, like how the actual Senate works.”

McCullough said that the new policy has caused the Senators to be much more active in their roles.

“The reality is they have a job to do,” McCullough said. “They ran for a reason, and they should not simply be responsible for showing up and casting a vote on the budget every Sunday night. I think it’s a more rewarding experience when you’re more involved and I think that’s the first step to a better, more active Senate.”

McCullough believes that the policies he has implemented so far have been effective, especially in fulfilling his campaign promise of taking Student Senate off “autopilot.”

“Getting Senators on committees has helped solve that problem tremendously, as well as getting good committee chairs who are dedicated to doing the work,” McCullough said. “It really is a constant battle, because I want to recognize that everyone has a lot of things going on, including myself. Don’t get complacent is basically the point, and I think we’ve created the mechanism to allow us to run Senate on a more manual basis rather than autopilot.”

While the McCullough-Sampsell administration has fulfilled their promise to make Senators fill committee roles, there are still some campaign promises they have not yet fulfilled. One of these promises was to fight for breaks free of academic obligations.

“What we found is that there’s a lot more bureaucracy and resistance to adopting an academic policy than we thought,” said McCullough. “What we got throughout last semester was, ‘can you get us more research on this?’ They’re just skeptical about it, and we have to show them some data.”

“I just want to create a culture where people are bought into the Wabash experience”

-Bryce McCullough ’23

Sampsell, Chairman of the Academic Policy Committee along with his duties as Vice President, has been working with the committee to find a solution to this issue. “Basically, right now we’re working on submitting an official policy recommendation to the faculty who are in charge of making and overseeing the academic policies of the school,” Sampsell said. “We know that students have in the past submitted an official proposal to cancel classes the last two days before any finals week. We know that it was considered and that at least there was some headway made. So we’re trying to do something similar.”

McCullough echoed Sampsell’s sentiment about wanting to work more closely

with the Academic Policy Committee.

“We’re trying to expand the work with the Academic Policy Committee,” McCullough said. “We’ve been consistently asking for help on pushing back due dates of exams and papers right after spring break and adopting a policy there. I’m adding a couple more members to that committee so that we can do more research on what that sort of policy would look like. I wish we could have addressed it quicker, but I am cautiously optimistic that we can at least move the needle on it by the end of the semester.”

Another promise that has not yet been accomplished by the McCullough-Sampsell administration is to hold multiple campus-wide town halls.

“I pitched the idea and everyone seemed to think that they never worked,” McCullough said. “I was actually pretty satisfied by the work that the Senators were doing last semester and the increased communication we were able to get. We started updating students on the work of the Senate, not only through social media, but now we give Senate updates at Chapel Talk.”



Sphinx Club member Bryce McCullough ’23 cheers on the Little Giants at a football game.

McCullough said that the Student Senate has been working on more ways to engage with the campus at-large.

“I am creating the Special Committee on Campus Engagement this semester to gain more feedback from the student body to make sure that they’re feeling heard and that we know what we’re doing well and what we could improve on,” McCullough said. “So, that committee will be tasked with putting together anonymous polls or surveys, maybe even putting together town halls if they want to.”

McCullough is open to having town halls in the future, but wants to make sure that it is the most effective way to receive student feedback.

“It may not be a town hall that’s most effective,” McCullough said. “Maybe it’s just a survey that would be most effective. Maybe people wouldn’t be motivated to come to a town hall unless it’s a pressing issue. That’s why I want a committee to work on it.”

McCullough said he was excited about the initiatives the Senate will be bringing in the spring semester.

“One goal is to see to it that we have a successful National Act. The committee started planning very early last semester, and we are very close to having a contract signed,” McCullough said. “We really want that to be the biggest National Act we’ve ever had, like thousands of people. I know last year was actually pretty good and had pretty good attendance, so we want to top that again and invite more people from off-campus to participate.”

“I just want to create a culture where people are bought into the Wabash experience”

-Bryce McCullough ’23

In addition to National Act, McCullough said he was excited about many more initiatives proposed by the Student Senate Executive Board, such as Students Events planning to bring a speaker to campus with the assistance of an organization

called Free The Facts and to host a thrifting event, continuing events at Wally’s such as trivia and karaoke nights, bringing back the Find Wally scavenger hunt and increasing recycling programs and awareness through a grant received by the Environmental Concerns Committee. “The big thing is for me, I want people to be able to go and do things here. I don’t want people to feel like they have to leave Wabash,” said McCullough ’23.

With the help of the Senators, McCullough hoped to have a real and lasting impact on Wabash.

“I just want to create a culture where people are bought into the Wabash experience,” McCullough ’23 said, “I hope that Senators take their jobs seriously and that we can actually have a huge impact on campus. We can never get complacent because we’re only through one semester. We have a semester left. We cannot let our foot off the gas. We have to keep going, because we have a duty to the students and we want to make it the best experience possible.”

Smith: Stories to watch around the world in 2023

COOPER E. SMITH ’23 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

• **Russia’s war in Ukraine:** As the war enters its twelfth month, conversations have turned to predictions of potential turning points, ceasefires, and stalemates.. Just this week, both the U.S. and Germany have announced that they will supply Ukraine with more tanks, with other allies pledging to do the same. The human toll of the war has been staggering. The U.S. has estimated over 200,000 combined military casualties, and nearly one-third of Ukrainians have been displaced. And a UNICEF report recently found that the war has disrupted the education of more than five million children. Despite the bloodshed, Russia has not achieved its military objectives, and some reports indicate that Putin is running low on soldiers and munitions. In the coming months, watch for further updates of Ukraine’s advancements and any negotiations to end the conflict.

• **New Peruvian government clashes with protestors:** In December 2022, the Peruvian Congress impeached and ousted former President Pedro Castillo for his unlawful attempt to dissolve Congress. Current President Dina Boluarte has attempted to retain political and social stability as Castillo’s supporters have protested since his removal. According to CNN, more than 50 people have died in the protests, as police have responded to the thousands of protestors with tear gas and rubber bullets. This week, Boluarte called for a “national truce.”

• **Brazil’s Lula solidified government amidst insurrection:** Brazil has a new President and government after former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva (known as “Lula”) successfully won re-election over former President Jair Bolsonaro, a right-wing authoritarian populist who came under fire for his endorsements of political violence, his mishandling of the coronavirus and his views on homosexuality. This January, far-right supporters of Bolsonaro stormed Brazil’s capital in hopes of convincing the military to prevent Lula’s inauguration. Many have called this insurrection “Brazil’s January 6.” Since taking office, Lula has fired the army chief, who is suspected to have supported the insurrectionists. This year, watch as Lula forms his new government agenda in the aftermath of the attack.

• **The fate of the Iran Nuclear Deal:** Though U.S. President Donald Trump withdrew from the Iran Nuclear Deal (JCPOA) in 2017, all parties from the 2015 agreement remain in continuous negotiations to revive some version of the deal to prevent Iran from joining the nuclear club. However, as Iran may already have the enriched uranium necessary to obtain a weapon, and as the U.S. and Europe oppose Iran’s shipments of drones and weapons to Russia in the war against Ukraine, it seems unlikely that these talks will come to fruition.

• **South Africa military drills with Russia and China:** The South African military announced this month that it would hold military training exercises with Russia and China. South Africa was one of only three countries to abstain from the United Nations vote to condemn Russia for its invasion of Ukraine. This recent announcement may sour U.S. relations with South Africa, as the U.S. has condemned the announcement in its wider efforts to ostracize Russia.

• **New government in New Zealand:** Just this week, New Zealand swore in a new Prime Minister, Chris Hipkins, after former P.M. Jacinda Ardern’s surprise retirement. Ardern, referred to by The New York Times as a “global liberal icon,” was New Zealand’s youngest PM in 150 years, and she resigned before a looming national election, citing that she did not feel “personally prepared” to complete another term. Hipkins is attempting to strike a difficult balance, marketing himself both as a continuation of Ardern’s government and simultaneously a fresh alternative that does not further alienate Ardern’s critics.

• **The unfolding 2024 U.S. Presidential campaign fights:** Watch for further campaign announcements for the 2024 Presidential race. Announcements are likely to pick up this summer and fall. Former President Donald Trump has already announced that he will seek the Republican nomination, and some reports indicate that President Joe Biden plans to seek the Democratic nomination. But a 2020 rematch may not be the final result. Trump is likely to face competition from Republican Governor of Florida Ron DeSantis, and potentially others. At age 80, Biden may not seek re-election after all, or another Democrat may choose to challenge him. If Biden chooses not to run, the Democratic field will likely be wide open.

Ukraine to Receive Advance Tanks from the US and Germany

TIERNAN DORAN ’26 | POLITICS CORRESPONDANT • President Joe Biden has announced that the U.S. will send 31 M1 Abrams tanks to Ukraine, a surprising reversal from the US previous refusals to send such sophisticated high-maintenance vehicles. President Joe Biden, reiterated his support for Ukraine’s fight to “defend its sovereignty,” while simultaneously stressing that the tanks were not meant as an “offensive threat.”

“We remain united and determined as ever in our conviction and our cause,” Biden said at the White House,” said Biden “These tanks are further evidence of our enduring, unflagging commitment to Ukraine and our confidence in the skill of the Ukrainian forces.”

Just last week Senior Pentagon officials said that the US was not ready to send the tanks, calling them a “very complicated piece of equipment.” Biden’s announcement comes after Germany announced it would send 14 Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine. For a while the two nations were at a standstill as Berlin diplomats indicated that they would only send tanks if the US did as well.

The German Leopards and American Abrams are battle tanks with superior technology and capabilities compared to the current Soviet-era tanks Ukraine has been using. Ukrainian President Zelensky praised the decision, while Russia’s ambassador to Germany said the decision takes the conflict “to new levels of confrontation.”

Jim Banks, cont. from pg 1

Banks made clear in the same interview that if elected, he would use his Senate seat to push for federal restrictions. “We have some very blue states that didn’t do what Indiana did,” Banks said. “Indiana was the first state in the country after the Dobbs decision to pass a pro-life bill. So there’s much more that we must do... and when I get to the Senate, I’m going to fight for [it] there in a bigger way as well.”

Banks has long been an opponent of abortion access. On the day that the Supreme Court of the United States ruled in Dobbs v. Jackson, in which the Court overruled Roe v. Wade and permitted further state-level restrictions on abortion access, Banks celebrated.

“Today is a joyful day and a turning point for the unborn in America,” Banks wrote in a press release. “I will be celebrating tonight with my wife Amanda and our three daughters. I’d like to thank the thousands of pro-life advocates, conservative representatives, and voters, who have worked tirelessly for nearly 50 years to overturn the disastrous Roe decision.”

Besides his anti-abortion views, Banks has highlighted other hot-button cultural conservative positions. In his campaign announcement video, Banks included statements against transgender women and blaming China for COVID-19. Banks’s anti-trans positions are nothing new; last year, Banks criticized Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb (R) for vetoing an Indiana State Legislature bill that would have completely banned transgender women from competing in women’s sports.

As Banks is the only official candidate so far, media coverage of Banks has included speculation on other candidates who may soon step up to challenge him. The Associated Press has speculated that Rep. Victoria Spartz (R-IN) and former Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels (R) could soon announce their own candidacies, turning the race for Indiana’s 2024 Senate seat into a heated battle between old and new Hoosier conservatives.



COURTESY OF NEW YORK MAGAZINE

Wally's Wall: Which NFL team to root for now?

The Question:

With the upcoming AFC and NFC championships, nearly all of our favorite NFL teams have been eliminated. If your team has been eliminated, The Bachelor would like to know: who is your favorite NFL team, who are you rooting for now, and why?

