

## Wabash competes in three NCAC Conference Championships



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Will Neubauer '25 is one of the many track & field athletes who will be competing at the NCAC Indoor Championship on February 24, 2024 at Kenyon

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PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Vinny Buccilla '25 scores in first-round win over Kenyon in the NCAC Conference tournament. Wabash will face Denison in the semi-finals on February 23, 2024 at Chadwick Court.

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PHOTO BY SCOTT OLMSTEAD

Keane Albright '25 competes in the NCAC Swimming & Diving Conference Championship. Wabash placed third overall on February 16, 2024 at Denison.

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## Rivera '25 named Truman finalist



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Luis Rivera '25 stands next to Liam Grennon '24 in Lilly Library after making buttons celebrating LGBTQ+ history month.

**JAMES WALLACE '26**  
NEWS EDITOR

Change can only happen when those willing to stand up and march into the unknown do so. Truman Scholarship Finalist Luis Rivera '25 hopes to inspire change in the future after wrapping up his tenure at Wabash.

**“I see Luis as a person who is dedicated to uplifting others. He is empathetic, kind and eminently approachable.”**

- Wabash College Fellowship Advisor Susan Albrecht

Hailing from Raleigh, North Carolina, Rivera wasted no time at Wabash finding clubs and organizations to get involved in. Rivera is known across campus for his many leadership roles, notably as the president of Lambda Chi Alpha and the vice president of the student body. Rivera's work in these organizations at Wabash played a key role in him securing a finalist position for the Truman Scholarship, which is considered the premier national fel-

lowship for college juniors. The scholarship focuses on helping students who are identified as future leaders in public service. “What sets Luis apart is the breadth of his involvement,” said Wabash College Fellowship Advisor Susan Albrecht. “He’s not only engaged in social activities and fraternity leadership, but participates in student government, is active in MXI and ‘shOUT, is a fellow with WDPD and a member of the DEI committee.”



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Luis Rivera '25 speaks at the Giant Steps Campaign on October 7, 2023 in the Knowling Fieldhouse.

The Truman Scholarship was established in 1975 as a national monument to public service, inspiring the next generation of public service leaders. Not only does the scholarship provide \$30,000 to go towards graduate school, it gives recipients access to the current Truman alumni network, which can be critical when working in public service.

“I plan to pursue a master’s degree in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Justice Leadership at Tufts University in Boston,” said Rivera. “If I become a Truman Scholar, [it would] make this easier.”

While the network and monetary benefit of the scholarship are often viewed as the only benefits of the Truman Scholarship, it also gives recognition to individuals who are achieving great things in public service.

“Besides being a really prestigious scholarship, it would also be really validating to myself as a leader,” said Rivera. “For all of the work that I’ve done to mean something to all of these important people would really affirm that I’m on the right track.”

Continued page 2

## Prospective Lilly Scholars to arrive on campus



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Prospective students walk towards the mall during Scarlet Honors weekend on December 2, 2022. This event is one of the main days that bring prospective Wabash men to campus.

**BEN DOUGLAS '27**  
STAFF WRITER

While a majority of prospective Wabash men visit campus during Scarlet Honors Weekend or Admitted Students Weekend, the Lilly Awards weekend will bring 18 prospective Wabash men to campus, some for their first time.

Three men will be receiving the Eli Lilly Scholarship following the conclusion of the program on February 26.

**“The Lilly scholarship has probably been the greatest blessing I’ve gotten here at Wabash.”**

- Will Trapp '24

Being highly competitive, Wabash only allows three recipients to attain this scholarship which will cover those given student's tuition, food and housing. The scholarship was

founded in 1974 to honor the Lilly family, who were close friends of the College.

The award is designed to recognize academic excellence in young men who have a high potential to impact their local communities and thus, the world. A heavy emphasis is placed on academic excellence, extracurriculars and involvement within their community. If awarded, it can be a life-changing decision for these young men.

“The Lilly scholarship has probably been the greatest blessing I’ve gotten here at Wabash,” said Will Trapp '24. “It can be hard to talk about finances, but that was huge. Being able to come into college and being given that award was a communication from Wabash that ‘Hey, we want you here, and this is the right place.’”

The Lilly Scholarship is an avenue for Wabash to be able to reward high achieving students while also being able to show interest in these students.

Continued page 3

## New York court orders Trump to pay \$355 million penalty

With the election cycle heating up, Republicans and Democrats are divided over the underlying cause of the fine

**JAKE WEBER '25**  
STAFF WRITER

It is no secret that Former President Donald Trump has recently been the focal point for criminal and civil litigation in courthouses across the country. As we move further into this year's election campaign cycle, Trump was just dealt a devastating blow in one of these cases.

On February 16, Justice Arthur F. Engoron issued a ruling in New York v. Trump which detailed a \$355 million fine against Trump for civil fraud, as well as a prohibition from practicing business in the State of New York for three years.

Justice Engoron is the 74-year-old justice of the Manhattan Supreme Court who has overseen the three years of litigation for this case. A former cabdriver and music instructor who has served the New York judiciary for over

18 years, Justice Engoron presided over the bench trial that was necessitated by statute for this case. A bench trial involves the presiding judge overseeing not only the courtroom procedure, but also serving as the factfinder at the end of the case. Justice Engoron, his family and his staff have been the target of repeated anonymous threats throughout the proceedings.

Justice Engoron's ruling provides Trump with 30 days to pay the fine or persuade a third-party to post a bond for the same amount. In addition to the fine, Trump cannot run any New York corporation or obtain financing from a New York bank for a three-year period. Trump's two adult sons, Eric Trump and Donald Trump Jr., have been given the same restrictions for a two-year period. The Trump Organization will be watched by a court-ap-

pointed monitor to ensure compliance with this ruling.

In the 92-page “Decision and Order after Non-Jury Trial,” Justice Engoron detailed the rationale behind his ruling and findings in the case. “In order to borrow more and at lower rates, defendants submitted blatantly false financial data to the accountants, resulting in fraudulent financial statements,” wrote Justice Engoron. “When confronted at trial with the statements, defendants’ fact and expert witnesses simply denied reality, and defendants failed to accept responsibility or to impose internal controls to prevent future recurrences.”

This conclusion was reached after 43 days of testimony from 40 witnesses. Aside from Former President Trump himself, these witnesses include accountants, auditors, appraisers, banking officials, lawyers, advisors and more.



COURTESY OF ABC NEWS

Former President Donald Trump speaks on February 16, 2024 at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Palm Beach, Florida.

The decision reached in this case was made by a “preponderance of the evidence,” which equates to “more likely than not.” The State of New York bore this burden of proof, which is standard for all civil proceedings. A “preponderance of the evidence” is a signifi-

cantly lower legal standard than “beyond a reasonable doubt” as required in a criminal proceeding.

Continued page 2



# Truman finalist cont'd



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Luis Rivera '25 sits with fellow 'shOUT members during his tenure as president of the club during Back to Bash on August 26, 2023 on the Mall.

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Rivera has spent much of his time doing his best to act in the best interest of his fellow Wabash men and hopes to continue this after his time at the College. Notably, his role as the former president of 'shOUT tested him and gave him experience in the fields he wants to pursue in the future.

"Being president of 'shOUT was probably the most impactful thing to me on multiple levels," said Rivera. "It was beautiful to watch it grow, and the positive feedback from members on the things we were doing made an impact."

Under Rivera's leadership, 'shOUT grew from around 10

members to over 25 members. During and after his tenure, he did his best to promote equality for the LGBTQ+ community at Wabash, something that he hopes to continue in the non-profit sector after Wabash.

**"For all of the work that I've done to mean something to all of these important people would really affirm that I'm on the right track."**

- Luis Rivera '25

"After [graduate school] I want to work at a non-profit organization that specializes in supporting LGBTQ+ youth," said Rivera. "I would like to focus on educating the youth in general about the dangerous behaviors that they may partake in that have serious, negative effects on the mental health of their LGBTQ+ peers."

This is largely uncharted territory for organizations focused on LGBTQ+ equality, as oftentimes most resources go towards treating the individuals in the community itself, rather than focusing on preventing others from creating the negative atmosphere causing many of the symptoms. "I would want to focus on all

# NY court orders Trump to pay \$355 million fine

Continued from page 1

While Trump was found to have committed civil fraud, he escaped a finding of liability for insurance fraud; a finding that made its way to his business partners Allen Weisselberg and Jeffrey McConney on account of financial representations they made to insurance companies. Justice Engoron did find that Trump and his adult sons were liable for conspiracy to commit insurance fraud through falsification of business records.

**"I think it's an important instance of the judiciary refusing to back down from the political intimidation tactics Trump has used to skirt many instances where he should have been held accountable."**

- Liam Grennon '24

Justice Engoron found that the defendants benefited by receiving ill-gotten interest savings of over \$72.9 million on the Doral loan, \$53.4 million on the Old Post Office loan, \$17.4 million on the Chicago loan, and \$24.3 million on the 40 Wall Street loan. It was also found that the defendants benefitted by receiving ill-gotten profits from the sale of the Old Post Office property and the Ferry Point property of over \$126.8 million and \$60 million respectively. Altogether, this places ill-gotten benefits at over \$355 million. Pre-judgement interest accumulation on these findings has been set to begin at varying times for each finding, with the earliest backdated to March 4, 2019. With the addition of interest, the State anticipates the total expected penalty surpasses \$450 million.

"Trump being fined \$350 million for a 'crime' without any proven damage is an affront to justice: The banks, the only possible victims, allege no damages or fraud & New York's choice of civil court is a blatant attempt to sidestep higher evidence standards," said Isaac Grannis '26, historian of the Wabash College Republicans. "It's clear: this is weaponizing the judiciary against an opposition leader, and demands immediate scrutiny and condemnation."

In justifying the appointment of a monitor for ongoing oversight, Justice Engoron pointed to the Trump Organization's refusal to admit error and prior business practices. Justice Engoron went as far to say that "[the defendants] complete lack of contrition and remorse borders on pathological," later continuing that "defendants' refusal to admit error - indeed to continue it, according to the Independent Monitor - constrains this Court to conclude that they will engage in it going forward unless judicially restrained."

**"It's clear: this is weaponizing the judiciary against an opposition leader, and demands immediate scrutiny and condemnation."**

- Isaac Grannis '26

Controversy after controversy has surrounded the proceedings in the New York civil fraud case. The case brought against the Trump Organization was filed by New York's Attorney General Letitia James, a democrat elected official, causing some to allege political motivation. James made comments on her election trail about Trump, adding fuel to claims of partisanship.

"I think it's an important instance of the judiciary refusing to back down from the political intimidation tactics Trump has used to skirt many instances where he should have been held accountable," said former Vice President of the College Democrats Liam Grennon '24. "People are charged, convicted and held civilly liable for much smaller accounting errors in their applications for loans. It's very clearly not a clerical error that's going on because if that was the case, they would admit to it. They're just 100 percent ignoring reality."

