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WABASH COLLEGE



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THE STUDENT VOICE OF WABASH SINCE 1908

Students, Administration Clash over Delt Closing

Administration says decisions consistent with Gentleman's Rule

GARY JAMES '10
NEWS EDITOR

With a student dead, an on-going investigation, a fraternity house disbanded, and the perception of a new hardline against underage drinking, tension between the students and the administration saturates the campus.

The Senior Council organized an open forum Tuesday night in Pioneer Chapel for students to air their concerns and frustrations. Dean of Students Michael Raters and Associate Dean of Students Rick Warner attended the forum, and they tried to set the record straight on some of the rumors that have spread around campus. But for all the questions they did answer, there were other central question they did not, and according to them, could not answer

Almost five weeks after the death of Delta Tau Delta pledge Johnny Smith and the following investigations by the college, the national fraternity office, and local police, the Beta Psi Chapter of Delta Tau Delta is no longer recognized by Wabash College, and the lease on its recently-renovated house at 603 W. Wabash Ave has been terminated.

In a 225-word email sent by President Patrick White, he notified the student body of the decision to disband Delta Tau Delta after "considerable investigation and conversation" that found "a culture and practice of ungentlemanly behavior and irresponsible citizenship, which are inconsistent with Wabash's Gentleman's Rule, mission, and core values."

Dean Raters could not speak about the specifics of what has been found during his investigation. "The college withdrew recognition of the chapter, and the lease is terminated," he said. "That decision was finalized [last] Wednesday night, and presented [last] Thursday morning" to the Deltas at 7:15 a.m.

Raters said Deltas 21 and older were told they had to leave the house by Sunday, November 9. Those who are under 21 were given the choice to remain in the house if they wanted. Those under 21 were instructed not to go to



STEVE ABBOTT | WABASH '09

Greek letters denoting the Delta Tau Delta fraternity were removed after the College administration decided to withdraw recognition of the fraternity and terminate their lease. Seventeen Delt brothers over the age of twenty-one were moved out of the building.

the on-campus residences of those over 21, and those over 21 are not to return to the former Delt house. "The reason for that is to limit the possibility of a reoccurrence of the culture that we found to exist and that would not be in the students best interest or college," Raters said.

When pressed about the details of the culture to which he was referring, Raters said he could not comment beyond what was written in President White's email. "I'm not in a position right now where I can share details," Raters said, "but I would look very carefully at the president's message to the community about the 'culture, recruitment, pledgship, ritual, and tradition,' elements of that that are unacceptable."

Raters he could not give a reason why he could not talk about the findings of the investigation, but he respond to rumors that he requested excise police to monitor the campus and that he suspended rhyineship for the semes-

ter. He said he did not call excise, but they did call him to ask how could he "guarantee" that underage drinking does not occur. He also said he did not end Rhyineship, but the Spinx Club decided it on their own. Sphinx Club President Travis Janeway said Raters did not force them to make the decision. Janeway also announced Tuesday night that identification will be checked at future TGIFs and tailgates organized by the Sphinx Club.

President White reiterated the administration's inability to communicate all the specifics to the student-body. However, he did shed some light on the situation by comparing the administration's silence to their response to other individual or group disciplinary actions.

"This is our policy regarding student discipline in anyway," White said. "If there were some widespread infrac-

See, CLOSING, Page 2

Wabash to Hire Director of Safety and Security



STEVE ABBOTT | WABASH '09

President White (above) said the college will be hiring a new Director of Safety and Security who will be responsible for emergency preparedness, building security and overseeing the night patrolmen.

JACOB CLOUGH '11
STAFF WRITER

On October 15th, the College put out advertisements for a new Director of Safety and Security. According to President Patrick White, the position will work closely with the Wabash Safety Committee to "help organize our response to safety issues on campus, such as emergency preparedness, building security, overseeing the nightly patrols and lock-ups." The position will replace the position of Director of Security, which has been vacant since Dick Webber retired last spring, and will be more comprehensive.

In the past, the safety of the campus has been divided into two branches – the Director of Security, who oversaw the nightly patrols and the lockdown of the buildings on campus, and the Safety Committee, who have been creating plans for possible emergencies.

"They don't create specific plans for every scenario, of course," White said. "What they do is create an infrastructure to guide us in the event that something along 'these' lines

should happen. They also plan how the College can notify students and others, should something happen."

The position is designed to consolidate these two branches of campus security into one person. The director's duties would include advising the Safety Committee on the College's Emergency Preparedness Plan and helping to develop the plan, managing the security staff, analyzing what we might do in the event of an emergency. White noted that the school would want the Director to "help take the planning and thinking to another level."

The creation of the position has been inspired by a number of things, including the potential for natural disasters to occur, as when Kansas State University was hit by a devastating tornado this past summer, or the human emergency that occurred at Virginia Tech in 2007. White noted that According to Dean Julie Olsen, the College "contracted for a limited security audit over the summer. Coming from that audit was a recommendation to set up an Office of Safety and Security."

See, SECURITY, Page 3

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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 300 words. The Bachelor reserves the right to edit letters for content, typographical errors, and length. All letters received become property of this publication for the purposes of reprinting and/or redistribution.

Profanity may appear in the publication, but only in cases of direct quote or if profanity is necessary to the content of the story. Please do not confuse profanity with obscenity. No article or picture of an obscene nature will appear in this publication.

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Closing

From Page 1

tion of the Gentleman's Rule or some other kind of issue, we wouldn't be talking to other people about what that was. If all of a sudden a student is expelled from campus, and others want to know what did he do, we don't talk about that. We don't really acknowledge what has happened. That's not so much legal, except in the sense of the law protecting student records."

Senior Delt and Sphinx Club member Matt Lee would like more information, not just for Delts but also for others on campus. "I think the big issue for others around campus is how to we protect ourselves," he said. "What is this ungentlemanly behavior that we can try to put a stop to so we can protect ourselves? I think that's the general problem with everyone outside our house."

Delts now eat their meals in the Sparks Center. Although they are still transitioning, Associate Dean of Students Rick Warner said the vast majority of the students who were under 21 chose to remain at 603 W. Wabash Ave. Of those over 21, some live in independent housing while others chose to rent their own apartments. While the administration does not plan on moving Independent students into the former Delt house this semester, both President White and Dean Warner signaled Independents would be living there in the near future.

Students' reactions have been mixed, but many of them are upset, confused, and saddened by the Delt house closing. Matt Lee said the situation has been tough for him because he's spent three-and-a-half years in the house, and he has memories and close friendships that were created there.

"You want to be angry. You want to be frustrated," said Lee, who now lives in a campus-owned house. "But it's also a sadness that

"If at the center of the Gentleman's Rule is free and open access to alcohol and no one should ever question me about that at any time thank you, then I would say that I disagree with that interpretation of the Gentleman's Rule."

President Patrick E. White

you're feeling. And kind of a nostalgia for the things that you had but you're not going to have again on campus. No senior really thinks that things are going to go down like this. Your last year is supposed to be the best year of your life. I want to think that it's fair. I think everyone wants to trust the administration but I think things will be different and more clear once the school is able to make a statement about why they took the action."

Stevan Stankovich said the administration's actions disrupted his process of dealing with Johnny Smith's death.

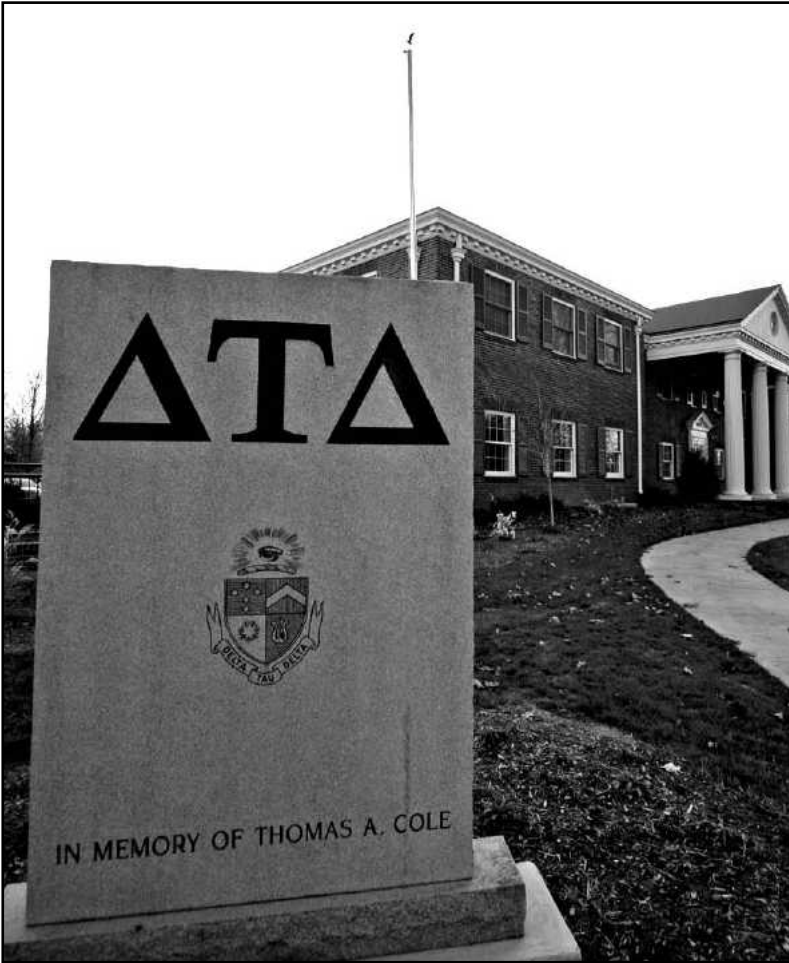
"I was already dealing with a lot of at the time," said Stankovich, who still lives at 603 W. Wabash, the former Delt house. "And that just added another dimension to it, and just pissed me off. When the guys were there, the ones over 21, it felt more like a brotherhood. And when they took that away it stopped us from healing over Johnny's death in my opinion, and making us face something entirely new and horrible. Instead of losing one brother, it feels like I've now lost 20 brothers. And I want to do anything in my power to fight it to prevent it from happening."

