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Sororities welcome new members following four-day recruitment period



photos by Krissy Montville '14

The four sororities—Alpha Delta Phi, Alpha Phi, Chi Omega (Right), and Kappa Delta (Left)—conducted their annual Spring recruitment process two weeks ago. On Sunday, Feb. 2, the last day of recruitment, the sororities offered bids to their potential new members, also known as PNMs.

BY JUSTIN KOZLOSKI
Editor-in-Chief

Two weeks ago, the four sororities, lead by the Panhellenic Council held their annual Spring recruitment to extend offers of membership to women across the campus to one of the four organizations.

According to the Panhellenic Council, over the course of three nights, 179 women interested in joining a sorority (Potential New Members or PNMs) attended a series of events designed to

fit them into the most compatible sorority and to help the sororities decide who would be best for their respective organization.

All of these events are planned and run by recruitment counselors. Recruitment counselors are sorority sisters who disaffiliate from their organization for a semester so as to impartially manage the recruitment process that is vital to all of the sororities for maintaining membership.

On the first night of recruitment, all

of the potential new members meet with the recruitment counselors who give them the schedule of events and outline the recruitment process. From there the PNMs go to an event for every one of the sororities and then meet with the recruitment counselors again to rank their sorority preferences. These rankings determine which of the sorority events they will attend the next night as they will only go to their top three at most. At the end of the second night, the process is repeated

and they once again make selections from the three to narrow down the events for the final night of recruitment which is known as Preference Night. As the name implies, this is the night where the potential new members go to the sorority event of their choice, though they may attend two if they are still undecided as to which sorority they feel they best belong.

After all of the events are

see **RECRUITMENT**, page 3

Phillips Museum features artwork of famous century-spanning artist

BY ABIGAIL QUINT
Copy Editor

“Theresa Bernstein: A Century in Art,” featuring a selection of the work of the artist Theresa Bernstein, will be displayed at the Phillips Museum of Art from Feb. 7 to April 12.

Gail Levin, distinguished professor of art history at the Baruch College and the Graduate School of the City University of New York, researched and prepared this exhibit since 2010 with the help of graduate students and other historians. Levin is an art historian and biographer, who has written about the artist Edward Hopper and the

feminist activist Judy Chicago.

Bernstein was a realist painter, born in Poland and raised in Philadelphia. She attended the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, and later moved to New York City with her husband, William Meyerowitz. A supercentenarian, Bernstein was born in 1890 and lived until 2002. She produced art in every decade of the 20th century, and lived through many cultural and political changes, as reflected in her work. A standout piece from the collection, *A Suffrage Meeting*, depicts New York women meeting

see **EXHIBIT**, page 3

F&M Poll tracks Obama, Corbett’s approval ratings, re-election chances

BY SHIRA KIPNEES
Staff Writer

Tom Corbett, governor of Pennsylvania, has a higher approval rating among the state’s voters, but still faces difficulty winning re-election according to the latest F&M Poll. Corbett now has a 21 percent approval rating—an increase from the 18 percent rating he had during the last poll.

“It’s a small and modest increase, and it’s not transformational,” said Terry G. Madonna, director of the F&M Poll. “However, Corbett has been doing some things right lately. His transportation bill passed, and he spent the last six to eight

weeks out on the stump campaigning. Corbett has also been handing out money for programs for people with disabilities, more money for police, and he has been out with a more positive message than cutbacks he was previously mentioning. He has come out with some programs—albeit very small programs—and with positive messages as of late.”

The poll noted that education is one of the major issues for voters. According to Madonna, of the 500 school districts in the state, many faced budget cuts that affected

see **POLL**, page 2

Inside this week’s issue ...

Opinion & Editorial

“So what if it’s my grandma’s coat?”
PAGE 5

Campus Life

Sincerity Forever examines place of race, religion in culture
PAGE 6

Arts & Entertainment

Paul Rudd to star in title role in upcoming *Ant-Man* movie
PAGE 8

Sports

Patricia Epps continues to show passion for F&M Athletics
PAGE 11

Viera's Crime Watch



Friday, Jan. 31—A student reported an incident of stalking; another student was following and attempting to contact him or her.

Saturday, Feb. 1—Vandalism was reported at 625 Lancaster Ave. A door knob was missing from an apartment door.

Saturday, Feb. 1, 8:30 a.m.—A non-student reported the theft of his or her wallet from a track meet at the Alumni Sports and Fitness Center (ASFC).

Sunday, Feb. 2, 1:26 a.m.—Officers

from the Department of Public Safety (DPS) responded to a drug violation in Bonchek College House. A student was transported to Lancaster General Hospital.

Sunday, Feb. 2, 1:40 a.m.—DPS responded to a noise complaint in Schnader Hall. Students who were talking loudly lowered their voices.

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 12:15 a.m.—The fire alarms at Chi Phi fraternity were activated by someone smoking in the house.

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 1:40 p.m.—DPS apprehended a shoplifter from Sunoco.

Thursday, Feb. 6, 6:00 p.m.—An odor of gas was reported at Gibraltar in College Square. Upon inspection, the Lancaster City Bureau of Fire (LCBF) could not locate the source.

Friday, Feb. 7, 7:55 p.m.—A student reported the theft of his or her wallet from a locker room in the ASFC.

Viera's Advice

So this week we've got fire, theft, vandalism, stalking, and drugs. It sounds like it could be an episode of Breaking Bad, but... It's just another week at college. Where's our TV show, AMC? I think that Bryan Cranston would be a great Dr. Porterfield.

The College Reporter Corrections Policy

The College Reporter welcomes comments and suggestions, as well as information about substantive errors of fact that call for correction. Contact us via email at reporter@fandm.edu or at (717) 291-4095.

The College Reporter Story Idea Submission Policy

The College Reporter welcomes story ideas from the college community. If you have or your organization has an idea for a Reporter story, email it to us at reporter@fandm.edu with the subject heading "Campus Story Idea" by Monday at noon the week before publication. Story ideas will be accepted at the discretion of the Editorial Board.

Are you interested in writing about events happening on campus, locally, nationally, or around the world?

Have you ever wanted to be published in a newspaper?

**If you answered yes to either of the questions above, then you should write for
*The College Reporter!***

Positions are available for both staff writers and editorial assistants!

To learn more, email Steven Viera, the News Editor, at sviera@fandm.edu, or come to our meetings on Monday nights!

Poll: Affordable Care Act is likely to blame for Obama's low approval ratings



photo courtesy of foreveryoungpa.com

Tom Corbett, governor of Pennsylvania, is up for re-election this November. According to the latest F&M Poll, he has an approval rating of 21 percent.

continued from page 1

classroom activities and programs.

"Education is a problem and a major concern largely because of the cuts," Madonna explained. "The federal stimulus went away and left a hole in the state's pocket. Corbett lost more money than what the state was spending and hundreds, if not thousands, of teachers have been laid off across the state."

The state of the economy as a whole will play a significant role in the outcome of the election. Many voters have expressed dissatisfaction with the state's slow rate of job creation. While the economy is affecting voters' perception of Corbett, Madonna pointed out that he inherited many of these problems, as he came into office with a \$4.2 billion deficit.

Overall, the poll showed that 60 percent of voters believe the state is moving in the wrong direction because of the slow job growth, poor economy, and education cuts. According to Madonna, news sources from across the country characterize Corbett as the most endangered incumbent governor, yet Madonna believes he still has a chance of re-election.

"I am one of the few analysts who doesn't think Corbett's a political goner," he said. "We don't know who will come out of the Democratic primary, whether the Democratic candidates will go after each other in the primaries, wearing out Corbett's competition, and whether Corbett can change his tune about cuts and other aspects of his administration."

In addition to measuring Pennsylvanians' mood towards Corbett, the poll also asked questions regarding the performance of President Barack Obama. The poll showed he has an approval rating of 30 percent. Madonna thinks Obama's low approval rating can be mostly attributed to the poor rollout of the Patient Protection and Affordable

Care Act, commonly known as Obamacare.