Neal Laymon '25

Growing up, I made the miserable choice to become a Detroit Lions fan. Consequently, I have grown to root for a new team in the playoffs very often. My mom is a diehard Bengals fan and I have often chose them as my playoff team. Additionally, my pure hatred of the Chiefs, Eagles, and 49ers organizations for being consistently good teams that absolutely steamroll my beloved Lions on a bi-yearly basis have made my choice fairly easy. In Joe Cool we trust, Go Bengals!

Jacob White '25

(DaBears fan) I'm a big data person. I like trends. Some have even referred to me as a "spreadsheet virgin." However, I'm rooting for the Chiefs and Mahomes to win to break a trend. If KC wins the Super Bowl, it will be the first time this milleminum that a super bowl winning QB took up more than 13% of his team's cap space.

Ethan Lewis '25

Last year was a fluke—and coming from a Rams fan, that's saying something. I'm used to watching horrendous quarterback play from the likes of Sam Bradford, Nick Foles, and Ryan Fitzpatrick, the QBs my Rams fielded as I fell in love with the team and sport. With them being eliminated in November, I had to find someone to bandwagon. Ultimately I found two things to root for: good football games and specific players I closely followed since their college days. With the likes of Mahomes, Burrow, Hurts, and Bosa still in the fight, we're bound to have good football, so I can switch to rooting for the second item on my list. The only starting QB I didn't mention is Brock Purdy... I know this is blasphemy as a Rams fan, but it has to be said: when in doubt, pick the underdog. The Niners will win Super Bowl 57.

Ethan Wallace '25

Anyone but the Bengals—my girlfriend is WAY too invested in Joe Burrow.

Mark Stolte '25

My favorite team is the Indianapolis Colts, but I am now rooting for the Kansas City Chiefs in the AFC and the San Francisco 49ers in the NFC. I am rooting for those two teams because that was my prediction at the beginning of the playoffs, and because I want to witness greatness. Mahomes has already proven to be an all time great quarterback, and another superbowl would keep him on track to reach Tom Brady levels of greatness.

Lucas Ranard '26

My favorite team is the Tennessee Titans, honestly no idea why anymore. I will be rooting for the Bengals to absolutely destroy Patrick Mahomes in the AFC Chamionship. Joe Burrrrr is that guy.

Liam McAllister '26

I'm rooting for the Chiefs to win it all because the entire world loves Joe Burrow so much when he is debatably a step above mid. The Eagles are fraudulent, and they have the most annoying fan base. Niners are alright, I just think Brock Purdy is a toddler and will fold like a chair under pressure. Chiefs just are simply the best team, and Mahomes does things on a football field no one else can do on Earth.

Logan Weilbaker '25

I wouldn't know, because the Bengals are gonna win it all. #WHODEY!



Andrew Dever '25

Reply to this opinion at atdever25@wabash.edu

Dallas Cowboys' quarterback Dak Prescott set a football record in the 2022-2023 season. Despite missing five games due to a broken thumb sustained against the Buccaneers in the season opener, the Mississippi State product managed to become the first quarterback to lead (or at least co-lead) the NFL in interceptions despite his prolonged absence in the middle of the season. While the Cowboys had a particularly explosive offense, a bend-but-don't-break defense and a first-team all-NFL punt returner in former XFL MVP Kavonte Turpin, Dak's consistently errant passing game proved to be the Achilles heel for America's team.

While it is true that the Cowboys have several other significant issues that need to be addressed, including a kicker in Brett Maher who cannot make extra points, a coach in Mike McCarthy that frequently underperforms in the playoffs, and an amazing but rapidly-aging offensive line, Dak's decision-making under pressure is the glaring weakness for an organization with Super Bowl aspirations. Turnovers crippled the Cowboys in their grueling matchup against the 49ers and they consistently haunted America's team throughout the season. To be blunt: the Dallas Cowboys cannot win a Super Bowl with Dak Prescott as their QB.

Now, before I discuss why the Cowboys need to begin the search for a new offensive leader, I think it is important to note a couple of facts about Dak as a person that someone who is not a Cowboys fan might not know. It gives me no pleasure in asserting that the Cowboys should move on from Dak. In his seven seasons with the 'Boys, Dak has continually proven himself as a fighter, a strong and charismatic leader and an amazing human being. Undoubtedly, regardless of his success as a football player, Dak has made an instrumental difference in the Dallas community. Through his charity 'Faith Fight Finish,' created to honor his mother Peggy Prescott, who passed halfway through Dak's

America's next generation needs new civics education



Jakob Goodwin '23

Reply to this opinion at jmgoodwiz23@wabash.edu

By any reasonable measure, the United States is more politically divided than at any point in its history since the Civil War. Americans are more partisan and more susceptible to misinformation and disinformation that aligns with their beliefs. This misinformation and partisanship breed division and political violence that threatens American democracy. We must correct course, but how?

According to Pew Research, the 2020 presidential election was the first in decades where Baby Boomers and members of the silent generation were outvoted by members of other generations. And in the 2022 midterms, just above 30% of 18-29-year-olds voted, an uptick in participation from previous elections, but a far cry from the majority of boomers that vote in midterm elections.

As young people become a higher proportion of voters and Baby Boomers make up less of the electorate, efforts to preserve democracy and fight tyranny must focus on young voters, particularly those who have not grown apathetic to the political process.

Every state requires students to pass some kind of government or civics class, promising to graduate young, aware citizens who can change the nation with their votes and advocacy. However, on the whole, students care little for politics and they are sleepwalking through their government classes that teach most basic facts about the American government — like the fact that there are three co-equal branches, they have

Does Dallas dump Dak?

sophomore season at Mississippi State, he has consistently touched the lives of those who are less fortunate. Unsurprisingly, Prescott has been nominated for the prestigious Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award for his contributions to cancer research and empowering underprivileged children.

However, since his return from a gruesome ankle injury sustained against the New York Giants in October of 2020, Dak has struggled to keep the ball away from opposing defenses. This season, in a truly astonishing feat, Prescott's struggles heightened, resulting in him equaling Houston Texans' quarterback Davis Mills for most interceptions during the regular season, at a remarkable 15. What is more frightening, however, is that Prescott only played in 12 games this season, while Mills played all 17 games for the second-worst team in the league with one of the worst statistical offenses this season. Furthermore, Dak continued to turn the ball over in the playoffs, costing the Cowboys dearly.

Despite a smooth and impressive Wild Card Round against Tom Brady and the underwhelming Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Prescott's inaccuracy continued this past weekend in the NFC Divisional Round against the San Francisco 49ers. Tied at 6-6, Dallas had a second and 2 in the red zone. Once again, San Francisco brought pressure, causing Prescott to panic and throw into double coverage, resulting in his second interception of the game. This was the pivotal play of the game, as Dallas went from taking the lead with a field goal or touchdown, to going into halftime down a field goal. The Cowboys would lose the game by seven, but Prescott's second interception was a 6–10-point swing. Additionally, while San Francisco scored six points off turnovers, Brock Purdy and the 49ers offense were cautious, clean, and won the game. Frankly, Dak was the biggest culprit in the Cowboys' exit from this postseason, even bigger than kicker Brett Maher or our incompetent coach Mike McCarthy.

Since returning to the field from the dislocated ankle, Dak's mobility has suffered tremendously. This is most evident in the pocket, as he is either unable to escape from pressure or panics and makes costly decisions. To be fair, far worse quarterbacks than Prescott have won the Super Bowl, like Nick Foles with the Philadelphia Eagles in 2017, Jeff Hostetler with the New York in 1990 and Trent Dilfer with the Baltimore Ravens in 2000. The major difference, though, is that these quarterbacks were game managers that did not take huge risks and in their Super Bowl winning seasons, did not turn the ball

checks and balances over each other, and that the US has a bicameral legislature.

While knowing those basics is good, few students care to learn more about government and politics, leaving them ignorant and apathetic on political issues beyond what they already believe, which are often based on their parents' political beliefs. To reverse that course, high school government programs need to be redesigned to teach students how to engage with our governing documents, their news sources, and each other. School districts ought to look at examples like the Center for Civic Education's We The People programs and New Jersey's new information literacy requirements as guides to do that.

We The People is a course that students can substitute for their regular government class. As currently constituted, the class is a competition, where classes divide into two-to-four-person units that take on one topic and its questions for a competition against other schools. Those units answer questions on complex topics, like the creation of the Constitution, the rights the Constitution protects, and modern challenges to American democracy. Students act as experts on these topics in a mock-Congressional hearing where the judges act as members of Congress.

For example, in Indiana's High School State Finals questions, one unit was asked if they agreed with the Framers' decision to keep the Constitutional Convention secret, and another was asked if there is a right to privacy in the Constitution and Supreme Court precedent on the issue.

Questions like this do more to educate students about the American political system and how it affects them, but the structure of the class does more to do that than the questions themselves. With each assignment, students debate their positions and come together to make a unified argument. By being forced into groups to answer these questions in a convincing manner, students learn to engage with America's founding documents, justify their arguments, and compromise to complete their assignments.

Social media and the University of Idaho murders



Tiernan Doran '26

Reply to this opinion at tldoran26@wabash.edu

Ten weeks after their gruesome murders, University Idaho Students Ethan Chapin, Madison Mogen, Xana Kernodle and Kaylee Goncalves are still at the top of everyone's mind in my home state of Idaho.

The murder of the four friends on November 13th shocked not only the sleepy college town of Moscow, but the nation itself. Local police, along with a team of agents from the FBI scoured evidence and fielded numerous tips.

For more than six weeks the authorities hadn't announced a suspect, prompting many Universities of Idaho students to make the decision not to return to the campus for the final weeks of the fall semester.

Unexpectedly, on December 30, it was announced that a suspect had been named

over frequently. Brock Purdy, albeit with an impressive array of offensive talent, was able to manage the game to allow his team to win, leading to the decisive touchdown early in the fourth quarter. Dak is not a game manager, and while that leads to explosive plays in the regular season, with his level of interceptions, it is unsustainable in the playoffs.

So, what does the situation look like going forward for the Cowboys if Dak is not the franchise savior and Super Bowl-caliber QB? Obviously, the Cowboys need to begin the search for a long-term solution but should not plan on releasing Dak until a better option clearly presents itself. Dallas does not want to end up like numerous other organizations which sign veterans in the twilight stages of their careers hoping to extract the last bit of magic from their impressive careers, only to fire their head coach and finish 4-13 (Colts fans, you know what I mean). Additionally, thanks to the genius of Jerry Jones, Dak signed with Dallas through 2024 and has a no-trade clause, while earning an annual salary of 31 million dollars. As a result, it is likely that Dak will start the 2023 season with the Cowboys.

Furthermore, trading Dak would prove crippling to our salary cap and, even if the Cowboys did desire to trade Dak, given his recent performance, interception tendencies and history of frequent injuries, there probably would not be many takers.

However, the Cowboys may be able to find a short-term solution while they wait out Dak's enormous contract. While he would remain on the roster, a couple suitable options may present themselves in free agency.

First, the Cowboys have a capable quarterback in Cooper Rush on the bench. While he may not be as good as Dak, he did shine during his five-game stint as the interim QB, going 4-1. Ultimately, although he would serve as more of an insurance policy, the Cowboys could re-sign him, as he knows this system and could provide a spark for the 'Boys if Dak's struggles continue.

And of course, there is Tom Brady. Although Brady may not be coming back to the NFL, if he returns for another season, it almost certainly will not be in Tampa Bay. Even though his numbers were slightly down this season, Brady finished third in the league in passing yards, excelled in game management, fourth quarter comebacks and arguably has the highest football IQ of any player in the league. To be honest, getting the washed-up Buccaneers to the playoffs was an accomplishment, and with the weapons he would have in Dallas, could elevate the Cowboys to Super Bowl contender status.

