



Soccer draws DePauw after leading late



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25
Bryce Kinnaman '27 attempts a shot on goal in the second half of Wabash's game against DePauw on October 4, 2023 at Fischer Field.

RODOLFO ELIZONDO-ALCALA '27 | STAFF WRITER • In their biggest game yet, the Wabash soccer team, who at one point held a 3-1 advantage, failed to close out in the second half of their rivalry match against DePauw. They left a game they should have won tied at 3-3.

After defeating Adrian College on September 30, the Little Giants met the Tigers on Fischer Field on Wednesday, October 4. In the time leading up to the game, the Little Giants knew they had a tough match ahead since last year's match against DePauw ended 1-0 after a last-second shot was turned away by then-goalkeeper Soren Russell. In their 2023 meeting, both Wabash and DePauw suffered absences in their lineup, as the Tigers were without their lead scorer and Wabash was missing starting defender Hayden Eaton '25.

The Little Giants entered the game with a 4-2-3 record, almost equal with DePauw's (4-4-1 (0-1 NCAC). But, the two schools have shown in the past on countless occasions that records don't matter after the opening whistle.

During the opening minutes of the

first half, DePauw managed to sneak a chip shot over Wabash goalkeeper Fernando Ramos '25 leading the score in the 13th minute. Evan Miller '26 was able to answer as he skillfully dribbled past the DePauw backline, securing his first goal of the season just two minutes after. Just before the end of the first half, Bryce Kinnaman '27 dribbled through the center, streaking past defenders and scored to secure the lead.

The two teams fought in very different styles throughout the game. The Wabash team with its smaller, nimble players used speed to find explosive scoring opportunities. On the other side, the bulkier DePauw roster lend itself to a play style focused on converting corner-kicks and free-kicks with a slower, more deliberate offensive rhythm.

Entering the second half, Wabash held a 2-1 advantage and increased the gap later in the half. Wabash tried several different offensive sets, resulting in 3 shots on goal from Kinnaman until

Continued page 8

'A Giant Moment' welcomes alumni and donors back to campus

SAM BENEDICT '25 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • The Giant Steps campaign has lived up to its name. After surpassing the \$225,000,000 goal, it's time to thank those that made it possible.

Beginning on July 1, 2017 with a "quiet phase" that resulted in \$150,000,000 already being raised, the campaign capitalized on the momentum by ending the philanthropic effort with over \$240,000,000.

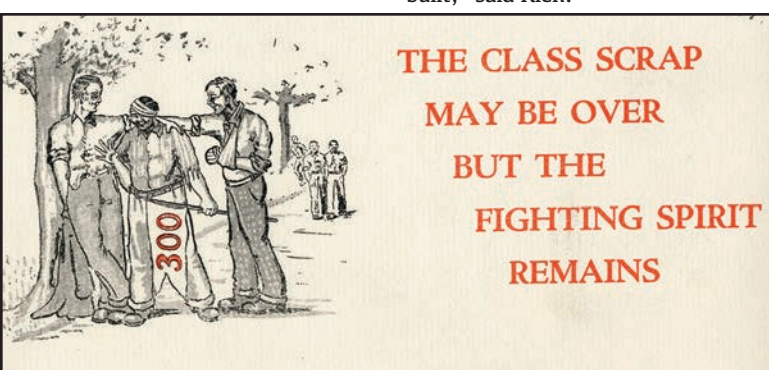
"What kind of legacy are they leaving at a place that will continue to benefit young men who are enrolled here for generations to come?"

- Joe Klen '97

Wabash Advancement and donors alike see this seven-year campaign as a defining moment for the College going into the 2032 bicentennial.

"What do we want Wabash to look like when we enter our third century?" said Giant Steps Campaign Director Joe Klen '97. "What types of things might Wabash need to have in place? What kind of programs? What kind of endowment? What kind of student body will we have?"

Questions like this have been the driving force in years past during previous capital campaigns.



COURTESY OF RAMSAY ARCHIVES

A graphic for the 1924 "300" campaign.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Will Morris '25 picks out a Wabash shirt during Day of Giving 2023

Recently, the most influential campaign before "Giant Steps" was the "Campaign for Leadership" from 1998–2004. This capital campaign laid the groundwork for the campus that the Wabash community knows today.

"That's when Hays Science Hall was built, when the Allen Center was done, when we either renovated or rebuilt all the fraternities [and when] the new Malcolm X Institute was built," said Klen.

Wabash cherishes a long and storied history of successful capital campaigns dating back to the "300" campaign from 1924. The "300" was a call to action for alumni and friends to donate \$60 per year for five years. The goal was one of the first organized attempts to raise money in an effort to improve the student experience at Wabash.

Since the "300" campaign, Wabash has seen a multitude of capital campaigns, almost all of which have been successful. The continued success of these capital campaigns speaks to the appreciation that Wabash alumni have for their alma mater.

"We talk a lot in our work about what kind of impact people want to have with their philanthropy to the College or what kind of legacy they want to leave at the College," said Klen. "What kind of legacy are they leaving at a place that will continue to benefit young men who are enrolled here for generations to come?"

Continued page 2

Cross Country completes comeback at Greater Louisville Classic

JIM DALY '24 | SPORTS WRITER

• Facing off against 47 other teams, Wabash Cross Country managed an impressive finish as runners-up over the weekend in the 8K North Coast Athletic Conference's Greater Louisville Classic at the University of Louisville.

This comes following weeks' worth of intensive training on the team's

behalf. The rigorous practice schedule in between meets provided necessary time for their three fastest runners to get back into shape after having taken significant time off because of injuries/illness.

During the race on Saturday, the Little Giants Cross Country team scored a total of 251 points and boast-

ed a collective average time of 26:55. This competitive speed was bested only by Trine University & Mount Vernon Nazarene University, respectively. Reflecting on the Wabash Cross Country team's second-place finish in the event, Head Cross Country Coach Tyler McCreary expressed contentment regarding what he saw as a powerful display of hard work paying off on the course.

"It was a good team performance that we've needed for a while," McCreary said. "It wasn't surprising that they did it, but it was encouraging to see them all run together as a group in a smart, composed race, and see them with confidence to move up throughout the race to get to where they ended up."

Boasting a 23rd place finish overall with a time of 26:25.9 was veteran XC runner Joseph Barnett '24, who was the first Wabash runner to cross the finish line after achieving one of the best times of his career. The performance was impressive enough to earn him the NCAC Men's Cross Country Athlete of the Week.

Looking back on the race, Barnett voiced satisfaction with his performance as well as that of his peers. Additionally, he demonstrated a sense of enthusiasm surrounding the team's current standing and what that means for them moving forward while also stressing the importance of recognizing where there is room for improvement.

"I think we did well," Barnett said. "We were able to finish the last couple kilometers of the race strong. We were excited about this race and, as a whole team, we ran well. But there's still a lot of improvement that we can have down for the final stretch of the season. So, we're excited, but still eager to get better."

Brayden Curnutt '25 also stood out amongst the Redpack that day, finishing his race in 58th at a time of 27:05.0. Having to treat an injury earlier in the season that prevented him from attending practice, his performance on Saturday showcased the efforts he put into the team's intense workout routine in the weeks following his recovery that led up to this race.

"[As] my first race back from injury, I wanted to do the best I could for the team," Curnutt said.

Moving ahead, the team remains optimistic about the rest of the season. Coach McCreary feels that the team's most recent performance strengthened his confidence in their potential competitiveness for more prestigious events.

"Seeing those guys together working as a group to move up throughout the race and end up in second place was the most encouraging thing," Coach McCreary said. "So that's all we talked about, we talked about running a good team-complete race, and [we] finally did that. That gives us a lot of confidence going into two weeks from now. And then ultimately, where we can measure ourselves up against the conference championship, to see that come together at Louisville was the most valuable piece for us."

The Wabash XC team will have their next race on October 14th at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois.



COURTESY OF WABASH ATHLETICS

Brayden Curnutt '25 competes on September 30, 2023 at the Greater Louisville Classic in Louisville, Kentucky

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy ousted after nine months

TIERNAN DORAN '26 | NEWS EDITOR

• Following a contentious election and a tumultuous term, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy has been ousted from the position of Speaker of the House after just nine months. Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC) has stepped in as the interim speaker as the search for a new permanent speaker takes place. The House is expected to convene on Tuesday, October 10 to hold a forum where contenders can make their case with an election held soon after.

House Majority Leader Rep Steve Scalise (R-LA.), the second most powerful House Republican, has already made known his intention to run for McCarthy's position. In a letter to his House colleagues asking for support, Scalise referenced an incident in which he was wounded when a gunman opened fire during a congressional baseball game.

"During that time, I was often asked why after nearly losing my life because of this job I would want to go back," said Scalise in his letter. "But

it was never a question for me: I love this country, and I believe we were sent here to come together and solve the immense challenges we face."

Another announced contender for the position is Rep Jim Jordan (R-OH). Jordan, a well known Trump supporter also announced his intention to seek the speaker's seat in a letter to his colleagues.

