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Michael Flynn, National Security Advisor to Trump, resigns in wake of controversy

BY KATHERINE COBLE
News Editor

It has been a rocky few weeks since Donald Trump became president on January 20, 2017. There was the record-breaking Women's March on the day following his inauguration and Mexico's refusal to pay for a southern border wall. There was his executive order on immigration being shut down by federal courts and his nominee for Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos, barely making it through the process. Now, still just one month into his tenure as president, Trump must deal with another aspect of the presidency not going as he planned: he has fired his national security advisor, Michael T. Flynn.

By the time Trump won the election, his relationship with Russia was already a complicated one. During a campaign event in Florida in July he asked the Russian hackers to "find" Hillary Clinton's emails. Two and a half months later, the Department of Homeland Security and Director of National Intelligence released a joint statement saying that Russian hackers, with the approval of top Russian officials, were behind the leak of emails. The statement added that "the Russians have used similar tactics and techniques across Europe and Eurasia, for example, to influence public



Photo courtesy of nbcnews.com

Michael Flynn resigned from his position as National Security Advisor to President Donald Trump on February 13, 2017, after reports emerged that he had been communicating with Russian ambassador to Washington, Sergey Kislyak.

opinion there."

Michael Flynn was named Trump's national security advisor on November 18 and, as a member of the president's Executive Office, did not undergo a Senate confirmation hearing. On December 19, still weeks away from officially becoming the United States' national security advisor, Flynn called Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak. He "expressed his condolences" for the shooting of the Russian ambassador to Turkey according to CNN. Flynn texted Kislyak on December 25

to wish him a happy Christmas and Kislyak texted Flynn again on December 28. All of their interactions were intercepted by United States counterintelligence agents.

The following day, then-President Obama announced new sanctions against Russia and ordered all Russian diplomats to leave the country. According to an investigation by the Washington Post, Flynn and Kislyak called one another several times and at some point discussed the sanctions on Russia, though Fly-

nn denied doing so to the FBI and Vice President Mike Pence.

On January 12, the Washington Post published a story saying that Flynn had been talking to Kislyak. Press Secretary Sean Spicer brushed off news of the calls, saying they were focused on logistics instead of the sanctions - but by January 26, the Justice Department had warned President Trump of Flynn's misinformation. However, Trump did not respond by firing Flynn immedi-

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Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu meets President Trump at White House

BY BENJAMIN GROVE
Layout Assistant

In the past few years, U.S.-Israeli relations have been heightened, especially due to ongoing war between the Palestinian and Israeli people. This has affected international relations. The tension between the United States and Israel is something that many

people want to see weakened because the two nations have a lot to offer one another, specifically in strengthening trade relations. Such tension has arisen between the two nations because of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which has caused presidents for the past two decades to urge the declaration of two independent states—Israel and Palestine.

However, Israel has yet to agree with that notion and the majority of its people want to remain as one state.

To discuss the relationship between their respective countries, President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met on Wednesday, February 15th. Both heads-of-state look forward to and desire "the

renewal of ties after eight years of perceived mutual loathing under President Barack Obama," said Ian Lee and James Masters of CNN in an article. Per numerous acknowledgements by PM Netanyahu, Obama's departure and Trump's arrival are good news for Israel.

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CRIME WATCH

Friday, Feb. 10, 10:00 p.m. - The Department of Public Safety (DPS) responded to a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Saturday, Feb. 11, 12:08 a.m. - DPS responded to a domestic disturbance in Ware College House.

Saturday, Feb. 11, 1:03 a.m. - DPS responded to a loud noise complaint at 602 N Charlotte St.

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2:27 a.m. - DPS replied to a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Saturday, Feb. 11, 4:29 a.m. - DPS received a loud noise complaint in Schnader Hall.

Saturday, Feb. 11, 10:02 p.m. - DPS responded to a drug violation in Ware College House.

Saturday, Feb. 11, 10:53 pm. - DPS replied to a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Saturday, Feb. 11, 11:00 pm. - DPS received a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Sunday, Feb. 12, 1:00 a.m. - DPS received a loud noise complaint in Marshall Hall.

Sunday, Feb. 12, 1:17 a.m. - DPS replied to a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Sunday, Feb. 12, 1:55 a.m. - DPS assisted an underage intoxicated student in Ware College House.

Sunday, Feb. 12, 2:55 a.m. - A fake ID was handed in to DPS.

Sunday, Feb. 12, 12:45 pm. - A student reported their car had been broken into the day previously on N Charlotte St.

Sunday, Feb. 12, 4:25 p.m. - DPS responded to a drug violation in New College House.

Sunday, Feb. 12, 4:47 pm - DPS received a report of non-students trespassing inside Mayser Gym.

Sunday, Feb. 12, 10:00 p.m. - It was reported to DPS that someone was writing on the shower stalls of Thomas Hall.

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 4:10 p.m. - DPS replied to a drug violation in New College House.

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 11:33 p.m. - DPS responded to a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Flynn: Rumors of chaos in Trump Administration continue after Flynn resignation

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-ately. Instead he let Flynn stay on as part of his administration. Though President Trump has repeatedly tried to fight back against the concept of his first weeks in office being chaotic and disorganized, confusion emerged as the Flynn situation intensified. On February 10, Trump said that he was not aware that Flynn might have spoken of the sanctions to Kislyak, as per the Washington Post report. This complete falsehood was made all the more embarrassing after a US official confirmed that same day to CNN that Flynn and Kislyak “did speak about sanctions, among other matters, during the call.” Another source told them that Flynn had not yet been fired because “the White House doesn’t want to look bad.”

