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President Trump's 'travel ban' encounters hurdles with civilian population, circuit court

BY KATHERINE COBLE
News Editor

Donald Trump's executive order, entitled "Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States," has been the subject of massive controversy since it was signed on January 27. The order reduces the number of refugees allowed to enter the country in 2017 to 50,000, suspends the country's refugee program for 120 days, and indefinitely suspends the entrance of Syrian refugees into America. It also suspends the entry of people from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen.

Supporters of the order say that it will keep America safe from terrorism and fits with Trump's numerous campaign promises to "suspend immigration from terror-prone regions," as he promised in his 100-Day Action Plan shortly following his election. Critics, including the Democratic party, the Catholic church, and the United States have condemned the order for its treatment of refugees and the potential for religious discrimination because the seven impacted



Photo courtesy of komonews.com

Protests in response to President Donald Trump's executive order, "Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States," have erupted throughout the U.S.

countries are Muslim-majority and Trump has repeatedly said refugees from religious minority

groups will receive preferential treatment. The order was also criticized from within the Re-

publican party, with figures such as John McCain condemning the lack of consultation and forewarning given to relevant federal agencies.

The travel ban immediately caused chaos and confusion in airports as border officials struggled with how to best enforce the dramatic change in foreign policy. Legal challenges were immediately made to the order. On January 30, the states of Washington and Minnesota became among the first states to file a lawsuit against Trump, alleging that his order violates aspects of the Constitution and several federal acts including the Immigration and Nationality Act. Their challenge of the ban was supported by 17 states and the District of Columbia. On February 3, Federal judge James L. Robart (an appointee of George W. Bush) granted a temporary restraining order which effectively prevented the travel ban from being enforced. Trump did not take kindly to the judge's decision and opted to share his opinion on Twitter, calling Robart a "so-called judge" and

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Acclaimed editor, translator Ann Goldstein spoke on campus about academic journey

BY BENJAMIN GROVE
Layout Assistant

Che figata! This common Italian phrase, loosely translated to mean "what a cool thing!", is precisely how some might describe learning a new language. For Ann Goldstein, an acclaimed editor and translator who came to speak at Franklin & Marshall on Wednesday, February 8th, learning Italian was a strong desire of hers for a years, first inspired by reading Dante's *Inferno*.

Ms. Goldstein, a graduate of

Bennington College in Vermont and University College London, is currently a full-time editor for the *New Yorker*. After becoming situated in her career, she decided to explore the language of Italian, wanting to read Dante's works in their original form. Ann convinced her colleagues at the *New Yorker* to learn Italian with her as a sort of language study group, and she soon fell deeper in love with the language. As she stated on Wednesday during her talk at the Green Room Theatre, Italian is "the most beautiful language" to her. This love for

Italian brought Goldstein into the world of literature translation.

As someone who has always valued and loved reading, Goldstein came to believe that translating is yet another way to—in her words—"get intimate with the text." Her first published translation was that of an Italian author by the name of Buzzi. A *Wall Street Journal* article about Goldstein states that after being asked by a colleague to look into Buzzi's piece, "She read it, liked it, and decided to try her hand at translating it." Ms. Goldstein fell into the art of translating by

chance, and her career started with the work of a little-known author. However, her translation work did not end there.

After reading Dante in its original Italian and translating Buzzi's writing, Ann wanted to do more. Her love for Italian fueled a passion for translation. She continued to translate smaller pieces like magazines and short books, but her big break came when she was urged to write translations for Elena Ferrante's *Neapolitan Quartet*, a

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Ban: Ninth Circuit Court upholds the Honorable James L. Robart’s decision on Trump’s travel ban, president erupts angrily via infamous Twitter account

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vowing to have the restraining order overturned. Indeed, the federal government immediately appealed Judge Robart’s decision and it was sent to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

The two sides began their oral arguments on February 7 for a panel of three judges that will determine whether or not to uphold or strike down Robart’s restraining order. Attorneys August Flentje and Edwin Kneedler represented the federal govern-

ment in defense of the travel ban while Washington Solicitor General Noah Purcell represented the states of Washington and Minnesota. The judges seemed skeptical of the federal government’s argument that the seven majority-Muslim countries posed an actual threat to the security of the nation. According to *The Economist*, Mr. Flentje’s presentation for the federal government to the panel of judges faced so much resistance that he said “I’m not sure I’m convincing the court” and then switched approaches. By contrast, Solic-

itor General Purcell’s primarily criticism by the judges focused on his argument that Trump’s travel ban targets Muslims when only an estimated 15% of the world’s Muslim population would be banned under the executive order. Indonesia, Pakistan, and India, the top three countries with the most Muslim citizens, are not impacted.