Inter-Fraternity Council President Jim Leuck is concerned about the way the administration has chosen to deal with the situation and the implications it has for the Gentleman's Rule.

"The termination of the Delt's lease was, in my mind, a very sad and tragic event in Wabash history," Leuck said. "I think that it was necessary the administration evoke a strong response to the recent tragedy. But I call into question the direction behind it - so many students, faculty, coaches, and alumni seem completely perplexed by the college's decision. It is difficult to accept the college's decision unquestioningly when it was so poorly delivered. I only hope that the Wabash Community understands the graveness of the situation but can still come together as a band of brothers to make sure that the Wabash we all know and love can continue to thrive."

Adverting Consultant and 1972 Delt Alumnus Rick Fobes expected the college to close the house but still has a lot of questions about the events that led up to the decision to close Delta Tau Delta.

"I do hope we will learn what happened, and hopefully, why, and importantly what the College and community is doing to help ensure that this will not happen again," Fobes said. "I felt that President White's letter to alumni on October 15th was very well done, and offered a number of productive initial next steps for the College



STEVE ABBOTT | WABASH '09

The majority of the Delt brothers who had the option to remain at 603 W. Wabash Ave did stay. Dean Warner estimates that number at around 40.

and all of us to consider in the future. I have also heard that the closing is for a number of years. This is unfortunate to hear, and I hope all of us, Delt alums as well as the greater Wabash community, will learn the facts about the closing and the thinking behind the multi-year timing. I'm sure this a very difficult time for the College, and I'm confident the

Administration is doing their best to do the right thing for the future."

Former Sphinx Club President and 2007 Delt Alumnus Robert Van Kirk was shocked by house closing and concerned about the lack of substance and context of the discourse between the administration and everyone else.

"I firmly believe that this administration executed its decision swiftly and poorly," he said. "Since Johnny's death, a lack of communication between the administration and the students (as well as parents and alumni) placed a tremendous level of unnecessary stress upon each Delt. Not one gentleman in that Fraternity ever expected to avoid accountability. They did not, however, deserve to be placed in 'purgatory'—as they called it—'waiting for judgment day.' This stress greatly impeded their ability to mourn their loss and conduct their daily responsibilities (academics, athletics, etc.).


Dean Raters and President White said they think their actions

are consistent with the Gentleman's Rule.

"If students came here because they saw the Gentleman's Rule as a license to do whatever they wanted without repercussions, with an ability to ignore the law without repercussions, then they came to Wabash with a view of the Gentleman's Rule that does not focus on the responsibility therein," Raters said. "I would hope that our students see the Gentleman's Rule as one laden with responsibility that must be taken very seriously so that other freedoms or licenses can continue to exist. And I hope that we all can work together to create a better understanding of that despite it's complexities."

White said the Wabash Community should rise up to the challenge of showing everyone outside of Wabash what the Gentleman's Rule is all about.

"If the Gentleman's Rule is the hard rule, we think it is it should be asking us to think about what is at the center," White said. "If at the center of the Gentleman's Rule is free and open access to alcohol and no one should ever question me about that at any time thank you, then I would say that I disagree with that interpretation of the Gentleman's Rule. We want to keep the spirit of the Gentleman's Rule and to do that we have to be honest with one another and recognize that we're all human."




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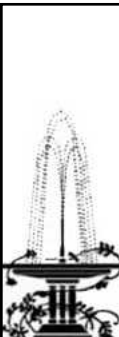
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Fleck Moves Feet to Irish Tune

Sophomore Places High in National and International Competitions

ADAM BECERRA '12
STAFF WRITER

Sigma Chi sophomore Colin Fleck was a ten-year-old boy with a strong Irish heritage and the ability to dance when he started Irish step dancing. “We had family friends in my grade school that did it, and I had done tap jazz and gymnastics and had Irish on both sides of my family,” Fleck said. “My mom wanted me to do it. Some family friends got us signed up, and it just took off from there.”

Fleck explained that competitions for Irish step dancing occur all over the United States, whether in the form of a small weekend competition or even a regional, national, or world competition. Fleck has been uniquely successful at the sport, placing fourth at Nationals last year. He has also placed fourth and fifth at World Championships.

“I don’t really know what my inspiration is, but I just kind of got good at it and ended up liking it. It’s a lot of fun. I like the atmosphere of it. You meet people from all across the world, so I have a lot of friends overseas,” Fleck said. “Every time you go to a competition, it’s just like a big party; everyone has a day where they dance and then afterwards we all party together.”

Fleck began competing when he was around eleven and things started moving from there. “Once I started competitions, I started practicing all the time,” Fleck said. “I did a lot of competition because my mom started selling Irish goods, and there are always vendors, so I started going to a lot more competitions.”

Irish step dancing is often mistakenly called river dancing, but Irish step dancing is the more formal, traditional dance. Fleck explained that the most important

factor of Irish dancing is that it is all from the waist down, and you don’t move your upper body unless it is a group dance. “If you’ve seen a river dance, that’s exactly what Irish step dance is, but river dance is a lot showier.” Fleck has done both Irish step dancing and river dancing, which involved his number one experience with his talent. “I toured with Lord of the Dance this past summer for five weeks. That’s probably the most memorable and best experience I’ve had,” Fleck said. “It’s cool because you meet people from New Zealand and Hungary, and we just traveled together for five weeks across the United States, did shows, had fun, and got paid for it.”

Fleck added that he isn’t the only Irish step dancer on campus that deserves recognition. “Matt Castor an independent sophomore who is also an Irish step dancer. He’s also gone to the World Championships, and he’s been to all the competitions I’ve been to and placed well.”

Fleck doesn’t save all his Irish step dancing for competition, though. He performed at X-tacy this past weekend at the Malcolm X Institute.

“Every time you go to a competition, it’s just like a big party; everyone has a day where they dance and then afterwards we all party together.”

Sophomore Colin Fleck



DREW CASEY | WABASH '12

Sophomore Colin Fleck has been Irish step dancing since he was ten years old.

Security



STEVE ABBOTT | WABASH '09

Associate Dean of the College Julie Olsen’s Safety Committee recommended a security audit over the summer.

From Page 1

ty...” The audit also recommended that the Office oversee several different areas, all of which are named in the advertisement.

The ad requests someone with at least five years experience in emergency response activities, like “Fire and Rescue, Law Enforcement, or Emergency Management.” The ad lists the Director’s duties as “assessing, recommending, implementing, and managing any needed changes to campus security, shaping this office and its operations within the College’s student-centered cul-

ture.”

According to White, the College wants the Director of Safety and Security to fit in seamlessly with the “student-centered culture” of Wabash. When asked about promoting from within the existing school security service, White said that anyone is welcome to apply.

“That of course means people who are already Wabash employees,” White said. However, I don’t believe we have exactly the kind of experience we are looking for already on staff.”

According to Olsen, the College has been receiving appli-

cations from across the country as well as from local individuals. The school is accepting applications through the 28th of November, and wishes to fill the position by mid-February.

“Of course, we are willing to be flexible in the filling of the position,” White said. “Should we find someone who can’t make it by the date we want, we’ll work to find someone to be an interim director. If we find someone who fits and can start work before the desired date, we’re definitely willing to start the job sooner than expected.”




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The Buck Stops With Us All

Anger, Disillusionment, Betrayal, Frustration – these were some of the common words and thoughts that were quite present at the meeting of the student body organized by the Senior Council.

Turnout was quite impressive – 200 students from most constituencies on campus were on hand heatedly debating the future of the Gentleman’s Rule with the closing of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity still fresh in their minds. Deans Mike Raters and Rick Warner came to answer questions as best they could and even voice their frustrations toward what was happening on campus.

At the end of the meeting, no solution or even consensus could be reached on where to go next. However one theme was made clearer than in previous meetings – both students and the administration need to take an introspective look at what the Gentleman’s Rule means to them and correct their defections from the Rule that have become apparent in recent events.

A highlight of the evening was when Krzysztof Wojciechowski, a senior brother of Phi Kappa Psi, spoke up for what he

said was the first time in his Wabash career. With great force, he discussed his utter disappointment and anger at students (including himself) who don’t reflect on their own ungentlemanly behavior and call others out who aren’t living up to the Wabash Standard.

He noted his own ungentlemanly behavior in angrily kicking a trash can while talking with a professor; he cited with disgust the ungentlemanly behavior of student who leaves their dip-spit cups sitting in the Library for others to clean up.

This senior’s revelation should reverberate throughout the Wabash student body. The Gentleman’s Rule does not mean you can do whatever the hell you want. Students should not get upset when they get punished for doing something stupid or illegal. There are consequences for ungentlemanly actions, and those actions should be addressed immediately.