It all came to a head on February 13 as Russia denied Flynn and Kislyak spoke of sanctions and Trump’s advisor Kellyanne Conway said Flynn “does enjoy the full confidence of the President.” No less than an hour later, White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer said that “evaluating the situation.” By the end of the day, Michael Flynn had resigned.

The incident has sparked concern and outraged for a plethora of reasons. Some have expressed concern at the fact that Vice President Pence did not learn of Flynn’s misinformation until two weeks after Trump did, after Pence had already defended Flynn on national television.

There is concern that legal investigations may follow Flynn and potentially impact other members of Trump’s administration, although the FBI is not expected to pursue charges in the case. Flynn’s resignation makes him the shortest-serving National Security Advisor in the history of the United States.

Though Trump insisted that his administration is running like a “fine-tuned machine” in a press conference on Thursday, the flood of stories coming from Pennsylvania Avenue suggest otherwise. His administration is now left without a national security advisor and must continue to battle questions from the press about his relationship with Russia.

First-year Katherine Coble is the News Editor. Her email is kco-ble@fandm.edu.

Israel: Netanyahu, Trump discuss policy during Israeli PM’s first state visit

continued from page 1

Netanyahu’s excitement for better relations between his country and America continued through the press conference. However, PM Netanyahu did not agree with everything Trump had to say. The biggest take-away from their meeting was that President Trump declared “that the United States would no longer insist on the creation of a Palestinian state,” which it has done in the past, according to the *New York Times*. Trump then later urged the PM to put a halt on housing construction in an area in Palestine, seemingly contradicting his earlier statement, but this seemed to be a less important matter to the Prime Minister. Netanyahu is instead focused on the conflict with his political party, which primarily believes in the two-state nation. Meanwhile, Trump said that, looking at one-state vs two-state, he “like[s] the one that both parties like,” which is the one-state system. This assertion could affect Israel-U.S. relations in the future.

Another topic of their conversation was Iran. According to both Trump and Netanyahu, Iran is a threat to the safety of not only Israel, but to the rest



The Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, visited President Donald Trump in Washington D.C. on February 15 to discuss foreign policy and the future of American/Israeli relations.

of the world. Both parties are concerned by the nuclear weapon-building in Iran and want the Iran Deal to be replaced with a stronger alternative. A CNN article states that “Trump faces a conundrum whereby European allies want the deal to remain in place, while Israel wants a harder line.”

On the topic of the U.S. embassy, which some want moved from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Netanyahu encourages the move and even goes as far as stating that all embassies should be moved to Jerusalem, whereas Trump is uncertain where he stands on the issue. President Trump believes that moving the American embassy to Jerusalem will show peace, and his popularity is rising among the Arab leaders, but he is still considering the move.

The last major topic of the leaders’ meeting was Syria. Both the PM and Trump believe that happiness and safety are important for the people of Syria, but Trump calls for a “safe zone” in Syria and Netanyahu is compelled to help “mitigate some of that suffering.” Both parties understand the crisis of the Syrian Civil War, but neither seemed to be overwhelmingly concerned.

Looking at the conference between the U.S. President and Israel’s Prime Minister, it is evident that the relations between the two countries will become stronger during Trump’s presidency, and important deals will be made.

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Writer discusses how media, news sources respond to Trump’s many threats

BY ALEX PINSK
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Since being elected, Trump has made it clear that he is unfit to be president. He has threatened to wage war against Mexico, stated that he is ready to down-cut much-needed funding for the United Nations, and installed under-qualified family members in government positions. He has provoked different countries, namely China, and their leaders over social media. He has issued certain Executive Orders out of ignorance and lack of experience, declared American Intelligence Agencies unsuitable, and suggested that these agencies “might be turning the United States into something akin to Nazi Germany” according to New York Magazine. These are only a few of the many potentially dangerous feats with which Trump is prepared to move forward.

Maybe you are aware of these insane ideas, maybe you have read an article mentioning one or two, maybe you have not heard of some of them at all. This is because while the media would like to write about every little thing - produce articles that uncover everything controversial that Donald Trump has said and done - at this point, it is nearly impossible. The media has to pick and choose

what it publishes now more than ever because there is so much that is happening around the subject of Trump that no one can keep up.

Essentially, we are scared. We see a mention of the wall that Trump wants to build, we hear that he has forgotten the contents of a treaty during important phone calls, and it makes us nervous. All of these constant bits and pieces are unsettling. What is even more unsettling, however, is the fact that there is so much that we are not hearing about with regard to Trump because the media cannot possibly publish everything. In fact, most people only get their news from a couple of news-sources, thus, limiting what kinds of news they see.

Back a year or two ago we saw articles saying that Donald Trump was threatening to run for president. Many of us laughed off these articles, made memes of this man who so many of us could never see as a politician, and essentially just assumed that it was a joke and that Trump would never end up on our ballots let alone in the White House. However, we were wrong.

