

RUGBY SPECIAL • PAGES B1–B4



The Wabash College rugby team celebrates another win against Depauw university as they retain the Monon Keg.

Rugby finishes runner-up at Wabash Invitational

BENJAMIN BULLOCK '23 | SPORTS EDITOR • The Wabash rugby team may not have emerged victorious from their home tournament, but there were smiles all around and plenty to be proud of. The Little Giants hosted five other teams on Saturday, March 25, at Little Giant Stadium for the annual running of the Wabash Invitational, finishing second overall in the standings. And along the way, Wabash picked up a 29-0 victory over rivals DePauw to keep hold of the coveted Monon Keg. It truly was a blisteringly cold and ferociously windy day in Crawfordsville—the

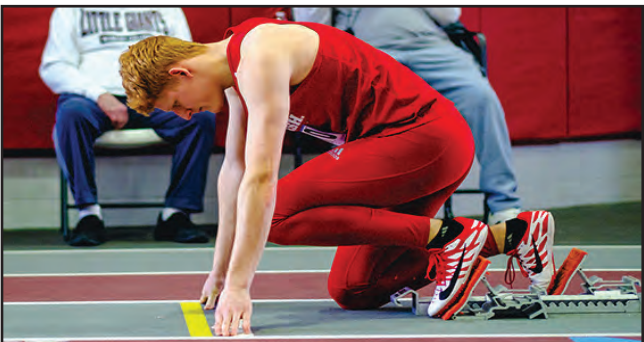
perfect conditions for an entertaining rugby tournament. But the format was not the most intuitive. The tournament began with pool play, each team playing two other teams to set the seeding. Then onto a championship round where first played second, third played forth and so on to decide the final standings. Wabash played in Pool A alongside Purdue A and DePauw, opening the tournament with a game against the Boilermakers. It was in this first game that the Little Giants got off to a rocky start. Brayden Goodnight '23 gave the ball away in his own half, allowing Purdue to break away for



Matthew Brooks '24 and Thomas Gastineau '23 leap into the air following a big play.

Oostman '25 receives 'Realizing the Dream' scholarship

BENJAMIN BULLOCK '23 | SPORTS EDITOR • Jake Oostman '25 was recently recognized by the Independent Colleges of Indiana with a “Realizing the Dream” scholarship. The award is given annually and offers a financial boost to first-gen students. Oostman received the scholarship after an involved first year on campus. He is a brother of Delta Tau Delta and intends to major in financial economics. He is also a rhyne, a CIBE consultant and a member of La Alianza. “Coming into Wabash, it was nerve wracking,” said Oostman. “Being first-gen, I didn’t have any experiences to build off, like other peers or mentors, so it was interesting coming here and trying to find a flow. But once I found that flow and started doing all the fun stuff I wanted to do, everything fell into place.” Oostman is also a member of the Wabash track and field team. He has already proven himself an exciting prospect, finishing third in the heptathlon at the NCAC Indoor Championships in February. “Jake [Oostman] is a pleasure to coach,” said Head Track and Field Coach Clyde Morgan. “He is a tough young man who is always eager to learn more.



Jake Oostman '25 on the starting blocks.

He tends to be hard on himself at times, but most driven people are. He is really developing as a leader both on and off the track.” Along with the award, recipients name an inspirational teacher or educator who has most influenced their academic pursuits. Oostman named Vincent Lewis, a social studies teacher at Crown Point High School, as his mentor. “Mr. Lewis was with me for all four years of high school, from freshman through senior year, and I actually did talk to him a lot about college,” said Oostman. “Even when he couldn’t help me, he linked me up with the right people. And obviously I am a financial economics major now; he taught me a lot of the basics of economics, so we were pretty close.” According to the ICI’s website, the “Realizing the Dream” scholarship

is made possible by the Lilly Endowment Inc., and recipients are selected for outstanding achievements during their freshman year. Each of Indiana’s 29 private, non-profit colleges and universities receive one scholarship annually. Other Wabash men who have received the scholarship in recent years have included Richard Pan '24, who received the award last year, Bryce McCullough '23 and Zach McKinney '22. Oostman is proud to have his name added to the list. “Looking back at the list of Wabash men who have also won the award and seeing, ‘oh, this guy’s on our board of directors,’ and ‘this other guy is on the alumni board,’ is really cool,” said Oostman. “Hopefully one day, in 20 years or so, I’ll be one of those names that people point out and say I was pretty successful too.”

Israel experiences massive protests after Netanyahu fires defense minister

TIERNAN DORAN '26 | POLITICS CORRESPONDENT • Protests and strikes against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have erupted across Israel, with many criticizing a proposed set of bills meant to overhaul the Israeli judicial system. The bills, pushed by Netanyahu and his coalition, include proposals to restrict the powers of the courts and judges. Netanyahu and other supporters of the bills see it as a necessary step in reigning the power of an unelected judiciary, while others see it as a power grab that would destroy important systems of checks and balances and allow Netanyahu to pursue his party’s ideological agenda uninhibited. Protests, to a lesser extent, have been raging since the plan was announced, when Netanyahu’s confidant Justice Minister Yariv Levin first shared the judicial platform in January. However, mass unrest broke out when Netanyahu abruptly fired the defense minister for opposing the plan. Prior to his dismissal, Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant had shared concerns that the plan was



Protestors take to the streets as unrest grows in Israel.

creating political division within the military and was hurting morale. “I see how our source of strength is being eroded,” said Gallant. After the firing of Gallant, Israel’s Consul General, Assaf Zamir, resigned in protest. Within the hour, protesters organized with tens of thousands of people blocking the main highway in Tel Aviv, while others protested outside of Netanyahu’s home. Members of Israel’s military reserve have joined the

protests, with nearly all 40 reservist pilots in the Israeli air force squadron 69 participating in protests and refusing to continue their training exercise, claiming they weren’t going to serve a “dictatorial regime.” The pilots, flying F-15 planes, are essential to the military force of Israel, raising serious questions about the operational competence of the Israel Defense Force (IDF). Security officials are reportedly raising concerns about possible refusal to

Protests continue in Israel

Continued from page 1

follow orders and other acts of insubordination occurring within the serving military ranks.

It is inconceivable for me that I would ever do something like this. I was in the air force for 31 years; 16 of those were under Netanyahu, even though I never voted for him,” said Omer Denk, a retired 51-year-old F-15 fighter jet pilot.

“This isn’t about politics or policy,” said Denk. “This is about a crisis in trust in a leadership that wants to destroy Israel as a liberal democracy.”

Protesting has continued to spread with Israel’s largest trade union, Histadrut, declaring a general strike. The union, which represents more than 800,000 people, includes workers in health-care, government services and transportation.

McDonald’s in Israel also said it was joining the strike, tweeting on Monday that they would begin closing stores. Industry leaders in Israeli tech have spoken out against Netanyahu’s proposal. Eynat Guez, CEO of software company Papaya Global, tweeted that she would “be removing all of the company’s money from the country” due to the proposal. Two venture capital firms in Israel have reportedly decided to do the same.

“...to avoid a Civil War.”

-Prime Minister Netanyahu

Israel’s national security minister Itamar Ben-Gvir announced that the plan to gut the judiciary system had been postponed until the Parliament’s summer session. Netanyahu issued a statement saying that the postponement was “to avoid a civil war.” He said that he was looking to find “a real opportunity for real dialogue,” but also stat-



COURTESY OF AP

Protests erupted in the streets of Israel after Benjamin Netanyahu fired his defense minister, Yoav Gallant.



COURTESY OF AP

Israeli citizens hold homemade posters to take part in the protests against “anti-democratic actions.”

ed that he was planning on going forward with the proposal.

In a speech to the nation, Netanyahu compared himself to the historical figure King Solomon. In the Biblical story, two women come to King Solomon arguing who is the true mother of a baby. In response, Solomon says he would cut the child in half so that each woman would get half. While one agreed, the real mother opposed the idea. It is revealed that Solomon’s decision was a test and the mother who didn’t want the baby cut in half got custody.

“Today, two sides of a national disagreement claim to love the baby; To love our country,” said

Netanyahu. “I am attentive to many people’s desires to end this tension.”

“When there is a chance to stop civil war through dialogue, I as prime minister am taking time out for dialogue. I am giving a real opportunity for real dialogue...We stand by the need to bring about necessary changes to the legal system, and we will give an opportunity to achieve them through broad consensus,” continued Netanyahu, claiming that the overhaul was “out of a national responsibility and a will to avoid dividing the nation.”

The Biden administration has reported that they have been watching the situation in Israel care-

fully with White House Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre saying that the White House was “deeply concerned” about the situation and were encouraging compromise.

“Compromise is precisely what we have been calling for, and we continue to strongly urge Israeli leaders to find a compromise as soon as possible,” said Jean-Pierre. “We believe that it is the best path forward for Israel and all its citizens to find this compromise. Democratic societies are strengthened by checks and balances, and fundamental changes to a democratic system should be pursued with the broadest possible base of popular support.”

Smith: News around the world



COURTESY OF AP

A Ugandan man protests recently-passed anti-LGBTQ legislation.

COOPER E. SMITH ’23 | SENIOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • United States: The U.S. Senate voted on Wednesday to repeal the 1991 and 2002 authorizations for the use of military force in a bipartisan vote aimed to restore the Congressional role in war powers that previous Congresses had delegated to the presidency. The vote was a bipartisan measure, with 18 Republicans joining Democratic colleagues. The bill now heads to the Republican-controlled House, which has passed similar measures on its own in recent years.

Uganda: The parliament in Kampala passed some of the globe’s harshest anti-LGBT+ laws on March 21, permitting decades of imprisonment—and possibly the death penalty—for identifying as LGBT+ or engaging in “aggravated homosexuality.” Only two out of Uganda’s 400 legislators voted against the bill. It now heads to President Yoweri Museveni for approval.

Ukraine: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Tuesday invited Chinese President Xi Jinping to visit Ukraine. This invitation followed a meeting in Moscow last week between Xi and Russian President Vladimir Putin, with the U.S. warning China that “consequences” would ensue if China supports Russia militarily.

Israel: Protests have erupted throughout the country after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s conservative coalition proposed changes to the Israeli judiciary, which would have effectively granted Netanyahu’s government far more control over the selection of judges. The protests have drawn support from a wide variety of sectors, including the largest trade union (which called for a general strike), university professors (who have canceled classes) and military reservists.

Honduras and Taiwan: President Xiomara Castro announced that Honduras would sever all diplomatic ties with Taiwan, a move representing a bid for Honduras to strengthen trade and diplomatic relations with China. The government ordered Taiwanese diplomats to vacate the embassy and the country by 30 days. With Tegucigalpa’s move, Taiwan now reports only 13 formal diplomatic allies.

Rwanda: Paul Rusesabagina, hero of “Hotel Rwanda,” was freed from his Rwandan prison after unjustly imprisoned on charges of terrorism. Rusesabagina protect hundreds of Rwandans during the 1994 genocide, actions celebrated in the 2004 film “Hotel Rwanda.” Rusesabagina plans to reunite with his family in the United States.

Bergman '24 to run unopposed

Continued from page 1

“You either vote for the only candidate or you abstain from voting.”

There is always the possibility of the majority of campus voting against Bergman, essentially serving as a vote of no confidence.

“If that happens, we will have a special election to fix whatever problem there is,” said Schnerre.

In the event of such a runoff election, this would give the opportunity for another candidate to step in and oppose Bergman.

The election commission will be keeping the chapel reservation originally intended for a candidates debate to instead host a town hall-style Q&A session, held on the evening of Tuesday, April 4.