The Ninth Circuit Court’s decision arrived on the evening of February 9, with all three judges siding in favor of Washington and upholding Robart’s order. President Trump immediately

tweeted his anger at the decision, saying “SEE YOU IN COURT, THE SECURITY OF OUR NATION IS AT STAKE!”. It is expected that Trump will appeal to the Supreme Court, which remains shorthanded in the wake of Antonin Scalia’s death. In the case of a 4-4 tie, the ruling of the Ninth Circuit Court would be upheld. For now, all Trump and his opponents can do is wait and see.

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Goldstein: Renowned translator spoke with students about her love of Italian language, turning passions into rewarding professional careers

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famous Italian book series. She released one book translation each year, chronologically keeping up with the original author’s publications.

Although many translators do not attain fame from their translations, Goldstein was one of the lucky few that has. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, her translations “have sold more than a million copies in North America, the U.K., Australia and

New Zealand.” Goldstein is one of the most sought after Italian translators today. However, this does mean her career is perfect or easy. When asked if there are ever any troubles in translating, Goldstein mentioned that “not everything is translatable.” She went on to say that there are some words in Italian that simply do not translate to English, and in that case she had to find an alternative. And while alternatives do exist, they are not perfect substitutes, and Goldstein has

found that there is nothing quite like Italian’s “intensity.” After the question-and-answer session between Ms. Goldstein and two F&M professors, the audience was able to ask Ms. Goldstein questions. One person asked about how style translates from one author to the next. Goldstein explained that translating style is made possibly by “linguistic sensibility” and “being close to the text.” When prodded about translating humor, Goldstein stated that “humor is

one of the hardest things to translate and the easiest to lose.” While translating Italian into English is not everybody’s forte, it is certainly the strong suit of Ann Goldstein: a woman who fell so deeply in love with Italian that she turned it into a remarkable career.

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S.I.S.T.E.R.S. organizing Boo Grams, giving students opportunity to send candy bag Valentines

BY BORIS ZYUMBYULEV
Contributing Writer

Valentine’s Day on February 14 is upon us. The campus organization S.I.S.T.E.R.S. has arranged “Boo Grams” as a way to allow students to send Valentines to their friends and significant others. For only two dollars the sisters will prepare a candy bag for whomever students want to send it to. Along with the sweets, students can write a note on a bear-shaped pink or red paper. The notes can be completely anonymous for that extra bit of mystery and romance (or if the sender is particularly shy.) S.I.S.T.E.R.S. are tabling in Steinman College Center between February 6 and February 15. They can be found every day from 10am to 3pm to allow almost everybody to be able to come down to get a Boo Gram for somebody special.

Once the supplies run dry, the organization will make sure to have each receiver get their candy on the Day of Love. They will send out an email with additional information. That way everyone will know where and when to pick up their sweets. It is likely some students will be surprised when they check their email next



Photo courtesy of pinterest.com

week. S.I.S.T.E.R.S., however, is not the only student run organization that will be sending out candy on Saint Valentine’s Day. The Assembly of Peers of Weis College House are doing the same thing, albeit with another name: Candy Grams. Unlike S.I.S.T.E.R.S., Weis’s government tabled only from 6pm to 8pm on February 9 in the Dining Hall. The price for the Candy Grams is 1 dollar and they will go along with a cute note as well. By the end of the

Saint Valentine’s Day, the Assembly of Peers will send out an email containing the information needed for receivers to find their presents. The revenue from the Weis College House sweets will go to Church World Services. The CWS is a humanitarian organization of local churches and volunteers in central Pennsylvania, with an office in Lancaster. The main focus of the group is to help refugee and immigrant communities in the middle of the

state. Donating the money will help the Church World Services’ office in Lancaster, which meets 400 new arrivals every year. Traditionally Valentine’s Day is known for inspiring couples to be happy. However, these two student run organizations are trying to share the joy of the Day of Love with the whole campus and the local community.

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Editor & Staff Writer Commentary

Editor shares opinion on rush week, influence of Greek life on campus

BY JOE YAMULLA
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By the time this article will be published, rush week will be over and new members will be beginning their journeys in fraternity life. This is my third year as a Greek student at F&M, and as time creeps closer to that inevitable graduation day, I’ve began to wonder what it all really means. In other words, why do we go Greek? I mean, when you think about it on the surface, it’s rather silly. We devote ourselves, both emotionally and financially, to a national organization in order to forge relationships and hopefully do some good deeds. Surely there is another way to go about doing these things. However, young first years find themselves drawn to it, in search

of something more than what this small campus can offer on its own. I was drawn to it, and I still am. Yet, I still am so deeply interested in why. After introspection, and some reminiscing, here’s what I’ve come up with in attempting an explanation for the phenomenon known as F&M frat life.