This should not be seen as an indictment of the brothers of Delta Tau Delta. The fact is the student body does not have the information necessary to come to that



STEVE ABBOTT | WABASH '09

Students wait for the President to address campus in his Mandatory Chapel weeks ago.

conclusion. This lack of information is a reason why the administration should be questioned too – without knowing the details, we cannot as a student body weigh whether or not the Delt house deserved to be closed down. The Administration spends a lot of time talking about student responsibility, but the fact that it took an investigation prompted by a student’s death to address issues of campus culture suggests the administration may have been asleep at the switch beforehand.

This note was stridently sung by another

senior, Robert Bloss, a brother of Kappa Sigma. He said quite forcefully that the student body felt betrayed by the administration and his faith had been shaken.

While we know legal and other implications weigh heavily on administrators when choosing their words, the blame for our current predicament is shared by us all. So let us all work together to move Wabash forward to better and brighter days.

Letters to the Editor

The Gentleman’s Rule as a Weapon

Sir-

The Gentleman’s Rule is the purest example in higher education today, perhaps the purest example in any institution in American, of a society ruled by self-governance. Self-governance means that we trust each other to exercise the restraint and respect needed for the free creation of communal bonds and loyalties. So defined, the Gentleman’s Rule is based on virtue and trust. It is based on virtue because there is no rule book, no set of procedures that can tell the ruler how the Gentleman’s Rule should be enforced. Only the virtuous man can enforce it by leading by example. It is based on trust because the Gentleman’s Rule depends on a shared experience, since a true gentleman will only let another gentleman rule over him. The importance of virtue and trust in the Gentleman’s Rule can be best understood by contrasting it with the rule of law. The rule of law is the product of bureaucrats, not gentlemen, because it is based on procedural protections and administrative technicalities. The rule of law is also based on the threat of punishment, because punishment becomes necessary when trust disappears.

When people do not trust each other, they need everything written down, and they need multitudinous rules outlining what can and cannot be done. The less the governed trust the virtue of their governors, the more rules they need for their own protection, but the more rules they pass, the more power the governors have. That is why freedom is so precious and rare. Freedom is such an easy thing to take for granted, but once a governing body takes it away from the governed, they rarely give it back.

A rule designed to insure personal responsibility by maximizing freedom and minimizing regulation is a political marvel, a species of social organization that is so nearly extinct that it can hardly be found over the whole face of the earth. There is no other reason than the Gentleman’s Rule to be so passionately devoted to Wabash College. Think about it: A perfectly free society would be one in which nobody rules anybody else, with the caveat that everyone should be treated with respect. That is exactly what the Gentleman’s Rule is designed to do. It is not a rule for governing as much as it is a rule for limiting government to the most minimal level of regulation and control.

Gentlemen, we have a unique institution, one where liberty lies at the heart of all that we do. It is no exaggeration to say that we Wabash men are perhaps the freest men in the world. That, I might suggest, is worth preserving.

What would Wabash look like without the Gentleman’s Rule? I doubt that this rule would ever be officially overturned. There is too much nostalgia and pride connected to it. We would lose too much money if we were to pronounce it dead. In fact, the best way to overturn it would be to use it as a cover for a whole new set of regulations designed, allegedly, to protect it. If Wabash ever loses the Gentleman’s Rule, it will happen like this. The Gentleman’s Rule will morph into its opposite. This will happen quite easily, because if the only rule that protects you applies only to gentlemen, and the enforcers of that rule decide that you are not a gentleman, then you will be left

without any protection. You see, the Gentleman’s Rule actually leaves you very vulnerable. There are no procedures, no standards of fairness, no accountability to a higher law, and no handbook of precedents to tell you when this rule is not being enforced fairly and honorably.

When virtue and trust break down, the Gentleman’s Rule will become the rule of law, or a rule of many laws, all designed to punish you if you are not a gentleman. Rather than being a rule of, by and for gentlemen, it will be a rule designed to make you gentle, law abiding men. Rather than being a rule for gentlemen, it will be a rule telling you what a gentleman is. And it will be a worse rule than any set of rules governing any other college in America.

Prof. Stephen H. Webb, ‘83

We Must Hold the Administration Responsible

Sir-

I’ve been watching our Alma Mater’s response to Johnny Smith’s death at the Delt House from the sidelines. The ‘sidelines’ are pretty much where I’ve been for many of the last thirty years when it comes to the Wabash Community. My relationship with the College has been rocky to say the least.

I applied for the Treasurer’s job at Wabash when it was open several years ago with Andy Ford’s encouragement. With no response for months, I got a form letter with some scribble from Andy after the search concluded. Later I learned that ‘how could he ever have expected being seriously considered because he hadn’t given serious money to the college’ and other spicy comments. Last year I appealed to several Trustees search with two becoming engaged sincerely. From the others I got the silent treatment or obfuscation. So you may question my credibility if you like.

Wabash reminds me of a family held business which prospered while the ‘old guys’ were in charge. Like many entrepreneurs and founders, our former leaders had visceral understanding of greatness and integrity. It showed up in how they did business. Surely the progeny who follow might look and sound ‘great’ but they often rely on consultants for content and response. They can have difficulty discerning integrity v. style.

I believe that while I was a student at Wabash we benefited from the stewardship of truly great men. I will never forget meeting Byron Kightly Trippet at an event in the Caleb Mills House. Trippet loved the College. He lived his love for Her in service much like the ideal feudal lord. So did Ben Rogge, Thad Seymour, Norman Moore, Lou Salter, John Collett, and Dick Ristine. These men did not demur the difficult.

I believe our current stewards are like those who come after a generation of great ones. They are infatuated with risk management and protecting the ‘enterprise’ with its financial wealth. They have forgotten that the enterprise of Wabash College is the freedom to pursue the truth and that her wealth is to do so at all costs.

Like all of us, I am saddened by Johnny’s death. Pat White says trust me as he pulls a veil over the circumstances and terminates the Beta Psi Chapter of Delta Tau Delta as consequence. With this action money and enterprise risk management have replaced integrity and greatness. We must mourn this second death and hold our leadership accountable for it.

The traditions of those who follow us have been altered by protection, negotiation, settling, and sealing. Sadly unless we all demand otherwise, integrity has been buried with Johnny Smith.

I am not interested in holding Pat and the Trustees accountable for the details of the death. Rather, how have we allowed these men with a thoroughly different set of ideals and practices to govern our Alma Mater?

Paul Gojkovich II ‘72
Bachelor Editor-in-Chief (1972)

What Will Become of Wabash?

Sir-

“Oh, you go to Wabash? Isn’t that an all boys school?” I have heard this question countless time, and I always say with a grin “Yes, it is all men.” The reason for the grin is because I always know where the rest of the conversation is going. And at one point or another, “well at least without girls, you aren’t distracted,” always works its way into the conversation.

Since I have had this discussion so many times, I have a very well rehearsed response. Sure, a male college student may be tempted to pay more attention to the girl in front of him than the notes he is taking, but is this why Wabash continues its all male tradition? Of course not!

I hold dear my all male environment for a higher cause, and that is the brotherhood I share with my fellow students. A brotherhood that is more important than the fraternity you do, or do not, belong to. A brotherhood that allows us to say we are a part of something special, something unique, which no one else can say they are a part of, and therefore unites us. It goes beyond just being able to call Wabash your alma mater.

The connection you feel to the school, along with alumni and students, is an unexplainable feeling shared by all who have the privilege to call Wabash home. I thought this unique feeling was universal, that it was something the administration was proud of, and admissions advertised to prospective students.

Now, I find myself asking: Wabash, what have you become? Forbidding my fellow Wabash Brothers to associate, and when the best, maybe our only, comfort we have is each other? The students are hurting, especially those of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity. I only see more pain coming from this decision. I have to say, I do not understand; I have tried but am unable to comprehend what the school has to gain by such an absolute display of power. Very little has been explained, yet very much has been decided. How is such a small, close community supposed to grow from decisions made behind closed doors and without any explanation?

It is a little easier to rationalize such a tyrannical reaction to such an event at another school, but not Wabash, not within a brotherhood such as ours. I ask again, Wabash, what have you become? Is it the fear of a lawsuit that brings down such harsh, unexplained punishment? What happened to standing up for your students? Don’t we at least get a chance to create a change; an organic change from the ground-up that results in the truest, deepest change possible? Not a change forced upon us, leaving more questions than before.

I was ready for things to be different after such a tragic event, but the changes need to lead us to be a better campus. I realize I have asked a lot of questions, questions that, until more information is given to us, cannot be answered. Even though I may not be able to answer all the questions I have asked so far, I cannot finish until I ask one vital question. Finally, I ask my fellow Wabash students, my brothers, what will you allow Wabash to become?

Zachary Westrick ‘10

A Responsibility to the Future of Wabash

To my friends who already know the things I will discuss in this article this may seem out of character. To my friends who do not, I am sorry, but I am the least sentimental and nostalgic and until recently it has been irrelevant to discussion.

For the past three and a half years I have avoided conversations about home. I wanted to spend my college career anonymously and not to be known for my past. So it is my hope that I have not spoken too soon in sharing with you today my journey to Wabash.

I was an emancipated student in high school. My twin brother and I were born to a single mother with four other children. She was only my age when child welfare and foster homes first separated us from the impoverished young woman, my mother. Use your imagination and fast forward fifteen years or so; I am seventeen. I had a homeless twin brother and a family whom I still have not seen in as many years. I lived on my own, held several jobs, and was trying to find a way to college.