As political leaders wish to divide Americans on wedge issues to get their votes, little is more important than teaching the next generation how to justify their arguments and listen to others' opinions.

Critics complain that adopting this kind of education is too vague and unworkable. And to their credit, "better civic education" is not a specific enough change to implement in education standards. However, states can set very specific requirements on what gets taught and how. States like New Jersey have found ways to require better civics education without it being so vague that it becomes toothless.

Last week, New Jersey implemented new standards, requiring students to "learn about how information is produced and spread on the internet, critical thinking skills, the difference between facts and opinions, and the ethics of creating and sharing information both online and in print."

The National Intelligence Council has shown that American elections have been infiltrated by foreign and domestic mis- and disinformation. And according to the Brennan Center for Justice, 64% of election officials feel misinformation and disinformation have made their jobs more dangerous, and misinformation is affecting Americans' trust in elections. To vote their conscious, students must be able to recognize disinformation and get their news from reliable sources. Requirements like those in New Jersey will create a new generation of informed voters and protect future elections from foreign and domestic interference.

America's politics are now defined by misinformation and a brand of partisanship that has become violent. If the U.S. wants to fight the rise in authoritarian views and division they breed, it must teach the next generation of voters how to evaluate their news and justify their arguments. If the U.S. creates another generation of disinformed partisans, America's constitutional democracy will fall into the hands of the same kind of authoritarians it denounces abroad.

surviving roommates.

Users criticized everything from the roommate's reactions to the killings to how the families grieved at a vigil held for the victims.

The murders seemed like an opportunity for social media users to be involved in the solving of the crime, gaining polarity and "helping" solve the murders. All in all, such social media trends have given people an opportunity to distance themselves from the human aspect of this horrific crime and revel in its sensationalism.

Ultimately, the problem does not stop here. The investigation into the disappearance of Gabby Petito in 2021 was plagued with many of the same issues. With countless tips given to the police that ended up being fruitless. Until we change our attitude and our perception of what's appropriate to do on social media regarding active criminal cases, it will continue to be an issue.

People behind screens feel empowered to insinuate harmful things about survivors of traumatic events. They criticize, when, in reality, they have no meaningful experience or knowledge to add. At a point, the lives taken have become mere entertainment, more akin to a Netflix special than a tragedy of human lives.

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

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

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

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.

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Staff Editorial: Indiana State Legislature, stop trying to police student's identities



COURTESY OF ABC NEWS

Hoosiers gather at a 'Let Kids Play' rally organized by the ACLU of Ind. at the Indiana Statehouse.

The Indiana Senate is currently considering a bill that would police students' thoughts and actions regarding their names, clothing and very identities. LGBT students, and particularly transgender students, would be targeted by this proposal. To protect individual liberty and privacy, and to stem anti-LGBT violence, we oppose this authoritarian bill.

Senate Bill 354 would require K-12 teachers to report to schools anytime they find that a student wishes to change their "name, attire, pronoun, title, or word to identify the student in a manner that is inconsistent with the student's biological sex at birth." The bill also would require teachers to report if a student demonstrates "conflicted feelings about... or difficulty handling" their gender identity. Under the bill, schools would have five days to report these thoughts and behaviors to the student's parents.

All champions of individual liberty should find ample reasons to oppose this bill. The bill would compel teachers, regardless of their personal or political views, to serve as part of the state legislature's broader strategy of restrictive legislation that many Hoosiers feel are anti-LGBT. It would require schools to keep official records of students' thoughts and behaviors on gender identity. Even more dangerously, it would require schools to disclose this information to the student's parents, regardless of the safety of the student's

home environment. None of these outcomes represent defenses of liberty or freedom. The freedom to be, the freedom of bodily autonomy, is critical in a free liberal democracy.

We fear that this bill will physically endanger far too many Hoosier students, as transgender students already face a horrifying degree of bullying and discrimination, even without S.B. 354. We believe this bill could exacerbate these troubling trends. Forcibly outing students to their parents, and keeping official records of students for expressing counter-cisgender thoughts, can only lead to further danger and abuse. And it would represent a signal that the state government stands with bullies, not the victims of their abuse. Transgender students need love, kindness and support in the face of extreme harassment—not state-endorsed violence.

And there's a broader, more theoretical reason to oppose the Bill: it doesn't reflect well on the kindness of Hoosiers.

"It shows people across the country that we're not welcoming," said Indy Pride Education Director Jaye Walters.

Schools should be a place for students to forge their identities, interacting with peers and determining who they are and what they believe. Students should have the basic freedom to be freely curious without fearing that their teachers are not educators, but thought monitors. We at *The Bachelor* denounce this bill, and we ask the Wabash community to do the same.

OPINION

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

GONE ARE THE WOKE CANDIES

Hi-Five to M&M's for starting this week by announcing that they were discontinuing their spokescandies because of public uproar. We never would have thought Tucker Carlson would get M&M's canceled before he got himself kicked off the air.

SATURDAYS ARE FOR THE BOYS, NOT THE COLTS

Lo-Five to Jim Irsay for giving Jeff Saturday a second interview for the Colts job. Usually to get retained after sucking that badly means you get to coach Kenyon, not the Colts.

"THERE WAS SHRINKAGE!"

Lo-Five to those who said that we didn't get a whole lot of snow on Wednesday. We'd like to think that two inches is the perfect amount of snow, maybe even a little too much.

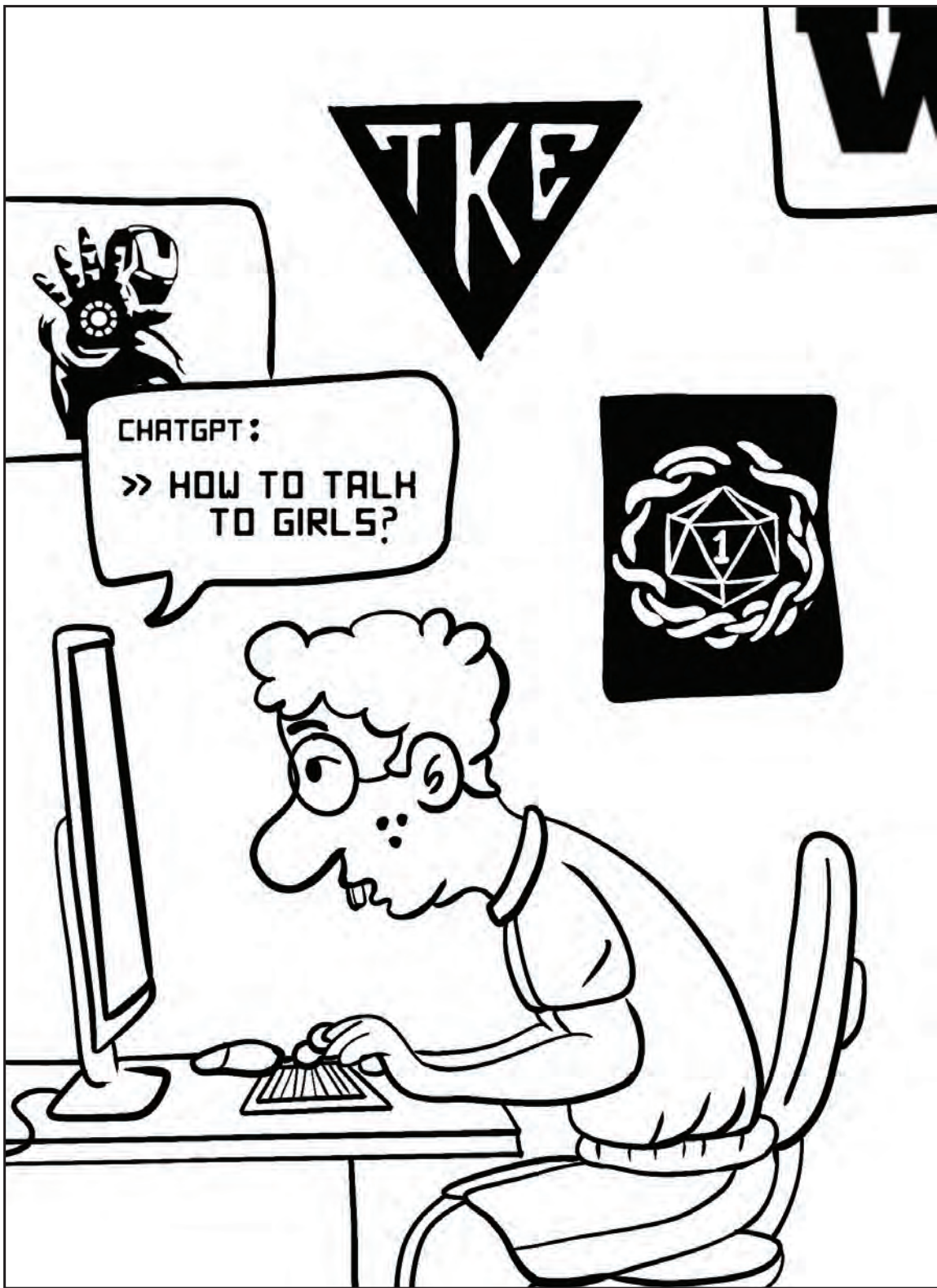
"NO REALLY, THIS IS OUR YEAR"

Lo-Five to the Cowboys for attempting to recreate the Colts "worst play in history" and somehow doing it worse. Every masterpiece has its cheap recreation.

HAVE IT YOUR WAY

Lo-Five to those annoying commercials that inter--WHOPPER WHOPPER WHOPPER WHOPPER JUNIOR DOUBLE TRIPLE WHOPPER FLAME-GRILLED TASTE WITH PERFECT TOPPERS I RULE THIS DAY LETTUCE MAYO PICKLE KETCHUP ITS OKAY IF I DONT WANT THAT IMPOSSIBLE OR BACON WHOPPER ANY WHOPPER MY WAY YOU RULE YOUR SEASON TODAY AT BK HAVE IT YOUR WAY

'It's ChatGPT, not RizzGPT' Comic by Arman Luthra '26



ChatGPT and the Wabash mission



Dr. Eric
Dunaway
and Dr. Colin
McKinney

Reply to this
opinion at
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edu

Hello there, Wabash. It's two of your favorite nerdy professors here to reveal to you the identity of the elusive "Chet G.P. Thompson."

Hopefully you saw through our (deliberately) bad pseudonym and realized that ChatGPT wrote that opinion article last week. We fed it some prompts to discuss the risks of ChatGPT as well as some ideas about how to use it responsibly, and that is what it gave us after some light editing. We wanted to follow up this week with a few notes about last week's article and offer a few suggestions about ChatGPT use going forward from the perspective of a couple of Wabash faculty members.

First of all, last week's article wasn't all that well written. It was repetitive, vague and didn't offer any solutions other than what you might already know. It also didn't have much in the way of style. If a human wrote it, we would probably think they were in middle school.

This is the core of how ChatGPT writes. It doesn't contextualize well and is great at creating filler for what you ask it to write, but it offers minimal content. It's not going to pass muster when it comes to the writing expectations we have for you at Wabash. Sure, it passed a Wharton MBA exam this past week, but that should tell you more about Wharton and MBA programs than it does about ChatGPT. Will it be able to write an adequate paper for a Wabash class in the future? Perhaps, but today is not that day. Not by a mile.