"Obama's second term came in with a lot of issues, but the Affordable Care Act was the crowning blow," he said. "Americans don't like the Affordable Care Act as a whole and the way it was rolled out to the public, but they do like how they can get affordable care without it being very expensive even with a pre-existing condition. They also like that the kids can stay on the plan until age 26 and the idea of universal care. The question is whether this is the particular way to do it."

Additionally, Madonna explained that Obama's low approval ratings may be attributable to voters simply being tired of Obama as he enters his second term—a common problem for many presidents that secure re-election.

The poll not only focused on the approval rating of individual political leaders, but also on certain social and cultural issues. The poll showed that voters are ready for changes in both areas, with 81 percent of Pennsylvania voters favoring legalizing medical marijuana and 57 percent supporting a law allowing same-sex couples to marry.

"In my 23 years doing polling, I don't remember cultural changes taking place so quickly," Madonna said. "I like to tell people it's not your grandparents' state anymore. The voting and changes are being heavily driven by college students that are much more likely to support medical marijuana and are in favor of no discrimination over gender and sexual identity. Their reactions against these things are not as strong as the older generations used to have, and the majorities not in favor of these changes are not as strong and as massive as they used to be."

Junior Shira Kipnees is a staff writer. Her email is skipnees@fandm.edu.

Recruitment: Bids offered to potential new members based on mutual selection

continued from page 1
completed and all of the information from the sororities and the potential new members is gathered, recruitment ends on the fourth day with Bid Day where the sororities hand out the invitations to the girls they think are the best fit and who have expressed the most interest in the organization to join their respective sisterhood.

“The most exciting part of recruitment for the Potential Members would probably be Bid Day,” said Bianca Santos ’14, Panhellenic vice president of member recruitment. “There is an overwhelming build up of anticipation as they wait to see which sorority they will be invited to join. The chapters are always so excited to welcome their new members, so these ladies are showered with love and attention for hours.”

The process of deciding on bids is one that is based off of mutual selection, in which both the sorority and the potential new member have an opinion in the process. The sorority prioritizes which girls they would like to invite back while the potential new members decide which ones they would like to be invited back to. This process allows for the new members to be narrowed into the sorority of best fit and, unlike fraternities, only allows for one sorority to offer a bid to an individual.

Bid Day is typically filled with cel-

ebration and activities welcoming all of the girls who got bids into their new sorority and the recruitment counselors become re-affiliated with their sisterhood and can resume wearing letters and participating in the business of the chapter.

However, before recruitment can begin, there is a good amount of work to be done preparing ahead of time. The events for recruitment are usually planned almost a year in advance so that there is ample time to finish what needs to be done and new recruitment counselors can be trained to properly run the entire recruitment process.

All in all, this year’s Spring recruitment went according to plan and all of the sororities are excited to welcome new women to their sisterhoods.

“Recruitment was great this year,” said Geena Chang ’15, president of Kappa Delta Sorority. “We had so many girls go through so it was a crazy time, but a very positive experience as a whole. We got a great group of girls for our new pledge class. We were very excited to welcome some amazing girls into our sisterhood. They’re a great addition and are going to do great things for our chapter!”

The other sororities were unable to comment as of press time.

Senior Justin Kozloski is the Editor-in-Chief. His email is jkozlosk@fandm.edu.



photo by Krissy Montville '14 and Bryce Loebel '16

Above, the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi pose with their new members on bid day, while below, the current sisters of Alpha Phi gather for a photo.

Exhibit: Bernstein's art reflects social forces, such as female suffrage and jazz

continued from page 1
after nightfall to discuss women’s rights in 1914. Bernstein enjoyed jazz music, even when it was uncommon for middle-aged, white women to do so, even painting a portrait of Louis Armstrong.

“The jazz experts that I have talked to...said it was very unusual for a white woman of that time to be going to Harlem and listening to and liking jazz,” Levin said. “She really clearly liked him a lot. She not only painted Louis Armstrong, but also his wife for a time, Lil Hardin, and Billie Holiday, and Charlie Parker later on.”

Levin has selected a work from each decade to be presented in the exhibit.

“The show was really meant to look at Theresa Bernstein for the first time and try to tell the story of her life,” Levin said. “The show was meant to focus on the work that made her famous, which was really up through the 1930s.”

Bernstein reached the height of her fame during her solo show in 1930. However, the art world soon shifted away from realism and representation to the Dada and then the surrealist movement, followed by abstract works. Bernstein associat-

ed with artists of these movements, such as Marcel Janco and Jackson Pollock, but remained a realist painter throughout her career.

“By the time she was in her 40s... Theresa had started to change her style...She was overshadowed by the younger artists,” Levin said.

Bernstein, although she was no longer as prominent in the art world, continued to produce work for the rest of her life.

The exhibit started at Baruch College, the Graduate Center of City University of New York, and then traveled to F&M, where it is currently on display in the Phillips Mu-

seum’s Leonard and Mildred Rothman Gallery. Next, the exhibit will go to Endicott College’s Walter J. Manninen Center in Beverly, Mass., near Bernstein’s summer home, and then to the Woodmere Art Museum in Philadelphia. Finally, the exhibit will visit Boca Raton, Flor. at the Boca Raton Museum of Art.

Guided tours of the exhibit will be available on Tuesdays from Feb. 11 to April 8, with the exception of Mar. 11.

Junior Abigail Quint is the Copy Editor. Her email is aquint@fandm.edu.



photo by Krissy Montville '14

The exhibit, “Theresa Bernstein: A Century in Art,” is currently on display in the Leonard and Mildred Rothman Gallery of the Phillips Museum of Art. Bernstein, who lived to be 111 years old, created art in every decade of the 20th century and adapted her style to changes in the contemporary art world.

Opinion & Editorial

Staff Editorials

Shad, Martin each offer pros and cons

Student opinions about which library is superior highlights the strengths and weaknesses of each.

Which library do you prefer? This ongoing debate amongst my friends and me seems to become more prominent each year. As an underclassmen living in Bonchek last year, I exclusively enjoyed the comforts of the Shadek-Fackenthal Library. “Shad,” as the locals call it, offers both open spaces and private cubicles. For optimum levels of seclusion, I suggest taking the marble stairs down to the basement and then immediately heading right. Here, you will find about 12 cubicles and no humans. It’s perfect, just like Shad.



QuintEssentially Yours

These small spaces allow me to beat back distraction and procrastination. Also, the presence of the stacks brings me comfort. If all of those authors could write thousands of pages, I can finish a five-page paper. The metal cubicles inside the stacks might seem harsh, but the extra lighting and lack of cell phone service make for an excellent study space. However, Shad has its downsides as well. The closing time, at least for me, is a major issue. I tend to do my best work between 2 a.m. and 5 a.m., so the closing time often comes as I finish my reading and begin the writing assignment. And now that I have moved to CROW, Shad is a farther walk than ever before. On the flip side, I can see Martin from my window. According to Google Maps, Martin Library of the Sciences is 0.2 miles away from my apartment, and a four-minute walk. Because I value convenience—and I am very lazy—I began to dabble in Martin at the beginning of this year.

However, Martin slowly drove me crazy. Most of the study spaces are out in the open, and the anxiety level slowly builds throughout the evening. Furthermore, because Martin is smaller, it feels as if every studying student is sitting in my lap. I will admit that the study rooms in Martin are excellent, and if you are lucky enough to grab one, never let it go. I find the windowless, former copy room particularly appealing. Gathering opinions from the newspaper office today, I find that some of my colleagues truly prefer Martin.

Whatever you choose today when you begin your work, make sure to thank the library staff for all they do. And remember friends, in the words of my favorite aardvark, “having fun isn’t hard, when you’ve got a library card!”

Abigail Quint is a senior joint English and Business major. She is the Copy Editor of *The College Reporter*. Email her at aquint@fandm.edu.

