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Terror attack on Westminster Bridge leaves London reeling, 4 dead and more injured

BY BORIS ZYUMBYULEV
Staff Writer

Four people died and over 50 were injured in a terrorist attack on Parliament in London, the United Kingdom.

Around 2:40pm on Wednesday, 22nd March, an assailant drove a hired Hyundai SUV from the south side of the river Thames in London, onto Westminster Bridge, where he sped up and mounted the pavement, running over a crowd of people. Immediately after, he crashed into the metal fence of Parliament. The man left the vehicle wielding two knives and entered the New Palace Yard. There he stabbed unarmed police officer Keith Palmer, 52. Defense Secretary Sir Michael Fallon's bodyguard, who was in the yard as well, shot the terrorist three times in the chest.

The gunshots put the local area and Parliament under a lockdown, forcing the MP's in the House of Commons to stay put for four hours. Theresa May, the UK's Prime Minister, was promptly removed from Parliament, put in a car, and driven off



Photo courtesy of independent.co.uk

Four people, including a police officer and an American tourist, are dead and at least fifty others are injured after a terrorist drove a car along the sidewalk of Westminster Bridge. The bridge is a popular tourist attraction and close to the UK's Parliament.

to safety to her office on Downing Street. Paramedics rushed to the scene and attempted to save both the officer and the criminal, but both died on the street. Along with them, teacher Aysha Frade from London, tourist Kurt Cochran from Utah, and Leslie Rhodes from Streatham, South

London died. Rhodes passed away from his wounds in the hospital after he was taken off life support while the others lost their lives around Parliament.

Around fifty other people were injured in the attack, including 12 Britons, 4 South Koreans, 3 French school-children, two

Romanians, two Greeks, and one each from the U.S., Italy, China, Ireland, Poland, and Germany. Several of them have suffered life-threatening injuries and are being treated, in particular a Romanian woman who is still in

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Trump's Supreme Court pick, Neil Gorsuch, faces the Senate in three-day hearing

BY KATHERINE COBLE
News Editor

This week has been an eventful one for Neil Gorsuch. The 49-year-old Colorado native and current appellate judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit is now most famous for being Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee to fill the space left by Anton Scalia's unexpected death in February 2016. Gorsuch completed his confirmation hearing in the Senate on Wednesday following three days of extensive questioning from both

Republican and Democrat Senators.

Throughout the hearings, Senate Democrats have attempted to portray Gorsuch as incapable of being an independent check on a Republican legislature, while Senate Republicans have threatened to change Senate rules in order to get Gorsuch confirmed.

Like most Supreme Court justices going through a confirmation hearing, Gorsuch revealed little about his personal views on controversial legal issues like abortion and affirmative action. *Los Angeles Times* writer David G. Savage quipped that confirmation hearings are "a peculiar

Washington ritual in which inquisitive senators gather before TV cameras to hear an aspiring justice politely refuse to answer their questions on all the pressing legal issues of the day."

Gorsuch fit the mold. He refused to elaborate whether he believed President Donald Trump has violated the Emoluments Clause and, despite emphasizing the importance of judicial precedent for *Roe v. Wade*, would not say under what conditions he might overturn it.

Gorsuch is an "originalist" interpreter of the Constitution, much like Anton Scalia, whom he hopes to

replace. This philosophy means that Gorsuch places significant weight on the specific words used in the Constitution, regardless of any unfortunate rulings that may result.

Senate Democrats attempted to use some of Gorsuch's more technical rulings as examples of his emotionlessness or ignorance of consequences. For example, Gorsuch ruled against a commercial truck driver that was fired for leaving his vehicle to get assistance in freezing cold temperatures. He also ruled against an autistic child in a

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CRIME WATCH

Monday, March 20, 12:02 a.m. - The Department of Public Safety (DPS) responded to a noise complaint in Ware College House.

Monday, March 20, 2:00 p.m. - DPS received a report that official Franklin & Marshall College tables were found inside three fraternity houses. They were recovered and returned.

Thursday, March 23, 5:34p.m. - a wallet was reported to DPS as stolen from the Martin Library of the Sciences.

Gorsuch: Potential SCOTUS justice aims to appease his critics, secure nomination

case about disability rights—a ruling which was unanimously overturned by the Supreme Court of the United States while Gorsuch’s hearings were occurring.

When forced to explain his rulings in these cases, Gorsuch remained steadfast in his belief that he was adhering to precedent and interpreting the law as it was written - even in the case with the Supreme Court ruled against him, following the same precedent.

Gorsuch also distinguished himself from other originalist interpreters like Scalia by expressing praise for a more progressive application of the fourteenth amendment. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, after Senator Diane Feinstein expressed “concern that the writers of the Constitution and subsequent amendments — like the 14th Amendment guarantee of equal protection under the law — were written at a different cultural moment,” Gorsuch admitted that the drafters of these laws were “racists” and “sexists”, but the legislation they created guarantees equal protection for all. He attempted to reassure his critics that “No one is looking to return us to horse and buggy days.”

Senate Republicans seem overwhelmingly optimistic about Gor-

such’s chances at getting confirmed. News outlets like *USA Today* described the judge as having “sailed” through the hearing and, after the second day of his hearing, said that his “steady performance through two grueling days of testimony lent an air of inevitability to the process that bordered on coronation.”