Student Body President is not the only unopposed race running this spring. Seth Kirkpatrick ’24 is the only candidate in the race for Chief Justice of the newly formed Supreme Court. What makes these circumstances even stranger? Bergman and Kirkpatrick are room-

mates. The response for some would be immediate skepticism, believing that the ambitious friends are colluding to run campus from the shadowy high tower of their residence hall. Nothing could be further from the truth.

“I want him to challenge us,” says Bergman.

However, he does recognize the importance of the newly instituted judicial branch.

“I also want to utilize the court better, to make sure we’re not doing stuff that we’re not supposed to do.”



COURTESY OF COLE BERGMAN '24

Cole Bergman ’24 (right) and Mason Naaman ’23 (left) after earning their Sphinx Club stripes.

Wabash Club of Indianapolis

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to

Applying

Graduate

School

April 4

9:00pm

Chapel

In this short meeting, you will learn best practices for

- requesting letters of recommendation from professors,
- formatting cover letters, and
- refining your application for opportunities such as
 - graduate schools,
 - fellowships, and
 - job applications.

Applying to graduate schools is a process with some hidden expectations. To streamline this process, all Wabash students are invited to this professionalization event hosted by 'shOUT. Whether you've already started, or you are preparing to apply next year, please attend this short presentation about best practices.

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

Twitter: @WabCoBachelor_
Instagram: wabashcollegebachelor

SENIOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Cooper E. Smith • cesmith23@wabash.edu

JUNIOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Sam Benedict • ssbenedi25@wabash.edu

MANAGING EDITOR

Jakob Goodwin • jmgoodwi23@wabash.edu

OPINION EDITOR

Andrew Dever • atdever25@wabash.edu

FEATURES EDITOR

Logan Weilbaker • laweilba25@wabash.edu

SPORTS EDITOR

Benjamin Bullock • bbulloc23@wabash.edu

PHOTO EDITORS

Jake Paige • jwpaige23@wabash.edu

Elijah Greene • eagreene25@wabash.edu

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

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

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

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

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Staff editorial:
Wabash needs more
student-driven art

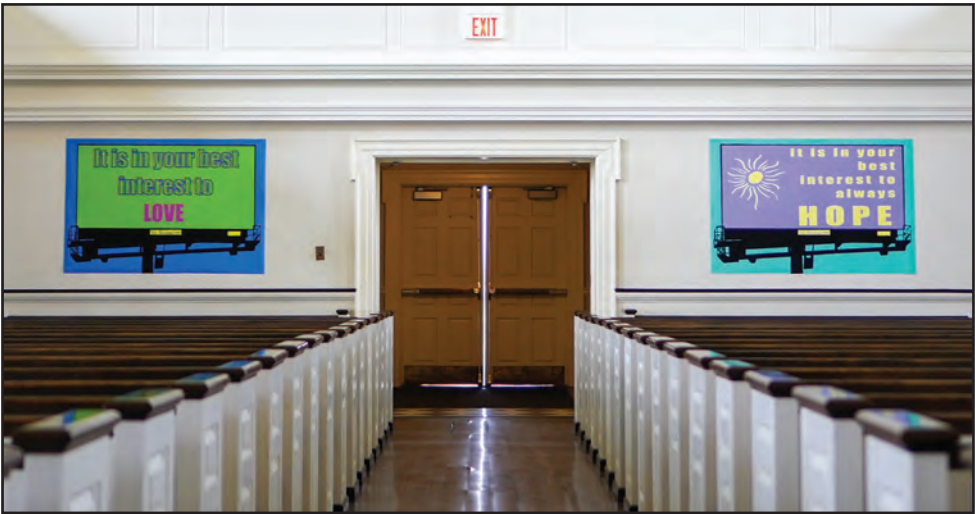


PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

It was impossible to walk around campus this month without noticing the brightly colored posters put up by The Foundation, Wabash's new art collective aimed at promoting "socially engaged" artwork. The group, which was born out of a class taught by Associate Professor of Art Annie Strader and Artist-in-Residence Hoesy Corona, gave a vibrant lift to campus in the few short weeks their work was displayed. But with the posters now gone, what remains of the artistic scene on campus?

Of course, there are always College-organized arts events going on. In February, the theater department put on a performance of "Stage Kiss," Corona opened an art exhibit in the Fine Arts Center and the French department launched its French film series. These events, among many others, are all free and open to the community. Wabash students would be remiss not to take advantage of them.

But this doesn't change the fact that, by and large, Wabash is a brick-and-mortar campus. While everyone loves a good dark red—for which Wabash is well-known—the notable lack of vibrant, student-driven art, or frankly anything modern, has been lost in the annals of

Wabash history.

There is a hunger on campus for more art, especially art that comes from students. And the problem isn't the lack of talent or will—it's a lack of exposure.

One person who bucked this trend was AJ Miller '23 who, earlier this semester, sat out on the mall with his signature stack of bricks. Miller attracted the attention of almost everybody on campus and made people genuinely interested in his project. There wasn't a single Wabash student who walked across the mall on those days and didn't glance over to see what Miller was up to.

Additionally, last semester saw the rise of student directed, led and orchestrated performative art. The Scarlet Masque's SNL was a resounding success, packing Ball Theater for its sole Saturday night live performance. In fact, SNL was so well received by the student body that many students voiced their desire to see SNL return in the spring. SNL's provocative temporal jokes and classic Wabash humor resonated with the viewers and, for many, was one of the highlights of their semester.

So if the interest is there, why isn't Wabash teeming

with art? There's certainly no end of spaces for artwork, as displayed by The Foundation. Inspirational posters found their way into almost every major academic building, including the lobby of Hays and wrapped around the columns inside Sparks. These posters added a splash of color and personality to a college that is almost military in what it chooses to display on its walls.

Art makes people curious, and that can only be a good thing on a campus that encourages us at every step to think critically. What a dull world we would live in if artists didn't create, and what an even duller world it would be if we didn't support them.

The point is this: Wabash needs more art, and it needs more of its art to come from students. And we're not just talking about posters. Campus would be well served by more sculptures, music, impromptu drama, photography—even dance. It doesn't matter what kind of art, it just matters that its presence is felt.

So brothers, take up thine pencils. Enroll in that photography class or those music lessons. Embark on your own artistic journey. Let's make campus a place where the arts can flourish, and let's do it on our own terms.

LO-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A LO-FIVE THIS WEEK

READ THIS:

Lo-Five to the Sig Chis who got upset that we Lo-Fived them last week. In our defense, we didn't think they'd be able to read it.

IT'S NOT JUST SIG CHIS
THAT CAN'T TAKE A JOKE

Lo-Five to Career Services for blocking a critic's Handshake account and then telling him he can set up a meeting to talk about it on... Handshake. If anybody hears about good internships, forward them to cpbevelh24@wabash.edu.

SUFFERING FROM
SUCCESS

Lo-Five to Johnathan Majors for working his way into every Hollywood movie then promptly getting arrested for assault. Just when we thought MCU Phase 4 couldn't get any worse...

NOT A DRY CAMPUS

Lo-Five to the library for restocking the condoms but not the lube. I guess it's time to break out the coconut oil...

ABSTINENCE SAVES

Lo-five to the class of '24 for not putting up a bid to rival Cole Bergman's ticket. Gentlemen, vote abstain—we just want to see what the hell happens.

My experience with disability at Wabash College



Hawk Ricketts '23

Reply to this opinion at
rpricket23@wabash.edu

Hello Wabash, my name is Hawk Ricketts, a.k.a. The Wheelchair Guy. This week I had the pleasure of collaborating with the Disabled Students Union of Purdue to host an event titled, "Disability Justice at Wabash College".

Leading up to the event I was sent a YikYak post by friends that echoed this sentiment: "Why does Wabash need to learn about disability justice when there's only one guy on campus?" I think I surprised my friends with my reaction. I wasn't angry or really even upset.

If this sentiment exists on campus, a question of furthering education on such a culturally expansive social topic, then that means I probably should have hosted an event like this sooner. I can somewhat understand where the post is coming from.

My entire life I have been in a consistent environment where I am the only physically disabled person in the room. From being homeschooled till high school to going to a high school with just over 100 students, to going to a small college like Wabash, I've always been in a situation where I am the only person like me by a long shot.

So much so that I myself have questioned the value of educating others on disability related topics, feeling as if it was almost selfish to do so. Though I have come to learn that that of course is not the case, the idea that my general existence and sharing it with others as being selfish is a ludicrous one.

To start off, my experience at Wabash has definitely been a unique one. I have been shown some of the most gracious acts of kindness throughout my time here at Wabash. During my freshman year a blizzard hit the campus, preventing me from getting to Sparks to eat. As I began to prepare a cup of ramen I received a knock on my door, a senior that I had barely spoken to before was worried about me and offered to push me back and forth to Sparks so I could eat a proper meal.

Acts of kindness like this have highlighted my Wabash experience more than anything,

but that doesn't mean I haven't experienced my fair share of shortcomings. The amount of jokes that have rubbed me the wrong way that I just laugh along with due to not wanting to make others scared to talk to me or think I'm a poor sport are monumental. My biggest pet peeve is when I'm in the middle of a conversation and my language is corrected in a sly way to point out I'm in a wheelchair. God forbid I mention I went on a walk or am running late to class because I might get the dreaded smirk and inevitable statement, "Don't you mean rolling?"

More consequential than that would be the general lack of accessibility on campus. It was just last year that I learned that the Fine Arts Center, a place I've been in almost every day since freshman year, had a second floor. Or having to embarrassingly ask for individuals to carry me up the Chapel or Center Hall stairs, or worrying if I have to take into consideration whether or not handicap doors are working or not when heading to class in the morning.

Now despite all of these aggravations, I will restate how loving and accepting of an environment Wabash College has been for me. At the beginning of this month all it took was a simple text to the Martindale group chat meekly asking for assistance in making repairs to my wheelchair for half the dorm to come down to help. As the College has more students like me come through its doors in the next few years, I believe we have to foster this accepting energy to continue to make our College a better place for everyone to live the full Wabash experience.

This is exactly why the topic of disability justice is important and relevant to our campus culture. It's due to the fundamental essence of who we are as a College, the spirit of brotherhood. Disabled people exist, and for us as a population to become more educated on a group of people that transcend all races, cultures, genders and sexes. By doing this, we will all become better prepared to welcome a broader array of individuals to our college as well as bringing our campus spirit to the outside world.

I have had such a unique experience at Wabash College, I've experienced some of the most gracious acts of unconditional love as well as some of my first experiences of microaggressions. I want to nurture that unconditional love I have received from you as a campus community and spread it to the rest of the world as we walk under that arch and become the leaders we were taught to be. So to summarize, disabled people exist, and to me, that is not an opinion, but a fact.

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Guest essay: An open letter to my future self



Sam Long '25
Reply to this opinion at
sjlong25@wabash.edu

There will come a day in my life when I bring my family back to Wabash College. I will take them on the grand tour of the Mall, my old (and hopefully by-then renovated) fraternity house and even the Wabash College bookstore.

When on the Mall, my children may ask me why there is a building —like Detchon— that is almost solely dedicated to languages that they can't speak. I'll shrug off this question, and respond with my thoughts on just how much I learned about people in a building that teaches them how to be brought together.

Knowing myself, I'll end up making a stop in front of our Chapel, and demonstrate just how one participates

in Chapel Sing. If asked the question of "Why?" — the same question I seem to get from everyone outside of Wabash when I try to explain my favorite Homecoming event— the simplest answer will be, "It wasn't really my choice."