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To all the single ladies & gents

With Valentine’s Day on Friday, we at *The College Reporter* want to congratulate our friends who are happily taken. While you guys are having your candle-lit dinners and feeding each other chocolate-covered chocolate, we want to remind our single friends how much fun Valentine’s Day can be, even if you’re not part of a duo. Unlike any romantic Valentine’s Day ballads playing on your local radio station this Friday, this one goes out to you guys:

- 1) Take a break from dhall and have a potluck dinner with your not-otherwise-engaged friends. Enjoy the great food and great company. Without the expense of some over-priced restaurant, you can still eat deliciously within the comfort of your own home.
- 2) Plan a fun group outing. Laser Tag, ice skate, see a movie or go bowling and up the competition: whoever takes the most SnapChats of cutesy couples making out by the end of the night wins!
- 3) Relish in the fact that you don’t have to get anyone for a gift. Did you miss some hours at work these past couple of weeks because of the snow/ice days? Luckily your income won’t take another dive by buying jewelry or chocolate for a significant other.
- 4) Use Tinder for the ego boost. This one is pretty self explanatory.
- 5) Go out with a friend platonically and fake propose in public. Earn extra *College Reporter* Points (non-refundable and non-exchangeable for any goods or purposeful material items of any kind) if you have a third friend sit at another table and freak out over her “boyfriend” proposing to a different girl! This activity is all about making people outside of your inner circle feel bad, which is basically what Valentine’s Day is all about.
- 6) Make valentines cards for your friends. Relive your elementary school years by giving out decorated doilies to everyone at the top of your friends list. Extra points if you can write a secret message to your crush, such as, “Roses Are Red, Violets Are Blue, Sloane Will You Date Me I’ve Been Into You For A Really Long Time, Ditch Dan, Love Justin.” ...Or, maybe you don’t have to be so secretive.

Anyway, we hope regardless of your relationship status that you can make this Friday extra special and fun. And if Friday sucks, here’s a pro tip: all the candy in CVS will be half-off on Saturday.

xoxo,
The College Reporter Staff



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THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE



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Contributing Writer Editorials

College ends up being not as storybook as expected

Let's face it: college is very, very hard, and I'm not just talking about the academics. However, before I left home to start this whirlwind of a time, all I heard from the people around me was about the wonderful things I would soon experience. They told me of the lifelong friends they had made and about how badly they wanted to be in my shoes, starting college again.

While I'm all about positivity, I've come to be annoyed by this, for something was clearly absent from their joyful reminiscing. How come they didn't tell me? How come they didn't tell me that for some, college is filled with homesickness? How come they didn't let me know that in the beginning, it is normal to feel like you don't really belong?

If I had known these things, I would have felt less shocked by the difficulty I experienced in my first few months away from home. As young adults living on our own for the first time, we have to deal with so many new obstacles. I am disappointed by the fact that the hard things about college are silenced by the fact that all we know going into it is that these are going to be some of the greatest years of our lives.

I am certainly not trying to say that college is a horrible time—it is not in any sense. But, there are those days. The days that we feel lonely. The days when we can barely sleep. The days when we are counting down until we can be home again, until we can be comforted by whomever it is that takes care of us there. We don't have our Mom or Dad here to hold us at the end of an awful week, or to tell us to take a deep breath, because it's all going to be okay. We're on our own—at least at first. Figuring this out soon into my first year of college, I realized that I needed some extra support. Although speaking to my mom and sister on the phone multiple times a week was helpful, what I needed was someone physically there for me.

So, I sought people out. Having grown particularly fond of my advisor last year, I became aware that she was someone to whom I could go when I needed support. Thus, she became a kind of crutch for me. I would go into Professor Wallach's office throughout the year not just to plan my academic schedule, but also to get her advice. As an intelligent woman whom I also had the privilege of calling my professor, I looked up to her immensely, and still do. She put confidence in me at a time when I was feeling a little lost, and assured me that I was doing just fine when I wasn't really sure if I was. As the year went on, I came to realize that Professor Wallach cared about my well-being; she wanted to see me succeed, and had full confidence that I would. Knowing that someone (and especially one whom you admire so much) believes in you is the best medicine for a young person. It certainly was for me.

The truth is, college can make you feel like a wreck. Boys, girls, hard classes, making friends—you name it—none of it is easy, and it is just too difficult for one 19-year-old to handle all by herself. Having a mentor enabled me to find a strength within myself that I don't think I would have discovered on my own. Clearly, I was beyond lucky to have crossed Professor Wallach's path last year. I realize that sometimes college students aren't as fortunate in terms of their advisors. However, there are countless faculty members who are here because they seriously care about students, and who would give the shirts off their backs to any of us.

Let's seek these amazing people out, guys. They are there, waiting for us. Maybe she's your advisor, or someone in Counseling Services. Maybe it's that professor that you adore. With the right people giving us the support we need to be the best college kids we can be, this time will be so much less of a battle. In fact, we have to fight for it not to be a battle—we have to fight in order for it to be (yes, indeed) some of the greatest years of our lives. To do this, we need mentors. We need counselors. We need any smart adult who will just be there for us. As young adults, there is so much we still have to learn about life, and these people are the some of main ones who will teach us. Who doesn't want a support system? Not me. Having transferred schools, I too, need to find a new one for myself. If there is someone here (and I know there is) who can be my go-to person when times are a bit rough, all I have to say is, sign me up.

Emilie Woods is a sophomore. She is a contributing writer to *The College Reporter*. Email her at ewoods@fandm.edu.

High cost of gluten free furthers notion of fad diet

Student reflects on difficulties surrounding expense of dietary needs and the overwhelming repercussions of Food Deserts.

As most people who know me are aware, I have Celiac Disease. This means I must be medically gluten free. That is to say, I'm not gluten free because of a trend, or a fad, or because Lindsay Lohan is. I've seen pictures of my own intestines, where my crushed cilia refuse to process gluten and, in turn, are also no longer able to process lactaid. I joke about it a lot; yet, I'm still frustrated by the judgmental looks from those who believe me to be on a "fad diet" when I ask them to accommodate my dietary needs. Don't get me wrong—as I've mentioned many times in past articles, I've been overwhelmed by the amount of support I have received from friends since being diagnosed with Celiac Disease in 2010. However, those who do not know me still tend to preconceive their notions about people with gluten dietary restrictions. As a result, I have had trouble with advocating for myself, fearing tacit judgment from those who believe that if I'm not going into anaphylactic shock that I'm making everything up about what's going on internally.

To avoid the conversation of gluten and the like, I do what I can to bring my own food to events or eat before I go places. The average college student can live relatively cheaply foodwise, hopping from pizza-providing event to mass ramen-noodle satiation. While I am no longer bitter about not being able to partake in pizza eating (for the most part), I've more recently started to consider the concept of buying cheap, mass-quantity food as college students. I do not have this option because gluten free food remains to be oftentimes twice as much of a cost for half the amount of food. While this is something that I can cope with by maintaining frugality elsewhere and my family being willing to supplement my food budget. I'm quite aware however that this is not a feasible option for many people who may not have the option in more expensive food brands, or because accessibility is limited. What is upsetting is that this turns an actual disease into a burden among the privileged, perpetuating the stereotype that it's a fad for rich people to experiment with.

Unfortunately my upset with an inability to buy food cheaply is a much grander problem than I can begin to understand because I am fortunate enough that my family is able to provide me with the food that my body is able to digest, and it is horrible to think that this is not the reality for most.

The entire concept that the cheapest food is also the most unhealthy (regardless of dietary restrictions) plays into the entire Food Desert (a topic first introduced in the 90s to describe areas of low income with little accessibility to healthy foods) pandemic that is occurring throughout our country. As someone who wants to live in a large city within the coming years, I fear accessibility of the food I need to eat based on my location—not to mention what my income will be.

While Food Deserts and accessibility to food is a huge problem within our country, I want to look at the concept on a micro scale from, of course, what I have experienced personally. Should it be legal that gluten-free food can literally cost up to twice what gluten-containing food costs? A loaf of bread or a box of spaghetti sans gluten often runs twice as high, and the conversations around why gluten free food is so much more expensive seems to be upsettingly sparse.

