

Educational Caution with AI at Wabash



GRAPHIC CREATED WITH HELP OF AI

TOBIN SEIPLE '29
FEATURES EDITOR

The conversation surrounding Artificial Intelligence has been exhausting. Here we are, four years after the release of ChatGPT, and there still seems to be a constant debate on its use cases and potential harm. Recently, the University of Southern California (USC) publicly released reports on two national surveys on AI use cases in education. They found that students repeatedly use AI models to take shortcuts on assignments. Over a thousand students reported using models for what researchers called “executive assistance,” or using AI for efficient answers rather than to learn content.

While students seem optimistic enough to integrate AI into their education, institutions and professors have a wide range of perspectives on the matter. The second USC report was a survey on around 1500 professors. They found that roughly 73% of professors believe AI refines student outcomes and 69% believe AI is helpful for per-

sonalizing student learning. There is certainly widespread optimism, but there is also great hesitancy and apprehension towards the next steps in education.

A recent New York Times article discussed some of the policy changes on AI at some of the top institutions. The University of Chicago has banned law students from using AI within their first year of education. In fact, students cannot use any phones, tablets or computers in their first year of law classes. A report from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology AI committee found a large shift in campus culture as a result of the technology. They cited that AI allows students to feel as if they have learned information without truly absorbing it. On the other end, there are plenty of institutions that are rapidly integrating AI. Ohio State University has shifted their education requirements to expect students to be fully fluent in using AI in their area of study by the end of graduation. Dartmouth’s leadership is also supportive of AI integration in order to

improve AI fluency in students. It is clear that there are mixed opinions in education across the nation, and Wabash is no exception.

“As with anything so potentially transformational, there is a mix of apprehension and excitement for how AI is changing the landscape of teaching and learning at Wabash,” said Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science and Division One Chair Chad Westphal. “There has been a lot of thinking and discussion between faculty and in departments about the appropriate role for AI in our classes, and I’ve seen some great ideas emerge for how to make sure our students are getting the high-quality education that they deserve.”

There are clearly some productive ways in which students and faculty can use AI as a tool to empower learning. At the same time, it is essential to be aware of the many shortcomings of AI.

“There’s never been a more important moment for education in the humanities and the fine arts... AI is becoming so good at so many things,” said Professor of Rhetoric and Division Two Chair Jennifer Abbott. “But what makes us distinctly human... are those very qualities that need to be nurtured. Things like wisdom and decision making, creativity, imagination, relationships and being able to have a deep sustained focus on a text are things that AI doesn’t do well and probably never will.”

So AI doesn’t have human capabilities, but there are still positive use cases. In STEM, AI can help translate complex formulas and topics into concepts that students can comprehend. Simultaneously, it is important to take a breath and truly

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OPINION

The G.O.A.T debate is a failer in evaluation

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SPORTS

The Tigers forget to roar: little Giants run wild in 31-0 rout

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Golf dominates, first tournament win since 2022



PHOTO BY SEAN BLEDSOE '26

Leo Dellinger '29 watches his approach shot at Spalding University Preview at Timbergate Golf Club.

MARK BERGER '28
STAFF WRITER

The Little Giants golf team reminded teams to be on the lookout for them this season as they continued their historic start to the year at the Stateline Shootout in Harrison, Ohio. Wabash “A” team used an aggressive round two and strong round three to leave no doubt about the victory in this weekend’s tournament as they shot a total team score of 863 winning the tournament by 25 shots. They were led by five Little Giants finishing in the top 10, with Leo Dellinger '29 coming home to win the tournament with a score of 213, three shots clear of the next closest player, his teammate Tyler Morton '29.

The Wabash “A” team of Dellinger, Morton, Mason Pierle '28, Finn Cardeaux '29 and Charlie Seaburg '29

started strong on day one on the back nine. Morton birdied back-to-back on holes 11 and 12. Morton’s birdies along with a third on hole 18 helped him to come home even for round one. Dellinger avoided major mistakes and played consistent golf to keep himself and Wabash “A” in contention. A birdie to finish out round one on hole nine put Dellinger tied for second and Wabash “A” in second, five shots behind the leader, Franklin College.

“We started out the tournament very strong on our first three to four holes of the tournament,” said head golf coach Justin Kopp '21. “I told the team before the tournament that I wanted us to be the greatest team out there, that wasn’t going to make excuses or complain.”

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Pre-law society welcomes Greg Coy '92 and Bill Padgett '92



PHOTO BY ELIJAH WETZEL '27

Greg Coy '92 and Bill Padgett '92 talk to Wabash pre-law students about applications of science in law.

ELIJAH WETZEL '27
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A On Monday, the Pre-Law Society welcomed two alumni lawyers from the class of '92, Greg Coy and Bill Padgett, to deliver a talk about the intersection of science and opportunities in the law. Coy and Padgett both spent their first couple of years at Wabash under the assumption that they’d attend law school. But after realizing that medical school — and the years of additional training after medical school — might not be for them, they decided that law school would be their path. The pair were together for one more year — they were roommates for their first year of law school at IU in Bloomington — before they went their respective ways.

Padgett is now a partner at Barnes & Thornburg in Indianapolis. A litigator, he specializes in product liability, toxic tort and commercial claims involving chemical products, pharmaceuticals, agricultural and crop protection products, medical devices and a variety of other products.

Coy is a partner at Taft law firm in Indianapolis. Most of his work centers around intellectual property, specifically patents. He provides intellectual property services to individuals, universities, research institutions and companies of all sizes, ranging from start-up companies and small local concerns to large, established international firms.

After their talk, Coy answered some questions from The Bachelor about his career and Wabash’s role in it.

How did Wabash prepare you for your career?

To first answer broadly, Wabash prepared me for my legal career by setting high standards of achievement that could only be met by having a strong commitment to excellence, a strong work ethic and strong time management skills. All of these qualities are likewise hallmarks of a successful and rewarding career in the legal profession. On a more practical level, Wabash’s emphasis on critical thinking and clear, creative and persuasive communication, both written and oral, provided a great training ground for developing skills that are required for success in law school and in a legal career, in which the ability to thoroughly analyze complex issues and craft persuasive arguments are your stock in trade.

What is your favorite part of your job, and what would make you recommend it to current students?

I really enjoy the collaborative personal interactions that I have with clients and with colleagues and staff, all focused on the common goal of providing excellent legal services and achieving the client’s objectives. While outcomes cannot be guaranteed, curveballs often come our way, and we sometimes find ourselves fighting uphill battles, working

toward a common goal with a talented team is both fun and rewarding.

If you could offer seniors one piece of advice, and freshman one piece of advice, what would they be as the school year starts up?

Seniors: Finish strong! While I recall the euphoria that I felt at certain moments throughout my senior year as certain goals were met and certain pressures were lifted, such as after completion of Senior Comps and after I had decided on a law school for the following year, I highly recommend that you maintain the discipline and focus to remain productive and to perform at a high level through the end of the school year and, as a corollary, to avoid developing bad habits just before setting out on your next great adventure.

Freshmen: Make a conscious decision to dig in, put in the work and give your best effort right from the start. Starting college can be great fun as you enjoy new freedoms that come with living independently, develop new friendships, broaden your horizons and have new experiences, but don’t let the fun distract you from keeping your eye on the prize. Creating a strong academic record at Wabash will open many doors for you and lead to many great opportunities for the future. It’s okay to “play hard,” but only as a reward to yourself after you “work hard.”

What role has the liberal arts played in your life as a whole, and what role has Wabash played?

I love the well-rounded nature of a liberal arts education, and I believe my Wabash education was a jumpstart to a lifelong pursuit of knowledge that has given me a greater understanding of the complex world in which we live. Even as a biology major with a legal career focused on biotechnology, pharmaceuticals and other technical areas, my world view would be incomplete without the study of religion, history, culture, politics, great literature and other arts, psychology and so many other subjects. Wabash helped to provide foundational knowledge in a wide variety of subjects that unlocked a curiosity and a desire to learn more, which has led to a lifelong pursuit of greater knowledge, greater understanding and greater impact.

Community Day of Service



COURTESY OF LEANN PARRISH

Wabash faculty convene at Fusion 54 on the morning of September 16 for Community Day of Service

OWEN VERMEULEN '28
NEWS EDITOR

Being at Wabash, it can be easy to get so caught up in what we’re doing that we forget there’s a world outside these classic halls. Not only should students remember the community just outside their alma mater, they should look to give back to it. Community service is something that Wabash has put a high premium on and this can be seen in Wabash’s most recent collaboration with the greater Montgomery County area. On September 16, many Wabash faculty participated in the third annual Community Day of Service to help support local nonprofits in completing projects that they don’t have capacity to complete themselves.

“Through AmeriCorps, 9-11 Day and Community-Engaged Alliance, Wabash received a grant to provide financial support to further assist the organizations with their projects,” said Campus Events Coordinator and Community Partnerships Coordinator Leann Parrish. “We use the funding for materials and supplies necessary to complete a variety of projects.”

Outside of the financial capital that Wabash offers through these grants, it also offers the hands to complete these projects. Multiple staff members volunteered to help in this morning of service, this includes two of the newest members of the Wabash staff. K.T. Peterson, Assistant Professor of Theater and Jessica Ryker, Academic Coordinator to the Fine Arts Center, both volunteered to help for the Community Day of Service.

“It’s good to be out there as a Fine Arts [Center] representative, because they see our faces a lot,” said Ryker. “Them seeing us out in the community helps start some of those conver-

sations about the College and what we do here. A lot of faculty live in Crawfordsville and having representation from the College is great to let the community know that the College is here for them.”

Many faculty worked this community service in spite of their busy teaching schedules. It’s a testament to the fact that it doesn’t matter if you have one hour or four to give to your community, it only matters that you give it.