Former President Trump has indicated that he intends to appeal Justice Engoron's ruling.

# Textbook surveys aim to lower cost of Wabash

HAYDEN KAMMER '25  
STAFF WRITER

In the recent flood of emails over the past few weeks, students may have noticed an email from Beth Daniel Lindsay regarding a survey over the cost, accessibility and usage of textbooks in the classroom. The survey, something many students may view as a waste of time, can actually have larger effects on the way that professors assign and use read-

ings from textbooks to round out student learning.

"The goal of this survey is to better understand students by having a greater awareness of the cost students pay for textbooks and how that affects them," said Lindsay. "The last time we conducted this was in 2021, during the height of COVID, so we didn't see a large amount of student feedback. As of this week [February 19], over 60 students out of 800

have responded. So I'm hopeful to get the word out."

The Textbook Survey, originally conducted by Florida Virtual Campus, has been used at institutions all over the country in evaluating how much students are having to pay to use textbooks, and if that provides another financial hurdle to acquiring a degree from an already expensive institution. The current iteration of this survey is being conducted by PALNI, the Private Academic Library Network of Indiana, and many of the 24 other private institutions in Indiana have participated. Lindsay then discussed another benefit of the textbook survey: grants that the college can receive.

**"Textbook prices are definitely a setback for international students. Many of them feel like they need to resort to piracy."**

- Arman Luthra '26

"Many faculty have received a grant called Course (Re)design, where they can either design or revise a course to cost students no additional money when it comes to course materials," said Lindsay. "One new class, for example, focuses on French Colonial History and Media. With the help of this grant, students can now check out all of these resources from that course in our library, or access them through open access programs, at no additional cost. There are a number of other projects that faculty are working on to qualify for this grant, and other grants, like how the Rhetoric 101 textbook is being revised so that it will cost nothing for students to use."

Students can also be assured that they will also see benefits. "The information from the Textbook Survey won't only be for internal library use," said Lindsay. "Each year, before the fall semester starts, faculty get together over the course of a day and share information with one another. This can be a new idea they are implementing in the classroom, practicing for an upcoming conference, or about the research they've conducted. I was able to present my data back in 2021 after the initial survey, and I'm really excited to present it again but this time compare the data. I'm interested to see how Akademos, our new online bookstore, has affected the cost students spend on books."

By participating in surveys and other methods of feedback, the College can hear our thoughts and concerns on parts of college life they might not see. This can apply to a wide array of topics, such as meal services, events, housing arrangements and even courses. Lindsay agreed with that sentiment and stressed the importance

of student feedback on influencing courses at Wabash.

"It's important that students know that their feedback has a direct impact on the courses at Wabash," said Lindsay. "The First-Year Experience co-chairs, for example, review all the feedback provided by students and will then adapt the course to benefit future students. For example, Frankenstein was removed from the EQ curriculum which is major news as it has been in since the beginning. But also, with the Redesign grant that requires student feedback, we learned that students were complaining that they could not annotate their open access textbooks, when they actually could. From that, we learned that we need to explain how to do these things and answer common questions students may have."

One overlooked factor of textbooks is how it can affect international students, specifically with costs. Many international students have shared experiences that assigned books are cheaper for them in their home countries than it is in America.

"Textbook prices are definitely a setback for international students," said Arman Luthra '26, president of the International Student Association. "Many of them feel like they need to resort to piracy, which can provide more issues because students may have the wrong edition, incorrect page numbers or mistranslated editions."

**"The goal of this survey is to better understand students by having a greater awareness of the cost students pay for textbooks and how that affects them."**

- Beth Lindsay

With a push towards digital textbooks, some people cling to a physical, bound-in-leather book.

"I personally prefer physical textbooks, but due to the cost of them it forces me to go to the cheapest option, which tends to be in an electronic format," said Brady Largent '26. "It's difficult to annotate online PDFs, but the inconvenience of having to always keep two resources on me to keep track of a class makes me less motivated to take notes."

In the future, Lindsay hopes that a plethora of student responses can turn quantitative data into qualitative data, such as focus groups or interviews. Lindsay encourages every student to fill out the textbook survey, found in their emails, as the deadline is March 3.

## 16 seniors earn distinction in Comprehensive Exams

Cody Bevelhimer	Music
Camden Cooper	Chemistry
Kazi Fardinul Hoque	Computer Science
Jackson Grabill	PPE
Eric Green	Mathematics
William Grennon	English
Drake Hayes	Computer Science
Jackson Hoover	German
Benjamin Jansen	Biology
William Keeling	Biology
Benjamin Mijangos Sampsell	Political Science
Mason Naaman	Biology
Bryce Nash	Psychology
Jackson Rapp	Mathematics
Owen Runge	Computer Science
William Trapp	Economics & Religion

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# Lilly Awards cont'd

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“A big positive is that it motivated me to give back and be thankful for those who gave me that scholarship” said Henry Chilcoat ’27. “I’m trying to stay active and participate in classes and clubs.”

Although obtaining a Lilly scholarship is a great honor, there can be unexpected expectations that come with it.

“The flip side is all the expectations of being a Lilly scholar,” said Chilcoat. “Although technically there’s no pressure on me, sometimes a perceived expectation is being put on me.”

Despite the great prestige of the Lilly Scholarship, it can raise expectations for that individual which can impact them both positively or negatively based on personal circumstances. However, these recipients are no stranger to critique as they are often leaders of their communities.

**“I don’t think it’s any secret that Wabash is a little expensive, so this award can be a life-changing event that allows students to come here cost-free who otherwise might not have been able to afford it to.”**

- Assistant Director of Admissions  
Makaela Lochmueller.

“When you put it in your application, you also check that you’re applying for everything. There was maybe one more essay that I had to write to go along with that... So, after sending the application in, they let me know I had been selected as a finalist,” said Trapp. “That was after a holistic review of your application, which brought 15 finalists to Lilly weekend.”

While the interview process itself is the main focus of the weekend, the Lilly

Awards weekend gives prospective students a chance to see Wabash in a unique way.

“When students arrive on campus, they have a completely personalized agenda,” said Assistant Director of Admissions Makaela Lochmueller. “You might see some of them in classes, walking around campus and meeting with professors and different faculty members.”

While the candidates get a personalized experience of Wabash, only 18 of the original approximately 100 candidates get an opportunity to participate.

“We bring counselors from around the country here to Wabash to review roughly 100 applicants and narrow that down to a smaller list of 18 finalists,” said Lochmueller. “The top 18 students are brought to campus this upcoming weekend.”

With the arrival of the 18 students on campus this weekend, the Lilly scholarship committee will have to narrow it down again to just three.

“Regarding the interview process, it is roughly 30 minutes in different locations across the campus, and all 18 are broken up into three groups,” said Lochmueller. “Then one from each group is selected for the scholarship.”

The three students selected will than be awarded the Lilly scholarship which will play an important factor in their future college decision.

“I don’t think it’s any secret that Wabash is a little expensive, so this award can be a life-changing event that allows students to come here cost-free who otherwise might not have been able to afford to,” said Lochmueller. “It has swayed some student’s decisions. Many students have offers from many other great schools. Still, the free opportunity to study at Wabash helped settle their decisions to call it their new home.”

The opportunity for students to receive a scholarship is a decision that can change the lives of these 18 young men this weekend. Regardless of the outcome, all of these candidates are well on their way to succeeding in their academic goals.



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**High school students work together during Pathway to Your Future during Summer 2023 in the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies.**

## This week at Wabash



### Saturday, Feb. 24

2:30 p.m. | Baseball vs. Aurora University  
8 p.m. | Death and the Maiden

### Monday, Feb. 26

12:10 p.m. | Student Internship Opportunities

### Tuesday, Feb. 27

7 p.m. | Volleyball vs. Goshen College

### Wednesday, Feb. 28

8 p.m. | Lacrosse vs. Alma College

### Thursday, Feb. 29

11:15 a.m. | Chapel Talk

### Friday, Mar. 1

4 p.m. | Spring Break!

# News around the world

ELIJAH WETZEL ’27  
STAFF WRITER

## Zimbabwe

Three cases of mutated polio, which originated from the watered-down version of the disease used in oral vaccines, prompted Zimbabwe to begin a vaccination campaign yesterday aimed at inoculating over four million Zimbabwean children against the new mutation. Polio is an infectious disease caused by a virus that can lead to paralysis; children under five are especially susceptible. While only two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan, still have the original wild poliovirus, outbreaks of the vaccine-derived strain known as cVDPV can appear in populations with low vaccination rates. Zimbabwe’s ministry of health said that test results of sewage sites in late 2023 confirmed the existence of the vaccine-originating strain in some areas of Zimbabwe. The two-pronged effort consists of medical teams moving house to house and teams stationed at health stations administering vaccines. The goal of the campaign is to administer ten million doses of a new oral polio vaccine that targets the mutated virus within the next couple months.



COURTESY OF AP  
**A Somali baby receives a polio vaccine in Mogadishu, Somalia.**

## South Korea

More than half of South Korea’s doctors in training or residence programs submitted letters of resignation this week in protest of a government policy that would increase the number of students accepted into medical training programs at universities each year. Despite pleading from South Korea’s Health Ministry, over 1,500 medical trainees left their workplaces, severely hampering some hospitals capacity to care for patients. The policy that sparked the medical community’s ire was an announcement that South Korea would look to add 10,000 new doctors by 2035 by increasing the number of medical students admitted per year by 2,000. While South Korea’s doctor to patient ratio is one of the lowest in the world, the government argues that the country’s aging population is starting to put strain on the medical system. Doctors opposed to the government’s plan cited universities’ inability to handle so many new students and a danger that more doctors could lead to unhealthy competition between medical professionals, encouraging them to treat unnecessary medical requests. Critics of the protest assert that the medical trainees are being selfish and are simply unwilling to risk a lower salary. Should the protest and strike last much longer, hospitals and other healthcare centers will be forced into uncomfortable positions without the junior doctors, who assist senior doctors in surgeries. The Korean Medical association announced it will support the protest with rallies, but has not committed to holding any strikes of its own.



COURTESY OF REUTERS  
**Doctors stage a protest on February 21, 2024 in Seoul, South Korea.**

## Hungary

The head of Hungary’s governing party indicated that a vote in the legislature to approve Sweden’s bid to join NATO could happen as soon as Monday of next week. Hungary remains the only NATO member nation to oppose Sweden’s bid of entry after Turkey gave way back in late January. A contingent of US senators visited Hungary over the weekend and said they would pass a joint resolution condemning democratic regression in Hungary and urging Hungary’s Prime Minister Viktor Orban to allow the passage of Sweden’s attempt to join NATO. Orban has repeatedly stated that Hungary’s opposition was in response to Swedish criticism over the health of democracy in Hungary and insisted that Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson make a visit to the country. However, in a state of the union address on Saturday Orban said “Our dispute with Sweden is nearing a conclusion,” another indicator that a vote to approve Sweden’s proposal is forthcoming.