Undoubtedly, our tour will come to an end in the bookstore. When browsing the shelves and t-shirt racks, I will take the moment to share an inside joke with myself and quote Artie Equihua '20 in his final Monon Bell Chapel talk by saying, "This place has the same smell as it did when I was 5 years old."

In my heart, there are places on this campus that will never change. Although new buildings will be built on top of older ones and experienced professors will be replaced with younger ones, the relationships and memories I have made at Wabash College will never graduate.

I will explain to my family how a wide-eyed 18-year-old kid who thought he could study business at a school without a business major found out just how important it is to rely on the people around him.

I will explain to my family how such a competitive environment forced me to learn in ways that I never imagined I

could. I will be thrilled to show my family our football stadium, where an injury-bugged and mediocre highschool player got the chance to live out his dream and start in a Bell Game.

I will take my family into the basement of the Lilly Library and explain to my children how if you stay up late enough, and if the weather is just right, on a night with a full moon you will see the ghosts of Wabash College browsing the shelves for a book on a topic they haven't a clue in, but have no choice but to pretend to be at mastery level of understanding in by the morning.

When this day comes, I will get to tell them about the people I grew with during my four years as a Wabash Man. It would be impossible to recall all of them, but just as my Wabash College will never change, in my heart neither will they. If I do have a son, he will be lucky enough to be pressured by me to become a Wabash Man. He may not choose to play the sports I did, live in the same house as me or take the same classes. But he will get to experience his own Wabash. And experience his own growth with his own heart.

Wally's Wall: What's the best prank you've ever pulled?

The Question:

With April Fool's Day just around the corner, *The Bachelor* was wondering: what was the best prank that you have ever been involved in?

Kade Irwin '25

When I was in middle school I loved pranks especially the ones on YouTube. Inspired by a similar prank, I decided to mess with my brothers by putting baby oil all over the bathroom floor. I remember my brother running to the bathroom with his poor bathroom management skills, slipping and falling on his butt. Cleaning up and talking to mom was not as fun, but the prank was worth it.

Aidan Walker '25

A guy in high school robbed my friend of \$20. Therefore, in retaliation, we loaded a full porta potty onto the back of my truck and dumped it on his front lawn. It was left there to simmer overnight.

Logan Weilbaker '25

One time I was staying with a friend, and his little sister and her friends thought they would prank us by Saran-wrapping the toilet seat. We had no idea until a few hours later when we heard screams coming from the bathroom... they had forgotten what they did and ended up pranking themselves.

Jacob Oostman '25

The best prank I have ever been a part of was on April fools, me and my mom told my brother that there was a new iphone update. In that update it allowed you to look up pictures of food and lick your screen to taste it. He looked up a cake and licked his screen, then proceeded to get very mad. It was hilarious.

Nathan Ellenberger '26

In the middle of the night, I walked in and burned a hole in my pledge father's rhyné pot.

Carson Wirtz '26

My favorite prank I've done was from the day I first moved into TDx. I convinced upperclassman Jake Talbert that I was in a horrific car accident as a kid, and now I wear fake teeth. Jake believed this for weeks until I told him none of this outrageous story was true in front of the brotherhood.

Christopher Royal '26

I tell kids on tours that "Wabash basically buses women in on the weekends."

Bush paints while Iraq burns



Liam Buckley '23
Reply to this opinion at
lkbuck23@wabash.edu

The U.S. invaded Iraq 20 years ago this month. The invasion came after President George W. Bush and his administration conducted a media campaign in which they knowingly lied to the American people, and the world, that the U.S. had unambiguous evidence that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction.

There has been no accountability on the part of the officials who brought us to war—who bear responsibility for the deaths of tens of thousands of U.S. and Iraqi servicemembers, and hundreds of thousands of Iraqi civilians. With the exception of Colin Powell, the revered Secretary of State who lied in front of the United Nations about Iraq's alleged possession of weapons of mass destruction, none of the major figures involved in the invasion have expressed regret for their actions.

Checking in with Former President George W. Bush, you will find his aloof country-boy charm now channeled towards

painting portraits. He spends his days applying brush strokes at his ranch as the servicemembers who survived on the battlefield die of suicide at home (30,000 and counting, more than four tiwwmes the number of those who died in combat).

Bush's second Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice sits on the boards of at least two major companies and chairs a research institute at Stanford. Bush's former Senior Advisor Karl Rove, one of the war's main architects, is a television analyst and contributor to several of the largest publications in the country. He also continues to fundraise for high profile Republican candidates including recent efforts on behalf of Florida Governor Ron DeSantis.

It is not enough to ask how the war happened and how people lied to make it happen. In order to keep it from ever happening again, we have to hold the people who did it accountable.

Torturing captives is a blatant violation of the U.S. Constitution. Every administration official who knew it was happening, no matter how high up, should be held criminally responsible. From what has been reported in the media, that would include at least Rove and Cheney.

Members of the National Security Council who told the CIA to expand the draft of Powell's U.N. speech to make the claims more fantastical should be forced to appear in front of congressional committees to

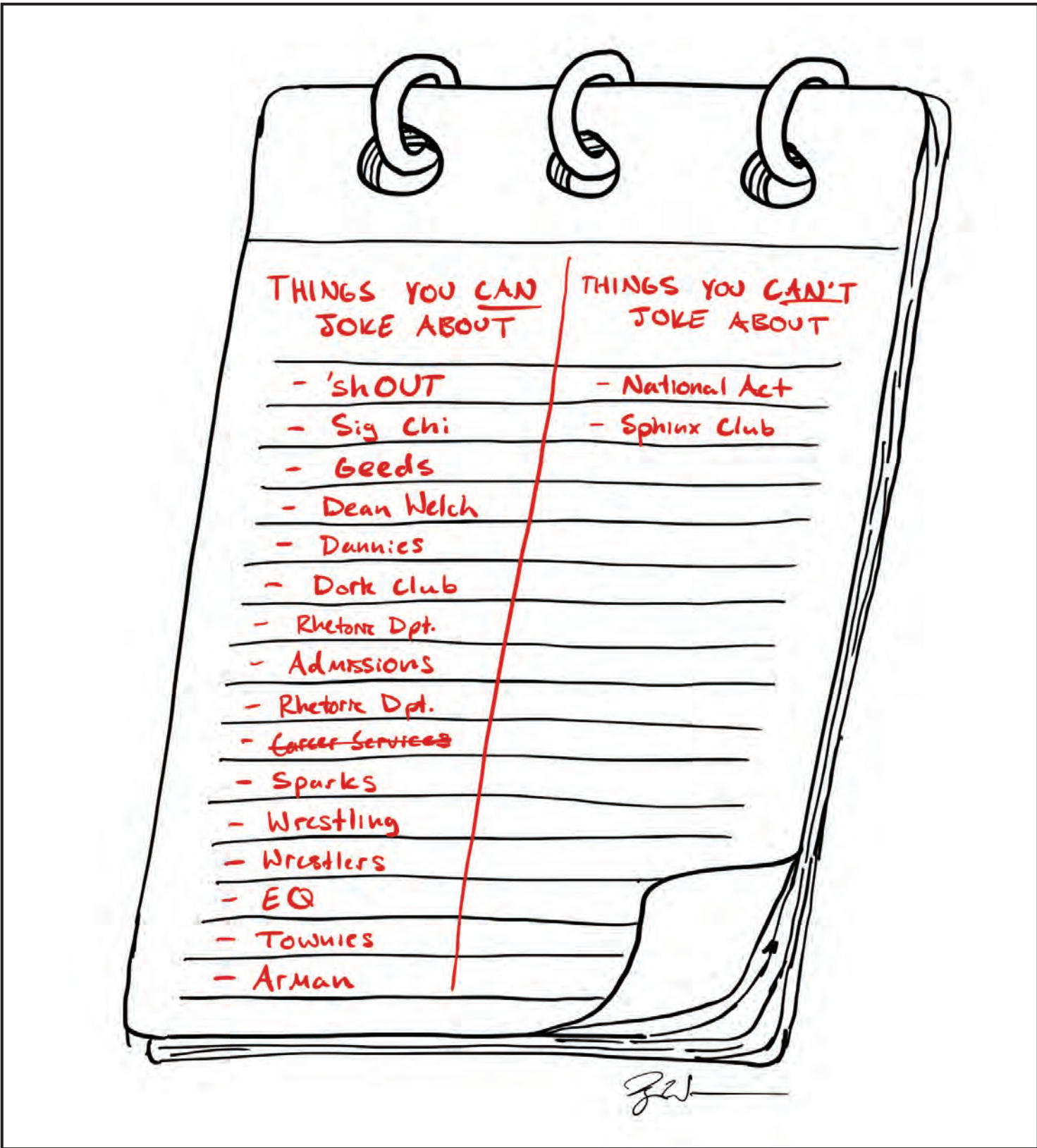
answer for their actions. This would include Paul Miller, a NSC staffer who Wabash invited to campus two years ago to provide his insight on the Biden Administration's Afghanistan policy. It remains befuddling that Miller had the audacity to critique policies concerning the catastrophic effort he helped design.

Lastly, Former President Bush should be questioned under oath for leading America to war. Ignorance and poor counsel may be an excuse for some things, but creating a conflict that kills half a million people is not one of them.

The hawkish rhetoric that consumed the U.S. during the early 2000s is now mostly gone, just as it was in the decade following the Vietnam War. Today's discussions of intervention in Ukraine, for example, remain exclusively centered around providing aid and support rather than U.S. troops. But this period of self-awareness and reflection will only be temporary. New conflicts that threaten American interests and raise questions of moral obligation are certain to arise in the years and decades to come.

We should not pledge neutrality or indifference in the face of future conflicts. The prospect of a Chinese invasion of Taiwan would certainly warrant U.S. boots on the ground. But we must promise to be responsible and deliberative stewards of humanity. If we fail again, the consequences will be fatal.

‘The Untouchables’ Cartoon by Logan Weilbaker '25



<div>3RD/4TH PLACE</div> <div>A TEAM</div> <div>24</div>	<div>Wabash College Invitational Saturday, May 25, 2023 Little Giant Stadium</div> <div>CHAMPIONSHIP GAME</div> <div>14 - 19</div>	<div>5TH/6TH PLACE</div> <div>12</div> <div></div> <div>22</div> <div>B TEAM</div>
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RUGBY

MONON KEG REMAINS IN CRAWFORDSVILLE



Isaac Salinas '23 raises the Monon Keg in triumph after Wabash's definitive 29-0 victory over DePauw in the Monon Keg Classic on March 25, 2023, at Little Giant Stadium.

PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Rugby retains Monon Keg

Little Giants finish runner-up in home tournament, beat DePauw 29-0

Continued from front page

the opening try of the game. The conversion was no good, making the score 5-0.

But it didn't take long for Wabash to fire back. Purdue made a complete mess of a scrum deep in their own half that jeopardized their position. As the Boilermakers tried to carry the ball back through their own try zone to safety, Lucas Budler '24 made a strong tackle and bagged Wabash their first try of the game to tie the scores. Budler had the opportunity to put the Little Giants into the lead with a kick, but the wind carried it away and it was no good.

The second half was a frantic affair, and it wasn't immediately clear who would come out on top. The breakthrough moment came a few minutes into the second period when Fil DeFrenza '23 stripped the ball and carried it all the way to the 2-yard line. A bit of pushing and shoving later, and Isaac Salinas '23 finally got the ball over the line for what would be the winning try. To further seal matters, Goodnight's conversion kick was good, making the final score 12-5 to Wabash.