Looking beyond its mediocre writing, ChatGPT did make a few solid points. In particular, it claimed that it was "not a replacement for your own knowledge and

understanding of the subject matter." Having just finished listening to oral comprehensive exams, we were both impressed by how much our seniors have learned over the past seven semesters. It's that level of knowledge and understanding that sets you apart from your peers at other institutions. Don't let some new tool on the internet rob you of that opportunity to learn something yourself and grow.

In spite of the finger wagging it seems like we're doing, there are actually several useful ways to incorporate ChatGPT into your coursework at Wabash that are both effective and ethical. Its comparison to Google is appropriate in that it is great at finding information. For example, you could ask it a question about a project you're working on and it might be able to point you to additional sources for that topic. In this case, ChatGPT isn't doing the work for you, but rather it's assisting you in the process, which is exactly what we want from a good learning tool.

We imagine that there will be a lot of discussions about ChatGPT this semester, and we want to encourage you all to have conversations about the appropriate use of an artificial intelligence tool in the classroom and beyond. It's also important to know that Wabash faculty members are also having these conversations. We're learning about how these AI tools work, how they can be used both appropriately and inappropriately, and how to detect their use in coursework. You can expect a change in how papers are assigned: we've seen what ChatGPT can do with a basic prompt, and how badly it fails if it is asked to back up an opinion or reflect critically about its own learning.

The rise of the AI could be to your generation what the internet or the smartphone were to ours: a game changer. These AI tools aren't going away any time soon. If anything, they're only going to become much better. Thus, it is necessary for all of us to consider carefully how this new tool fits into our collective mission: to Think Critically, Act Responsibly, Lead Effectively, and Live Humanely.



Sweatpants

What to wear at Wabash this winter

K'TREN WILSON '24 | GUEST WRITER •

Sweatpants

Sweatpants are obviously a go-to in the winter for the cold, but not always for “fashion,” at least in the minds of most. I do think, however, that sweatpants are not as big of a fashion “no-no” as they might be perceived to be. Instead, styling your sweats very intentionally with your favorite sweater/sweatshirt/pullover can be a unique way to express your style without risking exposure to the elements. With this look, I wanted to play off of the blocks of gray in the sweater with the lighter gray sweatpants and a classic dirty white shoe. Silhouette- Chunky/Baggy

Thrifted Designer

This look is centered around one of my favorite sweaters that I actually thrifted a few years ago back home. The sweater is a vintage 1980’s Oscar de la Renta from what I believe may have been his ready-to-wear at the time. What I love about this sweater is all of the different colors that are present and the pattern that they create; it is also extremely fun styling this sweater for this reason. Here, I am disregarding the cold and my common sense and pairing this sweater with a pair of light-blue distressed jeans and a pair of dark brown leather Chelsea boots to accent the earthy/neutral tones in the sweater. Silhouette- Slim/Fitted

Almost All Black

All black is a staple for just about any time other than summer, but with such a

versatile and universal look it can be very easy to become bored of a monochromatic look. Rather than throw everything away, though, I recommend accessorizing and adding layers to the look with a jacket that introduces a pop of color or texture. That is what I was hoping to achieve with this look by adding a very dark green, corded/corduroy jacket to an otherwise standard all black fitted silhouette. The jacket here serves two purposes: protect from the outside or classroom cold and break up the monotony of the look by adding color and texture.

Edgy

During the winter I want to effectively dress for the weather while also feeling I am expressing myself to some degree. This is often hard to do because I really like pants with holes in them... but I also really enjoy staying warm. In this spirit, I styled these distressed bell-bottom jeans with a white collared shirt and an off-white sweater vest and finished the look with a pair of chunky black boots. I also asked my good friend Carson Price '23 to hop in for these looks, and he did some crazy amazing work! The essence of both of these looks is the potential for expression found within layering and color pallet, especially when we think of the colder months.

Academic

I partnered up with Carson again to pay a little homage to the fact that we do attend one of the most academic rigorous institutions in the nation. One perk of the winter is that dressing what most of society deems “professional” is much more comfortable with the absence of the summer sun. This means layering that button down with that sweater and maybe tucking them both into your pants could lead you to both feeling very warm but also quite confident. Here the use of bold colors is essential and there is almost no better color than a rich shade of green for the winter.



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Thrifted designer



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Almost all black



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Edgy



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Academic

Quiz: How well do you know Prince Harry’s penis problems?



COURTESY OF VOGUE

BENJAMIN BULLOCK '23 | SPORTS EDITOR • The recent release of Prince Harry’s bestselling memoir “Spare” has caused quite the storm of online controversy. Aside from the spilling of royal secrets, which the soon-to-be-coronated King Charles III is not too pleased about, the internet has focused in on some of Harry’s more peculiar comments.

But comments about what, exactly? Well, it certainly seems from a cursory glance of the autobiography that the Prince, as well as having some pent up royal childhood trauma, has a slight obsession with talking about his... manhood. Several excerpts from the audiobook, narrated by Harry himself, have gone viral on such platforms as TikTok and Instagram, leaving online listeners cringing at the sheer level of detail into which Harry exposes his personal business.

Therefore, we thought we would offer our readers a chance to prove their royal knowledge. The task is simple. Below is a series of quotes. All you have to do is decide whether it is a genuine quote from “Spare” or a phallic fallacy made up by The Bachelor editorial staff. Good luck! (answers below)

#1: “While it’s absolutely true that the chance of getting penile frostbite is much greater if you’re not circumcised, all the stories were false. I was snipped as a baby.”

#2: “My penis was oscillating between extremely sensitive and borderline traumatized. The last place I wanted to be was Frostnipistan.”

#3: “I felt my todger getting sorer and sorer. It looked like it had been hit with a hammer. I thought to myself, ‘will this really be Ms. Markle’s first impression of my instrument?’

#4: “When more than 100 boys lived in proximity... everyone knew everyone’s business, down to who was circumcised and who wasn’t. We called it Roundheads vs. Cavaliers.”

#5: “It was early in the morning, and she tried to have her way with me. To her, it was cock-a-doodle-do. But my todger was having none of it. I lay there flaccid and disgruntled.”

#6: “On one occasion, I was unfortunate enough to pee my pants while guarding camp at night. It was deeply embarrassing... but at least it kept my genital region warm for a short while.”

#7: “She liked horses quite a lot and treated me not unlike a young stallion. Quick ride, after which she’d smacked my rump and sent me off to graze.”

#8: “Much speculation arose in the press about the size of my manhood. So much so that The Sun once called it ‘The Tower of London.’ I had to keep my crown jewel well-hidden.

Answer Key: Harry actually wrote 1, 2, 4, 7. We made up 3, 5, 6, 8.

Review: ‘Kaleidoscope’ brings fresh angle to heist genre

JAKOB GOODWIN '23 | MANAGING EDITOR • Netflix kicked off its 2023 with a bang, releasing Kaleidoscope, a heist drama starring Breaking Bad’s Giancarlo Esposito and Tati Gabrielle from The 100. Kaleidoscope differs itself from every other heist, with its main twist: you can watch the episodes in (pretty much) any order, changing it depending on what order you watch the show.

Each episode of Kaleidoscope is titled by a color, loosely fitting the rainbow color scheme that you might get in a kaleidoscope: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Pink and Violet, capped off by the heist episode, White, which you are supposed to watch last. And if you forget this review, Netflix has included Black, a primer that explains the concept.

I watched Kaleidoscope in the order in which Netflix presented the episodes to me. I began with Yellow and went on to Green, Blue, Orange, Violet, Red, Pink and White. To me, this order makes it seem like a broken Tarantino film, where we go back and forth in time, but it’s not quite right.

Yellow: Yellow takes place 6 weeks before the heist and I think this is the best place to start for watching. Like every good heist movie, there is a team. In Yellow, we meet our main characters and our antagonist, but not much else. Esposito plays Leo, the brains of the operation. Stan (Peter Mark Kendall) is the smuggler and supplier. Judy (Rosaline Elbay) blows things up and her husband Bob (Jai Courtney) cracks safes. Ava (Paz Vega) is the group’s lawyer and gives them all the guns they need. RJ (Jordan Mendoza) is the handyman and driver. Hannah (Tati Gabrielle) is the woman on the inside of Roger Salas’s (Rufus Sewell) security company that only protects the most valuable assets. The team is looking to steal a set of unsigned treasury bonds worth \$7 billion, which are owned by a trio of billionaires who entrust the bonds to Salas and his firm, SLS. This episode is a great exposition for a story with a number of characters and storylines that intertwine a lot.

Green: Green is 7 years before the heist and follows Leo and Stan, who were cell-mates in prison and their escapes. You find out that Leo has Parkinson’s and shakes that get worse as he gets older. You also see that Stan and Judy were together before Stan went into the clink, setting up one of the main conflicts in the team.

Review: ‘A Man Called Otto’ is not for the faint of heart

DAVID GELMAN '26 | STAFF WRITER • “A Man Called Otto” is not for the faint of heart. The story is actually based on a Swedish book called “A Man Named Ove,” as well as a movie with the same name. “A Man Called Otto” depicts the story of a man who combats suicidal thoughts and depression after losing his wife just six months prior to the story taking place. However, there seem to be even more underlying mental and physical health discrepancies other than what the story provides.

Otto is played by none other than the incredible Tom Hanks. With movies such as “Forrest Gump” and “Saving Mr. Banks,” Tom Hanks has had no shortage of serious roles that can take on this comedic yet dramatic and emotional rollercoaster of a plot line. Hanks always seems to improve his performances—some may even go as far as saying that this was one of his best movies. In the grand scheme of things, however, this movie will not gain as much traction as other movies he has acted in, as the supporting cast is not as strong. But nonetheless, another outstanding performance from an outstanding actor.

The main character, Otto, has fallen into a deep loneliness and depression when an unlikely neighbor moves in across the street. His arrogance and quest for perfection lead him to believe that everyone is an idiot, and no one can do it better than he can. This causes him to help these neighbors with various tasks, and, in turn, a friendship is born. This friendship grows, prolonging Otto’s life, and changes the relationship into the very family Otto has longed for.

The plot is interesting, to say the least. The story includes multiple flashbacks to give context and relevance to each scenario, who Otto is and why he reacts the way he does. The only reason the movie is labeled as a comedy is due to some of the character interactions between each other. For example, Otto attempts to teach his neighbor how to drive, and she pumps the brake every five seconds. And later, his neighbor asks for an allen wrench and he mispronounces it, so the two characters argue for about five minutes over the pronunciation. Other than these few instances, the movie is a real tear-jerker. Otto struggles to hold



COURTESY OF NETFLIX

Blue: 5 days before the heist, the team realizes their plan won’t work and they make the last-minute changes to their plan to pull the heist off. The episode is great and sets up the heist, but the only pre-heist story left in this order is during White, so there is some left to be desired.

Orange: 3 Weeks before the heist, you follow Detective Nazan Abbassi, played by Niousha Noor, as she deals with her past and the obsession she has with catching Ava on a charge that she had been investigating previously. This episode is fine, and helps us explain the officers on our teams tail, but serves to add red herrings to this order of the show.

Violet: 24 years before the heist, Graham and Ray, or Salas and Leo, are thieves themselves. After a break in thieving, they make a plan for one last heist until something goes wrong and you see the betrayal that sets the whole story off. This episode is incredibly well done and helps to justify the show. And it’s even better that it’s this late in this order. Chronologically this is first and watching this one first would make many of the other episodes boring.

Red: The morning after the heist, you see the team argue after something went wrong. The bonds are missing and so is half the team. This episode is fast paced and goes easily. The viewer doesn’t know what happened, but all the bonds were replaced by construction paper, so someone has billions now. I initially hated seeing the after-

math of the heist before the heist itself, but it works.