Republicans have a 52-48 majority in the Senate and need 60 votes to get Gorsuch confirmed. However, Democrats like minority leader Charles Schumer have insisted they will filibuster Gorsuch’s confirmation vote. Republicans have responded by saying they may invoke the Senate’s “nuclear option” and change the Senate rule that allows filibusters of nominees. According to *The Washington Post*, this has led to “competing views among Democrats about whether to filibuster Gorsuch’s nomination... or instead avoid confrontation and preserve the filibuster threat for the future.”

It is currently unknown when exactly the Senate will vote to confirm Gorsuch. Republicans hope to do so before Congress breaks for its Easter Recess on April 7.

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



Photo courtesy of ABCNews.com

49-year-old Neil Gorsuch, currently a judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, smiles during his confirmation hearing in the United States Senate.

London: Attack appears to be inspired by, but not organized by, the Islamic State

critical condition.

The attacker was identified as Khalid Masood, 52, from Dartford in Kent. He was born Adrian Russell Ajao to the then 17-year old Janet Ajao. Khalid Masood was married and had three children. His most recent residence was in the West Midlands in the UK. Masood has had a history of convictions, his first one in 1983, and the last one in 2003. He has been convicted of grievous bodily harm, possession of offensive weapons, and public order offenses. None of these convictions were related to terrorism. As a result he has spent time in Lewes Jail, East Sussex, Wayland Norfolk, Ford Open Prison, and West Sussex for his offenses.

Deputy London Metropolitan Police Commissioner Mark Rowley says they believe Masood had been “inspired by international terrorism” and ISIS, although he had no direct communication with the group. The Islamic State came out with a statement praising Masood as a “soldier” who had answered to their call. According to *The Guardian*, this statement is a sign that the attack was not organized by the Islamic State, but was carried out independently. As CNN notes, “ISIS has not posted a video showing a pledge of allegiance from the attacker.” Rowley has also underlined that it is the investigation’s goal to determine all connections surrounding the terrorist and the attack itself.

The British police have raided several addresses in London, Birmingham, Brighton, and Carmarthenshire in response to Khalid’s actions. Eleven people

have been arrested, 2,700 items have been confiscated along with a significant amount of digital data, and around 3,500 witnesses have contacted the police with testimonies and information. As of March 26, nine of the eleven have been released without plans for further action. Mark Rowley has added that it is important to understand the assailant’s motivations, preparation, and potential accomplices.

Following the attack Theresa May addressed the House of Commons with the words that, “We will never waver in the face of terrorism” and that “the greatest response lies not in the words of politicians, but in the everyday actions of ordinary people.” German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the White House, Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan have expressed their condolences and their support in responding to terrorism.

On Thursday to commemorate the victims of Wednesday, hundreds of people convened together at Trafalgar Square. On the ground in front of the National Gallery, the London subway’s logo was drawn on the ground with the words “We are not afraid” in chalk, referencing the subway bomb attacks in London from 2005. In addition, the British, the French, and Belgian flag were inscribed on the ground as a monument to Europe’s resilience against the most recent occasions of terrorism.

First-year Boris Zyumbyulev is a staff writer. His email is bzyumbyu@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of dailystar.co.uk

The attacker, identified as Khalid Masood, was shot dead by police during the incident. Following the attack, Masood was praised by the Islamic State.

Complicating the free speech discourse at F&M and beyond

BY SHERALI TAREEN

Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
sherali.tareen@fandm.edu

The controversy over the recent Flemming Rose lecture at F&M highlights certain vexing conundrums over the problem of free speech on campus, especially as they intersect with questions of religion, race, and minority sensibilities. In an opinion piece published in this paper, Professor Matt Hoffman (the primary organizer of the event) sought to shed light on the question: why is it that of all people he could have invited to talk about free speech, he chose in particular Flemming Rose, a central figure of the 2005 Danish cartoon controversy. Remember, this question did not originate with Professor Hoffman; it was raised to him in anguish and pain by a female Muslim student protesting at the door of an event that to her represented an affront to her religious sensibilities. It is debatable whether Professor Hoffman addressed this question adequately. But his explanation does offer a useful opportunity for reflecting on some of the conceptual shortcomings with dominant strands of the free speech discourse at F&M.

At the heart of the problem is much of the conversation surrounding free speech on campus (as exemplified by Professor Hoffman’s response) is a failure and refusal to think through questions of context and power. Free speech is not an ideal that hangs suspended in the sky. It is exercised, negotiated, and at times imposed in specific contexts and under particular relations of power. Who has the power and authority to decide what forms of speech and offence are permissible and what forms are not? Whose desires, experiences, and normative viewpoints inform that decision? Whose logics and views are privileged? A careful consideration of these questions is critical to nuancing the conversation on free speech in a manner that is not imprisoned to the facile binary of ban speech/celebrate free speech through offense. The point is not to ban any speaker or viewpoint and neither is it to stifle difficult or uncomfortable conversations. The larger point is this: there is no universal consensus on what constitutes offence and moral injury. And the free speech principle of say what you wish so long as you

don’t break the law by its nature privileges majoritarian priorities and sensibilities. The law, with its foremost concern for maintaining public order, cannot help but prioritize the normative expectations and pressures of the majority population. Back to Rose, it is precisely this haughty indifference towards any attempt to entertain a different logic of offense and pain that does not fit a dominant liberal secular narrative that is at the crux of the issue.