"We are at a critical crossroad in our nation's history. Now is the time for our Republican conference to come together to keep our promises to Americans," Jordan wrote in his letter. "The problems we face are challenging, but they are not insurmountable. We can focus on the changes that improve the country and unite us in offering real solutions. But no matter what we do, we must do it together as a conference. I respectfully ask for your support as Speaker of the House of Representatives."

Former President Donald Trump has also been touted by House Republicans as a possible replacement

with some seeing him as a unifying force for the fractured Republican party.

Rep. Greg Steube, (R-Fla), Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA), and Rep Troy Nehls (R-TX) have all called for Trump to take the position of Speaker of the House

"The challenge is going to be you're going to have people that don't want to support Jim for whatever reason or don't want to support Scalise for whatever reasons," said Steube. "And you've seen all of this play out on the floor. You have to get to 218 [votes]. Nobody can lose four votes."

When asked, speaker contender Jim Jordan also pledged support to the former president should he decide to run.

"I don't know, he'd be great, but I want Donald Trump to be the next president of the United States... that's where we need him is at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue," said Jordan. "If he wants to be speaker, then that's fine too."



COURTESY OF CNN

Former Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy hold Press Conference after being ousted from Speaker position on October 10, 2023.

'A Giant Moment' cont'd


Now that Wabash is at the conclusion of the campaign, students are able to understand the tangible effects that the philanthropic efforts of friends and family have had on their Wabash experience.


“What do we want Wabash to look like when we enter our third century?”

- Joe Klen '97

“50% of our budget comes from philanthropy, either from gifts that are made on Day of Giving to our annual fund or the unrestricted fund or from the endowment,” said Dean for College Advancement Michelle Janssen.

The Giant Steps campaign has led to the development of the Philosophy, Politics and Economics and Computer Science majors, has supported programs like the Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship, Wabash Democracy and Discourse and the Global Health Initiative, created over 100 new scholarships for students, helped to create Little Giant Stadium and the Stephenson Institute for Classical Liberalism and will be used for





How to Give

Wabash College


The Campaign for Leadership

A \$100 million effort to serve future generations of Wabash men.

CAMPAIGN TOTAL
\$70,700,000
TO DATE

www.wabash.edu/campaign

COURTESY OF RAMSAY ARCHIVES



A graphic soliciting Alumni donations for the 1998-2004 “Campaign for Leadership” fundraiser.

over \$10,000,000 towards immersion learning opportunities for students.

Although students haven’t been the ones to make significant financial contributions, they’ve played an instrumental role in showcasing the continued excellence of Wabash. Between members of the Sons of Wabash who have hosted and volunteered during on-cam-

pus events, students who have traveled to meet with alumni for regional events and even students who have written thank you notes to those who have funded scholarships and experiences, every effort has been valuable.

Although writing letters to those who have donated doesn’t seem to be a powerful task, recognizing the impact of a scholar-

ship is an emotional moment. For one family in particular, it is an incredibly moving tradition.

“Every year, for years, a student who has received this family’s scholarship has written a letter to the family, and before the mother, who initiated the scholarship, died, she passed down a wooden box to her daughter where she had put all of those scholarship

letters,” said Janssen. “She said, ‘Now it’s your turn to receive this gift.’ So our students are thanking them, but they perceive it as ‘what a gift they get from us to get this thank you.’

On Friday October 6, 2023, Wabash College will welcome all who made these accomplishments possible with “A Giant Moment of celebration for the Giant Steps Campaign.” Alumni, friends and students will come together to recognize these accomplishments and will hear from students how these gifts have impacted their Wabash experience.

On Saturday, the advancement team will host giveaway opportunities and interact with students and alumni on the Stephenson Gateway Plaza before the football game. Students are welcome to take part in this historic celebration that has blazed a trail for the future of Wabash College.

“The message for students to think about is the generational model,” said Klen. “Something where in 20 or 30 years down the road they’ll think about the folks who helped them. Maybe they will be inspired to make a difference for future Wabash students.”

News around the world

ELIJAH WETZEL '27 | STAFF WRITER

Italy: 21 people died Tuesday evening in Venice after the tour bus they were in fell off a bridge some 30 feet tall after scraping against a metal guardrail for at least 150 feet. The driver, who is among the dead, had a spotless driving record, officials say. The cause of the crash remains unclear as authorities try to make sense of the tragedy. The driver was the only Italian national on the bus, and the other 20 people who perished were foreign tourists. Most died in the fire that ignited after the bus hit the ground, and firefighters said that the blaze was more difficult to put out due to the bus being electric.

[Courtesy of CNN]

Israel: Religious tensions rose in Jerusalem this week after police arrested multiple individuals accused of spitting in the direction of Christian worshippers. Videos circulated online spurred outrage as ultra - Orthodox Jews could be seen spitting at the feet of foreign Christian worshippers. This incident and others of similar sort drew criticism from Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu; although many in Israel’s Christian population, of whom many are Palestinian, have been critical of the role, or there lack of one, that Netanyahu’s government has played in curbing the incidents.

[Courtesy of National Geographic]

South Africa: Once the world’s largest producer of gold, South Africa’s mining industry suffered yet another hit this week as a report by auditing firm PwC claims that the industry’s overall profits declined by more than \$5 billion dollars in the last fiscal year alone. Mining is one of South Africa’s most profitable industries, and one that they cannot afford to have slip further given they have the highest unemployment rate in the world. PwC also reported that without significant work being put into the mines to revitalize them, South Africa’s mining industry could be non-existent within three decades.

[Courtesy of Reuters]

Thailand: The teenager who opened fire at a Bangkok shopping center Tuesday afternoon and claimed the lives of two individuals used a plastic, blank-firing handgun modified to use real bullets. The teenager was taken into custody within an hour of the first shots being fired, and has a history of being treated for mental illnesses. Among the dead was a Chinese national in Bangkok for tourism. Videos and pictures of the attack circulated Chinese social media, and sparked concerns in Thailand that the tourism industry would suffer as a result. This would pose a problem for the Thailand economy as it attempts to recover from lingering pandemic effects.

[Courtesy of BBC]

Ukraine: Ukraine launched an ambitious drone attack into Russian territory earlier this week, and the Russian Defense Minister claims 31 were shot down by Russian anti-aircraft systems. This attack is the latest by Ukraine as a part of their ongoing counteroffensive against the Russians, which has been ongoing for three months. However, the viability of this strategy has been drawn into question as senior NATO officials claim that the Ukrainian weapons supply is running low. Congress has been reluctant to approve more money to resupply Ukraine’s armory, and as the largest supplier of weapons to the nation, this poses serious concerns for their war effort.

[Courtesy of AP]



SHORT FILM CHARITY SCREENING



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American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

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BAKED GOODS


CUSTOM CAKES

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Wabash Club of Indianapolis

Do Battle, Rhetorically Speaking

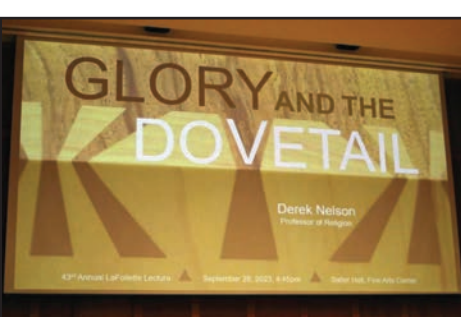


LaFollette follow-up: Nelson '99 talks woodworking, neural development and modernity

NATHAN ELLENBERGER '26 | FEATURES EDITOR • Last week, the 43rd annual LaFollette Lecture returned to campus, delivered by Professor of Religion Derek Nelson '99. The talk, titled “Glory and the Dovetail,” explored a vast spread of topics, from woodworking and architecture to the literature of John Updike, while supporting the overarching theme of religion and its purpose throughout history.

The LaFollette Lecture, the most significant faculty lecture of the academic year at Wabash, is a time-honored tradition dedicated to delving deeply into the speaker's field of study as it broadly relates to the humanities.

The Bachelor staff sat down with Nelson after his lecture to investigate his creative process and inspirations, his philosophy of the material world and his fascination with woodworking.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Nelson joins a hallowed dynasty of LaFollette speakers with his September 28, 2023 lecture.

You connect many seemingly unrelated things in your talk.

I talk about several seemingly unrelated things. Thank you for paying me the compliment of saying they were connected, I'm not quite sure.

What did preparation for this lecture look like? Were these connections in your head before you were asked to do the lecture, or did these connections come to you only in the process of preparing?

The relationship to the material world is part of an ongoing interest of mine that has to do with the history of technology, and has to do with environmental sustainability and ecotheology. But it was never as specific as the history of one particular woodworking joint going back to ancient Egypt, so I had a great time thinking about a new angle of an existing interest. The second part, the main part is really new, I have not published anything on this. As I sort of joked in the lecture, if you say something truly new about the New Testament, it's

almost certainly wrong. Only very haltingly does one propose a quite new reading of a well-worn text. If it were in a scholarly journal, I would say a lot more about why I think this stuff is interesting and what I think about the presence of God in the world after the Ascension. I have lots of ideas, so trying something new was a fun challenge for me.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Derek Nelson '99 adds a fresh dimension to his body of work with a new emphasis on ecotheology.