However much certain elements from different media sites may seem to be humorous, may seem completely improbable, I think Trump’s presidency has proven that, in fact, the most unlikely situations can occur wheth-

er we like it or not. We must be aware of what we are reading in the media, and we cannot brush anything over our shoulders however funny it might appear. More importantly, we must dig. It is important to be aware of what is going on and the only way to get a broad view of the happenings nationally and internationally is to read different news sources, to

unearth the news that is hidden or purely not included because there was no room.

It is a difficult feat to be an informed citizen, but it is also one of the most important jobs that we have.

First-year Alex Pinsk is the Assistant Opinion & Editorial Editor. Her email is mpinsk@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of slate.com

Editor on recent resignation of President Trump’s National Security Advisor

BY JOE YAMULLA
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As I sit back and observe the Trump administration, I feel like I’m watching an episode of House of Cards. I have about as much trust for President Trump as I do for the villainous, fictitious Frank Underwood. I’ve been outwardly critical of Trump’s decisions, notably for his travel ban and the most ridiculous project I can even fathom with the “Great Wall.” When it comes to my confidence in the Trump administration, I have just about zero. When I thought things were at their lowest, I was unfortunately surprised to find out it could actually get worse. This past week, National Security Advisor Michael Flynn resigned after allegedly being dishonest with Trump and Vice President Pence about his communications with Russia. Flynn’s suspect and questionable actions don’t necessarily come as a shocker to me, especially with all of the Trump-Putin friendship rumors. However, I’m truly surprised that the Trump administration could show to be even more dysfunctional and dubious.



Photo courtesy of slate.com

The recent resignation of Michael Flynn, the Trump Administration’s former National Security Advisor, has increased speculation over the Trump campaign’s ties to Russia and the president’s suspicious relationship with Vladimir Putin.

The American people have a right to be weary right now. How are we supposed to take this? Are we really supposed to believe that Trump had zero knowledge of Flynn’s contacts with Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak? I certainly am both doubtful and cautious when it comes to any statement or decision made by Trump or his administration. Trump’s staff is

becoming famous for their disreputable behavior and for starting a war in many ways on the press. However, the press has a responsibility to offer the American people the truth and the reality about what’s happening in Washington. And one thing is for certain, the White House is a tumultuous place right now.

Not only are Democrats dis-

pleased and concerned about what President Trump is doing, but also some Republicans, specifically Senator John McCain. McCain was outwardly critical of President Trump’s allegiance with Putin in his USA Today editorial. Specifically, McCain praised Russian dissident Vladimir Kara-Murza

see FLYNN, page 4

Editor Commentary

Flynn: Dysfunctionality of the Trump administration continues to grow with Flynn resignation

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and argued that Trump should be allying himself with men of his character who stand by the upstanding values and morals of the United States. Furthermore, he wrote, “From that world order, the United States has accrued vast wealth and power, and a greater share of humanity than ever has escaped tyranny and poverty. Its preservation must remain the first security priority of the United States government.” (<http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2017/02/13/trump-gets-it-wrong-on-putin-russia-moral-equals-john-mc-cain-column/97822770/>). Mc-

Cain’s statements on Trump are extremely crucial in reflecting the bipartisan displeasure and distrust for Donald Trump and what he has brought to Washington. I worry about where



Photo courtesy of yahoo.com
Michael Flynn’s White House resignation has sparked questions as to whether or not Donald Trump knew about his campaign’s communication with Russia.

we go from here, because the administration has not offered the American people the necessary evidence to trust what they are doing. One thing is clear, Flynn’s resignation showed me that there are no limits to the dysfunctionality of this administration. When I thought things couldn’t get worse, I was unpleasantly surprised. What’s next, President Trump? I hope to wake up to some good news tomorrow. However, I’m doubtful that will happen.

Junior Joe Yamulla is the Opinion & Editorial Editor. His email is jyamulla@fandm.edu.

Full Staff Opinion: Freedom of press is a necessary, fundamental aspect of democracy

President Trump has not been shy in his public condemnation of the media. His disdain towards “fake news” has escalated into a growing battle between Trump and his administration against the press. The staff of *The College Reporter* feel strongly that antagonizing the media is a dangerous and anti-American stance that could have some dastardly consequences.

Freedom of the press is one of the core foundations that this country is built upon. Suppressing the press takes away the American voice, our very right to speak freely about the state of our society and our leaders. Having freedom of press

allows for a balanced society, in which citizens can hold their leaders responsible and express dissatisfaction with their government. Attacking the media is inap-



Photo courtesy of NPR
Donald Trump’s war against the press is not only unprofessional and unpresidential, but incredibly dangerous. Opposing the free press system is un-American and threatens our democracy.

propriate and un-American. Countries, such as North Korea, who have similar attitudes towards the media are authoritarian regimes, opposing all American values. The American people have to remain firm in their convictions, continuing their efforts to exercise their fundamental right to speak and write freely.

The editors at *The College Reporter* will continue to write about current issues in the United States. The press should not be harassed by the president for their reporting, their opinions, or their criticisms of the administration. Journalism is an essential, rudimentary aspect of a free and democratic society.

Interested in writing Op-Eds?

Contact Joe Yamulla at jyamulla@fandm.edu
or
Alex Pinsk at mpinsk@fandm.edu

A background image for a banner. It shows a wooden fence in the foreground, with many fallen autumn leaves scattered on the ground and on the fence. The leaves are in shades of yellow, orange, and brown. The background is slightly blurred, showing more foliage.