“I was only able to put in one hour this morning because I had to teach at 10, but I wanted to show up,” said Peterson. “If it’s a little or a lot, people are just happy to meet you and know that you’re down to help whenever.”

These are just a few examples of the amazing volunteers that helped out multiple different nonprofit organizations across the Montgomery County area. In total, Wabash had 27 volunteers across five different locations.

“It is important for Wabash students and employees to connect with the greater community to show that we’re good neighbors and want to truly be seen as active members of this community,” said Parrish. “One of the biggest predictors of students making it through to graduate from Wabash College is belonging. Belonging goes beyond our campus grounds and into Montgomery County.”

This is just one of many opportunities that Wabash offers to connect to the community at large. Opportunities not just to knock off community service hours, but truly increase your civic engagement and make lasting impact with people that need help the most. So next time Leann Parrish sends an email, keep your ear to the grindstone.

Gas prices set to skyrocket, Supreme Court Rules on mail-in voting reconstruction, Indiana Supreme Court rules in favor of Deery

Regional News



COURTESY OF NPR

Supreme Court halts Trump executive order to limit mail-in ballots.

CONNOR PHILLIPS '28

STAFF WRITER

Gas Prices:

Indiana local governments will receive nearly \$139 million in gas tax reimbursements following a unanimous vote by the State Board of Finance on September 15. The funding is part of an initiative by Governor Mike Braun '76 to provide

fuel relief to residents while maintaining local infrastructure budgets. The board approved \$138,903,493 for the period of July 1–31 following a similar approval last month for April and May. This comes as Governor Braun has recently announced the gas tax suspension will continue through October 6, 2026.

Despite being one of the cheapest

states in the nation in terms of gas prices, Hoosiers are still seeing a large increase at the pump. Those who need diesel have been heavily affected by this. The average price of diesel hit \$6.16 last weekend, with it creeping up to nearly \$7 now. This is a massive jump from \$3.70 a year ago. Farmers are now spending significantly more to be able to run their farms, which already run on slim margins. Truck drivers now have to put more of their paychecks into gas. Regular 18-wheelers hold between 100–300 gallons of gas, which means each time they are at the pump that costs the driver between \$600–\$1800 to fuel up.

Fuel accounts for roughly 15% to 30% of the total cost of food. So higher diesel costs often result in more expensive groceries.

Mail-in voting:

The Supreme Court of the United States struck down the U.S. Postal Service's rule restructuring mail-in voting Monday, halting a major Trump administration priority. In the ruling, the justices left in place a ruling by a federal judge in Boston that bars the USPS from implementing aspects of the rule.

In March, President Donald Trump signed an executive order that directed federal agencies to take a series of steps on mail-in voting. For example, it required the Department of Homeland Security to send each state a list of the adult U.S. citizens in that state at least 60 days before a federal election and instructed the U.S. Attorney General to investigate and prosecute state officials who allow people who are not eligible to vote to cast ballots.

The executive order also would require states to submit lists of eligible voters to USPS, and the agency would then verify that those voters were receiving mail-in ballots before sending them out. The rule also had strict requirements on envelope design.

A group of 23 states, led by California, and the District of Columbia went to federal court in Massachusetts to challenge the government's efforts to implement the executive order. They argued that the executive order clashes with provisions in the Constitution that give states the power to determine voter eligibility and to set the "Times, Places, and Manner" of holding con-

gressional elections.

Indiana Supreme Court Ruling:

The Indiana Supreme Court on September 10 declared state Sen. Spencer Deery the winner in a Republican primary over a President Donald Trump-endorsed challenger. This comes after the justices heard arguments over whether the Indiana Recount Commission acted properly in its decision to throw out six ballots that were all cast for Sen. Deery that lacked a county clerk's stamp or signature. Deery's margin of victory was a mere three votes.

The ruling from the Supreme Court overturned the Recount Commission's decision to certify challenger Paula Copenhaver as the primary winner. The ruling in favor of Deery came after justices pressed Copenhaver's attorneys during the hearing for reasoning to toss out the six Deery ballots. Deery's attorneys argued that the commission's majority abused its discretion to disallow those ballots because the missing county clerk's seals or signatures were the result of election worker omissions rather than anything the voters did.

Second City improv group visits Wabash



PHOTO BY JACK MILLER '28

Second City Improv group performs in Ball Theater on Septemeber 11.

HUTCH NORRIS '27

STAFF WRITER

As comedy is ever pervasive online, Second City reminded Wabash of the magic of a live production. Comedy initially distinguishes itself from other stage productions because of the necessity for audience participation in the timing and flow of jokes. Improv provides an additional level of audience engagement through direct impact on the material performed. The stage adds tension to each moment because of the uncertainty in the freedom of a live production. However, not all of

Second City's performance was improvised.

"The way Second City generates material is they have their main stage and ETC, those are their resident stages," said Second City actor Dave Lyzenga. "Those are six people on each cast, writing every week when they're in what they call 'process'. What ends up in those shows is then referred to as archive material. Whenever [the season] closes and a new one starts, all of those scenes get moved into a different category, which is available for touring companies."

Despite working in part with this older material, the traveling companies still engage with these scenes in their time. The liberty to contextualize a joke to the current moment is crucial in keeping the crowd lively and engaged. In a scene about what to do if you do not read the news, a line was changed to reference the recent cyclospora outbreak in the United States. Second City also makes this timely engagement more accessible through the framing of their improv.

"There's stuff that we'll improvise that's going to be new every night, or there'll be what they call an improv shell, like that scene called Martini Sisters, with myself and Emily," said Lyzenga. "We're always those characters, but we never know what we're going to talk about."

Through the Martini Sister character, Lyzenga found conversing about the problems around him much easier. The ability to play off of the audience's reaction to the direction he took the joke fine-tuned the satire he engaged in.

"Hearing people react to [insurance], I want to dig

and make it bigger or worse for us to feel that catharsis of just naming a problem," said Lyzenga.

Lyzenga comes from what could be described as a traditional comedic background, he spent years learning at different theaters across Chicago before ever touring. This is the path akin to many of the current industry leaders, and especially those of the '90s. However, a new comedian has emerged in the age of social media, highlighted by the comparative meteoric rise of individuals such as Shane Gillis or Stavros Halkias. Their careers were spent in general internet irrelevancy and dimly lit bars until the line graph went vertical one day. Prior to social media virality, that is likely where individuals such as Gillis and Halkias would have spent their whole careers, without the means or access to break into the upper echelon of comedy.

Lyzenga is not in denial of this new reality facing him, but remains optimistic for the future of live comedy. "Most people recognize that if you want to do do [comedy] beyond Second City,

becoming viral on Tik Tok or at least honing your voice is definitely a huge part of it, I get the value of that. But, I think live shows are so irreplaceable, the whole deal to me is being with the audience. I don't get the same dopamine from watching a number go up. It's so different to be in person and to be in a room, there's no faking that."

Lyzenga goes on about the connectivity of live shows. "There was this unified culture where everyone watched the four channels that existed and if you were called over from the couch on the Late Show, that made your career. We're

in such a different world now, where everyone has their own algorithm channel. My hope is that being in a room with people will be one of the ways to return to a unified sense of 'I was there when other people experienced a thing that mattered.' The pendulum swings, it may go a little further towards digital stuff until we lose an appetite for it, then people will feel similarly to me."

With the ever increasing appetite for short-form and artificial content, acts like Second City look to remind us that we are all here engaging with the same world around us.



PHOTO BY JACK MILLER '28

Second City Improv group impersonating passengers runaway train.

Saudi pipeline seized, 18th BRICS Summit, Former Kosovo President sentenced for war crimes

News Around the World

HUTCH NORRIS '27

STAFF WRITER

Iranian allies strike Saudi East-West pipeline, Houthis advance towards Bab al-Mandeb Strait

As a consequence of the closure of the strait of Hormuz, close American ally Saudi Arabia has shifted their oil exports to the other side of the Arabian peninsula. This traffic is largely funneled through the East-West pipeline, running through the heart of the country's largely barren desert. This pipeline was targeted by a devastating drone strike from Iranian-backed militias in southern Iraq. AP is reporting that the damage could take three to five weeks to repair, significantly limiting the Saudis' already dwindling oil supplies.

On top of this Houthis, a radical Islamic political and military group in Yemen,

have captured the island of Mayyun, as well as the Hanish Islands. Both of these islands lie at the southern end of the Red Sea, which has served as a vital alternative from the Iranian and American blockades on the other side of the peninsula. Further constriction of Saudi shipping is plainly the goal.

"Maritime navigation is safe for all companies except for Saudi vessels," said Yahya Saree, spokesman of the Yemeni Armed Forces.

The further constriction of the flow of oil out of Saudi Arabia will cause the price of oil to increase further. WTI prices, the benchmark for the American oil market, jumped around 2% from market close Friday, September 11 to market open Monday the 14th.

Associate Professor of Economics Eric Dunaway described the recent turmoil

in Saudi Arabia as causing "One of the largest supply shocks we have ever seen in modern economic history." Dunaway reasserted in a panel on the 16th that this conflict continues to demonstrate the principles of supply and demand affecting our global markets today.

18th BRICS Summit takes place as international economic divisions entrench

The 18th BRICS Summit was held September 12-13 in New Delhi, India, an economic forum gathering all of the non-American aligned nations across the globe; Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, South Africa, and the United Arab Emirates. The Summit symbolizes a renewed commitment to the economic development of the Global South separate from American or

European Union influences. However, the coalition has still failed to come to an agreement on the establishment of a new currency to rival the domination of the US dollar or the euro.

The event came at quite some tension following the development of the Iran war, with member states Iran and the UAE on opposite sides of the conflict. However, President of Iran Masoud Pezeshkian and Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Khaled bin Mohamed Al Nahyan met for the countries' highest level discussions since the beginning of the war.