You have such a specific lens that you look at things with, this fixation on the material world. Which came first: this strong connection with what's tactile and tangible or your intellectual attraction to religion?

The intellectual attraction to religion definitely came first. I remember a specific instance where the former came to mind. It was a new syndrome that's described in medical journals and I read about it in The New York Times maybe eight years ago. It's called something like hypoplasticity dyspraxia.

That sounds familiar.

It's becoming more and more common. It's literally a kind of brain damage where fine motor neural development doesn't happen because kids are just swiping left and right on iPads instead of playing with blocks. There's something significant about touching and reacting and being reminded, "This is my arm, these are my hands, this is mine."

These neural processing disorders are related to a growing estrangement from the world of material stuff. I just remember reading that article and thinking, "Oh my gosh, we're damaging our brains because our connections to the material world are so tenuous and optional."

You have a very nuanced position where you're able to poke at the foundations of Western philosophy and modernity without rejecting them outright. I appreciate the way you straddle that line, especially

when talking about modernity.

I had a very important teacher, Rosemary Radford Ruether. She was a leading feminist theologian, and she wrote a lot of books criticizing the dominant Western intellectual theological tradition, which I learned a huge amount from. Her students didn't get the same education in that tradition that she did, so she was able to reject it, but keep certain parts that she thought were valuable. I didn't think that she gave her students as good an education as she herself got, because she taught almost entirely from the point of view of the critique. Instead of "here's the thing now I'll critique it," It's more like, "here's the critique, and it's going to be a long one." I'm not criticizing her, I just noticed that. So what I want to say to my students is, "We're not living in the Enlightenment anymore, but here's what it was. Here's the alternative, which wasn't very good either." I do try to say "yes, but" or "yes, and" and not just shout.

When did you first begin woodworking?

Young. My dad was a carpenter, his dad was a carpenter, so it's always been in the blood. Winters are long in Minnesota and you're not doing a lot of house building, so there's lots of tinkering and fixing stuff. I remember I got a pretty high score on my toolbox in 4-H woodshop when I was in fifth grade or so. I had to really talk my dad into letting me use his horribly unsafe miter saw for that project. He also had higher standards than I did, so I had to fight him off from taking over and doing my project for me. I've never had that kind of attention to detail. You know, if something can be really nice with 10 hours of work or perfect with 100 hours of work, I'm gonna pick really nice.

Why should more people learn carpentry? What are the personal benefits that learning this skill can offer?

There are millions! You become self-sufficient, at least dependable enough to be a resource to yourself. It also feels really good to work with wood. I think it also expands the horizon of time. We think about an Ikea table as a three-year solution until you can buy something better. Our experience of time is so attenuated and so atomizing. This dischronicity is a philosophical term I've been working with and thinking about, meaning that we don't have arcs anymore, like you can't understand your life in terms of a progression. Worrying about things in a postmodern world makes everything short term and disposable.

What does the honor of the LaFollette Lecture mean to you, both on a personal

level and a professional level?

On a personal level, I think it's having your name added to a list of wonderful people, including important mentors. I didn't mean to criticize the two that I mentioned in the lecture as much as I probably did. I think professionally, It was a chance to put a marker in the ground and see if some of these new ways of thinking old thoughts are gonna produce much fruit. This is an area that I'm interested in, but I'm having a really hard time writing this ecotheology book. It keeps getting bigger and changing and I end up having all kinds of theories about everything, including multi-page rants about the metric system!

You provide some negative examples in your talk of the lectures that you didn't enjoy as a student; what is a prime example of a LaFollette Lecture done right?

I think Bill Placher's was just really excellent. Everything he did was excellent. His was really about method, which is, in a way, what the LaFollette is asking you to do: to think about your discipline. Not the particular areas that you study, but rather what one is actually doing when one is studying literature or theology or music.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

A banquet with faculty and students immediately followed the lecture.

Asian Culture Club celebrates Mid-Autumn Moon Festival



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '25

Nate Joven '26 presents on the cultural history of many different autumn festivals across Asian cultures on September 29, 2023 in Detchon International Hall.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '25

Students intently follow Chinese Teaching Assistant Max Hsu instruction in learning a traditional dance.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '25

Ben Douglas '27 and Howard Grimmatt '26 select delicacies of Asian cuisine from the event's buffet.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '25

Children of the Wabash community participate by displaying their budding artistic skills.

IFC and IMA join for charity softball



PHOTO BY GRAYSON DUNN '25

A Wabash student winds up to swing for the fences, all in the name of charity on September 30, 2023 in Mud Hollow.

JAKE WEBER '25 | STAFF WRITER

Last weekend, the Interfraternal Council and Independent Men's Association partnered together to host a philanthropic softball tournament benefiting the United Way of Montgomery County. Teams from the Sphinx Club, Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji), Kappa Sigma, Phi Delta Theta, Theta Delta Chi and Phi Kappa Psi all came together Saturday morning in friendly competition at Mud Hollow to support a good cause.

The partnership between student leaders and the United Way began at this year's Back to Bash event, where the United Way made an appearance to promote themselves amongst the Wabash student body.

"The real draw was that the United Way supports 20 charitable organizations across the county," said IFC President Brett Driscoll '24. "Being able to give that donation to the United Way so they could go and spread it to all of the charities where it's most needed was the biggest reason for choosing them."

This event marks another strong partnership between the IFC and IMA in order to help benefit the community. Last fall, the two organizations hosted a kickball tournament that benefitted Grace and Mercy food pantry.

"That's where our great relationship started," said IMA President Matt Lepper '25. "Ever since, whenever I'm thinking big picture, I'm thinking IMA/IFC collaboration because we represent all of campus. My mission statement was to break the barrier between independents and

fraternity men, and collaborating with IFC has done that."

The event had over 75 students show up in support of the cause, raising \$250 in donations that went directly to the United Way. Teams of seven to nine students battled it out in three-inning games in a double-elimination tournament. At the end of the day, Fiji's upperclassmen took home the golden glove with the Fiji freshmen class taking a close second, followed by Theta Delta Chi in third.

The tournament also featured food courtesy of Cooking Club and La Alianza. The food was funded through the Restoring Hope, Restoring Trust grant money, in coordination with Leann Parrish, the College's Community and Partnerships Coordinator.

"The College has all of these opportunities and resources put in place already," said Parrish.

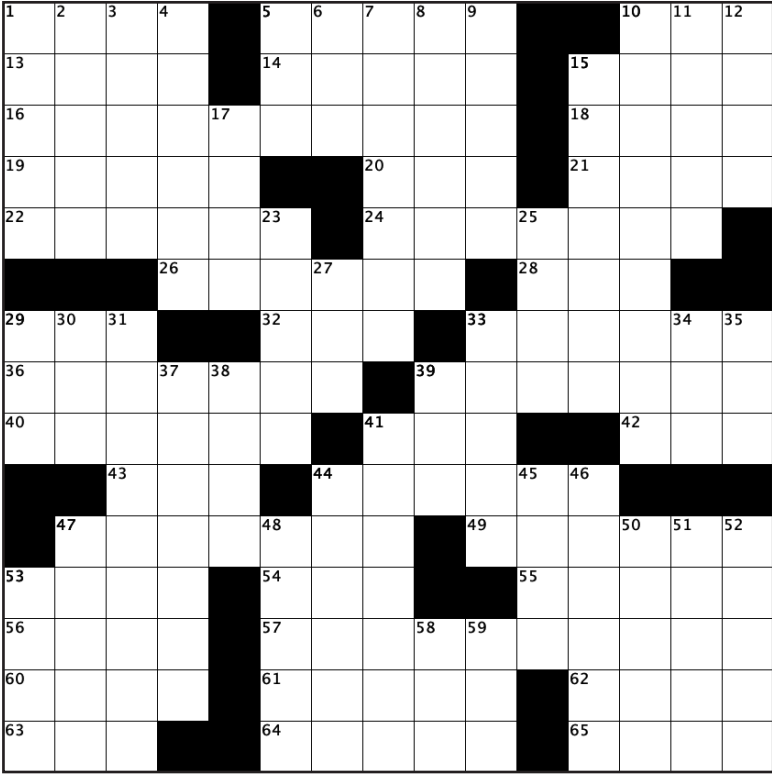
The only thing that we need to do is reach out to them" said Driscoll. "The opportunities are there. The resources are there, we just have to take advantage."

Both Lepper and Driscoll offer encouragement to the student body to continue working for causes that matter. The two presidents hope their organizations will continue to work together for years to come, unifying campus under the Wabash brotherhood.

"We just want guys coming out, especially for a good cause like that," said Lepper. "The only thing I can say is just get involved, buy into the culture, and show up at these events."