While there is not a lot of transparency demonstrating the reasoning behind the doubled expense of gluten free food, I feel that this is a topic that needs to be addressed. It is a small indicator of a large-scale issue that is plaguing our country by indicating that only the entitled deserve healthiness—whether it is health by choice or otherwise. By asserting the opinion that I believe that perhaps it should be illegal for gluten free food to be more expensive, I hope to further the dialogue of the problem with food expenses and Food Deserts occurring throughout America. We need to realize that dietary health, whether medical or by choice, should not be considered a privilege but rather a basic human right.

Sara Blank is a senior English major. She is the Opinion & Editorial Editor of *The College Reporter*. Email her at sblank@fandm.edu.

All opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of *The College Reporter*. To write a response to any opinions expressed above, contact Opinion Editor Sara Blank at sblank@fandm.edu.

Staff Editorials

So what if it's my Grandma's coat?

Pop culture's ironic infatuation with thrift shops is a manifestation of privilege.

I have a confession to make: I like to pop tags. I may only have twenty dollars in my pocket, but I'm hunting. I'm always looking for a come-up. Because thrift shopping is freaking awesome!

At least, I think so. I really, actually enjoy shopping at thrift stores. I sincerely like to buy second-hand clothing more than the crispest, newest shirt any store can give me. I will blissfully paw through racks and racks of gently used, slightly musty clothing than be confronted with the newest, most unforgiving trends. I love running up to the cash register with four vaguely vintage shirts, four shapeless grandma sweaters, and three sundresses and only needing to pay, yes, about twenty dollars (especially on Half-off Wednesday! Check your local secondhand stores!). I went through this weird phase last year where I insisted on buying ten long, floral dresses and "tailoring" them by hand myself. And two of them turned out really well.

Shopping at thrift stores is just a fun thing for me, and that's about all I can say about it. It makes shopping a cool, imaginative adventure: who knows what I'll find? A large white t-shirt with a blurry picture of a man whom no mortal can identify? Or a baggy, powder blue sweater with the best pocket of all time? And for the record, I have found and purchased both of them.

And who hasn't turned to their local Salvation Army for a Halloween costume or a themed mixer? It's the best way to find cheap and hilariously horrible clothes. You can look great in that ideally ironic, grody way. Snag some short leopard print jorts, a psychedelic muscle shirt with the Jackson Five on it, and show up at the club looking fresh to death.

But here's the thing about thrift shopping: a lot of people elect to shop secondhand. I certainly do, and I think a lot of people here do, too. And that is a privilege we generally don't think about. Because the thing is, a lot of people have to shop secondhand. What we do to be funky or funny, other people literally need to do to buy clothing. This whole attitude about thrift stores as whimsical places of fun finds and funniness—I'm looking at you, Macklemore—is actually a really serious manifestation of privilege.

I should point out, I don't want this to be a self-righteous diatribe. I'm not saying if you can afford not to shop secondhand, then you should be black-listed from every Goodwill in America. I'm not saying everyone should stop using thrift stores for all of their crafting and frating needs. I'm not trying to convince people to avoid secondhand stores like the plague, because it's generally a good cause and hey, you can still find me there every Half-off Wednesday.

What I am trying to do is try to make more people aware of this cultural conflict: getting to choose to shop at thrift stores is a privilege, and having to shop there is a hardship. What's hilariously tongue-in-cheek and silly for people like me is actually a way of life for other people on our halls, our campus, and our neighborhood.

So my point is, let's just try to be more respectful. Let's try to be aware of how lucky we are to have this choice to make. Speaking for myself, I know I'm stupidly fortunate that, for no real reason at all, I'm in a position where I get to choose to thrift shop. And at the risk of making assumptions, I think that's the position a lot of people on campus are in, too. So next time you put on "Thrift Shop" or joke about how nasty Salvation Army clothes are, just think about your fellow Diplomats who might be at Half-Off Wednesday for a reason that could not be farther from your Friday night mixer.

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Blank Verse

Campus Life

Sincerity Forever examines place of race, religion in culture

BY JULIA CINQUEGRANI

Campus Life Editor

Next weekend, the theatre, dance and film department's (TDF) production of *Sincerity Forever* will premiere in the Green Room Theatre. The play addresses issues of race, religion, spirituality, faith, and knowledge.

The play, written by Mac Wellman in 1990, is a comedy grappling with difficult social issues. It centers on teenagers from the fictitious town of Hillsbottom, who navigate their relationships with each other by asking complex questions about the nature of God and the place of the individual in the universe, while simultaneously dealing with more commonplace issues, such as first crushes.

Jon Foley Sherman, director and visiting assistant professor of theatre, proposed this show to members of the TDF department during the Summer and held auditions for it in the beginning of November. The cast began read-throughs of the play before Winter break and have been holding daily rehearsals since the Spring semester began.

Since its publishing, *Sincerity Forever* has attracted controversy because of its treatment of contemporary American social issues, especially its portrayal of Ku Klux Klan members and Jesus Christ. At its heart, however, the play addresses America's complex relationship with religion and race, interweaving humor to create a thought-provoking and poignant comedy.

"The play is hilarious," Foley Sherman said. "We've been laughing so much in rehearsals, but, if you listen to the ideas, they are very important questions, some of which humans have been struggling with forever, like if God has a plan for us."

In addition to the unconventionality of some of *Sincerity Forever's* themes, the play's set is also unusual. The central piece of the set is the front half of a real car, which Robert Marenick, resident technical director, found in a salvage yard in Red Lion, Penn. The salvage yard agreed to cut the car in half and deliver it to F&M. Most of the play's action takes place between actors sitting in the car, and the rest of the set, designed by John Whiting, resident scenic and lighting director, focuses around the car.

"We wanted the cast to be close to the audience," Foley Sherman said. "We thought that if we could get a real car it would feel so much better for everybody, and the actors can really move around with the constraints of the car. It



photo by Bryce Loebel '15

Cast members of *Sincerity Forever* rehearsed in the Green Room Theatre. The action of the play revolves around the real car placed on stage as part of the set. The show will open on Thursday, Feb. 13.

seemed like a great piece to have physically for the play."

Sincerity Forever does not have traditional lead characters; instead, most scenes take place between two characters. One of these actors is L'Oreal Lampley '15, who plays Jesus. She said the prevalence of these small scenes have made character development especially important.

"I don't think the process of learning about your character ever stops—it's forever," Lampley said. "Every time you look at the character you're looking at it with fresh eyes. It's mentally draining, especially because character development is one of the tougher things you have to do. You're trying to figure out the mind of somebody else who doesn't even exist."

Lampley finished memorizing her lines for the play during Winter break, but is still developing and revising her character at every rehearsal.

"I'm still learning my character, and I still feel like there are moments when I can do things differently every time I perform," Lampley said. "I always have to remember my character and who I am and what I represent. The speeches that every character has are all very different and important, and all relay particular messages that are valuable."

Although Lampley acted in plays and musicals in high school, this is her first time performing at F&M. She was initially hesitant in rehearsals and did not know most of her fellow cast members when they began working on the play, but, over time, the cast has formed its own community.

"There's always a lot of laughing at rehearsal, and that's one thing I love about it," Lampley said. "It makes me feel like I'm doing something right. The feeling I get from every practice makes me think the cast has done a really good job of supporting each other. I can be comfortable around them and we feed off each other's energy."

In addition to the complicated themes the play explores, the dialogue itself is often very complex. As a result, Foley Sherman has spent a long time working with the actors to ensure they understand the greater implications of each piece of text, as well as mastering the linguistics of their lines.

"Most of the work I have been doing is close work on scenes with two people, so each scene has had a moment where there has been a breakthrough for one or both of the actors," Foley Sherman said. "Every actor has had a moment where they got all the punctuation of the lines right, and meaning and emotions flow through, and relationships with the other characters fall into place."

