



FEBRUARY 13, 2026

Scarlet Honors Weekend II hopes to secure more future Wabash men

BRADY REEVES '29
STAFF WRITER

Scarlet Honors is right around the corner yet again. Every year there are two scarlet honors events hosted by the college, where potentially-incoming students stay in fraternities and independent living units, learn more about life at Wabash College and attend class with Wabash professors. So, what can we expect from this weekend?

Scarlet honors is a huge draw for recruits. Fraternity houses will be packed for rush events and walkways will be covered in tours. Many incoming students will make their choice for Wabash and fraternities that night. Many students that are currently enrolled have fond memories of their Scarlet Honors weekend.

"It is one of our most popular events among incoming prospects," said Senior Associate Director of Admissions and Director of Pre-College Programs Tyler Wade '12. "About 67% of all students who attend this event end up attending Wabash."

As a college we will get some new faces on campus and what could be a chance to show them what our brotherhood truly means. This is a great opportunity to be helpful to these new students because it takes all of us to recruit not just admissions and fraternities. While students may gripe about the extra work Scarlet Honors weekends put on their plates, administrators caution that it's important to think about who visiting high schoolers will become.

"There's a good chance that these students will be your brothers next year, so you should help

them feel welcome," said Conner Taylor '24. "Be open and upfront with every guy that you meet."

Fraternities will use this time to give out some bids to new recruits. These houses can show off what they have accomplished and some of the standards they hold. Most houses will hold a rush event that can vary from casino night to indoor hockey tournaments.

"We are planning on having a big game night with the recruits and brothers," said Phi Gamma Delta Aiden Amick '28. "We will have games like FIFA, UFC, NBA 2K and Madden up all night."

Last Scarlet Honors was on a Friday night until Saturday morning. Many students are wondering what the reason is for this one to be on Sunday and Monday.

"The reason that this Scarlet Honors is on Sunday and Monday is because of President's Day," said Wade. "Most schools have off for that Monday, and it is easy for families to make it to campus with the extra day off."

"The IHSAA [Indiana High School Athletic Association] also does not allow for events to be on Sundays, so we are able to bring in winter and spring athletes," said Taylor. "Our school has a good portion of athletes, so making sure that as many can attend as possible is crucial to recruiting."

Sunday night will be a brief one for many students, though, due to classes in the morning for most. This makes it difficult for many rush chairs to get a full gauge of incoming students and for the recruits to get comfortable with the brothers.

"Even though football players have an early morning on Monday,

we plan to still have them around to work the event and have these new guys see brothers of the house," said Sigma Chi Jack Gause '29.

For incoming recruits, the quick turnaround from Sunday to Monday may give them a fuller view of what Wabash is really like. Having the events the night before, then seeing those same guys go to class the next morning will be a great sign of what it means to be a Wabash man.

"This is an academic institution and we like showing recruits that we can both have a good time and we can also be academically oriented," said Taylor. "It's cool to see what the day is really like for students, especially with the mock class that they are attending."

Most students will get here Sunday afternoon, while some will get here earlier if they are flying in from far away. This weekend will be a busy one with the number of incoming recruits that

will be here.

"With the deadline closed we will have around 194 different families on campus this weekend," said Taylor. "We are hoping for 200 as we continue to get calls for sign ups."

Fraternities will host varying numbers of students, with the universal goal of getting to know the high school students and making choices for the future of their respective fraternities.

"We are expecting between 25 to 30 guys at the Sigma Chi house this weekend," said Gause. "We are planning for a great night with these guys and hope to give out plenty of bids."

All of campus is hoping for a smooth sailing Scarlet Honors this semester. Admissions and rush chairs have been working hard to make sure that as many students as possible show up to campus and get a taste of life at Wabash. Though the Sunday-Monday arrangement is unusual, Wabash students — true to form — plan to



PHOTO COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

The Scarlet Honors Weekend banner adorns the Pioneer Chapel in preparation for students' arrivals.

Fulbright Wabash once again a top producer

OWEN VERMEULEN '28
NEWS EDITOR

One of the things people tell you when you're a wide-eyed freshman right off the bus is that college offers a wealth of opportunity, and one of the best opportunities is to study abroad and see the world. For many, the idea of paying for a plane ticket, let alone college tuition, makes studying abroad a pipedream. Fortunately, the Fulbright program makes this dream a reality for a fortunate few.

Wabash has been named a top Fulbright producer for the 2025-2026 year, having sent six students to assignments in Europe and South America. These six finalists were trimmed from nine semifinalists out of 12 applicants. The honor of being named a top producer indicates Wabash's continued excellence in post-graduate placement.

The Fulbright program is a highly competitive, merit-based international exchange program. They give out more than 8,000 grants a year, funding research in more than 140 nations worldwide. There is a lengthy application process that includes submitting personal statements, grant proposals, letters of recommendations and transcripts.

Even with such a lengthy application process and strong competition among applicants, Wabash has been one of the top producing colleges in terms of Fulbright recipients. Over the past 11 years, Wabash has had 146 Fulbright applicants; of that 146, 31 were awarded a Fulbright scholarship. Much of this success has been guided by Wabash's Fellowship Advisor, Susan Albrecht.

"Wabash men have a lot to offer," said Albrecht. "It's just a matter of getting applicants to recognize what they have to offer. So I think it's a lot

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"Tuesdays at the 'Tute" have standing room only for first two weeks



PHOTO BY DAGIM HUNTINGTON '29

A Wabash College student visits a table at the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies before this past Tuesday's "Tuesday at the 'Tute" event.

DAGIM HUNTINGTON '29
STAFF WRITER

"Tuesdays at the 'Tute" is a recurring Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies (MXIBS) event during Black History Month. Each Tuesday of February at 12p.m. the MXIBS hosts a Black speaker who lectures on what it means to be a Black person in modern America.

Associate Professor of English and Black Studies Timothy Lake opened the event on the first Tuesday of the month by talking about the history of Wabash College and quizzing the audience on their knowledge of its origins. He emphasized the importance of honoring those who came before, including Wabash's first Black dean, who recently passed away.

Lake talked about how our college, though beautiful, is built from slavery and inherent racism. His talk began by poetically weaving together historical moments and figures connected to Wabash. He discussed the 1843 commencement and highlighted William Tommy, a previous president of the college and a plantation owner who, in 1810, held between 40 and 600 people in bondage. Tommy later married into one of the largest

slave holding families and was related to Charles White. Lake explained that several early college leaders, including President Bladwin, came from New England and carried complicated views on slavery with

"We are depriving ourselves of the Black woman perspective of this country."

- Associate Professor of English Julian Whitney

them.

Lake believes it's a misconception that people associated with the college supported abolition in the same ways we do now. He questioned whether Wabash truly stood against slavery or simply supported abolition in theory, especially with the sitting president at the time being as starkly conservative as he was.

"They promoted the idea that formerly enslaved people should leave the country," said Lake.

He believes that parts of Wabash's past have been hidden or left without full background, including stories connected to Presbyterian churches and the institution's found-

ing.

"We can make up for our history," said Lake. "We need to look at our history and look at it in its eyes"

This past Tuesday, Associate Professor of English Julian Whitney spoke. Whitney's presentation shifted the focus to Black literary voices in Indiana. He highlighted Ross Gay's work as an example of how contemporary literature from Black voices is not as seen, and how to deal with racial identity.

Whitney critiqued Wabash's faculty composition, highlighting the lack of certain demographics.

"We are depriving ourselves of the Black woman perspective of this country," Whitney said.

The first two presentations of the month have filled the MXIBS room from wall to wall, so plan to arrive early to next week's iteration if you want a seat. These presentations are not just for the administrators to reflect on the college but also the the students to think about the Black image in this country and the responsibilities we have as a community in this college.

Wabash United seeks to bolster campus unity

ELIJAH WETZEL '27
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

If there's one question on the mind of almost every American today, it's this: "How do we bring people together and bridge the gaps between us in meaningful ways?" Next week, the Wabash College Athletics Department will take a stab at that pertinent topic in its own right through Wabash United Week, which will consist of programming, activities and giveaways mostly centered around next week's athletic matches.

The first Wabash United Week was held last February, but the idea was born the prior fall. From the start, the goal was to bring people together.

"There is diversity in our teams that makes us stronger, and that is intentional," said Associate Athletic Director Allison Manwell-Huppert. "Sport — especially at Wabash, where so many of our students are student athletes — should be something that brings us together and is a celebration of community."

Wabash United Week will kick-off Sunday, February 15 with the home volleyball game versus Westminster. People are invited to pick up a free game day rally towel with which they can cheer for Wabash during the basketball, tennis and lacrosse matchups later in the week. Similar to last year's programming, a panel

discussion — this year moderated by Head Football Coach Jake Gilbert '98 — will feature Monday, February 16 at 7:30pm in Salter Hall. The event is open to the public, and all attendees will get a free T-shirt.

"Last year, our kick-off panel, moderated by [Head Track and Field] Coach Morgan and featuring former teammates and roommates Brian Parks '18 and Brient Hicks '18, was powerful," said Manwell-Huppert. "We'll repeat that event on Monday night, this year moderated by Coach Gilbert and featuring Nikko Morris '21, AJ Akinraba '15, Lorenze Billups '15 and Colin Rinne '18."

Student-athletes also played a role in the development of Wabash United Week. The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) engaged in conversations with event planners to raise issues and perspectives that are important to students.

"This year there's been a lot more emphasis on putting forward events that naturally create community," said SAAC Executive Committee member Morgan Govekar '26. "I think last year there was a lot of pushing unity, which is great, but there wasn't a lot of community-driven focus behind it. This year the emphasis has been on ensuring a shared mission of what we want Wabash to look like. When we say 'Wabash United,' what does that mean to us? It's student experiences that influence that."

Wabash United Week also coincides with a by-invitation community dinner on February 17. Special Assistant to the President for Belonging and Community and Associate Professor of English Jill Lamberton, played an important role in this year's and last year's Wabash United Week.

"Lamberton is an expert in this area, and she has been a tremendous consultant for Wabash United," said Manwell-Huppert. "This year, as we've welcomed a new athletic director and new dean of students, she has been instrumental."

In a time when America is searching for ways to come together, Wabash United Week seeks to move the needle in the direction of togetherness, one game at a time.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Zach Waits '28 sports a Wabash United Shirt during a Wabash basketball game on February 12, 2025.

News around the world



COURTESY OF RADIO FREE EUROPE

Iranian Nobel Prize winner, Narges Mohammadi sentenced to seven years following hunger strike and dissent in Tehran.