Three other games took place in the time between Wabash's two group games, including a dominating performance by Purdue A over DePauw, the Boilermakers running out 27-0 winners. And in Pool B, IUPUI set the tone for the afternoon by beating Cedarville 30-0.

At 12:30 p.m., the Little Giants once again took to the field, this time for the much-coveted Monon Keg game against rivals DePauw. The Tigers, fresh off their embarrassing defeat to Purdue A, were eager to get some revenge. Unfortunately for the Tigers, there was no such revenge to be had.

It was a scrappy opening few moments, but Wabash soon found their footing. On the DePauw 9-yard line, Thomas Gastineau '23 committed a knock-on foul, giving DePauw the ball in the scrum. But Wabash's forwards were no match for the Tigers'. As the Little Giants pushed, Goodnight was able to scoop the ball up and run in for the opening try of the match. Adan Villeda's '23 kick was good, giving Wabash a 7-0 lead.

The remainder of the first half was something of a bloodbath. Moments later, DePauw committed a knock-on foul, giving Wabash the ball in a dangerous position. Goodnight worked the ball out to Gastineau and the winger promptly scored his first try of the afternoon.

But it wouldn't be his last. Immediately from the kick-off, Salinas regained possession for Wabash and found Gastineau, who charged forward for his second try to make the score 17-0 to the Little Giants at half time.

"It was a great moment, and one that I will remember for a long time," said Gastineau about scoring two tries against DePauw. "Playing wing, I am always excited when the ball makes it all the way down the line to me. I couldn't be more thankful

for my teammates and their trust to swing the ball out to me."

In the second half, Wabash switched out many of its key players. But even with the starters benched, the Little Giants' standards didn't slip. Budler added to the scoring when, early in the second period, he picked up the ball on the halfway line and ran the entire distance to the try zone.

The last player on the scoresheet was Isaac Reilly '26, who scored a try in the dying embers of the game. The final conversion was good, and the match finished 29-0. The Monon Keg stayed in Crawfordsville.

"It was a little sloppy at first, but we cleared it up at the end and got a nice little victory," said team captain Matthew Brooks '24. "We were able to get some second-string guys in who are going to start next year, so it was good getting them some practice against a fairly young team. We'll take that win all the way to the championship game!"

For the players on the team who are not yet regular starters, the DePauw victory was a taste of more to come.

"It's always a good win when it's against DePauw," said Hunter Wray '25, who came off the bench to play the second half. "I honestly think we could have played a little bit better and not let them break through as much, but we'll take it."

This Monon Keg victory comes just a few months after the last. In November 2022, the rival teams met at Little Giant Stadium for the resurrection of the Keg competition after a decade-long hiatus. Wabash ran out 29-5 winners in that game, but DePauw's improvement since then has been notable.

"In the fall, we played DePauw's B team, and we just ended up killing them," explained Villeda, Wabash's center. "But this time, we played their full squad, and it was definitely harder than before. They were very physical, but we're Wabash men—we play physical too."

Wabash's win over the Tigers guaranteed them a spot in the championship game. All that was left to decide was their opponent. The final game in Pool B was between IUPUI and Purdue B, the outcome of which was never really in doubt. IUPUI stormed to a 17-0 victory, setting up a Little Giants-Jaguars final.

The championship game couldn't have gotten off to a worse start. Goodnight, in an attempt to confuse the IUPUI front line, skewed the kickoff and gave the Jaguars the ball in good field position. One of the IUPUI backs picked it up and ran all the way to the try zone. The conversion kick was good, and Wabash found themselves 7-0 down with just 20 seconds gone.

"My kick probably wasn't the best," said Goodnight. "I wanted to push more toward the right sideline, and we just had a missed tackle from the inside. We tried to chase him down, but it didn't go the way we wanted."

IUPUI, a Division I program with players recruited especially for rugby, were big and physical. It was certainly a shock for the Little Giants, who are accustomed to themselves being the more physical team. Nevertheless, Wabash dug in deep and slowly found a rhythm to their play. Good interplay between Budler and DeFrenza helped Wabash work their way down to the IUPUI 15-yard line, but the attack fell apart when Brooks let the ball fall loose. Luckily for the Little Giants, the Jaguars committed a foul that allowed Villeda in for a try and game-tying conversion.

IUPUI were resilient and got another try and conversion before half time. With the scores at 7-14, Wabash came out firing on all cylinders in the second. From a



Brayden Goodnight '23 is hoisted into the air to receive a lineout against DePauw on March 25, 2023, at Little Giant Stadium.



The Monon Keg, the coveted prize of the Wabash-DePauw rugby match.



Thomas Gastineau '23 scores his first of two tries against DePauw.



Fil DeFrenza '23 (left) and Isaac Salinas '23 (right) attempt to win back the ball back from a DePauw ruck.

Wabash scrum, Goodnight and Villeda created a nice passing maneuver that resulted in another Wabash try and game-tying conversion, making the score 14-14.

But it was heartbreak at the very end for Wabash. Pinned back deep in their own half, the Little Giants just could not advance the ball up the field. IUPUI kept knocking on the door, and with just seconds to go found their way into the try zone. The conversion was no good, but it didn't matter; Wabash had no time to recover, and the championship game finished 14-19 to IUPUI.

"It means a lot to play so well against a recruited program," said Goodnight. "We showed what Wabash is all about. We didn't give up, we got down the field quick and

we tried to take advantage of what we could. It didn't go our way, but we played well. It's just the little things now that separate us from being a good team to being a great team."

"They were very physical, but we're Wabash men—we play physical too."

- Adan Villeda '23

The area in which IUPUI's experience shone through the most was in their physicality. Despite all of Wabash's best efforts, playing against a team that was, on average, four or five inches taller proved too big an obstacle to overcome.

"I'm pretty beat up to be

honest," said Gastineau. "It was a good time, but they were pretty big. They were strong and hard to take to the ground. You'd think you had tackled them, but then they would just keep running." Other players echoed a similar sentiment.

"Goodness, I am so tired," said Brooks immediately after the game, still visibly exhausted. "That game definitely put my cardio to the test. But look, they are two divisions higher than us, they have a stellar program and it was tough. It's never nice to lose, but I think we played well."

As tough as the loss may have been, the team remained in high spirits after the game.

"They are D1 and we are D3; they may not have come

expecting much from us, but that was definitely one of the toughest games of the season for both of us," said Budler. "We're just a bunch of guys that choose to play rugby and put on a Wabash jersey. So, even though we lost in the end, we're all pretty proud."

Rugby now looks forward to its next event, the All-egheny Rugby Union Conference Championships on April 1 in Pittsburg. In last year's ARU event, Wabash went 2-1, losing in the semifinal to John Carroll University. The Little Giants will hope to improve on their performance from last season, and if the events of this weekend are anything to go by, Wabash has every chance of clinching the conference title.

Goodnight '23 leaves behind a winning legacy. And so much more.

ETHAN WALLACE '23 | SPORTS WRITER • One of the most difficult challenges faced by a club sport is the issue of handling team organization without a coach. The program needs someone to take on that role of planning practices, getting players to show out and leading the team. For Wabash rugby, that person is Brayden Goodnight '23.

A senior brother of Phi Kappa Psi, Goodnight has been part of the rugby program since freshman year and had the rare opportunity to play on the same team with his older brother, Alex Goodnight '22. Brayden is the third member of his family to attend Wabash.

“The reason I came to Wabash was because my dad and my brother both came here,” said Goodnight. “I grew up around Wabash and was really familiar with it. And I knew that Wabash was going to prepare me for my future, regardless of what I wanted to do. I thought that Wabash would give me the connection and the education to achieve that.”

Goodnight first started playing rugby in seventh grade after attending a handful of his brother’s matches.

“My older brother Alex started playing when he was in seventh grade too,” said Goodnight. “I opted not to play—I wanted to just stick with football. But traveling to all of his rugby tournaments and games in sixth grade made me realized that it looks a lot more fun than I had originally presumed. So come seventh grade, I thought I would give it a chance. After that, I just fell in love right off the bat.”

The brothers played rugby together throughout high-school. And when Alex came to Wabash, Brayden wasn’t far behind. On campus, the pair not only both joined the rugby team, but also both became brothers of Phi Psi.

“Alex and I have always had a bond on a deeper level,” said Goodnight. “Being able to attend college with my older brother is unique, and being in the same fraternity is doubly unique. We’ve played together since middle school, so it was just fitting for us to continue to play together here at Wabash.”

In his time wearing a Wa-



Brayden Goodnight '23 prepares to take the field against DePauw on November 16, 2022, at Little Giant Stadium.



Brayden Goodnight '23 kicks off against DePauw on March 25, 2023, at Little Giant Stadium.

bash jersey, Goodnight has proven himself as one of the most exceptional players in the history of Wabash rugby. He is the perennial leading scorer leader for the team and hardly goes a game without picking up points.

In the fall season, Goodnight scored 25 tries in the team’s 12 matches. For his excellent performance, he was named 2022 Fall Player of the Year by the Alleghe-

ny Rugby Union, the team’s conference.

But his aspirations are much bigger than personal accolades. His real goal? To help get the team to its first ever national championship.

“Making it to nationals would honestly mean the world,” said Goodnight. “We’ve had our sights set on this since last spring and it has been our main goal ever since. Everyone on the team

wants to be a part of history and I think we have a good chance at doing that, we just need to show up and play like I know we can.”

Given his experience and long-term understanding of the sport, Goodnight was the obvious choice to serve as the player-coach of the rugby squad. However, being the coach doesn’t give him the special privileges one might expect. Instead,

he holds himself to a higher standard. He hopes to set a good example for the team to follow.

“I may be the coach, but when I tell someone to do something, it’s not me telling them to just go off and do it,” Goodnight explained. “When I tell a guy to do something, I go and do it with him. Because I’m on the team too. I can’t exclude myself from a certain drill or

from a certain conditioning workout just because I don’t feel like doing it. If they’re doing it, I’m doing it with them.” His teammates seem to agree.

“Brayden shows his leadership qualities through his determination and policy of leading by example,” said teammate Matthew Brooks '24. “My first memories of him are from my freshman year during COVID. We had just finished a pretty intense practice where the rugby team better resembled the track team. At the end of practice, Brayden offered the team to join him on a ‘quick’ three-mile run as a cool down.”

“He never demands anything from the team that he wouldn’t make himself do,” added Brooks. “He is there every practice, setting up the cones and leaves after everyone else after doing extra drills. His dedication to the game and the team is admirable. Even outside the fact that he is a gifted athlete, he puts the work in and challenges his team to compete with him to become better.”

Under the leadership of Goodnight, Wabash rugby has found tremendous success. Last season, the team went undefeated up until their conference tournament, losing out in the semi-final to John Carroll University. For Goodnight, now as a senior, he is proud of the winning legacy he will soon leave behind. But his real legacy, he hopes, will be the longevity of rugby as a staple Wabash sport.

“I’m hoping to set a good foundation for what the rugby program should be like,” Goodnight said. “It’s not just from me; it’s been a big community effort. But since my freshman year to where we are now, we’ve made a lot of progress in getting the club more publicity and really putting our name out there.”

Goodnight and the team will have a chance to further cement their legacy when they travel to Pittsburgh on April 1 to compete in the Allegheny Rugby Union tournament. But regardless of the outcome, Goodnight will go down in Wabash athletics lore as one of, if not the, greatest of all time for Wabash rugby.

Why is rugby still not a varsity sport?

SAM BENEDICT '25 | JUNIOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • Wabash is known for its love of all things sports. However, the team that’s making waves right now isn’t even recognized by the NCAA.