COURTESY OF CNN  
**Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban gives his State of the Nation speech on February 17, 2024 in Budapest, Hungary.**

## Democratic Republic of Congo

Militant groups are threatening to take Sake, a key city in eastern Congo that helps supply the larger city of Goma, potentially worsening the humanitarian crisis in a country where almost six million people have at some point moved to avoid conflict. The militant group in question is M23, a group comprised of ethnic Tutsis who broke away from the Congolese in the early 2010’s. In 2012, M23 captured Goma, the provincial capital, after a large-scale offensive, but gave up the city in a 2013 peace deal. Beyond past conflicts with M23, there are ethnic tensions underpinning the group’s aggression towards Congo. After the Rwandan genocide against Tutsis in 1994, some Hutus guilty of participating fled to the Congo. Rwanda invaded two years later to root out the culprits, deposing the president of Congo in the process. Tensions have flared on and off between the two countries since. Congo has accused Rwanda of providing support to M23, which they have denied while simultaneously admitting they do have weapons and supplies in eastern Congo, but maintaining those items are for border security. If Sake falls in M23’s hands, key humanitarian support will be unable to reach Goma, which is currently home to around two million individuals, many of whom are refugees from the surrounding areas who have been displaced by violence. Rwanda has ignored urging by the U.N. and U.S. to pull back from eastern Congo, exerting more tension on the crisis and risking an even greater escalation.



COURTESY OF AP  
**Congolese citizens flee conflict between M23 and Congolese forces on October 29, 2022 near Kibumba, Democratic Republic of Congo.**

## Wabash Club of Indianapolis

### Let’s Pack Chadwick!



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# Using AI in classrooms



Christopher Royal '26  
Reply to this opinion at [cbroyal26@wabash.edu](mailto:cbroyal26@wabash.edu)

Our generation has been at the forefront of technology use in classrooms, from chalkboards in elementary school to smartboards and then (at least in my case) Chromebooks that all students had in high school. The technology we use in classrooms has evolved for our whole lives and it continues to do so.

Now, if you read the syllabus for almost any class, I'm willing to bet a considerable amount of money that there's a line somewhere that says "Using ChatGPT is not allowed and will not be tolerated." I understand this, as the teachers want us to do our work to prove that we are taking in the information necessary to prepare us for the rest of our lives. However, the idea that a student who uses ChatGPT on an assignment and gains nothing from it is wrong.

Firstly, these open AI sources are not just chatbots, they're conversational agents capable of engaging in discussion across a variety of topics, from philosophy to astronomy. By utilizing the storage of knowledge these open-source AIs have, they can serve as a virtual assistant for students that offer personalized insights tailored to their specific needs. Using AI like ChatGPT, learning becomes more interactive, dynamic and engaging for all students. This is because students can ask questions, find clarifications and explore concepts quickly, which aids in having a deeper understanding of the material.

For instance, picture yourself in a philosophy class where you find yourself reading from one of G.W.F. Hegel's works (if you know you know). For many, this will take multiple re-readings and a background understanding of philosophy to understand, but it doesn't have to. With ChatGPT, you can plug in 2,048 characters at a time and have the chatbot break down the reading for you. Then, if there's something you still don't understand, you can ask for clarification until you understand it.

If students are struggling to understand readings, the discussions in class will be

bland and unproductive. But, if students come to class having used chatbots to break down readings, they already have notes and talking points provided for them and the discussions would be more beneficial for everyone.

It seems that the biggest concern professors have is that students would use ChatGPT to do their assignments, which is plagiarism. However, if one uses ChatGPT or a similar chatbot on their assignments and manages not to get caught, Wabash has a catch-all preventative measure for this - Comprehensive exams. There's no way around these, because you either know the material you've covered in your time at Wabash, or you fail and don't graduate.

However, ChatGPT has great uses for assignments and papers that are not being encouraged. One of these is that GPT is a great brainstorming tool. If you're having trouble getting started but know what you want to discuss in a paper, you can ask ChatGPT to outline for you, giving you a useful building block in the paper-writing process. I'm using the information I already know, so this isn't plagiarism. Moreover, if you struggle to get a point across, GPT is a great resource where you can ask, "What are some ways to get (A) point across in this paper with (B) as a prompt?"

Most importantly, though, is that many of us are going to be using ChatGPT for our jobs and careers. In an increasingly digital and interconnected world, proficiency with AI-driven tools like ChatGPT is a valuable asset across various industries.

Integration of these chatbots into classes would allow students to gain academic knowledge and practical skills that could directly apply to their future careers. The reason is that if we don't, we will be replaced by a worker who does, especially in fields like marketing, customer service, software development or research.

The saying "time is money" is the driving factor behind this, as with any job, the worker who gets their work done most efficiently will be the most valuable. Incorporating chatbots into college classes also allows students to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills in the context of AI technology, like learning how to formulate precise questions, evaluate responses and discern between reliable information and misinformation, three skills Wabash emphasizes heavily.

# Wally's Wall: Spring Break plans

The Prompt:  
What are your plans for Spring Break?

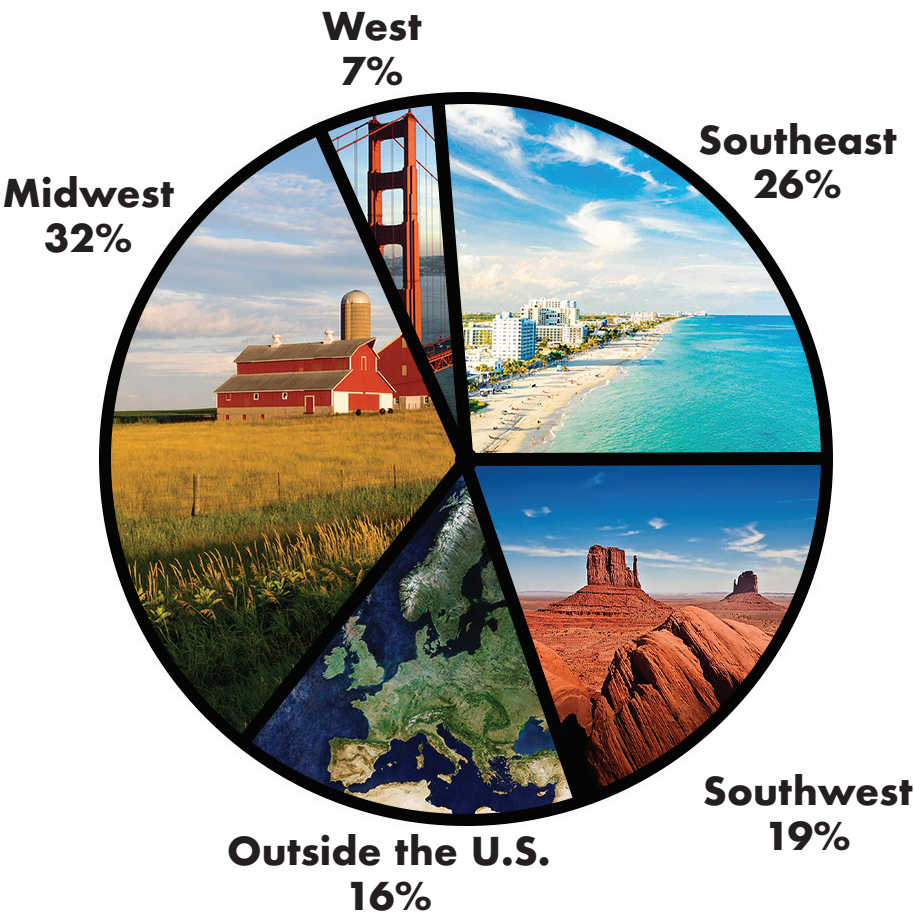
Are you leaving Wabash?



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# Rodney Rhyne

Week #2: 'Long in our hearts'



Comic by Preston Parker '26





## 'Death and the Maiden' review

Raw performances invoke themes of justice, revenge



Paulina (Robin Vogel, left) holds Roberto at gunpoint. The play, set in the single location of the Escobar home, centers around her suspicion of Roberto, that unravels over the course of the play.

LOGAN WEILBAKER '25  
MANAGING EDITOR

“Do you want to know the real, real truth?”

Throughout the course of “Death and the Maiden,” each of the three characters endeavors to reveal the real, *real* truth, but in a country where secrecy and lies permeate culture from the top down, such truth is hidden behind a veil of politics, deception and hidden agendas.

The action takes place in the beach villa of Gerardo and Paulina Escobar, and the subtle lull of waves lapping against the beach establishes a tone in stark contrast to the dissolving world within. When Dr. Roberto Miranda finds himself a guest in their home for a night, Paulina believes him to be the man who orchestrated her kidnapping, rape and torture 15 years ago and takes it upon herself to put him on trial in their own living room

The question of Roberto’s guilt or innocence is at the forefront of the ensuing events, and as internal conflict of morality and vengeance threatens division between husband and wife, the only way for the trio to make it out alive is to arrive at a destination that resembles justice.

Set in a fictional country based on the true events of Chile in the late 20th century, “Death and the Maiden” grapples with the inevitable issue of justice, generating more questions than it answers:

What is justice? Who deserves it? Who should administer it? Can justice be in the hands of mortals, or of God alone? Does justice outlast death? Who benefits when the truth is out? What is irreparable and what can be forgiven?

As Gerardo puts it, “people can die from an excessive dose of truth.”

From the beginning, the stakes are high, and death is always on the line. While the beginning of the play gets off to a laborious and somewhat implausible start, once the gun comes out, the air is sucked out of the room, not to return until the house doors finally open into the night.

Playwright Ariel Dorfman’s dialogue is absolutely loaded with triggers early on, establishing motifs through words that will become important in ways that don’t become clear until much later. It is at times self-aware, describing actions as “monologues,” “dialogues” and “playing roles.” The actors’ line delivery, sing-songy and poetic, matches the writing well, which is chock-full of proverbs, speeches and epigrams, reminiscent — though slightly out of touch with — real life speech.

In many ways, the play walks a delicate line between realism and expressionism, reflected through the dialogue as well as the carefully-detailed set, designed by David Vogel.

The beach house is adorned just as a house of the 1970s, complete with the leaded slag lampshade; however, the house sits

at a slight slant, angled toward the audience and slightly non-parallel to the front of the stage. Windows and door frames remind us that it is a house, but one that the audience can see through voyeuristically, and the wings display abstract, fluid patterns that match an unstable world.

The subject matter is no easy material to work with — strong language and themes of sexual assault, torture and physical abuse make it suitable only for mature audiences — and yet the actors fall into stride, handling every movement and line with a surgeon’s precision for 90 uninterrupted minutes.