Pink: Six months after the heist, we check in with each living member of the crew and where they find themselves. Mostly, they are hunting each other in search of the bonds they all believe each other to have. This episode took forever, as it was the only one remaining before the heist in this order and its hard to see the long effects of the heist without knowing what went wrong.

White: Finally, we get to watch the heist. Like every good heist movie, the plan works until it doesn’t, then it all falls apart. People are dead and others are missing. So are \$7 billion in bearer’s bonds. And now we know why. The heist is great. We see the fulfilling of all the backstory and we see where Red and Pink are coming from. This was a great cap of the show.

Overall, this show was great and I would absolutely scramble it and watch again. A couple of episodes dragged, but I think you can fix that by making a few changes. If you decide to watch, my recommended order is Yellow, Violet, Green, Orange, Blue, Red, White and Pink. Yes, you’re supposed to watch White last. This is better.

FINAL VERDICT:
4.5/5 WALLYS



COURTESY OF ITUNES

on to life, not realizing that even though his wife is still gone, she is still with him.

All-in-all, “A Man Called Otto” is a cinematic masterpiece. It tackles serious issues that the younger generations in society are dealing with on a daily basis. The movie perfectly exhibits Otto as a man struggling with his emotions, feeling alone in this world with no possible end to his suffer-

ing other than killing himself. This movie comes highly recommended, but unless you like snot-filled tissues, I would not watch it on date night.

FINAL VERDICT:
4/5 WALLYS



Wabash hires new Student Development and Wellness Coordinator

JAMES WALLACE '26 | STAFF WRITER
• Wabash welcomed a new staff member to the Ginny Hays house at the beginning of this semester: Tristen Abbott, Student Development and Wellness Coordinator. Many are thrilled to have her as part of the Wabash family, including Brayden Weiss '24, Chairman of the Mental Health Concerns Committee (MHCC).

“I’m super excited about the doors her hire opens for both the MHCC and the college,” Weiss said. “We have been sorely missing someone in this position throughout the year and having her to direct some of the larger scale facets of our work is going to be amazing.”

But what exactly will Abbott be doing? Abbott described her position as “guiding a cohort of students that will work on getting the information out on the resources we already have and the resources that the student body wants to see” in relation to health and wellness. “My job is to help meet the students’ needs in relation to health and wellness,” Abbott said.

She plans on achieving this by using a holistic approach that uses the eight dimensions of wellness, which is comprised of the emotional, physical, occupational, intellectual, financial, social, environmental and spiritual components of an individual.

“The eight-dimensional model describes each part of overall wellness,” Abbott said. “If you are lacking in one of the eight dimensions, the others won’t be able to thrive.” By helping students achieve wellness with this model, she hopes to enrich the college experience for Wabash students.

Abbott’s new position puts her in charge of coordinating with the student body and the college itself through her new team of Peer Health Educators. The team will be made up of individuals who directly work for Abbott and her department.

“The Peer Health Educators will act as a liaison between the student body and the Wabash staff,” Abbott explained. “They will be able to figure out where we can meet in the middle and accomplish goals.” Abbott also said that the Peer Health Educators “will be integrated into the community of individual living units and will be sending out resources and pushing upcoming events geared around wellness” to increase mental health awareness.

“Today’s society has a much better understanding of why mental health is important,” Abbott said. “I think that keeping mental health a priority allows you to maximize your potential everywhere else. It’s about thriving, not just surviving.”

Senior spotlight Malik Barnes '23, ‘agent of change’



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

RYAN PAPANDRIA '25 | STAFF WRITER

• Malik Barnes '23 is the first of this year’s weekly Senior Spotlight. Malik is a PPE major from the small town of Marion, Arkansas. He most notably holds the position of Chairman of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies, the highest-ranking leadership position a student can hold in the institute. He is arguably one of the most recognizable faces on the campus, whether that be due to his tall stature, impeccable fashion or seemingly infectious smile.

However, the whole story of Malik Barnes isn’t told by his major or his extracurricular achievements.

“I hope to be an agent of great change”

-Malik Barnes '23

One of Malik’s most influential experiences before arriving on campus occurred at the Arkansas Governor’s School Camp. Here, he found the experience “mesmerizing” due to the idea that he was surrounded by people who could spend hours discussing many philosophical and scholarly topics, including discussions over very difficult topics.

“I really liked the idea of not being afraid to ask questions of how society should be versus how it is,” said Barnes. “Striving for a more perfect union” was at the forefront of these discussions, and they allowed Malik to become the man he is today.

As you could imagine, Wabash was never really on Malik’s radar coming from a small town in Arkansas. But a last-ditch effort by a high school advisor changed his future.

“I remember my advisor coming in and she said she wouldn’t be doing her job if she didn’t show me this one last school.” And, as every Wabash man likely was at one point, Barnes was skeptical. “At first, I was like ‘No way.’ But then I came up, and I loved the atmosphere and the energy of the school.”

To Malik, none of these factors stacked up as much as talking to the professors

themselves.

“Sitting down with the professors and hearing how they got to and came to love Wabash was very motivating,” he said. “And it never came in the angle of ‘this is why you should choose Wabash,’ but rather, they asked what my own aspirations were and tried to figure out whether or not Wabash would be a good fit. I really valued that.” Ultimately, Malik was sold and chose Wabash. “It really seemed like a place that was worth a shot.”

As one of the friendliest people you could ever meet, Malik has found that some of the most important people in his life are really... everyone!

“Everybody has something valuable,” he said. “Whether it be some thought process or way of living, I have found that everyone has something valuable to learn from.”

Malik also suggested that all people perceive different situations differently. “I think by understanding that, we are able to grow together in a way that helps everyone.” Malik holds the firm belief that all people truly have good intentions, regardless of how it is conveyed, and therefore we all should try to put ourselves in another’s position to better understand.

In terms of Malik’s future, he has one simple goal: to make the world a better place. “I hope to be an agent of great change,” said Barnes.

Coming into Wabash, Barnes was either going to be Pre-Law or Pre-Medicine. “Helping people has truly been my passion.”

While noticing the common connotations and shortcomings of many politicians today, Barnes may find himself changing the world for the better directly through the government.

“I really do think that there’s a lot of hope when it comes to representational democracy,” noted Barnes. “It can be such a great way to make the voices of constituents heard and represent them in a way that they can see a change in their own smaller communities.”

Regardless of Malik’s future endeavors, he is destined for success with his helpful and giving mindset.

Rush update



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha enjoying a fall rush event.

SARVIK CHAUDHARY '26 | STAFF WRITER

• For a college with 10 fraternities and over 60% of the students in Greek life, the process of rushing prospective students to fraternities is one of the most crucial activities when it comes to student life at Wabash.

This year saw one of the biggest turnout of prospective students at Scarlet Honors Weekend with roughly 280 high school and transfer students visiting campus last month, which was 100 more than last year.

The Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) and fraternities across campus have been eager to take advantage of this opportunity to sell Greek life at Wabash to future Wallies.

“We are trying to get solid data from houses to get the number of bids given out and accepted by students,” said Brett Driscoll '24, IFC President and FIJI Vice President. “But I know that our own fraternity rush went well and I heard from other houses that their rush went pretty good as well. They were able to give a lot of bids out and one house alone gave about 30 bids out.”

The College was equally satisfied with the turnout at Scarlet Honors Weekend, and are hoping to see the same result at Admitted Students Weekend.

“We are encouraged by the overall attendance at Scarlet Honors for the college at-large, as well as the number who stayed in and/or visited fraternities,” said Marc Welch '99, Associate Dean of Students. “This momentum is encouraging as we enter Admitted Student Weekends this spring semester. To the extent that fraternities actively recruit year-around and demonstrate their value-add, I think we will see more students going Greek.”

Sigma Chi, one of the biggest houses at Wabash, initiated only 10 students to their brotherhood for class of 2025, but they saw this number increase to 28 for the class of 2026.

“An emphasis was on really just getting in contact with guys, whether it’s getting on the phone with them, doing Zoom calls and even speaking to their parents if they have questions,” said one of Sigma Chi’s Rush Chairs, Sam Long '25. “Now we are starting to find out if guys are starting to get into Wabash or not and we tell them that we hope Wabash is still on your list. Just repetitively reaching out to them and connecting with them has definitely helped us so far.”

While fraternities like Sigma Chi have drastically increased the number of students that rush and join the house, other houses are currently struggling to get the number of brothers in their houses up. One of these houses is Theta Delta Chi, which takes pride in being the smallest fraternity on campus.

“It’s a little hard rushing guys in especially the first week of classes because everyone has a negative perspective of our house,” said one of Theta Delta Chi’s Rush Chairs, Jared Araiza '25. “They say ‘oh, the house is so small,’ or ‘they share a floor with independents’. And that’s what becomes a little hard to fight off”.

Despite these hurdles, Araiza said that they’re trying to make changes to their Rush process and also trying to spread their presence on campus. “We are trying to be more active, both on social media and around campus and also change the perspective of our house,” said Araiza.

“I think we can definitely continue to be that support system and ally to students, prospective students and fraternities here,” said Driscoll. “Just staying active and staying motivated about Greek life.... We will continue to get everybody behind that message and I think that we are going to be a positive force in the aspect of rushing and recruitment.”

Chris Denari '99 named Indiana Sportscaster of the Year

NOAH McROBERTS '25 | SPORTS WRITER
• “Some Little Giant” is a phrase fit for Chris Denari '83. An Indiana native, Denari graduated with the class of 1983 alongside his teammates on the 1982 National championship basketball team. During that time, he was an English major and a brother at Sigma Chi. Since then, he has remained invested in the world of sports, to the point of being voted 2022 Indiana Sportscaster of the Year by the National Sports Media Association as the voice of the Indiana Pacers.



COURTESY OF THE INDIANA PACERS

Chris Denari '99 on the court at Gainbridge Fieldhouse.

When I heard about this development at a recent meeting for The Bachelor, I jumped at the opportunity to write on this, as his line of work is where I hope to be when I’m this age. Fortunately, I was able to catch him with a phone call when he was on his way to a Pacers vs. Bulls game on Tuesday night to ask him some questions about how Wabash got him to where is today. His insights were what I needed to hear, and what I believe many today need to hear as well.

His first words of advice were to work hard. Denari made a National Championship run with the basketball team, focused on staying involved in his fraternity, had the role of sports editor for The Bachelor, and headed the radio broadcast crew while in his time at Wabash. While class was out of session, he would rise at 5:00 A.M. for his summer job mowing lawns and commuting to Indianapolis as an intern at a local television network. Many think of college as a time to have fun and get away from home, but as many Wabash men recognize, it is also the best time to stretch yourself. Hard work taught him to pay attention to how he wanted to spend his time and to manage his time efficiently.

This coincided with his second emphasis on creating your own opportunities. For each opportunity, role and job, he pushed the envelope. He knew what he wanted, and he did what it took to achieve it. And all that hard work paid off, as he said, “It gave me the confidence to pursue my goal. I always felt that if I got the interview, I would get the job.” He put himself in opportunities to learn, grow, and expand his repertoire so that when the time came, he would be ready. For him, this meant getting outside opportunities, utilizing connections and building his brand.

However, that didn’t come without some setbacks. When he was working in Indy at a television company, his boss came in one day notifying him and his coworkers that they were closing down the studio and that they were out of the job. “Sometimes you will be on top of the world, and the next day at the bottom.” But again, the Wabash methodology of hard work and creating opportunities prepared him to move forward. And he moved forward on many different occasions, switching from one job to the next, often not in his desired line of work, sportscasting.