'Giant steps'

Crossword by Logan Weilbaker '25



Across

- 1. Tibetan monk
- 5. 2000 voice-acting role for John Goodman
- 10. Word that can precede or follow "day"
- 13. "'Twas never to be..."
- 14. Male escort, perhaps
- 15. Unlikeable uncle of Broadway
- 16. ... at the Circus
- 18. Prowl
- 19. Hyundai's home
- 20. "Yes," at the altar
- 21. Do as told
- 22. Circus worker's accessories
- 24. Like Indianapolis, within Indiana
- 26. Hot, as a gun
- 28. DOJ division
- 29. Green iPhone text: Abbr.
- 32. Prefix with deed or lead
- 33. Balls of yarn
- 36. Frequent home add-on
- 39. Never-ending
- 40. Microscopic blob
- 41. Pop singer Rita
- 42. I ____
- 43. Take to court?
- 44. Bares one's teeth
- 47. Angles

Down

- 1. Is deficient in
- 2. Measure out
- 3. Polynesian people
- 4. Too
- 5. Zit cream?
- 6. Pokemon protagonist
- 7. Elections
- 8. Took to heart
- 9. Unlawful firing?
- 10. ... on the beach
- 11. Comic cel
- 12. Bohemian
- 15. "Indiana," compared to "Indianapolis"
- 17. Alliance based in Brussels
- 23. Polynesian isle
- 25. Scene
- 27. Turn down
- 29. Ass-backwards government agency?
- 30. "The word"
- 31. ... in the Arctic
- 33. Name in "The Avengers" and "Game of Thrones"
- 34. Power ____
- 35. Nickname for Stalone
- 37. Takes down the "Closed" sign
- 38. Double-reed instrument
- 39. Ballpark fig.
- 41. Making a scene?
- 44. Take 57-Across
- 45. ChapStick targets
- 46. "The Thinker," for one
- 47. Computer data acronym
- 48. Pens
- 50. Exhaust, as resources
- 51. Comet's yokemate
- 52. Hurried
- 53. Elton John ____ Foundation
- 58. Testicle, slangily
- 59. It's worth four or five, in Rugby

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Scan for solution!

Carrie Newcomer brings folk-fueled optimism in Visiting Artist Series

LOGAN WEILBAKER '25 | MANAGING EDITOR

When the magic wand goes over the world, what has to go, and what has to stay? That's the question Carrie Newcomer posed, minutes after we met for the first time.

"Thermonuclear warfare? That has to go," she said. "Wheels? Wheels can stay."

It's that sort of outlook on life that Newcomer brought with her when she visited campus on September 27-28. Since her first visit to Wabash in 1991, the Indiana-based singer-songwriter has developed a strong fanbase in the Crawfordsville community, and on Wednesday night, she wowed audiences with a sold-out show in Salter Hall.

"Bringing [in] Carrie Newcomer is a nice bridge to the community," said Associate Professor of Art and Visiting Artist Series Implementation Committee Chair Annie Strader. "It's also a nice way of welcoming people back to the College who maybe haven't been here since pre-COVID."

In addition to her performance, she spent Wednesday and Thursday afternoon meeting with Professor Ables's Music in Society class, Professor Williams's Music Theory class and the Glee Club, talking about folk music and writing a song together in class.

"She comes with all this nice

openness," Strader said, "this professional person who is really collaborative and generous with her knowledge and experience."

If part of her role as a visiting artist is to share her experience as a folk musician, it becomes necessary to define the genre — a task easier said than done.

"What defines folk music for me is a freedom of subject matter and topic," said Newcomer. "I appreciate being able to deal with all kinds of subject matter, whether it's personal relationships, family relationships, spiritual relationships or political relationships."

Newcomer's relationship with music all started from a young age, when the Elkhart, Indiana native began pursuing flute and guitar to fulfill an innate drive to create.

"My favorite game when I was a little kid was a game called 'Makin' Somethin'.' 'What are you doing Carrie?' 'I'm makin' somethin'.' I was making poems. I was making stories. I was painting pictures. I was making songs. And all these years later, I'm still inordinately happy when I'm making something," Newcomer said.

And while she attends a monthly Quaker meeting, to label her a Quaker or a follower of any particular religion would be a massive simplification of her true nature. She simply writes to tell stories

about the human experience.

Newcomer's purpose in creating music is to engage with topics that are important to her. Together with her husband, Wabash alumnus Robert Meitus '85, Newcomer has been producing a diverse catalog of music for more than 30 years. Listening to her music, you get a sense of the unique way Newcomer sees the world.

"I really love people. I know it's really unpopular to say that, but I really do. People are amazing, they're brilliant and beautiful and inspiring and disappointing," Newcomer said. "I want my songs to be three minutes of human empathy."

More than empathetic in words, Newcomer is also dedicated to a life of activism. Taking multiple trips to India and Kenya as part of the Interfaith Hunger Initiative, her music also frequently revolves around themes of social and political change.

"She's willing to talk about difficult things without being combative, which is such an unusual thing these days," said Fine Arts Center Academic Administrative Coordinator Julia Phipps, who was instrumental in bringing Newcomer to campus. "She's a breath of fresh air."

What makes Newcomer so refreshing is her honest individuality and bold humility.



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Carrie Newcomer performs for a sold-out house on September 27, 2023 in Salter Hall.

"[I want] to be the only Carrie Newcomer — to be the best Carrie Newcomer I know how to be in my art and in my life."

What's next for Newcomer? After her new album, "A Great Wild Mercy," debuts on October 13, 2023, she has no plans to slow down, currently working on a podcast and a Substack page where she posts videos, poetry and songs.

"Writing songs is like breathing," Newcomer said. "I don't think I'll stop doing one until I stop doing the other."

Carrie Newcomer is one of life's few remaining genuine people,

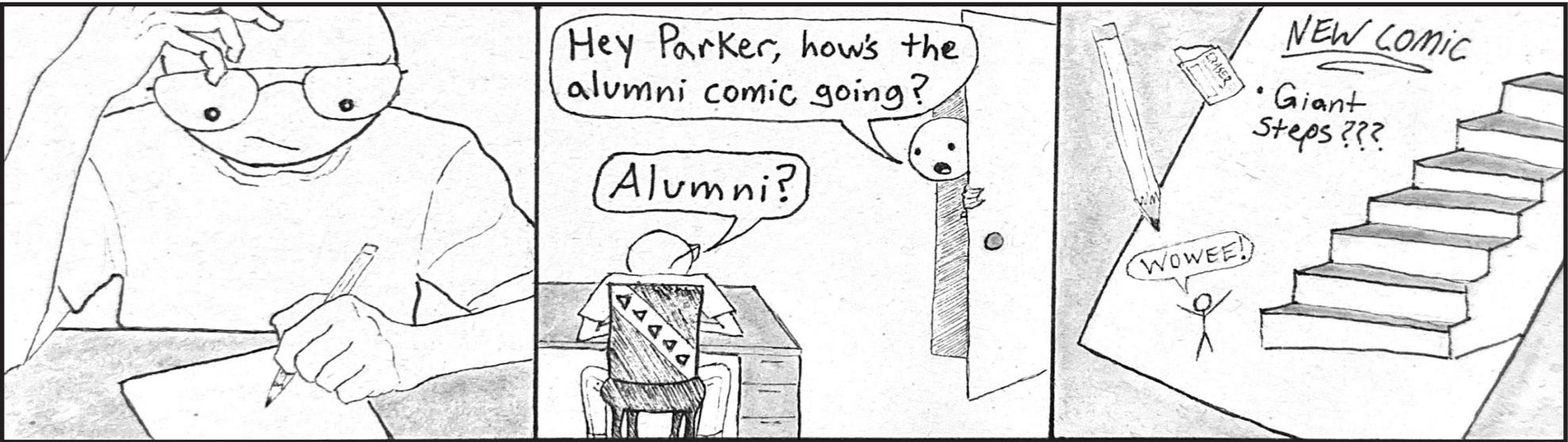
who has a beautiful spirit and passion for doing good.

"There is something luminous and beautiful that threads through the world," said Newcomer. "I create music, poetry and art to try to create beauty in a world that feels broken sometimes."

In her own way, Newcomer plays the role of that magic wand, reordering the world in a new way. She may not get rid of thermonuclear warfare any time soon, but what she realizes — and what she urges us all to understand — is that each person has the ability to spread a little bit more love and peace in the world.

'These must be some giant steps...'

Comic by Preston Parker '26



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

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

Letters (e-mails) to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. They will only be published if they include name, phone, or e-mail, and are not longer than 800 words.

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Zen and the art of ‘Demon Slayer’



Prof. Neil Schmitzer-Torbert

Reply to this opinion at
torbertn@wabash.edu

Why should you meditate? You may know that meditating regularly can help us manage stress, be more productive and support our health. There is good evidence for each of these benefits, but are these good reasons to meditate? Personally, I do meditate regularly, but not because I want to avoid stress or be more productive.