Robin Vogel (Paulina), a 2023 Albright College graduate, evokes humanity brilliantly, not relying on the play’s shock value for effect, but bringing a raw lack of willingness to be real — something much more difficult yet much more true to life.

Alex Schmidt '27 (Gerardo) takes on his second role at Wabash, and while bringing the role of Nostradamus to life in the November 2023 performance of “Something Rotten!” wowed crowds, a show like “Death and the Maiden” requires a vulnerability and truthfulness that is a big ask of any actor, especially a freshman. Cast all worries aside, as Schmidt delivers once again.

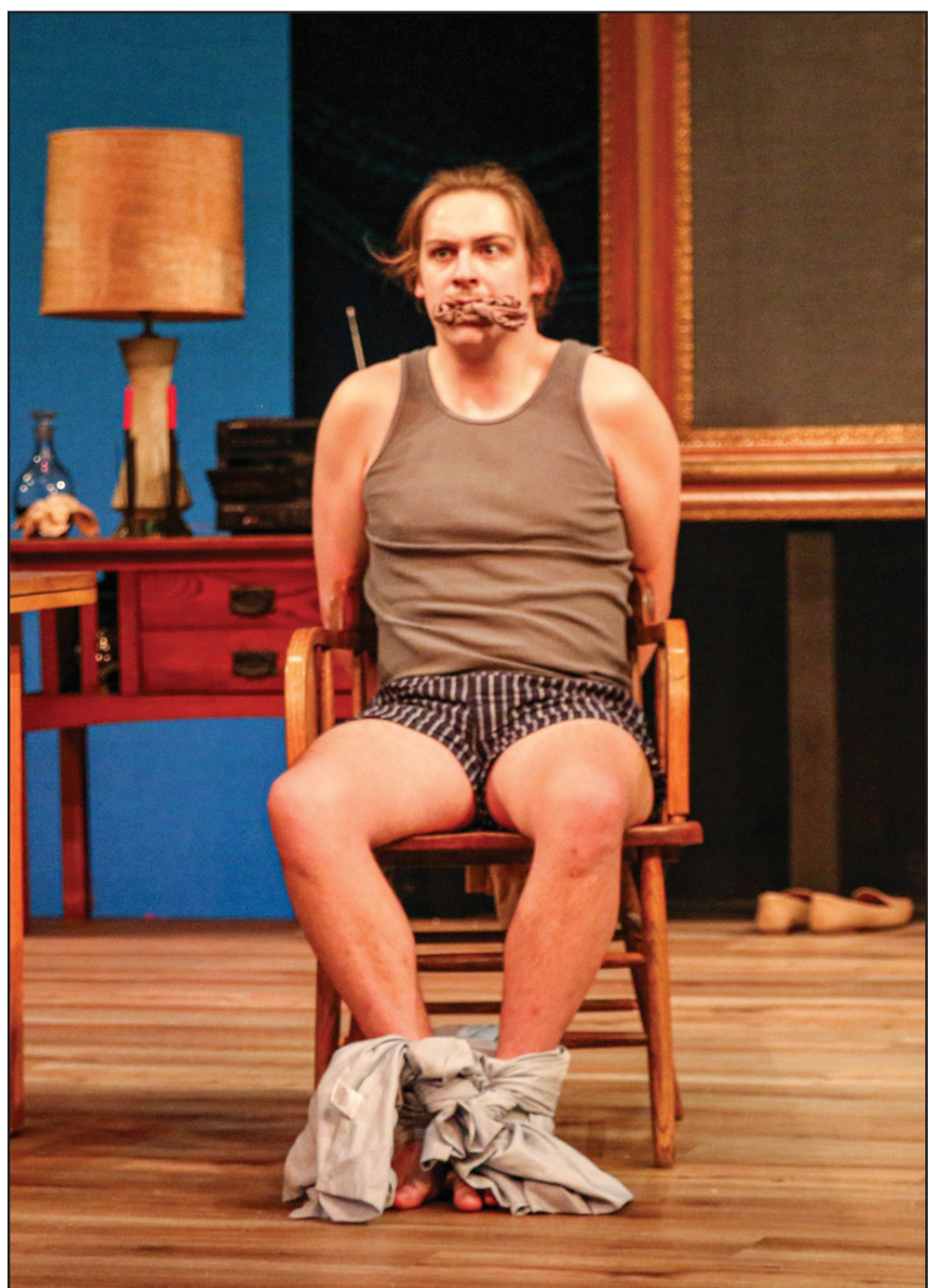
The true stand-out of the show, however, is newcomer Preston Parker '26 (Roberto). Ironically, he does very little standing, spending nearly the entire play bound and tied to a chair. He’s even gagged for a long spell, forcing Parker to act through emotion alone, which he finds creative ways to do, heightening the stakes and elevating the desperation and emotion of the play. For “Death and the Maiden” to truly succeed, the audience *must* be kept wondering if Roberto is innocent. The evidence, frankly, is against him, and yet Parker always maintains an air of innocence that keeps the show afloat.

The real tragedy of this show is how far the audience is kept from the action. A play like “Death and the Maiden” seems like a natural fit for an intimate venue like the black-box Experimental Theater, where the audience exists in the middle of the action, intensifying the already-intense play.

However, art is about making decisions and taking risks, and the risks Director Heidi Winters Vogel and company take in “Death and the Maiden” pay off exponentially, in so many ways.



Gerardo (Alex Schmidt '27, left) shares a drink with Roberto. Schmidt previously appeared as Nostradamus in “Something Rotten!”, but now flexes his dramatic muscles.



Roberto (Preston Parker '26) excels in his Wabash stage debut despite spending almost the entire runtime of the show gagged and tied to a chair.

## FINAL VERDICT: 4.5/5 WALLYS



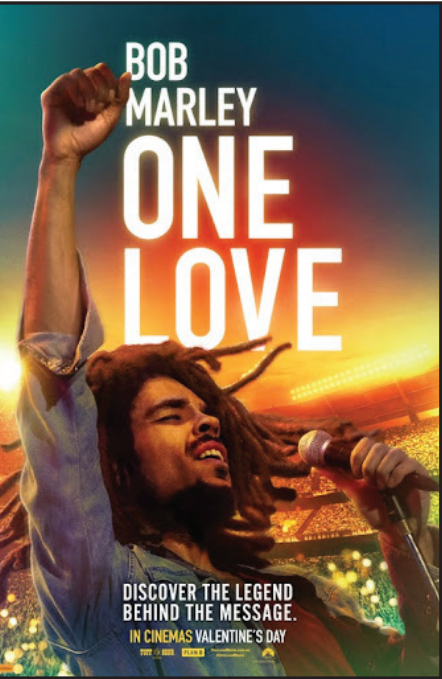
Gerardo and Paulina reckon with new struggles on their marriage caused by the circumstances the events of the play. The plot, while fictionalized, echo the events of late-20th century Chile.



Paulina casually threatens Roberto. The role reversal and inverted power dynamic on display here echoes many larger themes examined in the play.



# 'One Love' review: biopic captures Marley's essence, not all details



COURTESY OF IMP AWARDS  
LOGAN WEILBAKER '25  
MANAGING EDITOR

Reggae, positive, and iconic are a few words to describe the Legendary Bob Marley, which is why the film “Bob Marley: One Love” must be done properly. “One Love” is a biopic that covers the story of well-known reggae pioneer Bob Marley. This film was highly influenced by the family members of Marley himself, with help from many of his children such as Ziggy Marley. Hence, I was shocked to see this movie only get a 42% Rotten Tomato rating. I had to see this for myself, and I must say I feel like there was truth to what the critics were saying, but the movie definitely deserved its spot at the top of the box office.

It handles many aspects well; for instance, actor Kingsley Ben-Adir has a phenomenal portrayal of Bob Marley himself, matching many of his dance moves and his general positive demeanor that helped make him so iconic in real life. In the movie, we see the spell that he was able to put on crowds, like when he was boarding the plane and fans were reaching through the gates just to get closer to him, as well as his relaxed lifestyle. The audience also gets a sense of nostalgia from the beautiful songs created by Bob Marley. For the first time in a while I was reminded of songs I used to enjoy so much, like “Jammin” as we see Marley perform in the studio. This is also where we get to see Ben-Adir perfectly imitate the classic dance moves of the well-known Reggae singer, as well as perform “I shot the Sheriff,” another classic of Marley’s. Another highlight of the film is actress Lashana Lynch who portrays Rita Marley, Bob Marley’s wife, which gives us an incredible insight into the real fun personality of Marley.

However, there were quite a few missed opportunities by the “One Love” film. Despite the wonderful job by the actors of capturing the essence of the icon, it feels more like a snapshot of his life because we miss so many parts of the actual story. The Wailers, Bob Marley’s backing band, is hardly emphasized and not properly represented in the film. When it comes to the storytelling, it falls a little flat, leaving us a little unsatisfied. When comparing it to other biopics such as “Bohemian Rhapsody” or “Elvis,” “One Love” struggles to present a captivating narrative as the others do.

I was not unhappy with my viewing experience, I actually enjoyed the movie. I just wish there was a little bit more to it than what was presented.

FINAL VERDICT:  
3/5 WALLYS



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# 'Build-a-bear'

Crossword by  
Logan Weilbaker '25

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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													59	
65	66					67	68	69	70				71	
72						73						74		
75						76						77		

- Across**

1. "\_\_\_ to \_\_\_" (Lent mantra)

6. Ohio home of Lebron James and Stephen Curry

11. Clothing chain with a "Baby" division

14. ID card feature

15. Frontier explorer Daniel

16. Be indebted to

17. A "bear" of a winter storm?

19. Allow

20. Little guy

21. British beverage

22. Pinch

24. Otherwise

26. "The Faerie Queene" woman whose name means "peace"

30. "Kill Bill" actress Thurman

32. Food chain with "bear-ly" any wait time?

36. 2017 Wolverine film

39. On-again-off-again

40. Avian symbol of wisdom

41. Band's booking

44. Japanese red monster on the emoji keyboard

45. Dentists' grp.

46. Dauntless

49. "The Crucible" setting

51. "Bear-y" good cracker snack?

54. Half of MIV

55. Senior

56. Genghis or Kublai

60. Knee injury initials

62. Cock-and-bull story

64. WSW's opposite

65. Abbreviation on a plaque

67. Collection of goodies that "bears" repeating?

72. Actor DiCaprio, familiarly

73. Worked cattle

74. Employed

75. Way out there

76. It's accessed via a manhole

77. "Strangely enough..."
- Down**

1. Macintosh maker

2. Fishing spot

3. Some footbal penalties

4. O'Hare abbr.

5. Excel command

6. Like a sailor

7. 38th parallel country: Abbr.