This school is small. Sometimes, it’s painfully small. And yet, it can ironically be so incredibly lonely. F&M doesn’t have the size nor the resources to provide a full range of clubs for students. Yes, we have our organizations like F&M Players, or even the College Reporter! But F&M doesn’t truly offer the large scale and diverse clubs that could be found at a larger university. We go to a small school that has it’s inevitable cliques and groups. And if you find

yourself missing out, then it’s easy to feel isolated. Humans are social creatures and we need to be a part of something. We’re always in search for a group in which we associate ourselves. That’s why I decided to rush. Simply put, I was lonely here and on my way out; ready to transfer to the University of Pittsburgh.

But I stayed and gave this Greek stuff a shot. It turns out, I liked it. Regardless of what you tell your grandma at Thanksgiving dinner, we rush for a social purpose. And there’s nothing wrong with that. By social benefits, I don’t mean “having bros”. Well, kind of. But what I really mean is, you feel supported and appreciated. If you don’t feel similar sentiments, then either Greek life isn’t for you or you joined the wrong organization.

That brings me to a thought I’ve had for quite some time. If you’re turned off to the thought of Greek life, don’t do it. There shouldn’t be this pressure to either go Greek or join an organization of similar character to have a happy social life here. Try other outlets, and if F&M doesn’t offer them like I mentioned, give transferring a shot. Regardless of what Admissions says, I find this to be a very Greek campus. Greek organizations have their issues, just like many other organizations, businesses and universities. But all in all, I see a lot of good things happening within F&M fraternities, even if it’s simply the invaluable gift of friendship.

If you’re interested, give it a shot. Just like anything in life, you’ll have your own unique perspective and experience. I think the most necessary aspect to fraternity life is for the member to shape the character of the chapter, and not the other way around. After a few years in a fraternity, I still can’t quite explain what it is. But when it comes to its purpose, the thoughts in this editorial are the closest I can get to discovering it. Enjoy the Greek ride if you love it, and get out if you don’t. One thing is for certain, these are the only three and a half years in your life that you will be able to be a part of something so odd, but yet so incredibly profound.

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Photo courtesy of uwec.edu

Fraternity and sorority life is certainly a fundamental component to the Franklin & Marshall social experience. Joining a Greek organization has a plethora of benefits. However, no one should join to succumb to social pressure, which often occurs at F&M.

Donald Trump’s questionable actions raise suspicions regarding his mental health

BY NICK RIEBEL
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I know that you may be moved by emotion, whether justified or not, to condemn or praise me for what I am about to write. Know that I write this with no joy: I do not relish the overwhelming probability that our current president likely suffers from some kind of mental illness or disorder. I say, truly, that one of the cruelest things to do to someone with mental disabilities of any sort is to be unnecessarily cruel to them in any way, and they should be given the love and support they need. But, this is an extraordinary case. This man, who I believe is not psychologically well, and likely mentally unstable, is our president, and has the power to start a nuclear war on a whim.

I urge you to know, I am not a professional psychologist, neurobiologist, or any kind of doctor who understands human biology or behavior, and only have an interest in the properties and workings of the mind. I have

doctors in my family, but they do not deal with such things, only conditions of the body (arguments of the mind-body problem notwithstanding). And I know there is a general distrust, even disdain, of “armchair psychologists” attempting to “diagnose” public officials. So take my diagnosis with as large a grain of salt as you want. But I believe that Donald Trump, our president, almost certainly suffers from extreme narcissistic personality disorder.

It was my effort to be as careful as possible in my “diagnosis,” as it were, to avoid listing too many mental health issues to explain the thinking and behavior of the commander-in-chief. I chose the most obvious one, and the one with the most evidence. You could make arguments, though, that Trump also suffers from anti-social personality disorder (disregard for others, superficial charm, impulsivity,

serial lying, etc.) and from a type of psychosis (loss of contact with reality, feelings of persecution and paranoia, and bizarre delusional beliefs). Others are possible, and it is well-known that multiple mental disorders may afflict a single individual. Yet, I think it is most important, at this time, to focus on Trump’s narcissism, as this is a significant problem for the nation.

Someone with narcissistic personality disorder, as one may guess, involves someone who believes that they are far more important than anyone else, and their thoughts and actions flow from this fundamental belief of their own mind. This means that Trump, if he indeed does suffer from this, feels a need for constant praise and approval, that others are utterly beneath them, and those who do not give him their blind faith are bad people, or even their enemies.

Let’s assume that Trump has not completely lost contact with reality, but that he has partially done so, due (at the very least) to his own delusions of grandeur. Speculating that the



Photo courtesy of upi.com

Donald Trump’s executive orders have been highly controversial and divisive. His questionable actions have led many people to speculate about his mental health.