My own meditation practice started back in the late 1990s, when I was a high school student. A friend loaned me a copy of the book, “Zen Flesh, Zen Bones,” which included a number of stories about Zen teachers and students which fascinated me. Like the story of Ryokan, a penniless monk who gave a would-be thief the clothes off his own back as a gift. Or the story of Hakuin, accused of fathering a child, whose only reply was “Is that so?” but who took the infant into his care.

As a self-conscious teen, uncertain of my role in the world and the purpose of my life, I was drawn to these stories and the idea that meditation practice could give a person greater stability in life. So, I came to meditation because I wanted to live a different way, and to be a better person.

And looking back, the reason that these Zen stories caught my attention had something to do with the time and place of my childhood, growing up with the original “Star Wars” movies and science fiction books such as Heinlein’s “Stranger in a Strange Land”. If I were in high school today, it might be a very different story that would have prepared me to be inspired by Zen. Perhaps one like “Demon Slayer” (and here I am thinking of the anime version – I have not read the original manga).

If you are not familiar with it, “Demon Slayer” is a beautiful (though often bloody and violent) story. And if you are familiar with “Demon Slayer”, consider the hero, young Tanjiro. A boy with a kind and pure soul who loses almost all of his family in a violent attack by a demon.

To save his younger sister, Tanjiro commits himself to joining the “demon slayers,” a group that trains in an esoteric style of (magical) sword fighting to kill demons and protect the public. And through it all, Tanjiro dedicates his life

to cultivating strength without sacrificing his humanity.

As a Zen practitioner, Tanjiro and his journey resonates deeply with me. The demon slayers develop powerful sword fighting skills through training that is rooted in a set of breathing techniques and physical conditioning. They train and struggle intensely, but often progress comes as they become more aware and attuned to their senses and bodies, letting them see their experience in new and unexpected ways.

This reminds me precisely of meditation practice in Zen and mindfulness. The specific techniques vary across meditation traditions, but focus on bringing greater awareness to the full range of our experience. We just sit with our minds, but it can be a challenging experience.

It is often said that meditation practice is simple, but not easy, and that has been true for me. Meditation can often be challenging, uncomfortable, and frustrating if we struggle with uncomfortable sensations, feelings and thoughts.

But even so, if we continue to sit with our own minds, carefully and intentionally bringing awareness to our experience without judgment, we may feel our experience shifting. Over time, we may see our experience in new ways, giving us a better understanding of our lives. With some patience, we might be able to find more space in our lives, to live in a different and more settled way.

So why should you meditate? Perhaps you find the potential for self-transformation to be inspiring. Or perhaps not. Maybe managing stress or being more productive is a stronger draw for you. That is fine: any of these would be wonderful reasons to start your meditation practice. But if you stick with meditation, don’t be surprised to find your motivation changing as your practice deepens. I never did manage to turn myself into a different person, but I am more comfortable living as myself.

If you do decide to take the first step, I’d recommend reading about meditation and joining a meditation group. It is very helpful to sit with others, and it is easier than ever to connect with groups through Zoom. And, we have a campus meditation group that meets each week, usually over the lunch hour on Mondays. You can find us on Engage, or just email me to join our mailing list. For those new to meditation, one book that I would recommend is Gunaratana’s “Mindfulness in Plain English.” And, while my own background is mainly in Zen Buddhism and mindfulness, you can find excellent meditation guides in many spiritual traditions.

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR

Lo-Five to the freshmen for constantly spamming YikYak asking about when the headshots will be ready. Speaking from experience, you can expect them to arrive just in time for you to take them again.

JIMMY! AT THE DISCO

Hi-Five to Jimmy Butler for his emo look on the Heat’s media day. Just when we thought our Shogo obsession was over...

C’EST LA VIE

Hi-Five to the Gabon military for completing the 9th coup in the past 3 years. At least the French taught you something in all those years when you were still a colony.

“THERE SEEMS TO BE NO SIGN OF INTELLIGENT LIFE ANYWHERE”

Lo-Five to the NFL for partnering with Disney to create a “Toy Story” broadcast of the Jaguars-Falcons game to appeal to kids. Shoudn’t they know that the best way to get eight-year-olds into football is by strapping pads on them so they can develop CTE?

RAINBOW ROAD

Lo-Five to the select individuals who refuse to walk on the brick pathways due to this month’s decorations. It’s a little early in the season for snowflakes to be on campus.

Make arguments great again



Isaac Grannis ’26

Reply to this opinion at
idgranni26@wabash.edu

Over the past decade, the quality of American discourse has fallen to an all-time low. This is not a controversial statement – it has been echoing throughout our culture for some time now.

No, the controversy begins when you attempt to figure out why – and everyone thinks they know who to blame: communists, fascists, late-stage capitalism, social media, big business, the GOP, Democrats – the list never ends. Instead, I propose something much more straightforward and closer to home: We have lost the principle of charity.

What is “charity” in the context of discussions? Simply put, charity is actively encouraging and helping your opponents. It is treating them with kindness and assuming good intentions. It is listening to their ideas and attacking their position, but never their character.

I will restate the obvious: American political discourse has lost any semblance of charity and has bled into every aspect of our lives. A large percentage of both parties view the other as a danger to the country, and both sides increasingly refuse to date, be friends with or associate in any way with the opposing side of the aisle. Our landscape is rife with ideologies that inherently assume ill-intent into its opponents. Both online and off, we have become quick to anger and slow to listen. Our conversations are now gladiatorial death matches where only one thing matters: Destruction of the enemy by any means necessary.

I don’t know how to fix or control our national discourse. However, I can control my actions – and you can control yours too. There are some simple

tactics you can put in place to start improving your own discussions.

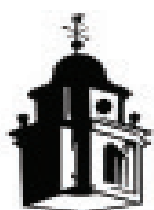
Firstly, define, define, define. When beginning any potential disagreement, I first say, “What do you mean by that?” or “How so?” Both phrases invite the other person to clarify their beliefs without attacking them. This preemptively stops a “definition” argument, where people argue in circles because they use the same words to mean different things. Before you ever start attacking a position, you should be able to fully articulate the position yourself. An excellent strategy to ensure everyone is on the same page is to ask, “If I understand you right, you are saying...” and then state their position.

Secondly, you must take the characters of all involved out of the discussion. A helpful phrase to remember is, “Beliefs don’t have morals – people do.” Recognize that no matter your disagreements, most people want to improve the world. When discussing any topic, belief or idea, the individuals should not be topics in the conversation. The discussion should end as soon as any individual is the subject of an attack.

Thirdly, remember that your beliefs are not everyone else’s: Maybe you think nuclear energy is terrible because you believe it pollutes the environment – but that doesn’t mean people who like nuclear power want to pollute the environment. Maybe they think it is safer for the environment or provides other benefits that make it worth the tradeoff.

Combining these three things – mutually-agreed-upon definitions, the benefit of doubt, and an assumption of good faith – can turn uncontrolled arguments into calm discussions. When even one person in an argument gets angry, everyone has already lost. Being charitable to your opponent’s not only helps to prevent anger but also streamlines the goal of debates: Getting ever closer to the truth. Open discussion and disagreement have shaped our society into what it is today. By practicing charity, little by little, bit by bit, we just might make our arguments great again.

Check out the *The Bachelor* Online:



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Advancing access and equity



Cyrus Anton '27

Reply to this opinion at czanton27@wabash.edu

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. This observance aims to bring awareness to the contributions of disabled workers as well as showcase inclusive employment practices.

By realizing the importance of these practices, we reaffirm that the disabled community is given equal opportunity to thrive and succeed in the workplace. Promoting a disability-inclusive workplace environment further reflects the diversity of American society and the importance of national economic stability.

The Office of Disability Employment Policy has chosen to highlight “Advancing Access and Equity” as the theme for this year’s National Disability Employment Awareness Month. “Advancing Access and Equity” in the workplace reassures that employees should be valued based on their skills, knowledge and abilities rather than physical characteristics.

Companies that follow this trend ensure success for their employees and the company as a whole. A recent joint study between Accenture and the American Association of People with Disabilities concluded that companies offering the most inclusive working

environment for disabled employees achieved an average of 28% higher revenue, 30% greater economic profit margins and twice the net income of their industry peers between 2015 and 2018.

Unfortunately, “Advancing Access and Equity” in the workplace is often hindered by systematic ableism and implicit biases. As individuals, we must overcome these hindrances by fostering inclusive environments where every employee is guaranteed an ample opportunity to reach their full potential.

Together, we can guarantee these opportunities by advocating for causes such as accurate disclosures of wage data, implementation of diversity training, the prioritization of equitable representation amongst workforce leadership and the importance of reviewing and updating hiring practices.

In observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, I encourage you to practice “Advancing Access and Equity” in your journey as a Wabash man.

Avoiding talking down to your peers and faculty with disabilities. Considering donating to disability charities, asking before assisting peers and promoting general kindness towards your Wabash brothers are all simple ways to promote access and equity for our thriving disabled community.

As you practice these simple tasks over time, I hope they will become habitual. This habitual practice provides “Access and Equity” not only for the Wabash disabled community of today but also for the disabled community of Wabash’s future.