Rugby has been popular at Wabash for decades. It particularly gained support after the establishment of the Monon Keg game against DePauw, which is traditionally played during Bell Week. But despite recent successes against top programs such as Purdue, DePauw and small Division I teams, rugby is still a club. As such, it receives all of its funding from the Student Senate and alumni donations.

“Like other successful student organizations at Wabash, I expect the team will continue to thrive with effective student leadership and partnership with the Student Senate,” said Director of Athletics and Campus Wellness Matthew Tanney '05.

The rugby team has been a student-led organization for its entire Wabash history. Players run practices, schedule their own film sessions and organize all logistics for scheduling tournaments. Rugby treasurer and co-captain Matthew Brooks '24 believes that the student leadership is valuable, but also burdensome at times.

“Being a part of a student-run sport is hard, but it’s super rewarding,” said Brooks. “The team’s successes and failures rely solely on us, and I know that Brayden [Goodnight '23] and I, as captains,

feel an additional burden on top of practice and school to manage all of the additional things we need to in order to make sure we are capable of going to tournaments.”

Despite little progress toward making rugby a varsity sport, alumni support is strong. Tim Craft '00 first started playing rugby when he arrived at Wabash and immediately fell in love with the sport. After graduating, Craft became a referee and eventually rose through the ranks to earn the honor of refereeing the Division III National Championship Series and the National High School Championship. Craft continues to be an advocate for rugby at Wabash to this day and has argued for rugby to receive varsity status.

“I understand that our varsity program at Wabash is an NCAA program and rugby is not an NCAA sport,” said Craft. “The only way for rugby to become an NCAA men’s sport is for a school like ours to be a leader in the NCAA Emerging Sport program.”

Craft characterized previous attempts to begin the conversation about rugby gaining varsity status. Advocates of rugby, he said, received “very little attention from the leaders at the school that would need to become partners in making it happen.” He added that he expects “more of the same” going forward.

As well as rugby not having NCAA recognition, the College has also historically cited the lack of a rugby venue as a reason for not



Matthew Brooks '24 (right) prepares to throw in the ball for a lineup against DePauw on March 25, 2023, at Little Giant Stadium.

allowing the team to go varsity. In the past, the team could not use the football field, instead playing games on Mud Hollow. But today, rugby is allowed to use Little Giant Stadium for its tournaments, eradicating one barrier to varsity play.

“I think there have been efforts to increase the visibility of rugby, and to good effect,” said Professor of Spanish Dr. V. Daniel Rogers, who is the faculty advisor of the club. “The outstanding tournament that took place last weekend, with teams like Purdue and IUPUI participating, shows the high level of play we’ve achieved. Even DePauw has restarted club rugby and I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing our club retain possession of the Monon Keg. The fact that the College lets us use the

stadium for the event is an indication of support for the club.”

But even without varsity status, Tanney believes that Wabash provides an excellent opportunity for rugby to thrive.

“It may be helpful to better define the term ‘varsity sport’ in this context,” said Tanney. “The term ‘varsity’ suggests more of a structural placement; namely, that rugby might reside within intercollegiate athletics. I’d offer that Wabash already has a ‘varsity’ rugby team, both high functioning and competitive, just operating outside the NCAA framework and our intercollegiate athletics model. Regardless of those differences, we continue to work with the team to provide access to athletics spaces for practice and/or

competition, including last weekend’s event at Little Giant Stadium.”

While an official varsity designation would come with obvious benefits, both financially and in terms of play quality, there is also a recognition among team members that club status has its upsides.

“The benefit of being a club sport is that the guys that play and commit to the team are, for lack of better words, ‘about it,’” said Brooks. “They show up to practice and know that they as individuals are responsible for making themselves better. However, the cons are that we struggle to find funding at times, we can’t play 15s rugby, which is the traditional version, and we sometimes struggle to balance practice, running the

team, academics and other extracurriculars. I feel like rugby is a job on top of being a player.”

There are other tangible benefits to being a club. Most notably, it gives the team much more freedom than their varsity counterparts.

“The pros of being a club sport are all about flexibility,” said Dr. Rogers. “We can organize as much or as little practice time as we need. It’s probably easier to make rugby fit into students’ busy academic and social schedules. And club rugby is as open to committed beginners as it is to guys with lots of experience.”

Even though club status has its pros, Brooks believes that, deep down, all players want to see the program become a varsity sport eventually.

“Earning varsity would allow Wabash rugby to take greater strides than it already has,” said Brooks. “We would get a coach to help take some of the burden of managing the team. We would get access to a more predictable source of funding. We would have access to the trainers and their facilities. We would be able to recruit more students to play so we could have a 15s team. We could travel to more tournaments and possibly compete at a higher division.”

In recent years, several other former club sports have gone varsity, including volleyball and lacrosse. But so long as rugby remains off the NCAA roster, the chances of a varsity rugby team in Crawfordsville seem slim. But varsity or not, the Little Giants will continue to promote their sport on campus and pave the way for the future.

Bullock: Why the U.S. needs a national rugby team in the Six Nations

BENJAMIN BULLOCK
'23 | SPORTS EDITOR •

Don't think me crazy, but it's time the U.S. replaced Italy on the world rugby stage.

I'm sure that many attendees of last weekend's home rugby tournament noted the striking similarities between rugby and (American) football. Of course, rugby and football are nothing more than two different codes of a Victorian game first played in 19th century England. And while soccer also falls under that category, rugby and football still maintain some core concepts that make them look—at least visually—very compatible.

During the FIFA World Cup in 2022, I saw many Americans claim that the best U.S. athletes could, if given a year or two to practice, beat the best soccer teams in the world. That claim is, in my not-so-humble opinion, complete bulls--t. There are so few transferable skills between football and soccer, the idea that an NFL or NBA player could just waltz into world soccer is absurd.

But what about rugby? What if we took some of America's finest football players, put them in scrum caps and let them loose? Could the U.S. genuinely put together a world class international rugby squad?

In my view, yes. And the best place to test out this new all-American team? The Six Nations.

The Six Nations Cham-



The U.S. national rugby team sings the national anthem at the 2019 Rugby World Cup in Japan.

pionship is an annual rugby tournament held between the northern hemisphere's six best international rugby teams. Since 2000, that has been England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, France and Italy.

However, the Six Nations has a notable outlier. Italy, also known by their nickname gli Azzurri, has an abysmal record in the tournament. The team has never finished higher than fourth place and has finished dead last in nine of the past ten

competitions. Try as they might, the Italians simply cannot compete with the rest of the pack.

Enter the United States. With Italy on a death spiral, it seems only a matter of time before the other nations elect to put the Azzurri out of their misery and kick them out for good. There is, then, no better time to start assembling a national U.S. rugby team to take Italy's place.

"But Ben," I hear you asking, "where are we going to

find people who even know the rules of rugby, let alone can play it on an international stage?"

Well, let's think for a moment about the kind of players rugby needs. A rugby team is generally broken down into two broad positions, forwards and backs. As counterintuitive as it may seem, think of forwards as the defenders and backs as the attackers. Forwards generally have the builds and skills of offensive linemen: they are big, strong and fast.

Backs are more like your other offensive players in football. For example, scrum halves are similar to quarterbacks and wingers are similar to wide receivers.

With such obviously translatable positions, American football really does breed players who would be perfect for rugby. And there is certainly no shortage of amazing football players who, just because of how sports in the U.S. work, never play professionally.

So, my plan? Let's take

the best undrafted college football players and get them on a rugby field. Of course, it would take time to build a team that way. A hypothetical U.S. rugby coach would have to teach these players rugby from the very basics, something that I imagine could be quite frustrating. But give it enough time, effort and investment, and I really do believe that the qualities that made those gentlemen such good football players would also make them excellent rugby players.

Take as a really good example our very own Wabash rugby team. Most of our guys, with a couple of notable exceptions, had never played rugby before coming to Wabash and had to learn the game from scratch. And indeed, some of them had even played football in high school. And yet, Wabash has somehow managed to turn a bunch of men who didn't even know what a try was into a winning program.

Of course, international competitive rugby is a whole other proverbial kettle of fish. The Six Nations is a long-standing and well-respected tournament—there's no way that they would allow new kids on the block to just stroll in. But give the U.S. a chance. It may start with scrimmages and grassroots stuff, but the Six Nations is calling. And it is desperately crying out for an American team.

The Bachelor staff's rugby 7s fantasy picks

EDITORIAL STAFF • In light of the above column on why the U.S. should take Italy's place on the international rugby stage, we here at *The Bachelor* wanted to give ourselves a challenge. What if we were to put together a U.S. rugby team using only current (or recently retired) NFL players? What would such a team look like?

Introducing *The Bachelor's* fantasy rugby 7s picks. Each writer has chosen the seven players they think could best represent America in a hypothetical rugby 7s tournament to take on the world. Here are the criteria:

Forwards: The two props and hooker are the defenders. There is a broad range of people that could theoretically play these positions, but it's most likely to be a linebacker, a faster offensive lineman or a small defensive end.

Scrum half: A less important quarterback. Must be fast, and (counterintuitively) must be able to pass the ball backward.

Fly half: Has two jobs. Must be the key playmaker as well as the kicker.

Center: Versatile position, but definitely needs good ball handling. Likely to be a tight end or a running back.

Wing: Does the running and scoring, but needs fast acceleration. Akin to a wide receiver.

Jakob Goodwin's Picks

PROP	HOOKER	PROP	
Nick Bosa	Shaquille Leonard	Joey Bosa	
Forwards			
SCRUM HALF	FLY HALF	CENTER	WING
Lamar Jackson	Tyreek Hill	Christian McCaffrey	Justin Jefferson
Backs			

Andrew Dever's Picks

PROP	HOOKER	PROP	
Myles Garrett	Nick Bosa	Aaron Donald	
Forwards			
SCRUM HALF	FLY HALF	CENTER	WING
Justin Fields	Justin Reed	Saquon Barkley	Tyreek Hill
Backs			

Ryan Papandria's Picks

PROP	HOOKER	PROP	
Jordan Mailata	TJ Watt	Myles Garrett	
Forwards			
SCRUM HALF	FLY HALF	CENTER	WING
Taysom Hill	Talanoa Huafanga	Saquon Barkley	Tyreek Hill
Backs			

Elijah Greene's Picks

PROP	HOOKER	PROP	
Aaron Donald	Nick Bosa	Jason Kelce	
Forwards			
SCRUM HALF	FLY HALF	CENTER	WING
Josh Allen	Saquon Barkley	Travis Kelce	Justin Jefferson
Backs			

GRAPHICS BY ARMAN LUTHRA '26





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FEATURES

TEDxWabashCollege to feature students and alumni

This year's TEDxWabashCollege theme is "Wabash Success Stories." The event will feature eight speakers, including students and alumni, speaking from their unique personal perspectives about various issues they have faced and how they used Wabash to overcome them. The event, held on Sunday April 2 in Salter Hall, requires tickets, and those interested are recommended to reserve theirs promptly by scanning the QR code:



Caden Friedt '24

I grew up in a small town in Indiana and attended Belmont High School. I am now a junior, biology major, psychology minor, and wrestler at Wabash College. My plan after Wabash is to become a sports physical therapist and a sport psychologist. I am an aspiring inspirational speaker. As a hobby, I am the founder and owner of the brand Humble Confidence. This brand embodies concepts that I am passionate about such as my faith, inspiring others and advocating for mental health, which are the three main points of my speech.



Seth Kirkpatrick '24

I was born and raised in South Bend, Indiana. I am a junior at Wabash College majoring in Political Science and Rhetoric and minoring in Spanish. My love for Wabash starts with those I see the most, my brothers in La Alianza: Unidos Por Sangre, the Pre-Law Society and Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse. My talk is about tackling the fear of ignorance through the liberal arts method. Be an expert in your field, but a student everywhere else; this is the balance that makes the world's infinite amount of information just a little more digestible.