The final paragraph of Professor Hoffman’s letter captures this point to great effect. In the course of apologizing to students who may have been hurt by the lecture, Professor Hoffman proceeded to suggest that only if these students “had not let their emotions primarily guide them” and had they “read Rose’s book,” “they would have been better able to grapple with his [Rose’s] words, ideas, and arguments.” A rather peculiar apology this is. The exhortation to jettison emotion in favor of dispassionate reading has all the trappings of the colonizer’s demand that the native abandon her irrational attachment to emotion and embrace the light of reason and

civilization. This patronizing gesture is both conceptually clumsy and deeply condescending. Only if these emotionally overpowered Muslims read Rose’s writings, they would realize that their rage is misplaced; it may even dawn on them that Rose is in fact an advocate of their rights and freedoms. This seems to be the suggestion here.

Lurking in this suggestion is a dismissal of the legitimacy of the pain and injury felt by Muslim and other minority students who protested on the evening of the lecture. By diagnosing their pain as a symptom of emotional excess, Professor Hoffman attributes that pain to a condition of false judgment that can (must?) be treated with the proper dosage of liberal knowledge and reason. This kind of a framing hinges on an equally problematic binary between the virtue of secular reason enshrined in the right to satire and offend and religious emotion that supposedly prevents unlettered souls from enjoying the fruits of that virtue. The inadequacy of such a framing also explains

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Assistant editor shares concerns about Washington’s most recent budget cuts

BY ALEX PINSK

Op-Ed Assistant
mpinsk@fandm.edu

Education is essential, now more than ever. With the new and changing political climate, the state of international affairs, and current social policies, it is crucial that everyone receives a solid education from a young age. However, recently budget cuts have been increasingly prominent in public schools throughout the nation. Despite the fact that it has been ten years since

the recession in the United States and the fact that there could certainly be money located for educational purposes, the government is limiting the amount of money that is spent on public education. Why is this? Many officials think that it might be better to ration out some of the education budget for other purposes. Claiming that students will get the same quality of education whether or not funding decreases slightly, the government thinks that money might be better used to support different

establishments. However, if they saw what budget cuts are doing to schools, they might think differently. Different state governments have limited education budgets by different amounts. However, often, these cuts can result in fewer or unequipped facilities, such as classrooms, gyms, labs. In fact, many schools have had to eliminate competitive sports all together. Sports facilities - tracks, gyms, fitness centers - cost money, and many institutions de-

termine that sports may be the least necessary aspect of a grade school. Sports and gym classes, however, are an important aspect of a student’s education, as they can be an outlet and are often the one time that children can get exercise during the week. Additionally, budget cuts can mean less funding for the arts. Arts are a huge part of any school experience. Inclusive of studio art, theater, dance, photography, etc., art classes can provide a chance for students to express themselves in different ways. Often a break from one’s standard academic courses, some sort of arts curriculum, no matter how small, is essential for a school’s success. Due to money shortages, many public schools are getting rid of all art classes and facilities. This can be detrimental to an education, as many students’ favorite class is art. Foreign language classes are, too, often some of the first classes to disappear following a budget cut. Because they are not you traditional math, English, or science classes, schools often feel it necessary to eliminate languages before any of the other core subjects. Learning languages leads

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Photo courtesy of commondreams.org

The beginning of Donald Trump’s presidency has been filled with controversy and criticism. One of the most prominent issues in contention is his budget cuts. Furthermore, people are fearful about the future of public education under the Trump administration.

Republicans display lack of internal cohesion after healthcare defeat

BY NICK RIEBEL
Staff Writer
nriebel@fandm.edu

It’s pretty clear that, in addition to being corrupt, the Republican majority in Congress, under Trump’s and Paul Ryan’s leadership, is also quite incompetent. I think it is important to note that the Republicans not only control the presidency, the Senate, the House, and (possibly soon) the Supreme Court, but they also control most governor’s mansions and state legislatures as well. This is the strongest, politically, the Republicans have been in a long time. Aside from perhaps gaining a few senate seats in red states in the 2018 midterms, they are unlikely to grow any stronger, particularly as demographic trends push America in a progressive direction politically, socially, economically, and culturally. So, this is their greatest opportunity to pass their agenda through, as they cannot assume they will get another like chance like this in at least the near-term future. Yet, on this day (Thursday, March 23rd), Republicans failed to even bring up their health care bill for a vote in the House. What can we conclude from this, other than that they are incapable of governing, and thus unfit for leading our nation?

We have to remember that the Republican party was the “opposition party” all throughout President Obama’s term, and was largely ineffective at passing their agenda due to only having partial control over government, absent the times the Democrats would cowardly back down, desperate to be the adults in the room as they hemor-

rhaged seats in the Congress and in state legislatures across the nation as they attempted this brilliant strategy. Yet, President Obama and our country were fortunate, in that the Republican caucus was not unified enough to even present a cohesive minority that could effectively be compromised with. This is because if Obama compromised more, in his desperation to be a “bipartisan” and “moderate” president, we would have seen our national budgets even more influenced by extreme conservatism, and right-wing philosophy, which would have done even greater damage to our nation. As the Republicans did not have to be overly concerned with governing, it mattered little that Democrats were too over-eager in their zeal to compro-

mise— the Grand Old Party could afford to be irresponsible, as they only controlled at most Congress, and seemed unlikely to control the White House given the nomination of Trump.