Wally’s Wall: Term limits

The Question:

Should government positions in the legislative branch be subject to age or term limits?

Lance Williams '26

Government positions could benefit from age limits. There are current situations where important politicians have had strokes on camera or are increasingly becoming incapable of acting. Old ways and traditions for modern problems might also limit progress.

Owen Smith '27

Yes, there should be age/term limits. Ideas and policies constantly change over time so why not the people who hold them. If we rotate positions, it will force the person holding them to do as good of a job to be re-elected. It will also bring rise to great candidates who are more suitable for the job. I don’t think age restrictions should be implemented because I believe anyone can run if they are mentally capable of doing so, however I would like to see our country potentially support much younger candidates for positions in power.

Isaac Grannis '26

No, the legislators should not be subject to term limits. Our government already struggles with “kicking the can down the road” - running up expenses and starting programs with no way of footing the bill. With term limits, we will remove any incentive for long term planning, because the people spending the money won’t have to deal with the cost. We will only see a continued degradation of our government as a result.

Aidan Geleott '25

Yes, positions in the legislative branch should be subject to age and term limits.

Exhibit A: Sen. Mitch McConnell freezing.

Exhibit B: Sen. Mitch McConnell freezing again just weeks later.

This was no accident



John R. Roberts, M.D. '83

Reply to this opinion at robertsj@wabash.edu

I read with great interest the lengthy story in last week’s issue of *The Bachelor* regarding the injury that occurred at this year’s Chapel Sing. I remember locking arms with my 27 Beta pledge brothers on the steps of the Chapel in the fall of 1979. It will be unfortunate if the tradition of Beta freshmen guarding the Chapel steps cannot sensibly remain intact.

I would like to approach my critique by using the four pillars of the Wabash mission and also briefly comment on this unfortunate situation from a medical perspective. The story indicated that members of the Sphinx Club would be sitting down to debrief on what occurred this year. Apparently members of the Sphinx Club (including Betas) met with Dean Redding before the event to think critically and set the rules of engagement for what was to be allowed on the Chapel steps. If the latter meeting was taken seriously, the former would not be necessary.

Were the members of the Sphinx Club who were directly involved in the melee acting responsibly? Were they being responsible citizens as described in the Gentleman’s Rule that they, as a group, are charged to uphold?

It was incumbent on the Sphinx Club officers to lead effectively and make sure the ground rules were followed. Though I was not present at Chapel Sing this year, I have spoken to members of our community who were. All could see the escalating potential for something bad to happen – why could the Sphinx Club not? Accidents occur when caused by unforeseen circumstances – this was no accident. A serious injury resulting from shoving a Wabash brother unprotected to the concrete should be an anticipated potential outcome. Were the Sphinx Club members who caused the injury living humanely?

Let me say that from a medical perspective, this young man’s injuries could have been much worse. Thank goodness he, and the organizers of Chapel Sing, were fortunate – this time. Closed head injuries can vary from concussions to severe bleeding and swelling in the brain, to even death. I have cared for patients who have suffered devastating permanent brain injuries from less trauma. Our football team wears helmets and pads for a reason – this young man had neither. While this was not likely a malicious act, we should expect better from the Wabash brotherhood.

Wabash students should continue to have fun, even showing some “affection” for each other through “physicality.” I would only ask that all of you take a time out to think critically beforehand to anticipate the injuries that might result. You, or one of our Wabash brothers, could lose a lot more than a simple tradition.

STOP THE PRESS: Homophobic students are...homophobic?!?



Seth Kirkpatrick '24

Reply to this opinion at skirkpa24@wabash.edu

It’s October, the time of year when the temperature cools, the leaves fall to the ground, and a plethora of Wabash Students decide to openly and proudly ridicule, belittle and criticize their fellow students for their sexuality. These folks proclaim, “that’s not my business!” right before telling their gay and bi-sexual Wabash brothers that their very existence bothers, frustrates or disgusts them.

For those who have experienced this on campus, I want to reiterate that there are many students, staff and faculty that are here to support you and your academic endeavors. It amazes me that I even *feel* the need to say that. I myself am not a part of the LGBTQ+ community, nor am I even a member of ’shOUT, but this campus is reaching a breaking point for homophobic behavior. For those of you who do hold negative views of your LGBTQ+ brothers, I ask that you try and read this opinion with an open mind. I have some questions for you that I hope you can consider throughout the rest of your Wabash college experience.

At Wabash, all students are given a space to develop their own identity. These identities often focus on being masculine. A common question here is: what does it mean to be a Wabash man? As a man, I think masculinity is pretty

neat. To me, it’s about being strong, caring, generous, and empathetic towards others. It’s about leadership and helping those who cannot help themselves. I imagine that many of you share these same, or similar, views on masculinity. So, my first question to you all is this: are you demonstrating masculine traits when you antagonize and punch-down on one of the smallest groups on campus? Last time I checked, picking on the smallest person or group is not only unmasculine, but generally pathetic.

I imagine the most common response to that first question is something along the line of “these are just jokes! You’re just fragile!” Fair enough, I suppose humor is broad in scope and often has little-to-no boundaries. But does that logic always apply to you?

Imagine it’s the day of Bell Game. You’re at the tailgate and you brought your girlfriend or family member, or someone you really cared about to the game. I decide, because it would be “funny,” to walk up to that person and tell them “Woah you are ugly! Do you wash your face with the gunk stuck to your shower drain?” or something along those lines. I would put a *lot* of money on you responding to my joke by knocking me upside the head.

But come on bro, it’s a joke! What are you, a *snowflake*? You see where I’m going with this. Yes, humor has very few boundaries. But you know that there are limits, however we define them, and its often the case that the “it’s just a joke!” argument only works one way.

But maybe some of you really would not care if that hypothetical was real. So, let’s look at this in a different light.

Imagine it’s your freshmen year once again. Maybe some of you reading this are freshmen. Coming to Wabash is difficult, the culture here is something different to anything any of us experienced before we chose to go here. It can be a real challenge to find your own voice, to find those you most relate to and to develop your social standing within the student body. Maybe some of you, like myself, contemplated transferring to another university.

Now imagine, as you’re trying to feel comfortable at Wabash, there are dozens and dozens of students who ridicule, belittle, criticize and mock who you are. They do this not only on social media, but also in person. The people who do this are in your fraternity house, on your sports team and in your clubs. Almost everywhere you are on campus, there are people, supposed “brothers” who tear you down. Would this not be devastating to you? You are already struggling to get through all the challenges Wabash has to offer, only to realize that those social networks and caring friends that make everything worthwhile, are in-opposition to your very existence.

For those who partake in this kind of behavior, I ask that you pursue a single Wabash College value: thinking critically. Take a minute to try and see through your upbringing, biases and personal philosophy, so that you can at least understand new perspectives. We all want this degree, we all make sacrifices for this degree, so why spend all four years doing everything except challenging your own worldview? Why act in opposition to the liberal arts education you signed up for?

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Golf captures fourth at Rhodes Invite

HENRY CHILCOAT '27 | STAFF WRITER• Wabash Golf is on the upswing. After a rocky start to their 2023 season, coming out of their first bouts with mediocre results, the Little Giants found their footing at the Rhodes Invitational, tying for 4th out of 17 teams, with many of the team’s top players placing high individually. Additionally, the team’s 297.7 score average marks a record low in Wabash history.

Despite this long-awaited victory, the team can’t afford to relax, as they will compete in the Wabash College Invitational this coming Monday, October 9 in Indianapolis. “One thing I keep hammering home is that success is harder to back up than failure,” says Head Golf Coach Justin Kopp ’21. “We need to work just as hard, if not harder, to reach the goals that we want”.

Though the invitational may be designated as a “home game”, it will be played not at the team’s typical practice venue, but on a course at the Broadmoor Country Club in Indianapolis. The team has recently been practicing at Broadmoor, a course famed across the division for its beautiful greens and exemplary layout, in hopes of having a leg up on the competition, particularly with the shorter drives the course incentivizes. Mark Poole ’24 says it’s going well.

“We enjoy playing it so much that we look forward to it,” said Poole. “The greens are the best greens that we will play in the entire year. We go out there with excitement because we don’t get the pleasure of playing super nice courses all the time.”

Wabash is entering into the invitational splitting into two groups of five, hoping to give play time to most of the team and highlight top performers. While the team has no shortage of talented players, most of them lack consistency in performance from event to event, which poses a problem for them going forward. Without reliable players, the team will have difficulty selecting a top five to compete at the sport’s highest levels, which could derail their entire season.

“Even though Brayden Weiss ’24 is a good player, he’s not going to win every tournament,” Poole said. “We need to step up. All it comes down to is having a strong mental game. It’s just everything.” One thing that has been consistent on the team is their drive to grow. Each player is dedicated to improving upon his last performance in a variety of ways, whether it be with Golf’s new on-line training program Decade, or the variety of different courses the team has practiced on so far.