But, as you now know, he did obtain his goal. He worked hard, put himself out there and persevered when the going got tough. And his driving force behind it all? A dream. He had a dream of calling basketball on live TV one day, and he did everything he could to achieve that. We Wabash men need to take to heart these same concepts of a strong work ethic, stretching ourselves and keeping at it. But we don’t just do these things just to do them. We have dreams. Dreams of winning national titles, building successful startups, owning law firms and becoming doctors, professors and civic leaders. Wabash Always Fights because we have something to fight for.

So like Chris Denari, dream big brothers!

Wabash Club of Indianapolis

Wabash Always Cites! Cheers to the 23rd Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, & Creative Work

facebook.com/groups/wabashclubofindianapolis

Word ladder

Turn the top word into the bottom word by changing only one letter at a time in the optimal number of steps.

PLAY

SNOW

FAIR

(6 steps)

FORT

(4 steps)

ROAD

FAST

SALT

(6 steps)

FOOD

(4 steps)

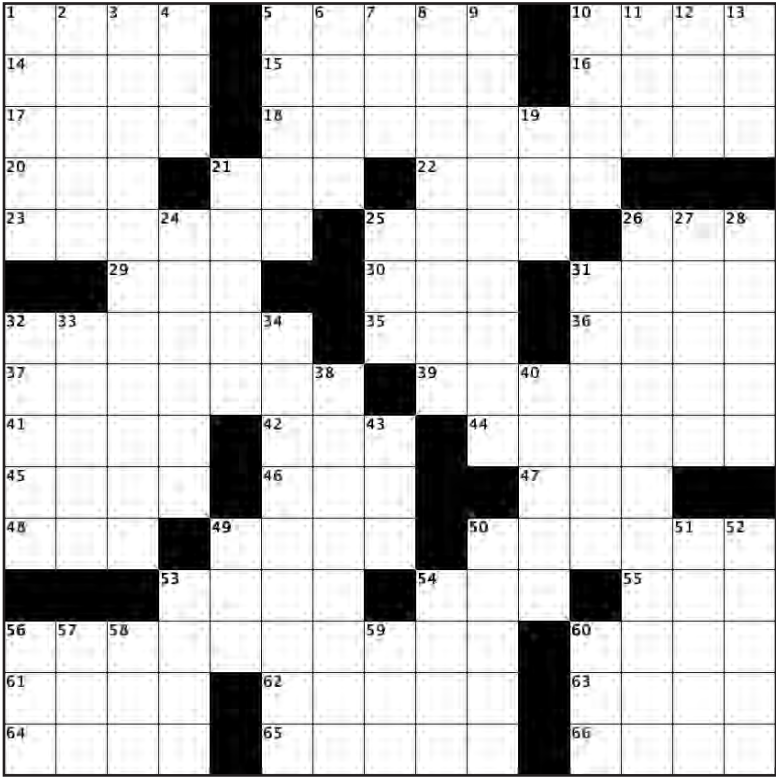
Did you know...? ∞

The symbol commonly known as the “infinity sign” actually has a name!

It’s called a **lemniscate**, a figure eight-shaped curve generated by the locus of the point at which a variable tangent to a rectangular hyperbola intersects a perpendicular from the center to the tangent.

The word comes from the latin word lemniscatus, meaning “decorated with ribbons,” as they were originally modeled with ribbon.

‘Seeing red’



- Down**
- 1. Confesses
 - 2. Boots, to Dora
 - 3. *Will Ferrell character based on broadcast journalist Mort Crim
 - 4. “That’s a big _____”
 - 5. Snuck in, as a heavy drug
 - 6. Gov. watchdog founded as the Bureau of Labor Standards
 - 7. WWI flyer
 - 8. Watery expanse between England and Scandinavia
 - 9. Service provided by Netflix or Apple TV+
 - 10. Quick shots
 - 11. Marvel-ous role for Kurt Russell?
 - 12. Σ
 - 13. It sits below a tilde
 - 19. Wood makeup of Voldemort’s wand
 - 21. Oman neighbor
 - 24. Minding one’s Ps and Qs, say
 - 25. Quick drink
 - 26. *6-year-old American civil rights activist
 - 27. Rolled out of bed
 - 28. Disobeys popular advice regarding one’s heroes
 - 31. Grey, e.g.
- Across**
- 1. “Gone with the Wind” estate
 - 5. Student _____
 - 10. Royally goof?
 - 14. “Famous” cookiemaker
 - 15. Accessory for Fred Jones
 - 16. H-“dos”-O?
 - 17. “The Legend of Zelda” protagonist
 - 18. *July 4th noisemaker
 - 20. C.I.A. : U.S. :: _____ :Soviet Union
 - 21. Thumbs-up vote
 - 22. Golfer’s bagful
 - 23. Made more powerful, with “up”
 - 25. Pygmalion playwright
 - 26. It’s good for ewe?
 - 29. CD-_____
 - 30. Absurd ending?
 - 31. Remedy
 - 32. Pirate’s prosthesis
 - 35. Architect of the Louvre Pyramid
 - 36. The duck in “Peter and the Wolf”
 - 37. Saint Thomas _____
 - 39. Many an ESPN employee
 - 41. 4th-down play
 - 42. Banana Boat letters
 - 44. Golden _____
 - 45. White House worker
 - 46. “Golly!”
 - 47. Seed case that inspired Velcro
 - 48. Apt rhyme of “pry”
 - 49. University where JFK gave his “We choose to go to the moon” speech
 - 50. Funerary finale, often
 - 53. Khao man gai cuisine
 - 54. Nightmarish tree
 - 55. Rosalind Franklin’s focus
 - 56. **Songs About Jane” pop rock band
 - 60. One of the pounds in a pound cake
 - 61. Syllabus entry
 - 62. A Boeing 747 has 18
 - 63. Sandwich that’s been heated
 - 64. Section of 55-Across
 - 65. Quick-reads?
 - 66. Puts to work



Scan for solution!

Rebus puzzles

1.

LICKETY

2.

GROUND

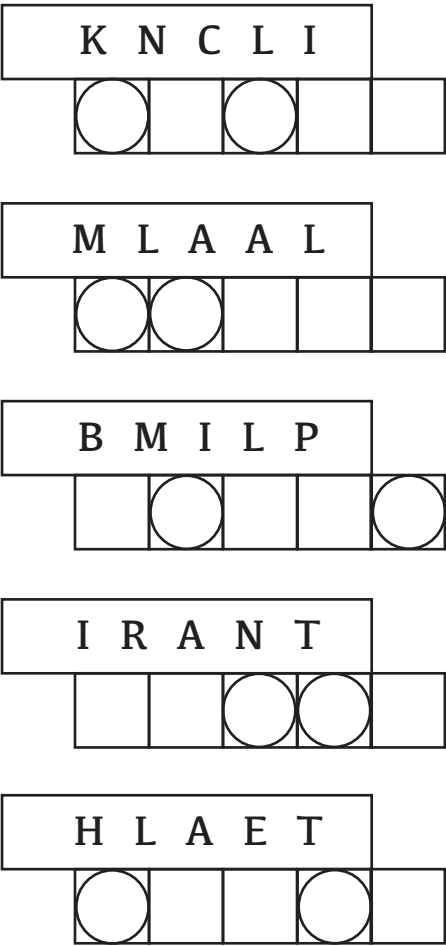
FEET FEET
FEET FEET
FEET FEET

3.

VA DERS

4.

GSEG
SEGG
GSGE



Now unscramble the circled letters to reveal the bonus answer below:



Scarlet scramble



ARTWORK BY ARMAN LUTHRA '26

The snowman was worried about melting, so he took...

Answers

Rebus: 1. Lickety split; 2. Six feet under ground; 3. Space invaders; 4. Scrambled eggs
Scarlet Scramble: Clink; Llama; Blimp; Train; Lathe; (bonus) a chill pill

Sudoku

		4		9	1		5
	3	6	5		7	8	2
	1		2			6	9
6		3		2	4		
	9		1	6	5		3
	4		8			2	9
	5	9	3			7	2
7	6				9		5
	8	1		5	2		4

	1		9	4		7		2
7				3	8	9		
4	8					1		
	6	5		2			3	
9			3		7		1	
		3					9	6
	4	7	6		3	8	2	
							7	5
2		8			1			9

3				9	8			2
6				4			1	
							4	3
		3			6	1	5	
	6		3		9			
7		1				8		
	1		8					7
			2	6	1			
	8			7			2	

Easy

Medium

Hard

Complete the grid by entering one number in each square so that each row, column and square contains the numbers 1–9 only once.

McRoberts: NCAC basketball power rankings

NOAH McROBERTS '25 | SPORTS WRITER • Some more NCAC action coming to you on the court this week. We have some significant movement throughout the power rankings, and the top spot in the conference is completely up for grabs.

1. Wooster Fighting Scots (15-3, 9-1 NCAC) [Last week: 1]

The fighting Scots have firmly established themselves at the first-place spot with convincing wins the last couple weeks over DePauw, Denison and, most recently, OWU. Their overall numbers have slowly been improving following a lackluster start and they now hold a +7.3 average score margin on the year. They are clear favorites for the regular season title.

2. OWU Battling Bishops (13-6, 8-2 NCAC) [Last week: 4]

Led by the NCAC leader in points per game Jack Clement, Ohio Wesleyan has some serious potential for a tournament run. But their loss this week to Wooster has really hurt their regular season conference hopes. Their supporting cast is weak, but they are still set up well for crunch time.

3. Wabash Little Giants (14-4, 7-2 NCAC) [Last week: 3]

Since losing fierce point man Sam Comer '24, the Little Giants have revealed some weakness. Comer had been a top defender while putting up consistent assist and point numbers throughout the season. In his absence, they've narrowly escaped the likes of Wittenberg and Oberlin, while dropping one game at DePauw. To please the Chadwick faithful, Wabash needs to get him back soon.

4. DePauw Tigers, (14-5, 6-4 NCAC) [Last week: 2]

After putting themselves in the driver's seat early on, the Dannies have struggled when it mattered most, dropping two games to conference leaders OWU and Wooster. With the help of senior Elijah Hales, the Tigers have upheld a second best point differential in the conference, so they have hope to turn it around. It just needs to happen soon.

5. Denison Big Red, (9-8, 5-4 NCAC) [Last week: 5]

To this point, The Big Red have been the divider between the top and bottom of the conference. They dominate the likes of Kenyon and Wittenberg, but just can't get past the power schools like OWU and Wooster. They play a disciplined enough game to keep up but haven't made the shots that count. If they really work on their shooting numbers, especially at the charity stripe, they could still make some noise come tourney time.

6. Wittenberg Tigers, (8-10, 4-6 NCAC) [Last week: 6]

Springfield has seen better days on their court. Having lost to Wooster and Wabash while defeating Hiram in a narrow overtime win, they need to make some major shifts to get back in the race. They aren't out yet, but with no go-to guy on the roster, Wittenberg's hopes of a late season resurgence seem slim to none.

7. Hiram Terriers, (10-9, 4-6 NCAC) [Last week: 7]

Despite a scorching start to the year, the Terriers have come thundering back down to earth in recent weeks. They did get a conference victory this week, albeit against lowly Kenyon. Hiram's chances of an optimal seed come tourney time are long gone.

8. Oberlin Yeomen, (5-14, 1-9 NCAC) [Last week: 9]

When you look past a 38-point loss to Wittenberg at the midpoint of the season, Oberlin's overall numbers aren't that bad. They have kept games within five to both Wabash and OWU, and sport the highest number of three-point attempts of any team in the conference. No one should be comfortable with the Yeomen coming to town.

9. Kenyon Owls, (7-12, 0-10 NCAC) [Last week: 8]

Poor Kenyon. They fight so hard, but to no avail. They have kept four of their last seven games within four points, yet still haven't picked up a conference win. They couldn't even beat Hiram at home. Oof.