Yet, the unthinkable happened, and Trump was elected, Republicans kept control of Congress, and they now have no excuses, on a purely partisan basis, of being unable to pass their legislative priorities. They can claim that they cannot control the factions within them, but if a party controls the government, they ought to be able to control it, or they should concede control to a party or group which can. I disagree strongly with the Republicans on almost every issue, but I am genuinely worried if, even when they have complete

control of the legislative and executive branches, they are still too divided to accomplish the repeal and replace of Obamacare, something they have had since 2010 to plan.

There is also the fact that the Congressional Republicans have, for the most part, bent over backwards to support their president, even in the face of overwhelming evidence that Donald Trump does not deserve to be defended. When there are legitimate concerns over whether our president is a foreign agent for a nation adversarial, even hostile, to us, one would think that an independent investigation, at the very least, would be in order. Yet, Republicans seem more concerned to persecute the patriots who are revealing our president’s alleged duplicity to the American people.

Fellow progressives, liberals, and left-wingers— just because the Republicans are disorganized doesn’t mean we have to be. Let us stop their agenda until the midterms, which we will work together to win. The alternative is to concede our future to those who are too incompetent to pass their own legislation, and those too corrupt to care about good governance.

Let’s work together to elect a Congress, and governors and state legislatures, and all manner of elected officials, to stand up to Trump. We cannot trust him and his Republican cronies to look out for us.

After all, why should we trust a leader under FBI investigation?

Senior Nick Riebel is a staff writer. His email is nriebel@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of salon.com

Prior to the election, Donald Trump promised to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. However, on March 23, the new Republican healthcare plan was shut down.

Are you interested in writing for
the
Opinion & Editorial Section?
Email Opinion & Editorial Editor Joe
Yamulla at jyamulla@fandm.edu.

Rose: *The complexities of freedom of speech must be acknowledged*

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Professor Hoffman's bafflement at the sight of protesting Muslim students who were unprepared to eagerly embrace the protocols of liberal discipline.

A blind faith in free speech precludes one from considering the secular theology operative in the expectation that Muslims should after all not be so offended by caricatures or cartoons of the Prophet. As anthropologist Saba Mahmood has best argued, at work in this demand is a secular ideology of language. According to this secular language ideology, as she explains it, since signs are only arbitrarily connected to what they represent, a rational person should be able to distinguish images and icons from the actual figures they represent. Hence, since an image of Muhammad is not really Muhammad just like an image of Jesus is not really Jesus; a rational believer ought to be able to distinguish images of these sacred figures from their actual personhood. This seemingly secular position is in fact deeply embedded in and indebted to quintessential modern Protestant/colonial assumptions regarding "authentic" religion that continue to inspire varied strands of secular humanist thought. The suggestion that Muslims ought not take cartoons of Muhammad too seriously rests on the assumption that since the true locus of religion is in the interior of a person and because religion

is ultimately a matter of choice, a properly modern subject must have the capacity to separate inner belief from the external world of objects, images, and materiality.

This impoverished understanding of religion can only show bemusement towards alternative logics of life whereby venerating a figure like Muhammad is not just a matter of choice consigned to the privacy of inner belief. For many Muslims, Muhammad represents the most intimate moral exemplar and model for inhabiting the world: bodily, ethically, and materially. Venerating Muhammad above all represents a quest for cohabiting the body of the Prophet. This means striving to cultivate a pious and virtuous self through a rigorous regime of imitating intimate details of Muhammad's life and example, as if by cohabiting his body. The cohabitation of the Prophet's body does not follow the modern liberal imperative of distinguishing between the inner essence of religion (belief) that is protected by law and its external manifestations that are entirely available for offense and injury.

In no way unique to Islam or Muslims, this idea of cohabitation might help us better appreciate the forms of reasoning that animate the pain and moral injury caused by satirical cartoons of Muhammad. To be clear, my point here is not to explain or demystify Muslim responses to satirical representations of Mu-

hammad or to homogenize such responses. Readers who reacted to all this with the objection "but not all Muslims were offended by the cartoons" or "but there were Muslims who did not protest that evening and happily listened to the speaker" will have missed the entire point. **The point is this: framing this issue in terms of a standoff between liberal free speech and religious taboo/sensitivity is singularly unhelpful.** This is so because the principle of free speech is enwrapped in a set of deeply problematic normative assumptions regarding the proper place and form of religion in the modern world. And it is precisely the refusal to interrogate or to critically evaluate these assumptions that generate diagnoses of pain and moral injury as the product of misplaced emotional outburst, as in Professor Hoffman's apology of sorry not sorry.

The broader context in which this lecture took place is also critically important to consider. To begin with, just how thoughtful is Flemming Rose is wholly debatable. The evidence of his writings reveals at best a tabloid thinker with a rather unsophisticated and yawningly repetitive insistence on a classic liberal conception of offense as a pillar of free speech. There is little in his work to suggest any sustained theoretical reflection on or engagement with questions of power, histories of colonialism, race, religion, or any attempt to even hint at let alone address, his white privilege. We do the intellectual standards of this college no favor with such speakers whose underlying attrac-

tion is tethered to their provocative shock value. There are many other scholars, from a range of ideological backgrounds, who have written about free speech and about the Danish cartoon controversy more specifically, in far more thoughtful and nuanced ways. But to give the podium to Flemming Rose, who rose to fame precisely through insulting Islam and Muslims, during a moment when the Muslim community in this country confronts an incessant barrage of vitriol, bigotry, and violence, is, to put it mildly, astonishing. The irony involved in the fact that in an event on free speech, student protestors were not allowed to display signs inside the auditorium, as non-uniformed (likely armed) security officers monitored their movement, cannot be more telling.

