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Anchor Stephanopoulos to deliver the College's Commencement address

BY STEVEN VIERA
News Editor

Last Monday, the College announced that George Stephanopoulos, host of "This Week with George Stephanopoulos" and anchor of "Good Morning America" for ABC Television, will deliver this year's Commencement address. Stephanopoulos, along with two notable F&M alumni, will receive an honorary degree from the College.

According to Julia Ferrante, spokesperson for the College, the President's Advisory Committee on Honorary Degrees is responsible for selecting a speaker each year. The Committee is composed of three faculty members, one of whom serves as the co-chair with the president of the College; four upper-class students; and two ex-officio members, which are development office research representatives and either the secretary or assistant secretary of the College. The Committee must select a speaker on the basis of his or her considerable accomplishments in scholarship, the arts, or service to humanity.

Second phase of Project BOOST begins, aims to improve technological resources

BY SHIRA KIPNEES
Staff Writer

Project BOOST (Building On Opportunities for Streamlined Technology), which was launched in January 2012 to upgrade the College's software systems, has now moved into Phase II, which is expected to be mostly complete by late 2015. This project is meant to modernize the computer systems that manage F&M's student and academic information, human resources, and finances.

According to Jay Eckles, director of Information Technology Services' Enterprise Systems and Web Services, Phase II will build off the



photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

George Stephanopoulos (left), host on ABC Television and former adviser to President Clinton, will be the keynote speaker at F&M's Commencement.

"[Stephanopoulos] has demonstrated distinctive achievement in his career in the fields of journalism, government, and politics," said Glenn Ross, co-chair of the Committee, according to the article "ABC Anchor Stephanopoulos to Deliver F&M Commencement Address" on F&M's news website.

While the College does not pay Commencement speakers, it does give them honorary degrees;

Stephanopoulos will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. Additionally, the Committee makes recommendations to extend honorary degrees to accomplished individuals from diverse backgrounds that might serve as role models or inspiration to the graduating class.

This year, two alumni have

see ADDRESS, page 3

Karmin to perform at Spring concert



photo courtesy of wikipedia.org

By Steven Viera, Alanna Koehler, and Sloane Markley

Recently, F&M's Concert Committee announced that pop-duo Karmin will be the featured artist at this year's Spring Concert. The concert is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 5, as part of during the Spring Arts Festival.

Tickets for the concert, which will cost \$10, will go on sale next week and will be available from the box office in the lobby of the Roschel Performing Arts Center.

A survey conducted in the Fall to gauge students' interest in different music genres found pop to be the campus favorite. In light of its popularity, the Concert Committee reached out to various pop artists, checking their availability. Karmin fit the College's needs and student interest.

More coverage of the Spring concert will follow as it becomes available to *The College Reporter*.

see BOOST, page 2

Inside this week's issue ...

Opinion & Editorial

"Don't let Fred Phelps win"

PAGE 4

Campus Life

F&M Player's *Broadway Revue* performed in Green Room Theatre

PAGE 7

Arts & Entertainment

Foster the People releases much-anticipated sophomore album

PAGE 9

Sports

Women's softball goes 7-3 in Florida Tournament

PAGE 11

Viera's Crime Watch



Sunday, March 16, 2:27 a.m. — Underage drinking was reported in Ware College House.

Monday, March 17 — The theft of a bronze statue was reported from the Dr. Leon Herman Arts Center. The theft took place sometime between December and March.

Wednesday, March 19, 11:30 a.m. — Officers from the Department of Public Safety (DPS) responded to a drug violation in New College House. An odor of marijuana was reported, and a student admitted to smoking.

Wednesday, March 19, 9:50 p.m. — A noise complaint was reported in the College Row apartments.

Wednesday, March 19, 11:30 p.m. — A noise complaint was reported at Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Wednesday, March 19, 11:30 p.m. — A noise complaint was reported in College Row.

Viera's Advice

To be honest, I was anticipating a much longer Crime Watch this week. Good job for not meeting my expectations, F&M!

The College Reporter Corrections Policy

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

The College Reporter Story Idea Submission Policy

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

BOOST: Building on existing web services, improving tech resources essential for F&M

continued from page 1

are 20 different projects scheduled to be completed in Phase II. Phase II will cover a wide range of enterprise technology at the College, including a redesign of Inside F&M along with a project that is already underway to redesign the web site.

"A couple projects of note are Student Retention Performance, a package of analytical tools that will help the college identify factors that contribute to student success, and Banner Document Management, a system that will allow offices who choose to use it to scan, electronically file, and retrieve documents in their web browser rather than maintain physical files," Eckles said.

The systems the College had before Project BOOST were 25 years old and were supported continuously by decades of custom application development by F&M employees. However, the BOOST Steering Team knew it would take a long time to replace the functionality of old systems, so the project was broken up into different phases in order to have a more easily managed and success-

ful transition.

Eckles noted it is too early to know what the timeline for the third phase of Project BOOST would be, but the College is constantly finding ways to improve campus information systems.

"In reality, whether we call it 'Project BOOST' or not, we'll always be paying attention to our campus-wide information systems, finding ways to improve them, and supporting offices and departments in adapting to new ways of working," Eckles said.

According to Eckles, the biggest changes the F&M community will see during Phase II are to Inside F&M and the self-service tools linked to it, such as online course registration for students, online class rosters for faculty, and online benefits enrollment for employees.

"We're aiming to make meaningful improvements in how these tools are organized, how you find them, how they look, and how they work," Eckles said.

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

Panel discussion explores conflict between Ukraine, Russia, America in Crimea

BY JEFFREY ROBINOWITZ
Staff Writer

Last Thursday, Joel Eigen, don of Ware College House, invited students and faculty to attend a panel discussion entitled "Crisis in Crimea," which was designed with the intention of providing both contemporary and historical perspectives on the situation. The members of the panel were Abby Schrader, professor of history; Jon Stone, assistant professor of Russian and Russian studies; and Jennifer Kibbe, associate professor of government.

Stone expressed hopes that those who attended the panel would leave with an appreciation for the complexity of the situation and a better

understanding of the politics and culture of identity at play in the region.

In her presentation, Schrader highlighted the historical relationship between Russia and Crimea, citing the fact that Russia has reclaimed the territory numerous times in the past.

"This is a new chapter in an old story," she said.

Schrader also pointed out that polling information from previous presidential elections in Ukraine clearly demonstrate that Northern and Western parts of the country are pro-European, while Southern and Eastern Ukraine—which contains Crimea—are pro-Russian.

When asked why the citizens of Crimea may want to reunite with Russia, Stone noted that they are more deeply linked with Russia than Ukraine.

"Many people in Crimea feel more linguistically and culturally connected to Russia than to Kiev," he said. "Until 1945, [Crimea] was officially part of Russia—although, since, at the time, both Russia and Ukraine were part of the Soviet Union and before then the Russian Empire—it was a fairly academic distinction."

Likewise, Kibbe mentioned the past links between Crimea and Russia as motivators of the Crimean people, but she also pointed out the potential economic gains they could receive from returning to Russia.

"For them, it's a combination of the historical reasons, sympathies, and, for some, at any rate, an eagerness to receive the higher Russian state benefits," she said.