8. Go bad

9. Single digit

10. Cry at the BMV

11. 1 of 23 for Michael Phelps

12. Dazzle

13. Furry friend

18. Miner's find

23. Mysterious quality

25. Clean Air Act org.

27. The January 2018 false missile alert of Hawai'i was issued through it: Abbr.

28. Privileged "baby"

29. Nerve cell part

31. Comment to the audience

33. >:(

34. Chandelier pendant

35. Text message from Elon Musk, probably

36. Oaf

37. Beat badly, in sports lingo

38. Athlete earning a thumbs-up, hopefully

42. "Othello" bad guy

43. Bat mitzvah honoree

47. Bank account protector, for short

48. June 16 honoree

50. \_\_\_ around (investigate)

52. Aide

53. Solo at the Met

57. Presided over, as a case

58. Halo wearer

59. Demanding

61. Some digital displays

63. Word shouted in a cave

65. Shelf sitter

66. Aegean, e.g.

68. "How \_\_\_ you?"

69. Obey the coxswain

70. 'Twas the night before

71. Baby goat



Scan for solution!

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

Easy

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Medium

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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.



# Bracketology 101: How to avoid busting your bracket this March

Part one of a three-part series



The NCAA men's basketball tournament is slated to begin March 19, pitting the top 64 college basketball teams against each other in perhaps the largest tournament in American sports.

GAGE BUSINGER '25  
STAFF WRITER

It is almost March, so the best time to be a college basketball fan is approaching. 351 Division I college bas-

ketball teams have fought tooth and nail since the beginning of November to put themselves in a position to be included in the NCAA Tournament. The pressure is mounting though, as only 64 will make the "big dance" and be a

part of March Madness. We only hear the selection committee's 64 picks after the season has concluded and on the Sunday before the NCAA Tournament.

To help fans and teams gauge where they stand concerning the tournament, individuals like myself perform something called "bracketology." Bracketology is what it sounds like, the study of brackets. Our job is to accurately assess a team's performance throughout the season and give them a seeding for the tournament in alignment with how the official tournament selection committee does this.

Let's turn to a local Division I program for an example. Purdue has amassed 23 wins and only has suffered 3 losses. A team's wins and losses column is the most simple way to observe the "resume," or performance of a team. Purdue's resume is very strong because not only do they have 23 wins, but most of these wins have come against strong opponents. Purdue's strong resume has landed the Boilermakers a projected one-seed in the NCAA Tournament at the moment.

There are 16 seed lines which each have 4 teams on it, equalling 64 teams (16x4=64). 32 of the 64 teams will be conference champions, therefore they will be automatically placed in the tournament. That leaves 32 teams that will have to lean back on their resumes to convince the tournament committee that they should be included in the best 64 teams in all of college basketball.

32 Conference Champions = Automatic-Bids

Other 32 teams = At-Large Bids

Last year, I correctly predicted 97.05% of the teams featured in the tournament. All of the teams I accurately projected in the tournament were within +/- one seed line, while 64% of those teams were on the exact seed line. Now that I have explained how this works, be on the lookout for next week's edition of *The Bachelor* to read some tips I have in projecting who is in the tournament as well as tips on picking the correct winner of tournament matchups.

For daily updates, be sure to follow @cbbtbracketology on X (Twitter).

## Senior spotlight: Jake Lawson empowers self through research and internships

JAKE WEBER '25  
STAFF WRITER

As the spring semester progresses, Wabash men begin to set their sights on future pursuits. For Jake Lawson '24, a psychology major with minors in biology and classics, his time at Wabash has encouraged him to pursue PhD programs in neuroscience.

"My aunt has Multiple Sclerosis, often just called MS, which is a neurodegenerative disease, and I have Tourette's Syndrome," said Lawson. "That's drawn me to neurodegenerative diseases. They're extremely fascinating in how they work, and we still are a ways away from understanding what's going on with them because they are immensely complicated."

The current senior from Brownsburg, Indiana is highly involved on campus; something he takes pride in.

"Extracurriculars have helped me to become a leader and a better person, and these kinds of intangibles are useful in a lab setting," said Lawson.

Lawson is a brother of Tau Kappa Epsilon, a member of the Sphinx Club, an Admissions Ambassador and member of Sons of Wabash.

Lawson has also found himself involved in research opportunities on

campus, joining Associate Professor of Biology and Biology Department Chair Dr. Heidi Walsh's laboratory in 2022 through an independent study project. His work here has focused on evaluating the function of cells affected by saturated fatty acids through stress measurements of the endoplasmic reticulum. The work of Dr. Walsh's lab has applications in understanding obesity's effects on the reproductive function of the hypothalamus, as well as effects on the liver, pancreas and other cell functions.

In the lab, Walsh describes Lawson as ultra-reliable, super-involved and responsible.

"Initially he came off pretty quiet and reserved," said Walsh. "It's been fun getting to work with him more individually in the research lab. He's done a lot of training of other students, showing them how to do things, and taking on a leadership role in that respect. It's been great having him around."

But Lawson's lab experience extends well beyond the confines of Crawfordsville. Lawson had a summer research internship following his sophomore year in New Jersey at Rutgers University, with an opportunity in Florida at the Mayo Clinic during the summer following his junior year.

"Take the opportunities at Wabash and find a way to use them to get your next experience," said Lawson. "My classwork is different because I go to Wabash. We're pushed harder and we do things different here."

Lawson worked on synaptic plasticity at Rutgers, which is how your brain adapts and learns to process new environmental cues to be able to learn and grow. In a brain affected by a neurodegenerative disease, these cells struggle to make the proper connections. By looking at neurons grown in a cultured lab environment, Lawson worked to help understand how Alzheimer's Disease attacks the brain.

During his time at the Mayo Clinic, Lawson's research expanded to inquiry about a pathway of cellular degeneration that has been implicated in Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's Disease and general neurodegenerative diseases. His work aided in the understanding of how this pathway of degeneration functions in the human brain.

Lawson is currently undergoing the interview process for PhD programs and post-bachelor research fellowships in the field of neuroscience and neuroscience research. Regardless of which institution Lawson finds himself in,



Jake Lawson '24 poses in front of the Mayo Clinic Signage during his internship with them in Jacksonville, Florida during summer 2023.

his experiences at and through Wabash have afforded him the best platform to launch from that anyone can ask for.

## Cousin Rick's pick three College basketball marches towards madness

RT HALL '24 | COLUMNIST

No lines available at time of publication. Please gamble responsibly.



2. Houston @ 11. Baylor

Kelvin Sampson's Cougars have looked good once again this year. Commanding one of Division I's best defenses, Houston has the tools for a deep run in March, so long as their lack of offensive production doesn't get in the way. Despite a veteran lineup, road games, particularly against quality opponents, have been Houston's weakness this year, where offensive woes have typically been their downfall in spite of their defensive potency. Similarly, outside of some out-of-conference losses against quality opponents, Baylor has found a similar dynamic this year, struggling to take down quality opponents on the road. Admittedly though, Baylor lacks the same quality of home wins that Houston has to bolster their resume. Like much of the Big 12 this season, this game looks to be a dogfight. Late February tends to be the proving ground for who's made for March, and Baylor might have a bit of imposter syndrome. Expect Houston to eke out a close one Saturday.



13. Alabama @ 17. Kentucky

Similar to Houston/Baylor, Alabama/Kentucky will be another battle of top teams vying for position in a log-jammed conference. Earlier this month, Kentucky was beginning to look left for dead, doomed to a middle-tiered seed in the tournament. However, some strategic wins including an impressive rout of Auburn on the road have re-energized the Wildcats. Alabama's story has been much more quiet, finding themselves surprisingly first in the SEC this week, but possibly with their toughest competition still left to play. It would appear that this week's game against 24. Florida may be more foreshadowing of struggles than initially thought. As a result, I think Kentucky wins this game more comfortably than previously thought. I would recommend taking Kentucky up to -6.



Butler @ Seton Hall

While this game may lack the pedigree of the first two, there are important postseason implications at stake which are bound to make this a dogfight. In this week's edition of ESPN's bracketology, both teams found themselves in the "Last Four In" category. Despite their proximity in this power ranking, these two teams find themselves with greatly different strength of resume, as well as remaining strength of schedule. For Butler, this is arguably it. Despite losing four of their last five, the rest of Butler's remaining games are against Big East bottom feeders. Seton Hall on the other hand has a much more impressive W-L, but has their most daunting portion of their schedule yet to play. Given what's at stake, expect Butler to likely keep it closer than Vegas expects.



Rising in the ranks: Swim takes third at NCAC Championships

NATE JOVEN '26  
STAFF WRITER

After four days of competition the Wabash swim & dive team achieved a third-place finish at the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Conference Championships meet. The meet, which took place at Denison University, began on Wednesday, February 14 and ended on February 17.

The Little Giants finished in third place behind Kenyon and Denison who finished first and second respectively. The team edged out Wooster who finished in fourth.

This was an improvement for the team over last year's conference meet, where Wabash narrowly fell to Wooster trailing the Scots by just 10 points. That narrow loss was the seed for the Little Giants' determination to climb a spot in the rankings for this season.

"We had the opportunity to beat them [Wooster] last year as well, and we just came up short," said Head Swimming & Diving Coach Will Bernhardt. "One race could have made the difference. We stuck around when they were announcing the team awards because I wanted our guys to hear them cheer and have that seared in their brains for this year."

Bernhardt saw exactly what he wanted as the Little Giants vigorously competed across all four days of competition.

"The biggest difference was that we had guys stepping up," said Bernhardt. "We had guys stepping up from C finals into B finals. We had guys seeded in a B final that stepped up into an A final."

Divers were among the many team members who contributed to the team's success. Wabash sent six divers to this year's championship, twice as many as last year's conference meet.



Barrett Smith '26 races in the 20-metre individual medley at the North Coast Athletic Conference Championships held over four days from February 14-17 at Kenyon College.



The 2023-24 Little Giants swimming & diving team finished third in the North Coast Athletic Conference Championships held over four days from February 14-17 at Kenyon College. This was an improvement of the team's fourth-place finish the season prior.

"I strongly believe that it's swimming and diving," said Bernhardt. "There's a huge hole in our conference in scoring. And the hole is in diving. If other teams aren't going to put any focus into having divers at the meet, we're going to take advantage of that."

On diving boards, Wabash divers performed well. On the first day of competition, divers Nicholas Hakimian '25, Bernardo Morales '24 and Alexander Aruzza '26 placed seventh, eighth and ninth in the three-meter diving competition. Returning on the third day of competition Morales, Keane Albright '25 and Aruzza again secured seventh, eighth and ninth place finishes, this time from the one-meter diving board.

"All of our divers are new. We converted a couple swimmers into divers because our roster was saturated with swimmers," said Bernhardt. "We talked to those guys and they agreed to dive because they knew that they could make a bigger difference for the team as divers."

"If other teams aren't going to put any focus into having divers at the meet, we're going to take advantage of that."