There was one beautiful aspect to this event: the way in which some members of the Black Student Union came together with Muslim students in solidarity to speak some truth to power. These students made us proud but I am not sure whether their voices were adequately heard. Indeed, while some both within and outside the college may celebrate the Flemming Rose lecture as a shining example of F&M's commitment to free speech, for many others, including those among the most vulnerable in our community, this event was but a painful reminder of the marginality of their voices.

SherAli Tareen is an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies. His email is sherali.tareen@fandm.edu.

Budget: *Public education must remain a fiscal priority in budget talks*

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to so many opportunities that one may not be able to experience otherwise, and having the option to study a language should be required in all public schools. Alas, this is not the case.

Of perhaps greater worry is the decrease in faculty at many schools. When there is not a surplus of money for education, the government often thinks it best to reduce the population size of the faculty. In doing so, a school must increase its class sizes, combining two, sometimes three, classes into one. My belief is that, the more students in a class, the less attention each student is given from the teacher, the more difficult it is for a teacher to control the class, and ultimately the less productive a class is. Without at least some careful attention paid to each student, the kids who want to learn are in an en-

vironment where it is nearly impossible to do so, and those who could care less about school are not supported or encouraged to work harder. This is, evidently, a bad situation for all involved. If a school is going to limit its facilities, it should at least maintain its small class sizes to promote higher-quality education. However, truth be told, sometimes schools do not have the money, and the government has yet to understand that.

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, "[t]hese cuts weaken schools' capacity to develop the intelligence and creativity of the next generation of workers and entrepreneurs." The goal of schools is to educate students in a variety of different subjects and to prepare them for life to follow. When seventy students are stuffed into a small classroom with one teacher, when they are denied the possibility of

taking an art class or a language class or playing a sport, when they fail each class and the teacher does not have time to help them, it should be obvious that there is something wrong. Our education system in many states and many districts is plummeting. Children are not supported nor encouraged to learn and do not have the facilities to do so. High-quality education is one of the most significant aspects of a person's life. Sure, wealthy regions may have exceptional education systems; however, the reality is that most of the United States does not have access to that kind of learning. Education is an integral part of life, and should, in theory, be as important as the building of highways and aid of the environment because the truth is that the more educated US citizens become, the greater help they will be in protecting the environment, the more they will know about the aspects

of the country that matter most.

Budget cuts should not be made with respect to education. The government should ensure that public schools be funded and equipped with the necessary facilities. Our future is in education. If students are not educated, they will be in no position to protect our planet, aid our country, and understand the political, social, and economic climate around them. We should be thinking twice about the extent to which limiting the education budget is negatively affecting the country as a whole.

Schools need money to provide substantial education, and substantial education is crucial. Period. There is no denying these facts.

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

Campus Life

Mark Dion, American conceptual artist lectures on his innovative projects

BY SHIRA GOULD
Staff Writer

This past Wednesday, Mark Dion, a conceptual artist of scientific thought, gave a lecture in Stahr Auditorium. He discussed many of his international projects that are based on bringing life to untold history. His mission is to give an accessible narrative to the overlooked species and stories in life.

Dion spoke about his many projects, one of which was in Venice. Dion was invited by the Nordic Pavilion to dig through the lagoon in Venice to create art out of any man-made objects he could find. Dion introduced the audience to Venice by sharing its relationship with the surrounding water: the water is a dumpster. He gave the example of someone who had a broken washing machine. It would be very expensive to have someone come by boat to remove it from the house, and yet no one wants a broken washing machine taking up space. As such, the simple solution is to throw it into the water. The water, from Dion's perspective, is filled with useful sludge, sludge that can be manipulated into art

if done in the correct way. Dion said he played the role of an alien, trying to make sense of the many mysteries found in the water. Dion described the scene as fetid, and yet archaeologically rich. In his work, he used a museum paradigm in which he focused on organizing each of the findings in various structures from size, color, or utility. It is an intentionally disorganized piece of work which is meant to inspire the consumer to analyze Dion's thought process. It is intended to tell the story of its own creation.

In addition to Dion's work in Venice, he also discussed his work in London in Foreshore, which is a body of water that is exposed to the city and is in turn rich in material culture. Dion asserted that "every time the tide goes in and out, it's like taking another roll of the die."

The Foreshore bank was surrounded by morally reprehensible experiences, and was therefore a keeper of interesting secrets which Dion made it his mission to discover. Dion and his team found thousands of manmade objects and were able to create a cabinet in order to tell their stories through a series of varying



Photo courtesy of wheatonarts.org

Mark Dion gave a lecture in Stahr Auditorium last Wednesday on his various projects, including some that value ordinary objects as art and educate others.

organization styles.