She continued, adding that the U.S. and European Union (EU) would have been acting foolishly if they had not expected Vladimir Putin, president of the Russian Federation, to react to a threat to Russia's strategic interests.

When questioned about the level of influence U.S.-enacted sanctions could have over Russia's Crimean policy, Kibbe explained that, while the short-term implications are minimal, the long-term consequences could be much greater.

"Those sanctions won't influence Russia's behavior in terms of getting Crimea back, but those sanctions

and carefully titrated additions could well affect his future behavior—if not through their direct cost, quite possibly through their indirect cost of deterring investment in an uncertain Russian economy," she said.

Kibbe dismissed the idea of armed conflict breaking out in Eastern Europe, but noted that dangerous language used by Putin could have serious repercussions.

"I really don't think it will come to that—I think the U.S. and EU are working hard to restrain both sides and work on some kind of compromise solution—like a federal system for Ukraine," she said. "The big risk, I think, is of the radical nationalist rhetoric that Putin has unleashed having an effect on the ground beyond what he can control."

Although small-scale conflict is a possibility, Kibbe discounted the notion that this crisis would directly escalate into a second Cold War.

Stone emphasized the importance of this event in defining Europe and examining Putin's policies.

"This event is a major reshaping of the geography and balance of power in Europe and potentially much of the globe," he said. "It is a telling look at how Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, will utilize the immense economic, political, and military resources at his disposal and shows us a shifting attitude towards the U.S. on the world stage."

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

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Syrian dramatist, human rights activist, Scholar at Risk gives lecture on campus

BY CLARISSA GRUNWALD
Staff Writer

Last Thursday, in the keynote address of International Women’s Week, entitled “Theatre for Social Justice in Syria,” Naila Al Atrash, Syrian theater director and human rights activist, discussed women’s rights, the Arab world, and the importance of the arts, last Thursday. The talk was sponsored by the Alice Drum Women’s Center and the International Studies program.

Al Atrash is visiting the College through the Scholars at Risk (SAR) program, an international organization that provides aid to scholars who face censorship or discrimination in their home countries. She is the first SAR scholar F&M will host following the College’s renewal of the program last Fall.

SAR organizes events and creates networks of interested colleges and universities around the world that are willing to host scholars who have been forced into exile. Faculty, staff, and students compose F&M’s SAR chapter, which is chaired by Mikaela Luttrell-Rowland, director of the Women’s Center.

“Naila Al Atrash’s visit shines a very personal and human spotlight on a troubled country,” said Lisa Gasbarrone, professor of French and chair of the International Studies program. “Her focus on women in the arts, particularly the theater, in [Syria] will be of interest to multiple groups on campus: students in [women’s and gender studies], international studies, and theater, among others.

Born in Syria, Al Atrash became interested in activism as a teenager. As a Syrian theater director, she became known for her challenging plays, which explored society, economics, and politics.

“It is fitting for our first SAR scholar, Naila Al Atrash, to visit campus during International Women’s Week and to remind our community of the importance of human rights work and academic freedom both here and abroad,” Luttrell-Rowland said in the article “Scholar at Risk Naila Al Atrash to Give Talk at F&M’s International Women’s Week” on the College’s news website.

In the 1970s, after directing the play *The Slaves’ Night* by Mamduh Duwan, Al Atrash was officially forbidden from directing more plays, as the play explored the Arab world both before and after the rise of Islam and was interpreted as an attack on religion by the Syrian government. She acted in cinema for some time afterward and eventually began working as a drama coach at the new Damascus Higher Institute for Music and Theatre (DHIMT).

However, after years of directing, acting, teaching, and activ-



photo by Krissy Montville '14

In the keynote address of International Women’s Week, Naila Al Atrash, an exiled Syrian dramatist and human rights activist, discussed women’s rights, the importance of the arts, and the Arab world.

ism, pressures in Syria became too strong and Al Atrash was forced to leave in exile.

During her talk, hosted in the Schnader Theater within the Roschel Performing Arts Center, Al Atrash discussed the difficult decision to leave her country and the struggles of her exile in America. Even as she was preparing to escape Syria, Al Atrash recalls feeling guilty about leaving so many loved ones behind. Arriving in the U.S, she felt out-of-place among her American students, most of whom had never been affected by the struggles in Syria. This feeling of displacement, along with the ever-present guilt of her exile, made it difficult for her to work, and her focus on the theater decreased. The stage, which had once been her life, now seemed unimportant to her.

But in actuality, Al Atrash concluded in the talk, difficult times make theater and the arts more important than ever. Through the arts, people living under oppressive regimes can find hope, and those living in freedom can visualize and empathize with the lives that these people lead. While she made a difference in the lives of Syrians while living in Syria, she hopes she can make an even greater difference abroad.

“A stray sound outside a country can be better than a few voices under the oppression within,” Al Atrash said.

Following her lecture, Al Atrash attended a public reception in Weis College House; additionally, she met with students from the class

“Acting for Social Change” taught by Carol Davis, professor of theatre, where she discussed the intersection of theatre and human rights.

The international nature of Al Atrash’s activism gives an alternate perspective on both women’s rights and Syrian politics.

“Speakers of different nationalities share on-the-ground experiences of places that many of us will never have a chance to visit,” Gasbarrone said. “Without speakers from abroad, we hear only American voices on these issues, and that limits our perspective and our understanding to an American filter.”

First-year Clarissa Grunwald is a staff writer. Her email is cgrunwald@fandm.edu.

Address: Stephanopoulos excited to speak at Commencement, has connections to F&M

continued from page 1

Stephanopoulos’ fellow politico adviser to former President Bill Clinton. According to the article on F&M’s website, as a journalist Stephanopoulos led ABC’s coverage of the 2012 Presidential Election, moderated two Republican debates, and has interviewed world leaders such as President Barack Obama; Benjamin Netanyahu, prime minister of Israel; Dmitry Medvedev, president of Russia; and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, former president of Iran.

Additionally, Stephanopoulos has a number of connections to F&M. His friend Stan Brand ’70, a partner at Brand Law Group in Washington, D.C. and former counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives, is a current trustee of the College;

ences of places that many of us will never have a chance to visit,” Gasbarrone said. “Without speakers from abroad, we hear only American voices on these issues, and that limits our perspective and our understanding to an American filter.”

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continued from page 1

Stephanopoulos’ fellow politico Ken Mehlman ’88, chief strategist for the re-election of President George W. Bush, is a former trustee. Furthermore, Stephanopoulos and Porterfield studied together at Oxford University in England, both as Rhodes Scholars.

“I’m thrilled to be joining the Class of 2014,” Stephanopoulos said. “The more I learn about the graduates and F&M, the more impressed I am.”

—George Stephanopoulos, News anchor, television host, former adviser to President Bill Clinton

impressed I am.”

F&M’s Commencement ceremonies will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 10, on Hartman Green, where Stephanopoulos will deliver his address and receive his honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.

Sophomore Steven Viera is the News Editor. His email is sviera@fandm.edu.