CARTER RAMSEY '29
STAFF WRITER

Iranian Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Sentenced to Seven Years in Prison

Iran has sentenced Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Narges Mohammadi to seven more years in prison following a hunger strike in order to reduce nationwide dissent as a result of protests in Tehran. The conviction comes after a meeting with the U.S. over Nuclear agreements following threats made by President Trump. Mohammadi's lawyer Mostafa Nili confirmed that the sentencing was handed down by a revolutionary court Sunday February 8. This type of court typically cannot be questioned or allowed any contest from defendants. The charges are related to Mohammadi committing 'Gathering and Collusion' as well as creating propaganda. This sentence is another example of the harsh government retaliation to protests throughout Iran demanding regime change. Mohammadi was previously imprisoned for similar charges, but was released temporarily in December due to medical concerns. Iranian officials have warned other

protestors in the nation that others will be met with similar consequences in the future if the dissent continues.

Venezuela Prosecutor Orders Arrest for Ally of Opposition Leader hours after release

The top prosecutor in Venezuela shared that his office has ordered the arrest for one of the top allies to Maria Corina Machado, the leader of the Opposition movement in Venezuela. Juan Pablo Guanipa was released from detention 12 hours before the order as a move from the government to free those who were detained for politically driven purposes. The orders were defended by a claim that said Guanipa did not comply with the conditions of his release, but the specific violations were not mentioned. Guanipa's son, Ramòn, said that his father was taken around midnight Sunday, February 8, by men in a fleet of vehicles dressed in civilian clothing and were armed. Ramòn also argued against the allegations against his father, claiming the Guanipa compiled with all conditions of his release. This arrest is another twist in the political unrest in

Venezuela following the capture of the nation's president Nicolás Maduro on January 3.

Trump Threatens to Block Opening of Bridge Near Canada's Border

President Trump has threatened to delay the opening of a new bridge that gives Americans access to Canada if they do not comply with a list of issues from President Trump amid an ever-growing trade war.

The Gordie Howe International Bridge is set to open early this year to allow travel from Detroit to Ontario, but President Trump is threatening to delay the opening until "The United States is fully compensated for everything we have given them, and also, importantly, Canada treats the United States with the fairness and respect that we deserve."

The Canadian chamber of commerce has denounced President Trump's claim saying that the delay would only cause more harm for the United States and less for Canada. The exact method of how the opening would be blocked, considering the bridge is mostly funded by Canada. Since his inauguration, President Trump has continued to seek ways to receive justice for things that are viewed as unfair towards the United States, such as tariffs and threats of annexation. This new threat is just one of the many developments in tensions between the U.S. and its northern neighbor.

Bitcoin takes a nosedive

PHILLIP HARVEY '29
STAFF WRITER

\$2,000,000,000. That's the dollar amount excised from the cryptocurrency market recently in the single greatest correction it has ever seen. The gold rush of crypto has run directly off of a cliff.

The worst market correction, or perhaps rug pull, happened to Bitcoin which experienced an excess of 50% drop in value. Since its peak of over \$126,000 per unit in October 2025 after an ascension caused by President Trump's pro-crypto policies, the virtual currency plummeted to around \$60,000.

A broad market trend is a feeling of optimism that leads to investment in just about anything. The reverse is just as true here. The causes range from market-shifting macroeconomic policy to regulatory crackdowns and debate over the very nature of cryptocurrencies.

contradictory notions of making money quickly (especially in the case of so called "meme-coins") and low interest rate investment opportunities for more reputable cryptocurrencies.

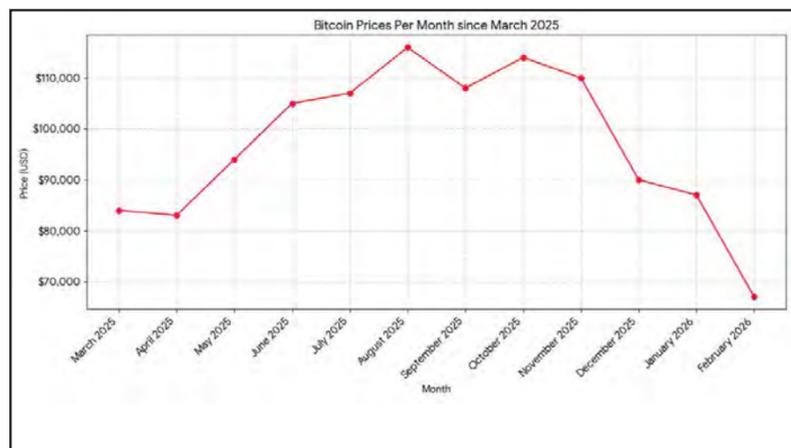
Because of the easy-money philosophy, shifts toward more disciplined, long-game monetary theory have catalyzed the fall-off. The primary change in this math came when the United States Federal Reserve pivoted towards long-term inflation control instead of allowing for excess liquidity. To drive the point home, President Trump nominated Kevin Warsh to be the next chair of the Federal Reserve. Warsh is a known monetary hawk whose long-term growth philosophy would disadvantage high-risk sectors.

The next major factor in the drop is an ironic one — institutional investment which once legitimized stablecoins was the largest material cause in cutting

Therein lies the greatest issue revolving around cryptocurrencies: they are only as valuable as we think they will be. The market revolves around vibes. "The biggest mistake in crypto would be in thinking of it as a currency," said Dunaway. "Crypto is a commodity. It's like a barrel of gas in that we trade it amongst ourselves for currency. Even though we can buy something for it, it doesn't quite behave as a currency because people hoard it."

It's meant to be its own virtual fiat currency, but the cycle of buying, speculative hoarding and then selling back into money makes it like a more volatile version of precious metal assets. Unlike precious metal, however, crypto isn't an inherently valuable material asset, making the whole deal somewhat illusory.

"A pro-crypto president comes in. The vibes are good



GRAPHIC BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Bitcoin's price fluctuations from March 2025 to February 2026.

Bitcoin's historic peak was preceded by a series of pro-crypto policy shifts almost immediately after Trump's second inauguration. Upon taking office in January, he published a series of executive orders disassembling the regulatory structures around crypto.

Chiefly, the "Strengthening American Leadership in Digital Financial Technology" order created a new crypto task force at the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The single greatest move by the administration was the establishment of the Strategic Bitcoin Reserve, which effectively rebranded Bitcoin from a speculative asset to a sovereign reserve, similar to gold and silver.

"I like to equate it more to the printing press," said BKT Assistant Professor of Economics Eric Dunaway. "The problem when they were invented was they could only print Bibles and very few people could read. You've got all this cool technology sitting around that you can't make use of."

Central to the downturn is a fundamental shift in the global narrative that fueled crypto's rise. For most of its existence, crypto has simultaneously flourished on the

away in its value. When the SEC approved the first Bitcoin electronic transfer funds (ETFs) all the way back in January 2024, the idea was that Wall Street's broad shoulders would keep crypto free of volatility.

The opposite to that idea has been shown these first two weeks of February. Investment institutions like Goldman Sachs, BlackRock and Grayscale, in addition to hedge funds exiting selling assets, is what has driven the lion's share of the fall. Bitcoin ETFs lost over 2.8 billion. Once the prices fell below a certain level, institutional funds built on preserving capital automatically had to sell as well.

Changes in regulation added fuel to the fire. China just this month issued a ban on crypto tied to the yuan so that it may make its own digital currency. This move effectively cut off Asian routes traders may have relied on for liquidity. Meanwhile, in Washington, the CLARITY Act, meant to provide a definitive legal framework for digital assets, stalled in the Senate. If optimistic attitudes caused the major investment into Bitcoin before, the chill in regulatory structure has caused a correction.

and the prices go up," said Dunaway. "People quickly buy-in then sell just to get out. I worry we have seen an increasing number of rug pulls happening over the past couple years. I'm not going to attribute that to the president, but it definitely has created an environment for that to happen when we're buying commodities."

Long-term investment strategies may very well reign for the foreseeable future. It is very likely the best strategy for young men with years of potential growth and development ahead of us. Given recent crypto crashes, it certainly seems to be the best path forward right now. Bitcoin is not down for the count, however.

"The short term change is significant, but I do not believe it is an indicator of long term loss of confidence in Bitcoin broadly," said Isaac Grannis '26. "The minors who make money from Bitcoin have recovered their work with the blockchain. The people with the greatest stake believe it will recover."

Market tides come in and out, so even if it is not now, Bitcoin will almost assuredly become a potentially valuable asset in the future.

Wabash: Top Fulbright producer

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of effort on the students' part to put forward the best case that they can."

Albrecht has been doing just that with the students of Wabash. During last year's selection process, Wabash had nine of 12 applicants make it to the semifinals.

"I could never have imagined applying for the Fulbright scholarship when I arrived at Wabash," said Evan Bone '26, a semifinalist in this year's Fulbright selection process. "Such an acclaimed and well-known scholarship can be quite intimidating, but that intimidation disappeared the more I talked with Susan Albrecht. She provided myself and other students with so much support and

information that it took the fear out of the process."

As much as this success is a symptom of Wabash's culture of involvement, it's also a result of the broader small liberal arts experience.

"I think it's more about the small liberal arts colleges and what their students offer from a broad experiential background," said Albrecht.

Although the Fulbright is extremely competitive, there is still a lot to be gained from the application process.

"The process of applying challenged me to consider my experiences in mentoring and educational roles," said Bone. "I connected experiences in K-12 to my desire to teach, giving me

clarity as I enter a period of my life full of uncertainty. Working through the application reassured me of my aspirations."

The most important advice for potential Fulbright applicants is just to apply and see what happens.

"It's a little scary to apply for something when you know you're going up against applicants from around the country," said Albrecht. "You just don't know what's going to happen. There's value in the process, there's value in trying and putting yourself out there. And sometimes you get selected. I think more students should absolutely apply for [the Fulbright]."

Dill & Coons funds support students' summer work

ELIJAH WETZEL '27
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In the race to secure a summer internship or research appointment, money — to support themselves during the summer and to help pay next year's school bills — is often an important factor for students. The goal of the Dill and Coons funds is to ensure that money is not a limiting factor for students, and to allow them to seize opportunities to further their education and career they otherwise may not have had.

While their overarching mission is similar, the requirements for funding differ. The Dill Fund, established through a gift from G. Michael Dill '71, can support a variety of experiences, but the experience must be unpaid internship w/ non-profit, self-created research project or a service or study program.

"The Dill Fund in particular is very flexible as far as subject matter, so it's a great opportunity to dive into a topic or interest that we may not specifically offer at Wabash and leverage to build up what you've learned here

to prepare you for your next goal," said Associate Director of Professional Development Emily Hall.