Dion has also devoted many of his works to educate people about animals that are typically overlooked. For example, Dion created a seagull appreciation vehicle in order to convince seagull haters of the bird's value. He also made an effort to provide park visitors a place to bird watch and to educate themselves on the species.

Dion emphasized his urgency in the question and answer portion of the talk. He said that when he first began his work, he felt a sense of urgency because he

had hope that he would be able to change things. Now, however, Dion is less sure. He is certain that he needs to continue taking a stand for the environment and the untold histories of humanity, but he is less sure that he will be able to save the planet through his art. With that being said, he feels a greater necessity for activism now, in this time period, than he did before.

First-year Shira Gould is a staff writer. Her email is sgould@fandm.edu.

EAA and the CSE promote sustainability, conservation through events on campus



Photo courtesy of wheatonarts.org

The Center for the Sustainable Environment hosted a Sustainable Desserts workshop, teaching students how to make easy desserts from local ingredients.

BY SARAH FRAZER
Staff Writer

This past week, F&M's Environmental Action Alliance (EAA) and the Center for the Sustainable Environment (CSE) hosted multiple activities to promote sustainability and environmental conser-

vation on campus.

The CSE tabled in College Center throughout the week to raise awareness about environmental issues and, in particular, about Earth Hour, which happened this past Saturday from 8:30p.m. to 9:30p.m. Earth Hour is an annual international event for people

around the globe to take an hour during which they will use as little electricity as possible, "to take an hour to come together as one to help the climate," explained Sandy Chilson, who is the Weis House Green Liason. The reason behind Earth Hour, as well as the other sustainability-inspired events on campus this past week is simple: the Earth is going through a period of manmade climate change and the CSE and EAA want to encourage the F&M community to do something about it. On Earth Hour, CSE is planning to hold a competition between the college houses to see which one can be the most sustainable. The prize is yet to be determined, but will be something like a pizza party.

In addition to tabling, the CSE set up a board in the middle of the College Center to promote Earth Hour and get students to think about environmental issues. On one side of the board, students were asked to write what worries them about the Earth, and, on the other, students were to make a pledge articulating what they are going to do to change what worries them. The goal is to make "people to notice the environment is changing," according to Chil-

son. While some contest the validity of the claim that humans are causing climate change, Chilson maintains that "it's not controversial, and something needs to be done." She explains, that "at the Sustainability Center, it's our job to get people involved."

For those who are interested in being more sustainable, the CSE also hosted a workshop, the fourth in a series of workshops, on making sustainable desserts. Held this past Friday at 8:00p.m., Chilson admitted they were surprised at the amount of people who came, elaborating that they received eighty responses on their Facebook event. The desserts the students made were chocolate coconut no-bake macaroons and chocolate peanut butter oatmeal no-bake cookies. Both desserts were vegan, and the former was gluten free as well. All the ingredients for the desserts were from the local Lemon Street Market, with the exception of bananas, as they are out of season. The desserts were simple to make, both containing about six ingredients and taking about ten minutes to make.

see ENVIRONMENT, page 7

Environment: EAA and KD host clothing swap, promote sustainability

continued from page 6

Both required no baking, partially because there is no oven in the Sustainability Center, but not baking the desserts “definitely saves energy too, especially if the oven one would use runs on gas,” says Chilson.

As Chilson expressed, “We live in such an agricultural area with so much [access to] local foods. It’s a shame to be buying food from big supermarkets.” According to Chilson, the point of buying local, besides supporting the local Lancaster community and economy, is “to decrease [our] carbon footprint. It’s not hard so [we should] take advantage of it.”

F&M’s EAA was also active this week in promoting sustainability. They collaborated with Kappa Delta to host a clothing

drive, where students could trade some of their used clothing for others’ clothes. The idea behind the clothing swap is to further the sustainable aspect of reusing clothes, instead of buying new ones. At the same time, students can give their used, but still wearable, clothing “to somebody who might use it more than [them,]” explained Alessandra Rella, who’s in EAA. Last year, EAA collaborated with a woman who made old clothes new to give to people in need. This year, EAA is donating the remaining clothes to a group that gives clothing to transgender teens, who do not have access to clothing they are comfortable in. Last year was very successful, according to Rella, and tons of clothes were donated. People got clothes they liked and probably saved money in the



Photo courtesy of the EAA/KD Facebook event

The Environmental Action Alliance, with Kappa Delta, held a clothing swap this past week. Students brought in old clothes in exchange for other used clothing.

long run, since they did not have to buy new clothes, or at least as many or as soon.

This coming Friday, March 31, at 4:30p.m., CSE is hosting a composting workshop. In addition, Sustainability Week will be coming up in April near Earth Day,

which is the 22nd of the month. There are also several marches on Earth Day, so students should be on the lookout for those.

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

Interfaith Profile on Sikhism with Hargobind Vohra, President of the Class of 2020

BY JULIA RAMSEY
Staff Writer

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

This week, we are focusing on Sikhism. Look for flyers around campus with interesting facts about the religion! My student profile is Hargobind Vohra, who is President of the First-Year Class.

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

HV: The Sikh religion was founded in Northern India in the 1400s by Guru Nanak. It’s a monotheistic religion that stresses equality between all humankind. Sikhism is about being humble and helping all those around you. It’s a fairly “new” religion.