Sky King '15

I am an entrepreneur and podcaster who is obsessed with the business models of media and the impact that they make on our society. I am the founder of Modern Stoa, a podcast monetization agency that works with Podcasters like Chris Williamson, Aubrey Marcus, Impulsive, Paul Saladino (CarnivoreMD), and many others. I launched the first-ever long-form podcast NFT with my podcast Sky King's Mental Playground, where I have conversations on the tension between centralized and decentralized systems. My talk will be a survival guide on how to find truth in the modern media machine.



Brian Confer '01

I am the Co-Founder and Chief Growth Officer of Capturely, a marketing content company focused on humanizing personal and company brands. I am currently pursuing an Executive MBA Candidate at the Anderson School of Management at UCLA, graduating in June 2023. How consumer, brand and individual value is measured and exchanged is shifting. In an interdependent and hyper-networked world, community, trust and authentic engagement enable the co-creation of value that will power innovation, from Web 2 to Web 3, the metaverse and beyond.



Quinn Leous '23

I am a senior studying Financial Economics here at Wabash. As a brother of Lambda Chi Alpha, a member of the Sphinx Club and the CIBE, I have grown to care about Wabash more than I ever thought I would. My Ted Talk will encompass how we can improve at "acting on the fly" when life throws something at us out of the blue.



Chris Merrill '23

I am a current senior at Wabash College from Chesterton, Indiana. I am majoring in Philosophy, Political Science, and Economics with a minor in Spanish. Currently, I am still narrowing in on my post-graduation job search, but I plan on attending law school after taking a year to work. In the past, my involvement on campus has been with wrestling, the Diversity Equity Inclusion committee, Student Life Committee, pre-law and student senate.



Ron Dostal '92

My talk is centered around the question: Is success what we accomplish? Armed with a strong work ethic, a bachelor's degree from Wabash College, and an Ivy League MBA, I embarked on a 29-year career in management consulting. Now living in early retirement after a surprising turn, I reflect on life as a "high achiever" and propose three keys to real success.



Gabriel Anguiano '20

I was a Rhetoric major class of 2020, Orr Fellow and 2-year captain of the Wabash College soccer team. Business Consultant at CCC Intelligent Solutions. First-generation Latino from Hammond, IN. The focus of my talk is on taking action, getting unstuck and navigating through imposter syndrome.

Senior spotlight: Fashionable philosopher Carson Price '23



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23

JAKOB GOODWIN '23 | MANAGING EDITOR

Looking at his thrifted green pants, his purple sneakers and his shirt from a skateboarding group, Carson Price '23 dresses differently from most on Wabash's campus. Still, despite his appearance, Price's Wabash tenure has been the prime example of a time at Wabash. Price has remained deeply involved and created deep connections while at Wabash before matriculating to grad school.

In 2019, Price came to Wabash, hailing from Hudson, Michigan, a small town close to the Indiana border with a population of fewer than 3000 residents.

"It's very, very rural," said Price. "Most of my friends that I grew up with still live at home."

Wrestling brought Price to Wabash, but when he had to quit wrestling due to injury, he found himself turning to one of Wabash's greatest resources: its professors.

"I thought about transferring," said

Price. "I was going to transfer to Michigan, [thinking], 'Well, what else is here for me?'" I started realizing that I needed to reach out and talk to some professors and get to know them. Everybody always talked about 'the network' and things, but it's hard to really get a grasp on what actually is here until you do it. And I think that I was convinced to stay by professors."

After getting to know professors like Dr. Gower and Dr. Trott, Price realized his passion for philosophy.

"My interest is in social theory [and] how we construct identities within a subjective existence."

Price hopes to use his philosophy work to make social change. After looking at bills like those that ban Critical Race Theory and affect transgender rights, Price wants to break down the philosophical underpinnings of those bills and understand why some people support these bills and why they believe what it is they believe.

Price has developed a deep passion for these issues and gotten involved here on campus, joining the Malcolm X Institute and College Democrats and taking a leadership role in both.

Even still, if Carson is defined by anything on Wabash's campus, it is the distinct fashion sense that he holds. On any given day, Carson can be found in cargo shorts, a thrifted pair of pants or a beanie from one of his favorite skateboarding brands.

"I think that making a conscious effort about how you dress is something that I need to express something about myself," said Price. "I've had some great success thrifting at the Goodwill here in Crawfordsville."

Carson is set to take a year off working in public policy before attending grad school for philosophy, pursuing either a doctorate or master's degree before returning to policy work, where he'll get to influence the issues that he feels most passionate about.

Dr. Jean Twenge on the risks of smartphones and social media



COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK TIMES

TIERNAN DORAN '26 | POLITICS CORRESPONDENT • More than ever, teenagers and young adults are reporting feeling anxious and depressed. Suicide rates, especially among young women, have been starting to rise. Dr. Jean Twenge, a professor of psychology at San Diego State University, posits that the increase in smartphone use and social media is responsible for endangering youth. She's the author of the book "iGen," whose whopping 27-word subtitle sums up her research well: "Why Today's Super-Connected Kids Are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy—and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood—and What That Means for the Rest of Us."

Those born between 1995 and 2012, dubbed "iGen" by Dr. Twenge, statistically take longer to go on their first date, longer to get their driver's license and longer to get a job. This expansion of adolescence is part of a culture shift that is leading to a "slow life strategy."

"Slow life strategy tends to happen when people live longer, when healthcare is better, and when education takes longer to finish. It means the whole lifecycle slows down, meaning adolescence is slower," said Dr. Twenge. "Parents and culture have done a good job of protecting children and teens from harm, but we may also be protecting them from having experiences."

"The biggest concern is the mental health trends," said Dr. Twenge. "We need to think about what's causing it and what to do about it."

A big part of the alarm in mental health is, according to Dr. Twenge, due to smartphone use. Young people who report spending the most time on their phones, 5–7 hours, are also twice as likely to report being depressed as those who spend less time on their phone, 1–2 hours.

"I really have come to believe that social media needs to be more strongly regulated," said Dr. Twenge. "We probably need to raise the age minimum from 13 to 16, and we need to enforce it."

Social media algorithms, especially those fueling political divide, bring up ethical issues in regard to big tech companies.

"As far as algorithms, we need to think about this in terms of the political atmosphere in the country. What is it doing to the political conversation in the country? What is it doing to the attitudes of young people?" said Dr. Twenge. "I think it's playing a role in the pervasive negativity and political polarization that we have right now, but the solution is not so straightforward."

As the mother of three "iGens" herself, Dr

Twenge takes steps to practice what she preaches.

"I'm putting off smartphones for a long time. My oldest is 16 and she just got her first smartphone two weeks ago," said Dr. Twenge. "Even though she's 16 I don't want her to have social media."

As for students at Wabash college, all of whom are squarely within the iGen range, Dr. Twenge has advice on how we can start distancing ourselves from these devices: Get your phone out of your bedroom.

And for those in dorms or fraternity rooms where we don't have that option?

"Turn it completely off," says Dr. Twenge "Put

it in a backpack and zip it, just as much out of sight, out of mind as possible."

As we foster the brotherhood on campus that is synonymous with Wabash, it's important to be mindful of how our smartphone usage affects our conversations with others.

"When you're together with friends, everybody should put their phone in a basket or someplace away. That way you can concentrate in that face-to-face social interaction without the idea of 'Oh wait, what if my friend takes his phone out because I said something boring?' It's something everybody does and something everyone hates when it happens to them."



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Review: 'Did you know that there's a tunnel under Ocean Blvd' is emotional, tragic



COURTESY OF ROLLING STONE

TIERNAN DORAN '26 | POLITICS CORRESPONDENT • Lana Del Rey's new album is tragic, magical and unapologetically sincere. Comparing the experience of listening to "Did you know there's a tunnel under Ocean Blvd" to that of listening to other contemporary music is akin to comparing apples to oranges. I firmly believe that not only is Lana Del Rey one of, if not the, best current musical artists working today, she is on the forefront of what American art in the 21st century is.

Referring to her album as a musical story, though on the surface true, would ultimately be a juvenile misrepresentation. It's a transcendent and transfixing movement through a swirl of life and emotion. The songs are permeated with dark moments, both of desire and despair. It's beautiful and tragic. It can be jarring, but in an intentional and measured way, a way that challenges you and yet remains coherent and addicting.

The lyricism is on par with poetry, as every word, every phrase and every breath meticulously serves the emotional purpose of the song. It sucks you in. The music permeates your very pores, seeping into your soul. It grabs hold and refuses to let go as it envelops you in an embrace of despair.

And yet, there are moments of hope and there are moments of life. The abstract is, in turn, contained by honesty. It is there to pull you out of the darker moments, to provide a context as to which to navigate with. The questions Del Rey raises about herself and the world go unanswered, but that's okay. It's not meant to provide answers, but

rather to explore possibilities.

If you've come to this album for the sense of comfort music can bring you, then I must turn you away. It can deeply unsettle. And while, deceptively, it can musically soothe, it simultaneously fills one with an oppressive sense of hopelessness, only to break into cathartic relief as the album nears a close.

Of course, the lead single "A&W" and the titular track "Did you know there's a tunnel under Ocean Blvd" are fantastic, but it almost seems too disingenuous to try to pull any one song from the pack. They all work together, flow together. It is an album meant to be experienced, not merely listened to.

I understand that this album may not be for everyone. But for those of us who have fallen in love with Lana Del Rey's music, it's yet another transcendent step in her musical journey. I genuinely cannot recommend it enough.

FINAL VERDICT:
5/5 WALLYS



Review: 'Shazam! Fury of the Gods' is some of DCU's best work



COURTESY OF VARIETY

CURTIS FAUGHNAN '26 | STAFF WRITER • A Some call it the family movie of the year, others call it the final flop of superhero movies. Even though the film did not do well on paper, grossing a mere \$102.4 million compared to its \$125 million budget, it gained an audience score of 87% on Rotten Tomatoes. I think this was the best movie out of the DC Universe in quite some time.

Out of this 2 hour and 10-minute film, I came out with really only two gripes. To start, the humor felt forced at times, especially with the titular character, Shazam (Zachary Levi), himself. Billy Batson (Asher Angel) acted more mature than Shazam did, despite the fact that they are supposed to be the same person in different bodies. This would have been an easy fix if they told Shazam to act a bit more mature; it's almost like they filmed his parts five years ago when Billy was 15 years old.

Asher Angel as Billy Batson was my personal favorite character, bringing in the most emotional moments throughout the film. One scene got ruined, however, due to the awful marketing they did for this movie. The team apparently decided it was a good idea to spoil the most important cameo to appear in the movie: Wonder Woman (Gal Gadot). Without spoiling too much, I can

say that Shazam made a choice leading to one's death in a really emotional scene; however, in a TV ad, they showed that character talking to Wonder Woman so we knew they would be back alive by the end of the film. Wonder Woman's appearance absolutely took away from arguably the most emotional scene in the movie.

While there may be a few problems with the movie, there are also many bright sides to it as well. First off, the villains were fantastic. In the trailers, they made it out that Hespera (Helen Mirren) was the main villain; however, Kalypso (Lucy Liu) ended up being the most evil of the three. Lucy Liu did such a good job at making the audience hate Kalypso that we wanted her to lose, meanwhile the other two sisters swayed between bad and good throughout the course of the movie, making it difficult to hate them.