The Coons Fund — established by brothers Phillip '67 and Stephen M. '63 Coons in memory of their parents, Harold M. '32 and Margaret R. Coons — supports unpaid experiences related to public service or public affairs. In recent years, the Coons fund has supported student internships with NPR, Congress and Amnesty International, among others.

Prasun Panthi '27 received funding from the Dill Fund last summer to study mathematics — namely, how to apply a direct mathematical concept called "A-contraction" to a physical scenario — with a professor in Nepal. Panthi, a physics major with plans to pursue a PhD, was daunted by the high costs associated with traveling to Nepal and supporting himself over the summer. But after becoming aware of the Dill Fund, he applied and received funding for his research proposal. By the end of the summer, he was the primary author of a

scientific paper which has now advanced past its first review with a peer-reviewed journal and is available via open-access. Panthi's experience was invaluable.

"It directly connected to my major," said Panthi. "The potential to have a paper like that is a big deal for me since research is the most important thing when you apply for a PhD. Everything tied in together, and it was the perfect opportunity for me."

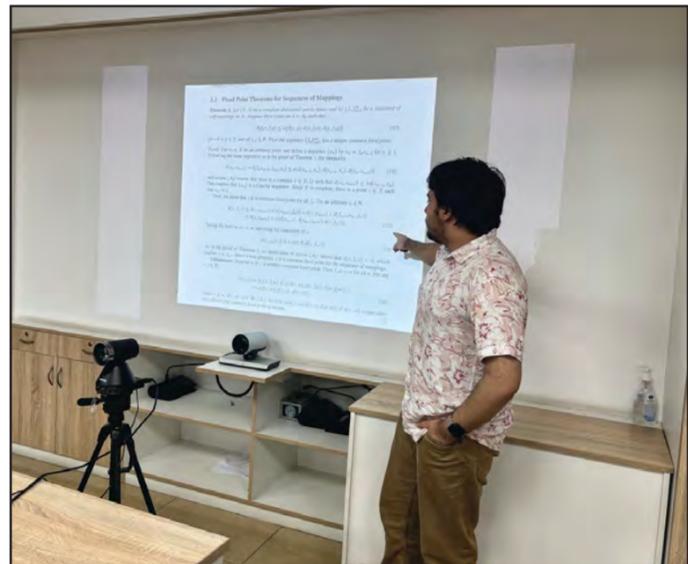
Panthi appreciated that he's been able to get a leg-up on other graduate school applicants because of Wabash. The chance to work with professors doing research has been the biggest payoff of his decision to attend Wabash.

"If you have a good plan and you can show the research's importance to you, then you have a good chance of selection," said Panthi. "For a student who wants to go to graduate school, it's a game-changing opportunity."

Applications for both funds are due February 28, and recommendations are due the following week. Selections

will be announced the first week of March. Students are also encouraged to explore other funding opportunities through Wabash. The Shearer Fellowship is for research or an internship in applied economics and is open for appli-

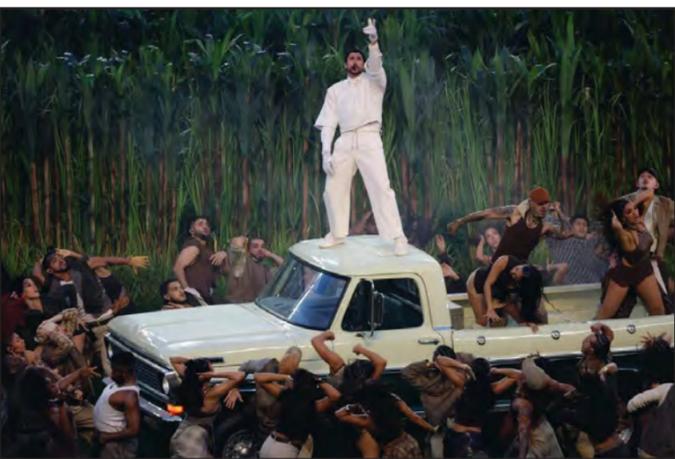
cations until March 28, and the Petty Natural Areas fund, the College's newest fund for students' summer experiences, is open to applications until March 2.



COURTESY OF PRASUN PANTHI '27

Prasun Panthi '27 presents his research over a mathematical concept called "A-contraction" in the summer of 2025.

Bad Bunny's halftime show is deeper than you think



COURTESY OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

Bad Bunny sings atop a truck during the Super Bowl LX Halftime Show.

ALEJANDRO CRUZ '27
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

Halfway through one of the most anticipated sports events of the year, I was starstruck by what I later realized was the best halftime show of my generation, maybe the best show ever. To convince you of this, I don't expect to lean on the political statements he may or may not have made, I won't point to references he sang in my native tongue and I won't rely on a musical genre you might not listen to very often. Instead, I'll focus on some other aspects of this year's show that can be appreciated universally. This includes its storytelling ability, the extremely effective cinematography and the incredible complexity of the show as a whole. Through this short review, I hope to take you on an artistic journey similar to the one Bad Bunny took us on this past Sunday (albeit on

a much smaller scale). A journey that transcends culture, language and political interests. Because music, as Stevie Wonder said, "is a language we all understand."

I will begin with storytelling. Although this is the aspect that seems to depend most on language, the story told could still have been clearly communicated through a TV on mute. "What story was told?" you might ask. Well, it's the story of a community that perseveres. From the get-go (0:40-1:48), Bad Bunny shows us a community that's built around work, food, board games, sports and love. He continues by showing what, on so many occasions, brings that community together, largely through dancing. He shows this community overcoming adversity by continuing to dance amidst a blackout (10:08-11:50) and rushing to unite when he concludes

the show (11:50-13:00). If this sounds familiar, it's because it might just be. Families all across the U.S., people from different socio-economic backgrounds, religions, ethnicities and people who might speak different languages, find time to create and enjoy the communities that they find.

Next, I want to talk about cinematography. Throughout the show, there are a variety of techniques and styles used that convey messages and satisfying aesthetics very effectively. One great example is the lively, choreographed city landscape which is full of colors (7:40-9:04). This scene is reminiscent of Damien Chazelle's *La La Land*, which won six Oscars when it came out in 2017. Other scenes have a heavy Wes Andersonian vibe, like the intro sequence which lays out an entire map in one shot, and the scene where Bad Bunny is dancing on the roof of a house (3:03) centered in a circle of dancers with a bright pink background. Finally, as Bad Bunny walks under the boxes (1:30-1:32), the cameraman tilts the camera bringing us into the scene. Each of these filming techniques and styles serve to engage the audience and differentiate his show from past performances. All of these are aspects that can be picked up regardless of language barriers.

Finally, the most convincing aspect: the complexity of the show. The performance used roughly 700 extras (about 500 of which performed as blades of grass), more than 10 celebrity cameos, multiple transitions to and from pre-taped

material (stitched together live), music from at least five different genres (bachata, salsa, American pop, reggaeton classical music) and it paid homage to some of Bad Bunny's precursors in reggaeton (Daddy Yankee and Don Omar). Every added layer of complexity, and its seamless execution, can be highlighted by this quote from the creative director of the production, Harriet Cuddeford.

"There were so many things that could have caused an issue," said Cuddeford. "But it just kind of almost flawlessly unfolded before our eyes."

If you missed any, or all, of these details or didn't manage to make these connections your first time watching the Super Bowl Halftime Show, don't worry. To BKT Assistant Professor of Music Mollie Ables, that's the point. Prof. Ables, a self-proclaimed Super Bowl halftime show fanatic who just finished teaching a freshman tutorial on these captivating events, believes that this halftime show is meeting the "here's what you missed" trend. Ables believes that the production team is expecting social media influencers and critics to sprint to YouTube and rewatch the performance until all of its pieces can be identified and analyzed. Personally, I've watched the

show about six times and Ables has watched it eight times. We are both confident that we haven't yet seen it all. On a similar token, Professor Juan Hernandez, who was a fan of the show, encourages people to "go down the rabbit hole."

In this short article, there are even more connections and symbols that I didn't have a chance to get to. However, I do hope that you take the time to discover some details for yourself, and maybe engage with other people's opinions on the show. And, most importantly, I hope I've shown that the artistic masterpiece we witnessed on Sunday transcends any and every age, political, linguistic and musical barrier an audience member might face.

It is a testament to the unifying power of music, and it introduced a new horizon for future artists hoping to leave their mark through America's biggest stage.



COURTESY OF THE TODAY SHOW

Thoughtful and strategic: Ron Dostal '92

TOBIN SEIPLE '29
FEATURES EDITOR

It is not shocking that Wabash College, a Fulbright top-producing institution and the best liberal arts school in Indiana according to the U.S. & World News Report, is run by a cohort of outstanding staff. A major component of Wabash's success is the opportunity for students to tap into the alumni network, and at an institution with the fifth best alumni network in the country according to The Princeton Review, keeping Wabash alumni plugged into the college is essential. Ron Dostal '92 heads this mission. Dostal graduated from Wabash College degree in English and received his Masters of Business Administration from the Dartmouth Tuck School of Business. After Wabash, Dostal worked at Deloitte as a consultant, where he participated in a range of roles before his retirement in 2021. He did not settle down for long.

"I was at a point after I retired from my consulting career where I wanted to be of help," said Dostal. "Wabash has always been a guiding force in my life. When the opportunity came up, I thought it would be a great way for me to help, to dedicate myself to the college for a little while."

The opportunity to return to Wabash as Director of Alumni and Affinity Group Engagement was largely thanks to Dean for College Advancement Michelle Janssen. After Dostal repeatedly popped in and out of the college, he seemed like the ideal alumnum to oversee the alumni engagement team.

"Ron did not know that he wanted to work with us," said Janssen. "He retired from a long, distinguished career as a consultant. As a part of his retirement plan he wanted to reconnect at Wabash College in a significant way. He was here a lot, and then I started bumping into him all the time. I thought, 'He would be a great leader of our alumni, parents and friends group. He just doesn't know it yet.' He's very careful,

thoughtful and strategic, which is why he is so great at what he does."

Since Dostal started, he has implemented changes to the Alumni and Affinity Group Engagement team.

"In my previous career, we would say that you can't manage what you can't measure," said Dostal. "It was important for me, when I got on the ground here, to start measuring. We put a model in place so we could measure the percentage of our alumni who are engaged, and that has been very helpful."

Dostal has curiously considered areas that may need further development when it comes to alumni engagement. His love for the college and his professional experience have helped him implement change.

"His ability to take data and tell stories with it in ways that people can understand is a huge gift to us," said Dean Janssen.

Assistant Director of Engagement Deanna Duncan agrees with Janssen that Dostal has run the team well, and credits him for operating with an authentic care for the college and its students.