Hope for Irish reunification

In a recent visit to Ireland, US President Donald Trump remarked that Irish reunification "would be a fantastic thing.. would be a great

thing, how could it be bad?" Despite acknowledging that he had stepped into a politically charged conversation, he doubled down later in his visit, "It just seems to me that you have Northern Ireland and you have Ireland, and it would seem to me that one of the naturals of all time is [to] put them together."

Since near the dawn of the English crown, the Emerald Isle has in some part fallen under its control. However, the reunification that President Trump seeks follows the bifurcation of the island in 1921 into the 6 majority protestant counties in the north and the 26 majority catholic counties to the south. Unfortunately for Irish nationalists, a border poll for reunification can only be called at the behest of the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Thus moments like this causing the idea to permeate through the general population is one of the only hopes to garner enough political support for unification.

This is precisely what has happened: the first ministers of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland signed a pact affirming their commitment to the dissolution of the United Kingdom and the reunification of Ireland. This marks the first time that all of these nations' leaders are pro-independence, or reunification in the case of First Minister of Northern Ireland Michelle O'Neill. Their memorandum called for "the British Government to prepare for, plan and facilitate constitutional change in each jurisdiction." Unfortunately each nation still has many political hurdles between now and independence.

Wabash AI caution

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analyze before standardizing policies for students across a variety of subjects.

"I think where some of us are really struggling is that there's something inherently get them done before. And there's a place for that. But I think those of us who have been around Wabash for a while feel an inherent tension between that conversation

Bost. "That's why we cherish writing and reading so much. And a lot of the national, international conversation about AI centers around, although it doesn't have to, efficiency, getting things done faster than we could get them done before. And there's a place for that. But I think those of us who have been around Wabash for a while feel an inherent tension between that conversation

and what we're trying to do here."

Wabash has always been a unique institution. It is a college that encourages students to pursue knowledge and achieve excellence. The emphasis is on the journey, not the destination, and work and intellect are two of the most important values at the college.

"We have to stay grounded, especially right now, when

the environment, the technological environment and the potential use cases, what I call the problem space, is extremely complicated," said Bost. "We're not going to ignore it, but we're going to make sure that everybody has their eye on the North Star."

While we are still far from reaching a conclusion, the Wabash faculty and staff remain hard at work. There are consistent conversa-

tions surrounding AI, and many fruitful debates and ideas emerging on how to best equip students for their future.

"Some universities have adopted frameworks to unify and clarify the language that faculty may use to describe their AI policies, while ensuring faculty still decide what's best for their courses," said Westphal. "Is that kind of thing best for Wabash? I'm

not sure, but I know more clarity and unity would be welcome, and there are conversations going all across campus this year to move us in the right direction."

Justice via transparency, as told by Wabash's prestigious guest



PHOTO BY JEREMIAH RUNGE '29

Distinguished Ransdell Professor of Law Carissa Byrne Hessick connects transparency in the prosecutor electoral process with better democratic results on September 15, 2026.

JOSEPH BOGGS '30
STAFF WRITER

In a country rocked with polarization and misinformation, one campus guest may have cracked a potential solution. With many impressive accolades and an impactful career in law, Distinguished Ransdell Professor of Law Carissa Byrne Hessick was welcomed to campus for the first time on Tuesday, September 15. Visiting from the University of North Carolina, Hessick, in collaboration with The Stephenson Institute, gave a thought-inducing lecture on the issues plaguing prosecutor elections.

Her lecture, titled "Prosecutors and Democracy in Polarized Times" explored the importance of transparency in prosecutor elections and its relation to the democratic process. Because party affiliation doesn't always determine prosecuting policies, voters need more in order to make decisions about their officials. Hessick's lecture argued the value of transparency surrounding the enforcement policies of prosecutors. "Prosecutors are democratically elected officials, but we know very little about what they do," said Hessick.

It is this problem that is at the heart of her lecture. The democratic process exists in order to allow the public to hold elected officials accountable for their decisions. Prosecutors are constantly making decisions of whether or not to prosecute certain cases, and their decisions can often appear politically motivated. Hessick's lecture proposed that the transparency of enforcement policies enhances the public's ability to understand their decisions.

"The more we know about what the prosecutors do in ordinary cases, I think the better we will be able to assess claims that they're acting in a political or partisan manner," said Hessick.

Voters can base their judge-

ments on these assessments, thus allowing for the democratic process to fully function.

It is important to recognize, however, the difficulties surrounding the transparency of enforcement policies. Hessick illustrated some of these struggles.

"The conversations are actually a little difficult to have," said Hessick. "I think a lot of prosecutors worry that the voting public won't understand that message or it will get twisted in politics."

Alongside this, there are suggestions that the public should not know which kinds of cases a prosecutor approaches more leniently. Hessick addressed these thought processes head on. The kind of transparency that she describes is not a set list of criteria by which decisions are made. Instead, it is a transparency that acknowledges the inconsistency of enforcement policies, and, rather than having set guidelines, it relies on explanations and examples that demonstrate the values that drive their decisions.

"You can give people insight into the sorts of judgement that you are exercising and whether they want that sort of judgement to be exercised in the future," said Hessick.

This kind of transparency ignites the democratic process in elections.

Hessick sparked important discussions among staff and students as the midterm elections approach on the horizon. Later in the afternoon, The Stephenson Institute also hosted Hessick for a meet and greet. Students and faculty had the opportunity to meet with her and further discuss her lecture, as well as learn more about her life and her career.

Apart from teaching, Hessick has a very accomplished academic career. She earned a B.A. in linguistics from Columbia College of Columbia University in 1999, and subsequently earned her J.D. from

Yale School of Law in 2002. Since then she has held several legal positions and has taught at Arizona State University and the University of Utah, as well as Harvard Law School as a Climenko Fellow.

"The more we know about what the prosecutors do in ordinary cases, I think the better we will be able to assess claims that they're acting in a political or partisan manner."

- Distinguished Ransdell Professor of Law Carissa Byrne Hessick

Hessick is also the director of the Prosecutors and Politics Project, a program dedicated to helping better inform voters of their elected prosecutors and to help bring attention to the democratic accountability of elected prosecutors.

Hessick is also an author, not only of several academic papers, but soon to be of two books as well. Published in October of 2021, her first book "Punishment Without Trial" dives into how plea bargaining has come to undermine the justice system in the United States. Soon to come out, her second book aims to shed light on the comparisons of criminal sentencing across several countries, classifying four different types of sentencing systems along the way. We hope to see Hessick walking the halls of Wabash College again someday, perhaps for a talk about her upcoming book.

The Stephenson Institute next will host Professor of Economics Gary A. Hoover for a lecture, titled "Ladder or Lottery: Economic Promises and the Reality of Who Gets Ahead," as well as for a meet and greet and book signing. This event takes place on September 29.

"The Uprising" hits every mark it swings for



COURTESY OF TMDB

CHRISITAN HANNA '29 and JACOB COFFMAN '28
STAFF WRITERS

"The Uprising" is written, directed and produced by Paul Greengrass, and is based on the true story of the Peasant's Revolt of 1381. After the Bubonic Plague rips through most of medieval Europe, killing half the population, the young King Richard II is haunted by nightmares of his fallen father, and is in a perpetual state of dread and prayer. Meanwhile, his council, finding the capital to be low on funds, makes the executive decision to increase taxes on the starving commonwealth. When the local lords and tax collectors begin using excessive force to instill this act of greed, a peasant by the name of Plowman decides that enough is enough, and after murdering a member of the lord's guard, a rebellion follows swiftly behind him.

We went to see this movie with high expectations; those being grandeur, tight-knit fighting and battle sequences, good acting and an all-around solid script. The Uprising delivered on all of these fronts and then some. There are two things that you notice upon first viewing of this movie; the acting and the atmosphere. "The Uprising" feels oppressive, with its most prominent colors being grey, brown and at times streaks of red or gold. Overall, the land and the kingdom feels like a living organism — a desolate body recovering from some terrible disease. Fields don't bear fruit, homes fall into disarray and dark clouds hang overhead as winter begins to set in. Outside of the common villages, the castle itself feels rotted from the inside as the king's council begins abusing their power while the king remains praying in his chambers. Peasant clothes feel gritty and worn; their hair is greasy, the ground they stand upon is muddy and their weapons resemble cobbled together scrap and tools.

Andrew Garfield absolutely immerses himself in the character of Plowman. From start to finish, I never once found myself thinking of him as Spider-Man, or Desmond Doss, or Eduardo Saverin, and for the two-hour runtime he convincingly plays a dirty, medieval peasant. Every peasant in the movie feels palpably exhausted and hungry, scared and sad to the point of rage — every close-up shows a person with nothing to lose, in emotional turmoil, who has come to the realization that nobody can help but themselves. Similarly, Woody Norman gives a phenomenal performance as the young King Richard II, holding his ground amongst industry veterans like Cosmo Jarvis (Shogun) and Tom Hollander (Pirates of The Caribbean). Norman brings a believable and compelling performance to the table as a boy

struggling to grow up quickly in a world without his father.

Battle sequences in The Uprising are shot using shakey-cam, however, where many movies would use such a thing to compensate for poor choreography, the style feels natural and doesn't block or distort the viewer's sight of the action. Camera angles are almost always chest-height, save for several bird's-eye-view shots of London, and action is always easy to follow, with moments of violence taking center-frame so you don't have to dart your eyes around the screen to keep up.

With all of that said, there are points where "The Uprising" falters. Firstly, the audio mixing causes some of the intense dialogue within the film to be almost snuffed out at times by the ambient noise and the soundtrack. Secondly, the beginning of the film jumps almost immediately into the action of the revolution, and while this is a good way to hook the viewer early on, the pacing of the film would benefit from a few extra minutes spent with the main character, Plowman, in his daily life on his field. Make no mistake, this is a war film, and lots of people die in a war, however it was not very moving whenever a character did find themselves at the business-end of a sickle. In fact, a few more intercut moments of levity with the characters would likely atone for the film's overly fast pacing, as well as build up more tension.