That was when Mike Reidy came to my high school to recruit me and another student to Wabash. He asked us what we did in school. Tim said, “I’m the captain of the basketball team, in the National Honor Society, volunteer at the [Insert all Lilly scholar qualifications].” When he turned to me I shrugged my shoulders and said indignantly, “Nothing.” My guidance counselor, Mrs. O’Neal, kicked me under the



BRENT A. KENT
OPINION
EDITOR

table. “He is the president of his class.” I really did not want to go to Wabash.

I wanted to be at IU. I could not come up with the thirty-something a year Wabash price tag. IU was a state school so I would be able to make it there I decided. After all there were no girls at Wabash and my best friend had left to DePauw the year before.

Spring came with my acceptance letter to IU. Unfortunately my financial aid award letter came soon after. There are many things an emancipated student must consider outside of the traditional “cost of education” but, unable to even apply to traditional scholarships without my parents’ signature or information, my award letters would not cover my tuition. I also had no idea how to fill out those FASFA forms without having them sent back to me “Incomplete,” requiring my parent’s information.

As my friends’ started planning their open houses, it was becoming increasingly obvious that I would not be going to college with the rest of my class that August. With each passing week, appeal letter to college boards, and meeting between

my concerned high school teachers and college financial aid staff, I was giving up.

But I was told not to pass up a private school based on the tuition cost, so out of sheer desperation I made a trip to a private university not very far from Crawfordsville. I had no idea how to approach applying to college, so without scheduling a visit I skipped school and drove to the campus one morning, walked in to the admissions office, and sheepishly asked to speak to someone about admissions.

After telling them my story and my test scores to convince

“My father and his did not build this college, but I was still given an opportunity to a life they could have never dreamed.”

them that I was not a criminal or a runaway, that I deserved to go to college like everyone else, they said something I had heard half a dozen times before with a look that still puts knots in my stomach; “I don’t know how to help you.” The meeting finally ended when I was told to consider a technical school and walked out of because I could barely hold it together.

The year progressed. My commencement speech was written and classes were almost over. I had decided I was not

going anywhere that fall and that I would not make the mistake of getting my hopes up again.

Luckily for me, something truly life changing happened. The kind of thing that is not untypical of this place. The Indianapolis Star wrote an article about my senior project, a mentoring program for elementary children. It caught the attention of someone I had never met, Hugh Vandiver Class of ‘91, who called the college on my behalf. Everything happened very quickly after that.

That same day a voice on the intercom called me out of math class. Mrs. O’Neal was at her desk and smiling through her tears; Mike Reidy from Wabash College was on the telephone.

The very next day I missed class again. This time a Matt Hanson, Class of ‘91, was driving me to the campus of Wabash College. It was almost May. Schools including Wabash had stopped accepting applications, and a freshman named Josh Harris gave me a tour, explaining that everyone was busy for finals week.

I can remember it clearly. Matt Hanson ’91 and Josh Harris ’08 were both brothers of Phi Kappa Psi. They seemed to share something though they did not know each other, and I marveled as they walked me around campus sharing with me everything they loved about this sacred place.

I sat down with Clint Gasaway and told him my situation, but he did not ask for legal documents. I did not need my

principal or track coach to vouch for my story or my integrity. He spoke to me with an honesty that I had not been met with in other college offices, that things would work out and that this place would be my new home.

It will be four years ago this May that I became a Wabash man, but my story is not unique in our history or even the 2008 class. Lately, however, I have found I need to remind myself of how I got here and the difference it made for me.

This place is special. The people here, the people who were here before us, they are what makes it so. My father and his did not build this college, but I was still given an opportunity to a life they could have never dreamed. Now I too own part of its legacy.

I was also given a responsibility. We stand on the shoulders of great men; as benefactors of their love to these sacred halls, we also owe an obligation, to protect the integrity of this college and to pass on to the generation that precedes us something just as special and just as hopeful as we received it.

Let us remember in these troubled days that this is our obligation to the college as students and as alumni, and that this burden does not belong solely to those who manage it. It belongs to us and to our sons who will fill these sacred halls when we are gone.

I ask you today and hope that it echoes hereafter, what will you leave them?

The Failure and Future of Student Leadership

Any student who did not attend this Tuesday’s open meeting of the student body missed what will come to be seen as a critical moment in the crisis facing our college. For the first time, administrators of the College were given a taste of the current feelings of the student body: anger, disappointment, disillusionment, confusion, and all the rest. But it left me scratching my head as to why it took a voice from, literally, the back of the room to finally stand up and tell Dean Raters that the school administration has almost completely lost the trust of the student body.

I have no intention to prescribe a course of action to the Wabash administration. On the contrary, I believe it is time someone takes issue with the evident lack of leadership in the student body that has contributed to this crisis. The Senior Council is to be applauded for having the courage to call Tuesday’s meeting and stand up in front of the student body to work with them. I will freely admit that I



ROYCE
GREGERSON
COLUMNIST

thought it would be a complete waste of time. I was completely wrong. However, no one who saw the look on Dean Raters’s face after it was finally made clear to him just how much of the student body’s trust the administration has lost could possibly argue that anyone has so much as hinted to him that this is the case. I have never seen a man look so angry, frustrated, bewildered, and even sad.

It should not have taken so long for this message to get through to Dean Raters. It should not have taken an open meeting of the student body for him to have been informed of this. Someone should have told him, and that someone is Juan

Carlos Venis, the President of the Student Body.

The President of an organization is its chief advocate. He must embody its spirit and speak authoritatively on its behalf. For a week the student body has been infuriated, but Mr. Venis quite evidently is not. At Tuesday’s meeting students did not see a student leader; they saw another administrative talking head. On more than one occasion, including that most crucial question of which I have spoken, Mr. Venis responded to questions that were directly posed to Dean Raters. A student body president does not exist to explain and justify the actions of the college administration to the students. He exists to advocate for the students to that administration, and on Tuesday evening Mr. Venis completely failed to do that.

Students should begin now to think about the future of student leadership at Wabash, specifically with regard to who will serve as the next President of the Student Body. Students need a leader who is on their side, who

understands their concerns, who will be angry when they are angry, frustrated when they are frustrated, and never a talking head for the administration. He should be cool, calm, and collected when discussing these important matters with the administration but he must never lose sight of his chief function with regard to his dealings with the administration, which is to be the students’ advocate.

To this end, students should rethink the custom of electing men whose main qualification is service on the Student Senate, which as an organization is useful but not honorable. They should press candidates for student leadership office on how they will effectively advocate for the students. They should press them on their commitment to supporting Wabash’s traditions and culture.

It became very clear Tuesday evening that communication has been a serious problem in the developing crisis of trust between students and administrators, but it is not our deepest

problem. The real problem is about honesty, on the part not only of the administration but also of the President of the Student Body. It is time for students and administrators to speak openly and frankly about the problems facing us, not in abstractions but in real and concrete terms about how we can learn to trust each other again. What we had done up until Tuesday evening had not worked. Moving forward, we must continue the honest and open discussion of Tuesday evening’s meeting if we are ever to understand the problems facing us.

“Someone should have told him, and that someone is Juan Carlos Venis, the President of the Student Body.”



Fall Bash Goes Back to Roots

ADAM PHIPPS '11
STAFF WRITER

In contrast to previous semesters, Fall Bash returned to campus this fall with a new focus point.

The main idea behind the perennial autumn event has always been to bring together all the fraternities on campus as a community, both to sponsor donations for larger non-profit organizations and to enjoy one another's company in the Greek tradition.

In the past, the event slowly took on the reputation of a Fall "Pan-Hel", and the community service aspects fell into the background. Within the past few years, "Octoberfest" has replaced Fall Bash altogether.

This year, Fall Bash returned with the intent of reverting back to its original purpose. "We focused on philanthropy this year," stated IFC President Jim Leuck.

The Inter-Fraternity Council was the group solely responsible for the tradition's revival, with financial aid from the Student Senate. The IFC designed the daily activities, while also coordinating how donations would be collected and what charities in Indiana would receive them. On Wednesday, James Graham spoke about the distribution of the donation money and where the proceeds would go.

This non-profit organization was Rotary, a national charity institution which helps redistribute aid to needed communities or families. Through Rotary, the IFC gave all proceeds from Fall Bash to the Hakim/Quadrat family.

Early in Hakim's marriage, due to lack of necessary funds, had to abandon his wife and five children and leave Afghanistan. Now, having returned to the country with schooling, he has reunited

with his family and has started a small school and clinic in his hometown. The funds gathered at Fall Bash will provide the town with a new well and other necessary supplies for Hakim's facilities.

Aside from the cookout and talk on Wednesday, other events also took place through Saturday.

On Thursday, a Euchre tournament was held; the cost was five dollars to a team, and the top three teams received prizes ranging from Steak and Shake coupons to sponsor mugs. Friday hosted a dodge ball tournament, with a cost of ten dollars per five-man-team. Saturday ended the festivities with a Boy Scout rally and cookout at noon, a volleyball tournament at 1pm, and a finale concert at 9pm hosted by the Phi Psi house.

The cost for the concert was either five dollars or two canned goods, whereas the band performed for a much lesser cost than normal, in celebration of the charity event.

While Fall Bash succeeded in returning to campus under its original pretenses, the event had its share of difficulties. Attendance was way down as in comparison with previous years, and presentation of the events was not well publicized in a timely fashion.

"The marketing part was the main part we failed in," Leuck said, when asked about the attendance issue.

Other aspects, such as support from and communication with the Deans, were hampered by their busy schedules in dealing with current events circulating around the campus.

Another aspect was the role of alcohol in this year's event, which fell through altogether. Originally, beer was to be provided for those of age, but even with the purchase of five-dollar mugs, no alcohol was served for Fall Bash.