Campus Life

Founders of the Holistic Life Foundation speak on mindfulness in communities

BY LYDIA WOLFE
Contributing Writer

This week's Common Hour, entitled "Breathing Love into Communities: The Work of the Holistic Life Foundation," was presented by Ali Smith, Atman Smith, and Andres Gonzales, the founders of the Holistic Life Foundation. This nonprofit organization was founded in 2001 and is based in Baltimore. It focuses on nurturing the wellness of children and adults in underserved communities. This event was proposed by Susan Minasian, College Chaplain, and Kathy Babb, Senior Student Advisor of OSPGD.

The Holistic Life Foundation was created with the intent on providing a comprehensive approach to mindfulness for underserved children living in inner-city neighborhoods. The speakers described how many of these children feel like they are living in war zones with no escape. They aim to create a space where these kids can feel comfortable and have someone to offer support, as well as to give them the tools to be aware of their emotions, which enables them to be in control over themselves.

The speakers began their talk by engaging the audience in a meditative breathing exercise that encouraged audience members to think of filling themselves with love and exhaling the negativity in their lives. Atman Smith explained how "human nature is to love and serve others before yourself," and the intent of this exercise was to focus on self-love.

Ali Smith described the founding of their organization. He and his brother, Atman, grew up in a supportive mentoring community in Baltimore, where they attended a private school that focused on fostering mindfulness. The two

grew up doing yoga and meditating before school. While attending the University of Maryland, College Park, the brothers met Andres Gonzales. The three realized that they saw the world similarly and began to talk and read together.

The Smiths' godfather agreed to teach the men yoga under one condition - that they would have to share the practice with as many people as possible. Ali Smith explained that the three assumed that, "the government [would] give us grants and we'd save the world." They soon realized that making their dream a reality would not be that easy. Upon moving back to the Smiths' childhood neighborhood, and seeing how it had transformed from the supportive community they had grown up in, to a place controlled by gangs and violence, the group felt that their spirits were crushed. They knew that they "wanted to do something about it, but didn't know what."

They began volunteering at a local elementary school and teaching yoga to students after school. They started this work as broke college students and worked as volunteers for 8 years, 60 hours a week. Eventually they came to the realization that they could not just give and give, and in order for their work to grow, they needed to step back and make a change in their operation. They turned their focus to starting a nonprofit in order to receive grants to further their work. This made a significant difference, as the group was able to go from serving 60 kids to now serving 5,000 kids a week in the Baltimore public schools alone. The organization is focused on helping kids who are in situations where they feel helpless and hopeless. The kids



Photo courtesy of hlfinc.org

Founders of the Holistic Life Foundation, Ali Smith, Atman Smith, and Andres Gonzales, spoke about their mission to bring mindfulness practices into Baltimore schools.

learn to deal with these situations emotionally, and have an outlet to have fun and relax. The exercises are practical, relatable, and most importantly, fun for the kids.

Gonzales explained that the first skill each participant learns is how to breathe. He explained the proper way to take a breath, which involves breathing through the nose and having the breath come from the stomach. This breathing technique not only poses health benefits, such as preventing sickness, but it also allows the person to "be in that present moment with whatever you're doing, allowing you to achieve higher," directing focus away from distracting, negative thoughts. He described how most people are in a constant stressed state and that by performing these exercises, you can realize that

"you are in charge and you can regulate yourself."

As Atman Smith said, "This is what we were passionate about. We loved what we did and weren't going to let anything stop us." He explained how the work goes beyond the kids in the schools, as every child in the program is taught to be a reciprocal teacher and is able to educate their parents, peers, and community members on the stress-relieving skills they are taught.

The founders ended their talk by expressing how they aim to be a resource for everyone. They concluded with the sentiment that, "love is the most powerful force in the universe."

First-year Lydia Wolfe is a contributing writer. Her email is lwolfe1@fandm.edu.

ISC reflects on college chaplain Susan Minasian's departure from F&M

BY JULIA RAMSEY
Staff Writer

This week, the Interfaith Student Council takes a break from the profiles of the week to update the campus on current interfaith efforts.

This Tuesday, February 21, from 6p.m. to 8p.m., the ISC is hosting a Common Ground Dinner focusing on faith and social justice in a global context. The dinner will be located at 1787. A government and religious studies professor will speak to the topic from their respective fields. The

ISC hopes, by bringing students, faculty, and staff together over a meal, we can learn from each other and examine our own ideas about the role of religion in social justice movements. There are limited seats available. Please email ISC@fandm.edu to RSVP if you would like to attend.

The ISC chose this theme partly to honor the legacy of our college chaplain, Susan Minasian (Rev). At the end of February, she will be leaving Franklin & Marshall and becoming a pastor at Sojourners United Church of Christ in Charlottesville, VA. Over her

time at F&M, she has positively impacted thousands of students. Through her caring and passionate spirit, she has inspired those who come in contact with her to go out and affect the world as she does.

She has tirelessly fought for mindfulness and moments of mediation in a college culture where that is often not valued. She is an amazing advocate for those around her, and her social justice efforts will permanently leave a mark at F&M and the city of Lancaster.

Minasian created the Interfaith

Student Council almost single handedly, and now as she moves on to the next phase of her life, the ISC looks forward to her efforts continuing to grow and spread at Franklin & Marshall.