The CGI in this movie ranges from "not too noticeable" right down to "I could probably do that better in a blender tutorial." However, I am inclined to give this film more of a pass on that front, as it wasn't made with the budget of, for instance, "Thor: Love and Thunder." Instead, this modern gem of a medieval period-piece was made on a budget of only twenty-million dollars. To further make excuses for this film, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the incredible score it has to offer. The music is composed by Volker Bertelmann, and it does a perfect job at conveying the peasants' organized, yet primal rage with a chaotic, yet symphonic cacophony of woodwinds, strings and drums.

Overall, "The Uprising" is a satisfying, albeit straightforward, time at the theater. It's likely not going to win any prizes, but it comfortably sits amongst recent medieval features like "The Last Duel" and "The King," and feels very relevant to the present day. If you get the itch for a solid medieval war movie with intelligent writing, I can't help but recommend "The Uprising."

FINAL VERDICT:
4/5 WALLYS



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Josh Kline '99: A serial builder gives back to Wabash

ELIJAH WETZEL '27
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When Josh Kline '99 was a senior at Wabash, he never really imagined himself with a career in sales. He definitely didn't think he would help start a sales internship program for Wabash students, but that's exactly what happened.

After coming to Wabash from Seattle as a Lilly Scholar in 1995 and graduating four years later with a degree in history, Kline decided that graduate school wasn't his path, and he visited the Wabash Career Center in hopes of finding a job. By his own admission, Kline arrived a little late in the job search cycle, and what was left for him were stereotypical sales jobs. He initially assumed that sales could never be an energizing career for him, but hard work and good fortune led him that way anyway.

"I didn't have an appreciation for how much art and science is involved in sales and go-to-market, but I found my way into sales," said Kline. "And just through good fortune I found my way into world class sales organizations and companies that would go on to do amazing things."

Since he broke into the go-to-market (a catchall for sales, marketing and other top-line functions for businesses) industry over 20 years ago, Kline has been involved in a number of companies in their early stages that he then helped take public.

"I got to watch how the sales organization evolved in those organizations from the early stage all the way to post-public market

IPO [initial public offering] and post-public market exit," said Kline.

His expertise is what eventually led him back to Wabash. After years of working alongside and within startup companies, Kline understood what they needed to make it in the fast-paced world of modern business. The hurdles are high, and what often separated the success stories from the ones people forgot about was the talent companies could afford to hire. But since most startups aren't flush with cash, attracting individuals with the talent to contribute is a serious problem for them. Complicating the matter further is the fact that startups aren't exactly the first companies on college and universities' lists to invite to job fairs and career discovery events.

As AI began to proliferate in the mainstream during 2022, another thing began to come into focus for Kline. Students and young professionals would need to be prepared for work in a world where specialization was no longer what was required. In the age of AI, businesses would need generalists capable of solid judgement and good taste built through experience.

"The market is done paying a premium for the person who knows one thing the deepest," said Kline in a Chapel Talk on September 10. "It now rewards the curious generalists who can see, direct and judge across domains. The new premium skills are judgment, taste, creativity, problem-solving under pressure and resilience in ambiguity."

Kline saw an opportunity at the intersection of startups' talent acquisition problem and students' need for experience. In his typical fashion, he built something to fill the gap. His answer was REVelry GTM, a sales talent accelerator that pairs innovative startups with burgeoning sellers looking to gain experience and make an impact on a business. Students receive training on sales, AI, software skills and resources and a host of workshops and mentorship opportunities. The startups get the tangible growth that they deliver, which can equate to hundreds of thousands of dollars in sales and huge increases in visibility. After the summer ends, the students can continue working with the companies during school, and some eventually pick up full-time offers for after graduation. Since beginning in 2024, more than 30 Wabash men have participated in the program. It's a big solution from a guy who always prefers to be a "doer" rather than a "talker."

"When you meet him in person, he's just a go-getter, but he also always provides great advice too," said Adam Gaskill '29, who worked for REVelry partner VanCraft over the summer.

Though he wouldn't take credit for it, REVelry's success is due in large part to Kline's work ethic and devotion to creating an "esprit de corps" among each summer's cohort.

His energy is contagious, and it creates an atmosphere where people want to succeed, not because of gimmicks, but because it comes



COURTESY OF ZACH GELEOTT '27

Josh Kline '99 with Wabash students at a REVelry GTM event.

naturally," said CIBE Program Manager Matthew Brooks '24.

Beyond the practical experience and connections within the business world that students walk away with, they learn what it means to empower and teach those who come after you.

REVelry puts students in an environment where success and growth is contagious," said Brooks. "When you put motivated students alongside an energetic leader like Josh and give them the tools and resources to pursue what they want to build, you see real confidence and competence develop, both in the work they do for their client companies and in their careers more broadly."

Students who have participated echo that sentiment and value the skills and connections they've received through their work as "REVelers."

"He's super invested in the students and super invested in making an impact on young professionals' careers," said Gaskill. "He's also very connected with [Associate Professor of Economics Eric] Dunaway and other people at Wabash. He looks for different ways to improve our learning as well as providing professional development for Wabash students."

There's no one way to give back to Wabash as an alumnus. Kline has been able to spend time with students, sharing his expertise and opening opportunities to him that few students in the country have access to. True to form, Wabash men have seized those chances to impress.

"It's easy to go hard if you sign up for missions that matter to you," said Kline. Like I tell Wabash students, 'Pick your missions carefully, and pick your teams carefully.'"

Phoebe Bridgers' "Lost Weekend" is perfection



COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

WYATT EMERSON '30
STAFF WRITER

Many songs and albums excel at filling up your surroundings; they make you feel like you're in a crowded room. Lost Weekend by Phoebe Bridgers makes you feel like you just left that room. It is caked in soft melancholy and strong emotions, and at a time like the start of a new year of college, this album is perfect.

Phoebe Bridgers gained widespread popularity after the release of her 2020 album "Punisher," which earned her 4 Grammy nominations, including the prolific Best New Artist. Prior to this she was relatively underground with only one other album, "Stranger

in the Alps." Her rise to complete stardom today can also be accredited to Taylor Swift, who toured with her, and her music trio Boygenius.

I think it is safe to say, especially 3 weeks after release, that Lost Weekend is Bridgers' magnum opus. The album could almost be called a concept album just based on the soundscape at play, but it also doesn't seem to follow a linear narrative. It covers so many different styles in its 52 minute runtime, but it doesn't feel messy at all. There is such an immense emotional core on this album, with many epic climaxes, build ups, gorgeous vocal chops and absolutely heartbreaking lyrics. Being her first release in 6 years, the effort is obvious, and the long list of collaborators reflects this as well. It has people like Cameron Winter of "Geese" fame, former Black Country New Road frontman Isaac Wood, Conor Oberst of Bright Eyes, Julien Baker and Lucy Dacus (the other two-thirds of Boygenius) and more. This album is truly a reflection of sheer artistic ambition that even when you remove the context is a damn good listen.

Starting off the tracklist with "The Outside" is such a perfect choice to me. It has these eerie, robotic, vocoder vocals that play into the themes of alienation that are present on the record. She seems to be at the funeral of her now deceased father, who she has previously written about having a tough relationship with. The line "One last time for old times sake....I'll watch him get carried away," is definitely a gut punch. The track starts off slow but eventually builds into this gorgeous piano/string ballad with a great emotional climax. The song "Lost Boys" comes next, which was the lead single for the album. This thing is upbeat and frankly one of Bridgers' catchiest songs to date. The tone of the album takes a drastic change after this, with the three track run of "Kill Me," "The Governor's Waltz" and "Bobby" all focusing on her failed marriage with actor Paul Mescal and her rekindled love with comedian Bo Burnham (who also musically collaborates). All three of these tracks are sweet, sad and extremely detailed.

One of my favorite moments on this entire album is a segment of "The Governor's Waltz" describing a party: "Dancing ourselves clean, late New Years Eve." The instrumental consists of droning choir vocals and guitar, but we can faintly hear party sounds and thumping 808's in the background briefly to signify this New Years Eve. Then comes the title track "Lost Weekend," which is honestly not only one of my favorite songs on the album but one of my favorite songs this year. It starts slow and acoustic like other tracks, but the climax of this song is an insanely detailed and sprawling electronic segment that catches the listener by surprise even on listen. Seeing this piece live with a kaleidoscope of colors and flashing lights was transcendent. Other highlights from this record include "Haunted" and "Still Standing," which are both beautiful acoustic tracks. There is a standout moment on the song "Never Going Back" where Bridgers includes a real life voicemail from her father who passed away that is definitely tear-inducing.

The second half of the record begins to wrap things up with

huge highlights, starting with "I Can't Wait." This track features a duet with Cameron Winter that is absolutely gorgeous and leads right into the next track As Above, which is arguably Phoebe's greatest vocal peak in her career. The live version of this song was also incredibly emotional and heavy, with nearly every person in the audience shedding tears to a degree.

My only issues with this album are maybe wanting slightly more from a few songs instrumentally or even wishing certain tracks were longer due to how much I enjoyed them. "Lost Weekend" is absolutely magnificent in nearly every single way. It is grand, depressing and so atmospheric. I am not claiming to be the most credible music critic — I am just a freshman in college — but I have found that I have gotten a lot out of this record and definitely believe that it's worth trying out for yourself.

FINAL VERDICT:
5/5 WALLYS



WABASH CYBERSECURITY CLUB

Myth vs. Fact

POINT 01

"Incognito Mode hides your searches"
MYTH: Incognito Mode hides search history, to hide your searches from your ISP, use a VPN.

POINT 02

"Hackers only target important people"
MYTH: Automated attacks target everyone around the world, keep good habits online.

POINT 03

"Deleted files aren't instantly gone"
FACT: When deleting a file, it only erases it from view, and can be recovered for a short time.