Staff Writer Commentary

Trump: President’s actions could be disastrous for the United States

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president of the United States, the most powerful person in the world, is dangerously incompetent, perhaps not quite in touch with reality, is awkward to discuss, even downright disturbing. But it is a conversation we need to have.

I implore you to look at his actions. Look at what he has said and done, both before and after he was sworn in as president. Do you truly believe that

they come from a healthy, undamaged mind? Please, if you support Trump, in your heart, do you truly believe that he is a rational, sane man who can faithfully and fully execute the laws of our country, uphold the Constitution, and preserve our rights and security?

The possibility of Trump being authoritarian is another nerve-wracking thought. This is where much of the opposition to Trump comes from, I suspect. But that is not necessarily the

result from an unhealthy mind. That Trump feels that he is literally greater than everyone and everything else, ever, that he believes that he should accrue as much power as possible (see how he has delegitimized his political opponents, the media, and the courts), and his apparent belief that he should be able to do whatever the hell he wants, should terrify any American.

And this is just a part of Trump that I have discussed. This isn’t an

analysis of his ideology, his political or religious beliefs, his attitudes, or his opinions. This isn’t an investigation of his dubious activities with his Foundation, or his connections with the Russian and Chinese governments, or what exactly may be in his tax returns. This article isn’t about Trump’s politics, at least not directly.

This is an urgent appeal to you, the reader: Trump is almost certainly seriously mentally unwell in at least one way, and there is a great chance that he is mentally unstable. He has been in office less than a month, and look at the damage he has already done. And seeing what he’s like in public, what has he done behind the scenes so far?

And he still has the most powerful military in the world, the greatest technology in history, and the devastating power of our nuclear weapons. As the legendary Aeschylus once said, “time brings all things to pass.”

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Photo courtesy of [inquisitr.com](https://www.inquisitr.com)

The early days of Donald Trumps presidency have already caused distress nationwide. Protests have erupted in response to many of his recent executive orders. A divided nation and government are bracing themselves for a difficult term ahead.

Betsy DeVos’ lack of experience presents problems for Liberal Arts colleges

BY JONATHAN ZELINGER
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If you have been paying attention at all then you know that the upheaval surrounding the appointment of Betsy Devos as the new education secretary is unprecedented. The petitions and the protests have been signed and joined by the millions. The backlash from this dismaying appointment isn’t just a unilateral opposition to everything Trump, but a decisive choice to oppose a mistake. There is a reason why this has been the most contested appointment for the position in history. Betsy DeVos’s appointment is uniquely inappropriate, even in comparison to the other horrid appointments (Rex Tillerson, Jeff Sessions, Ben Carson to name a few).

To start, though often repeated but worth saying, Devos has had no experience with public education. That is absurd! That is like hiring an Amish farmer to be the new head of NASA, or hiring an interior designer to redecorate your house without that interior designer ever stepping foot in your house. I don’t know if Betsy Devos is smart, kind, or compassionate, but that isn’t the issue; qualifications go beyond personal characteristics, and she is not qualified.

Throughout the senate confirmation hearing for Devos she consistently gave ambiguous and contradictory answers showing how grossly uninformed she really was. Aside from her chilling

“grizzly response” when asked if guns had a place in schools, her other answers were just as terrifying; she didn’t know the difference between proficiency and growth, she has had no experience with running a budget of over one billion dollars, and worst of all, she has no experience with the financial aid process.

While it is obvious that Betsy DeVos appointment was the result of a political favor, it can still have other serious repercussions on the education climate of our country. With a series of question Elizabeth Warren, a senator from Massachusetts, shined light on DeVos’s inexperience and gave insight into the future problems we might face with a Trump cabinet.

“For you to understand what it is like for students and families who are struggling to pay for college, have you ever taken out a student loan from the federal government,” Warr senator asked.

DeVos said that she has not and neither have her children.

But DeVos said she was not completely unfamiliar with Pell Grants and has friends and students with whom she worked who have first hand experience with the program which sounds like something I would say when someone asks me if I know a particular song that I don’t know but I still want to seem cultured, “I’ve heard of that song, it sounds familiar, my friends listen to it.”

Pell Grants are so monumentally important to the pursuit of equal access of education. A Pell

Grant is a subsidy the U.S. federal government provides for students who need it to pay for college. Federal Pell Grants are limited to students with financial need, who have not earned their first bachelor’s degree, or who are enrolled in certain post-baccalaureate programs, through participating institutions. Over a third of undergraduates receive Pell Grants.

In Recent years Pell Grants have been more accessible than they have ever been. During President Obama’s first term he signed legislation that removed banks from the federal student loan program entirely, shifting all of the loan origination to the federal government. The rationale behind this legislation, signed in 2010, was to take away the profits earned by banks, and instead reinvest them in the federal Pell Grant program, which provides direct assistance to college students from low- and middle-income families.