Staff Editorials

Refuse to let Fred Phelps win
Follow the Golden Rule in wake of Westboro leader's death

Fred Waldron Phelps, infamous head of the Westboro Baptist Church known for his anti-gay protests at public events, died last Thursday morning at age 84. Now, we can all take a moment to internally find joy in the fact that someone who paraded hatred and disrespect is no longer among us. Of course, unfortunately, the Westboro Baptist Church’s harmful mistreatment of other humans will continue to rage on—but, for now, we can be grateful that the main leader of this pack will no longer be with us.

However, we must recognize what an extremely significant and quite crucible moment in which this places our nation. Recently on my Facebook feed and around the Internet, I see people celebrating his death and suggesting that we picket his funeral the way that he encouraged the picketing of military funerals and other public events. People may believe this is the way to obtain justice, to show his family how much pain and suffering they have caused for others. To me, this feels quite contradictory. Why would we want to spread the hatred and continue the hurtful, harmful ways for which we fault this man?

Obviously the tactics and messages this “pastor” preached are disgusting and hurt us in the most core, fundamental human ways. So why would I suggest that we treat him and his family with respect during this time? Because if we trumpet his same hate-filled and awful lessons, we are, in essence, allowing him to win. Even if this hatred is directed at him and his family, we are acting as proponents of his messages by furthering a culture that emphasizes vengeance over the importance of forgiveness and believe that our own actions should not be based upon.

Rather than determining the ways we can punish him and his family in the moment, we can prove that these cruel messages have not won. For those of you who believe in a higher power, I would like you to believe that when Fred Phelps faces the God, in whose name he mistreated others he finds forgiveness and peace—that is the only way to reverse the notions that have arisen as a result of the “religious”-based addresses he delivered.

This is an extremely important moment for us because we can surprise ourselves. Instead of demonstrating ourselves as willing to stoop to the level of disrespect and contempt this family has shown to other families in their time of need, we can defeat the hatred his teachings beget.

While I do not have sympathy for this man’s death, I do pity him. Carrying around so much hatred must be an incredibly heavy load to bear, and I hope that he is able to abandon it when he finds his afterlife. Aside from this hope, we cannot allow the burden he bore to fall onto our shoulders and for us to express it by being disrespectful.

We should not celebrate his death, we should not picket his funeral; instead, we should use this as an opportunity to show a little extra love to our friends and acquaintances who are different than us. Celebrate the fact that we are all accepting and tolerant instead of trying to gain revenge. That is the only way the breeding of hate will cease.

No matter how evil a person is, the Golden Rule still applies. I hope we can all appreciate this and use this as a small step in overcoming animosity in the world.

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

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Full Staff Opinion

Out with old, in with new
Outgoing Editors in Chief announce staff change, reflect on fondest (or not) *College Reporter* memories

The College Reporter recently held an election for its Editor in Chief position. We are happy to announce that Alanna Koehler and Abigail Quint will be taking over, and we are looking forward to seeing what they do with the publication over the next year.

Overall, we will miss many parts of our little family, but ,then again, there are some things we will be happy to go without as we move forward towards graduation.

Things we will miss:

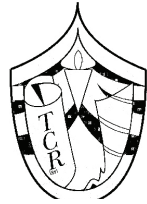
1. Spending countless hours with the editorial staff, who we consider to be some of the best, and most interesting (and also beautiful) people on campus.
2. Getting the inside story on College happenings before anyone else even knows what’s going on.
3. Making connections with administrators and students that few other people can claim to have.
4. Having a great time outside the office with all the people that work for the publication.
5. Did we mention just how great the staff is, and how much we are going to miss spending a ton of time with this wonderful group of people?

Things we won’t miss:

1. Waking up early to get to the office in time to open it for the rest of the editors to get started on their sections.
2. Spending 10 or so hours in the office on Sundays...maybe or maybe not hungover. #ratherbesleeping
3. Walking in to find we are missing 10 out of 20 of the articles we were supposed to have by Sunday.
4. Furiously calling a certain editor four hours after he or she is supposed to be there wondering where he or she and all of his or her stories are (you know who you are).
5. Publishing a large headline with a spelling mistake to only realize a little too late that it is wrong. I guess there is a reason we have a saying here that goes, “When people can’t read and people can’t write: *The College Reporter*.”

All in all, as co-Editors in Chief we faced our trials and tribulations, or ups and downs, or however you would like to phrase it. But, through all of them, we learned invaluable lessons and most importantly—if you didn’t catch this already—got to meet and spend time with some of the greatest people on campus. We hope the staff continues full speed ahead on its track of journalistic and human excellence. Good luck and we will miss you!

—Sloane Markley & Justin Kozloski, Former Editors in Chief



The College Reporter

Transparency. Accuracy. Credibility.
THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
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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.

Editor Commentaries

Don't you forget about me

A tender moment with outgoing Editor in Chief

As I end my term as Editor in Chief of *The College Reporter*, I notice that it is a bitter-sweet experience. On the one hand, I will have a lot more time to dedicate to my last batch of classes and to find a job for after college, but, on the other hand, I am saying goodbye to something that has been an integral part of my college experience.

I joined the *Reporter* before I was even part of the freshman class by participating in the organization's pre-orientation program, and I have been heavily involved ever since, rising to the head position of the publication.

Over these four years, the staff of the paper has become like a second family to me, and many of my best friends at the College have come from participation with the paper. Not only has it allowed for social growth, but the skill and connections I have made are proving integral in my search for careers once this semester comes to an end.

Luckily for me, I have the comfort of leaving the paper in the hands of two people that I trust have the best interests of the paper in heart and are more than capable of doing even more for the paper than Sloane and I did during our time at the helm. I look forward to reading the publication next year, wherever that may take me.

However, the process of stepping away from an organization that has been so vital to my College experience has also done a lot to show me what to expect in the world outside of F&M and to accept that things can never remain the same for very long.

Many of the people I talk to about graduation treat it as though it is the end of the world, and, to be fair, it sort of *is* in that it's the end to the world we know. However, this is not the reaction I think is best suited for this time of change.

Yes, it is true that no longer will it be acceptable to binge-drink for five out of the seven days of the week, and, yes, the days of sleeping until 3 p.m. and doing homework until the sun comes up are over, but that doesn't translate to an end of time and space itself. We have all already gone through this transition before when we went from high school to college, and, while the prospects of careers and/or grad school seem far more daunting than the college application, in principle these things are the same.

Leaving the *Reporter* has shown me that not only is change imminent but necessary for growth, and I encourage all seniors to embrace this change heartily and with excitement instead of dread. Enjoy the last few weeks of College life and never say no to a good time out with friends because it will be a lot harder in the future. But, at the same time, look forward to the future and all the awesome things that are to come—even if parting from college life is not 100 percent pleasant.

Justin Kozloski, a senior joint English-business major, is the former Editor in Chief. Email him at jkozlosk@fandm.edu.

Maybe it's good to get *Kinky*

Going out of your comfort zone can help art, help yourself

This weekend was an artsy time on F&M's campus. And this op-ed is about why we should have more weekends like this. Specifically, this weekend featured both an Arts House Open Mic at President Porterfield's House and the F&M Players' *Annual Broadway Revue*! I hope you all enjoyed some smooth tunes and spicy Qdoba at Dr. P's on Friday, and I hope you all 'found your purpose' with the Players this weekend. (And if you want more information about F&M Players or this weekend's show, I'm sure we have a feature about it somewhere on this website. Find it. Play on, Players.)