POINT 04

"If my computer is off, my data is safe"
MYTH: If your drive isn't encrypted, everything can be read without even logging in.

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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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Culture, not content: Why music needs gatekeepers again



Benjamin
Anacleiro '30

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Watch the crowd at any music venue today, and you will witness the same ritual from almost every single fan. It's a sea of glowing rectangles to record a clip of the concert to post to their favorite social media platform. The moment the glorified thirty second clip used on a trending audio ends and most people spend the rest of the song on their phone trying to post that exact clip trying to go viral.

Back in the day, which is not that long ago, music could be withheld from people as you needed to have the physical disc or record in order to hear the music. However, in modern music culture, gatekeeping like this has been branded as public enemy number one. While we should celebrate a universally accessible catalog of songs that can be provided by music streamers such as Spotify and Apple Music, it creates a frictionless digital playground for any and all artists and listeners alike to create or listen to anything they want. By doing this, we have stripped music of its core identity and community. It's time to start gatekeeping music again.

What algorithms provide is efficiency, but what they destroy is lineage. What this means is a majority of these streaming apps' users rarely listen to a whole album anymore. Why would you listen to the whole album when you can just search for and listen to the most popular ones? It severs the song from its home and physical community and just becomes another song in the list of a "Vibes" or "Summer" playlist. In the not so distant past, you would have to put the CD or cassette into your player and commit to that specific album or grouping of songs. There was no search bar, no recommended playlists and no TikTok audios. A music scene without boundaries and commitment like this ceases to become a community and becomes a demographic waiting to be monetized. There is a fundamental truth about human psychology when it comes to acquiring things. What is acquired easily or for free is rarely cherished as much as if you had to buy or earn it. Going out of your way to find an artist's album shows genuine love and loyalty for the music. Searching

for trending audios on TikTok to post to a video clip is not. Yet, the biggest consequence of this boundary-free landscape is the ongoing collapse of concert viewing. In recent years, all you see at concerts is fans throwing objects at performers in an attempt to get caught on camera or recording the entire concert on their phone just to never watch it again. This behavior is known as the "concert tourists" epidemic, which is somebody drawn to an event not by the music itself, but the social gain they stand to inherit just by taking a video of them being there.

My personal favorite genre, rock, has been affected by this epidemic the most. Rock and all its subgenres have always demanded real investment in music. When you listen to a song like "Drive" by The Cars, "Missing You" by John Waite or "Your Song" by Elton John, you feel real feelings of love, compassion, loss and connection to the song itself. This differs heavily from the slop that is turned out today, as music is purely about going viral and making the most money rather than the quality of the art itself. Due to everybody being able to listen to anything they want, whenever they want, it completely removes the physical connections to the music itself. Nothing proves my point as well as the fast fashion and "vintage" clothing that is churned out with a rock band cover on the back of it. Nothing dilutes the album or band from its meaning more than a "vintage" Nirvana or Journey shirt sold at big box store chains bought by people who couldn't name more than two songs from the band. Gatekeeping is not about punishing that person for buying the t-shirt, it's about defending rock as a genuine music genre, not just a cash grab from a company.

When you walk into a person's home, do you walk around with your shoes covered in mud and grass? Or do you take them off at the front door on the rug as a sign of respect? The way you respect the house and its owner applies the same to the art of music. Constructive gatekeeping is needed, if you want to enter the home, you must take off your shoes, the same as if you enter a new genre or album, you must respect its fans and listeners. Friction creates value. When all barriers of entry are eliminated, we do not free the art from its chains. We take its creation to algorithms and value it purely by its engagement with social media users. If music is to survive as a pure art form of emotional expression and storytelling, somebody must lock the door with the only way in being genuine connection and love for the music.

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'Twas A BREEZE

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THEY HAD US IN THE FIRST HALF

Lo-Five to the Purdue Boilermakers for fumbling the football game away against Wake Forest in 2OT. Leave it to Purdue to get 99% of the way to a win.

"IS THAT PRINCE PHILLIP?"

Hi-Five to U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell on his successful exhumation after a three month absence. Only five more years until he's old enough to be President.

TYPICAL DANNY BEHAVIOR...

*Lo-Five to D***** for charging \$132 (we're not joking) for Monon Bell Game shirts. An ADDITIONAL lo-five to the Dannies for not releasing ticket and tailgate info yet. Our expectations are low, but wow, that's bad.*

The beauty of rain



Rowan O'Daniel
'28

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rmodanie28@wabash.edu

There are few things people seem to agree on more than hating the rain. The moment the sky turns gray, jackets come out, events get canceled and someone inevitably complains about having to walk across campus for their next class. But I stand up from the clouds of those who loathe the raindrops. When I wake up and see rain dropping on my window, I know it's going to be a good day.

The thing is I really do understand why the majority reject the rain. Walking to class with wet shoes, squeaking each step, is miserable. Rain can ruin an afternoon outside, make a muddy practice and make the five-minute walk across campus feel considerably longer. Still, I would take a few raindrops or a storm over a perfectly sunny day almost every time.

Have you ever felt like rain changes the ambiance of a day? Wabash looks different to me when it rains. The brick sidewalks become a little darker; puddles form along the paths and everything seems quieter and louder all the same. People stop hanging around outside and hurry between buildings. Campus, which usually has a lot of hustle and bustle, suddenly becomes a little more peaceful. Even the same walk that I have made hundreds of times feels better underneath a gray sky.

I think part of why I enjoy rain so much is because it gives you permission to slow down. College constantly feels like there is something else you are supposed to be doing. There is another assignment to finish, another meeting to attend, another practice, another event or another place you could be. Even when you finally have nothing to do, there is sometimes a strange feeling that you should be doing something anyway. Rain seems to interrupt that.

When it is raining outside, staying

inside does not feel like wasting the day anymore. Sitting in your room reading, watching a movie with the fellas or playing guitar suddenly doesn't feel like a waste of time. There is something uniquely comforting about hearing rain hit a window while you are inside with nowhere you need to be. You get to finally catch up on the little joys in life that being busy often takes away.

Rain also makes me pay more attention to things that I normally ignore. I notice the smell outside after it rains. That smell is called "petrichor" and it reminds me of the Earth and all the hikes I've taken on her. I notice the sound of cars driving through flooded streets or water dripping from leaves of trees. I notice how much brighter grass looks underneath a dark sky. None of these things are particularly important, but maybe that is exactly why I like them. They are small things that are easy to miss when every day is treated as something that needs to be productive.

There is also something strange about the way we describe weather. A sunny day is almost automatically called a "nice day," while rain means the weather is "bad." Obviously, nobody wants rain during an outdoor wedding or in the middle of a football game, but I don't think rain deserves its reputation. Sunshine has become so connected with happiness that anything gray must apparently be depressing. I have never really understood that.

To me, rain is not depressing. It is calming. A thunderstorm late at night is even better. There is something about hearing distant thunder and watching the room briefly light up that makes being inside feel even more comfortable.

I don't expect everyone to start celebrating when the forecast shows rain. I will probably continue hearing people complain about it for the rest of my life, and occasionally I will probably be one of them when it gets bad. But I think there is something worth appreciating about a day that makes everything calmer.

So the next time you wake up to gray skies and rain hitting your window, resist the urge to lament and turn your annoyed mug into a happy one. Put on a jacket, accept that you might get a little wet, and pay attention to the smells, the sounds, and the puddles splashing. You might still hate it.

As for me, I will be hoping it rains a storm tomorrow.

Ranch: The perfect complement condiment



Garrett Jolliffe '28

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Pizza, wings, celery, carrots... What do they all have in common? Ranch. It's great with everything. One common misconception about ranch is that it doesn't taste great by itself. I argue that ranch isn't supposed to be enjoyed solo. It belongs with things, to make the object taste spectacular.

An experience when I found ranch to be unlike any other condiment was when I was eating at this fine "wing joint" establishment in my younger years. I was handed a plate of wings with this mysterious cup of sauce. I was conflicted because I had never had whatever this mystery substance was before, so I decided to give it a try. From the very first bite, I was blown away. A savory mayo mix with hints of buttermilk and all the herbs and spices a person could ever dream of. From that day on, I don't think I could imagine a world without ranch.

Now, some people are in the opposition. I am of course speaking of the blue cheese lovers. According to various sources around campus, blue cheese has been around since the 8th century, whereas ranch is a much more modern discovery dating back to around the 1950s. With this in mind, it is clear to see why blue cheese has such a massive following due to its tenure as a condiment. However, it cannot do the things ranch can do. Ranch brings feelings of joy to all food lovers, all those who want a nice condiment to compliment their wings on an NFL Sunday, or maybe even a slice of pizza. Not to mention, blue cheese is only "blue" because it has been aged (it's got mold). To be clear, I'm not saying that blue cheese is a bad condiment. I am simply saying that ranch is better. It can be used for much more.

Another popular opponent is ketchup. I, however, view ketchup as more of an ally. Ketchup is fantastic. It goes on most everything as well. Fries are a popular situation where most people would use ketchup because it is readily available. It is always on the table at your easy convenience.

I think that this way that ketchup presents itself is genius. Now, think about how much better your dining experience would be if ranch was on the table adjacent to the ketchup. Ranch would be readily available to fit all the needs that ketchup fits, but even more. Maybe even mix the ketchup and ranch together to create an immaculate concoction.

The world of what you can do with ranch is so vast. The possibilities are endless. Take, for example, the buffalo ranch. You are enjoying some nice cheese curds at the crib, and you would like something to dip them in. You look in the fridge, and you see a full tub of ranch and right next to it... some buffalo sauce. You think to yourself, "I wonder if these would taste good together. Of course they do! But the buffalo sauce isn't doing all the work. It's the ranch because it is the ultimate compliment condiment.