"His work here is a labor of love in an effort to make the institution that helped make him who he is continue to be a place that changes lives," said Duncan. "His office is an amazing display of a Wabash alumnus who genuinely loves this place."

Clearly an influential leader, Dostal does not take what Wabash has for granted. Wabash is already a high-ranking institution as far as alumni engagement goes, however, he does not want to settle for less.

"Even though we have 40% alumni participation, which places us at top five in the country, we can still do better," said Janssen. "Dostal can see where that drop off happens. That is what Ron has been able to articulate for our staff."

As a part of his role, Dostal also has an engagement with students from the Center for Innovation, Business and Entrepreneurship (CIBE). Brady Redelman '28, a CIBE

Lead Consultant who works with Dostal, appreciates learning from him.

"Working with Ron has been a great experience because he gives us the freedom to develop innovative approaches," said Redelman. "He genuinely listens to our ideas. He encourages trial and error and consistently frames work around learning and improvement rather than perfection."

Dostal carries a proven track record of prudence and productivity. He works to ensure the college maintains solid relations with its alumni, and that comes from a personal place of respect for those who came before him.

"I was really fortunate in the time that I was here," said Dostal. "I was president of the Delta Tau Delta house for two semesters, and during that time I worked with members of the house corporation and some other alumni. I saw that model of giving back. I think that really shaped me in terms of giving me an idea of what an involved alumnus dedicated to the college looks like."

Looking ahead, Dostal aims to increase engagement from young alumni.

"We are trying a few intentional strategies," said Dostal. "One of the things we have learned from all the analysis is that almost six out of ten graduates are involved in some fashion with the college. But we reach a level where it takes 10-15 years after graduation for a student to become an involved alumnus, and that suggests in those first 10-15 years there are more opportunities to keep new alumni better involved."

Dostal plans to tailor events towards a younger alumni crowd while continuously maturing relationships with alumni of every kind. His forward thinking yet personal approach has characterized his return to Wabash, and all signs point to that continuing.

'Send Help' brings camp back to theaters

NOAH MINTIE '29
FEATURES EDITOR

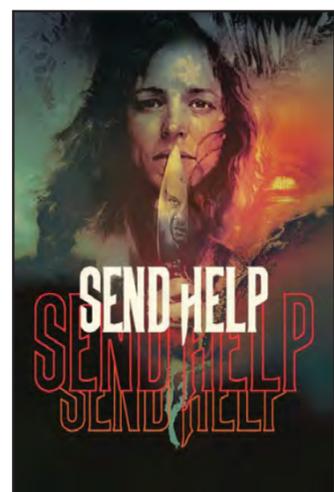
Before setting out to go see Sam Raimi's new horror movie, "Send Help," I described the plot to a friend of mine. He responded that he had already seen the trailer, and it looked like a shallow attempt to cash in on feminism. To be honest, I got a similar vibe from the trailer. Walking out of the theater, my conception of the film greatly changed. I was not sure exactly what the movie was, but it certainly was not that.

The film stars Linda Liddle (Raechel McAdams), a hard-working yet awkward member of a financial management company's strategy & planning department. Her demeanor causes her to be undervalued and passed up on a promotion by her boss Bradley Preston (Dylan O'Brian). When a plane crash strands the two on a remote Pacific island, the roles are reversed thanks to Linda's convenient supply of survival knowledge. If this all sounds unbearably trite, do not worry, the movie thinks so too.

"Send Help" is unsurprisingly battered with Raimi's usual campy tone. He lathers the screen with splattering blood, ridiculous camerawork and goofy jumpscars. As is typically the case with such a niche style, the viewer will either love it or hate it. As someone who is always partial to cinematic subtlety, I aired on the side of hating the film's intentionally tropey writing. Even so, I contracted a large, goofy smile once the style really started to pay off.

Both the plot and the characters become more textured with time. Linda's shopworn demeanor begins to play into her more unique character traits, and by the finale, she morphs from a near-satirization of demeaning tropes into a truly unique character. I more or less predicted this transition, but it still caught me off guard with what the movie decides to do with her character from there. McAdams' performance is insane. She always feels like the same character despite needing to match various energies throughout the movie. The same goes for O'Brian's performance, which starts and ends very differently in the eyes of the audience.

It has been a while since I've seen a movie go from predictable to unpredictable as quickly as "Send Help." The plot lures the viewer in with a derivative and predictable setup. Then it throws in a mix of predictable and surprising twists. Then it ends on such a suspenseful finale that the comfortable predictability from ninety minutes prior feels like ancient history. It is as sudden yet inevitable as the plane crash that lands them there in the first place.



COURTESY OF TMD

Besides the twists and the pulpy style, some of "Send Help" still felt rather banal. For one, about 15% of the plot feels like filler, a product of redundancies in the script. Had the film refrained from setting up Linda's obsession with the wilderness until just before the crash, her filler scenes in the forest would be a shocking contrast to her usual demeanor, and would perhaps be more meaningful. Additionally, while Raimi's directing encourages very unique cinematography and editing, the sound design and the lighting do not embrace the camp quite so wholeheartedly. Neither had a stand-out moment, which dragged the movie down over all.

In the end, I consider "Send Help" to be the kind of movie that is fun to watch but tougher to recommend. When a movie leans so heavily on the appeal of a divisive style, merely doing justice to said style yields diminishing returns. However, even the most hard-hearted viewer will come around to it, especially considering the third act. There is something to be said about the value of an original horror/thriller that keeps one guessing until the very end. There was a time when these genre-films were more widely produced and celebrated, and "Send Help" might just bring the viewer right back to those days.

I try to avoid judging movies based on how good they are for the industry's health. Note that the positive score here comes from the movie's value and not its place in the modern film landscape. Having made that clarification, I would take "Send Help" and all of its camp over a slightly superior yet comparatively voiceless work.

FINAL VERDICT:
3.5/5 WALLYS



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Ron Dostal '92 sits at the Wabash Women's Collective meeting on March 23, 2025 at the Stephenson Institute.

'The Fall-Off' is anything but one for J. Cole



COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

JERRION ROSE '29
STAFF WRITER

Over the course of 2025, many fans of Jermaine Cole, better known as J. Cole, were disappointed with the lack of new releases. Yet, as of February 6th, 2026, J. Cole released his highly anticipated project "The Fall-Off," a two-part mixtape that amplifies what J. Cole is known for. His style of hip-hop with a touch of R&B does not let down fans in this latest release. It has been almost 20 years since he first released his debut mixtape "The Come Up Mixtape Vol. 1" in 2007, and today his music is just as raw.

Within "The Fall-Off" there are a few standout tracks. The third song "SAFETY" is a reflection on J. Cole's fame and relationships through the perspective of a long lost friend. Unlike many artists today, J. Cole's music is intended to outline his feelings and opinions on external and internal crises. Throughout the song J. Cole speaks on social injustice topics such as discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community and minorities, gun violence and the price of fame. J. Cole speaks his mind over a relaxed piano melody with horns and

strings complementing the steady beat of the drums. It is a very strong start to the album.

Following up with this intention, J. Cole collaborated on a deep track with a feature from the legendary rapper Future. "Run A Train" combines chill boombap with Future's trap like vocals that he is known for. The song hooks you into the album as you vibe to beat. Future's delivery is perfect because he matches the tone and approach with the lyrics of the song, showing off his ability as an artist to express emotion. J. Cole and Future have only released three songs together throughout their careers. Despite the fact, "Run A Train" is a testament to their chemistry and as veterans in the music industry.

One of the best aspects of J. Cole's album is his understanding of infamous hip-hop and how he incorporates it into his project. "Bunce Road Blues" once again features an addictive chorus from Future in addition to introspective melodies from Nigerian singer-songwriter Tems. The song remixes the famous R&B singer Usher's 2009 song "Nice & Slow." J. Cole's rendition of "Nice

& Slow" is refreshing and Future's modern take is the cherry on top. Overall, this song has a blend of authentic poetry and brilliant musicianship.

It's impossible to question J. Cole's lyricism when you can't stop making the stank face at every other bar. "Drum n Bass," a song displayed in the middle of "The Fall-Off" displays Cole's critical word play. Some lines do not instantly click with the listener but that's the beauty of J. Cole's work.

Although the album is mostly hip-hop or rap, J. Cole has range. One of the songs on the album "The Let Out" combines everything. The song opens like a Corridos tumbados (a subgenre of regional Mexican music, mixing components from Trap and corridos) and then the beat drops. The intro is so unforgettable, it stands out from the rest of the album. In this song, J. Cole is finally singing again; his background vocals and adlibs transform the song into a masterpiece. Similarly to other highlights in the album, this song has a memorable chorus.

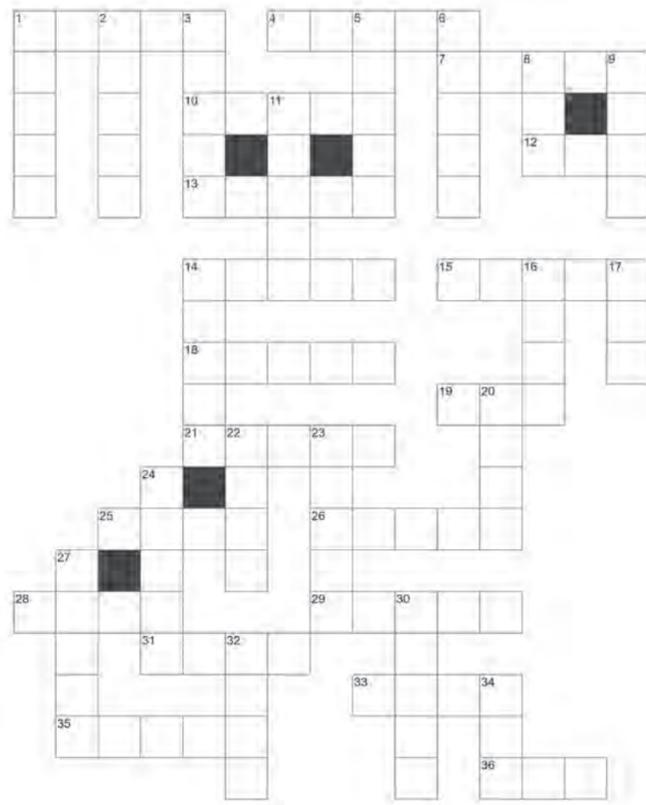
Overall this album is one of those you vibe out to on a road trip. Many of the songs sound the same, which is expected considering the pocket J. Cole fits in. However, the head boppers sprinkled in throughout the project helps it feel more like an album as opposed to a mixtape. J. Cole did not release a project in 2025, and this year he starts off right by unleashing what he's been perfecting. One thing to appreciate about J. Cole is his authenticity. After he released his album he began selling physical copies in CD form out of his car. I haven't heard of artists selling their projects on the street since Eminem and his debut album Infinite in the late 1990s. It's a Cole world and we're just living in it.