From the entire Interfaith Student Council, we thank Rev for her tireless efforts in helping and guiding us, and we look brightly toward the future as ISC continues to grow and impact the F&M community.

Junior Julia Ramsey is a staff writer. Her email is jramsey@fandm.edu.

EAA hosts information session to encourage local, sustainable food shopping

BY SARAH FRAZER
Staff Writer

Last week, F&M’s Environmental Action Alliance hosted a workshop to promote sustainability and, specifically, to teach students how they could shop sustainably and locally in as affordable a way as possible. EAA invited multiple speakers to inform students about sources of locally grown produce and other food. These sustainable sources include Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), Lemon Street Market, EAA’s Fair Trade Cafe, and Central Market.

CSA is a program through Fresh Farms Cooperative that provides a way for consumers to buy locally and sustainably grown food. By purchasing food through CSA, which brings fresh food orders right to campus, students can support local, small scale farmers, while also promoting sustainability. CSA offers different size shares and various food options. For instance, students can sign up to receive vegetables, meat, bread, or vegan products on a weekly basis. Some students may buy a CSA share together, or on their own.

The shares are available seasonally, and it is not too late to purchase a winter share. Several students order CSA shares during summer months if they remain on campus, as it can be easier than shopping at Giant once a week. A new feature of the CSA program is that students can now select to be on a payment plan, rather than paying for all the food upfront.

Another option for students looking for locally grown, sustainable products is Lemon Street

Market, which, as the name suggests, is located on Lemon Street, a short walk from campus. At this shop, which has been open for five years, customers can buy a variety of products, many of which are locally grown, organic, sustainable, or fair trade. These products include food, home goods, and toiletries such as toothpaste and soap. Additionally, products like grains are available in bulk, and the locally grown vegetables sold there are always in season.

Students can support sustainability efforts by buying lunch from EAA’s Fair Trade Cafe every Wednesday from 11:30a.m. to 1:00p.m. For \$4.00, students can get freshly made soup and a grilled cheese sandwich. EAA buys the ingredients for the lunch from local sellers, including from Central Market, another source of locally grown food.

Central Market in downtown Lancaster is an affordable place to get produce, meat, and other tasty food. It is open every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday morning and is a great way to support the Lancaster community. Restaurants in Lancaster buy local food as well; there are so many ways to buy and eat local in Lancaster.

In the coming weeks, EAA will be hosting multiple workshops to teach students about sustainability, including one on February 24th, at which students will learn how to make eco-friendly appetizers. These events are opportunities for students to gain information on how to be more sustainable and get free food!

Sophomore Sarah Frazer is a staff writer. Her email is sfrazer@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of the Environmental Action Alliance

The Environmental Action Alliance held the first of a series of Sustainable Food Workshops this past Friday. The first event focused on sustainable and local food shopping.

Do you like attending events on campus and are you interested in contributing to *The College Reporter*?

Then write for Campus Life!

Email crodrigu@fandm.edu for more information, or come to our meetings, Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in *The College Reporter* office on the second floor in the College Center!

Arts & Leisure

Johnson, Dornan star in *Fifty Shades Darker*, latest installment of *The Fifty Shades* trilogy

BY JESIKA ISLAM

Assistant Arts & Leisure Editor

On Valentine's Day my roommates and I had the ingenious idea to go see the *Fifty Shades Darker* film, to simply enjoy a movie that we knew would be terrible. And I feel the need to explain the reason I went to go see *Fifty Shades Darker* because of the stigma around the franchise. *The Fifty Shades* trilogy began as *Twilight* fan fiction that a middle aged married woman wrote while extremely bored with her own sex life.

So when the books came out, the public originally knew the books as *Twilight* fan fiction with mild BDSM (Bondage, Dominance, Sadism, Masochism). Then when the first movie came out, everyone went to see it. For some, they went out of curiosity and to see how a director would portray the numerous, deeply explicit sex scenes. For others, they went to see their favorite secret obsession turned into a feature film. And for the remainders, it was the next biggest comedy.

I just knew this movie would flop. Even in the books, the plot never quite made sense. However, Anastasia Steele, an aspiring editor, and her boyfriend, Christian Grey, a 27-year-old billionaire, were a couple one could perhaps at least *fantasize* about being. However, Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan's on screen chemistry was completely lacking, to such an extent that the awkwardness was



Photo courtesy www.parentherald.com

Actors Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan star in *Fifty Shades Darker*, based on the trilogy by E.L. James originally written as fan fiction for *Twilight*.

actually tangible. Quickly the story about an unforgettable chemistry and connection, that women around the world craved, fell flat.

Walking into the movie theater my roommates and I already decided that we would be the worst kind of moviegoers, those that laugh and talk throughout the entirety of the film. This was unfortunate for the rest of the audience, surprisingly filled with girls ranging from 18-24, but was the only way we knew how to survive the experience.

And this experience was actually great. The movie was a good excuse to eat an absurd amount of popcorn and Milk Duds. My roommates and I had a really good laugh over how many ridiculous, any nearly impossible, aspects to the premise of the film there were.