This week in sports: Snapshot of the February slate

BENJAMIN BULLOCK '23 | SPORTS EDITOR • Around campus right now, there is a sense of quiet before the storm. And no, I'm not talking about the snow blizzards—I'm talking about the past week's notable lack of sporting events. But don't get used to it.

While the wrestling, swimming and basketball teams all had outings last weekend on January 21, the rest of the week's calendar has been... bare. Not a single event took place between Sunday, January 22, and Thursday, January 26. Wabash fans have had little choice but to sit around and twiddle their thumbs.

But fear not, dear Cavemen, for February brings with it a slew of athletics events to feast on. So many, in fact, that the athletics schedule for some days includes no fewer than 11 separate events. It is all quite dizzying. But once more, fear not, for The Bachelor has you covered. So, let's break down what all to expect in February's crazy athletics calendar.

Basketball: Conference championship on the line

With the basketball team more than halfway through the conference portion of their season, it's crunch time for Coach Brumett and his men. But topping the NCAC standings will be no easy task. On Saturday, January 21, the Little Giants barely scraped out an overtime victory against perennial underperformers Oberlin, and even that wouldn't have been possible without the last-second heroics of Vinny Buccilla '25.

Barring some kind of miracle, Wabash needs to win out to have any chance of securing a second consecutive NCAC title. Wabash (14-4, 7-2 NCAC) is currently third in the conference standings behind first-place Wooster (15-3, 9-1 NCAC) and second-place Ohio Wesleyan (13-6, 8-2 NCAC). The Little Giants play these teams again on February 18 and February 4 respectively.

The NCAC Tournament commences on February 21, beginning with the quarterfinals.



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Daniel Alves '26 grapples with his opponents leg while landing on his head at the Wabash College Invitational on January 22, 2023.

Swimming & Diving: Championship month

The swimming and diving team has wrapped up its regular season schedule and now moves into a month-long post-season spell. Across four days on February 8-11, the team will compete in the NCAC Championships, hosted at Denison's Trumbull Aquatics Center.

Leading the charge for the Little Giants will be two-time NCAC Athlete of the Week Caleb McCarty '23. The senior from Decatur, Indiana, posted two individual victories against NCAA Division I opponents Valparaiso University and Eastern Illinois University on Friday, January 20.

The team will then compete at the Last Chance Meet at Indiana University's Councilman Billingsley Aquatic Center on February 18.

Lacrosse: All fired up

There is a lot of hype around the Wabash lacrosse team right now. In part, this is because of the team's amazing social media efforts of late. But it's mainly because of the genuine conviction that this team can go places.

Head Coach Chris Burke has a young bunch of players to work with. Of the 20 men listed on the lacrosse roster, 10 of them



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Caleb McCarty '23 celebrates an exceptional performance at a swim meet on October 29, 2021.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Haider Diemer-McKinney '26 (right) won the 800-meter indoor run at the Friday Night Spikes meet on January 20, 2023.

Three athletes win weekly NCAC honors

BENJAMIN BULLOCK '23 | SPORTS EDITOR • The North Coast Athletic Conference announced on January 23 that three Wabash athletes won Athlete of the Week honors. Swimmer Caleb McCarty '23, track athlete Haider Diemer-McKinney '26 and basketball player Vinny Buccilla '25 all received the recognition within their respective sports.

Swim team senior McCarty earned his second NCAC Athlete of the Week recognition after scoring two individual victories against NCAA Division I opponents on Friday, January 20. Against swimmers from Valparaiso University and Eastern Illinois University, McCarty won both the 50-meter and 100-yard freestyle events.

McCarty won his first NCAC recognition in the fall and has gone from strength to strength ever since. He has become an integral part of the Little Giants swimming lineup and credits his recent spell of success on building the right mental framework going into each event.

"My key to success has been to find a pre-performance ritual and routine that promotes my focus to lock in," said McCarty. "Locking in mentally is a powerful tool for success. There is no benefit in focusing on what my opponent is about to do. The best way that helps me lock in is to divert my full attention and focus to the water."

In the distance/mid-distance category, Diemer-McKinney also secured his second NCAC Athlete of the Week Award of the academic year. The freshman from Brownsburg posted the sixth-fastest time in Division III this season in the 800-meter indoor run on Friday, January 20, at the Friday Night Spikes meet hosted by Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

"Track can be a demanding sport, both physically and mentally, so I want to lead by example and make an impact on other athletes," said Diemer-McKinney. "I've also reflected on how afraid I was to take risks in elementary and middle school, and I've realized that life's too short to live conservatively. I don't want to lie on my death bed and think that I had more to give in life, that haunts me. So, I think going out of my comfort zone and taking risks are things I'd look back on and be happy with in the future."

Looking to build on his early success, Diemer-McKinney has ambitious targets for the rest of the indoor season.

"For this indoor season, I hope to win the individual 800m at our conference meet as well as a 4x4 victory at that meet," said Diemer-McKinney. "I also hope to qualify for the NCAA championships in March, and if I qualify, despite the outcome, I want to leave Birmingham knowing that I

left everything I possibly had on that track."

Finally, sophomore guard Buccilla won Athlete of the Week for basketball, also his second such recognition of the year. He averaged 17.5 points and 8.5 rebounds against Wittenberg and Oberlin on January 18 and January 21 respectively.

But it was Buccilla's last-second heroics in the latter game that truly won him this award. With three seconds left on the clock, Wabash trailed 66-69. Just as all

versity. That weekend will be the last chance to see the Little Giants at home before the start of conference play in March.

Track & field: Indoor finale

After a string of good indoor results in recent weeks, the track and field team is looking forward to two different NCAC events in the month of February. On February 18-19, the Little Giants compete in the NCAC Multi-Event Championship at Denison University. Then, on February 24-25, the team will compete in the NCAC Indoor Championships hosted by DePauw University.

Tennis: No traveling necessary

The tennis team returns to action on January 28 when they take on the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and Cardinal Stritch University at UW-Whitewater. But after that, the team doesn't hit the road for an entire month.

On February 4, the Little Giants host an alumni match at the Collett Tennis Center. The team then embarks on six consecutive home contests, including matchups against Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Earlham College and Principia College.

Conference play does not begin until April. Nevertheless, the NCAC earlier this week released its preseason coaches poll. Wabash received 25 total points, tying them for fifth place in the season-opening rankings.

Baseball: Stepping up to the plate

Last but certainly not least, many Wallies will be excited to hear of the return of America's pastime. Over the weekend of February 17-19, the team travels to Rhodes College, Tennessee, where they will play games against Rhodes, Augustana College (Ill.) and the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. But unfortunately for Little Giants fans, the first home ballgame of the season does not take place until March 26 against Illinois Wesleyan University.



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Vinny Buccilla '25 collects the ball while driving into the lane against Wooster on January 7, 2023.

Buzzer-beaters, injury woes and bitter foes

With Comer '24 still injured, who will step up for the Little Giants?

ETHAN WALLACE '25 | BASKETBALL WRITER • After Vinny Buccilla's '25 miraculous buzzer-beating three-pointer carried Wabash into overtime against Oberlin, the Little Giants are still holding on to the possibility of winning the NCAC. On Saturday, January 28, the team will continue fighting for the top spot in the conference at home against Kenyon College. Then, on February 1, Wabash will face-off for the second time this season against rivals DePauw, this time within the turreted walls of Chadwick Court.

The big question for these games will be how well the team can play without starting point guard Sam Comer '24. Comer, who was injured in the first game against DePauw and has missed the last two, hasn't returned to practice yet. While there is a small chance he will be ready to play by February 1, he has already been ruled out against Kenyon.

Comer's absence has affected the number of points that leading scorer Ahmoni Jones '24 has been able to generate. Jones is at his best when he's able to catch-and-shoot or post-up in the short corner. Comer, who leads the team in assists, is often the one who finds Jones with his excellent passing.

In the two games Jones has played without Comer, his scoring from the field has decreased. Against Wittenberg, Jones scored 17 points with the help of eight from the charity stripe. But, he attempted far fewer shots from the field.

Against Oberlin, Jones only managed to put up 11 points, with seven of those coming from free throws. From the floor, he shot 2-14 and went 0-5 from three. The Little Giants will need him to be back at his very best if they hope to defeat a strong opponent such as DePauw.



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Vinny Buccilla '25 elevates over the defender for a tough layup against Wittenberg on January 18, 2023.

"A main focus for us this year has been trying to keep Ahmoni offensively in a position where he's had success," said Brumett. "Last year, a high volume of his baskets came off assists from Davidson '22 and Watson '22. Now, Comer has emerged into that role after

"A main focus for us this year has been trying to keep Ahmoni offensively in a position where he's had success."

- Coach Brumett

not really playing there last year." The good news for Wabash is that Josh Whack '26, the freshman guard who stepped up to replace Comer on the starting five, has proven that he is capable of making a difference. While he doesn't

make up for the loss in assists and rebounding, Whack puts up a similar number of points when given equal minutes.

"Josh [Whack], even though he's a young player, has some similarities with Sam [Comer] with the ball in his hands," said Brumett. "Our other guys don't have nearly as much experience playing with Josh as they do playing with Sam. So, this week we'll watch the film to study, and in practice focus on executing our offense in a way that resembles the great success that we've had at different points throughout the year."

In the team's previous matchup, the Little Giants were able to eke out a 71-67 win against Kenyon, who now sits at the bottom of the NCAC with an 0-9 record. The real challenge for Wabash was their own turnovers, 5-19 three point



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Sam Comer '24 drives in between two DePauw defenders at the last home game between Wabash and the Dannies on February 16, 2022.

shooting and 16-25 free throw shooting. In the rematch, the team just needs to stay solid and not waste their possessions. Do that, and they should beat Kenyon easily.

The rematch against DePauw, on the other hand, will be the harder of the two games for Wabash. DePauw is one of only two NCAC teams to have beaten the Little Giants. After losing Comer in the first half, the Wabash team fell victim to the Tiger's 5-10 three-point shooting and 19 points from the free throw line in the second half. Despite being down a key player, the Little Giants kept the game within five as the final buzzer sounded. Now the team has had more time to prepare and more experience playing without Comer, the Little Giants are hopeful of winning the rematch.



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Ahmoni Jones '24 pulls up for a three against Wittenberg on January 18, 2023 at Chadwick Court.

VINNY BUCCILLA '25

Wabash guard



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

2022/23 STATISTICS

PPG: 13.8 APG: 2.2
RPG: 3.7 3PT%: .452

WABASH vs DEPAUW Team PPG:



Wabash College

78.5

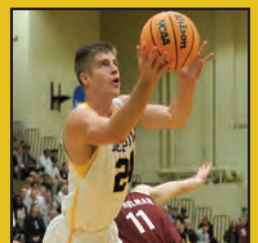


DePauw University

74.9

ELIJAH HALES

DePauw guard



COURTESY OF DEPAUW UNIVERSITY
ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

2022/23 STATISTICS

PPG: 19.4 APG: 1.94
RPG: 2.5 3PT%: .406

From the Ramsay Archives: Little Giants defeat Dannies, suffer loss to Purdue-Cal

Taken from The Bachelor, January 27, 1983

MIKI RICCI '84 | SPORTS WRITER• The Little Giants avenged an overtime loss on Saturday by defeating archrival DePauw on Tuesday. The 57-55 victory over DePauw raised the Little Giants' record to 8-7.

Wabash appeared to have the game against DePauw in hand, but a late rally by the Tigers made the game a lot closer. Wabash led by eight in the first half until DePauw scored two quick baskets, one on a 15-foot jumper by Craig McAtee and the other by Dave Hathaway after a steal. Wabash then built the lead back to eight, after a jumper and two free throws with no time remaining on the clock by Merlin Nice, leaving the halftime score at 34- 28.