ALEX MOSEMAN | WABASH '10

"If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball." These Wabash men prove this statement true as faculty watch them play dodgeball during Fall Bash.

One hope of the IFC is to hear feedback from students and the Wabash community about the event. With the return of the philanthropy-based week-long event, the Council hopes to increase the attendance for the next year and further unite the campus in gathering for friendship and for a good cause.

In regards to how it's been run in years previous, the Council says this year's Fall Bash will replace the "Mini Pan-Hel" image of the past, and "set the precedent for future years."

Presidents Address Bell Game

Members of the Wabash and DePauw Communities:

The Monon Bell game is a great rivalry between two great schools. We both look forward to a fiercely competitive game, and we know that all associated with Wabash and DePauw will have a wonderful time cheering on their teams.

At Byron P. Hollett Stadium, the Wabash community will extend a hearty and welcoming Little Giant hand of hospitality to the DePauw Tigers and DePauw students, alumni, faculty and staff, families and friends.

DePauw University in turn comes to Wabash as welcomed and respectful guests. The eyes of all of Wabash and DePauw will be on us as alumni of both schools will gather in 58 locations all over the country and beyond and a national television audience will also be witness as we celebrate the game and this storied rivalry.

The long history of this game makes the rivalry significant; the close win-loss record makes the rivalry intense. What makes this tradition truly great, however, is the deep respect DePauw University and Wabash Col-

lege have for one another.

Our two storied academic institutions, with our loyal alumni and students, meet each fall for the Monon Bell, and we together are proud of the history we share.

We join together, today, to ask all of you — students, alumni, and friends — to respect one another and each school. Please be safe, and please take care of one another.

We look forward to a great game and a great day for both DePauw and Wabash. We both know that our football teams will compete with passion and spirit and that all our fans will help make the day a time of pride and honor for our teams and both of our institutions.

We look forward to seeing you in Crawfordsville.

Go Little Giants,
Pat White
President, Wabash College

Go Tigers,
Brian Casey
President, DePauw University

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INDIANA MULTICULTURAL CAREER FAIR



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The Rev. Todd Kleffman, Rector

Reformation Comes to Crawfordsville

The Adult Education series for 2008 and 2009 will open with a presentation by Douglas Thorpe, Prof. of English at Seattle Pacific University and author of Rapture of the Deep, and active conservationist who has worked with St. Marks Cathedral Episcopal community on spirituality and the wilderness, an ethic of stewardship toward nature.

On November 9th, Dr. William Cook, W66, Visiting Scholar of Religion at, Wabash College and nationally known author of 5 courses for the Teaching Company. A recipient of several teaching awards from the University of New York at Genesco, where he holds the rank of Professor. Dr. Cook will offer a survey of people, movements and history of the 16th Century that set the groundwork of the Reformation.

On November 16th, Father Todd Kleffman will focus on the founding of the Episcopal Church as a part of the widespread fragmentation that identified religion in the western world. He will talk about Henry VIII's disagreements with Rome and the eventual split that resulted in the Anglica church going its own way.

On November 24, Drs. Helen and Marc Hudson will discuss the literature of the Reformation, the thoughtful reflections of the writers of prose and poetry of the 16th century.

November 30 will be an advent program by Kathy Gary

December 7th, Elizabeth Morton, BKT Asst. Prof. of Art History at Wabash College will present a program on the art of the Reformation.

December 14th Dr. Larry Bennett, will present Christmas music of the Reformation in Britain.

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Five for a Critique of Authority

Message films aren't generally blockbusters, but thoughtful looks at a number of issues can be found in surprising places. Among the most popular issues to be examined in mainstream cinema is the question of authority - specifically questions of legitimacy, proper practice, boundaries, and the role that authority plays in society - as well as society's reactions to and attitudes regarding authority.

The films with the greatest impact are often those which present the greatest range of authoritative nature. One of my favorite films, *Au revoir, les enfants*, deals with a catholic school in Nazi-occupied France. The two most prominent sets of authority in the film are the only rarely present Nazis and the headmaster of the school. The hegemony of Nazism has a subtle, menacing influence - an ever-present threat that is all too easy to ignore until its reality is made abundantly, horribly clear by actions in the film's third act. The object of their actions is the subject of the headmaster's kindness - his is a benevolent and supremely kind authority that takes in and protects a Jewish boy named Bonnet. Ultimately, it is the intolerance of those who feel greater loyalty to the distant, tyrannical authority of the Nazis that destroy hope for the protected.

Au revoir, les enfants tells us that the best possible application of authority is the protection of those who have no other options, no



JAMES MOREY
THE MALE GAZE

other hopes. It is a heartbreaking reminder of the brutality that misused authority can inflict, and an urgent plea for compassion and love for those who have no where else to turn.

Out of the four remaining films I've selected, *Downfall* is probably the most appropriate to follow *Au revoir*. *Downfall* is a German film about the last days of Adolf Hitler and the people he surrounded himself with. *Downfall* is about an authority at its end, and it is an end that most viewers can't wait to see. The film broke a decade-long taboo of representing Hitler on film for Germany, addressing the nature of the country's greatest shame directly.

The authority in *Downfall* is cut off from its domain, and the loss is keenly felt even as Hitler (played by Bruno Ganz in one of the greatest feats of acting ever captured on film) denies his lack of agency and fumes over the perceived incompetence of his staff. The personal arc of every soul in the bunker is astounding to see, and a powerful reminder that authority, regardless

of legitimacy, cannot function when cut off from those it claims to supervise. Isolation in the bunker destroys Hitler's already fragile sense of reality, leading him to issue impossible commands that are totally divorced from the situation outside his crumbling refuge.

When authority cannot or does not communicate with those under its supervision, governance is impossible - *Downfall* reminds us that communication with and immersion in the reality of a people is crucial to authority's legitimacy.

Communication is at the heart of *Brazil*, Terry Gilliam's brilliant satire of government bureaucracy, society, and middle age. The event that sets the film in motion is a typographical error caused by a literal fly in the machine. As the movie continues, errors in communication abound, and total failure to communicate is responsible for many more errors in action. Furthermore, the authority in *Brazil* is hard to pin down, with everyone seeming to report to someone higher, and many unsure of who to obey and who to report on. There's always a bigger fish, but the fish often refuse to acknowledge their inferiors.

The practical upshot of this is a general sense of meaningless and lack of purpose. The inhabitants of Gilliam's dystopian wasteland work long hours without ever caring or knowing why. Breaks for classic TV are the norm while on the job, and there is no real sense of

camaraderie or unity. Without communication from authority, or any idea of what exactly the bounds and nature of that authority are, society cannot be expected to function, and individuals have no reason to join society. Whether that authority be in the hands of one or many, or the collective whole, for that matter, it is necessary that all know exactly from whence authority derives its hegemony, and the bounds of authority's agency.

A less subtle look at failure to communicate can be found in *Land of the Dead*, George A. Romero's fourth Dead film. After the events of the first three films, still-living humans have managed to build fortified settlements and keep some semblance of order. Pittsburgh has one such fortified area, portrayed as a post-apocalyptic slum, with an upper class tower/city, Fiddler's Green, in its center. Paul Kaufman (Dennis Hopper) runs Fiddler's Green as a haven for the wealthy and powerful while ignoring the harsh conditions outside the tower.

Romero's metaphors have never been subtle. *Land of the Dead* features a wealthy, out-of-touch upper class that lives in a literal tower above the lower class below and the ultimate social outcasts, zombies, outside. No group is without error, and the humans outside the tower have worked out a functional but barbaric hierarchy, but it is through lack of communication and respect from the higher-ups

that prevents any sort of social justice. It takes an evolution of the zombies, a shambling intellectual renaissance, to upset the order and equalize humanity once again.

Romero certainly wasn't pushing for cannibalistic revolution, but the message is clear: Only by cooperation and understanding can authority legitimately serve a society.

Last of all, *Children of Men* presents both a government that takes draconian measures to curb dissent and disquiet and a revolutionary movement that pursues its goals without regard for the individual. Both the official, legitimate authority and the self-proclaimed authority of the people destroy all societal trust by limiting freedom of association and movement, all the while destroying lives to work towards a goal that they have supreme confidence in. *Children of Men* tells us that abuse of power can come from anywhere, and it cautions us against blind acceptance of a movement that purports to represent a cause we agree with.