“I know the stuff that I need to work on,” Matt Lezniak ’25 said. “So, I’ve been making sure to put a lot of time into practicing those things like long iron shots, things like that.”

If Wabash Golf keeps this upward trajectory as well as their fire to improve, this season could be one of the best in Wabash Golf history. The Wabash College Invitational will be held over two days. The first tee time will be at 9 a.m. on October 9.

Football battles the Bishops

Highs and lows punctuate succesful trip to Ohio



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Head Football Coach Don Morel readies his team ahead of their game against Oberlin College on September 23, 2023, on Frank Navarro Field at Little Giant Stadium.

ETHAN WALLACE '25 | SPORTS EDITOR• After the 2022 football season ended in a heartbreaking loss in the Monon Bell Classic, it became clear that the Wabash team needed to make some changes. Despite being the best offense in the North Coast Athletic Conference, the team fell short in three games because they lacked the same power on the defensive end. Head Football Coach Don Morel entered the season with an ambitious goal to turn the once unbalanced Little Giants roster into a well-rounded team that could hold its own in all three aspects of the game: offense, defense and special teams.

On Saturday, September 30, Wabash 2-1 (1-0 NCAC) faced Ohio Wesleyan University 2-2 (1-1 NCAC) in their second conference matchup of the season, which resulted in a 31-13 win for the Little Giants. The game saw the team triumph intermittently in all three aspects of the game, but struggle offensively and defensively late in the contest.

Special teams

The Wabash special teams performance against the Battling Bishops was an overwhelming success, as the team forced OWU to give up a yard on their punt return during the game, while gaining 12 yards on a return by Cooper Sullivan ’24. Against the aggressive OWU team, who chose to return the ball instead of calling a fair catch on kick-offs, the Wabash squad held the Battling Bishops to 58 yards on four returns.

“We need to be consistent with all three phases of the game,” Morel said. “The OWU game is the best special team game we have played in years.”

In addition to the other feats by the special teams unit, Brody Rucker ’26 hit his longest career field goal during the game with a 34-yard shot early in the quarter. He also converted all four PATs for the team and booted the team’s six

kick-offs.

“It felt great,” said Rucker. “My confidence, not only in myself but in the unit as a whole, has risen to a different level. I couldn’t do it without those men out by my side.”

Defense

Through the first 45 minutes of the game, the Scarlet and White defense was in perfect sync, holding the OWU team scoreless. The ‘hard hat D’ was on full display as the Little Giants only allowed the Bishops to convert on third down six times in 14 attempts. They accomplished this with the help of three interceptions. Jake Pasch ’26 had the biggest of these interceptions, late in the second half. Running the interception back 28 yards set up a Wabash drive that resulted in a touchdown. Will Netting ’24 and Avery Epstein ’25 both contributed interceptions to bolster the defensive performance.

The fourth quarter was a different story, as the team gave up two scores and 119 of OWU’s total yards. While the impact was minimal, as Wabash already commanded a 31-0 lead by the end of the third, the team will need to be locked in until the last down against better opponents like Denison, Wittenberg and DePauw.

“I thought our defense came in focused,” said Defensive Coordinator Mike Ridings. “We did a good job executing. We need to see our guys play for four quarters, and keep that intensity until the finish.”

Offense

Similar to the defense, the Wabash offense had its ups and downs during the game. After an early touchdown on an explosive seven play, 71 yard drive, the Little Giants would go scoreless until the last five minutes of the half. A 41-yard touchdown pass to Penn Stoller ’24 would reignite the team’s engines, and with the help of the defense forcing an interception and a fumble, Wabash would

rack up 21 points before the half closed. Rucker hit the third-quarter field goal, then the offense was silent for the rest of the contest.

The Little Giants managed to reach 337 yards and win 31-13, but their performance was not the most reassuring outing the team has seen. Their highlights in the first half serve to shine a spotlight on their struggles later in the game. Ohio Wesleyan is a formidable team, but not on par with the best in the conference. If the team can consistently perform at the level they achieved in the second quarter there’s no telling who can stop them. But if they sink back to their second half performance, a win in November is unlikely to occur.

“The OWU game is the best special team game we have played in years.”

- Coach Morel

The team will continue their crusade to claim the top-spot in the NCAC with a home against Wooster on Saturday, October 5. The now 2-1 (1-0 NCAC) Little Giants should have a favorable advantage over the Fighting Scots who are 2-2 (1-1 NCAC) after a 49-20 loss to OWU in their last game.

Wooster does have a well-ranked offense, averaging 39.3 points per game, but those numbers were greatly bolstered by a 70-point night against Kenyon. This is a match that Wabash should expect to win. However Wooster does have the talent to take advantage, if the Little Giants give them the chance.

The game will begin at 2 p.m. at Little Giant Stadium.

Tennis exits early at ITA regional

ETHAN WALLACE '25 | SPORTS EDITOR• As Wabash tennis looks to break into the top echelon of DIII competition, every opportunity to compete against top-ranked teams becomes a valuable opportunity to test their strengths and find their weaknesses. On September 29 and 30, the Little Giants traveled to Kalamazoo, Missouri to square off against the region’s best in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) regional.

Five players participated in the tournament. Cole Shifferly ’26 and Augusto Ghidini ’26 played in the doubles tournament. Cole Borden ’24, Tharakesh Ashokar ’26 and Liam Grennon ’24 played singles for the team. The doubles pair and all three singles players managed to move out of the first round of the tournament, but all lost in their second matches.

“I think it was really good to come out and win all of our first round matches,” said Head Tennis Coach Daniel Bickett. “I think we would have liked to have seen a little more success in the second round.”

“The ITAs matches were very competitive and intense,” said Ghidini. “Overall, the team did a good job winning all its first round matches, which were not easy. Although the team played a good level in all its second round matches, the opponents we faced were just a little bit better and a little bit more consistent.”

While these performances were not quite as successful as Bickett had hoped, they do provide a clear vision on how the team needs to improve moving forward, if they want to hold-up against the best players in Division III tennis.

“The biggest [difference between Wabash and their opponents] was probably the [opposing players’] shock tolerance and being a little bit more comfortable staying in longer points,” said Bickett. “At that level they’re very comfortable with their games. They understand what they do well, what they don’t do well.”

At the highest levels, tennis is a game of setting up points to find the perfect time to attempt winning shots. While an inexperienced player will attempt to hit a risky shot for a quick point, a more experienced player, who is confident in their game will rally until they see the best opportunity to capitalize on favorable court positioning. This is where Bickett says the team needs to improve, by trusting their game.

“I think we still have areas to grow there. Understanding who we are as tennis players, what makes us the best tennis players we can be and how we can exploit that as much as possible,” said Bickett.

“I was pleased with how we played,” said Borden. “But if we want to climb to the next level, we need to focus on the smallest details. Finishing at the net, playing long points, serve returns, etc. We’ve got to clean that up or we are going to be stuck where we are at now.”

The team will finish their fall season with a match against Oakland City University on Saturday, October 7. The Oakland City team, who won their River States Conference tournament in 2023, should give Wabash a good contest before the Little Giants set their eyes on the spring season.

McRoberts: NCAC Week 6 Football Power Rankings

NOAH MCROBERTS '25 | SPORTS WRITER• DePauw University Tigers (5-0, 3-0 NCAC)

The Dannies beat Oberlin, yada, yada, yada...well we’ll see what the Tigers are made of as they finally have to play some football this week. When the Big Red stroll into town, then we’ll know whether D***** is legit. When you’re watching Wabash demoralize Wooster this weekend, keep your eye on DEN vs. DEP, but don’t go through the Dannies’ website because they don’t deserve that extra ad revenue.

Wabash College Little Giants (3-1, 2-0 NCAC)

After a year under the supervision of Coach Riddings, this Wabash defense is starting to look legit. It wasn’t until the fourth quarter that OWU finally managed a score against our Boys in Scarlet, by which Wabash had already built a 31-0 lead. Our Prophet Don Morel and his strapping young lads will tread the beautiful astro turf of Little Giant stadium come 2 p.m. to face off against the College of Wooster.

Wittenberg University Tigers (3-1, 2-0 NCAC)

In a defensive showdown, Wittenberg asserted themselves as a conference competitor in an overtime victory in Granville, OH against the Big Red. However, it wasn’t without the craziest compilations of stats I’ve ever seen. Wittenberg produced only two rushing first downs, where Denison refreshed the downs on 12 runs, while compiling 5 fewer total first downs. The Tigers gained fewer total yards and punted more than their foes. Furthermore, Witt only converted on third down 1 out of 13 attempts in barely over a third of the available time of possession. The entire game was stacked against them, yet they still won. With plenty

of dumb luck and Sigma Chi-esk stubbornness, Wittenberg can stick with the best of them in conference play.