Now, I've only covered some of the ways that ranch can be used when enjoying a nice meal. There are several others, however. Some of my favorite dishes to enjoy with ranch are jalapeño poppers, onion rings, fried Pickles, a salad, burgers or maybe even a nice turkey sandwich. As covered prior, ranch tastes immaculate when mixed with other condiments.

At the end of the day, ranch is more than just a condiment. It is a way of life. Whether it is being dipped, drizzled, mixed or poured onto a meal, ranch has proven time and time again that it can make almost anything better. Blue cheese may have been around for centuries, and ketchup may have its spot on the table but ranch has something neither of them can truly match: grit. There is almost no situation where ranch cannot find a way to make an appearance. Wings? Ranch. Pizza? Ranch. Fried pickles? Ranch. A turkey sandwich that is looking a little dry? You guessed it, ranch. The list could go on forever.

So, the next time you sit down to eat and see that little cup of ranch sitting beside your food, don't take it for granted. Give it a dip, give it a drizzle, or mix it with something else. You might just discover what I did all those years ago at that fine wing establishment: ranch makes everything better. It may not be the oldest condiment, and it may not be the most respected condiment, but it is certainly one of the most useful. Ranch does not need to be the main attraction. It is perfectly happy sitting on the sidelines, waiting for its opportunity to make whatever you are eating just a little bit better. And honestly, isn't that what a great condiment is supposed to do?

The G.O.A.T. debate is a failure in evaluation



Carter McCall '29

Sports Editor

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There is a particular kind of sports fan who cannot watch a player achieve greatness without immediately reaching for narratives. A record falls, a championship is won and before the confetti is settled they are asking where this player ranks within the all time greats. It is a question that feels urgent and important when it is not. The G.O.A.T. debate is not a conversation about sports. It is a conversation about nostalgia that is dressed up as analysis, and it does a disservice to the athletes that are really competing.

Let us start with the most obvious problem. The game is not standing still. Every major sport is in a state of constant evolution. Training, nutrition, biomechanics, film study, data analytics and equipment are continuously developing. The athlete of today operates in an environment so sophisticated that direct comparison to a prior era is meaningless. When we ask whether LeBron James is better than Michael Jordan or whether Patrick Mahomes surpasses Joe Montana, we are essentially asking whether a Formula 1 car is faster than a 1960s stock car. Determining who is better when you take two athletes in completely different eras is impossible.

This is not a slight against the legends. Bill Russel completely dominated his era. So did Jim Brown and Wayne Gretzky. So did Pelé, who never played against a goalkeeper who had access to video breakdowns of his tendencies, and whose physical preparation amounted to a fraction of what any modern academy player receives before their eighteenth birthday. These players' dominance was achieved against the competition, rules, training methods and the physical understanding of their time. The modern athlete stands on the shoulders of everything those players built, and they are responsible to take it further. This is not a diminishment of the greats of the past. This is what progress looks like. To freeze frame a single moment in the progression and declare it the summit is to misunderstand the nature of athletic achievement. Ted Williams hit .406 in 1941 and is rightly celebrated as one of the greatest hitters who ever lived. But Williams never faced pitchers like Jacob Misorowski or Paul Skenes who consistently threw over 100 mph fast balls and breaking balls with 14 inches of break. He never had to come up against a pitcher who knows more about his tendencies and weakness than he does. Comparing his numbers to a modern hitter's is not analysis.

The more corrosive problem with the G.O.A.T debate is what it does to the players who are playing right now.

When legacy becomes the lens through which we evaluate performance, we stop watching athletes and start auditing them. Every game becomes a boost or blemish to their résumé. Every loss is a mark against a mythology. Every play-off exit is ammunition in an argument that will outlast their career. Fans and media stop seeing the player as a human being competing in the present, but as a study into where they rank among the all time greats. LeBron James spent two decades having every finals appearance put up against Michael Jordan's 6-0 record. The narrative was discussed as though the path through the Eastern Conference in 2007 with a Cleveland team of journeymen was equivalent to navigating the Jordan-era Bulls. The framework was never fair. There is something deeply reductive about collapsing an entire career into the question of where someone ranks on an all-time list. It substitutes the scoreboard for a story.

Across nearly every sport, position is destiny. A point guard and a center do not play the same game. A starting pitcher and a closer do not bear the same burden. A quarterback and a defensive tackle have completely different responsibilities. The demands, exposure, statistics, and physical toll are entirely different depending on where you line up. Yet, the G.O.A.T. debate wants to crown a single name as if all these sports are individual sports. In football, the conversation almost always defaults to quarterbacks. People have to pick between Brady, Montana or Manning as though Lawrence Taylor did not redefine what a defense could or as though Calvin Johnson did not strike more fear into opposing teams defensive coordinators than any player ever had. The offensive lineman who played 15 years without missing a game and who opens every hole and protects the pocket will never enter G.O.A.T. conversation. This is not because he is less great, but because the cameras do not follow him when the play is over. In basketball, centers who once dominated in the past such as Wilt Chamberlain averaging 50 points in a season or Shaquille O'Neal owning the paint, get quietly shuffled out of the conversation because their position is no longer as essential in the way that a wing or guard is. The debate was never actually designed to measure greatness, but it was made to produce arguments. It was made to give the "analysts," who do not know anything about the game, something to yell at each other about in order to create a spectacle to make more money.

The G.O.A.T. debate will never be settled because it cannot be settled. The game will keep changing. New players will keep arriving who do things their predecessors could not have imagined. And fans who spent years arguing about the past will find themselves scrambling to fit the newest wonder into a framework not designed for them. Watch what the athlete is doing this quarter, this set, this at bat, this period. That is where greatness actually lives.

'A fistful of quarters'

Crossword by Paul Hawksworth '28

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
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Across

- Notorious B.I.G. songs
- Info
- General known for his cuisine?
- Unconvinced reply
- Grad
- Campbell's product
- Gymnast Comaneci
- Feudal land owner
- Centermost layer of Earth
- Combat arcade game featuring Ryu
- Brown delivery truck co.
- Classic 25-down service
- Tube shooter arcade game published by Atari
- Dark horse
- GDI's, formally
- Sith title
- Frenzy, for a shopper
- The "i" in Pixar?
- "Oh my gosh, that's terrible!"
- Categorize
- Written slander
- Greek suffix meaning "city"
- Actress Long
- zigzags on skis
- Street-crossing arcade game
- Plant that grows on Wrigley Field's outfield wall
- "Mr. Blue Sky" group, familiarly
- Alien shoot-em-up arcade game
- Grand finale, in music
- Like a ____ in headlights
- Home for the Heat
- Alda of M*A*S*H
- Feminine one from Germany?
- Won't happen in a million years
- Dad's counterpart
- Actress Kendrick
- Cincinnati MLBers

Down

- Morning exercise, perhaps
- "Take on Me" group
- Prof's degrees
- Dress for success?
- NASCAR driver Earnhardt
- Many
- Surf & ____
- It goes from 540 to 1600
- Blow a horn
- Absolutely
- Who 0 dials on old phones, for short
- Reiterated over and over
- Lugs something heavy
- Writing assignment in English class, perhaps
- As time ____ by
- Cash drawers
- What clubs send to everyone to invite them to a callout meeting
- Following "black" in Kobe Bryant's nickname
- Vacations
- Layer in a cabinet
- Part of a fork
- Creepy
- Pave a road again
- Boxing decision, abbr.
- State bird of Louisiana
- Begot
- "All You Need Is ____" (Beatles song)
- Somber
- Credit stealer's claim
- More bloody
- Phishing, e.g.
- Flagship of Ralph Lauren
- Abel's father
- Deny, auf Deutsch
- Compare and contrast diagram
- Length * width
- What superheroes do for a person
- "Chicago ____" (NBC drama)
- Tax org



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Looking for inspiration? Here is a beautiful 2023 Homecoming comic from Preston Parker '26.

'If the GDI's can do it'



The Tigers forgot to roar: Little Giants run wild in 31-0 rout

CARTER MCCALL '29
SPORTS EDITOR

Little Giant Stadium had a party Saturday afternoon, and Cole Dickerson '28 was the guest of honor.

Dickerson bulldozed his way to a career-high 206 yards and two touchdowns on the ground through 20 carries, shattering his previous career high and crossing 1,000 rushing yards for his career in the process. He added four catches for 32 yards for good measure. Through two games this season, Dickerson has rushed for at least two touchdowns in each.

The Wabash defense turned in the kind of performance that makes opposing offensive coordinators lose sleep, holding Wittenberg to a measly 74 total yards in a 31-0 North Coast Athletic Conference victory. It was not just a win, but a domination.

"I am incredibly proud of our defense," said Head Football Coach Jake Gilbert '98. "It's so hard to earn a shut out, let alone against Wittenberg. Our defensive line had several sacks and tackles for loss. It was one of the best performances by a D-line that I've ever seen."

Wabash (2-0, 1-0 NCAC) piled up a season-high 252 rushing yards, found the end zone in every single quarter and never let the outcome feel remotely in doubt. Wittenberg (0-2, 0-1 NCAC) finished with -40 rushing yards, a number that belongs on a blooper reel rather than a stat sheet, and the Little Giants did not allow the Tigers to pick up a single first down in the fourth quarter. It was Wabash's first shutout since a 36-0 win over Denison last September, and this one arrived with an exclamation point.

Quarterback Brand Campbell '27 did his part, completing eight of 15 passes for 112 yards and a touchdown while adding a 20-yard rushing score of his own. His touchdown throw moved him into sole possession of eighth place on Wabash's career passing touchdown list with 41, a mark that puts him in rare company in the program's history books. The quarterback rotation added an extra wrinkle to the afternoon. Campbell and Jackson Gilbert '28 split drives under center for the second game in a row, with Gilbert taking every third possession. But the arrangement did nothing to slow Wabash down. Gilbert delivered a clutch 8-yard completion to Fancher that kept the fourth-quarter drive alive and allowed the Little Giants to chew even more clock. Jackson Gilbert's performance showed he could operate the offense just as smoothly as Campbell. The rotation gave Wabash two different looks behind center without sacrificing a beat of rhythm, further proof that the Little Giants have options up and down the roster.