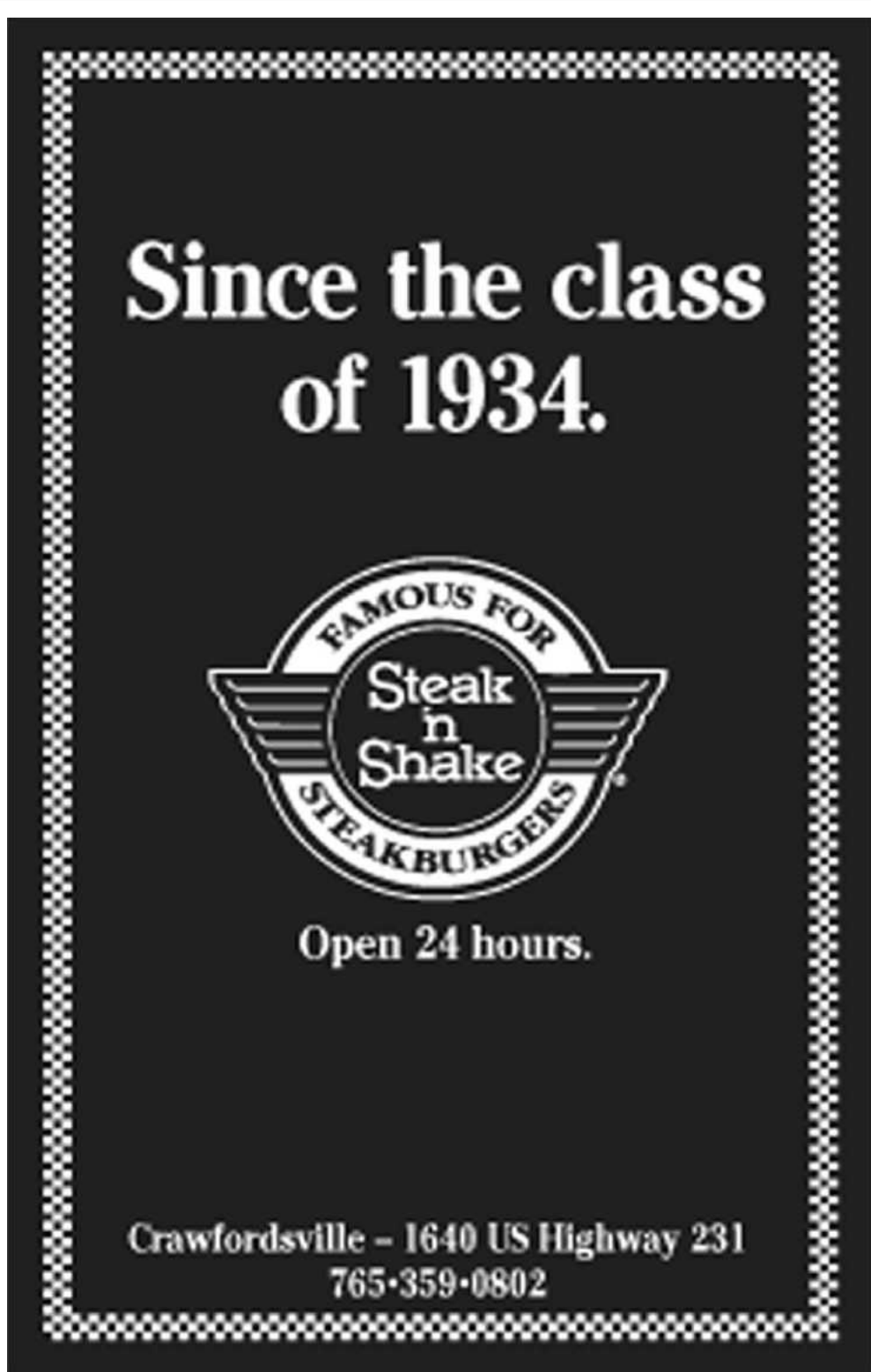
These five films represent a wide set of views on the nature and possible abuses of authority, but certain themes are constant: Authority must communicate fully and completely with those it leads, it must immerse itself in the society it controls, and it must clearly define itself and the reasons behind its actions. Timeless lessons, all.



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Theatre Of, By, and For the Students

MILES ASHTON '12
STAFF WRITER

For being such a small college, Wabash is home to a powerful theater program, evidenced by the production quality of the last month's Government Inspector and other past performances. Another high caliber performance is about to be unleashed by our fine arts department: Student One-Acts.

Entirely student written, directed, produced, and, of course, acted, these rapid bursts of creativity are for everybody. When I say everybody, I mean everybody. "If you want to try it, then try it," encouraged Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre James Phillips. He explained how he taught an acting class of eighteen that will be performing all the necessary roles to an outside audi-

ence this Tuesday and Thursday. "It's an introductory class with one guy that might be a theatre minor. Everybody is filling requirements and getting to seize this great opportunity." Phillips elaborated that many other colleges don't offer chances like these. "Sure there are places where students act, direct, and write – but not everything at the same time."

The air of the Experimental Theater in the basement of the Fine Arts Center was tense Monday Night – it was dress rehearsal. Students in all sorts of costumes shuffled around and clarified lines and entrances with their directors. Nate Powell, a senior and an assistant coach of the football team, seemed pretty excited for his performance. "I'm a psychology major and did plays in middle school and high school," he stated. "I

thought this would be fun, and it's kind of my last chance to do something like it before I go off into the real world." Powell isn't only in one act. "I play a father selling his son off in one play, buried alive in another, and a man drinking at a bar in a third."

Matt Goodrich, a senior theatre major and director for One-Acts, has had more experience than some of the students in the production. "It's great having actors who care," Goodrich said. "These guys might be in the class to get distribution credits, but they're great actors and put a lot of effort into what they do." When asked how balancing time was with these productions, he drew a comparison to juggling five chainsaws at once. "You'll never get another chance like this," warned Goodrich. "If you think

you're interested, then do it."

For one student the weight of this production is particularly heavy. Playing the role of producer serves as part of Tim Closson's senior comprehensive exams. All production needs rests on the shoulder of this senior. His job is to organize and meet the needs of eighteen actors and ten directors to compose ten superb examples of theatre. On top of the title of producer, Closson is directing a piece and has taken on the task of set design as well.

Tuesday, opening night, played to a full Experimental Theatre. It's hard to believe that the crew had only two and a half to three weeks to pull everything together. The crowd was extremely receptive, even to the most abstract performances. Performances covered every spectrum imaginable – from light-hearted comedies to tasteful satires, the show had it all. This is actually an event where reserving tickets is a good idea.

With the events that are stirring our campus into a frenzy, it's nice to find an artistic outlet where everybody can sit down, relax, and appreciate a different form of entertainment. Thursdays are usually hectic days on anybody's schedule, especially with



DREW CASEY | WABASH '12

Wabash sophomore Deonte Singfield stars in one of the most action packed performances of the production. The scene starts with Mr. Singfield duck-taped to a chair and blindfolded and ends with... well, we wouldn't want to spoil it.

the "Battle of the Bell" coming up – but, hopefully, more will be able to find the time to experience this fine display of Wabash talent. The curtain rises is

at 8:00 p.m. Do call the Fine Arts Center and reserve your tickets. If the turn out is like Tuesday, it's going to be packed.

"These guys might be in the class to get distribution credits, but they're great actors and put a lot of effort into what they do...You'll never get another chance like this. If you think you're interested, then do it."

Matt Goodrich, Wabash '09



DREW CASEY | WABASH '12

Students taking classes across the theatre department will be involved in tonight's final production of the One-Acts. The plays are entirely student written, produced, directed, and acted. The students pictured above confer on last minute details to their set's bed frame.

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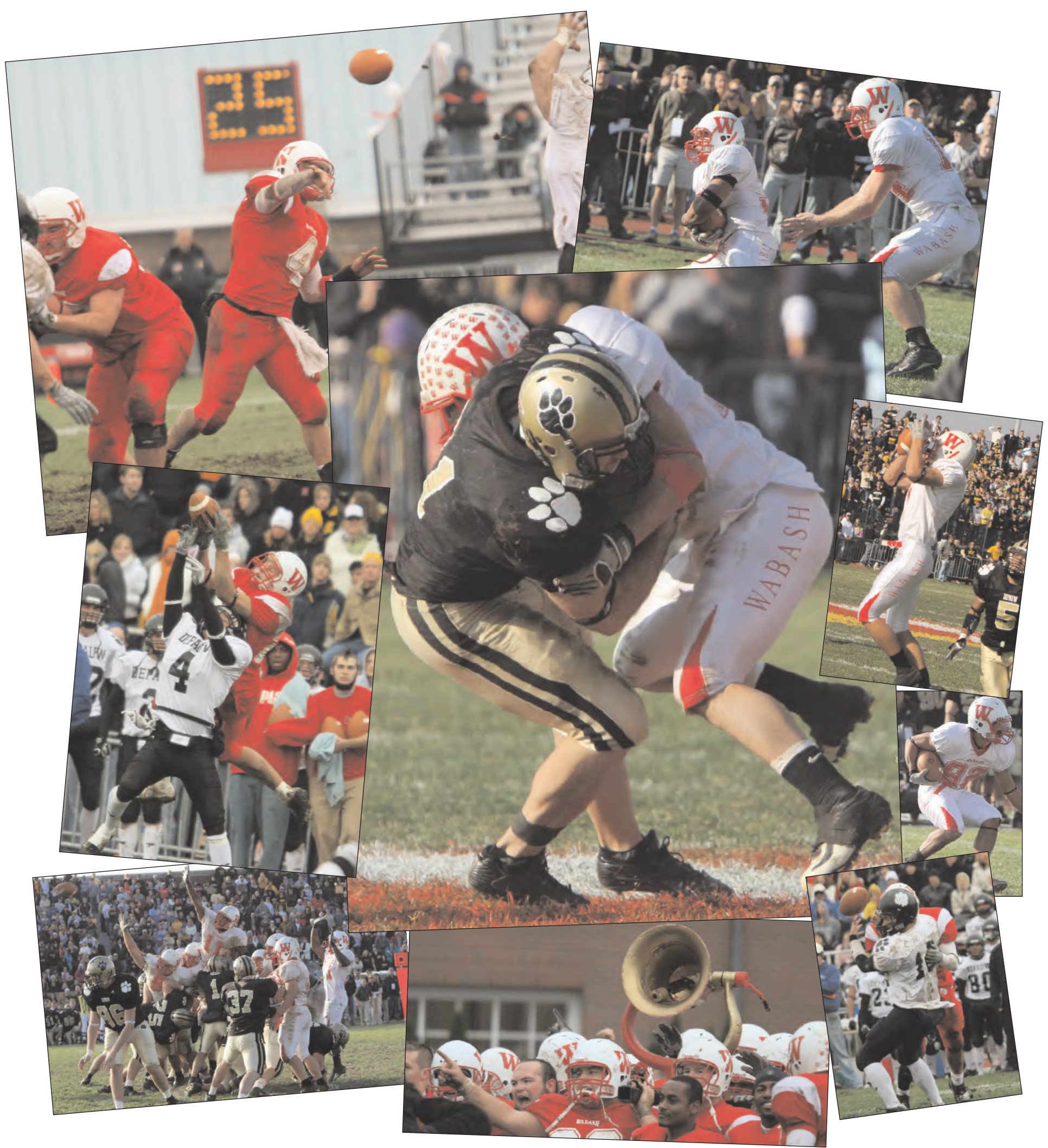


DePauw University Tigers

DePauw to Hell...