The best part of the movie is the third act: the main fight between our hero and antagonist to save the world when Shazam has to make the difficult decision to save the town in a highly emotional scene. The scene was especially impactful and in touch with the common theme of family in the movie. Throughout the film Billy made the executive decision to keep them safe that none of his family can go "superheroing" without the others. This line comes back up in the final scene in Shazam! Fury of the Gods when Shazam says, "All of the city is safe and none of my family gets hurt," one of the most impactful lines in the movie that nearly brought a tear to my eye.

Overall, Shazam: Fury of the Gods is a very emotional movie and a good one to watch with the family. I think the movie is receiving too much hate, whether that be from out-of-touch critics or "Snydaverse" fans who aren't even giving it a chance. Personally, I've seen it twice and I am excited for it to come to a streaming service so I can watch it again.

FINAL VERDICT:
4.5/5 WALLYS



Review: 'Outer Banks' season 3 indulges everyone's guilty pleasures



COURTESY OF NETFLIX

ELIJAH GREENE '25 | PHOTO EDITOR • "Bring it on home, John B!"

This one phrase encapsulates almost the entirety of the third season of Outer Banks. With the return of John B (Chase Stokes) and his loyal band of Pogues comes another ten episodes of wild conspiracy and mystery, ranging from the Caribbean shores of Poguelandia to Barbados, all the way back to Kildare Island and into South America. But how in the world could the writers of this show possibly come up with anything more outlandish than the events in season two?

To complicate matters, the reintroduction of old characters, such as John B's father "Big John" Routledge (Charles Halford) and the introduction of new ones, such as Carlos Singh (Andy McQueen), the series' new villain, add to the chaos left by season two. Also, with the cross and the gold securely out of reach of the Pogues, the writers had to come up with something new for them to chase: the classic, quintessential gold mine of El Dorado.

This famed City of Gold has been the focus of so many books, movies and TV shows—it's almost shocking that the fans didn't guess it before the season aired. And of course, it must be located squarely in the heart of Venezuela, causing no end of issues for the Pogues to reach their final goal of becoming rich.

Like both seasons one and two, however, the focus of the show is on the relationships between the characters: the strife, the crazy love triangles, the lot. One major example is the strain of Big John's determination to reach El Dorado at all costs, which almost costs John B his friends.

Separate from all the action, everyone's favorite love interest, Sarah Cameron (Madelyn Cline), has an identity crisis on Kildare over which life she should choose: Kooks or Pogues? Sarah's strife is one of the saving graces of this show, showing increased depth and complexity in her character as opposed to being simply a pretty face to look at.

FINAL VERDICT:
3.5/5 WALLYS



Review: 'Succession' season 4 is a better 'Game of Thrones'



COURTESY OF PEOPLE

NATHAN ELLENBERGER '26 | STAFF WRITER • TV's favorite dysfunctional billionaire family returned this Sunday with the fourth and final season premiere of "Succession." The critically lauded black comedy-drama follows the Roy family of media tycoons as the children of aging Logan Roy (Brian Cox) vie both for his approval and the coveted top seat at Waystar-Royco, the legacy media conglomerate he built with ruthless ambition.

The episode, titled "The Munsters," picks up several months after the cliffhanger ending of season three, with the lines between family and business rival blurred and all-new alliances forged. Often compared to "Game of Thrones," "Succession" is renowned for its satirical portrayal of corporate power politics, with season four promising even greater returns.

The central conflict of the episode is a bidding war between the two splintered factions of the Roy family for the rival news company – a personal white whale of Logan's for decades, and a main plotline from season two. Succession works best when it turns a stereotypically dry business ploy like this into a thrilling, sharply paced gambit. The chess pieces on the metaphorical board are in constant motion, inspiring eager speculation on how the season and series will end.

The writing features many of the series trademarks, including witty sibling repartee, scathingly creative insults, and drama so thick you can cut it. While

"Succession" takes its spot among the greats of prestige TV dramas, its dark, situational comedy is some of the funniest on the air today. Of particular note is when the domineering and ill-tempered Logan forces his terrified inner circle to roast him, to meek and stammering results.

However, when the tone shifts to genuine drama, "Succession" executes the lane shift seamlessly, which would be impossible without its stellar cast. The scene near the episode between strained couple Siobhan "Shiv" Roy (Sarah Snook) and Tom Wambsgans (Matthew Macfadyen) proves the show's versatility. Snook and Macfadyen bring a touching pain that truly humanizes both characters in spite of their cutthroat and unsympathetic actions.

If you're a longtime fan of the show, season four promises to expand even further on what has been built. However, if you've never seen "Succession," and are even the slightest bit curious, there's never been a better time to start. The finale, which has sparked debate since the show's debut, is just around the corner and the hype isn't stopping anytime soon.

FINAL VERDICT:
4.5/5 WALLYS



Word ladder

Turn the top word into the bottom word by changing only one letter at a time. For an extra challenge, try to get the optimal number of steps.

NOTE

PINE

LIST
(4 steps)

BARK
(4 steps)

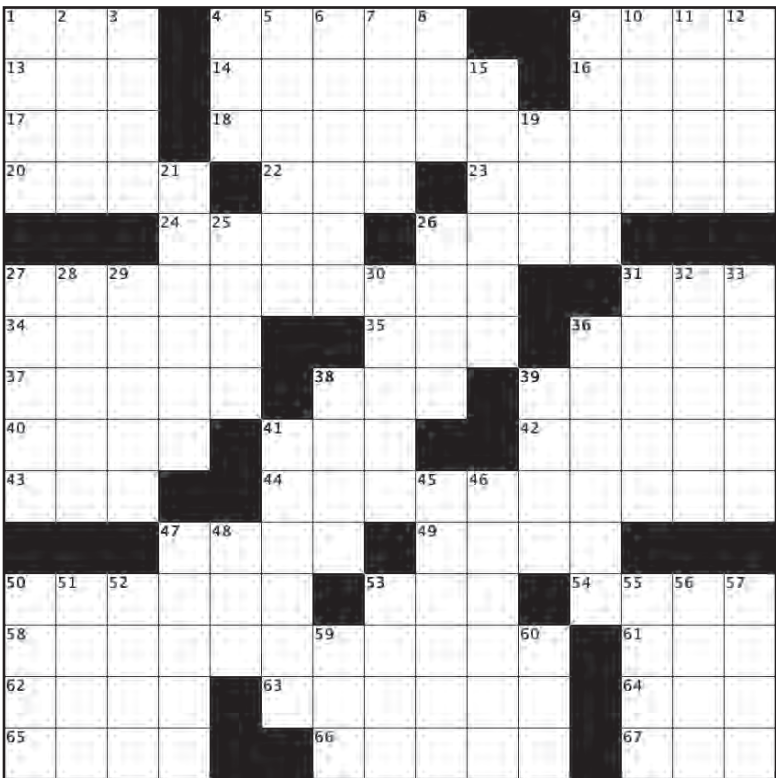
FILL

WIFE

TANK
(4 steps)

KIDS
(4 steps)

'You got this!'



- Across**
- 1. Type of pal
 - 4. Reacts to a shock
 - 9. Wither
 - 13. "You pick"
 - 14. Clapboard word
 - 16. Spot
 - 17. Cozy retreat
 - 18. *He did "It"
 - 20. Work the runway?
 - 22. ____ of a kind
 - 23. Whom the host hosts
 - 24. Undercover agent
 - 26. Trough contents
 - 27. *Misses the mark
 - 31. Colorado winter hrs.
 - 34. Heep who inspired a 60s rock band
 - 35. Pre-zero letters
 - 36. Black-clad teen, maybe
 - 37. Ignoramus
 - 38. Org. for 24-Across
 - 39. Word with "coach" or "home"
 - 40. Do-gooder's doing
 - 41. Boxer's stats
 - 42. Sacred tree of Athena
 - 43. Draft org.
 - 44. *Joe cool?
 - 47. Leopard, e.g.
 - 49. By ____ (from memory)
 - 50. "____ and upward!"
 - 53. Gamecocks' conference
 - 54. Emulated Quasimodo
 - 58. "I got this," or what you'll find at the end of each starred answer
 - 61. Court
 - 62. Further
 - 63. Like some photos and suspects
 - 64. Lunched or supped, e.g.
 - 65. "Oh, why not?!"
 - 66. Lead-in
 - 67. [Thumbs up]

- Down**
- 1. Clip
 - 2. "Frozen" heroine
 - 3. Minnesota pro team
 - 4. Station offering
 - 5. Part of S.A.G.
 - 6. Hardly an olfactory delight
 - 7. Corncob accessory
 - 8. One part of a trig mnemonic
 - 9. Stirrs
 - 10. Eye piece?
 - 11. Mardi Gras follower
 - 12. Air or dog follower
 - 15. Nullify
 - 19. Shelled seed
 - 21. Kansas or Liechtenstein
 - 25. Pallid
 - 26. Great White's only predator
 - 27. Treasury, so to speak
 - 28. Sign of spring
 - 29. Straightens (up)
 - 30. Like the titular character in "The Whale" (2022)
 - 31. Decorative design
 - 32. Boiling point?
 - 33. 🍌
 - 36. One who's tee'd off?
 - 38. Moor
 - 39. ____ court
 - 41. "In a way"
 - 45. Saw things at night?
 - 46. Lady in "Lady and the Tramp," for one
 - 47. Taste of Tuesday
 - 48. Verb that sounds like a letter
 - 50. Gem with a play of colors
 - 51. River site of a 1937 literary death
 - 52. Batman portrayer
 - 53. Speed-read
 - 55. Not at home
 - 56. D or F, but not H
 - 57. Hits the road
 - 59. "T.G.I." day
 - 60. Tokyo, formerly



Scan for solution!

At the crossroads

Fill in the crossing boxes with letters that will complete a word vertically and horizontally. When entered correctly, they will spell out the answer the riddle below.

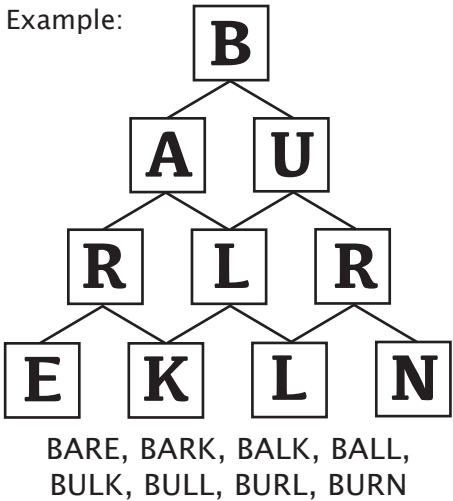


What has no hands but might knock at the door?

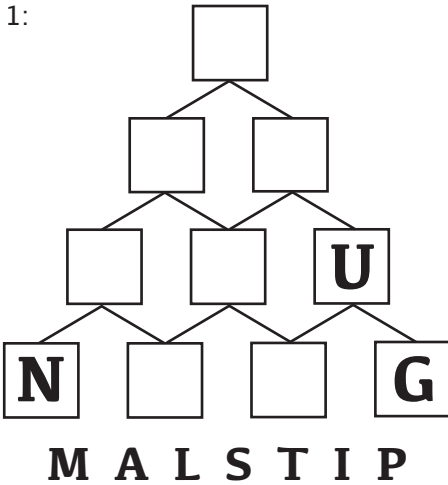
Word waterfall

Place the letters given below each diagram into the squares to form eight four-letter words reading from top to bottom. The top letter is the first letter of all eight words, each letter in the second row is the second letter of four words and so on.