With the opening of *Sincerity Forever* drawing near, Lampley said she is excited to perform, but wants to make sure she concentrates on perfecting her character in the mean time.

"I'm a little nervous," Lampley said. "My character is literally Jesus, and that's a lot of pressure. I want to make sure that during the play L'Oreal sits down and the audience can see that I am not this person. It's Jesus talking, not me. If you can tell that it's me, I'm not doing my job right."

Foley Sherman is also looking forward to the play's opening and to seeing audiences' reactions to the performances.

"I'm really excited for the play to exist in front of an audience," Foley Sherman said. "The actors are really polishing the show and putting on the final touches. I know this play very well, but I am on the edge of my seat sometimes watching the actors because I cannot believe what they are saying, and I am looking forward to other people having that experience."

Although the play deals with religious and race issues that are potentially divisive, Foley Sherman views the play's treatment of the social issues as thought-provoking, not insulting.

"I don't think the play is offensive to Christians," Foley Sherman said. "It's offensive to people who don't want to think, which is a larger proportion of the population than we probably want to admit. But if you are willing to consider what underpins your assumptions, then this is not an offensive play; it is a challenging play."

"I'm drawn to projects that are outside the mainstream," he continued. "I do think it's a really important play to do. If we pull it off, it will be absolutely hilarious, in an, 'It's funny because it's true' kind of way."

Sincerity Forever will be performed Feb. 13, 14, 15 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 16 at 2:00 p.m. in the Green Room Theatre.

Sophomore Julia Cinquegrani is the Campus Life Editor. Her email is jcinqueg@fandm.edu.

MASS Design Group practices architecture with a purpose

BY ERIC ACRE
Contributing Writer

David Saladik, director and co-founder of MASS Design Group, spoke in Stahr Auditorium Thursday about the importance of the physical design of buildings on enhancing utility.

Saladik's speech, entitled "Design To Heal," detailed MASS Design's forays into "architecture with a purpose," or the act of erecting buildings in areas of developing countries in order to benefit the individuals living in those areas.

His speech was part of a series of visits from renowned artists and architects made possible by the Conrad Nelson Visiting Artist Program. Saladik received his masters degree in architecture from the Harvard Graduate School of Design and was a founding member of MASS Design in 2008.

MASS Design's first building of this sort was the Butaro District Hospital in northern Rwanda. The hospital was built with the needs and desires of the Rwandan people in mind, which illustrated Saladik's point that buildings that are designed more thoughtfully have a higher value.

Saladik then recounted the tragic outbreak of extremely drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDRTB) in South Africa in 2005, during which there were 53 cases of this disease and none of the people infected survived.

Saladik argued that the hospital design itself was partly responsible for the death of those 53 people, rather than just the disease. He then continued to criticize the design of hospi-

itals in other countries as well, such as Rwanda.

"[There are waiting rooms] that are crowded, dark, congested, and, most importantly, unventilated," Saladik said.

The poor design of these hospitals contributes to the spread of disease within them, which shows the importance of better design for buildings. Keeping its goal of creating a space for healing rather than extending harm, the MASS Design Group set out to build the new Butaro District Hospital.

"One of the first things we thought about in designing this hospital was, 'If people are waiting in crowded hallways and getting sick, why don't we make a hospital with no hallways?'" Saladik said.

As a result, the hospital was built much like a college campus, with outdoor waiting areas protected by covered walkways and different buildings serving different medical purposes. This was the first of many innovations by MASS Design that helped make its project a success.

MASS also utilized the beautiful Rwandan countryside by creating a low wall in the middle of the patient rooms, and making all of the beds face the windows so that patients could view the landscape, instead of only having a view of the grim hospital. The wall is also functional: it facilitates oxygen lines and other necessities to patients.

Perhaps the most inspiring feat of the group, however, was the decision to use local labor to excavate the site for the hospital instead of contracting jobs to outsiders to have the work

done.

"Local people did all the work by hand, hiring upwards of a thousand people," Saladik said.

The construction created both jobs and a sense of community in the rural Rwandan countryside. They shifted workers every three months, allowing more people from the community to contribute, and allowed women to work, as well, which was still uncommon in Rwanda at the time.

But the innovation did not stop there. The second phase of MASS Design's program was to create housing for foreign doctors that were staying in Rwanda to work at the hospital.

The success of the hospital led it to become a major teaching hospital in east Africa, with many doctors from Boston coming to teach Rwandan doctors new medical practices.

According to Saladik, these houses were so well-liked by doctors that they serve as motivation for them to be

successful in their field in order to obtain them. The houses are simple, yet elegant and desirable, and they have created a tangible incentive for prestigious doctors to come to Rwanda.

The success of the hospital has led to its recognition by the Rwandan government, which now wants it to be expanded to include more housing and an already-built cancer center. The positive effects of these new building efforts seem to be stretching far beyond the improved health of Butaro District citizens.

Thanks to the success of the Butaro District Hospital, MASS Design has become a thriving architectural firm, and is working on creating the GHESKIO Cholera Treatment Center in Haiti, with more to come in the future.

First-year Eric Acre is a contributing writer. His email is eacre@fandm.edu.

Bastian discusses spirits, ancestry at Common Hour



photo by Krissy Montville '14

At Common Hour, Misty Bastian, Lewis Audenreid Professor of history and archaeology in the department of anthropology, spoke about ancestry, ghosts, and spirits in a lecture entitled, "The Tangibility of Ancestors: Being in Touch with Spirits on Two Continents."

Bastian discussed the work of paranormal research in the U.S. and Igbo-speaking people from Nigeria, both of whom attempt to keep in touch with ancestors.

Helm enjoys solving problems, helping others through ITS

Staff profile...

—by Jack Pinsky

While most students are familiar with F&M's extensive history, most are not as aware of Mary Anne Helm's, coordinator of operations for Information Technology Services (ITS), long history with the College.

Helm was born in Columbia, Penn. and was raised in Lancaster near F&M. Her parents held the attitude that F&M, then an all-



photo by Jack Pinsky '14

Mary Anne Helm, coordinator of operations for ITS.

male school, was a very private institution, so, as a child, Helm was never allowed to visit campus.

Once she graduated from Lancaster Catholic High School, Helm started working as a secretary for a travel agency. She applied for a job as a secretary at F&M, but was not hired. However, the managers of Shadok-Fackenthal Library learned of her application, took an interest, and proceeded to hire her.

Helm began working in circulation and interlibrary loan in 1981. Eight years later, Helm was transferred to Computer Services, the name of ITS at the time, and has worked there ever since.

Spending so much time at F&M has allowed Helm to appreciate the different kinds of people who pass through the College. She has worked through five different F&M presidents.

Specifically, she remembers Dean Dewey, who worked under President Kevin Spalding, who, despite his esteemed position, would send handwritten notes of thanks or encouragement to students and staff. Helm has seen how students grow during their

four years and still keeps in touch with some she met when they were freshmen.

As an employee of the College, Helm began taking classes in the Evening Division, a former program for F&M staff members through which they could take courses for credit. At a rate of one class per semester, Helm steadily gained credits until she graduated with a degree in Studio Art in 2003. Helm has some of her artwork hanging in her office from a papermaking class. Helm said she enjoyed how professors treated her no differently from the other students.

"The professors didn't give me any slack," Helm said.

Helm cites her graduation day as her favorite memory of F&M, even though the weather was less than ideal.

"It was a cold, rainy day and the ceremony had to be held in the ASFC," Helm said.

Helm cherishes this F&M memory in particular for the sense of accomplishment she felt and the acceptance she felt from the other graduating students.

Helm had a son, who passed away

three years ago, and a daughter who has four children of her own. One of those children has a daughter, who is Helm's first great-grandchild.

Today, she enjoys painting, crochet, and knitting. She also enjoys crossword puzzles, word searches, and sudoku puzzles to challenge her mind.