With Devos’s family history which involves big corporations and banks, it’s not unreasonable to think that her and President Trump will return to a bank lending system for student loans that could potentially reduce levels of Pell Grant funding, unless Congress (along with the next president) is willing to appropriate more money, which I don’t see being likely.

Why is all of this so bad for small liberal arts colleges? Here is why: Small liberal arts colleges pride themselves on interdisciplinary academics given to a wide

variety of multifarious students, and you can’t have one without the other. How can not you have a true academic experience when the perspectives in the classroom are growing more and more similar. With DeVos there is a money first mindset, and it marginalizes every student who doesn’t have the economic stability to afford an enriching education. If there education gap grows, schools like F&M will have a much more homogenous applicant pool and the integrity of its mission will be compromised.

Public education is one of the best resources that our country has. It needs to be taken care of, not seen as the worse option and ignored, the way that program like school choice often do. School choice, an initiative that DeVos favored is an unproductive band-aid that doesn’t get at the heart of America’s education problem. Programs like these drain the finances of traditional public schools in order to benefit a small handful of students.

The future looks grim but if the American people fight DeVos’s agenda like they fought her appointment there will be a positive emphasis on progress. One can only find it ironic that as this new administration pushes kids to get through school without actually being prepared, our government is doing the same with our new Secretary of Education.

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Campus Life

J. Albert C. Uy speaks on evolution, biodiversity in bellied flycatcher population

BY SHIRA GOULD
Staff Writer

This week’s Common Hour was given by J. Albert C. Uy, a biology professor at the University of Miami. He spoke about climate change, the process of evolution, and the benefits of having diversity within a species. According to Uy, science is not enough to reverse the effects of climate change, but rather, applied science is necessary. He did research in the Solomon Islands in order to see the effects of mixed breeding in achieving diversity, and in turn continuing evolution.

Uy began his talk by outlining the logic behind evolution. He said that diversity allows an organism to exploit its environment. For example, there is diversity in communication and food needs, which then leads to survival. The question which guided his research was the way in which diversity happens, and how it continues. According to Uy, there have been five mass extinctions in the past four billion years. The most famous one, he asserts, was the extinction of the dinosaurs. Most scientists agree that we are heading straight into the sixth one, which would be entirely different from the last five because humans are the ones that are causing it. The current environmental climate is increasing the rate by

which various species are becoming extinct.

Uy discussed Charles Darwin, who was the first scientist to explain evolution in terms of natural selection. According to Uy, Darwin went to the Galapagos Islands and noticed that birds who looked similar to one another had small discrepancies in appearance throughout the area. He postulated that the birds were of the same family, but were different due to small mutations. Darwin’s theory of natural selection states that individuals in any given population are variable, and that some species do better than others. Those who survive, mate, resulting in a new species.

Uy studied the bellied flycatchers in the Solomon Islands, which are located in the South Pacific coast of New Guinea. The birds feed on insects, are socially homogenous, and are variable in the Solomon Islands. Uy noticed that the birds with different colored stomachs also sang different songs. One type of bird had a chestnut colored belly and another had a black belly. Uy wanted to test how the black bellied birds would react to the chestnut bellied birds, and found that birds with bellies of the same color tended to become more aggressive to one another than to those with different colored bellies. Uy hypothesized that this was a



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

J. Albert C. Uy, professor of biology at the University of Miami spoke at Common Hour about his research in the Solomon Islands on the biodiversity of species.

result of competition in mating. Uy then wanted to determine the cause for difference in color, and what would happen if the colors were mixed. He found that breeding a black-bellied bird with a chestnut-bellied bird resulted in a bird with a mixed-colored stomach. He also found that there are 70,000 genetic markers, and that one gene can begin an entirely new species.

Uy concluded his talk by discussing the loss of tropical forests due to logging. Logging causes

damage to lagoons, rivers and forests, which causes a drastic and rapid loss in wildlife in those areas. Additionally, because carbon dioxide contributes to climate change, Uy asserts it is important to change the perspective of those who continue to lobby for logging, to donate money to research, and to focus on conserving energy.

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Interfaith profile on Yoni Weiss, Hillel representative to Interfaith Student Council

BY JULIA RAMSEY
Contributing Writer

This semester, Interfaith Student Council is focusing on a different religion each week, with the goal of increasing religious literacy and highlighting the role faith plays in students’ lives. Through this project, the ISC hopes to expand students’ understanding of the religious diversity at Franklin & Marshall and provide an opportunity for students to learn about the backgrounds and practices of their fellow peers.

This week, we are focusing on Judaism. Look for flyers around campus with interesting facts about the religion! My student profile is Yoni Weiss, the Hillel representative on Interfaith Student Council, who is Jewish.