FINAL VERDICT:
3.5/5 WALLY'S



'Themeless'

Crossword by Tanner Quackenbush '26



Across

- 1. Sweet or noticeable scent
- 4. Without company
- 7. Break down over time
- 10. Remove written marks
- 12. Old Testament high priest
- 13. Extraterrestrial being
- 14. Watchful and ready
- 15. Silly or foolish
- 18. Deliver a speech
- 19. Miner's find
- 21. Go inside
- 25. A region or district
- 26. Hold in deep affection
- 28. Relaxation or repose
- 29. Electronic message
- 31. Revise text
- 33. On the ocean
- 35. Top tier
- 36. A distinct period of history

Down

- 1. Book of maps
- 2. Dramatic musical work
- 3. Sports venue
- 5. Vast body of water
- 6. Spooky or strange
- 8. Single digit
- 9. To send out or give forth
- 11. Emerge or come into being
- 14. Make amends
- 16. Having the power to do something
- 17. Large Australian bird
- 20. Uncommon or scarce
- 22. Tidy and orderly
- 23. Make very happy
- 24. Very angry
- 27. Perception or feeling



Scan for answers!

Haiden Diemer-McKinney: The busiest man behind the scenes

Class of 2026 senior spotlight

PAUL HAWKSWORTH '28
ONLINE EDITOR

Very few college students achieve as much off-campus as they do on campus, but Haiden Diemer-McKinney '26 is one of those rare students with experience beyond campus that can match his prodigious career on campus. An economics major and business minor from Brownsburg, Indiana, Diemer-McKinney still has his fair share of campus involvements, serving on the cross-country and track and field teams at Wabash as well as part of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee, Glee Club, Athletic Communications and as a staff writer and Opinion Editor for *The Bachelor* during his time as a student.

Diemer-McKinney is among the most accomplished runners in Wabash's history. He has a long list of achievements including being a four time North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) champion; a two-

time NCAA national qualifier, including a third place finish in the indoor 800 meter as a freshman, earning him NCAA All-American honors; a 12-time recipient of all-NCAC honors and the school record holder in the indoor 800 and 600 meter.

"If you're doing something to try to maximize your potential and you're trying to chase something greater, do it. Don't let anyone stop you because the sky is truly the limit of what you can achieve here."

- Haiden Diemer-McKinney '26

"I want to leave a good mark," said Diemer-McKinney. "Not just performance based,

but also as a person. I want to be seen as someone that did things the right way and as someone who finished their career giving it all to this program that's stuck with me."

Head Cross Country Coach Tyler McCreary recruited Diemer-McKinney out of high school. While he knew Diemer-McKinney had a great running talent, McCreary was especially impressed by the discipline, passion, leadership and consistency he saw from Diemer-McKinney.

"Elite athletes often have big moments, but Haiden distinguishes himself through his daily habits — the way he prepares, the intensity he brings to practice and his commitment to continual improvement," said McCreary. "That kind of consistency reflects maturity and a deep respect for his sport and his teammates. Haiden represents the culture of excellence, resilience and integrity that defines elite competitors at Wabash College."

Diemer-McKinney's athletic career hasn't been without setbacks. After earning NCAA All-American honors in his freshman year, injuries have limited Diemer-McKinney's opportunities to run at the highest level, but that hasn't stopped his dedication to the sport or program.

"Haiden represents the culture of excellence, resilience and integrity that defines elite competitors at Wabash College"

- Head Cross Country Coach Tyler McCreary

"Haiden was always able to come back from those injuries to perform at a high level, just not to the expectation that he would set for himself," said McCreary. "That's the competitor in him. I've been amazed

by Haiden's resilience and his ability to have a positive attitude through all of it. I never saw him act selfishly when he wasn't where he wanted to be."

Now nearing the end of his collegiate running career, Diemer-McKinney has the goal of being present for himself and for the program that has given so much to him.

"Because of the time that coach has put in, and the belief he has in all of us, I want to be present and pay back that dedication," said Diemer-McKinney. "Be present and give your all to the program because there's still time to do something special, and that has to be the mindset."

But what's been, arguably, even more impressive for Diemer-McKinney are the career opportunities he's pursued while being a full-time student. While at Wabash, Diemer-McKinney has had internships with the Indy Eleven, a United Soccer League Championship soccer club, the NCAC, the NCAA and the Indianapolis Colts in athletic and gameday communications, as well as media coordination. All of which are opportunities he got, in part, thanks to fellow Wabash men.

"Take advantage of opportunities and don't be afraid to put yourself out there," said

Diemer-McKinney. "If there's something you want badly, then the alumni network here is going to work just as hard to get it for you, and that's what's so special about this place."

One such Wabash man is Athletic Communication Director Brent Harris H'03. Introduced to Diemer-McKinney as a prospective student, Harris immediately knew there was something special about Diemer-McKinney and his passion for working in sports.

"Very rarely do I get students that come in with the understanding that there is a lot of work involved and they're not afraid to do it," said Harris. "Haiden has taken it to another level. I think he really understood as a senior in high school that there really are a lot of things that go on behind the scenes, and he's never been afraid to get his hands dirty."

After graduating in May, Diemer-McKinney is looking to stay in athletic communications and is pursuing opportunities both in the NFL and with the NCAA. The value of continual improvement is one Diemer-McKinney holds very highly. He wants to leave Wabash giving students the advice to not pigeon-hole themselves into doing one thing or letting other people stand in the way of their passions.

"Don't be afraid to be involved, but also don't be afraid to change your interests," said Diemer-McKinney. "If you're doing something to try to maximize your potential and you're trying to chase something greater, do it. Don't let anyone stop you, because the sky is truly the limit of what you can achieve here."



COURTESY OF HAIDEN DIEMER-MCKINNEY '26

Haiden Diemer-McKinney '26 volunteers at the 2026 Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl on January 9, 2026 at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, Georgia.

Seeing the ground we stand on



Chayce Howell '27

Reply to this opinion at cjhowell27@wabash.edu

The Bachelor, in partnership with Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse, launched this recurring column to reflect how students are thinking about campus life, current events and the broader world. Each week, a small group of randomly selected Wabash students gathers for a facilitated conversation. Rather than offering conclusions or arguments, the column captures how students are making sense of complex issues in real time.

This week's discussion centered on race, unequal opportunity and the ways history continues to shape lived experience, both nationally and on campus. This topic was in part inspired by the "Brotherhood Unproved" Chapel Talk from Javon Garry '27, Hayden Lewter '26, Maximus Rosa '26 and Quinn Scholar '26.

The conversation opened with reflections on Maximus's removal and placement of his shoes during the talk to make inequality visible. Each shoe, one white one black, placed far apart represented a different set of constraints or freedoms experienced by Wabash men from different backgrounds. The gap between the shoes served as a reminder of what needs to be overcome to even be at the same place. These differences are found not only economically, but socially and historically as well.

"Beyond just an institutional level, people are born with different opportunities depending on their skin color and background," one participant noted.

That idea framed much of what followed. Attention turned to the persistence of longstanding advantages and disadvantages, even as the language surrounding them evolves. References to redlining, barriers to upward mobility and unequal access to education surfaced repeatedly.

Participants also acknowledged how these patterns can be difficult to recognize, particularly for those who do not experience them directly.

"As a white person, it is hard to see it when you aren't affected by it, but it's still there," another student said.

From there, the discussion gradually shifted toward Wabash and its efforts in recruiting and retaining students. Several students shared the belief that the college faces challenges in recruiting and supporting African American students. Others contrasted this with what they viewed as Wabash's relative success in attracting and supporting Hispanic and Latino students.

"Hispanic students are given a lot more than Black students in many ways," one participant commented.

These comparisons, students noted, reflected

perceptions formed through personal experience rather than judgments about institutional intent. Still, the feeling of uneven resource distribution emerged as a recurring theme.

Questions about institutional priorities did surface. Several students expressed concern that viewing higher education primarily through a business lens could complicate efforts to invest in programs that foster diversity and belonging. One idea raised was strengthening Black Studies as a way to naturally attract more Black students while expanding opportunities for learning across campus.

Throughout the conversation, participants consistently emphasized the importance of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies (MXIBS). Students described the MXIBS as central to building community, creating visibility and supporting cultural engagement.

The discussion then moved toward campus climate and lived experience.

Experiences, students suggested, vary widely. Some participants described Wabash as generally welcoming. Others spoke about moments that complicate that picture.

One student noted that racism is not always overt. Another referenced incidents that shaped their sense of belonging, including slurs written on and in campus buildings. Together, these reflections underscored how campus climate can look different depending on perspective and experience.

Participants acknowledged this tension directly. Some said they rarely witnessed racism firsthand. Others described social spaces, conversations and anonymous online platforms where hostility still surfaces.

Across those differences, many students returned to the importance of voice and visibility. Increasing the presence of Black perspectives, participants argued, could deepen understanding and reduce misconceptions over time.

Students also reflected on who is most likely to influence change. Peer-led dialogue emerged as a recurring theme. "If we had students give that talk as opposed to professors, that would go a long way," one participant said.

As the conversation turned toward questions of progress, participants expressed both hope and frustration.

"Systemic change takes time, and the way to proceed forward is never clear," one student observed.

Disagreement emerged around how change should unfold. Some participants argued for stronger accountability measures in response to explicitly racist behavior. Others cautioned against approaches rooted primarily in punishment.

"I don't want to change racism through fear," one student said.

Despite differing views, participants shared a recognition that progress can feel slow and fragile. Several reflected on how quickly or slowly campus culture shifts as students graduate and new students arrive. Confronting race, students acknowledged, is not a problem to be solved once, but a tension that resists definitive answers. And there is work to be done.

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

KID ROCKS SILENTLY

Lo-Five to Kid Rock for lip-syncing during the TPUSA alternative Super Bowl halftime show. We heard next year's show will just be a silent disco.

SLOPE DOGG

Hi-Five to Snoop Dogg for being a dawg at the Olympic Winter Games in Italy. He jumped at the opportunity to get high on the slopes without reading the full description.

'BOOM BOOM BOOM'

Hi-Five to the Rhynes for keeping the skies clear. Is it a coincidence that the sun came out when the Rhynes arrived? We think not.

WE'RE SO ZUBAC(K)

Hi-Five to the Pacers for acquiring big man Ivica Zubac at the trade deadline. This is the first notable thing they've done since breaking our hearts back in June.