The movie still had its old charm of palpable awkwardness between these two characters that are supposed to be deeply and madly in love. There are some ridiculous, fantastical parts like when Anas-

tasia Steele takes over her fired boss's position as an editor at the publishing company because she fought for some author who had success with his online writing. The timeline of the series is also in need of some serious pacing edits, Christian and Ana meet, they date for like a week, they break up for like three days, and then a week later they are engaged. Not only is this absurdly quick for any timeline of events, but Christian is the only person Ana has ever even dated or had sex with. My roommates and I laughed hysterically over this. Being juniors in college, we found it hilarious that Ana had a boyfriend, a cushy job and a nice apartment right out of college, all while her life was completely bankrolled by her superfluously rich, sexed up boyfriend.

Even if we forget all the strange and unnecessary parts of the plot, the story still has this hyper-masculine quality to it. Sitting in the theater, I couldn't help but think about

the other women watching with me thinking it was okay for your significant other to buy your love, disregard your break up, and essentially stalk and pester you until you got back together with them. Christian and Ana's relationship seems wonderful because who wouldn't want a luxurious life where your boyfriend buys you cars and takes you on helicopter trips to chase the sunset? But underneath that one needs to realize that Christian is emotionally unavailable and controlling, obsessive, and abusive. His appeal comes from the "he can be fixed" bad-boy attitude that people find so alluring.

As terrible as the movie was, the soundtrack was amazing. The movie starts with a rendition of Coldplay's *The Scientist*, then has pieces from Sia, Nick Jonas and Nicki Minaj, Tove Lo and Halsey. They were ill-placed in the movie, overbearing and unsubtle but the songs themselves are really good.

Fifty Shades Darker is a great movie to watch when you have nothing better to do on weekend because you and your roommates are snowed in and need a laugh but I would definitely not recommend paying fifteen dollars plus concessions to watch the movie in theaters. And remember, this movie is not a blueprint for reality and does not depict a healthy, romantic, or sexy relationship.

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Rehder, Rist exhibitions on display in Steinman College Center's Phillips Museum of Art

BY ZHIFAN YANG

Contributing Writer

This semester, some new paintings are exhibited at the Phillips Museum of Art. These new art pieces have different perspectives and express different emotions by the artists. By viewing this artwork and learning stories about these art pieces, students can have stronger inner connections with the artists.

"Where Hope Finds Home" is an exhibition of portraits by photographer and writer Kristin Rehder which depicts refugees in Lancaster. Working within documentary tradition, Kristin Rehder pursues concepts of community and place. She photographs in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the Adirondack Mountains of New York, and Lopez Island, Washington. There are a large number of refugees in Lancaster, who were forced to flee to America due to persecution because of race, reli-

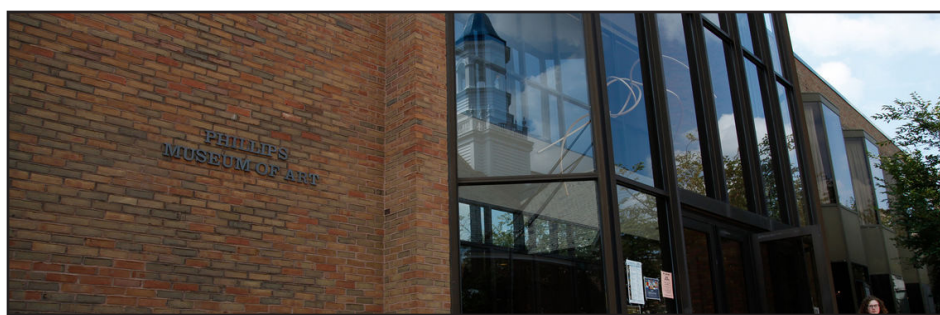


Photo courtesy www.fandm.edu

gion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. Rehder wanted to explore the life of refugees and finally finished her photography project in 2015. She photographed over 60 local refugees from 19 countries and also listened to their stories.

"In Where Hope Finds Home," we not only see the life of refugees and understand more about the Lancaster community, but begin to grasp the concept Rehder wants to convey: the dignity of human being.

Luigi Rist's woodblock paintings are also worthwhile to see.

"I am so excited, it [is] amazing!" according to Kaiyuan Hao, an addict of Japanese ukiyo-e. Woodblock printing is used in the ukiyo-e artistic genre of single sheets. For centuries, China used woodblock painting to print books, and it was adopted by Japan later. Different from the West's woodcut printmaking, Japanese woodblock painting uses water-based ink instead of oil-based ink, which provides Japanese woodblock paintings with their vivid colors, glazes, and transparency.

Luigi Rist was born in 1888 in New Jersey. In the early 1930s, Rist first saw Japanese woodblocks

when he went to an exhibition in New York. He then spent years learning and developing his skill with woodblock painting. "This show examines the influence of Japanese woodblock printing on Rist's process and his seemingly simple still-life subjects in this ancient form" according to Phillips Museum of Art website. Knowing Rist's beliefs about woodblock printing it is exciting to learn how handcrafts are created, and that woodblock paintings are examples of one of the oldest printing methods known to man.

Seeing artwork can not only give us a sense of appreciation for the arts but also allow us learn concepts that we never thought about. It's an asset to the student body that the Phillips Museum of Art is on our campus.

First-year Zhifan Yang is a contributing writer. Her email is zyang1@fandm.edu.