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

HV: Sometimes it can be hard for people to distinguish different groups of people from the east. Sikhism is distinctly separate from Hinduism and Islam. Some people think Sikhs are Muslim because I wear a turban. While it is true that some Muslims wear turbans, the majority of people in the United States wearing a turban are Sikhs. The turban is worn in many countries as a cultural dress, but to Sikhs, the turban is a powerful symbol of our faith and



Photo courtesy of Hargobind Vohra

Hargobind Vohra, president of the first-year class provides information on his religion, Sikhism. Sikhism as a religion focuses on equality.

it keeps our long, uncut hair neat/clean.

JR: What does being Sikh mean to you?

HV: For me, being a Sikh means showing honesty, putting myself before others, and always helping anyone in need. It means treating everyone with equal respect and love, irrespective of race, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity—just like God loves everyone. Sikhism teaches one to better their community, be it through serving their country or helping at the local level. Being involved in student government is a way I try to help those around me at F&M.

JR: Is Sikhism compatible with other religions existing around you?

HV: Of course, Sikhism be-

lieves in respecting all other religions and even those who are non-religious. We believe that being Sikh is not the only way to become spiritual or one with God! Sikhs believe that there is only one God and God is the same for everyone—there are just different ways to mention God for different faiths.

Many times people think I’ll get offended if they come forward and ask me about my religion or what I believe. I urge anyone that has a question about my faith to not hesitate and simply ask me!

If anyone has questions about Interfaith Student Council or would like to get involved, please email ISC@fandm.edu. All are welcome!

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

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 on Monday at 7:00 p.m. in *The College Reporter* office on the second floor in the College Center!

Arts & Leisure

Jordan Peele’s directorial debut, *Get Out*, surpasses expectations in box office

BY JESIKA ISLAM
Arts & Leisure Editor

Key and Peele is the brainchild sketch comedy of Michael Keegan and Jordan Peele that is arguably one of the funniest, socially accurate comedies on television right now. So when it was revealed that Jordan Peele was directing his first movie, I was excited for an extended version of one of their sketches on the big screen. *Get Out* is not that. *Get Out* is a masterful, poignant commentary on institutional, subtle racism disguised as a horror movie.

The main character Chris, played by Daniel Kaluuya, who is going to meet his girlfriend, Rose’s, played by Allison Williams, parents for the first time. Right off the bat Chris asks if his girlfriend’s parents know that he is a black man, Rose laughs his question off as if it is the silliest thing in the world to be concerned about Rose’s parents’ reaction when she brings him home and then says not to worry because



Photo courtesy of BET.com

Daniel Kaluuya starts in Jordan Peele’s *Get Out*. Kaluuya is known for his work in U.K. *Skins* and for his roles in the films *Sicario* and *Black Mirror*.


her father would have “voted for Obama a third time,” a micro-aggression that is supposed to be comforting but really just makes everyone uncomfortable and doubt that he’s actually not racist. Without spoiling too much the movie incorporates more social justice themes while creating the thrill and fear of a horror movie. Peele’s natural comedy comes through in many parts of the mov-

ie, especially in Chris’ best friend the TSA agent Rod. I cannot do the experience of watching *Get Out* justice in an article, the experience requires a packed theater, buttery popcorn and the collective laughter and screams of the movie. Peele has also come out and now blessed us all with the information that *Get Out* is in fact the first of the trilogy that speaks to

social justice issues in a different, more palatable context. Peele turned a tiny budget of 4.5 million dollars into easily one of the best movies of the year. I highly encourage everyone to go see *Get Out*, the movie will highlight the subtle problems in our society for those who were aware of them, and for those who weren’t, the movie is enlightening. Peele packs the 1hr and 40 minute movie with references to black history, racism, micro-aggressions, psychology, thrillers, horrors and you will leave the theater wary of the world around you. And if you don’t want to go for Peele’s genius, go to see the beloved Daniel Kaluuya who also acted in an episode of *Black Mirror* and was Jal’s brother in the U.K. *Skins*. If nothing else go to understand pop culture and all those *Get Out* memes and challenges. Junior Jesika Islam is the Arts & Leisure Editor. Her email is jislam@fandm.edu.

Interested in writing for the Arts & Leisure section?


Contact Arts & Leisure Editor
Jesika Islam
jislam@fandm.edu



The College Reporter

Transparency. Accuracy. Credibility.

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The College Reporter office is located on the second floor of the Steinman College Center. Address all correspondence to The College Reporter, F&M #27 P.O. Box 3003, Lancaster, PA 17604. Email: reporter@fandm.edu Business Email: reporterads@fandm.edu Phone: (717) 291-4095. © 2015 The College Reporter. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

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The F&M Baseball team had an excellent trip to Florida and won many of their games. Read more below...



photo courtesy of logos.wikia.com

The World Baseball Classic showcased baseball on a large scale. Read more below...

Franklin & Marshall Sports

F&M Baseball dominates spring break trip, looks for continued success

BY GABBY GOODWIN
Assistant Sports Editor

Florida bound, F&M Baseball set off to the Sunshine State to reverse an early setback at the start of their 2017 spring season. 1-4 going into the NCAA DIII tournament in Auburndale, FL, F&M Baseball had nothing to lose as the underdogs of the tournament and proved to be such when they left Florida 9-1 for the week. Wins over Fitchburg State 6-0 and 13-4. Win over Stockton 29-15. Win over D'Youville 17-2.