But if you couldn't or didn't make it out to either event, here's an invitation/fervent hope/desperate plea for you to come next time! Not only are both groups of performers an impressively energized, talented bunch worth enjoying, and not only should you try to be a supportive member of our campus community, but hey: it's also crucially important that we patronize the arts. Even if those arts are not entirely "your thing," even if those arts might not be radically popular or mainstream, and even if those arts might push you out of your comfort zone.

Allow me to talk about myself here, as I am only too happy to do: over Spring break, my absurdly generous godmother took my sister and me to not one, but *two* Broadway shows. The first was *Kinky Boots*, and the second was *Rocky the Musical*. Let that combination sink in for a second. One of these things is not like the other. Yes, both shows are based on successful movies, which in itself might not seem like a great statement about supporting fresh, independent art, but whatever. Yes, both shows also feature two underdog stories. Yes, both are chock full of big drama, big numbers, and a big emotional pay-off. Spoiler alert: the underdog wins his battle. The underdog wins your heart. And the crowd goes wild.

But here's the crucial difference I'm writing about: *Kinky Boots*, the slightly-true tale of a small town shoe factory saved by a drag queen with a heart of gold and the discovery of a cross-dressing "niche market," is actually real-life, honest theater. It features a walloping amount of talent, funky music, and bravery as the directionless Charlie Price finally finds passion by befriending a gender-queer Londoner named Lola and fights against all odds to keep his family business alive. And *Rocky*, a production absent of the spunk that made the movie (and its five or six subsequent sequels), amounts to a big, showy production that leans on spectacle where it should have quality.

Kinky Boots is about self-discovery, self-acceptance, and, dare I say, good ol' family values like courage and loyalty. And *Rocky*, well, is not. For all of Rocky Balboa's scrappy motivation on the silver screen, his theatrical counterpart never seems to move beyond a washed-up, lovesick "boxer" with dumb luck, who occasionally comforts himself and his ladylove Adrian by crooning he "ain't got his nose broke yet." (And, another spoiler alert: when he fights Apollo Creed, the dude totally beats the crap out of Rocky's nose, each blow a punch to the face of true love.)

The kinkiest thing about *Kinky Boots*? The rather radical notion that you should be who you are and accept others who do the same, even if they may not conform to your narrow, Northampton notions of gender. Whereas *Rocky the Musical* really only proves that sometimes, if men beat up other men, they will be redeemed and their women will love them more.

And yet, certain people will write *Kinky Boots* off as radical or degenerate and sign the whole fam up for *Rocky the Musical*. And when that happens, we lose art, and, moreover, we lose what art is meant to do.

Just because people are squeamish or ill-informed or unwilling to step even a millimeter out of their cushy, black and white comfort zones, a production with true, transformative meaning and power will suffer while people from far and wide come to watch men punch other men's faces.

Let me say: I'm not a TDF major. I've seen and participated in a lot of theater in my time (love you, Aunt Deb), but I am no expert. For me, though, I've always thought that art was about channeling some new, radical current in society. I've always thought musicals and plays and movies and writing should try to challenge what we know and teach us something new. And as dear Ms. Lola says in *Kinky Boots* (and this is the show's corniest line, I promise), "you change the world when you change your mind."

But we can't change our minds, let alone the world, if we keep patronizing shows like *Rocky the Musical*. We can't learn something new if we don't give ourselves a change to *see* something new. We can't grow when we don't step away from what we already know.

And likewise, my fellow college students, we should do things we aren't comfortable with sometimes! And I don't mean that in a "go find drugs" way. I mean that you should get out of your routine. Go to ZeBi if you usually go to the College Center. Try something different on a Friday night if you always go out. Go to the dance concert, go to an Open Mic. See a lecture, see a Broadway Revue. Find your purpose, find Mexican food at Dr. P's house. Whatever you do, just try something new. In a way, that's what art is all about. And I think college is, too.

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Commencement
2014

What do you think of Commencement speaker George Stephanopoulos?



He's well-spoken and moderate."

Gordon Heller,
'16, Math



He's prominent and well-known."

Jeffrey Pincus,
'14, Government



It's cool for a famous peson to come and speak, and it's nice that he's well-known!"

Kristen Lee, '15,
Psychology



I heard it was going to be someone Greek, so I thought it would be him or John Stamos. I'm happy it was the former."

Malu Malhotra,
'14, Gov and STS



I don't know who that is."

Max Aleman '17,
Bio-Pharmacology

All opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of *The College Reporter*. To write a response to any opinions expressed above, contact Associate Opinion and Editorial Editor Erin Moyer at emoyer@fandm.edu.

Campus Life

Chi Phi Fraternity volunteers with children at Lancaster YMCA

BY JULIA CINQUEGRANI
Managing Editor

While many college students cherish Saturday mornings as one of the few days they can sleep in, brothers of Chi Phi Fraternity have been spending their Saturday mornings volunteering with children at the local Lancaster YMCA.

From September through November, members of Chi Phi volunteered on Saturday mornings to coach soccer clinics at the YMCA for children ages three to five. This initiative was led by Graeme Blackman '14, Chi Phi's community service chair, who wanted to get the fraternity more involved in specific service projects.

"Chi Phi has participated in most of the philanthropy events around campus, but we didn't really have anything of our own to set us apart," Blackman said. "A lot of the brothers in Chi Phi are athletes, so I went to the local YMCA and filled out a volunteer application."

Blackman thought the interests and skills of the brothers would align well with the needs of the YMCA, which especially wanted student coaches for their children's sports teams and clinics. YMCA Youth Sports Director Ron Stief was very excited by the prospect and believed the fraternity would be valuable in both teaching the children the fundamentals of the sports and serving as good role models.

Three Chi Phi brothers participated in running the soccer clinics consistently for the three months, and other brothers rotated volunteering based on their availability. The volunteers used drills and games to teach the children the fundamentals of soccer, and coached a total of approximately 60 children. For most children,

this was their first exposure to the sport.

Besides the Chi Phi volunteers, there were only two YMCA staff members organizing the soccer sessions.

"Without us the YMCA would have been under a lot of stress," Blackman said. "Trying to get a lot of three to five year olds focused on a specific thing for a given amount of time is tough without a certain numbers of hands helping."

When the soccer season ended in late November, Stief expressed his appreciation for Chi Phi's volunteer efforts. Currently, Blackman, along with Connor Moriarty '16, and Scott Rapoport '16 are working with Stief to establish an official relationship between Chi Phi and the YMCA, which would make the volunteering annual.

In the meantime, Chi Phi has continued volunteering at the YMCA, and began coaching basketball teams from mid-January to mid-March. The YMCA had a large influx of children ages five and six who were interested in playing basketball, and without the Chi Phi volunteers the YMCA would have been short on coaches and forced to turn families away.

Blackman, Jack Arpert '14, and Sam Kind '14, along with other brothers, took on teams of approximately 10 children each. The teams held practices one night during the week and had games every Saturday.

"We sat all the kids down and told them we needed to come up with a team name," Blackman said. "One of the kids said 'Let's be the Venus fly traps and our opponents can be the flies and we can devour them!,' and after that we immediately fell in love with the kids."