We Want the Bell!

2008 Monon Bell Classic Preview



CHUCK SUMMERS '10 | SPORTS EDITOR

One full year after the gut-wrenching, 47-yard-last-second-field-goal, go-down-in-history loss to the Tigers in Greencastle, the Little Giants finally have a chance for redemption and retribution this Saturday, as the Monon Bell Classic returns to Byron P. Hollett Little Giant Stadium. For the majority of the football

players, the absence of the Bell from the lobby of the Allen Center was a new experience, and not one they want to get used to. "It's been brutal, honestly," said junior quarterback Matt Hudson, who will make his second Monon Bell Game start on Saturday. "I don't think any of us have experienced something like we did last year. It's given us

motivation throughout the year." Like last year, Hudson and the No. 3 Little Giants come into this game undefeated and playoff-bound. Likewise, this will be 7-2 DePauw's last game of the season, and they will look to spoil Wabash's perfect season. Hudson believes the Little Giants will be more prepared this time. "I think we're more focused than

last year," Hudson said. "Last year, I think we kind of took this game for granted. We knew we were going to the playoffs, and we overlooked this game a little bit. They definitely wanted it more last year, but we're definitely much more geared for this game than last year. I've told some of the younger guys, if we don't win this

2008 Monon Bell Preview



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Senior offensive tackle Jeremy Morris steps back to pass block against a Hiram defender in Wabash’s conference wrap-up last Saturday.

Bell

From Page 9

game, this wasn’t a successful season.”

The Little Giants rolled through the end of their conference schedule heading into this weekend, tuning up Oberlin and Hiram 60-7 and 63-0, respectively. Though happy with the team’s dominant play, Head Coach Erik Raeburn said he is a little concerned about the fact that they haven’t played a close game in a few weeks. Because if there’s one thing you can count on Saturday, it’s that the game will be close.

“That’s one of the negatives [of dominating opponents],” Raeburn said. “I’m happy with how we’ve played, but that is a concern. We had a tough game against Wittenberg that went right down to the wire and tough games against Wash. U and Wooster, so we’ve been there. Hopefully our guys will be ready to shift gears.”

Even though this is Raeburn’s first Monon Bell Game, he does have some experience in big games. Raeburn was an assistant coach for Mt. Union for four National Championship games. He said this game is as big, if not bigger.

“I haven’t ever been involved in a rivalry that’s this fierce and this intense,” Raeburn said. “I wouldn’t say the National Championship games were as intense. There are thousands of people there, but not all of them have a vested interest in a team; there lot of people there who are just there because they live nearby or they’re big DIII football fans. That’s not going to be the case on Saturday. This is definitely the most intense rivalry I’ve ever been a part of.”

Raeburn’s squad comes into the contest boasting one of the top offenses in the country, bolstered by Hudson’s consistent performance and an impressive

running game. Hudson has thrown for 2376 yards and 25 touchdowns in his second season as starter. Senior running backs Bobby Kimp and Adam Pilli, junior Evan Sobecki, and sophomore Derrick Yoder have combined for 1673 rushing yards and 24 touchdowns. The running back by committee system has worked extremely well, averaging over 200 yards a game while giving the Little Giants balance offensively.

Much of the success of the running game must be attributed to the big boys up front as well. Seniors Jeremy Morris and Tony Neymeiyer anchor a large and experienced offensive line who have been excellent at protecting Hudson as well as opening holes for the running backs all year. Morris said he isn’t surprised that the team has been able to improve the running game so drastically in just one year.

“We could have ran the ball like this last year, its just a change in mentality,” Morris said. “We [the O-line] like to run the ball, its just something we’ve focused on this year.”

Offensively, it all starts up front for the Little Giants on Saturday, as they face off against a tenacious and experienced defensive line, led by senior Mike McNelis and junior Alex Fitch, who have combined for 47 total tackles and 4.5 sacks on the year. Since the weather, which is predicted to be cold and rainy, will not be favorable for either quarterback, establishing the running game will be crucial.

“That’s one thing we struggled with last year,” Hudson said. “With the weather conditions, we’re going to have to run the ball well this year. It’s going to be a dogfight up front.”

Morris said the key to con-

trolling the line of scrimmage is simply communication. “It’s all about just making sure we’re all on the same page,” Morris said. “Communication is the biggest thing, just like any other week.”

Behind the defensive line, the Tigers defense is bolstered by sophomore linebacker Ryan Pruess and senior defensive back Marc Hoepfner. Pruess has 60 total tackles on the year with 3.5 tackles for loss, and Hoepfner has 51 total tackles and two interceptions.

Hudson will look for big plays out of sophomore receiver Kody Lemond, who has 59 catches for 1073 yards and 13 touchdowns.

On the other side of the ball, the Tigers are led by junior quarterback Spud Dick, who has 2669 yards and 23 touchdowns through the air. Dick has a plethora of weapons at his disposal, including sophomore receiver Alex Koors, who has 50 grabs for 865 yards and nine touchdowns, and junior Bryan Mulligan, who has 48 catches for 471 yards and four touchdowns.

“[Dick] is outstanding and he’s got a really good group of

receivers. He’s the best quarterback we’ll face all year and he’s throwing to the best receivers we’ll face all year.” DePauw has struggled a bit running the ball this year, coming into this weekend ranked just 190th in rushing nationally. The defense will look to shut down the run early so they can focus on shutting down Dick and the passing game. Look for senior defensive linemen Darryl Kennon, Wabash’s all-time sack leader, and Jared Lange to wreak havoc in the backfield, especially if they can negate the run and pin their ears back on the pass rush.

In this game, past records, stats, and accomplishments really mean nothing. In this fierce and long-fought battle, heart, will and emotion will decide the victor. Expect two nasty, motivated teams to meet on Saturday for what shapes up to be another great addition to the storied rivalry.

“I always tell people that, in this game, you can just throw the records out the window,” Hudson said. “That’s part of what makes this game so special.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Junior running back Evan Sobecki breaks through the hole in the game against Hiram. Sobecki has 340 yards and five touchdowns this season.

Rugby Players Battle for a Different Prize

Annual Monon Keg Game becomes popular Bell Week Event

PETER ROBBINS ’12
STAFF WRITER

This week, there is a clear focus on the Wabash campus- beating Depauw. For most students, this goal is most strongly linked with football and the colossal matchup on Saturday at Hollett Stadium. For one group in particular, however, their week’s big event will occur the day before everyone else’s- the Keg Game on Friday between the Wabash and DePauw rugby teams.

While the Wabash rugby team is a club organization, it certainly puts forth varsity effort. The players are very dedicated and passionate about their sport, to which player/coach Will Hoffman can attest.

“I’ve torn both MCLs, had reconstructive surgery on my shoulder, gotten a concussion and sprained my elbow,” said Hoffman, who insists that all of his battle wounds are worth it.

“The rugby team is a brotherhood,” Hoffman said. “We travel over the weekend because we don’t have a home field. We beat up on the other team, then guys hang out afterwards.”

Senior player Ben Ladowski agreed with Hoffman about the social intricacies of rugby. “It used to be a culture of shaking hands, beating the hell out of people, shaking hands and having a beer,” Ladowski said. “But now the culture is changing. There’s a lot less of that because some people couldn’t handle it.”

The Keg Game has become a staple of Monon Bell Weekend, and has grown in importance in the last few years. “It’s probably gotten big in the last eight to ten years,” said Hoffman.

Ladowski was able to shed some light on the former ignorance about rugby that existed around here. “My dad’s been watching rugby for 12 years,” Ladowski said,

“And a few years ago some guys were cheering but had no idea what was going on, so my dad explained the rules to them.”

Because of the growing popularity, some around the Wabash campus were unhappy when they found out that the Keg Game was being played at DePauw this season, as the game used to be held in the same location as the football game.

“That’s a new agreement the schools have,” Hoffman said. “The schools decided to split the responsibility of the weekend, so from now on, the Keg Game will be played opposite from the Bell Game.”

“Some guys on the team are bummed out about it,” said Hoffman, “but most guys understand. There are big crowds and lots of security needed, so it makes sense.”

Ladowski expressed some disappointment with the decision to have

Depauw host the game. “It usually brings people who don’t normally see rugby,” said Ladowski. “They’ll have a lot more fans than we will, and we’ll have less people because it’s a lot earlier in the day this year. It’s usually later in the evening with lights, which is fun.”

Despite their fierce competition on the field, the Wabash and Depauw rugby teams are friendly off the field.

“Our teams get along great,” said Hoffman. “It’s a big rivalry, but most of the problems are

“The rugby team is a brotherhood...We beat up on the other team, then guys hang out afterward.”