RELATIONSHIP ON ICE

Lo-Five to the Norwegian biathlete who admitted to cheating on his girlfriend on TV. Though he can lay claim to five rings, we're confident a sixth will not be in his future.

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

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

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

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

Shad's Supper: Seconds at Second City Cafe



Shad Wilson '27

Reply to this opinion at sawilson27@wabash.edu

Philly cheesesteak, and let me tell you, it was a top three cheesesteak in my life. It was on a loaf of garlic bread with provolone, and the meat was perfectly tender and juicy. I love my meat with an extra bit of juice. The chips that came with both meals seemed to be just original wavy lays — nothing remarkable. That sandwich cost me \$12.95. The sandwich was incredible and I can't recommend it enough.

Overall, I spent \$25 including the tip. Second City Cafe earns a 8.7/10 burbers (knowers will know). The cheesesteak alone was a 9.5, but the grilled cheese was too mediocre to push the rating; I also have to factor in that these prices were for two half sandwiches as well. It is definitely still a great place to eat in Crawfordsville especially as a broke college student looking for food nearby.



PHOTO BY SHAD WILSON '27

Second City Cafe's prime location makes it ideal for Wallies looking for a bite to eat.

Wallies in the wild: Burst the Wabash bubble



Sam Brewer '22

Life at Wabash can be full of stress, deadlines, extra work and late nights, but I would be lying if I said life after Wabash is much different!

During my time at Wabash, it seemed like my schedule was always full whether it was going to class, running to work, attending a campus event, going to a club meeting or just grinding on homework. Time was always short. After I graduated Wabash though, my life felt a little open-ended. I had my job and daily tasks which would keep me busy, but something felt missing. I was missing the "Wabash bubble," in which I had lived for my four years at Wabash where everybody knew each other and held similar ideas (which was not always for the best). Luckily for me, I was able to replace this bubble because I travel a significant amount for work, which allows me to meet new people and try new things. A great example of this was just having a conversation with strangers I sat next with on a plane while traveling for work. I got to learn from them and their different life experiences, while just sitting and talking. I was able to "pop" my Wabash bubble, and I replaced it with things, people and experiences that challenged my perspective and gave me insight into the world outside the bubble. Looking back now, I know that the bubble can double as an echoing chamber.

During your senior year, time can be especially fleeting when you are planning for your next steps post-graduation. Whether that be lining up a job, continuing your education or just figuring things out; it's not easy no matter what you

choose. Even if you are not a senior, you do not have much more time than they do — just ask any one of them how fast these years go by!

Even though your time is already getting shorter by reading this article, take some of your time and think of those around you. Your senior year can be the most important year at Wabash not only for you, but for your family, friends and your fellow students at Wabash. I encourage you to enjoy the Wabash bubble, go to chapel, join a club or two and go to campus events. Enjoy the bubble, but do not be afraid to use what little extra time you have at Wabash to expand or pop your bubble before leaving. Now is the time to get together with your friends, brothers or just with yourself and try things that challenge you outside of the bubble. Learn from those experiences and bring some of those back into the bubble with you, and you just might inspire someone else to go outside the bubble.

The Wabash bubble, can be a double-edged sword where hate can easily be spread and normalized, but we as Wabash men should think critically and act responsibly to make it so everyone can live humanely. Not only for the benefit of Wabash men, but for everyone outside the bubble as well.



PHOTO COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Sam Brewer '22 smiles on the mall as he takes in his final Chapel Sing as a student on September 22, 2022.

The NBA All-Star weekend needs saving



Photo Editor

Will Duncan '27

Reply to this opinion at
wjduncan27@wabash.edu

When I was a kid, the NBA All-Star Weekend was one of the cornerstones of sports entertainment. I would have to beg my parents to let me stay up late on a Sunday night to watch LeBron and the East take on Curry and the West. The days leading up to the big game would be filled with promising rookies playing against one another in front of all the stars. The best shooters and dunkers would be battling it out for bragging rights across the league. However, in recent years, it almost feels as if the NBA has to beg any player they can find to participate in these events just so they can check a box.

The last three Dunk Contests have been consecutively won by a dude who's played a total of 10 career NBA games. Now, no disrespect to my man Mac McClung, but it's a different type of feeling to watch prime Aaron Gordon versus Zach Lavine in 2016, only to watch a G-League guy facing first and second year players compete a decade later. I mean... one of the four competitors this year has four — yes four career dunks. I think my main gripe is the fact that the NBA felt the need to completely change the format of All-Star weekend to “keep it fresh” when it was at its peak. The only thing it did was make the weekend way too complicated and confusing for no reason. If every event requires a five minute explanation for a casual fan to understand it, it's going to turn people away. I think the most glaring event this affected was the Skills Challenge. I mean, what even is that event now? The last notable thing I've seen from it over the last few years is when

Chris Paul and Wemby were eliminated for cheating the system. If a player's solution to participating in All-Star events is to cheat their way to a win, what's the point of even keeping it going? The three point contest is cool — Steph Curry just needs to stop declining his invitation. The Rising Stars format hurts my head too. Move it back to rookies vs sophomores please. I don't want to watch four teams of seven players play a round-robin. The Celebrity Game was never my thing, but that is true now more than ever. I feel as if I am pretty up to date in the entertainment industry, but the people they're inviting are getting ridiculous. Just last week it was announced that Tacko Fall would be participating as a celebrity... the same man who played three NBA seasons, and ultimately was waived. Guys, he's not a celebrity, he's just a 7'6" man who couldn't play in the league. Let's get Megan Fox out there.

Now for the pinnacle of the weekend. The All-Star game itself has gone from East vs West, to team captains, to playing to a “set score” instead of playing with a clock, and now having the format being “USA vs World.” I think I speak for most NBA fans when I say it should've always just stayed East vs West. Seeing players represent their team and conference gave off some sense of pride, which is where I think they're attempting to go with USA vs World. With the last American MVP being James Harden all the way back in the 2017-2018 season, the shift to allow the international players to have their own team makes sense. I will also say that seeing Shai, Luka, Wemby and Jokic on the court together will be dope. I also think the USA team may get blown out, but that's an argument for another day.

Overall, my hope is that the NBA All-Star Game can slowly start to give off the same vibes that it used to; if not, it may be a deep hole that the NBA is digging itself into. The NBA changed something that didn't need to be messed with, and in doing so, it drained the competitiveness and star-power out of the weekend.

Wally's Wall: Favorite part of the Super Bowl

Haiden Diemer-McKinney '26

Seeing the redemption of Sam Darnold this season and especially across these playoffs was special. He didn't have out-of-this-world production, but he didn't need one with K9 running all over New England to win MVP, the defense putting together one of the best performances in Super Bowl history and kicker Jason Myers setting a record for field goals made in the big game. It's also nice to see Mike Macdonald get the respect he deserves in only his second year as a head coach.

Additionally, Charlie Puth's national anthem rivals Chris Stapleton's from Chiefs-Eagles a few years ago. That performance was beautiful.

Michael Burley '29

My favorite part of the super bowl is how it brings people together, I enjoy watching the game as much as the next person, but what makes the whole experience great for me is having all my brothers, come together and getting to spend time with all of them.

Quinn Sholar '26

I enjoyed watching the Drake Maye masterclass performance and apologize to Jordan Tate for not putting enough respect on the Seahawks. K9 for MVP!!

Sean Bledsoe '26

I took a nice long nap from halfway through the second quarter (when it was a field goal fest) until the halftime show. That nap hit different.

Tobin Seiple '29

Frankly, I was ecstatic to watch the Patriots lose even though I couldn't care less about the Seahawks. The snacks were also great: wings, cheese dip and pretzels made for an awesome time.

Henry Chilcoat '27

The food — Little Caesars is for the people.



Managing Editor

Nathan Ellenberger '26

Reply to this opinion at
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The word “brotherhood” is thrown around so much at Wabash that it has become a cliché. We cite our close fraternal bonds as soon as we meet an interested (or even uninterested) high schooler looking at colleges. We point to the brotherhood in athletics, academics, clubs and of course – in fraternities.

No one would suggest that living in a mansion for four years with dozens of other college students can replace the closeness of blood relations. However, our chosen families often remind us of the family we leave behind at home, both in how similar and strangely opposite the two are.

One aspect of fraternity life that exemplifies this strange parallel is the tradition of fraternity heirlooms. As I approach the end of my senior year, I catch myself looking around at the memorabilia I've collected from my older brothers over the years. Decorations, trinkets and clothes inevitably trickle down to the younger generations, as each graduating class packs only the essentials to take with them after Commencement.

As the youngest of five siblings, the phenomenon of hand-me-downs is very familiar. Everything from clothes to computers came to me second-hand. When I came to Wabash, I found this pattern continued. I was eager for any kind of fraternity gear, especially decor to make my space feel lived-in and distinct. I was also lucky enough to form many close friendships in each class above mine, so my collection of used items grew gradually and consistently over time.

Within fraternities, there are also more formal ways that personal possessions are inherited. Within so-called “pledge families,” or whatever a given house may

call their big/little system, there are often specific pledge-family heirlooms that change hands through the years. As I look at the boat paddle on my wall that has my poorly etched signature, I see names that run back at least two decades, if not more. These names have mostly passed out of the oral tradition I inherited, as many were out of the house long before the seniors from my freshman year. Now, the only memories of their presence in the fraternity are physical artifacts: composites, yearbooks and graffitied signatures.

Between all the posters, furniture and knick-knacks that I've gathered over the past three-and-a-half years, it has only sunk in recently that I will need to find many of these belongings a new home. It feels like theft for me to inherit these gifts only to hoard them for myself. While the financial value of these objects may seem insignificant, their full sentimental value is best realized by those that will continue to fill the house with life and laughter.

As the youngest of my own siblings, I never had the opportunity to pass any of

my possessions down in turn; I was the final link in the chain. In this sense, my school and my fraternity have given me something that I hadn't had before: the opportunity to be an older brother. While I have had younger brothers at Wabash since sophomore year, it was only after the beginning of senior year that I realized how new the role was to me.

While the friendships found here at Wabash last far beyond the short time we spend living in this community, these four years are the most concentrated the shared space and time between our brothers will be. So think about those objects that you've inherited and appreciate how short of a time you'll have them for, even though they remind you of the friendships that will stick around for much longer. You're only in college once, and once you're a brother you're always a brother.

Poetry from Wallies



Zamir McNeal '29

Reply to this poem at
zmcneal29@wabash.edu

Editor's Note
Warning: Piece contains language that some readers may find offensive.