"We are playing Brand and Jackson

both because they both deserve to play," said Jake Gilbert. "They've both had great springs and falls so far. We trust them both and I've played two quarterbacks many seasons in the past. Brand is our starter. Jackson played in 7 games last year. They've both played a lot of high level football here, so we are happy to play them both."

The scoring started early. Wabash needed just six plays and 63 yards to find pay dirt late in the first quarter, with Campbell hitting Luke Adams '28 for 33 yards before Dickerson punched it in from four yards out with 4:39 left in the period.

From there, the defense took over the show. William Harris '28 strung together back-to-back tackles for loss in a first-quarter series, and Samuel Poriah '29 chipped in a third-down sack to keep the pressure building. Wabash doubled its lead late in the second quarter after Dakota Johnson '28 sacked Wittenberg on fourth down at the Little Giants' 27-yard line, setting up a 56-yard Dickerson touchdown run two plays later that made it 14-0 with 2:09 remaining before halftime. Poriah added another sack in the period as Wabash held Wittenberg to one first down and minus-31 rushing yards over those 15 minutes.

"We have a very solid group of guys on the D-line that are able to hold their gaps and stop the run," said Poriah. "If we can hold our gaps, then our linebackers can hit their gaps, and if everyone does their job then the result is very few yards and few or no points"

Xavier Brooks '29 opened the third quarter with a jolt, returning the second-half kickoff 50 yards to set up a Nick Witte '28 touchdown reception from Campbell which pushed the margin to 21-0.

Camden Singer '28 turned in a career day of his own, recording two third-quarter sacks, including a 12-yard sack on third-and-16, and finishing with five total tackles. Wabash then put the finishing touches on the win in the fourth quarter, as Javon Garry '27 set up a 20-yard Campbell touchdown run that made it 28-0 with 14:02 to play. A 10-play, 5:29 drive later, Tyler Church '28 booted a 34-yard field goal to complete the scoring with 6:49 remaining.

Wabash controlled the ball for 11:01 of the fourth quarter alone and did not permit a single Wittenberg first down in the period. Poriah finished with a career-high two sacks and Johnson recorded a sack for the second straight game as Wabash's defense racked up five sacks overall.

Up next, Wabash hits the road for a Saturday, Sept. 19 kickoff at noon against Oberlin College. Oberlin is coming off of two major blowout losses, including a 55-0 loss to Denison University.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Cole Dickerson '28 prepares to stiff-arm a Wittenberg defender into the turf in their game against Wittenberg University on September 12 at Little Giant Stadium.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Carson Foxen '28 and Jaron Smith '29 combine for a huge hit in their game against Wittenberg University on September 12 at Little Giant Stadium.



PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

Luke Adams '28 celebrates a first down catch in the game against Wittenberg University on September 12 at Little Giant Stadium.

Soccer bounces back after first loss of the season to improve to 7-1

TY MURPHY '27
MANAGING EDITOR

It was a tough weekend for Wabash College soccer as they played back-to-back games in the Crawfordsville heat during the Robbie Dreher Classic. An early win on Saturday marked the best start for Wabash soccer since 2015, but a loss on Sunday defined the tournament. However, the team reshaped their confidence with a bounce back win against Anderson College.

The team opened up the Classic facing Alma College on September 12 in Fischer Field. Coming off a hot win streak, the Little Giants made their presence known fast.

Brady Reiter '29 scored his first goal of the season in minute 17, putting the team up 1-0. After constant pressure on

the goalie, Wabash went into halftime with a one goal advantage. It was not until minute 52 when the Scots would show some life thanks to a goal by Gavyn Moore. But the Little Giants' young core responded well when Gavin Glackman '30 set up Johan Arroyo '30 for the game-sealing goal that put the team up 2-0. Alma was unable to capitalize on any play thanks to Wabash's constant pressure and the game ended in a Little Giant victory and 6-0 start to the season.

"We had a good start on Saturday and played well, but I think we still left some goals on the table, but you know we got the result, which is important to us as a team," said Head Coach Chris Keller.

With a chance to win the tournament and take home the trophy, Wabash had faced its toughest game thus far and had

their win streak in jeopardy.

The team faced Muskingum University on September 13 in Fischer Field for the second game of the weekend. The first half was all Wabash. Bryce Kinnaman '27 and Ethan Simmons '29 put up constant pressure with multiple shots on goal. But it was a stalemate going into the other half until the Muskies went up 1-0 in the second half before Wabash answered with an Alfredo Campos '27 goal off the Glackman assist. Despite having a 23-9 advantage in shots, the Little Giants could not convert a goal. Muskingum would capitalize on these small mistakes with a goal by Connor Baldwin to lead the Muskies past the Little Giants in the final minute at 2-1. This frustrating outcome ended the team's win streak and put their record at 6-1.

"We came a little short," said Keller. "We outshot them. We had a lot of chances. Our keeper had some good saves, but we are pretty disappointed in the loss, knowing we were probably the better team on the day. Those other guys that had an opportunity to play, you know, showed what they were, what they could do, and maybe what they couldn't do."

The team bounced back in a dominant fashion despite the interruption of a dog on the field at minute 11. It was a

tough defensive match with each team fighting each other for possession, almost leading to a stalemate in the first half, but thanks to a perfect assist from Campos, Glackman was able to punch in the goal at minute 44 to give Wabash a 1-0 lead. It would not be long until the Little Giants scored again when Kinnaman drove down the field and hammered the ball into the goal to put the team up 2-0. From there on, Wabash dominated keeping the majority of possession into the end of the game to take home a 2-0 victory.

"It was good to bounce back with a strong win after Sunday's disappointing result," said Kinnaman. "Anderson is a hard-working team and we stayed focused throughout the 90 minutes to hold the shutout. We are injured in some spots right now, but guys took the responsibility of keeping the level, even if they played out of position."

The team returns to Fischer Field on Saturday, February 19, to take on Augustana College (IL) with the game set to start at 4 p.m. EST. As the team bounces back from their first loss of the season, they will look to regain their confidence in a tough matchup against the Vikings.

"It was good to bounce back with a strong win after Sunday's disappointing result. Anderson is a hard-working team and we stayed focused throughout the 90 minutes to hold the shutout."

-Bryce Kinnaman '27

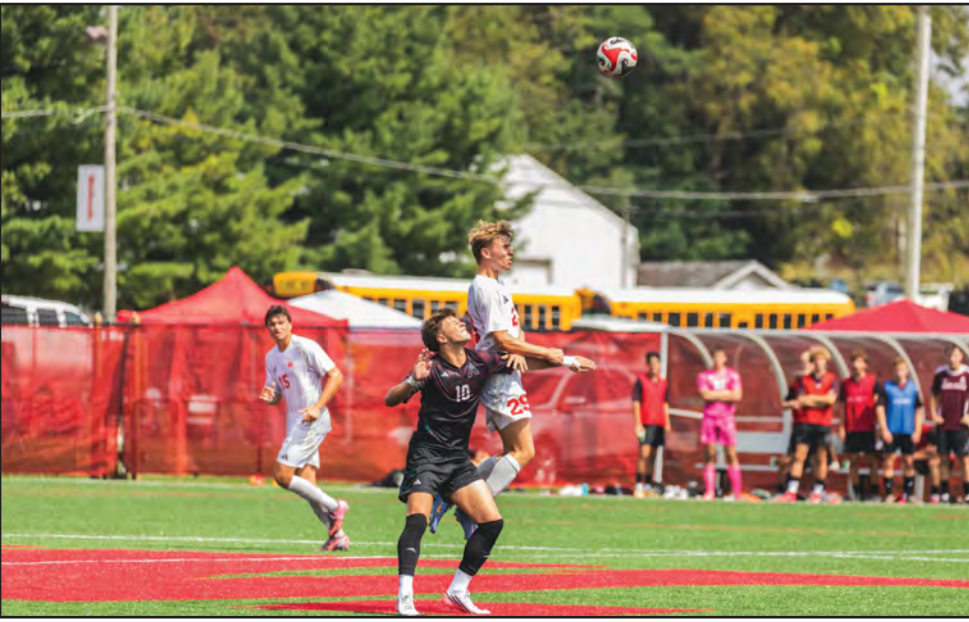


PHOTO BY JEREMIAH RUNGE '29

Blake Horn '29 beats out an Alma College midfielder to clear a ball back into Wabash College offensive territory.

Alfredo Campos '27 builds upon his legacy at Wabash

TY MURPHY '27
MANAGING EDITOR

Wabash College soccer is off to an incredible start to their season, and some of their players are starting to pick up traction from the conference. With six goals and five assists to start the season, Alfredo (Freddy) Campos '27 was named North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Player of the Week on September 9.

If you ask anyone that knows him, this is what everyone should expect



Alfredo Campos '27 looks to find a forward in a game against Rose-Hulman University on September 9 at Fischer Field.

PHOTO BY WILL DUNCAN '27

out of Campos. Hailing from Oakland, California, he grew up kicking a ball around. But Wabash College was not always on the senior's mind when it was time to pick a college.

"My dad always played soccer, so there's always a soccer ball around and that's how I got into it," said Campos. "But I was just playing in small leagues in Oakland till I started playing in a club. I was getting recruited by another school that [Head] Coach [Chris] Keller knew

about, so then they both went to go watch me play, and then that's when I started talking to Coach Keller about coming to Wabash."

Indiana is quite different from California, and for Campos that was definitely an adjustment. But when he got on campus, he found more than just a team. He found a family that could help him adjust.

"My first year was definitely the hardest for me to get used to something new," said Campos. "Being part of a team, it definitely made it a lot easier. The time I was spending away from home felt worth it when I was playing. My coaches, teammates and even roommates all had similar experiences so I knew I could lean on them."