Arts & Leisure

Grammy Awards cheat Beyoncé of Album of the Year award, inciting public conversation about race

BY VANESSA CHEN
Staff Writer

Since its live airing on Monday, February 13, the 59th Annual Grammy Awards has been under fire for potential racism. This was incited by Beyoncé’s *Lemonade* losing the Album of the Year award to Adele’s 25. In her acceptance speech for this top honor Adele said, “I can’t possibly accept this award.” Adele devoted her speech to praising Beyoncé for her unmatched artistry, her adored character, and her album *Lemonade* that “was so monumental” and crucially empowering to black people everywhere. In a scene not aired on live television, but was photographed and widely reported on, Adele broke her award in half to share with Beyoncé, “the artist of [her] life.”

It was no coincidence that both this year’s Grammys and last year’s Oscars were criticized over race issues. The public suspects that major award shows privilege the achievements of white artists over minority artists, often deeming the subjects and genres that minority artists work with as being less important or artistic. It is a good sign, however, that the public is becoming more politically, culturally, and racially conscious, and is more vocal in discussing such issues through social



Photo courtesy www.wennermedia.com

After Adele beat out Beyoncé for Album of the Year at the 59th Grammy Awards, the public accused award shows of exhibiting racial biases in their decisions.

media. This year’s Grammys was also politically charged with statements from both the right and the left. In the performance by A Tribe Called Quest, featuring Anderson Paak, Consequence, and Busta Rhymes, Busta Rhymes addressed Donald Trump as “President Agent Orange.” He thanked Trump for his “unsuccessful attempt at the Muslim ban,” stating “now we come together,” and yelling “resist, resist, resist” at the end of the performance. On the other side, artist Joy Villa wore a blue dress that displayed the president’s

campaign slogan, “Make America Great Again.” Amidst the controversy, perhaps the sweetest moment of the Grammys came when Twenty One Pilots accepted the Best Pop Duo/Group Performance for their hit song “Stressed Out.” Before they went on stage, Tyler Joseph and Josh Dun took off their pants on live TV, and accepted their first ever Grammy win in their underwear. It might seem at first to be a bizarre attention grab attempt, but Tyler told the audience the touching reason behind their actions in his accep-

tance speech. Tyler recalled that a couple years ago, when he and Josh were still struggling artists, Josh came over to Tyler’s house to watch the Grammys with some of Tyler’s roommates. As they were watching it, they realized that they were all in their underwear. Josh turned to Tyler and said “if we ever win a Grammy, we should receive it just like this.” Tyler ended the speech with a moving message “So, not only is this amazing, but I want everyone who is watching at home to know that you could be next. So watch out, okay? Because anyone from anywhere can do anything. And this is that.” This moment perhaps inspired countless young artists sitting in front of their TV, as well as anyone with seemingly impossible hopes and dreams. It also serves to remind us that everyone and anyone has the potential for greatness. The Grammys, with all its faults, is supposed to celebrate human talent and achievement. Many of us sitting in front of the TV may daydream about our own acceptance speeches, but we can also celebrate the everyday beauty in ourselves and the people around us. Although less glamorous, our celebrations can still be equally important and even more personally meaningful. Sophomore Vanessa Chen is a staff writer. Her email wchen1@fandm.edu.

The Onion Dip: Trump press conference gives shy student confidence to participate in class

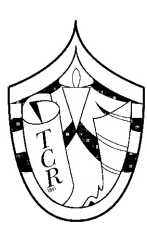
BY KYLE HUNTZBERRY
Satirical Columnist

Rick Whittaker, a junior at Franklin & Marshall College, is a “shy, timid” kid who has been repeatedly approached by his professors about participating more in class discussions. Recently, professors have noticed a significant increase in Mr. Whittaker’s willingness to add to class rapport. Dr. Jones, Rick’s Moral Philosophy professor said, “Rick has been talking a lot more, which is good, but his contributions have been mostly made up. He seems to ramble on and on and somehow always ends up talking about himself.” The reason why Rick has been more active in class discussion: Donald Trump. “I don’t know, it

seems like he can just get up in front of people and say whatever he wants. It doesn’t even have to be true. I’ve learned a lot from our president on how to comment on something you have no idea about. It’s honestly given me so much confidence, and I don’t even have to do the readings!” Donald Trump was contacted by our editorial staff for comment. He said, “I am the best speaker. Loved the story. I’ll be getting all of my news from *The Onion Dip*. No more fake news.” **Editor’s Note: Our editorial staff has notified the president that *The Onion Dip* is actually fake news.** Senior Kyle Huntzberry is a satirical columnist. His email is khuntzbe@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of iona.edu



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The College Reporter was formed in 1964, as a successor to The Student Weekly, which was formed in 1915 by the union of The F&M Weekly, founded 1891, and The College Student, founded 1881. The crest of The College Reporter was designed in 2004 by Kim Cortes '05.

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The Wrestling team picked up a huge victory in a rivalry match against Millersville. Read more below...



College Basketball will be heating up over the next few weeks. Read more below...

photo courtesy of logos.wikia.com

Franklin & Marshall Sports

Wrestling retains Rupp Cup, defeats Millersville soundly in match

BY GABBY GOODWIN
Assistant Sports Editor

In a very important rivalry match, the F&M Wrestling team dominated against Millersville University this past Thursday to retain the Rupp Cup for the seventh consecutive year. The Dips clinched a sweeping 31-9 victory against the Marauders, proving themselves to be a strong force with wins in eight of the ten bouts, including three straight wins to open the match.