Blackman said he is sad to see the basketball season end and



photo courtesy of Graeme Blackman '14

Graeme Blackman '14 (left) and Jack Arpert '14 both coached youth basketball teams this Winter through the Lancaster YMCA.

will especially miss the relationships he has built with the children. However, the Chi Phi volunteers will not have long to miss them, because they will probably be helping with baseball clinics which will be starting in the coming weeks.

"I think some of my favorite things have been seeing the level of enthusiasm and excitement kids have at that age," Blackman said. "When we tell them about a new game or drill they're so excited to be playing and interacting that we leave that hour of practice feeling rejuvenated. And you can go to the library after and study and have a level of energy you probably would not have otherwise, because the kids fill us with so much energy."

According to Blackman, some

of the more challenging aspects of coaching the children has been simply engaging them with the activities for an extended period of time.

"With kids, it's never going to be 100 percent focused, but if you can teach them one or two things that they can take away and remember once they've left the gym and are having fun, then our job is done," Blackman said.

In addition to volunteering at the YMCA, Chi Phi's other upcoming philanthropy events include their 10th Annual Chi Phi 5k. The proceeds from the event, which will be held around campus on March 29, are donated to support cancer research. Chi Phi is also partnering with Alpha Phi Sorority to raise money for Alex's Lemonade Stand, a charity that supports child cancer research.

Overall, Blackman said the experience of working with the children has been extremely rewarding and he would like to see more F&M students become involved with volunteer efforts throughout Lancaster City.

"Working with kids is something we all really like, so it's been a great experience for all of us," Blackman said. "I would encourage other students to reach out to organizations, like the YMCA and Boys and Girls Clubs, especially because a lot of these organizations are understaffed. F&M is full of people who are great models and could make a real difference."

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photo courtesy of Graeme Blackman '14

Brothers from Chi Phi Fraternity coached basketball teams for children aged five and six from January to March. The volunteers led practices once a week and organized games every Saturday for their teams.

Safi explains Martin Luther King's unfinished dream of equality

BY ERIC ACRE
Staff Writer

This week's Common Hour featured Dr. Omid Safi, professor of religion at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a leader of the modern progressive Muslim movement, who discussed the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. and the continual struggle for equal rights and opportunities around the world.

Safi completed his masters and earned a Ph.D in both religious and Islamic studies at Duke University in 2000. He commonly writes for national and international news sources such as *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, PBS, NPR, and NBC. He is also the creator of the popular blog, "What Would Muhammad Do," for the *Religion News Service*.

Safi began his Common Hour speech by thanking the audience for the gift of their time, a practice that is deeply rooted in the Islamic tradition.

"Time is the one finite commodity in life which, according to the Islamic tradition, is prescribed or written down in heaven," Safi said.

In doing so Safi recognized that audience members were dedicating an hour of their lives to him, and in return, he said he hoped the audience

would leave the talk kinder, gentler, and more aware of their interconnectedness.

Moving into the body of his speech, entitled "America, Islam, and the Unfinished Dream of Martin Luther King," Safi referred to King affectionately as "Brother Martin" and spoke mainly about King's lesser-known Riverside speech, in which he argued against America's actions in the Vietnam War.

Safi explained that, while just about all of his audiences at his previous talks have known at least parts of King's "I Have a Dream" speech, very few people knew of the Riverside speech. Safi argued that the obscurity of King's passion against the Vietnam War was intentional on the part of his opponents; while King is revered and proselytized for his groundbreaking work for civil rights, he was shunned for his disapproval of the war in Vietnam.

Safi then likened King to religious prophets, such as Jesus and Muhammad, all of whom preached the need for change in the face of atrocities.

"King was a revolutionary Christian who comes out of this prophetic tradition," Safi said.

Safi compared King to the subject of one Mahatma Gandhi's famous

proverbs.

"When the prophets come, the establishment laughs at them," Safi explained. "If that doesn't work, they try ignoring them. If that doesn't work, they fight you. If that doesn't work, then they kill you. Then you win."

Safi then took the saying a step further and applied it to King's legacy.

"If mocking you, if ignoring you, if fighting you, and if killing you doesn't work, this is the last trick: it's to take a prophet and turn that prophet into an icon, which is precisely what we have done to Brother Martin," Safi said.

He argued that American culture has turned King into the "black American Jesus" and that his commemoration intentionally excludes his dissenting opinions on the Vietnam War, as well as other parts of King's life that American culture does not view positively. During the last five years of his life, King became immensely unpopular, with dismal approval ratings, while simultaneously being described by the FBI as the most dangerous man in America.

King's late pushes for a living wage salary for all men and his growing concern for global violence, including the children who were burned to death by napalm bombings during the

Vietnam War, are the reasons behind his iconization.

"[King] begins to see that the racism in America is connected to the militarism and colonialism of it," Safi said.

To this end, Safi recognized the fight for civil equality is still alive and well, especially as America spends billions of dollars on the military each year. Extending the speech to modern relevance, he referred to the daily profiling of Muslims in America and the unlawful captivity of Muslims in Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp. In Safi's view, these examples of intolerance prove work still needs to be done to make the world a more equal place.

"It's not a Democrat or a Republican thing, it's American," stated Safi in response to the blatant day-to-day intolerance currently occurring.

Safi concluded by arguing that America's willingness as a country to take up arms and dedicate so many resources to the military is embedded in its culture, and, until something is done to change that, King's struggle against violence and inequality continues.

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F&M Players' *Broadway Revue* performed in Green Room Theatre

BY ARIELLE LIPSET
Campus Life Editor

As graduation approaches, seniors are bombarded with questions and anxiety over their career choices and post-graduation plans. Consequently, the themes of F&M Players' production, *Broadway Revue: Gonna Find My Purpose*, performed last weekend, were especially timely, focusing on ideas of finding one's calling and meaning in life.

Performances took place through March 20 and the 22 in the Green Room Theatre, as student actors and actresses danced and sang an array of musical numbers. The numbers were hand-selected by student directors Jake Benedict '15 and Christine Potts '15, and all the songs were connected by a similar theme.

"All of the songs stringing the play together are about finding your way in life, finding your purpose, your calling," said Mike Manley '14, F&M Players' marketing chair.

Manley said it was easy for him to relate to the play's songs on a personal level. He was cast in five songs in the production, which feature a variety of pieces from Broadway shows. Manley has been involved with F&M Players since his freshman year, and it has been a pivotal aspect of his time at F&M.

"No college campus can function without student-run theater," Manley said. "It's important to have something that comes from the students—from what they want to do, their passions—and isn't coming from the [theatre] department, which



photo by Krissy Montville '14

The F&M Players performed *Broadway Revue: Gonna Find My Purpose*, focusing on themes of finding meaning in life and one's calling.

is more academically chosen. This offers a chance for more creativity, from the idea to the execution of the actual production."

Singing "Corner of the Sky" from *Pippin*, Mike said he felt the piece spoke to him, as it centers on finding a place in the world and path in life. As an actor and senior at F&M, Manley found the piece inspiring, as he hopes to pursue acting after graduation.

Directors Benedict and Potts stumbled upon the theme they chose when listening to "Purpose," a song from *Avenue Q*. Potts described the process she and Benedict went through when picking the songs for the musical.