During her tenure of over twenty years in ITS, Helm says her favorite thing about working in her position is the variety of problems she gets to solve every day, from fixing hardware on campus to organizing important documents for the college. She enjoys seeing all the new technology and helping out anybody with a problem with technology. She also likes working with her coworkers, who she says keep her on her toes.

Finally, I asked Helm to provide a piece of advice to students at F&M.

"Don't stress out," she said. "Relax and enjoy. Students need to enjoy it."

If you would like to nominate a staff member for a profile email jpinsky@fandm.edu.

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Marvel studios to introduce *Ant Man* to silver screen Rudd confirmed to play superhero protagonist in upcoming film

Movie Preview *Ant Man*

by Georgianna Pisano-Goetz

Marvel continues to report up-to-date information regarding their cinematic universe into the next decade, most recently announcing key actors to take on Ant Man. The Ant Man film will tentatively be reaching theaters July 17, 2015 a mere two months after *Avengers: Age of Ultron*. For those unfamiliar, Marvel has diced up its thematic releases into phases, the first of which concluded with the first Avengers film.

The second phase began with *Iron Man 3* and will conclude with *Avengers: Age of Ultron*. *Ant Man* will be the first entry in Marvel's Phase Three. Before Cap and Thor fans revolt, be assured that the heroes introduced during the first and second phases will remain active in the third. Iron Man, Captain America and Thor will most definitely be making appearances in the third Avengers film. Writers have already been attached to *Thor 3* and *Captain America 3* despite neither hitting theaters yet.

Ant Man will be the only new hero heading his own film within the foreseeable future, despite the already existing other options, including the Hulk, Black Widow, or Hawkeye. This may seem like an unlikely scenario for those unfamiliar with the comics, but rest assured that Ant Man has already had a long and storied history with the Avengers.

In fact, Ant Man and his wife, the Wasp, were founding members of the team in the comics. That may not be a surprise, since it was rumored that Joss Whedon attempted to work the Wasp into his original plan for *The Avengers*. The Wasp and Ant Man even have similar powers (shrinking ability).

So why not introduce a headlining female hero? The casting of Wonder Woman into *Batman Versus Superman* opened up a conversation about the miserable state of affairs for female superheroes headlining their own films (or lack thereof). DC Comic's abysmal handling of the situation created the perfect opportunity for Marvel to display the diversity they've fostered in their comics as well as in their cinematic universe. However, recent casting news pretty much shuts out the possibility of a Wasp-headlined film.

When Paul Rudd was confirmed as Ant Man, many ill-informed reports confirmed him inaccurately as Hank Pym. Doctor Henry "Hank" Pym is the original Ant Man from the comics. Biochemist Dr. Pym discovers subatomic particles that can alter size, which he concededly names Pym particles. He works them into a helmet that he wears as the superhero Ant Man who can shrink down to the size of an insect. Paul Rudd will not be playing Hank Pym. In fact, Michael Douglas has been cast to play Hank Pym.

Rudd will play the second Ant Man introduced in the comics, Scott

Lang. Lang is a petty crook who steals Dr. Pym's Ant Man equipment in an effort to save the life of his ailing daughter, Cassie. The choice to focus on the second Ant Man incarnation is an interesting one for two reasons. On the one hand, Marvel is creating a movie about legacy. The film could flashback to Hank Pym's stay as the pint-size hero and create a sense of inheritance around the mantle. On the other hand, those familiar with the comics already suspected that the *Ant Man* film would center on Scott Lang before casting even began, given the nature of Hank Pym's storyline.

In 1981, the trajectory of Hank Pym's Ant Man changed forever. Ant Man's writer at the time, Jim Shooter, has written about the defining moment when Hank Pym became a wife beater—contrary to what Shooter had written in the script. Shooter's storyline with Pym had been following the lead of a jealous spouse as the Wasp found more and more success in the lab and in the Avengers. The storyline was popular and drove a lot of feedback. As he tells it, he wrote a passage where Hank Pym throws his hands up in despair, gesturing, "get away from me" as he argues with his wife. The artist on the issue, Bob Hall, drew the scene as Hank Pym directly striking his wife purposefully.

Thus began the tragic story of Hank Pym, wife beater. The event would haunt Pym for the rest of his career, causing him to change hero identities, go into depression, suffer PTSD, and fall in love with a shape-shifting alien

posing as his wife (hey, comics everybody), the reveal of which would drive him further in his downward spiral.

So those familiar with the history of the character and following the themes of Marvel's Cinematic Universe heavily suspected that Marvel would instead turn to Scott Lang's bad-guy-turned-good. This trope is familiar in the comics and hinted at in the films as both Black Widow and Hawkeye both premiered as villains who later joined the Avengers. Lang's tenure of Ant Man is certainly interesting, fun, and much more light-hearted than Hank Pym's.

The bad news out of this decision is that it leaves no place for the Wasp to enter as a current super heroine in position to headline her own film. Yet another middle-aged white dude will star in Marvel's film, which is really counter indicative of the diversity they're lauded for portraying in their comics.

Edgar Wright (*The Cornetto Trilogy*, *Scott Pilgrim versus the World*) will be directing *Ant Man*, which he co-wrote with Joe Cornish (*Attack the Block*). Both have proven themselves as capable of emotional, hilarious, and occasionally dark but always fun films. Rudd and Wright feel perfectly matched for a young and energetic film sure to enrich the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

Junior Georgianna Pisano-Goetz is a staff writer. Her email is gpisanog@fandm.edu.

Wolf of Wall Street captivates with white-knuckle action DiCaprio, Hill, McConaughey deliver stand-out performances

Movie Review *The Wolf of Wall Street*

by Tom Hague

The concept of greedy and corrupt Wall Street stockbrokers is nothing new to Hollywood films. However, none have been as wickedly entertaining, morally baffling, and wildly fast paced as "The Wolf of Wall Street" directed by Martin Scorsese. Wire to wire this movie was a white-knuckle excursion through the life of Jordan Belford, a self-made stock market tycoon played by Leonardo DiCaprio.

The movie opens by stumbling head first into Jordan's ostentatious life style with a kaleidoscope of scenes involving helicopters, sprawling estates, call girls, and a variety of drugs. From then on, the film is an unapologetic parade of debauchery that would make Gor-

dan Gecco blush.

Based on Belford's best-selling novel, the film is a boastful glimpse into the life of a highly functioning sociopath. However, before Belford's life as a stock mogul, he was a struggling college dropout in New York City with few prospects for the future. Early on in the movie, Belford is depicted as a doe-eyed young man eager to make a living and provide for his wife. After taking a job on Wall Street, Jordan's boss, played by Matthew McConaughey, introduces him to the cutthroat, and drug fueled world of stock trading. After honing his skills and learning from the best, Jordan is flushed out of Wall Street by the market crash of 1987.

Soon after, Jordan finds another job selling penny-stocks on Long Island. It doesn't take long for Jordan to exploit the lack of regulation and over-

sight in the industry, quickly becoming wealthy. Later on, Jordan creates his own firm called Stratton Oakmont with his confederacy of misguided hometown friends including Donnie Azoff, played by Jonah Hill. Through Stratton Oakmont both characters amass incredible wealth using illegal market maneuvers and stock manipulation.

It's no surprise Scorsese tapped long time film associate Leonardo DiCaprio for the role of Jordan. DiCaprio is undoubtedly in his element, playing a high functioning sociopath to a tee. DiCaprio captivates the audience with a charming, charismatic, savvy, and arrogant performance making it difficult to root for or against.

Elevated to an almost cult-like leader, Jordan persuades dozens of employees to embrace a lifestyle of greed and excess. Jonah Hill's character, acting as second-in-command, is a highly

idiosyncratic. Donnie's impulsive actions often so push the boundaries of comedy, and often put both characters in incriminating situations.

If nothing else this film challenges the audiences definition of what "success" really looks like. Is Belford deserving of celebration or criticism? Should this movie be taken as an instruction manual or warning sign? Ultimately these are questions for the viewers to debate.

Junior Tom Hague is a contributing writer. His email is thague@fandm.edu.