While his freshman year was spent adjusting to playing at a new level with a new team, it was his sophomore season that really demonstrated his impact. With six goals and two assists on the season, he was not only developing as a player, but also a leader.

"I knew what to expect," said Campos. "And then after going through a preseason, you know what work is required in the summer to come in ready. That was the change that showed me how I was going to be."

Despite a disappointing junior year, his senior year is where his mindset really showed. After being named captain to the team, Campos truly began to lead by example, and his team took notice.

"Freddy really worked hard this summer to get ready, and wanted to have

a great year, and he has started off really well," said Keller. "He put in a lot of work this summer, and you could tell he was putting the work on the soccer field, in the weight room, getting fit and that's one of the reasons we have had such a good start."

That work has been evident so far. In seven games, Campos has already surpassing his previous best season in terms of goals and assists. With NCAC play less than a month away, do not expect him to let up.

"We're just trying to turn the page," said Campos. "Now we're focused on our next game, and then that's going to be the idea we have for the rest of the year. We're not going to focus on what already

"Freddy really worked hard this summer to get ready, and wanted to have a great year, and he has started off really well."

**-Head Soccer Coach
Chris Keller**

happened, but we're going to focus on what's coming next."

His soccer career at Wabash might be over soon, but his impact will remain past his graduation. Whether it is his play, leadership or the culture he has helped instill, Wabash soccer has needed Campos just as much as Campos needed soccer.

Continued from page 1

Wabash put on a birdie clinic during the second round as they began on the back nine once again. They wasted no time as four Little Giants birdied hole 11, and the momentum continued as they recorded 13 total birdies through the first nine holes, with Carteaux birdieing the last three holes before making the turn to the front nine. Their momentum was interrupted by a two-and-a-half hour weather delay, where the golfers had to try and stay fresh while not being able to hit balls to stay warm. This did not hinder the Little Giant's success. Wabash went on to record nine more birdies in the final nine holes and finished the second round firmly in first as a team, with Dellinger the solo leader followed by teammate, Jackson Mahan '30, who was two strokes behind.

The third round of play on Saturday was a continuation of the momentum the Little Giants had built the day before. Pierle birdied the first three holes to begin the round. Four Wabash players birdied hole 16, and made the turn to the front nine at an even par.

"I was excited going into the round. It had been some time since I've been in contention in a tournament," said Dellinger. "I was just focused on the next shot throughout the round and it happened to go my way."

The final nine holes featured a combination of birdies and bogeys as the Little Giants embodied the Wabash Always Fights mentality. The final hole of the tournament was a cherry on top of an amazing day of golf, as Dellinger eagled hole nine, and his teammates Morton and Carteaux both birdied to finish out the day. The eagle certified Dellinger's win at three-under par, and Morton finished in second at even-par. Dellinger was named NCAC Men's Golf Athlete of the Week on September 15.

"I was in the fairway on 18 and I didn't know where I stood," said Dellinger. "I asked (Coach) Kopp where the leader was at and he told me I'd be fine, which was pretty relieving and made the last hole much easier."

The Wabash "B" team finished in eighth in the tournament led by Mahan, who finished third individually at two-over par. The team finished a combined 922 strokes with the second round being their best of 296 strokes.

"The team has been pretty locked in all season," said Dellinger. "We don't see that changing anytime soon."

The Little Giants will get a small break before they tee off next for The Wabash College Invitational, their home tournament on October 5-6 that they host at Broadmoor Country Club.

Tennis faces tough test to open season

ANTONIO GRANDINETTI '28
STAFF WRITER

The Wabash College tennis team opened up the season with a couple singles and doubles victories. On September 11-12, the Little Giants tennis team travelled to University of Wisconsin-Whitewater to play in the Warhawk Fall Tournament. There were no team scores, but plenty of individual success. These matches were against highly competitive teams such as the host, Wisconsin-Whitewater, Lake Forest College, Olivet Nazarene University and Roosevelt University.

The competition was hard and the Little Giants players have some work to do. The main results from players were Rafael Rin '27 in the No. 2 singles bracket with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Lake Forest College's Rodrigo Cunha. Rin then came just short in a nailbitter at 2-6, 6-4, 14-12 to earn third place in the tournament. Samuel Soto Garcia '28 was one of the top performers in the No. 3 bracket, competing with his teammate Bernardo Furtado '30 at 6-3, 6-1. He then competed against another Little Giant, Vittorio Bonna '27, with the result 6-3, 3-6, 12-10.

From this good playing, Head Tennis Coach Daniel Bickett praised Soto Garcia. The Mexico City native had spent some time in and out of the lineup

"To see Samuel Soto Garcia, who's worked really hard over these last three years get some good competitive opportunities is a great sign of how much this team has developed," said Bickett.

Lastly, Faustino Dimuro '28 lost his

"This is a completely different team from May. It's on us to work towards a new culture."

-Samuel Soto Garcia '28

first match 7-5, 6-4 and proceeded to win the losers bracket at 6-4, 4-6, 10-7 in the first match and then 6-1, 6-1 in the second. Two freshmen, Etoe Bonna '30 and Furtado played their first matches with the Little Giants.

"Both of the freshmen who played this weekend need to adapt to some aspects



PHOTO BY DIEGO BANUELOS '27

Rafael Rin '27 gets ready to serve the ball in a dual meet against John Carroll University at Collett Tennis Center on April 19.

of college tennis, and that's the thing that guys like Faustino, Samuel and Eric can help them with," said Bickett. "So it's good to see that those guys who've been here and been developing for a couple years are starting to show off some results, and that should make the freshmen have to work a little bit harder."

Bickett explained the difficulty of the rivals and the importance of this tournament as a point to address what to work on and to understand where the team sits right now at the beginning of the season.

"It was a good opportunity to get out and play some tough competition," said Bickett. "When you look at that draw, you have two scholarship schools in Olivet Nazarene, and then Roosevelt University, who's Division II. Lake Forest was a NCAA qualifier last year and a top 50 team in the country. Whitewater is historically a top 40 team in Division III. So it was a good measuring stick for the things we need to continue to improve on and need to work on."

Culture is one of the main aspects of work this season and the team knows exactly where they need to improve on for the young team.

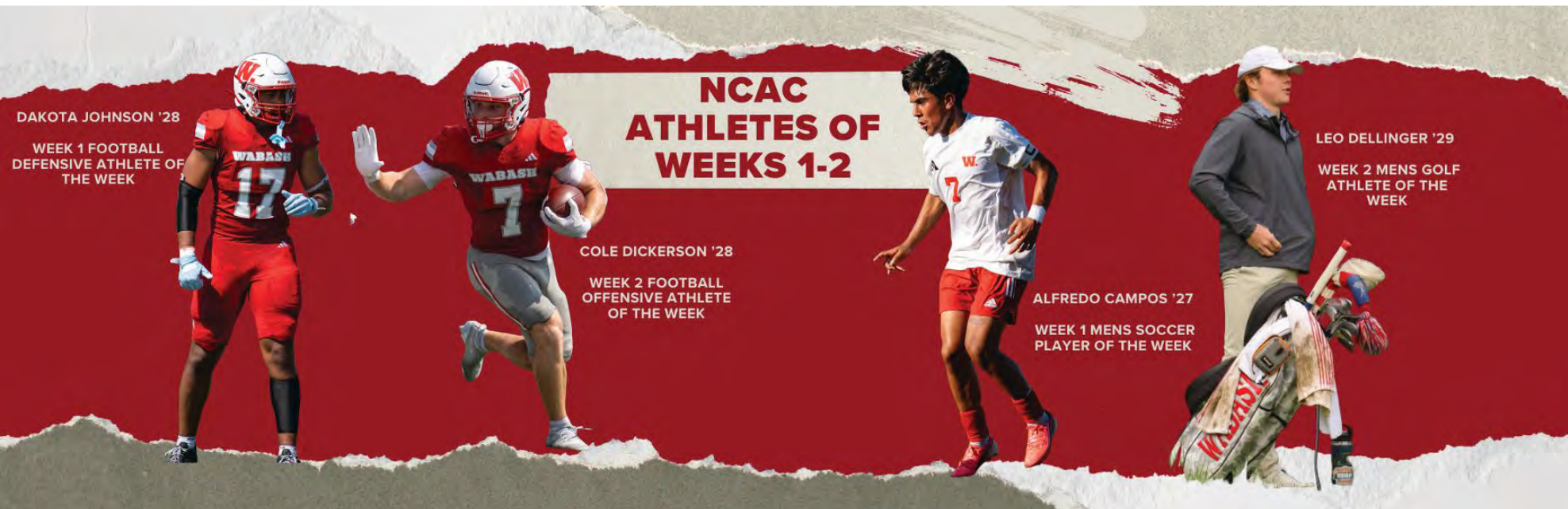
"We graduated six seniors last year," said Bickett. "So it was a good

opportunity for us to see what everyone's role is going to look like on the team. The one culture thing that's been constant throughout all my years is: We're gonna come in, we're gonna work as hard as we can in practice and then we're gonna compete like our lives depend on it."

As the team looks forward to this season, they are optimistic about the steps that the team has made but are still working to become the best version of themselves that they can be. This starts with the veteran leaders that have seen the culture of the team change since they have been here, and now it is time for them to leave thier mark.

"This is a completely different team from May. It's on us to work towards a new culture," said Soto Garcia. "New captains and new players make me excited for our future, but we need to grow, specially in the energy aspect. Our seniors had a big impact while in the stands since they were rooting for you so hard."

The tennis team's next challenge will come on September 19 at a Junior Varsity Match against Bethel University in Mishawaka, Indiana. After that they will travel to Brownsburg, Indiana to play in the ITA Central Region Tournament on October 2-4.



GRAPHIC BY WILL DUNCAN '27