Will Hoffman, Wabash ’10

between the fans.” Ladowski agreed with Hoffman about the healthy rivalry with Depauw. “It’s a good rivalry. We’ve actually had to step in as rugby players and break up fights between the fans before,” Ladowski said.

Nonetheless, Hoffman admits that the Keg Game is the biggest of the season. “There’s no doubt that we practice very hard

for the Keg Game,” Hoffman said.

A good showing by fans at the Keg Game would undoubtedly inspire the Wabash rugby team and help kick off Monon Bell weekend with Wabash up 1-0 in what are arguably the two most physical sports around. That would certainly be something to be proud of.

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2008 Monon Bell Preview

Sports Editors Make Annual Bell Game Predictions

This whole week has felt considerably different from the previous two Bell weeks I've experienced here at Wabash. Mohawks are still being shaved, cookouts are still happening every midnight, and the frequent sounds of people yelling "Swallows!" still echo throughout campus.

But without the constant sound of the Bell ringing from the heart of campus, this week has just not been the same. After a whole week, the ringing sound of the Bell can get kind of obnoxious, but it never really gets old. It brings an energy and excitement to this campus unlike anything else I have seen.

I hope you've enjoyed your time with the Bell, DePauw, because I fully expect the endless ringing to return to Wabash this Saturday.

At first glance, this match-up is eerily similar to DePauw's dramatic upset of the Little Giants last year in Greencastle. DePauw comes into the game with two losses to the two toughest teams in their conference to face an undefeated, playoff-bound, and highly-ranked Wabash squad. But if you look closer at these two teams, things couldn't be more different than last year.

In fact, I think these two teams are in the opposite position than they were last year. DePauw, like Wabash last year, boasts an incredibly strong passing game that has put up some ridiculous numbers during the season. But also like Wabash last year, they have had trouble establishing consistency on the ground, averaging just 102.8 rushing yards per game.

Wabash, on the other hand, comes into this game with the ability to dominate with the pass as well as the run. Under new Head Coach Erik Raeburn's offensive system, the Little Giants have developed a balance that just wasn't there the last few years. Wabash is averaging over 200 rushing yards a game, an incredible increase from last season. Expect more than the handful of rushing attempts Wabash had last year on Saturday, as they will control the ball and,



CHUCK SUMMERS
SPORTS
EDITOR

ultimately, the game, the same way DePauw was able to last year.

The Little Giants don't have one dominant rusher like Jeremiah Marks, but they've got a back-by-committee system running on all cylinders. Seniors Bobby Kimp and Adam Pilli, junior Evan Sobecki and sophomore Derrick Yoder are each averaging around 50 rushing yards per game, and the committee system allows Wabash to change up the pace from fast to physical, as well as keeping legs fresh. Since it appears Mother Nature will make sure this game isn't won through the air, Wabash's strong rushing attack will be the key to victory on Saturday.

It's pretty hard to decide who has the advantage from the quarterback position. Wabash's Matt Hudson has had another phenomenal year, throwing for 2365 yards and 25 touchdowns so far. DePauw's Spud Dick has continued to build his resume as one of the Tigers' best QB of all time, throwing for 2669 yards and 23 touchdowns. But the problem for DePauw will be the fact that the weather forecast is nastier than picturing Fat Joe in a Speedo. Low 40's and rain/snow is not exactly optimal weather for any quarterback, let alone one coming into an environment as rabid as Wabash.

When the Tigers fail to establish the run against a Wabash defense that has allowed just 80 rushing yards per game, a tenacious Little Giant defensive line, led by seniors Darryl Kennon and Jared Lange, will be able to pin their ears back and harass Dick with no mercy. Dick will still get his yards through the air; he's an incredible player. But he also has had a tendency to throw up picks in big

games this season (three against Trinity, two against Millsaps), which, combined with the weather, does not look good for the Tigers. Dick will get a couple of balls into the endzone, but he will also spend plenty of time in the cold mud, courtesy of the Wabash defense. Expect Dick to be covered in brown at the end of this one.

Offensively, the Little Giants will definitely need to focus on the battle up front as well. DePauw boasts an experienced and talented defensive line who have the ability to give Hudson nightmares. But what helps Hudson is the ability to run the ball, which will ensure the defense will have to split their attention. If you think Wabash will drop 60+ on this defense like the last few teams they've played, you're crazier than Flava Flav after five Red Bulls. But with their balanced attack, they'll be able to score enough to ensure a Wabash victory.

Though this game won't have all the fireworks like last year, it will be a great, ugly, old-fashioned football game. It will be close throughout, but Wabash's ability to control the ball and the clock in the second half will make sure the Bell returns to its rightful home in a 20-14 victory.

Hopefully this time, when we rush the field to celebrate with our team, we won't have to worry about getting shot up with mace pellets by Master Chief and the rest of the IPD riot control squad...

"I hope you've enjoyed your time with the Bell, DePauw, because I fully expect the endless ringing to return to Wabash this Saturday."

Chuck Summers, Sports Editor

LESLIE GABER & TYLER JAMES DPU CO-SPORTS EDITORS

If this year's set-up for the 115th Monon Bell Game feels like déjà vu, that's because it is.

Just like in 2007, the Wabash Little Giants bring their national ranking and undefeated 9-0 record to the annual match-up. DePauw, meanwhile, has compiled a 7-2 season record, with its only losses coming against Millsaps and Trinity — just the same as last season. And we all know what happened in last year's contest.

A comparison of each team's records would indicate the Little Giants have a heavy advantage, especially considering that their North Coast Athletic Conference championship guarantees them a bid in the NCAA Div. III play-offs. But the Tigers' two losses this season are partially overshadowed by the strength of their Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference foes. DePauw has battled for its wins this season, and there do not seem to be as many opponents of Trinity and Millsaps' caliber in the NCAC. But when it comes to rivalry games, records and rankings usually mean little.

Quarterback play is always key in big football games, and no game is bigger than Monon. Both teams return junior quarterbacks familiar with the pressure of the annual game. The Little Giants' Matt Hudson went 21 for 33 and threw for 322 yards in his first Monon match-up last year. DePauw clearly has the advantage, though, with Spud Dick and his list of school records playing in his third Bell game.

In addition, the Tigers return more experience on the field, including 15 starters from last year's winning team, eight being on offense. Wabash, on the other hand, has fewer veterans on the roster, especially on defense. DePauw's offense, which has averaged more than 30 points per game in 2008, should exploit the new faces of the Wabash defense. A bevy of talented wide receivers plus freshman Jon Ellis on the ground give Dick lots of options. With all their weapons healthy, the Tigers will need everyone playing at full capacity

"If this year's set-up for the 115th Monon Bell Game feels like déjà vu, that's because it is."

Leslie Gaber & Tyler James,

DePauw Co-Sports Editors

in order to expose a Wabash defense that is giving up just under 12 points per game. Something has to give.

The Little Giants' high-powered offense, though, will prove to be a test for DePauw's defensive personnel. Sophomore wide receiver Kody Lemond and Hudson lead an offense that returns seven players from last season, and averages 45 points per game. Inconsistent at times, the Tiger defense will need to play one of its better games of the season. Look for the Tiger defense to gamble early, pressure Hudson and try to force some turnovers to set the tone for the game.

Yet another variable in the equation is Wabash head coach Erik Raeburn, who will make his Monon Bell debut on the 15th. Raeburn has plenty of prior coaching experience, but his unfamiliarity with the intensity of the annual battle could have an effect on his coaching decisions. On the DePauw sideline, head coach Matt Walker will be participating in his 12th Bell game, with experience as both a player and coach. His knowledge of the rivalry could be a meaningful advantage for the Tigers.

So what is actually going to happen come November 15? Clearly the game is setup to be a high scoring affair. The difference in the score will be an early turnover forced by the Tiger defense on a trick play called by coach Raeburn. The Little Giants will get too cute in their play calling, and the Tigers will make them pay. Wabash will keep it close, but won't be able to recover from the early deficit with Spud Dick's explosive offense scoring at will. The Bell will be ringing on its ride back down U.S. 231 to Greencastle.

Prediction: DePauw 38, Wabash 35

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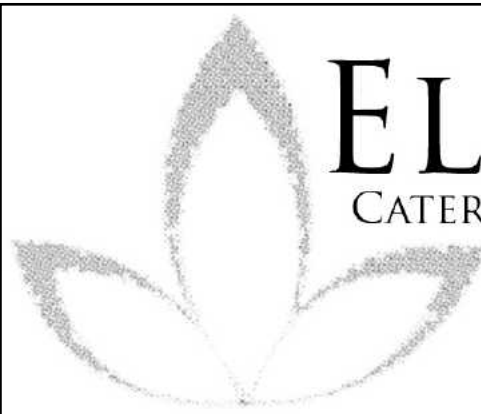
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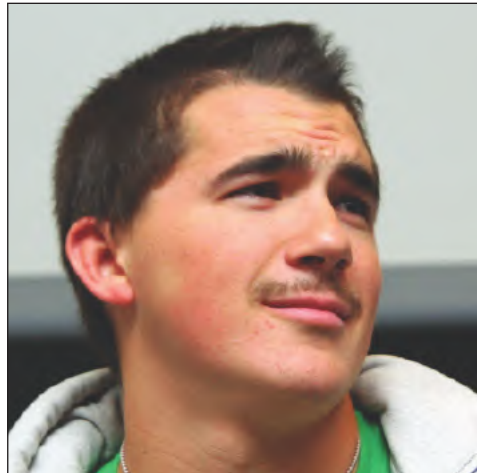
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