The Diplomats proved to be an unstoppable force on the field in the warm weather, but whether or not they could maintain this streak would be the real test when they returned to Pennsylvania.

So far has looked so good for the Dips, however, after they faced off against Elizabethtown in their first game back from Spring Break. Bumping their record to 11-5 overall, F&M held the Blue Jays and clenched the 5-3 win this past Thursday afternoon. In a non-conference competition, F&M struck first in the bottom of the second inning. With back-to-back singles from F&M's Kyle

Ebert and Max Schwartz, F&M's Zachary Robertson advanced the runners to second and third with a key sacrifice bunt. To add, F&M's Kevin Lammers put the opening run in the books with a grounder to second that brought Ebert in to score the first run of the match.

Pitching a no-hitter for the first three innings of the game, F&M's Sam Ackerman was going strong until the Blue Jays caught up to the Dips with three hits that culminated with a two-out RBI, tying the game 1-1.

At the top of the next inning, F&M broke the flood gates open with three runs on three hits, including a two-RBI double down the leftfield line from F&M's first baseman David Iacobucci.

Helping raise the score 4-1 in the Dips' favor, Iacobucci came in clutch again in the seventh, increasing the Dip advantage to 5-1 with a shot to left center that resulted in a double and brought F&M's Brian Meerholz home from third.

Elizabethtown was not quite ready to give up, however. Adding two runs in the bottom of the eighth, F&M was pressured to put in their relief pitcher, Luke Ben-

gal, who forced a fly ball to center field to end the inning.

Ackerman earned the win after throwing five innings and allowing just one run on three hits. Four relief pitchers combined to finish out the final four innings for the Dips, allowing just two earned and striking out five. F&M's Danny Blugis secured a Dip win by throwing a scoreless ninth inning.

Overall, however, Iacobucci led the team with a 3-for-5 effort, clutching two doubles and three RBIs. Meerholz was 2-for-3 with two runs scored, and Swartz was 2-for-4 for the day.

In another non-conference game this past Saturday, the Dips faced off against No. 17 TCNJ for a doubleheader which they lost in two tough contests.

Playing strong, F&M Baseball continues to dive into the start of their season optimistic about the potential that lies ahead. Come out and support F&M Diplomat Baseball on Tuesday, March 28th against Messiah at Clipper Magazine Stadium.

First-year Gabby Goodwin is the Assistant Sports Editor. Her email is ggoodwin@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com

The F&M Baseball team went 9-1 on their spring break trip to Florida. They dominated their competition and look to continue this trend as their season continues.

United States wins World Baseball Classic, showcases global baseball talent

BY JOE GIORDANO
Sports Editor

At a time when the game of baseball is hurting for stars and viewership, the World Baseball Classic came around the corner and provided yet another great showcase for America's favorite pastime. Although there was much criticism going into the tournament, the results and success of the tournament prove that baseball isn't dead. It's doing just fine.

Since the tournament was started in 2006, 16 teams from around the world compete to prove which country is the best. Stars from the MLB and other great baseball leagues around the world flock to their countries rosters in what can only be described as pride and dedication to their countries. The United States, however, has had problems with this in the past.

Since 2006, the United States had been very unsuccessful in the World Baseball Classic. Falling short in the first three tournaments, the heads of baseball in America were out to prove they could hang with the other countries in the world and show why the United States was a country where baseball thrived. However, they ran

into the issue of securing the best of the best in America. MLB all-stars Bryce Harper, Mike Trout, Clayton Kershaw, and Madison Bumgarner were all noticeable absences from the team roster and caused rumblings that the United States was set up for another failure in the tournament. The actual roster, however, had other plans for the tournament.

MLB stars Adam Jones, Nolan Arenado, Chris Archer, Ian Kinsler, and so many others were out to prove they didn't need those who truly didn't want to be a part of the team. It was a mantra of the team that if you didn't want to put 150% into the title efforts, don't come at all and they proved right from the opening round.

The United States opened their tournament with late game heroics from Adam Jones in the bottom of the tenth inning to defeat Colombia 3-2 in extra innings. However, things took a thing for the worse when team blew a 5-0 lead against the Dominican Republic, eventually falling 7-5. In what was essentially a must win game for the United States, they soundly defeated Canada 8-0 to move onto the second round of the tournament.

The second round began with a bang as they captured a hard fought

win as Adam Jones and Eric Hosmer hit homeruns in the bottom of the eighth inning. They, however, lost another tough game to Puerto Rico, setting up another must-win game. This time against the Dominican Republic. This time was different, however, as they captured a 6-3 victory, moving onto the final four of the tournament.

After defeating Japan in the semi-finals 2-1, the United States was finally one game away from the elusive WBC championship. The only team standing in their way was the Puerto Rico team that had defeated them earlier in the tournament. The

team wouldn't be denied this time as starting pitcher Marcus Stroman threw a gem and the team soundly defeated them 8-0.

This title win may seem inconsequential, but the United States winning the tournament is a huge step forward for baseball. This tournament gives plenty of momentum to the upcoming baseball season and promises to showcase that baseball, and its many stars, are still thriving.

Junior Joe Giordano is the Sports Editor. His email is jgiordano1@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of zimbio.com

The United States captured their first World Baseball Classic title this past week. Eric Hosmer (shown above) was a crucial part of the team's success over the course of the tournament.