- Coach William Bernhardt

"Each team member showcased their best version, pushing through emotional and physical challenges," said Morales, who was competing despite having a fractured foot. "Even our six divers, two of whom began just three weeks prior, stepped up and scored crucial points for the team."

It was truly a team effort as all members of the team scored points in the competition. The 1218.5 points scored by the Little Giants is the second most scored in the program's history at a conference championship meet. Connor Craig '25 placed sixth in the 100-yard individual medley with a personal best time of 53.35 seconds. Nicholas Plumb '27 notably contributed by breaking the school record in the 200-yard backstroke. Plumb

clocked a time of 1:50.65 in the event.

"I gave it everything I had, and I left it all in the pool," said Plumb. "It was really special to me to finish third in the 200 backstroke, as well as break the school record, mostly because of how much it fired up the team."

While competing for four days straight was surely strenuous, the Little Giants thrived in the face of adversity. Despite the pressure of such a long meet, the team rallied together to steadily endure the entirety of the competition.

"I feel great about the team's performance," said Bernhardt. "A lot of really great breakthrough swims and dives. Every person had opportunities to step up and perform."

The Little Giants' squad remained energetic and motivated all meet long.

"At the meet, we were without a doubt the team with the most energy and character," said Plumb. "We showed up every day fired up and ready to go no matter how tired we were. We did a great job of handling things that didn't go our way, and we kept pushing each other to be our best."

"The energy our team had in the Natatorium was something I had never experienced before," said Morales. "As a team, we live by the motto 'Handle Hard Better'. We celebrated each accomplishment, motivated each other during challenging swims and we showed the Wabash spirit throughout the Natatorium and got third place."

Their success at this meet puts the Little Giants in a hopeful position as they look forward to their next season. The team is incredibly young, with Morales being the only senior on the squad.

"I'm feeling fantastic about our young team," said Bernhardt. "In previous years, we had six or seven seniors that were some of our major point contributors, so those are huge shoes to fill. We basically competed in this meet with three classes. We didn't have a single senior that started with us his freshman year."

"This is the best team I've ever been a part of," said Plumb. "I love this team so much, and I think our team culture is the best in the sport. I've never been happier in the sport of swimming than I have been here. The coaches have done a really great job recruiting guys and cultivating strong team culture."

"Closing this chapter is hard," said Morales. "But I am glad to have one last dance with this team. I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to my teammates, coaches, parents and everyone involved with Wabash swim & dive."

The Wabash swim and dive team put a bow on their successful season at the conference meet. The team checked off many of their goals, culminating in their third-place finish in the championship meet, but their success extended beyond the pool.

"I'm incredibly proud of this team and everything that they have accomplished," said Bernhardt. "On the academic side, we earned our highest team GPA in school history. As a team, we've got over 300 hours of community service. We did a community service project down in Florida. And our culture is very strong. The guys don't come here just to swim, they come here to be better people and that's what makes me proud as a coach."

"I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to my teammates, coaches, parents and everyone involved with Wabash swim & dive."

- Bernardo Morales '24

Supporting each other in and out of the water, the team have proven themselves to be a formidable group of men. The results of this conference championship mark their success and act as a springboard from which the team will continue to grow.

Count down to the opening pitch

Baseball balances veteran hitters and young bullpen ahead of season

NICK WANGLER '27  
SPORTS WRITER

The weather is getting warmer and spring is approaching which can only mean one thing: baseball season. With the start of the season in sight, the Little Giants are eager to get back on the field to showcase their skills right off the bat. The team has a long season ahead of them, so consistency from the beginning to the end is crucial for a standout season.

Last season, Wabash finished the year with a 24-18 (8-8 NCAC) record. Their conference record placed them in the dead middle of the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC), but the team is looking to trend toward the top of the standings this year.

In baseball, just like in all sports, a team's identity varies each season. In some years, teams might swing the bat better, while in other years the pitching thrives. Putting it all together and playing as a team is the nature of the game. Many things have to go right to win a baseball game, and doing the little things in the right moments can be the difference between walking off the field a winner or a loser.

This year, Head Baseball Coach Jake Martin '03 will need to get a young bullpen to catch up with a more experienced batting lineup. This will be a working process that the team will need to gradually accomplish over the course of the season. They can expect their fair share of mistakes, but if they can get those little things down quickly, they will become a conference threat on the diamond. Figuring out these small

bumps will ideally lead the team in the direction they desire.

"A short-term goal for this year's team is going to be figuring out who we are as a team early on so we can see what we need to work on," said Martin. "We have a mix of veteran hitters with a young pitching staff, so that will be the main challenge early on. If we are able to build on our mistakes - our short-term goal - it will eventually lead us into our long-term goal which would be winning the conference."

Wabash enters the season with many returning starters in the field and at the plate. Experience is key when knowing how to face stiffer competition from the opposing team's bullpen. Having experienced leaders is an essential to a strong season, and this year's team has just that.

"I've made many mistakes on the field which have turned into valuable learning experiences," said third baseman AJ Reid '24. "I will relay those lessons to my teammates and be a calm, confident voice in the midst of adversity."

Strong left-handed bats from Camden Scheidt '25 and Kamden Earley '24 mixed with the young arms of Caleb Everson '26 and Matthew Wright '27, the Little Giants should be able to piece together this talent to produce wins on the diamond.

To have a successful season, the team must click early on and find out what works for them. One thing that may keep the team rolling is their strong team chemistry and bonds with each other. Chemistry is vital when facing a long season and it can make a

2024 PROJECTED STARTERS

CF REECE BAUER '24

LF CAMDEN SCHEIDT '25

RF KAMDEN EARLEY '24

SS BENJAMIN HENKE '26

2B MICHAEL GALANOS '25

3B AJ REID '24

1B NICK LOGAN '24

P CALEB EVERSON '26

C WILLIAM MCKINZIE '26

DH WILL PHILLIPS '25

difference in close games. This year's team has only four seniors on the squad - Reid, Early, outfielder Reece Bauer '24 and Nick Logan '24, but they feel a strong connection as well.

"I'm just excited to get the chance to play the sport I love with guys I consider my family,"

said Logan. "I think this team has a lot of chemistry and trust in each other, and I'm excited to see how it plays out on the field."

The team kicks off their season in Westfield, Indiana on Saturday, February 24 when they take on Aurora University. This will be their first opportunity to

show what they will bring to the field this coming season. With a strong lineup of bats and a young rotation with untapped potential, the Little Giants are a few adjustments away from a run at the conference title.



# Track prepares to compete in NCAC Indoor Championship

**AYDEN SALPIETRA '27**  
STAFF WRITER

After months of diligent preparation Wabash track & field are preparing to thrust themselves into the 2024 North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Indoor Championships. For the first of two weekends of scoring events, three athletes traveled to Kenyon to participate in the NCAC Multi-Events Meet, held February 17 to 18 hoping to get the Wabash track & field team a leg up heading into the indoor championships.

Owen Smith '27, a newcomer to the heptathlon, recorded the top performance for the Little Giants, with a total score of 3,574 points, placing him ninth among 13 athletes. Landon Miller '24 and Nate Joven '26 were not far behind, finishing 10 and 12, with scores of 3,470 points and 3,081 points respectively.

Despite their best efforts, Smith, Miller and Joven fell just short of earning points towards the upcoming conference meet, which was exclusive to the top-eight performers.

The team also competed in the Friday Night Spikes Meet at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology on February 16, where they finished fourth out of five teams. However, there were many impressive performances in all aspects of the meet.

Josh Massaquoi '26 finished first in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.89 seconds, earning himself NCAC Sprints/



Josh Massaquoi '26 competes in the Anderson University Invitational on February 9 in Anderson University. Wabash finished first out of nine teams in the meet.

Hurdles Athlete of the Week honors. Tanner Brooks '27 crossed the tape second in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.21 seconds. Alex Naylor '24 threw a personal best 12.25 meters in the shot put, finishing second overall. Jamaal Leach '26 finished second in the high jump, recording 1.72 meters.

The team has gutted through their training since September, facing inner battles and redefining their limits each day. All

of their work has led up to the opportunity that stands just in front of them- to bring another conference championship back to Crawfordsville.

On February 23-24, Wabash will travel back to Kenyon to compete in the NCAC Indoor Track and Field Championships. Wabash will look to extend its winning streak indoors, as it has claimed first place in every indoor championship since 2019. To Head Track & Field Coach

Clyde Morgan, this meet is not won just physically, but mentally as well.

"Our focus is simple - compete, get your point, have a blast and be mentally tough," said Morgan. "Our program is built off of great character and toughness. We work on this daily so we don't have to get ready."

"The biggest thing I'm focusing on in preparation for the meet this weekend is making sure I'm 100% and I feel right

hitting all of the spots in the ring where I need to feel connections and separations in order to throw the rock far," said Quinn Sholar '26.

Confidence will be an important factor playing into the meet, as athletes can run multiple races each day. Keeping their mind is a big component in competing in each event.

"My biggest obstacle this weekend will be getting through all of the races I have," said Will Neubauer '25. "Getting through prelims can be very stressful, and having enough confidence to get through days with multiple races is key; not only doing them, but doing them well. I will always remember that the worst day on that track is going to be better than the best day up in the stands. It's a privilege to compete, and at the end of the day it's just track and field."

Building off of the multi-events meet, the Little Giants look to conclude their indoor season with a conference championship. Even without points on the board heading into the meet, Wabash is on the short list for teams most likely to win. In the coaches' pre-tournament poll the Little Giants were picked to finish second behind Wittenberg, who won by a single vote. They have some work to do. But if anything is certain it's that Wabash track & field has a long history of dominant NCAC indoor performances to draw on.

## Tackling the unique challenges

*Q&A with Coach Bickett about the impact of different environments*

**ETHAN WALLACE '25**  
SPORTS EDITOR

For athletes in most sports, playing in the same conditions from game to game is as taken for granted as playing for the same team. But for college tennis in the Midwest, that is not the case. Due to the cold weather of February and March, teams spend the first half of their season indoors before moving outdoors, for the warmer half.

This week, The Bachelor sat down with Head Tennis Coach Daniel Bickett to discuss the unique challenges posed by both environments and how his team adapts.

their shots get a little bit easier. And that's where the indoor side of it can get tough. Sometimes it's really challenging to play around with the pace of the point. Tiny little mistakes are a little bit more magnified.

**How does the more confined space of indoor tennis impact your strategy?**

That concept of the limited space behind the court. I think that comes into play a little bit more when you have like really high arcing shots over the net. So generally speaking, when you're, in the middle of a point, what we refer to as a rally, your average shot height is going to be three feet over the net. Now if you hit with enough depth and pace and drive, you can force your opponent back six, seven feet behind the baseline.

looking to put a little pressure on them to hit the ball around me. If I'm on a faster court, I may hit a shot with underspin which is generally considered a more passive shot. This gives me more time to get to the net.