Annually, F&M and Millersville wrestling face off in the battle for the Rupp Cup in honor of Lancaster County’s wrestling patriarch, Tedd Rupp. An F&M alum and wrestling coach at both schools, Rupp maintained strong ties with both his alma mater and Millersville. Rupp coached from 1948-49 at both institutions and finished with a 20-2 combined record. Rupp is also known as the only coach in collegiate wrestling history to coach two colleges simultaneously. In honor of his distinguished and important service to both institutions, the Rupp Cup is now awarded to the winner of the annual match.

At the opening of the face-off on Thursday night, the Dips took control early on with an 11-0 advantage after the first three bouts were completed.

F&M’s Edgar Garcia started the match off strong for the Dips with a 5-1 decision at 125 pounds. Shortly following, F&M’s Dan Martoccio followed suit with a dominant 18-4 major at 133 pounds to put the Diplomats in the lead 7-0.

F&M’s Paddy Quinlan stretched the Dip’s domineering advantage to 11-0 at 141 pounds with an 18-6 major decision. Determined to get back in the match, Millersville fought back hard with two back-to-back wins. With a pin at 157 pounds, the Marauders cut the Dips’ lead to 11-9 heading into the 165-pound match.

Diplomat Senior captain, Robbie King, quickly put an end to Millersville’s momentum however, with a 16-0 technical fall, securing a Dip match win in the first period. F&M’s Jimmy Stillerman broke the 2-2 tie in the final seconds of the second period at 174 to secure a victory of his own.

F&M’s Anthony Mancini entered the third period ahead 9-1 at

184 pounds and closed the bout at 6:45 remaining with a 19-1 technical fall.

Lastly, Jack Argast of the Diplomats secured the first dual win of his career at 285 pounds, earning F&M’s fifth straight win in the match and giving spectators a thriller in the night’s final bout.

With just seconds on the clock in the third, Argast recorded a takedown to force a sudden victory period and within ten seconds of the beginning of the overtime frame, Argast worked his way around the back of Millersville’s Zachary Yaskenchick to secure the takedown and put the finishing touches on the Diplomat’s victory.

F&M Wrestling will have their next match on Sunday, February 26, at the National Collegiate Open in Dover, Delaware. Come out and show your support, as the team will attempt to finish off their season riding this recent wave of positive momentum.

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



Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com

The F&M wrestling team picked up a crucial win over rival Millersville University this past Thursday in the Rupp Cup, an event honoring former coach Tedd Rupp.

College basketball championship hunt heating up as March Madness approaches

BY JOE GIORDANO
Sports Editor

The last few weeks of the college basketball season promise to be nothing short of action-filled and exciting. While the Gonzaga Bulldogs have started their season with a remarkable 28-0 record, there are plenty of teams still in the mix and looking to make a run. Teams like Villanova, Baylor, Kansas, UCLA, North Carolina, and even a late surging Duke could all be realistic options to take home the title come April 3rd.

The Gonzaga Bulldogs are no doubt the surprise of this college basketball season. Their 28-0 start to the season is 5th best start ever to a season by any team and the team from the West Coast Conference is primed to make a run. Nigel Williams-Goss and Przemek Karnowski have been the leaders of the Bulldogs and they are out to prove to people that they are for real. The team has often been criticized for their weak strength of schedule and their lack of ranked wins, but this Gonzaga team has all that it takes to make a run deep into the tournament.

The other storyline worth noting is Villanova’s chase to repeat as National Champions. The Wildcats have started off their season very strong, boasting a 26-2 record, with their only losses coming on the road to a ranked Butler team and a close loss to Marquette on the road. While it is nearly impossible to repeat in the world of college basketball, this Villanova squad has a very strong chance of running the table come March. With the National Championship hero Kris Jenkins, Josh Hart, and Jalen Brunson all returning this year, the Wildcats have the experience that will help them in tough situations in the tournament. They won’t fold under pressure and this is why many experts have Villanova once again running the table.

Last but not least, teams in the Big 12 and ACC have been making waves and have real potential, due to the strength of their conferences, to win it all. Kansas and Baylor just engaged in a back in forth battle that was only decided by 2 points, proving that there is little differentiating these two teams.

In addition, the wild and crazy ACC has been no doubt the

strongest conference in college basketball once again. In a recent projection, the ACC was predicted to have an astounding 9 teams enter the tournament field. Each and every night, anyone can beat anyone in the ACC, which could give these teams a real advantage. The North Carolina Tar Heels have been strong all season and Justin Jackson has looked like the star that many thought he could be this season. In addition, the Duke Blue Devils, the preseason favorite to win the championship, have been playing very well as of late after a

slow start to their year. With their immense talent and deep bench, Duke will be a force to be reckoned with in the tournament, whether their seed reflects that or not.

This March Madness is shaping up to be an incredible display of basketball with no clear-cut favorite to win it all. There is little to no doubt that, as its nickname states, madness will ensue this upcoming March.

Junior Joe Giordano is the Sports Editor. His email is jgiordan1@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of seattlepi.com

Nigel Williams-Goss and Gonzaga are the favorite to win the NCAA Tournament this year. Other teams are in the fray and March Madness should be entertaining this year.