"We had been compiling a list of songs and themes because we had been interested in directing since freshman year, and, when we finally decided to actually propose [a musical

theme], we went in and shortened the list dramatically," Potts said.

This was Potts' and Benedict's first time directing, and they experienced ups and downs over the course of the production's preparation.

"Our cast is 52 people, so it's been really difficult keeping track of so many people and making sure everyone's where they need to be," Benedict said. "It has also been really nice, and we have had the opportunity to get to know a lot of people very well."

Potts and Benedict took part in song performances as well their directing roles, which tested their multi-tasking abilities.

"It's not as difficult as it sounds," said Benedict. "We're already spending so much of our time at rehearsals, and it's not so hard to just step in," Potts said. "The most difficult [song]

is the one we're both in, our director song, and it's hard to be directors but also be taking direction from the pianists."

Scheduling posed a conflict as the directors juggled rehearsals, hours spent on casting, and the initial planning of the production. However, they explained that their work was extremely rewarding and highlighted the new relationships they gained through the production.

"I feel like I'm coming out of the production with plenty more friends than I had starting off, and it's a good feeling," said Benedict. "I've seen people grow tremendously from the first day of casting until the final days of rehearsal and days of the actual performance. Vocally, people have shown talent, and people have come out of their shells."

Potts agreed and saw students come alive over the course of rehearsals.

"People who were once afraid to become involved with the performance now push to get in the spotlight," Potts said.

The directors encouraged students to become involved with F&M Players and said the group provides rewarding experiences in multiple ways. Benedict and Potts were thankful for the chance to direct *Broadway Revue* as it gave them leadership opportunities, creative growth, and the chance to have their voices heard.

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Arts & Entertainment



Peretti proves versatile comedian, will visit Philly in April Brooklyn Nine-Nine star delivers laughs via Twitter, standup, app

Comedian Spotlight Chelsea Peretti

by Abigail Quint

This article is not so much a review but instead a celebration of the best comedian working right now: Chelsea V. Peretti. In high school, a friend recommended her Twitter feed to me. (It's hysterical. Get a Twitter and follow @chelseaVPeretti). Recent standout tweets include "DON'T FORGET TO BEHAVE AS CHILDREN OF GOD WHEN U COMMENT ONLINE" and a side-by-side comparison picture of her and a bear.

She loves to cook and shares the delicious meals she makes with her followers. A current favorite is chicken carbonara.

Her Twitter had me hooked, and I saw her stand-up a year later. Her act was hilarious, of course, and I am dying to see her again in Philly this April.

Peretti worked as a writer on many television shows, including *Parks and Recreation*, and plays a few different characters on Nick Kroll's sketch show, *The Kroll Show*.

Recently, Peretti received attention for her work as Gina Linetti, the office administrator for the *Brooklyn Nine-Nine* precinct. Gina is the only character not on the force, and her funny quips draw the attention of the viewer. Her special relationship with the serious Captain Holt provides a zany edge to the typical workplace drama. In a recent episode, Gina grew attached to a wolf blanket, otherwise known as "Wolfie." The show was nominated and won two Golden Globes, one for Best Television Series, Musical or Comedy and another for Best Actor, Television Series Musical or Comedy for Andy Samberg.

Fun fact: Peretti and Samberg went to elementary school together in the Bay Area!

Fox recently renewed *Brooklyn Nine-Nine* for a second season. Be sure to catch it next year.

Peretti also has a presence on the podcast scene, with her hit show *Call Chelsea Peretti*. Featuring guests like Bill Burr and Aziz Ansari, her call-in show does not disappoint. Peretti accepts calls from fans and asks them about their fa-

vorite foods and if they have any interesting stories, amongst other conversation topics. Her array of sound effects provides constant humor. If the caller makes a funny comment or tells a great story, she presses the "jackpot" button and an arcade machine sound effect blares. If the caller isn't interesting, she presses a button that says "whoops gotta go bye" or will play the car crash sound effect. Extra points if a caller has a story about a bear attack!

As an offshoot of her podcast, Peretti developed an app for iPhone. The app features a button to call the podcast, a soundboard with the special effects from the show, and "Chelstagram," an Instagram-like filter service. The filters include black mold, psycho, sexy music, boring, wolf mode, bug, I.F.F., bear, crankin', iPhone 4, blocked, cracked, and elf. Each filter ties into an issue Chelsea explored on her podcast, Twitter, Instagram, or Vine. The 'crankin' filter places a cup of coffee over any picture, a reference to a song she made for her podcast. "I got coffee crankin' through my sys,



photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Chelsea Peretti, comedian, takes advantage of many media outlets.

I got coffee crankin' through my sys," celebrates Chelsea's caffeination.

Whether its *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, her social media presence, or her podcast, Peretti is a hilarious comic that can't be missed. #oneofthegreats

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Internet offers multitude of music streaming sites Editor compiles list of top services for on-demand tracks, playlists

Commentary

by Scott Onigman

The following is a list of sites where you can digitally stream your own choices, some of which come with video (mainly Youtube). Each of these services offers something different, whether it's a recommendation after choosing your own song or music videos. They also vary on the free-premium (freemium scale).

Spotify: <https://www.spotify.com/us/> - As the gold standard for music streaming, Spotify makes it possible to choose songs, artists, albums, and genres to listen to. They also offer playlists for specific activities. Spotify offers free listening with ads and premium listening without ads and including the ability to listen to music offline.

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com> - Youtube is the standard for video streaming. Since most mainstream music makes it onto Youtube via the artist uploading it or it being shared by fans through a lyric video, most of what you would want to listen to is available.

Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com> - Soundcloud offers free streaming music with no paid option and minimal ads. A lot of indie artists start on Soundcloud and feature a lot of remixes. Soundcloud unfortunately does not have much mainstream music available.

Who Sampled: <http://www.whosampled.com> - Though this is not music demand specifically, it gives the listener a way to listen to the samples that are used in the remixes they listen to.

Twitter Music: <https://music.twitter.com> - Allows you to listen to songs by any artist on twitter, with an emphasis on the bands that you follow.

The rest are websites with algorithms that try to fit songs to your chosen song, artist, or genre.

Songza: <http://songza.com> - Does mood matching, activity pairing, and genre matching. The activity pairing playlists are highly recommended by many user comments.

Pandora: <http://www.pandora.com> - The best of Internet radio and playlist generation, pandora

uses the Music Genome Project to create playlists based on a variety of characteristics.

Itunes Radio: <https://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewRadioMain?ls=1#> - This is Apple's new venture into streaming music, making it possible to stream playlists via itunes or iOS on an Apple device. This is algorithm encourages you to listen to music you don't know and to buy it for offline use through the iTunes store.

Boil the Frog: <http://static.echonest.com/frog/> - Bridges the gap between two artistst that the listener inputs and plays songs that combine the characteristics of the two artists.

HypeM: <http://hypem.com/popular> - Allows for reading and blogging about recommended songs

Infinite Jukebox: <http://labs.echonest.com/Uploader/index.html> - Plays your chosen song on repeat, making it possible to jump to different parts of the song through beat analysis to make the song infinite.