'artists make the loudest sounds doing the most silent things'

artists don't always march
sometimes we whisper and the ground still cracks

a pen move quieter than a protest chant,
but watch it shake a nation,
watch it subpoena your conscience

silence ain't empty
silence is loaded
like the guns, or badges, that are familiar with my skin tone

we were told silence is consent
but never tell us who taught us to be quiet

because silence was the ocean swallowing screams
when chains learned our names before freedom did
silence was bodies choosing water over whips,
jumping ship cause captivity felt louder than death
that wasn't cowardice
that was a refusal to perform pain for a profit

silence been the survival
silence been the strategy

post-emancipation, they ain't teach this part:
how freedom came with footnotes,
how black folks built towns with no help
then watched them burn; tulsa, rosewood, wilmington
and the history books hush like they scared of smoke or sum
sharecropping was just slavery with paperwork,
and silence was the only thing keeping folks alive
when the law wore the same face as the mob

artists were there
humming and whistling freedom into spirituals,
painting hope where hunger lived,
writing coded prayers so God could read between the lines
fast-forward
civil rights had silence too.
not just the speeches, but the pauses.
the still bodies on lunch counters,
quiet defiance louder than police sirens.
silence staring back at dogs like,
you already lost

but silence got another side
the evil side.
silence is the body cam turned off.
silence is the report that “lost footage.”
silence is a knee on the neck
a city holding its breath til the verdict drops.

silence is “don't snitch,”
not cause we love crime,
but cause the system snitched on us first.
snitched our names to redlining maps,
to stop-and-frisk quotas,
to a prison pipeline disguised as policy.

silence be a code
a braid tight with fear, loyalty, and lawlessness
sometimes it saves you,
yet sometimes it buries you

AND COLLEGES!?
oh they flourish in silence
diverse brochures, segregated power
microaggressions whispered in academic fonts
they call it “tradition,”
but tradition is just racism with tenure

i sit in lecture halls built by hands that look like mine,
taught by syllabi that pretend we never existed.
they love our culture, hate our questions.
love our rhythm, mute our rage.

so yeah
i might be a nigga, especially one from the hood
but i'm an intelligent nigga
i read the margins
i hear what ain't said

and artists?
we make noise without permission
we turn silence into testimony,
canvas into courtroom,
beats into bulletproof vests for the soul

we don't always scream
sometimes we let the quiet speak
til the truth gets uncomfortable
because silence can be consent
silence can be violence
but in the right hands
silence can be a loaded gun
pointed straight at injustice,
finger steady,
waiting for the world
to finally listen

like i said artists make the loudest sounds doing the most silent things.

see you think i'm being loud now but i made no sound...

The artifacts of brotherhood

This week in sports

Lacrosse cruises in first game of the season at Fischer Field, four track athletes win individual titles at Illinois Wesleyan and much more.

TY MURPHY '27
STAFF WRITER
SEAN BLEDSOE '26
SPORTS EDITOR

A dominant season opener for lacrosse, four individual track titles and a volleyball sweep capped off a successful week for Wabash athletics among multiple strong performances from across the midwest.

Lacrosse

The lacrosse team had their first game of the season on Tuesday, February 10, at Fischer Field against Hanover College.

After some intense back-and-forth play throughout the first quarter of play, the Little Giants pulled away taking a 10-2 lead into the half. The team added two more goals to their tally in the third quarter from the hands of Evan Bair '28 and Austin Clark '29 before Hanover responded with a goal of their own. As the team headed into the fourth quarter, the Panthers put up one more goal, but Wabash finished with two more goals to put the game away with a 14-4 victory.

Christian Dybedock '27 led the team in assists with three followed by Bair with two. Bair, Clark, Zach McMichael '29, Jake Phippen '26 and Will Sorg '27 contributed 10 points and tied for the team lead in scoring with two each.

The team will return to action on Saturday, February 14, at Fischer Field where they will take on Muskingum College at 12 p.m. EST.

Track and Field

The track and field team traveled to Bloomington, Illinois on Friday, February 6, and Saturday, February 7, to compete in the Keck DIII Select Invitational hosted by Illinois Wesleyan University. After a hard-fought day, the Little Giants captured four individual titles.

The throwers were led by Quinn Sholar '26 as he dominated the weight throw with a mark of 17.11 meters to capture first overall. Evan Furuness '26 did not stray far



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Bawibawi Thang '27 attempts his jump serve in a match against Franklin College on February 10, 2026 at Chadwick Court.

behind with a throw of 15.90 meters to take sixth, while Lane Brockman '26 finished seventh overall with a throw of 15.34 meters.

Sly Williams '26 convincingly won the long jump after clearing 7.00 meters and setting a personal best record. Soon after, Conner Grimes '26 took a victory in the 60-meter dash with a season best time of 6.95 seconds. Brock DeBello '29 rounded out the first-place finishes with a time of 50.49 in the 400-meter dash.

Tyler Petroski '29 etched himself into the Wabash history books after totaling 4,197 points in the Heptathlon. With this score, he now ranks seventh all-time in Wabash College history.

The track and field team will return to action on Saturday, February 14, to compete at the DePauw University Invitational in Greencastle, Indiana.

Volleyball

The volleyball team hit the road on Saturday, February 7, and traveled to River Forest, Illinois, where the Little Giants faced Dominican University (Illinois) and Concordia University Chicago. Despite 29 kills totaled by the team and 27 assists by Matthew Stitle '28, the team fell

0-3 to Dominican.

After falling behind in the first two sets, the team leaned on Bawibawi Thang '27 and Andrew Hostetler '28 as the duo trimmed the third set deficit to two points with late-set kills. It was not enough, however, as Concordia sealed the match with a closing run to give Wabash a 0-3 loss.

The team returned home and

hosted the Franklin College Grizzlies for a home match at Chadwick Court on Tuesday, February 10, and the team had a much different night compared to the weekend. After an opening set that witnessed 10 ties and two lead changes, Shad Wilson '27 made a kill and service ace to take the advantage. Kills from Zev Wolverton '27 and Thang helped close out the opening set by a final tally of 25-22. The Little Giants completed the 3-0 sweep as they dominated the Grizzlies in the second and third sets.

The squad will take the court again on Sunday, February 15, at Chadwick Court against Westminster College. The first serve is set to take flight at 1 p.m. EST.

Wrestling

The wrestling team took to the mat on Sunday, February 8, at the Greyhound Open hosted by University of Indianapolis. The team recorded seven top-eight finishes, but the match was contested with no team scoring.

James Day '26 led the team with a third-place finish at 133 lbs. after

pinning Mason Feudale of Grand Valley State in 3:58. Titus Waters '27 followed Day with a third-place finish at 285 lbs. He closed the tournament with a medical forfeit after taking a loss in the semifinals.

Other standout performances came from Andrew Ross '26, who placed fifth at 157 lbs. after a no-contest, and Cooper McCloy '28, who placed fifth at 165 lbs. due to a medical forfeit. After beating his teammate Zach Huckaby '28, Michael Taheny '29 took seventh at 184 lbs. after pinning Shamon Handegan of McKendree in 6:23.

Wabash completes their regular season next weekend on Saturday, February 14, at the annual Mid-States Invitational hosted by Alma College. From there they will be preparing for the 2026 NCAA DIII Central Region tournament on February 27-28 at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Tennis

The tennis team continued their tough early season schedule as they took on No. 5 Case Western Reserve University on Friday, February 5, at the Collett Tennis Center.

Wabash's lone match win came from the third doubles team of Matthew Haas '29 and Edmon Neto '29 through a 6-4 victory.

In singles play, Cole Shifferly '26 was beaten by JT Bilski of Case Western in a 10-12 tiebreaker loss in the third set that led to a 7-0 sweep by the Spartans.

The team was meant to take on No. 13 Kenyon College at the Collett Tennis Center on Saturday, February 6, but due to travel restrictions, the match was postponed. The rescheduled match will take place on Saturday, February 28.

The Little Giants will travel to Center Rapids, Iowa to take on Coe College and University of Wisconsin Stevens-Point in a doubleheader on Saturday, February 14. They will then travel to Grinnell, Iowa on Sunday, February 15, to go head-to-head with Grinnell College.



PHOTO BY GEORGE SHAGLEY '26

Tharakesh Ashokar '26 and Cole Shifferly '26 go in for a high five after winning a point in doubles play against Case Western Reserve University on February 6, 2026, in the Collett Tennis Center.

Scenes of a season-opening spanking

Wabash lacrosse beats Hanover 14-4 with balanced scoring from Bair '28, Clark '29, McMichael '29, Phippen '26 and Sorg '27. The season opener showcased a lacrosse program revived by a new coaching staff and fresh talent that is ready to compete at the highest level.



PHOTOS BY JEREMIAH RUNGE '29

Basketball's chances of hosting conference tournament in jeopardy

CARTER MCCALL '29
STAFF WRITER

A decisive early surge after halftime and steady execution at the free-throw line down the stretch lifted Wabash to a 72-66 North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) victory over the College of Wooster on Saturday, February 7, at Chadwick Court, as the Little Giants completed a season sweep of the Fighting Scots and continued their recent dominance in the series.

The win improved Wabash to 14-7 overall and 8-4 in conference play, while Wooster fell to 7-15 overall and 4-9 in the NCAC. With the victory, the Little Giants have now won 11 of the last 14 meetings between the two programs, including nine straight at home.

The opening half unfolded as a tightly contested battle, with both teams trading momentum and neither able to seize sustained control. Wooster struck first, taking a 9-6 lead behind early baskets from EJ Kapihe and Quincy Jones. Wabash answered quickly, piecing together an 8-2 run fueled by back-to-back three-pointers from Rich Brooks '26 and a smooth turnaround jumper by Nate Matelic '27 to grab an 18-15 advantage with 8:59 remaining.

The Scots countered with a push inside, as Isaac Roeder and Tommy Vaughn Jr. scored in the paint to briefly reclaim the lead, but Wabash closed the half with confidence and composure. Luke Ellspermann '29 knocked down a three, Matelic followed with a pull-up jumper, and the Little Giants punctuated the final seconds when Matelic drained a three-pointer with four seconds left, sending Wabash into the locker room up 32-28.

Any uncertainty vanished early in the second half as Wabash opened the second half with a decisive 10-0 run that shifted the tone of the game. Brooks sparked the surge with a driving layup and a fast break three-pointer, while Ellspermann added a pair of baskets in the lane. Brooks capped the run by converting two free throws after drawing a shooting foul, pushing the lead to 42-28 less than three minutes into the half.

"In the first half, we had to adjust to them playing more zone than our first matchup," said Brooks. "After we got going a little bit in the second half, we were able to pick the zone apart a little more. When they went to man, we took advantage of our mismatches and made the right plays."