Review Rating:

A-

DiCaprio charms and appalls audiences with charismatic greed.

All-star cast falls surprisingly short in historical biopic *Monuments Men* leaves short-term, forgettable impression

Movie Review *The Monuments Men*

by Jeffrey Robinowitz

Biopic, World War II, all-star cast and crew including six Oscar winners: how could it fail? Apparently, in more ways than one. George Clooney brings audiences the true story of *The Monuments Men*, a ragtag team of art experts tasked with saving pieces of art and other culturally important items before their destruction by the Nazis during WWII.

The film reeks of Oscar bait, as its original Dec. 18th release date clearly indicates, but was instead released this February for obvious reasons. If Clooney had released the film in December, it would have been completely ignored by the Academy.

By releasing it in February, he avoids the embarrassment of being snubbed this year and being snubbed next year, since releasing a film so

far from next December is almost a guarantee that it won't be remembered by then.

Regardless of artistic and professional intentions, *The Monuments Men* is a film full of great ideas that are ultimately executed with uninteresting characters, a lackluster narrative, and an overall absence of real emotion.

The cast is spectacular: Matt Damon, Bill Murray, John Goodman, Jean Dujardin, Bob Balaban, Hugh Bonneville, Cate Blanchett, and George Clooney. This lineup will rival any film released in the next year, but it somehow falls short.

None of the characters these actors portray seem to have much depth to them. Each one feels like a collection of funny quirks and one-liners that are supposed to make them interesting, but only suffice to make them one-dimensional. And on a personal note, if I see one more movie where George Clooney plays "the man with the plan" who always knows what to do, always

sees the bad guy coming, and always has a quick joke to throw in someone's face, I'm going to set my hair on fire.

This problem with the characters is only amplified once the narrative structure is introduced. While the story, which splits our main characters up into several pairs and scatters them across Europe, may be true to life, it is undeniably bad for the film.

The film simply has too many characters for its 118-minute runtime to allow any one of them to have a full story arc. These men experience dramatic, life altering events occur that would shake the very foundations of any man's identity, yet who they are at the beginning of the film is identical to who they are at the end of the film.

This is also a major issue for all of the important emotionally moments in the film. When the aforementioned life-altering events occur, you don't feel a thing because you have no reason to care about these characters.

Now with all that being said, you

may think that I hate *The Monuments Men*, but I don't. It's not a terrible movie or even a bad movie; it's just a complete waste.

With all its potential to succeed, *The Monuments Men* turns out to be an "okay, History Channel documentary" with some outstanding actors playing characters rather than doing voiceovers. It's well made and relatively well written. It's just disappointing that it came out so weak. I'd say go see *The Lego Movie* instead. The cast is half as prestigious but the film's twice as good.

First-year Jeffrey Robinowitz is a staff writer. His email is jrobinow@fandm.edu.

Review Rating:

C-

All-star cast disappoints with lacking execution of an interesting story.

Electronic debuts approach *EPs showcase emerging talent*

Music Commentary EP Releases

by Brien Micelli

Many bands are getting ready for 2014 and, in many cases, are setting themselves up to release debut albums. The alternative electronic genre offers quite a few of the newcomers this Winter.

One such band is The Electric Sons. This band has been making music since 2011, but has yet to release its first album. The band just came out with a new five-song EP entitled *Chromaesthesia* and promise an official album in the upcoming months.

The Electric Sons is not a stereotypical alternative electronic band. One of the most interesting things about the duo, made up of ex-Archer illustrator Andrew Miller and Savannah School of Arts grad Ben Richards, is that both members are from Atlanta, Ga. Alternative electronic music is not very prominent in the South, and one will rarely find new electronic bands stemming from that area.

Each song on the EP has a very different sound, highlighted by a strong drumbeat, light to heavy synths, and Miller and Richards's smooth vocals. Their sound can only be described as electric. The most popular track is turning out to be "Breathing Electricity," which is my personal favorite, as well. The track is very upbeat with a distinct beat and powerful keyboards. It sets itself apart from the rest of the tracks, as the other four songs are a little mellower.

Max Elto is another up-and-comer who has been releasing music for a couple months. The band just came out with its alternative electronic EP entitled *Taped Rai*. Max Elto has a very minimalist sound. Made up of Swedish duo Tom Liljegren and Alexander Ryberg,

This new four-song EP features the track "Backyard Animals," the first single released, and "Shadow Of the Sun," the second and most popular single the duo released previously. Both songs center on the ambient vocals of the duo, meaning that all the background music is very light and simple, featuring only a piano, drum beat, synth, or some light combination of the three. If you enjoy the music of groups like Miiike Snow, I would give Max Elto a listen.

Last on the list, Parade of Lights is another band to watch. While it has yet to release an official EP, the band just released its second single called "Golden." Between "Golden" and the single the band released in early 2013 called "We're The Kids," I would say Parade of Lights is a band to pay some close attention to.

Sounding very similar to popular alternative bands such as Smallpools and American Authors, I can see Parade of Lights rising to the likes of its popularity. Parade of Lights has a very strong synth/guitar sound with happy and upbeat lyrics. The music is simply too addicting and stands out amongst the releases of 2014 so far.

First-year Brien Micelli is a contributing writer. His email is bmicelli@fandm.edu.

• New Releases • Week of Monday, Feb. 10

Music

Tuesday, Feb. 11



Eric Church
The Outsiders



Dianne Reeves
Beautiful Life



Neil Finn
Dizzy Heights



Band of Horses
Acoustic at the Ryman

Movies

Friday, Feb. 14



About Last Night



Endless Love



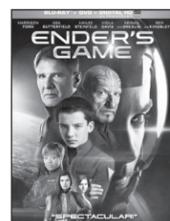
Robocop



Winter's Tale

Blu-Ray

Tuesday, Feb. 11



Ender's Game



All Is Lost



Best Man Holiday



Counselor

—photos courtesy of www.amazon.com

Jamaican National Bobsled teams returns to the Olympics

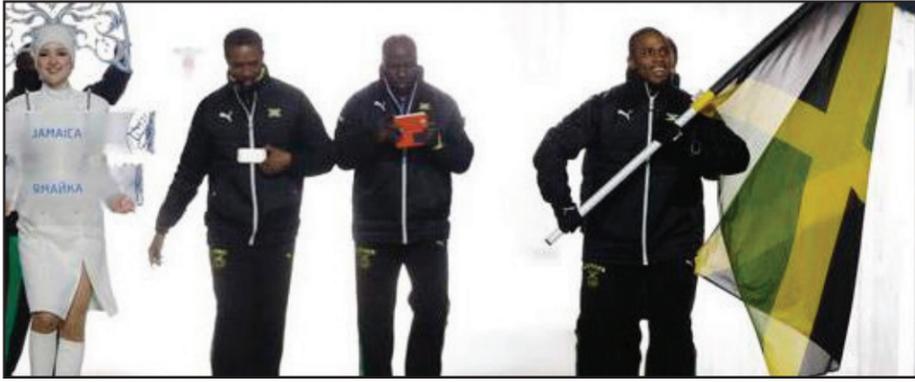


photo courtesy of usatoday.com

The Jamaican bobsled team is no longer a myth but reality. The Jamaican bobsled team made it into the 2014 Sochi Olympic Winter Games, and are likely to do quite well.

BY JONATHAN BLADER
Contributing Writer

Before they even hit the course, the ride had already been a tumultuous one for the Jamaican national bobsled team. Returning to the Winter Olympics for the first time since 2002, the two-man team made up of driver Winston Watts and brakeman Wayne Blackwood couldn't be more excited. However, their story seems almost too surreal to be true.

The Jamaicans qualified by racing on low-tier North American circuits, racking up enough points to earn them a trip to Sochi. Even though they qualified, the price for transportation and better equipment required funds that the team simply couldn't afford. The Jamaicans still had an uphill battle ahead of them if they were even going to get to the Olympics.