JR: How would you describe Judaism to someone who’s never heard it before?

YW: Judaism is like many other religions: a faith based on prayer, self-evaluation, and doing good in the world. But something prevalent

in Judaism is the aspect of community. Many holidays and gatherings revolve around bringing people together. A sense of togetherness allows for a strong connection between the community that has been brought together. Judaism really emphasizes a sense of belonging, not just for Jews but for all people and for all religions.

JR: How does your religion or spirituality affect your interactions with other people?

YW: Judaism has shaped part of who I am and some of my beliefs are very reflective of that. As a result, when communicating with many people, my views often align with certain Jewish beliefs. However, I try my best to separate my “religious side” from my everyday conversation with people because I believe that my religion is only a part of who I am. In casual conversation, I like to talk about events and ideas without looking to religion for answers. I am very comfortable with how my religion has shaped who I am but I also like to engage people with the mindset that religion does not need to de-

termine the validity or enjoyableness of a conversation. Religion certainly has its time and place in my life but I strive to keep my religious beliefs to times where they are appropriate.

JR: What do you think is commonly misunderstood about your religion?

YW: Sometimes I hear people misunderstand the meaning of the Jews as “The Chosen People”. The Jews being selected as “The Chosen People” does mean that they are special and different from all other people and religions. But there are conflicting opinions as to what the word “special” means. A common belief is that the Jews were selected to be better and regarded as superior to other religions. This in fact is not the case. The phrase “The Chosen People” reflects how in Jewish belief, the Jewish people were selected to follow the laws of God. These laws take the form of the Torah (the 5 books of Moses), 613 commandments, and other sacred documents thought to be written by God and given to Moses at Mount Sinai. The name can

be misleading, but it is important to understand the meaning behind “The Chosen People”.

JR: What does being Jewish mean to you?

YW: To me, being Jewish means having a big responsibility to make the world a better place. That sounds very broad, but in Judaism there are concepts of *Tzedakah* (charity) and *Tikun Olam* (repairing the world). These two ways of life speak to me and tell me that I need to use my knowledge gained through my experiences to do my part and look out for people who need help. More than anything, I hope that I will be able to leave the world knowing that I made a difference in someone’s life.

Interfaith Student Council meets on Thursdays at 5pm in the multi-faith room (basement of the college center). Email ISC @fandm.edu for more information!

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Arts & Leisure

Singer Lady Gaga gives remarkable Super Bowl LI Half Time performance

BY JESIKA ISLAM
Assistant Arts & Leisure Editor

For those of you who could not bear to deal with the Tom Brady winning his fifth Super Bowl ring you missed out on Luke Bryan’s wonderful acoustic rendition of the National Anthem and Lady Gaga’s Half Time Show.

As disappointed as I was watching the Atlanta Falcons lose to the New England Patriots, Lady Gaga’s performance definitely did not disappoint. She began with a soulful mash up of “God Bless America,” “This Land is Your Land,” and the Pledge of Allegiance. The sections of three songs were performed at the top of the NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas. Then Lady Gaga, with apparently not a single care in the world plunged down to her stage. Although, it is now known that the plunge from the top was prerecorded, her actual descent started about half way down from the top, which is still a spectacle on itself.

She then launches into a combination of her songs “Poker Face” and “Love Game,” the two songs that really helped her gain her mainstream fame. The songs are accompanied by a fire show, and Lady Gaga performing acrobatics while flying through the air, still attached to her harnesses. Finally on the ground, Lady Gaga joins her backup dancers in “Born this Way.” She looked completely comfortable performing for the 72,200 spectators at the Stadium and the 112 million people who watched the Super Bowl from home. Lady Gaga also performs “Telephone,” giving us all the false hope that Beyoncé will join her in a surprise appearance. Then she pulls out a Keytar and jumps into “Bad Romance.”

Lady Gaga gives a chilling, poignant performance of “Million Reasons,” at her piano. In the middle of her song, while fulfilling her lifelong dream to perform at a Super Bowl, Lady Gaga says hello to her parents, reminding us of her humanity. After a costume change into a cropped

football jersey, she does her last song of the night “Bad Romance” that has a dance routine, fireworks and finally she drops her microphone, catches a football and jumps into a hole. Leaving us all wondering about the goddess that is Lady Gaga.

People were surprised that in today’s climate that Lady Gaga, an advocate for feminism and equal rights for all, did not include a political statement. With Beyoncé’s clearly politically charged performance at Super Bowl L, Lady Gaga’s more subtle political opinions were eclipsed. She did, however, make a comment on President Trump’s immigration ban by enclosing “This Land is Your Land” a welcoming song about open borders, with two of the most patriotic songs “God Bless America” and the Pledge of Allegiance. Lady Gaga also chose to perform “Born this Way” a song about acceptance, of inclusion of everyone, and a song about embracing differences not shying away from them. Perhaps Lady Gaga did not intend for her performance to be political but her opinions on current climate definitely shone through.