In the second half, Wabash went ahead by as many as 11. In the last five minutes, DePauw cut the lead to one as the Tigers outscored the Little Giants 12-3. Jim Beagle went to the free throw line with 20 seconds left and hit one of two free throws to guarantee a tie. After a missed shot by Tim Vicke with seven seconds remaining, Joe Dixon got the rebound and had his last-second shot blocked by Andre Robertson to secure the victory for Wabash.

Nice scored 16 and Mark Lee added 10 to lead Wabash in scoring. Despite fouling out in the last minute, Hathaway scored 18 points to lead the Tigers.



COURTESY OF THE BACHELOR, JANUARY 27, 1983

Junior guard Dave Clark '84 keeps his eye on Ted Rutan, one of the Tigers' star players. Rutan grabbed the most rebounds in the game, keeping victory uncertain for the Little Giants until the final tally registered 57-55.

On Saturday, Wabash saw a seven-point halftime lead slip away and allowed Purdue- Calumet to take the game into overtime. In the overtime period, Charles Albrecht hit an early 15-foot jumper to give the Lakers the win. Wabash only got one point from Houston Mills at the free throw line, giving Purdue-Cal a 56-55 victory. Merlin Nice scored 14 points and

Jim Beagle added 12 to lead Wabash, while NAIA All- American Ed Blackmon scored 23 for Purdue-Cal.

Wabash has two more games before going on a six- game road trip. Friday at 7:30 the Little Giants will meet MacMurray and Saturday Wabash will host Blackburn.

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Upperclassmen lead youthful tennis team into spring season

Little Giants ranked fifth in NCAC preseason poll

JAMES WALLACE '26 | SPORTS WRITER • The spring semester is when the fun really begins for the Wabash tennis team. A short fall season certainly whets the appetite, but nothing quite compares to the competitive action of the next few months. And on Saturday, January 28, the Little Giants open their spring campaign with a trip to the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater where they will take on UW-Whitewater and Cardinal Stritch University.

There really aren't many bigger tests for the team's first outing back after winter break. In the NCAA Division III preseason coaches poll, UW-Whitewater was voted 34rd in the nation for men's tennis. Similarly, Cardinal Stritch consistently ranks highly among its national opponents in the NAIA.

"These two matches have been our main focus for the past few weeks," said Head Tennis Coach Daniel Bickett. "Both teams are nationally ranked, and they'll give us an understanding of where we need to improve to be competitive with the top teams in the NCAC."

One of the main talking points of the fall season was the influx of freshmen into the team's fibers. Of the 14 tennis players listed on the team's roster, eight of them are freshmen. With such an inexperienced squad, Bickett needs strong leadership from his handful of upperclassmen.

"This year, with freshmen outnumbering returners, we've had to devote more time to team building," said Bickett. "I've been pleased to see how our upperclassmen are leading that charge and demonstrating that they understand how those relationships are key to our success."

One of those freshmen is Blake Discher II '26, a native of Grosse Point Woods, Michigan. While the team has worked hard in the offseason to improve their skills and strength, they have also,



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Christian Zimmerman '25 warms up ahead of the Wabash College Invitational on the weekend of September 17-18, 2022.

Discher notes, made a concerted effort to better integrate the freshmen.

"We've been bonding as a team in general," said Discher. "There is a lot more trust in one another and I know that will be essential to our success this season."

But despite the optimism around the team's freshmen, the NCAC preseason coaches poll only ranked Wabash joint-fifth in the conference. The Little Giants garnered 25 points, tied with Wooster. Nevertheless, Coach Bickett remains confident that the poll is not a true representation of his team's overall talent.

"We have quite a few matches against teams that, on paper, would be considered better than us, but we also want to test ourselves in what we call toss-up matches," said Bickett. "In those matches, both teams are evenly ranked and many times it just comes down to who competes better as a team that day."

Though tennis is, of course, played on a singles and doubles basis, teamwork truly is of the utmost importance when heading into a team-scored event. Having one standout player simply isn't good enough, and thus strength

in depth seems to be the word of the day.

"Our team is a lot deeper than last year," said team co-captain Cole Borden '24. "Guys from last year are also improving a lot more. This season is going to be fun; we feel we can compete with just about anyone."

If you need proof of the team's insistence on depth over experience, one need only look at the number of upperclassmen on the roster. Alvaro Alonso-Sanchez '23, is the only senior returner this year, a demonstration of the team's faith in its young core. But in the face of all the challenges, Alonso-Sanchez firmly believes this team can step up.

"All of the current members of the team are very involved and give their best in practice," said Alonso-Sanchez. "I think this commitment and effort will bring good results to our season."

The team plays its first home event of the spring on Saturday, February 4, with a special alumni matchup. The Little Giants then play three consecutive weekends at home, beginning with the visit of Millikin University and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology on Saturday, February 11.

Wretlers celebrate Senior Day

Team clinches eight individual titles in Wabash College Invitational

COLE BERGMAN '24 | SPORTS WRITER • The Little Giants wrestling team celebrated their Senior Day with another successful weekend, finishing first of four teams at the Wabash Wrestling Invite on Saturday, January 21. Wabash finished with 250.5 points on the day, beating the second-placed Huntingdon College by almost a hundred.

Eighteen Little Giants captured top-four finishes, including seven individual titles. What's more, the team honored its four senior members Jack Heldt '23, Evan Burge '23, Austin Johnson '23 and Grant Johnson '23.

Two of those senior wrestlers won individual titles in their respective weight classes. In the heavyweight class, Heldt won with two pins on the day. Then, at the 197-pound weight class, Johnson won the weight class, finishing 3-0 on the day with a major decision, decision and pin.

One of the day's biggest winners was Mawuli Nevis '25, who earned a first place finish at the 165-pound weight class. After beating Huntingdon's Jayson Spencer in the semifinal, Nevis captured the title with an 11-4 victory over Huntingdon's Cade Sousa in the final. These two wins take Nevis's season tally up to five wins.

"It's been a good turnaround," said Nevis. "I've been putting in a lot more effort and seeing better results."

With an individual title under his belt, Nevis is now focused on helping build the team going forward.

"I think everybody's sort of seeing the light at the end of the tunnel," Nevis said. "Everybody's getting amped up for it. We do have a lot of potential, so I see everybody working a little bit harder to try to get that."

In the lightweight classes, Wabash scored two further individual victories. James Day '26 claimed the 125-pound title



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

Phenix Carney '25 defends against a takedown at the Wabash College Invitational on January 21, 2023.

over teammate Ethan Bednarczyk '25. Then, at 133-pounds, Arlie Benson '26 scored a victory over David Gelman '26 to clinch the class title.

Daniel Uribe '24 won the 149-pound weight class after two victories. He first defeated teammate Dominic Litchfield '26 by tech fall and went on to win by decision in the final. Litchfield would go on to win the third place match, scoring a decision victory over teammate Andrew Ross '26, who finished fourth.

Finally, at the 184-pound weight class, Chase Baczek '25, a native of Libertyville, Illinois, claimed the individual title by picking up two wins, including a 15-0 victory by tech fall in the semifinal round. With the results of the Wabash Invitational in, the NWCA Regional Rankings have also been updated. Ray Arebalo '25 currently sits at the top of the regional rankings at 174-pounds. Additionally, Day (125-pounds), Burge (141-pounds), Baczek (184-pounds), and Heldt (heavyweight) all rank second in the region.

After this dominating victory at home, the Little Giants look forward to continuing their season on Sunday, January 29, at the University of Indianapolis Greyhound Open before entering the last stretch of the season.

Greene: Size, confidence and experience bolster hopes of an improved volleyball season

ELIJAH GREENE '25 | SPORTS COLUMNIST • It may still be early doors, but the new Wabash volleyball season has shown moments that should excite both volleyball enthusiasts and casual athletics fans alike. This team, despite only being in its third varsity season, has shown vast improvements to its size, confidence and experience on the court. They are perhaps one of the most exciting teams to watch right now.

The Little Giants may have lost in three straight sets to Illinois Wesleyan University on January 17, but the poise, self-confidence and swagger exhibited from the six players on the court that day was evident to anyone sitting in the stands. It was impressive to say the least.

Even when losing, the team remained calm and collected, and ended up rallying from six points down in the third set to bring the match back to 22-20. Wabash ultimately lost the set, ending the match, but their resilience and tenacity was commendable.

One of the main highlights of the match was the play at the net for Wabash. The frontcourt had multiple stellar blocks throughout the sets, showcasing the new height and skill brought on from both increased experience and freshman prowess.

Having now played two seasons in the MCVL, this team, chock-full of sophomores and juniors, understands the stakes involved with competing in a tough Midwest-oriented volleyball conference.

"Last year, we only had one senior," said Jackson Leeper '25, one of the team's middle blockers. "With that extra year of experience, the sophomores and juniors are feeling more confident. We know what our conference looks like playwise and we know what to expect."

This may sound cliché, but with only two seasons of experience in a new league, each and every

match provides important context and builds the team's database on what it takes to play at the collegiate level in the MCVL. And with experience comes skill. Leeper and the cohort of other returning players have played enough to get a feel for the level of competition in the league, and have risen up, literally, to the challenge.

The combined might of Leeper, Patrick Volk '26 and Micheal Enz '26 at the net proved to be an issue for IWU hitters. Each of the three blocks that Wabash had against IWU came at critical moments and acted as a bolster to the team's flagging spirits. Along with shifting the momentum, the team was ecstatic after each block, celebrating together and igniting the emotions of the sizable crowd at Chadwick Court.

As for the anticipation of the fast-approaching conference play, Leeper was cautiously optimistic about Wabash's chances of placing well this season.

"Obviously, we would like to be in the top four, because top four means we get to go into conference playoffs," said Leeper. Having never won more than two conference games in a single season, placing fourth in the conference would constitute a monumental improvement in record in a single year.

"We've learned that the MCVL is a pretty competitive conference and being in it requires us to elevate our game," said Will Beikes '25, a setter for the Little Giants. Beikes, one of the returning starters from last year's team, expressed his opinion on the team's preparation for the upcoming conference slate.

"We've been working hard in practice and studying film in order for us to compete and really surprise some people this season," said Beikes.

Wabash fans seem to be taking note of the team's rapid rise. On January 17, 126 people attended the game against IWU, the second largest crowd ever to have attended a



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Luke Davis '24 winds up for a spike against Illinois Wesleyan University on January 17, 2023.



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Michael Enz '26 (left) and Patrick Volk '26 (right) encourage each other as the team tries to turn the game around against Illinois Wesleyan University on January 17, 2023.

Little Giants volleyball match. And Wabash fans did what Wabash fans do best: supported their Little

Giants enthusiastically and vocally. This support did not go unnoticed. "The energy of the crowd was

exhilarating, and I don't think many of us were expecting that large of a turnout," said Michael Enz '26. "Though we lost, it was nice to see the crowd engaged throughout the match, giving us extra motivation."

This sort of unconditional support is a trait of Wabash fans the world over. Loyal to the end, I implore our fans to cheer on our boys as they look to push their own expectations and succeed, as all Wabash teams do, at their respective sports.

"I think any Wabash fan cheering in the stands, either home or away, will give our team an extra gear to fight and stay competitive when it matters most," said Enz.

To Wabash: give this squad, our newest varsity sport, the spark and support that they are looking for. Their commitment and dedication to the sport that they love deserves no less commendation than any of our other winter sports. So be vocal, show up and continue to invigorate these plucky Little Giants.