Watts realized quickly that his dreams of bringing a four-man team to the Olympics was out of the question because of their lack of funding. Asking friends, family, and strangers alike, the Jamaican bobsledders raised \$178,000 just in time to send the athletes to the Sochi Games. Donations were organized through sympathizing fans on websites like Reddit and Twitter who were inspired by the team's commitment to compete.

However, the trouble didn't end

there. Unfortunately, the Jamaicans' baggage didn't arrive with them in Sochi. They got into Moscow last Wednesday and were shocked to find that their equipment was thousands of miles away. After all of their hard work, it seemed as though they were going to have to forego competition because of something completely out of their hands. Luckily, the sleds made it to Sochi the next morning, alleviating Watts and Blackwood of any further stress. They took their first practice runs the day before the opening ceremonies.

Although the Jamaican team has virtually no chance of getting on the podium, they are confident that they will perform well. Even without winning, these athletes are doing more for the sport of bobsledding than any other team out there. The 1993 Disney movie *Cool Runnings*, based on the true story of the Jamaican bobsled team's journey to the 1988 Winter Olympics, inspired countries which traditionally did not compete in the Winter Games to start training athletes for winter events. The Jamaican bobsled team will always be a beloved member of the Winter Olympic's history.

First-year Jonathan Blader is a contributing writer. His email is jblader@fandm.edu.

Epps: Rises through the ranks as F&M's Athletic Director

continued from page 11
can athletes on her roster. Her squash team at F&M was once ranked second in the country, and made the top-10 nationally at least a dozen times.

However many wins and titles Epps attained, she still remains very humble about her successes.

"I don't think coaches win things, I think students do," Epps said.

Epps was an extremely successful coach, but also served on multiple chair positions in both collegiate tennis and collegiate squash organizations. Epps served as chair of NCAA D-III Tennis, as well as the chair of the South Atlantic Region NCAA Advisory and ITA Ranking Committee. Epps also once served as president of the Intercollegiate Women's Squash Association.

Epps admits at times she misses coaching, and says that probably some of the most memorable, rewarding moments of come from her time with student athletes.

"It's not the winning, it's the smaller things," Epps said. "When a student athlete comes to you and says 'I remember our practices everyday and if I'm ever having a bad day I think of them,' that is the biggest compliment."

Although Epps has been with the College for 32 years, she says she is al-

ways growing and learning new things from her student athletes. "The faculty and administrators grow [with the students]," Epps said.

However much she loves her job, which she is not afraid to admit, Epps admits being athletic director of the College has not always been easy.

"My job is not a job, it's a lifestyle," Epps said. "You have to be passionate to do it because otherwise you wouldn't do it. Running an athletic department is like running a business. When what you're dealing with is people, you never know what's going to happen... There is no typical day for me."

One of the things Epps emphasizes is the importance of a great education in addition to a great time in athletics, and thinks F&M is just that.

When asked what her goal for F&M would be, Epps said, "I want F&M to be one of the premiere choices for scholar-athletes in the country."

Epps thinks F&M is just that—a great place not just for academics, but also a great place for athletics.

"We do things the right way at F&M," Epps said. "It's a place I'm proud of."

Senior Mark Rossman is the Sports Editor. His email is mrossman@fandm.edu.

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F&M Women's Squash hard at work practicing for Championships

Women's squash finished their regular season on Friday 9-0 against George Washington University. The team is currently 7-12 for the season, and took on the University of Rochester 9-0 last Sunday. The team will play in both the CSA Championship and Individual Championships in the coming weeks. Photos are all from practice. Both the men's and women's teams are coached by Coach Gavin Jones and practice everyday.



photos by Scott Onigman

Read about the return of the Jamaican bobsled team in this year's Winter Olympics... page 11



photo courtesy of ccsvt.org

Interested in women's squash? Read on for a photo story and brief update... page 11

Franklin & Marshall Sports

Athletic Director Patricia Epps reflects on tenure at College

BY MARK ROSSMAN
Sports Editor

Patricia Epps, director of athletics and recreation, has been with F&M for over 35 years and has served as the College's athletic director since August 2007. Born in Lancaster, Epps has a long-standing relationship with the community and is deeply passionate about both the College, as well as its athletic department.

"F&M has a long tradition in excellence, in forming men and women around the world," Epps said. "Athletics are integral to that."

Epps also loves the way the College functions as a community.

"F&M is a family-oriented place," Epps said. "There is a relationship among professors and administrators. We are united in our goal in doing the best for our students."

The way Epps rose through the ranks to ultimately become athletic director is certainly unique. Graduating from Cornell University with a degree in history, Epps went back to school to earn a degree in health, physical education, and coaching at West Chester University.

After earning her degree, Epps be-



photo by Matt Loiacono '15

Patricia Epps has been with the College for over 35 years. She initially worked as the head coach of both the women's tennis and squash teams, but has since been promoted to Athletic Director in 2007.

came the director at a tennis camp. She then applied to F&M to see if there was an opening for a coaching position. She was surprised to hear what the College said.

The athletic director of F&M at the time responded to Epps, offering not only the head tennis coaching position but also the head squash coaching po-

sition.

"I had never played squash before in my life," Epps said. However, Epps saw many parallels between the two sports and quickly picked up the sport of squash. She learned the sport and taught it, nearly all at once.

"When you pick up a sport later in life, you actually become a better

teacher," Epps said.

Epps' coaching experience is extensive, coaching women's squash for 22 years and tennis for over 30. Epps' tennis team at F&M went on to make the Final Four twice and the top-10 at least eight times, with multiple All-Ameri-

see EPPS, page 10

Athlete Spotlight: Salandra leads team on and off the court



photos courtesy of godiplomats.com

Jon Salandra '14 recently established a game high scoring record of 26 points against Haverford College. The senior is a leader on and off the court.

BY SOPHIE AFDHAL
Associate Sports Editor

"Every coach in America would like to have a player like Jon," Head Coach Robinson said of Jon Salandra '14. Salandra is a forward on the men's basketball team in his final season of F&M play.

"John is an outstanding player with a shot at being an Academic All-American" Robinson said. "Jon has been all conference and leads by example on and off the court."

Robinson also noted all of Salandra's strengths on the court. He is

skilled in scoring inside, as well as shot blocking. Robinson cites Salandra as a top shot blocker and says that he has made himself into one of the best passers. Salandra recently established a new career high of 26 points in a game against Haverford College.

Salandra is not only a strong player but also a strong student.

"I knew I wanted to go to a school where both academics and athletics are highly valued," Salandra said. "Basketball has helped me in and out of the classroom with discipline." Sa-

landra is a Biochemistry major with an Italian minor who puts emphasis on academics. In his freshman year, Salandra played both basketball and baseball, making discipline important for balancing academics.

He has been part of the team for some important milestones during his F&M career. When asked about his favorite team memory, he immediately cited beating Amherst College in the NCAA Sweet Sixteen sophomore year.

"They were number one in the country at the time and having that experience that night was amazing," he said, "The fans were so enthusiastic. My mom brought towels and the fans were all whipping them around."

Salandra also shared how special it was to be part of the team that secured Coach Robinson his 800th win.

"I didn't fully understand what a milestone it was at the time," he said. "Coach Robinson has been instrumental in helping me transition from high school to college with his intensity. It has been both hard and pleasant to work with him. It is hard work

being part of this team."

Salandra touched on how enjoyable it is being part of this team.

"The camaraderie is my favorite part of this team," Salandra said. "I really enjoy how we acknowledge and support each other. Relationships are the best part about coming to college and I enjoy fighting toward a common goal together as a team."

Both Salandra and Robinson have high hopes for the remainder of the season. "The goal is always the same," Robinson said. "We want to be the best we can be and the more immediate goal is to get into and hopefully host the playoffs."

Salandra is determined to make his final season a successful one. "I'm looking forward to winning the championship and giving it my all," he said. "I want to go as far as we can and leave everything on the court."

Hopefully, the basketball team accomplishes that goal and earns F&M another championship.

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