As far as Lady Gaga’s outfits went, there was criticism that Lady Gaga’s final outfit was unflattering because it exposed her belly. Lady Gaga, fearlessly, showed that she is a great performer, and that a toned stomach is not necessary to succeed, or necessary to be considered beautiful. With her choice to wear this outfit, Lady Gaga spoke up for those bullied because of their bodies, and shut down all the people whom were body shaming her.

Lady Gaga’s performance was a memorable one. She performed like a professional while also commenting on the country’s political status and reminding her audience that she is too human. Her choice of music also reminded the country of 2010, acceptance, patriotism and the bad ass that is Lady Gaga.

Junior Jesika Islam is the Assistant Arts & Leisure Editor. Her email is jislam@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of billboard.com

Student reconsiders future after college president posts on Facebook wall for birthday

BY DAVID MARTIN
Satirical Columnist

LANCASTER—Franklin and Marshall College student Will Bradley was reportedly thrilled when College President Dan Porterfield posted on his Facebook wall last Tuesday for his birthday. “Happy Birthday Will -- GO DIPS!” We found Will strutting though Hartman Green with a pep in his step and asked him for a comment on the momentous occasion: “I didn’t know President Porterfield considered us such close friends. I’ve met him a few times but I guess he really liked me. I oughta head down to his office later in the afternoon and tell him thanks. GO DIPS!”

Will apparently hasn’t found out that President Porterfield

writes the exact same message on everyone’s Facebook wall on their birthday. His friends tried to explain it to him, but he wasn’t having it.

“President of Dipcon, grad school at Georgetown, then the Senate... who knows man.”

His friends also say he hasn’t been around much lately, hitting the library and hanging around Old Main, “absolutely delusional,” as one friend put it.

Columnist’s Note: Latest reports have it that Will was distraught yesterday afternoon when he saw a friend’s wall in which President Porterfield wrote a similar note.

Senior David Martin is a satirical columnist. His email is dmartin4@fandm.edu.

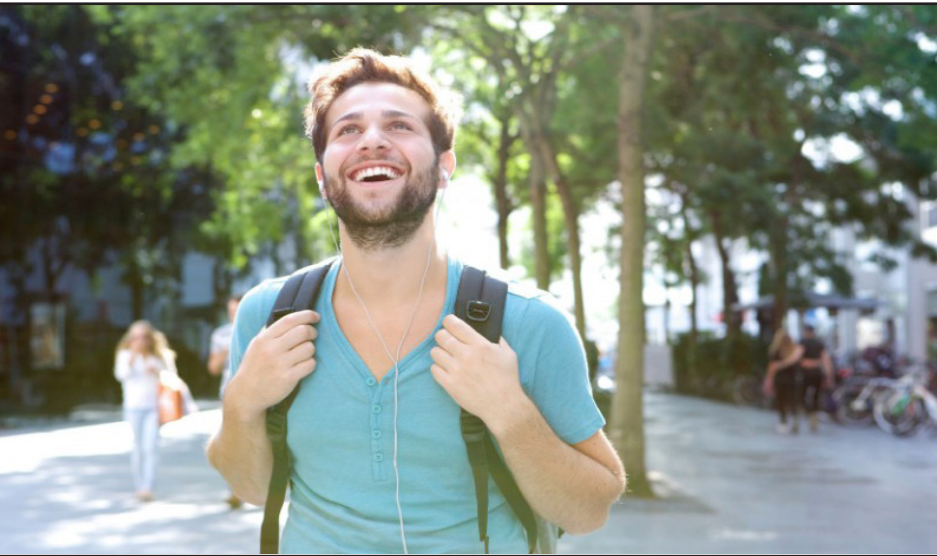


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The Men's Basketball team battles hard against Johns Hopkins, but just falls short. Read more below...



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Brady leads Patriots to Super Bowl victory in the comeback of the century. Read more below...

Franklin & Marshall Sports

Men's Basketball just falls short of victory against Johns Hopkins

BY GABBY GOODWIN
Assistant Sports Editor

Johns Hopkins. One of the biggest games of the year for the Diplomats, no matter which sport you play. Whether it's soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, or basketball, Hopkins always proves to be a consistent rival time and time again. This past Wednesday night, the F&M Men's Basketball team faced off against their rivals in a very tightly contested match-up. Even though the team fell short in a tight 67-57 loss, the team showed what they are truly capable of and that they have the hearts of champions. In a crazy and wild comeback, F&M closed in on the Blue Jays, but came up just short as the final buzzer sounded.