This is my Jam: <http://www.thisismyjam.com/thatonesong> - Sharing amongst friend based on the

one song that your friends are really "digging" right now.

8Tracks: <http://8tracks.com> - This internet radio service claims to make playlist recommendations based on human recommendation, rather than algorithms. This playlist made by combining a online mixtape with 8 or more tracks and then sharing; or playlists on demand.

Rdio: <https://www.rdio.com> - Allows for on demand music stations, albums and playlists with the ability to get rid of ads with a small subscription fee.

Last.FM: <http://www.last.fm> - As a self proclaimed, "music recommendation service," Last.Fm "scrobbles," giving information on what songs you listen to the most and what is recommended for you by others and your friends.

Top Ten: <http://tothebestof.com> - Plays the top ten best songs of any artist you put in. This is technically on demand streaming, though not quite the same choice preference as direct choice streaming services.

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Pop trio pumps up repertoire with *Supermodel*

Foster the People releases much-anticipated sophomore album

Album Review
Supermodel
Foster the People

by Scott Thompson

Three years ago, Foster the People took the music world by storm with the release of its debut album, *Torches*. This release garnered attention after the band’s first single, “Pumped Up Kicks,” was posted as a free download on the band’s website. It spent eight weeks at the number three spot of the Billboard Hot 100 and culminated in a Grammy Award nomination for Best Pop Duo/Trio Performance at the end of 2011.

After a lengthy tour and recording process, Foster the People returns with more grit and maturity, elements that seemed to be lacking from their debut album.

Supermodel sees Mark Foster, the band’s creator, attacking social issues and capitalism, topics about which he is very passionate. In the *Supermodel* documentary series, Foster added that the record’s title, its concept, and even its artwork were created out of the idea of how our self-worth is defined by how many retweets or likes we receive. The album creates a sense of presenting ourselves as supermodels, always walking on a stage and putting on appearances.

This concept is made clear with the song “Ask Yourself,” a beat-driven, moderate groove that shows off Foster’s smooth, hypnotic falsetto and the iconic Foster the People background vocals, which combine to create an atmosphere unique to this band. While enthralled by the musicality of this performance, the listener can make out angsty lyrics, such as, “And you say that dreamers always get what they desire / Well I’ve found, the more I want the less I’ve got.”

This theme remains consistent throughout the album, showing Foster’s passionate resentment against this trend.

The album’s first single, “Coming of Age,” follows with a shift of blame. The track has an entirely different feel. Whereas “Ask Yourself” relies on trancelike harmonies and a backing acoustic guitar, an energetic falsetto and electric guitar groove drive, “Coming of Age” lies beneath introspective lyrics, such as “I’m always moving forward and not looking back / But I tend to leave a trail of debt while I’m moving ahead.”

The vigor of this track stands out on the album but isn’t alone in its liveliness.



photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Foster the People, Grammy-nominated pop trio famous for “Pumped Up Kicks,” returns with *Supermodel*, an introspective album inspired by social issues and the concept of self worth.

“Pseudologia Fantastica” uses various experimental sounds to create a swirling background, with Foster singing primarily in his falsetto and reverberation causing it to swell within the track, only to lead to responses from the background vocals, which almost chant, “Why’d you say that you’d come right back for my love, for my faith?”

A Beatles influence can be easily observed in this song, as its experimentalism uncannily resembles the track “A Day in the Life.”

One of the most unique songs on the album, “Best Friend” sounds more like Foster the People from *Torches* but with an electric guitar intro reminiscent of the disco era. Backing vocals also distinguish this track from the rest of the album, as they don’t just swell into the background but rather give this song a groove and backbone. It’s refreshing to see Foster the People still have a grasp on the sound with which they gained their fame.

“Best Friend” also provides the most optimistic song on *Supermodel*, as it discusses supporting a friend who’s “all strung out,” giving advice such as “I am here, no matter where you are / I’m waiting here, with open arms, no matter where you are / Sometimes, you have to wait until it passes by / like a satellite or star, no matter where you are.”

It’s a nice change of pace from the cynical nature that dominates the rest of the album, and shows

that Foster hasn’t lost his grasp on humanity yet.

Supermodel is a step in the right direction for a small, alternative band. With the success of *Torches*, it was hard to imagine Foster the People adequately following up with its sophomore release, but the trio has triumphed with bold experiments, edgy lyrics, and an overall enthralling musical experience. Hopefully it won’t be such a long wait before they release another album, but *Supermodel* was definitely worth the wait.

Sophomore Scott Thompson is the Arts & Entertainment Editor. His email is sthomps2@fandm.edu.

Review Rating:

B+

Supermodel proves to be well-worth the wait.



Throwback of the Week



Artist: Johnny Cash
Track: “I Walk the Line”

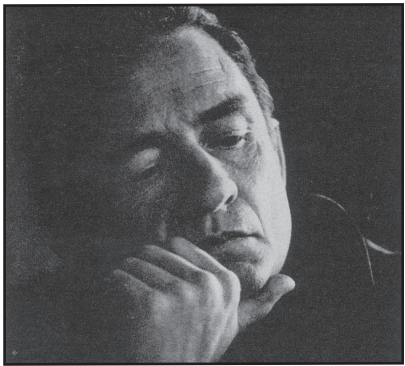


photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

On May 1, 1956, country and rock and roll legend Johnny Cash released his hugely-successful song “I Walk the Line.” The single became Cash’s first number one Billboard hit and remained on the charts for over 43 weeks. The song, which sold over two million copies as a single, has been covered 13 times by numerous famous artists including Waylon Jennings and Billy Ray Cyrus, as well as by actor Joaquin Phoenix for his role as Johnny Cash in Hollywood hit *Walk the Line*. Though Johnny Cash had continuous and immense success with his music throughout his lifetime, “I Walk the Line” is still his most popular song. Cash, who successfully embraced multiple genres such as rock and roll, rockabilly, blues, folk, and gospel, became Country Music Hall of Fame’s youngest living inductee in 1980 at the age of 48 and was also inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1992. Unfortunately Cash passed away in 2003, but he will still be regarded as one of country and rock and roll’s greatest superstars for decades to come.

Jackson named president of basketball operations of New York Knicks



photo courtesy of upi.com
Phil Jackson was recently named president of basketball operations for the New York Knicks franchise. Jackson has been a part of 13 championships, 10 as a coach.

BY THOMAS ROSS
Staff Writer

New York City is widely considered the hub for recruiting high school basketball talent in the country. But housing “The World’s Most Famous Arena” and being dubbed the “Mecca” of basketball hasn’t helped the Knicks achieve basketball immortality since 1973.

In the early 2000s, owner James Dolan took on a larger role in managing the Knicks’s day-to-day operations. The constant inconsistency Dolan displayed in his management of the Knicks resulted in a myriad of problems for the franchise. Ignoring the entire Isaiah Thomas debacle, the Knicks missed the playoffs for six straight seasons, from 2004 to 2010 and

put together 11 consecutive losing seasons after the NBA finals in 1999.

Knicks fans thought their luck was beginning to change with the acquisition of Amare Stoudemire and, a year later, Carmelo Anthony.