Denison University Big Red (3-1, 2-1 NCAC)

Indeed, Denison’s rumbling, bumbling, and ain’t-no-fumbling ground attack isn’t unstoppable. However, it costs a lot of bruises to stop him and his friends, as Denison ran it with him 32 times in an inevitable slugfest of a loss to the steely defense of the Tigers. The Big Red revealed that they have some defensive ability in their own right, limiting Witt to zero points in the first half, before giving way to the Tiger’s second half adjustments. Perhaps they will have luck against the more despicable Tigers from Down South this weekend.

Ohio Wesleyan University Battling Bishops (1-2, 2-3 NCAC)

Well Bishops, I’m not sure if you’re really Battlin’ much anymore. First you lose to the Dannies, only scoring one TD before going down 31-0 against us. We’re not on the country club golf course anymore guys, this is the gridiron. I’m honestly worried for you guys because Kenyon could give you a run for your Homecoming this weekend. Things could get entertaining in Delaware this weekend.

The College of Wooster Fighting Scots (2-3, 2-2 NCAC)

We’ll see how much a bye week can do for a team this Saturday, as Wooster has had two weeks to prepare for a drive across state lines to face our boys in Crawfordsville on Saturday. Once striking fear in the hearts of their opponents, the Fighting Scots are more like the Cowering Scots this year. We’ll see if their nerves hold up against Defensive Coordinator Mike Ridings’s Scarlet Stampede.

Kenyon College Owls (1-4, 1-2 NCAC)

After starting the year at the top of the bottom of these rankings, Kenyon has climbed back up. In a surprising display of toughness unseen in Ohio in recent years, Kenyon played hardnosed, manly football, running the ball a whopping 52 times. What’s more, they did it at a rather efficient clip of 4.9 yards per carry. If we ignore their paltry 35% completion rate, we could envision a future in which Kenyon, maybe, just maybe, reaches 3 conference wins in a season. They haven’t beaten a non-Oberlin/Hiram/Allegheny team in ten years. They have a chance to turn that around this weekend in Delaware.

Hiram College Terriers (0-5, 0-3 NCAC)

The only problem with the victory for Kenyon is that it had to come at the expense of Hiram. It is unfortunate that someone has to lose to a team like Oberlin, Hiram, or Kenyon. No one should have to suffer such an embarrassment in their life. Not to mention that it was a 40-16 loss on their home turf. Things aren’t getting any better for them as they meet the buzzsaw that is Wittenberg in Springfield this weekend.

Oberlin College Yeomen (1-4, 0-3 NCAC)

Believe it or not, Oberlin was tied more than just at 0-0 against DePauw over the weekend. In fact, they scored on a 60-yard pass just 7 minutes into the game to tie it 7-7. I think I’ll just stop there...Well, at least Oberlin wanted it to stop there...



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Soccer ties DePauw cont'd

Jose Escalante '26 seemingly sealed the Tigers' fate, putting Wabash in a commanding 3-1 lead. The leading scorers Kinnaman and Escalante left the game to watch the defense finish the contest.

Unfortunately, the Little Giants seemed to relax as the clock dwindled below 20 minutes. The lack of strikers left the team in a defensive stand which let DePauw overwork goalkeeper Fernando Ramos '26 and put up two goals in five minutes, leaving the game tied as the two teams entered the final 10 minutes with everything on the line. The starters returned to the field to finish the strange match.

"I think our defenders fell asleep on a couple of those goals. And DePauw took the gifts that we gave them."

- Coach Keller

"I think our defenders fell asleep on a couple of those goals," said Head Soccer Coach Chris Keller. "And DePauw took the gifts that we gave them."

While the defense gave up the two goals that allowed the Tigers back into the game, Keller emphasized to his players that their failure to capitalize on their momentum earlier in the half was just as much to blame. Well before DePauw scored their second goal, the Wabash team had the game in their hands. They controlled the pace, and the previously smothering Dannies' defense was crumbling at every turn. Despite their dominance the Little Giants didn't put the game out of reach.

Instead their passes became looser, so that they took more time gathering the ball before shots. This same mistake stymied two potential goals by Kinnaman, when he managed to slip past the defenders. Slowly, Wabash let their opponents creep back into the game, until when the Tigers did score, it was barely a surprise.

"We just didn't finish our chances towards the end, when we were up 3-1," said Kinnaman. "We got too comfortable. And today we weren't

tired. We just gave up two goals. Like Coach[Keller] said, if we go up 4 to 1 and their heads go down, they've got no chance to get three goals like they did today. So, we have to finish those chances and not get relaxed."

After the first goal, Wabash failed to make the necessary changes and fend off the next attack. The Tigers, energized by their comeback, had Wabash on their heels until the final whistle.

"When we were winning three to one, we had three clear chances to put them away and we just missed them," said Keller. "We needed to execute in the final third of the game and score those goals to end it. And if we did that, we wouldn't be talking about that right now."

The team has been frustrated by other ties in their recent games, where they believe they should have easily secured the lead and emerged victorious.

Wabash left the game with a staggering 15 shots, 10 of which were right on target.

"Rivalry games are always difficult to play," said Escalante. "We had a few chances to score in the first half and second half. Some of them we didn't put away. Personally, I feel that they [DePauw] got lucky because the only way they played soccer was with corner kicks. And that works for them. It's a rival game, anything can happen."

This game leaves the Little Giants in a strange position, as seemingly nothing has changed. Their record is no better or worse. Their leading scorer duo are still tied for the most points, with Kinnaman '27 and Es-

calante '26 reaching five goals on the season. Statistically, the team hasn't shifted much. Ramos's two saves in the game put him at 23 saves overall. But something important has changed.

"We got too comfortable. And today we weren't tired. We just gave up two goals."

- Bryce Kinnaman '27

The team had one clear shot to take out their greatest rival, instead they let another win turn into a tie. Now 4-2-4 (0-0-1 NCAC) the team has to look inside to figure out why they haven't managed to turn their observable talent into more wins. They have incredible talent as a team. That much is clear to anyone who has watched their defensive prowess, ball movement and dominating offense. But with all that, they have let too many games slip past them.

There were long stretches of this game where Wabash had everything going for them, but didn't find a way to put points on the scoreboard. If they can maximize their potential, this team has what it takes to be the best Wabash squad in recent years.

The Little Giants will look at the next NCAC game against Hiram College at Fischer Field at 12:00 P.M on Saturday, October 7.



PHOTO BY ELIJAH GREENE '25

Wabash students cheer on soccer in their game against DePauw University on October 4, 2023, on Fischer Field.

Meet the players: soccer seniors

CHRIS ZIMMERMAN '25 | STAFF WRITER • Athletics at the collegiate level require an immense amount of time and effort to maintain good health and raise one's ability on an individual and team level. Paired with the rigorous academic load that our institution has to offer, the student-athlete experience can be rewarding, but also a time-consuming and stressful endeavor throughout the athletic season. With this in mind, it is important to recognize the athletes that continue to come back each season and contribute to the betterment of their program.

This season, the soccer team will graduate three accomplished members of the program: Hugo Garcia '24, Jackson Grabill '24 and Collin Johnson '24. Despite playing in a very competitive athletic conference throughout the entirety of their careers, each member has sacrificed a great deal of time and energy to build up the culture and camaraderie for themselves and for future members of the program. When asked about the movement and progression of the program, each brought up the unchanged culture that the team has possessed since their arrival.

"One of my favorite themes of our culture is 1.5," said Garcia. "That means 150% in all of our practice and school activities. We strive for 1.5 everyday to be able to compensate for a teammate who might be having a bad day or practice and isn't able to add 1.5 in that situation."

For a team whose trajectory continues to go up year after year, this motto is empowering and brings light to the energy and devotion that this team continues to bring to the field season after season.

When discussing the transition from high school to college athletics, the players emphasized the increased pace at which the game is played, but also the need for maturity to deal with this increased level and intensity.

"While college athletics are more focused on results and are more professional than high school athletics, our goals this season focus on controlling what we can control," responded Grabill. "There are a lot of things in

soccer that we have no control over, but we can always work hard, communicate, and play for each other."

Amongst other uncontrollable elements such as the strength of the conference and a few coaching changes, the team seems devoted to bettering the details that will best prepare them for what is yet to come.

College athletics is a process. Players are recruited heavily based on their potential to develop into something great, rather than solely their skill level at the time of recruitment. These three men are fantastic embodiments of the growth-minded process behind athletic recruitment, and also had informative takes when asked to provide advice for younger student athletes or future student athletes about sticking out the athletic commitment for all four years.

"There are a lot of things in soccer that we have no control over, but we can always work hard, communicate, and play for each other."

- Jackson Grabill '24

"Wabash athletes and future student athletes should acknowledge that being a collegiate athlete is not easy," said Johnson. "There are only three seniors left on the team coming from an entering class of 10 if that tells you something. Long nights, time-management, traveling on weekdays, sacrificing seeing friends and family on weekends, and accepting a certain role or minutes on the team is part of it. Being a student-athlete is tough and it is a commitment, but there is nothing better than seeing all the effort pay off when you see you or one of your brothers come back from injury, get minutes, or score."

With conference games just getting underway, *The Bachelor* wishes this team the best of luck in achieving the goals they have strived for all season and all four years.