Another big difference is in serve returns. On a faster court, I'm going to scoot back a little bit more. Mainly because the ball is going to come through the court faster. So I want a little bit more time to react and adjust to it. On a slower court, especially if someone's hitting with a lot of spin, I might move up a little bit more so that it doesn't have as much of a chance to get out of my strike zone right.

Let's say when we get down to Orlando for spring break we're gonna play on probably four different court surfaces while we're there. So the process for us generally is we get down there and we hit a little bit. As the warm ups go on our guys will get the feeling of whether the courts are slow or fast. Maybe we make some general adjustments, but then as a team, throughout the match, we're going to make adjustments for each individual player based on their game style based on the matchup of their opponent.



Nathan Brackney '27 hits a slice shot in the Little Giants' game against Manchester University on February 10, 2024 at Collett Tennis Center.

**Does outdoor tennis require you to be more adaptable than indoor tennis?**

Outdoor tennis is so much about the ability to adapt beyond your feet, to make adjustments quickly. Here's an example-

Let's say I'm playing on the north side of the courts, and there's a wind coming from the south directly at me and against my shot. And then we change sides every two games. Now, when I'm on the south side of the court, that wind is going in the same direction as my ball. So I have to adjust every sequence of games. I need to maybe put a little more topspin on my shot to control it when I'm with the wind. Maybe I need to drive through the ball a little bit more to keep getting deep in the court when I'm against the wind.

Indoors you have less of those adjustments in terms of dealing with the elements, but you still have all the adjustments that you would see in any normal tennis match.

**What is court speed and how does that impact indoor versus outdoor tennis?**

Court speed refers to the amount of sand that you put in the paint on the court. It's measured on a scale of one to five, where one is the slowest and five is the fastest.

Putting more sand in the court creates more grip on the court. So a slower court with more friction and more sand in that paint is going to grab the ball. When the ball hits the ground, it slows down tremendously. The faster the court, the less the ball slows down when it hits that ground.

Generally you would see indoor courts play a little bit faster than outdoor courts. The outdoor game is generally slower where the indoors are generally a little bit faster. And different types of students play differently on faster and slower courts.

**Do certain kinds of players do better in either indoor or outdoor tennis?**

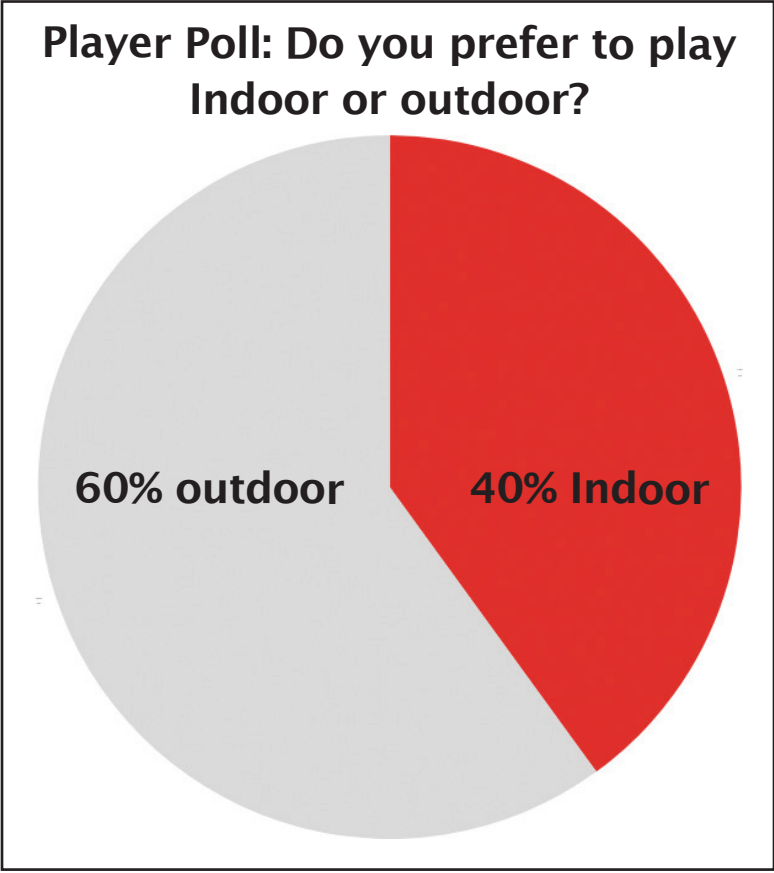
Over the course of my career, what I've seen from an indoor perspective is that it's a little bit more advantageous to bigger hitters.

Because when they're outdoors, all the elements that they're dealing with can cause them to not get the ball in the exact spot that they were hoping for, which matters more for players taking bigger swings. So their shot doesn't have quite the same pace.

Then when they go indoors, they're not battling those elements, they get their shot right where they want it.

That's one of the things we have to look at. When guys start off, they may be a little bit more advantaged in one area of the other. Over the course of their four years. We try to prepare them to play in any environment.

A guy who came in as a freshman, and was very clearly an advantage indoor player is Cole Borden '24. He plays a quick, aggressive style, looks to dictate with his forehand, has a big serve, all things that kind of really benefit an indoor player. And if you look back at his freshman year, he got some really big wins over the course of his freshman career and almost all of them came indoors. Now, over the course of his career, he's be-



gun to understand what outdoor winning tennis is, and so he knows how to adjust his game, depending on the environment.

**What is the learning curve like for players who have never played indoors before?**

It's a big learning curve. I look to a player like Guto [Augusto Ghidini '26], where his playing style is very clearly geared towards being successful indoors. But at the same time, he grew up in Brazil playing primarily on clay, which his game style is not well suited at or as well

suited maybe as some other ones for that playing surface and condition. So, now he has some advantages playing indoors.

Even when I went to college, I had never played indoors before. It was foreign to me. I grew up in Texas. And when I went to college in Wisconsin, where we had to play indoors. Over the course of my own career, I learnt to adjust. And it's to the point now where, you know, I like not having to deal with the sun or the elements. I love playing indoors.



# NCAC Tournament returns to Chadwick

## Coach Brumett celebrates 300 wins and regular season confrence title

ETHAN WALLACE '25  
SPORTS EDITOR

Ultimate stakes met an unrivaled home crowd at Chadwick Court when Wooster traveled to Wabash to play the final game of the regular season and decide who would win the 2023-24 North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) regular season title. The Little Giants' 91-81 win in the February 17 contest secured the right to host the 2024 NCAC Tournament, the one seed in the tournament and a first-round matchup against eighth-seeded Kenyon on February 20.

The back-and-forth battle was a thrilling contest that featured eight lead changes and seven ties before the Little Giants were able to pull away late in the second half.

The Scarlet and White scored a season-high 91 points with a season-best 15-26 (57.7%) from beyond the three-point line. For long stretches of the game it seemed like the Little Giants couldn't miss a three. This helped the team stay in the game, despite turning the ball over 14 times.

The 'Chadwick Effect' was on strong display, as the Fighting Scots bricked five of their 12 shots from the charity stripe for a 58.3% free throw percentage. Meanwhile the Little Giants, in front of their home crowd with their finger W's held high, went 18-21, which was good for an excellent 85.7% night from the line.

Two players stood out above the rest for the Wabash team. Vinny Buccilla '25 ended the game shooting 5-6(83%) from deep and cruised to 23 points. Leading Wabash in scoring, was Avery Beaver '24 who picked a perfect game to drop a career-best 27 points, continuing his dominant five-game streak where he averaged 21.2 ppg.

For his performance, Beaver was named NCAC Offensive Men's Basketball Athlete of the Week and he joined the D3hoops.com Team of the Week, an honor given to the most impactful players across Division III each week.

"I don't know how anyone could have had a better week than he [Beaver] had last week," said Head Basketball Coach Kyle Brumett. "He has taken hold of our offense. We have a lot of trust in him. And he has the ball in his hands a lot. He is playing as well as anybody in the country."

This victory also marked Coach Brumett's 300th win as a head coach. Brumett, who took over as head coach in 2014, is 164-92 since coming to Wabash and has the highest winning percentage of any head basketball coach since 1917.

"Three hundred wins is something I am very proud of, but it is the result of having a lot of very hard working players and assistant coaches," said Brumett. "I was not aware of what my total was, but it does make it memorable to win it against a program as successful as Wooster. Also to do it at home, in front of our crowd, and to win the NCAC regular season in a big game was all icing on the cake."

The win finished the Scarlet and White's season-long quest to win the conference. By winning the game, the team secured the title, won the top seed in the NCAC Tournament and earned the right to host the semifinal and final rounds of the tournament. For the second time ever and the second time in three years Wabash basketball brought the conference tourney home to Chadwick Court. With just three wins- easier said than done- they can finish a conference tournament three-peat.

With the top seed secured, Brumett and company faced eighth-seeded Kenyon in the first round of the tournament at home on Tuesday, February 20. The clear favorites did not disappoint as they cruised past the Owls to get one game closer to being crowned tournament champions.

The team soared out to a 55-29 lead at half time and made sure the game was secured before Brumett sent in the bench to finish the job.

"I was really happy with how our starters began both halves," said Brumett. "And then we got really good play from our regular rotation off the bench. Edreece [Redmond '24] played really well. And Josh [Whack '26] played really well too. I think our depth probably wore them down. Fifty-five points in a half, that's the best half that we've had all year. But the thing that I was probably most happy with was that we held them to 29 in the first half."

After 40 minutes of play the Wabash team cleared the first round of the tournament with a 84-65 win.

Ahmoni Jones '24 was in peak form as he put up 18 points in just 21 minutes. Buccilla, who is definitively back to his old self after dealing with injury early in the season, led scoring for the team with 22 points. Meanwhile Noah Hupmann imposed his own reign of terror over the opponents with a career-high seven blocks as well as two poster dunks.

Despite some lively contests, all four of the higher seeds, Wabash (1), Wooster (2), Wittenberg (3) and Denison (4) won in the first round.

The 2024 NCAC Men's Basketball Tournament will contin-



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Head Basketball Coach Kyle Brumett cuts down the net after the Little Giants defeated Wooster to claim the 2024 North Coast Athletic Conference Regular Season Title on February 17 at Chadwick Court. The win also marked the 300th victory of Brumett's career as a head coach.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

From left to right: Champ McCorkle '24, Edreece Redmond '24, Avery Beaver '24, Sam Comer '24 and Ahmoni Jones '24 celebrate Senior Day ahead of the Little Giants' victory over Wooster to claim the 2024 North Coast Athletic Conference Regular Season Title on February 17 at Chadwick Court.

ue with the semifinal round at Chadwick Court on Friday, February 23. The first game will see Wooster play Wittenberg at 5:00 p.m. Then Wabash will go against Denison at 7:30 p.m. The championship game between the winner of each semifinal game will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 24. The winner of the NCAC Tournament will book a ticket to the wider NCAA Tournament.