But four years after signing Amare, the team has again fallen into irrelevancy in the Eastern Conference. And with the possibility of losing Carmelo to free agency this summer still looming, Knicks fans have been after Dolan’s head all season long. This culminated with a fan protest outside Madison Square Garden last Wednesday, when fans wanted Dolan to resign or sell the franchise.

These fans were not successful in their plea. But with the hiring of

Phil Jackson as president of basketball operations for the Knicks, they may have been successful in forcing Dolan to concede all basketball decisions to a person far more imminently qualified than Dolan.

During the press conference introducing Jackson as the president of basketball operations, Dolan said, “I am by no means an expert in basketball as a fan. My expertise lies in managing companies and businesses, so I think I’m a little out of my element when it comes to the team.”

It appears that Dolan has had a remarkable epiphany and has realized that he knows nothing about running a basketball team and needed to empower others to have responsibility for the basketball decisions to be made by the franchise.

Or is it just the fact that the greatest living basketball mind walked into the room and almost anybody, even an individual as pompous as James Dolan, would have to grant Phil Jackson control of the Knicks franchise? Although I would like to believe Dolan has turned over a new leaf, I tend to believe the latter and that it took somebody of Jackson’s stature to finally force Dolan to take a backseat in the basketball decision making process of the franchise.

Jackson’s resume speaks for itself and is virtually unblemished. Jackson has been a part of an un-

precedented 13 championships, ten as a coach and two as a player with the Knicks. This is Jackson’s first front office position, though Carmelo has already begun to talk about Jackson as if he was his coach. It will be interesting to see how this all plays out as Phil assembles the pieces, from head coach to player personnel. The coach of the Knicks next season, whomever that may be, will need to understand that Jackson is “top dog.”

Many people have already begun to speculate who will replace head coach Mike Woodson at season’s end. In NBA circles around the country, the most frequent name being mentioned is Steve Kerr, the rumor being the job is his if he wants it.

Kerr won three rings as a player with the Chicago Bulls in the mid 90s and has served as president of basketball operations and general manager of the Phoenix Suns in the past. As of now, Kerr works for TNT as a video analyst. Jackson will need to convince Kerr to leave the booth and join the Knicks.

Only time will tell whether or not Dolan stands true to his word and lets Jackson control basketball operations of the team. Even if he does, the Zen Master has his work cut out for him.

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Crew team begins season with Spring break training trip

BY LILA EPSTEIN
Senior Staff

The men and women’s rowing teams kicked off the racing component of their Spring season with a Spring break trip to Oak Ridge, Tenn., which concluded with a race. The team also had a race on Saturday. The spring break training trip was originally supposed to be in Del., but the location had to be switched because the river was still frozen due to the especially cold Winter.

The team embarked on an intensive training schedule during the trip, with three blocks of rowing

each day. The team members rowed three times a day every day and had their first race down there.

The women’s team won against Skidmore and North Park, and the men’s team came in second against two Skidmore boats.

“We got up early, we rowed, we ate we rowed, and then we ate and then rowed again,” said Maggie Provencher ’14, captain of the women’s team.

This trip was the first opportunity for the team to practice in the water rather than on erg machines. The river was frozen until the beginning of last week, and it was only possi-

ble to put in the dock this weekend.

The team continued its season with a race on Saturday in Coshock, Penn. against Bryn Mawr College.

“We absolutely blew them out of the water,” said Julia Scavicchio ’14, women’s varsity coxswain. “It was a good race but pretty bad weather. It’s been bad there before, but this time it was really rough with the wind and the current. In the eight we rowed against the current, and it was the longest race. It was only supposed to be a 1500 meter race, but it took the same amount of time 2000 meters usually would.”

The team will have its next race next weekend in Geneva, New York, where Hobart and William Smith College is located.

“We’re going to be racing a lot of people we have never been up against before,” Scavicchio said. “Our coach wanted us to go outside of our usual sphere of competition. It was between this or Murphy Cup, and for Murphy Cup we already know which boats we would beat and who would beat us, so now we are stepping into new territory.”

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Softball: Camaraderie reigns, team shows great potential

continued from page 11

Kirk said. “We finished with seven wins and three losses which was a fantastic run for the beginning of the season. We have a strong approach to our Conference games because of this trip.”

The team had several strong game performances. In multiple games the team recorded multiple home runs while shutting out the other team.

The three losses that occurred were also close in score.

“My favorite moment of the trip was when we played our hearts out against Ohio Wesleyan University, and finished with a 6-5 victory,” Kirk said. “That game shows that we have what it takes to be a phenomenal softball team.”

The closeness of the team is another factor contributing to its continued success.

“I think the major strength of our team is the camaraderie,” Kirk said. “We are so close and we know as a collective unit, we are unstoppable. Personally, this is the greatest group of women I have ever played with, and I am so grateful.”

Kirk did emphasize that the team’s one weakness is self doubt. “We sometimes forget how good we really are, and we have to

remember to always stay positive and not get down on ourselves.”

The team is off to a strong start of the season and hopefully its performance at the Classic will lead to continued success. Women’s softball plays Ursinus College on March 25 in a double header.

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Phil Jackson named president of basketball operations for the New York Knicks. For full story ... page 10



photo courtesy of sportslogos.net

The F&M rowing team traveled to Oak Ridge, Tenn. to train for its upcoming Spring season. Read on ... page 10

Franklin & Marshall Sports

F&M softball competes in Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic



photo courtesy of godiplomats.com

F&M softball traveled to Ft. Myers, Fla. to compete in the Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic. The team went 7-3 in tournament play and spent time bonding as a team.

BY SOPHIE AFDHAL
Associate Sports Editor

Instead of heading to their respective homes for Spring break,

the women’s softball team headed to Ft. Myers, Fla. to train for the season and compete in 10 games. The team competed in the Gene

Cusic Collegiate Classic, which spanned five days and offered the girls the opportunity to face off against new and past rivals. They began the week playing against Kenyon College and fell 6-0. Despite the early setback, the Lady Dips went on to win the next six matchups during the Classic. On the same day as the Kenyon game, F&M defeated Salem State University 7-2. That game began their momentum towards the six-game winning streak. Overall, the softball team finished the Classic with a 7-3 winning record.

The trip allowed for training, competition, and relaxation. “A typical day in Florida would be to wake up early, team break-

fast in the hotel lobby, then leave the hotel for two morning double headers,” said Sarah Kirk ’15. “After the games we were free to spend the day with our parents, sit by the pool, and rest up for the next games. Despite playing 10 games, we had a free day to explore Ft. Myers. Most of us took advantage of the warm weather and hit the beach.” The trip was important for the women as it offered the opportunity to prepare for the season and to come together as teammates.

“Spring break definitely gave us the confidence for our upcoming Centennial Conference games,”

see SOFTBALL, page 10

Women’s lacrosse dominates Muhlenberg, secures win



Women’s lacrosse faced off against Muhlenberg College on March 23. The team secured the win, decimating the Mules 17-6. The team started off strong by scoring three goals, only 1:38 in to the contest. The high-scoring game showed great teamwork with many assists. The game continues the team’s winning streak. The Lady Dips have a 6-0 record and a 1-0 record in Conference play. The women will next play at Messiah College on Tuesday, March 25.

photos by Scott Onigman '15