Hopkins dominated early on in the game with a 14-0 lead in less than 7 minutes of play. They managed to up their lead to 19-5 at 10:20 remaining in the first half, but the Dips came out strong. They put together a 7-2 run to come within nine points with 7:30 left in the half. Hopkins, sensing that F&M was right on their heels, increased their lead to 14 points. The Dips managed to battle back to

within eight at the end of the half, giving them a great opportunity to complete the comeback.

At the start of the second half, Hopkins answered back once again and reclaimed their double-digit lead with 11:30 left, leading by a 51-40 score. F&M once again countered hard with a 13-1 run in the span of five minutes and even managed to take the lead with just over six minutes remaining. J.C. McGrath led the way during the fierce run, scoring six points while Jared Brooks netted five. The Blue Jays, however, were able to reclaim the lead and never looked back. Though the scoreboard may not have reflected it, the Dips put

up a long and difficult fight against a very tough and durable Hopkins team to nearly clinch a rival win.

F&M's Brandon Federici, who led the Dips in the opening frame with 10 points, finished with a game-high 17 points. Wright netted 12 points with 4 assists and McGrath finished with 11 points and 7 boards for the Dips.

The team then traveled to Washington College on Saturday where they won 74-63 and secured a spot in the Centennial Conference Playoffs. They will now finish off their season with their last two Centennial Conference games this upcoming week. They will play against Dickinson away on

Wednesday and Swarthmore at home on Saturday, followed by the start of the Centennial Conference playoffs the following week. This stretch of games will determine their postseason fate and will no doubt be of the utmost importance to the team. These important games will make or break their season

Come out and support F&M Men's Basketball as they look to finish off their season strong and seek to clench a conference title again.

First-year Gabby Goodwin is the assistant sports editor. Her email is ggoodwin@fandm.edu



Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com

The F&M Men's Basketball team has been battling all season long in the hopes of gaining a playoff birth. They suffered a tough setback against Hopkins on Wednesday, but bounced back in the following game against Washington to clutch a CC Playoff spot.

Tom Brady leads Patriots to victory, cements status as greatest of all time

BY JOE GIORDANO
Sports Editor

Imagine this. Your team is down at the end of a tight game. The pressure is on and the bright lights are shining. You have your choice of any quarterback on planet Earth to lead your team to victory. Who do you choose? For most people, especially after last Sunday's improbable win, their choice would be none other than Patriot's quarterback Tom Brady.

With the Patriots down 28-3 to the Falcons with 8 minutes remaining in the third quarter, the Patriots were no doubt up against tough odds in capturing their franchise's 5 Super Bowl title. Any Patriots fan will gladly tell you that there was no doubt the comeback was imminent. However, it is more than likely true that there are very few people who envisioned the Patriots winning the game. All of the doubters had forgotten one thing: number 12 was leading the comeback.

Tom Brady's Super Bowl performance this past Sunday was nothing short of remarkable. It's hard to imagine that at 39 years

old, Brady is still playing at such a high level. Brady was able to out play young gun Matt Ryan by amassing 466 yards on an astounding 62 attempts and scoring 2 touchdowns. This latest performance by Brady has fans labeling him as the greatest quarterback to ever live and to me that argument is completely justified.

His five Super Bowl titles speak for themselves in my opinion and his continued high-level play has many wondering whether Father Time will ever catch up with the Patriot's star. While other quarterbacks, Peyton Manning for example, have seen a very steep and sudden drop-off as their careers winded down, Brady has almost seemed to improve as he has aged.

This most recent Super Bowl served as a perfect example, as the Patriots were able to claim the crown without their star tight end Rob Gronkowski. Whether he has the most lethal receivers in the league around him or a group of role players, Brady is able to make everyone around him on the field better. This is a characteristic that I believe sets him apart from the

other great quarterbacks of all-time. With this Super Bowl win, arguably the best receiver on the squad was Julian Edelman. While Edelman is no doubt a fantastic receiver with ton of skills, I am not sure where he ranks among the all-time great receivers. Other greats like Peyton Manning had Reggie Wayne and Marvin Harrison to throw to, while Brady did not enjoy the same luxuries.

Many could consider this latest Patriots win a meltdown by the Falcons. However, the skill and precision Tom Brady used

to pick apart Atlanta in the third and fourth quarters showed why he is the best to ever do it. One could make the argument that no other quarterback besides Brady would have been able to pull off what he did and I tend to agree with them. The only hope to stopping Brady's dominance over the league seems to be Father Time and even he, it appears, is losing to the Patriots star.

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Photo courtesy of money.cnn.com

In the comeback of the century, Tom Brady leads the Patriots to Super Bowl victory. The quarterback shows that age plays no role and cements status as greatest of all time.