Denison will be no easy hurdle for the reigning champs, however. In their two matchups during the season, the Little Giants and Big

Red swapped eight-point wins. Denison, who spent a portion of the season atop the conference rankings, won the first contest 73-65. Rebounding in the second game, the Little Giants took over as NCAC leader when they won 89-81. Now in their third face-off, Wabash will need to be careful to contain the Big Red from deep. Denison shot well above their average in both games against the Little Giants.

The team may look forward to a slightly weakened Denison team, as the Big Red's top player Ricky

Radtke has been playing limited minutes, most likely due to a mid-season injury. But even without Radtke the Denison squad is a dangerous roster that deserves to be in the top four.

The Little Giants last easy game of the season is behind them. They have achieved history already, but to keep the season alive they will have to finish strong on the hardwood in Crawfordville.

# McRoberts: Breaking down the semifinals of NCAC Tournament

NOAH MCROBERTS '25  
SPORTS COLUMNIST

After an action-packed quarterfinal round, Wabash remains in the hunt for the NCAC title, meaning, win or lose from here on out, Chadwick Court has the honor of hosting both the semifinal round (on February 23) and championship game (on February 24). Wabash fans are sure to pack the stands not only for the Little Giants but to enjoy classic Division III basketball and all the excitement that comes with it. After the first round, only the top four seeds — the best basketball teams in the conference — remain. Each team is hungry for and able to attain the coveted NCAC championship trophy and the glory that comes with it, and it's anyone's game.

**Game 1:**  
@5PM - #2 The College of Wooster Fighting Scots (NCAC, 12-4) vs. #3 Wittenberg University Tigers (NCAC, 11-5)

**#2 Wooster**  
In what has been an impressive second-half performance, the Fighting Scots have only two losses since the calendar flipped to 2024 (both delivered by the Little Giants). Packing one of the best offenses in the Midwest, they have scored more than 80 points in five of the last six games. This has been facilitated by arguably the best post presence in basketball: Nick Everett, the lumbering 6'8", 250-pounder who went for a perfect 11-11 with 26 points and eight rebounds in an 83-80 overtime victory over DePauw in the first round. Their backcourt represents one of the best in the conference with Jamir Billings



as a facilitator and Ashton Price as the finisher. On the one hand, Billings has a bid for all-conference at the PG position, compiling a whopping 5.8 assists per game, with 10 coming versus the Dannies. On the other hand, Ashton Price has managed a 41% 3PT% to achieve 15.5 points per game, and 12 points in Tuesday's first-round matchup.

**#3 Wittenberg**  
The Tigers have hit some potholes on the highway to the postseason, losing three out of four during a two-week span around the beginning of February, yet they have remained resilient, winning out to finish the season before toppling OWU in an impressive 71-59 victory during the first round. Defense has been the name of the game in Springfield this season, as they have held opposing teams to an average of 67 points per game. This has largely been due to an extremely disciplined style of game, where they sparse-

ly send opponents to the free throw line. What's more, they hound enemy shooters, limiting the opposition to a miserable 29% from beyond the arc. And it is those two areas of the game that they dominate: the free throw line and the 3-point game. They intentionally force teams to make clutch shots, and most of the time other teams don't. Friday's matchup will be a battle of powerhouse offense and disciplined defense, where only time and fate will stand to determine the outcome.

**Game 2:**  
@7:30PM - #1 Wabash College Little Giants (NCAC, 13-3) vs. #4 Denison University Big Red (NCAC, 10-6)

**#1 Wabash**  
There were some fears concerning the Little Giants to begin the season, starting off ranked in the top 25 before losing a bad game to Anderson early on. Since the calendar flipped to February, though, Wabash has

been arguably one of the hottest teams in all of D3 hoops. The key to their success has been finally solidifying a starting lineup after juggling positions practically every game for the first half of the season. Now, with Avery Beaver finding his place among an emerging Vinny Buccilla and the humble (in manners but not stature) Hupmann, this Little Giant team is looking tough to stop. Powered by blocks and bombs, Wabash has rolled past Denison, OWU, Wooster and the sorry likes of Hiram and Kenyon in recent weeks. We've seen this high-flying front in recent years, but what is different is the stifling defense that Buccilla, Hupmann and Comer have run under Coach Brumett this season. Limiting teams to 66 points per matchup, the Little Giants sport their best defense since the 2014-15 season. After a dominant 84-65 win over Kenyon Tuesday night, the Scarlet will be looking to keep the hot streak alive against Denison.

**#4 Denison**  
In what has been a tough overall season, Denison still find themselves in the run for the title, and the phrase "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger" holds true for them. They've been without their second team all-conference guard Darren Rubin the entire season in addition to losing star big man Ricky Radtke for a spell. However, they're coming off a beatdown of a legitimately tough Oberlin squad to enter Crawfordville with some grit. That grit means they fight for every shot, which has led them to launch an insane 670 3-point attempts this season. However, only 33% of them land, so they have to live and die with that, hoping Radtke can hold down the paint. They're a scrappy team, with a lot of steals, personal fouls, rebounds and mediocre 3-point looks, but when they're on, they're on, and they'll be a tough opponent to beat in the semifinals.





PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

# SPORTS

## This week in sports

Winter sports tackle back-to-back weekends of conference championships

**SAM BENEDICT '25**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Winter sports are heading off for their respective conference championships, as spring seasons are still just getting under way. The unique intersection of season-long goals being fulfilled while new goals are being established give this time of year a special place in the Little Giants' sports calendar.

### Basketball

The basketball team won back-to-back North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) games at Chadwick Court to be named as NCAC regular season conference champion. The team rode the momentum from previous conference wins on February 18 against Wooster for a 91-81 victory. The stadium was packed as the team continued their hot streak by shooting 61% from the field. Avery Beaver '24 led the team with 27 points on 7-10 three-point shooting and was named NCAC Men's Basketball Athlete of the Week. The victory not only clinched the NCAC championship, but also capped off a Senior Day celebration that saw all five seniors on the court to start the game.

As NCAC tournament champions, Wabash won the right to host every NCAC tournament game they play in. The team played Kenyon on February 20, 2024 at Chadwick Court, defeating the Owls 74-64 in the quarterfinal matchup.

Next, the Little Giants will take on Denison at 7:30 p.m. at Chadwick Court in the semi-final game. The NCAC championship game will take place at Chadwick Court on Saturday February 24.

### Lacrosse

The lacrosse team lost to Muskingum University 5-10 on Saturday February 17 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The team got off to a hot start when Artie Rigers '25 scored in the first minute off a Quinn Fitzgerald '26 pass. After a minute, Lunas Cunningham '27 scored an unassisted goal to put the Little Giants up 2-0.

However, the Muskingum University team eventually responded by scoring three goals in both the first and second periods to take the lead. The Little Giants would score three more goals throughout the match, but it wouldn't be enough to stop the Muskingum attack.

Next, the Wabash College lacrosse team played Anderson University on February 21 at Anderson University. The game became the team's first shut-out win in six seasons, as they dominated Anderson 14-0.

The team will play Alma College at Fischer Field on February 28.

### Track & Field

The Wabash College Track & Field team placed fourth out of five teams at the Rose Hulman Friday Night Spikes Indoor Track and Field Tuneup, but had strong individual performances.

Josh Massaquoi '26 won the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.89. He was the only athlete to break the nine-second mark in the event.

Tanner Brooks '27 crossed the tape second in the 60-meter dash final with a time of 7.21. Seth Acero '25 finished fifth with a 7.25 effort. Julius Hearn '25 ran 7.29 to finish seventh.

Sly Williams '26 jumped 12.80 meters (42 feet, 0 inches) to secure second place in the triple jump.

Jaamal Leach '26 cleared 1.72 meters (5 feet, 7.75 inches) to capture second place in the high jump and a new personal best.

Wabash finished in fourth place with 71 points and Rose-Hulman won the meet with a score of 175 points.

### Swimming & Diving

The Wabash College swimming and diving team placed third in the North Coast Athletic Conference Championships from February 15-17. Nicholas Plumb '27 was awarded all NCAC honors after placing third in the 200-yard backstroke. Connor Craig '25 placed 6th in the 100-yard individual medley with a personal

best time of 53.35. Multiple other Little Giants placed highly and contributed to the 3rd place finish.

Kenyon won the NCAC championship and Denison came in second.

Next, the Little Giants have regional and national competitions for certain qualified athletes.

### Tennis

The tennis team lost in a close matchup against Centre College by a score of 4-5. The match took place on February 17 at Centre College.

The team got off to a strong start by winning both their 1-Doubles and 2-Doubles matches with an 8-5 score in each.

But the team wasn't able to close the contest out in singles as they lost four of the six matches. Cole Borden '24 at 3-Singles and Tharakesh Ashokar '26 at 4-Singles were the two players who won at singles. After a 7-3 tiebreaker to claim the first set, Borden dominated the second 6-3. Ashokar never let his sets get too close as he won 6-3, 6-2.

The team will play their next match at home in Collett Tennis Center on February 24 when they face both Principia College and Earlham College on the same day.

### Volleyball

The volleyball team won both games of a doubleheader in Columbus, Ohio against conference opponents. The team opened the February 17 matches against Hiram College who they beat 3-1. After falling in the first set, Wabash rallied to win the next three sets and take the match. Bawibawi Thang '27 finished the match with 13 kills and nine digs while Will Beikes '25 recorded 33 assists.

In the next match, Wabash defeated Wittenberg 3-2 in a win that would tie the program best for total wins in a season. The Little Giants took a 2-1 lead before conceding a 29-27 win in extra play to tie the match at 2-2. However, Wabash rallied to take the third and final set, win-



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Bawibawi Thang '27, Jackson Leeper '25 and Will Beikes '25 leap to contest a shot at the net in the Wabash game against Trinity College on February 13, 2024 at Chadwick Court.



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27

Jake Pippen '26 prepares for an offensive attack in his team's opening game. Lacrosse celebrated Military Appreciation Day at their first game against Earlham College, which was held on February 14, 2024 at Fischer Field.

ning the match. Thang had 22 kills and Ricky Sessions '24 had 16 kills and Beikes tallied 54 assists to set a new program five-set school record.

Next, the Little Giants take on Goshen College at Chadwick Court on February 27 at 7 p.m.

### Wrestling

The wrestling team traveled to Angola, Indiana to compete at Trine University in the Mid-States Invitational on February 17. The team had three individual champions in 17 top-eight finishes.

Evan Burge '24 won the 141 lb championship, Chase Baczek '25 won the 184 lb division, and Neil Johnson '27 won the 197 lb division.

The Little Giants will compete at the NCAA Division III Central Region Tournament at Ohio Northern University March 1-2.