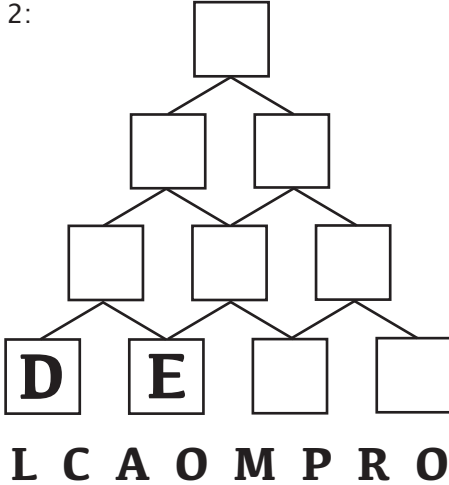
Example:



1:



2:



Answers

At the crossroads: OPP ORT UNI TY
Word waterfall: (1) SPIN, SPIT, SPAT, SPAM, SLAT, SLAM, SLUG
(2) CARS, CARE, CAME, CAMP, COME, COMP, COOP, COOL

Sudoku

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

Easy

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

Medium

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

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.

Goodwin: Scouting the Dannies on the diamond

JAKOB GOODWIN '23 | MANAGING EDITOR • After sweeping Illinois Wesleyan in a three-game series last weekend, the Little Giants baseball team returns to Goodrich Ballpark to host the DePauw Tigers for a doubleheader that should prove to be high scoring.

Before their games against Rose Hulman, the Little Giants averaged just under nine runs per game, giving up only six per game. As a team, the Little Giants are hitting .317 and carry an OPS of .888 into this rivalry game. This offense is potent, led by AJ Reid '24 and Liam Patton '23 and more than capable of beating a DePauw rotation and bullpen that is giving up eight runs per game.

DePauw's offense is strong, but little match for the Wabash pitching staff. Having only six home runs going into their series against Texas Lutheran this past week, DePauw's offense is subpar. Sophomore Carter Knoll leads their offense, bringing a .400 OBP and 14 RBI to the plate, but the remainder of the offense is inconsistent.

Much of the Dannies' power comes from junior Danny Glimco, who has half of their home runs, but between his .160 AVG and the fact that he might be pitching against the Little Giants in a game where both teams will be using designated hitters, it's uncertain how much of an effect Glimco could actually have.

Wabash will have to keep an eye on the basepaths, as the Tigers have stolen 18 bases in 14 games, led by Cameron Macon who is 5/6 in stolen base attempts. But still, DePauw struggles to get on base and has scored few runs in many of their games against subpar competition. If Caleb Everson '26, Jacob Bishop '23 and this bullpen can pitch like they have this year, the Little Giants should keep the Dannies off the scoreboard. From the mound, the Dannies are less than great. As a staff, DePauw brought an ERA of more than seven into this week's games and with a team WHIP of 1.76, the Tigers cannot keep runners off the basepaths. And once runners get on against DePauw, they are stealing bases with an 87% success rate, giving up 34 stolen bases in just 14 games.

The Tigers have done well at keeping the ball in the park and limiting extra base hits. But even if Kamden Earley '24, Reid and Patton don't put the ball over the fence, the Little Giants should have no problem bringing runs in this weekend.

Baseball can be an unpredictable game and anything can happen in a game between Wabash and DePauw, but all the numbers point to Wabash victories this weekend at Goodrich Ballpark. DePauw has struggled to produce against good teams and Wabash has crushed the ball against poor ones. Wabash will score lots of runs next week. It remains to be seen if the Dannies will too.

The Little Giants and the Tigers face off in a doubleheader at Goodrich Ballpark on Tuesday, April 4. Game one begins at 12 p.m.



COURTESY OF DEPAUW ATHLETICS
Danny Glimco up to bat for DePauw.

Baseball's momentum falls flat, Little Giants look to topple Denison

ANDREW DEVER '25 | OPINION EDITOR • Coming off an impressive sweep of Indiana Wesleyan University, the Little Giants looked to capitalize on their momentum at Rose-Hulman on Wednesday, March 29. However, despite success at IWU, the team's performance against Rose-Hulman was anything but successful, losing 6-0.

AJ Reid '24 was on the bump for the Little Giants, facing off against Rose-Hulman's Korey Marlow. Reid gave way to Henry Birk '26 after giving up the lead early in the bottom of the third inning. Although the game remained close in the opening four innings, with Rose-Hulman maintaining a one-run lead after a third inning RBI single by second-basemen Colter Couillard-Rodak, the Fighting Engineers erupted in the fifth and sixth innings to extend their lead to 6-0.

In the bottom of the fifth inning, Rose-Hulman connected multiple RBI singles to bring in three runners. Then, in the sixth inning, Couillard-Rodak struck again with a home run, directly followed by another solo shot by designated hitter Ben Christiansen. After that, Rose-Hulman's offense cooled down. The Fightin' Engineers finished with 10 hits and additionally had six walks, but were wasteful, leaving 11 runners on base.

On the other hand, Wabash's bats were relatively tame. The Fightin' Engineers effectively silenced the Little Giants' offense, limiting them to only five hits throughout the entire game.

Although they did not score a run in the game, there were a couple of bright spots offensively for Wabash. Batting third in the lineup, right-fielder Kamden Earley '24 was extremely efficient at the plate, going 2-3 with a walk in his four at-bats. Directly after Earley, first



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23
AJ Reid '24 connects solidly on an inside pitch against Illinois Wesleyan University on March 26, 2023, at Goodrich Ballpark.



PHOTO BY JAKE PAIGE '23
Henry Birk '26 launches a curveball towards the plate against Illinois Wesleyan University on March 26, 2023, at Goodrich Park.

baseman Brayden Lentz '23 batted cleanup, going 2-4 from the plate. Earley and Lentz doubled and singled.

Besides the third and cleanup hitters, however, the Little Giants struggled immensely, going 1-23 from the plate. As a result, Wa-

bash did not capitalize on their opportunities to knock runners in, leaving seven players on base.

Wabash's best chance to score came in the top of the ninth inning, with Earley starting off the inning with a double. After Lentz's groun-

dout moved Earley to third, Will McKenzie '26 reached base on a catcher's interference. Then, pinch-hitter Gavin Schippert's '26 walk loaded the bases with one out in the inning, putting the pressure on Rose-Hulman to complete the shutout and end the game. However, Coby Stephens '26 grounded into a 1-2-3 double play to end the game.

With Reid picking up the loss, Wabash dropped to 14-7 on the season. Rose-Hulman improved to 10-6 on the season.

"Tonight's loss has nothing to do with our goals," said Earley. "I think that we have a good chance this year to play well in the conference. Yeah it's a tough loss, but I believe that our team is ready for conference play."

The baseball team opens NCAC play at Denison on Saturday, April 1, for an afternoon doubleheader. Coming off Wednesday's defeat at the hands of Rose-Hulman, Wabash will have something to prove against the most formidable ballclub they will have faced all season. Currently, the Big Red are

ranked 15th in the nation, coming off a convincing three-game sweep of Adrian College.

"I have, myself, full confidence that if all do their duty, if nothing is neglected, and if the best arrangements are made, as they are being made, we shall prove ourselves once again able to win the conference championship, to ride out the storm of a Rose-Hulman defeat and to outlive the menace of The Bachelor's tyranny," said Lentz. "That is the resolve of the Wabash baseball team—every man of them. That is the will of Wally and the fighting Little Giants."

Wabash will have to strive to limit Denison's offensive, which made national headlines after outlasting Arcadia University 25-23 in a game that took so long it had to be suspended and continued the next day. Denison's offensive explosion was not a fluke either, as they have scored 10 runs or more in almost half of their games.

"Even though one game has been lost and many hard hit baseballs have fallen into the grip of the Fightin' Engineers and all the odious apparatus of Terre Haute, we shall not flag or fail," said Lentz. "We shall go on to the end, we shall fight in Denison, we shall fight on the grass and dirt, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air. We shall defend Goodrich Ballpark, whatever the cost may be. We shall fight in Ohio, we shall fight on the landing grounds of Greencastle, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills of Kenyon; we shall never surrender."

After returning from Ohio, the Little Giants will have their most important doubleheader of the season on April 4 at Goodrich Ballpark. The opponent: the Team Down South.

Lacrosse feature: Art of the face-off

ELIJAH GREENE '25 | SPORTS COLUMNIST • The face-off is a uniquely specific moment in the game of lacrosse. Most fans wouldn't even bat an eye at it.

However, a keen-eyed observer would identify this seemingly innocuous moment as something with far greater implications: it's a personal battle between two players, one from either team, in the middle of the field for both bragging rights and a team's continuous possession of the ball, a stat that almost always indicates who the winner will be.

And an even keener eye would recognize that these players that participate come onto the field for the face-off, stay on for 15-30 seconds, then leave until the next face-off.

So, while innocent at first glance, the face-off seems much more important than meets the eye. And its specialists? An enigma.

But this begs the question: what about this face-off is so enigmatic?

For starters, there are many different approaches to the face-off. As a face-off man, if you are quicker than your opponent in "the clamp," a position where the two players' sticks are backward and, on the whistle, clamp down onto the ball to gain possession, then beating him to the clamp is an excellent strategy. If you are slower, countering—waiting for the other player to win the clamp and then knocking the ball out of his stick—is also a viable option. The face-off is only won when a team secures possession of the ball and begins to advance it forward.

"A lot of people think about who's faster [to the clamp]," said Luka Difilippo '25, Wabash's starting face-off man. "But in reality, it's who's better after the clamp. If you're quicker than the other guy but you can't



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25
Luka Difilippo '25 wins the clamp during a face-off against Hiram on March 25, 2023, at Fischer Field.

handle the ball, you might win every face-off. But you don't really [win] if you get the ball knocked out of your stick every time after you win it."

These strategies are just a few examples, which all happen in almost the blink of an eye. It's more of an art form, a mind game that the two players must play each and every time they approach the center circle.

But why is the face-off so important, and why is it important to win the majority of the face-offs in the game? The simple answer is possession time.

"If you have a really good face-off guy, the game is controlled in your favor," said Owen Hauber '25. "If your guy is going 90% [a player's face-off win rate]

against the other team, there's so many more fast breaks and scoring opportunities. Constantly getting the ball and working with your offense gives you a much better chance of winning the game."

Something unique to lacrosse is that, after every scored point, each team has the chance to possess the ball at the face-off, as opposed to the change in possession in most other sports. This means that, if Wabash scores a goal, they can immediately regain possession during the face-off and have another chance to score.

It doesn't seem like that much of an advantage, but when you step back and look at the statistics, those face-offs can add up. In Wabash's last game against Hiram,

Difilippo went 19-25 against Hiram's face-off men, an astounding 76% win rate. This means that almost three out of every four times Wabash scored, they then retained possession and had another chance to set up their offense, tipping the time of possession scale drastically in their favor. This contributed to their definitive 21-7 victory on March 25.

Most premier lacrosse programs have many such specialists who dedicate their training time to mastering the many various techniques of the face-off, with a starting rotation of around four. But Wabash has just two face-off men who play on the scout team for most of the practice.

"At the start [of practice] we take our own time

[to train] and do reps off to the side, but for most of the practice we're with the team," said Difilippo. "We don't have the numbers. On bigger teams, face-off guys do face-offs for an hour."

Having face-off men working with the scout team is virtually unheard of for most college lacrosse programs, which have two-to-three times as many players as the current Wabash squad.

So, even taking limited reps, Difilippo can hang with some of Division III's best face-off men. During the face-off, his art form is on full display, if only for a few brief moments. And his success within those moments is one of the great keys to winning in the sport of lacrosse.