Wooster, however, refused to fold. Vaughn and Jaiden Cox-Holloway ignited a 6-0 response

"Luke [Ellspermann] has been really consistent, and Rich Brooks is having an all-conference season. Schippert and Whack are two of the most experienced players in the conference."

- Head Basketball Coach
Kyle Brumett

midway through the half, trimming the deficit to single digits. The Scots continued to apply pressure behind Roeder's interior scoring and Jones' trips to the free-throw line. With under three minutes remaining, Wooster cut the margin to 62-65 courtesy of free throws by Kapihe and then narrowed the gap to a single point on a driving layup by Cox-Holloway with 41 seconds left, setting up a tense finish.

In the game's defining moment, Matelic delivered when Wabash needed it most. He attacked the rim for a crucial layup with 24 seconds remaining, drew a foul and calmly converted the ensuing free throw to extend the lead to four. After Wooster once again closed within two, Brooks and Ellspermann sealed the outcome at the



free throw line, combining to go 5/6 in the final nine seconds.

Brooks led all scorers with 24 points on an efficient 8/12 shooting performance, including 3/6 from beyond the arc, while going a perfect 5/5 at the free-throw line. Ellspermann finished with 15 points and Matelic added 12.

Gavin Schippert '26 recorded his third double-double of the season with 11 points and 11 rebounds, becoming the 18th player in Wabash history to surpass the 500-rebound mark with 506 career boards after the conclusion of the Wooster game.

"Luke [Ellspermann] has been really consistent with his scoring and rebounding, and Rich Brooks is having an all-conference season," said Head Basketball Coach Kyle Brumett. "Schippert and Whack are two of the most experienced players in the conference. That gives us four guys who we really need consistency out of, and for the most part, we have gotten it."

The Little Giants followed up the win by hitting the road on Wednesday, February 11, to face the Ohio Wesleyan Battling Bishops.

The game opened with early back and forth action, but midway through the half, Ohio Wesleyan started to create separation through strong perimeter shooting and dominant rebounding, keeping the Little Giants on their heels.

By the final minute of the half, the Bishops maintained control with steady execution. Their combination of outside shooting and defensive pressure allowed Ohio Wesleyan to carry a commanding 47-31 advantage going into the break.

The Little Giants slowly chipped away behind the scoring of Ellspermann and Brooks. Ellspermann continuously attacked the rack with physicality and Brooks drilled multiple deep threes to trim the large lead down to single digits. Schippert provided a major presence on the glass, fueling second chance opportunities that contributed to cutting the lead down to 68-61 with five minutes left to play.

Wabash continued to fight as their defensive intensity picked up late. Brooks recorded a steal and block and then Ellspermann converted a three-pointer in crunch time. Despite the late surge, clutch free throws by the Bishops sealed the game at 79-75 in their favor.

Wabash returns home on Saturday, February 14, where they will host the Kenyon Owls on Senior Day. Tipoff is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. EST.

PHOTO BY JEREMIAH RUNGE '29

The Bledsoe '26 breakdown: NCAC basketball power rankings

SEAN BLEDSOE '26
SPORTS EDITOR

The power rankings have drastically shifted this week. The race for home court advantage keeps getting tighter, and the fight for last place heats up. The exciting week allows me to dig deep into my bag of insults. Let's check in with each team!



#1 - John Carroll Blue Streaks
Overall Record: (18-5)
NCAC Record: (10-4)

Let me make this very clear. The Blue Streaks regained the top spot by proxy and not by an impressive performance. They literally played Kenyon and Oberlin — talk about being a bottom feeder. I didn't think lightning would strike so low, but hey, they still have to take on Denison and Wittenberg to close out the season. Hopefully those two teams can pull through and bring down JCU's morale before the conference tournament.



#2 - Denison Big Red
Overall Record: (14-8)
NCAC Record: (9-4)

I guarantee you that the Big Red kicked their feet up on the table and relaxed when they saw that they were number one in my power rankings last week. But guess what? Teams have to work hard to stay in my number one spot. I'm a blue collar guy, and this is a blue collar conference. It's not a shock that the Big Red of all teams are all allergic to hard work — as proven by the fact they lost to Wittenberg and DePauw in the same week — but do you remember how their football team played against Wabash? Things got difficult and they laid a goose egg. Hopefully this team does the same thing in the postseason.



#3 - DePauw Tigers
Overall Record: (16-7)
NCAC Record: (9-5)

The Dannies owe a high five. Do you know why? They beat Oberlin! I can only imagine how proud Head Coach Rusty Loyd must be. It's a shame that they squeaked out a win against Denison and moved past Wabash in my power rankings...although I guess it isn't that much of a shame because who likes DePauw in the first place? Some of their own students don't even like their own school because they choose to marry Wabash men. Shoutout all Wabash men who have stolen the hearts of the people down south. #HappyValentinesDayYouFilthyAnimals.



#4 - Wittenberg Tigers
Overall Record: (16-6)
NCAC Record: (9-4)

This Tiger team came in clutch on Saturday as they knocked off the top-ranked Denison Big Red. Not only did Wittenberg help Wabash out in terms of potentially hosting the conference tournament, but they also helped themselves. Maybe now people in Springville, Ohio will know that they have a college basketball team that they can root for. I watch the broadcasts. I know how big that gym is, and I know how many Wittenberg fans actually show up. Hint: it's very few.



#5 - Wabash Little Giants
Overall Record: (14-8)
NCAC Record: (8-5)

The Little Giants had a solid game on Saturday when they played a Wooster team that actually looked like a team. It was a defensive battle for most of the first half, but Wabash found a way to pull out the win at home on Family Day. On Wednesday, the team traveled to the cave of a gym that is Branch Rickey Arena, and when I say cave, I mean it is literally a cave. I'm pretty sure the reason we lost was because our guys could not see the basket due to the atrocious lighting. Wabash needs to win out to build good momentum heading into the postseason.



#6 - Wooster Fighting Scots
Overall Record: (7-15)
NCAC Record: (4-9)

I will say I was pleasantly surprised when Wooster came to town on Saturday. The Fighting Scots actually looked like a coherent basketball team as opposed to what they have looked like for most of the season. One thing that I did notice was the fact that Jaiden Cox-Holloway, the man leading the team in points per game at 16.1, didn't make the starting lineup and only played 20 minutes. I wonder if it's a team chemistry problem or something more.



#7 - Kenyon Owls
Overall Record: (10-13)
NCAC Record: (4-10)

Someone may want to check on the Owls. I know that their main color is purple, but they have to have some major bruises after losing to John Carroll by 26 points and Wittenberg by 12 points. Please let me know if they need to be transferred to the ICU. I know some people.



#8 - Ohio Wesleyan Battling Bishops
Overall Record: (7-15)
NCAC Record: (4-9)

After watching Wednesday's game against Wabash, I am convinced that the main reason why OWU can't score consistently is because they literally can't see what they're shooting at half the time. Or maybe the coaches just can't see how bad their roster is. Either way, they need to change the lighting...or their roster...or their coaching staff...or just everything altogether.

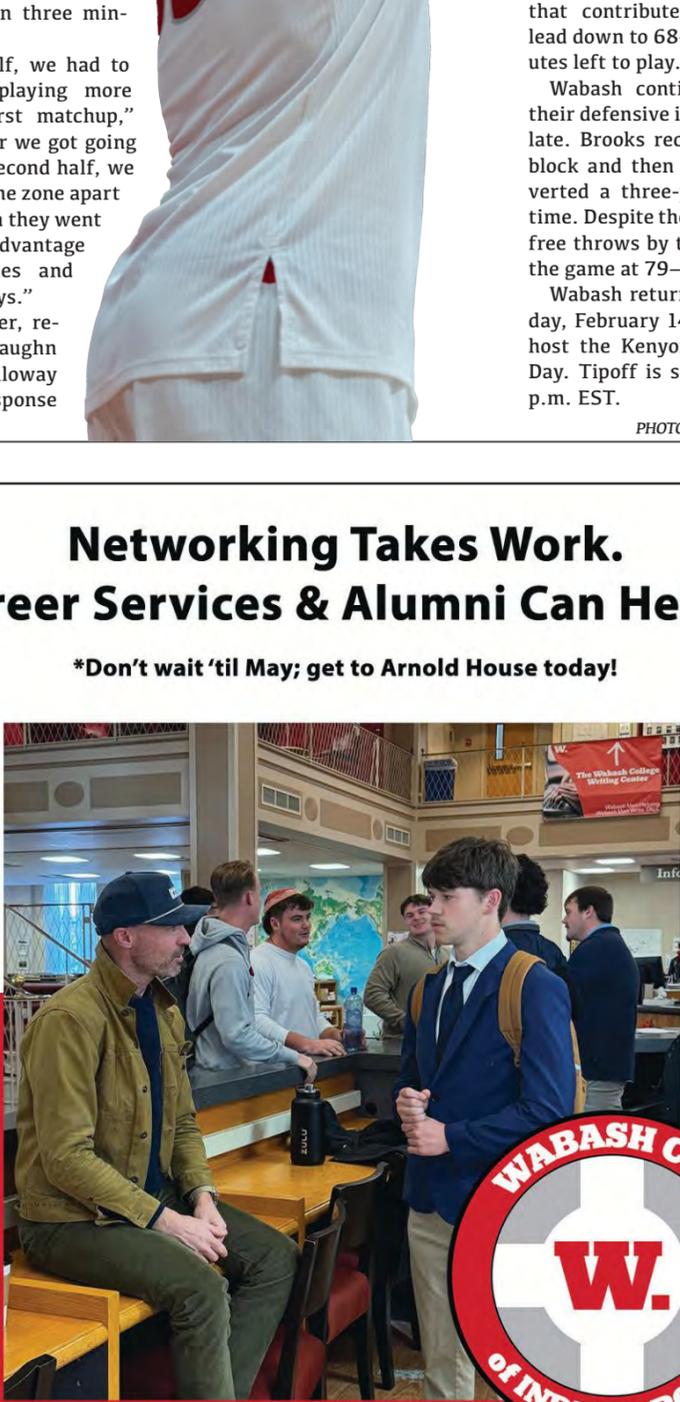


#9 - Oberlin Yeomen
Overall Record: (10-12)
NCAC Record: (3-10)

Head Basketball Coach Kyle Brumett always says that someone will lose to Oberlin in February, but that has not happened yet. Who are we kidding, though? How can anybody expect a group of tiny mammals to do anything remotely impressive?

Networking Takes Work. Career Services & Alumni Can Help.*

*Don't wait 'til May; get to Arnold House today!



 [instagram.com/wabashclubofindianapolis](https://www.instagram.com/wabashclubofindianapolis)