



# The College Reporter

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## Suicide bombing in St. Petersburg metro station kills 14 people, injures at least 40

BY BORIS ZYUMBYULEV  
*Staff Writer*

On Monday, April 3, a suicide bomber attacked the Russian subway at St. Petersburg, where 14 people died and at least 40 were injured. The metro press office has reported that the device was loaded with shrapnels and carried the equivalent of almost half a pound of TNT.

The blast occurred in the blue line of the city's subway between Sennaya Ploshchad and Tekhnologicheskii Institut stations. Soon after the first bomb, a second one was discovered at Ploshchad Vosstaniya, a nearby station.

The second device, disguised as a fire extinguisher containing approximately five times more TNT equivalent, did not go off. It is suspected that Ploshchad Vosstaniya was intended to be the main target of the attack. Following the attack, the metro



Photo courtesy of the-star.co.ke

A Russian man lights a candle at a memorial service for the victims of a suicide bombing in St. Petersburg that injured at least 40 people and killed 14.

lines were stopped across the city, the airport was shut down, and Uber and taxi drivers were running free rides to relieve the pressure from the infrastructure while the authorities were taking care of the damages.

The terrorist suicide bomber was confirmed to be Kyrgyz-born Akbarzhon Jalilov, born on April 1, 1995. He had been living in St Petersburg for six years with a Russian citizenship he received through his father.

Kyrgyzstan is a central Asian country with a predominantly Muslim population. Kyrgyzstan is a Russian ally that also hosts a Russian military base. Reuters has reported from Osh, that Akbarzhon is from an ethnic Uzbek family. The Islamic State has recruited a significant number of Islamist militants from Central Asia and Chechnya. It is speculated that the attack was carried out by Jalilov himself as a revenge for Russian air raids in Syria.

Russia's Investigative Committee has discovered several links in contact with Jalilov from Central Asian republics. As a result, eight people from the region were arrested as part of the investigation: two in St Petersburg and six in Moscow.

One of the links was followed to a flat raid at around 5 in the

see RUSSIA, page 2

## Mayoral candidate Kevin Ressler details struggles, benefits of running a local campaign

BY KATHERINE COBLE  
*News Editor*

For many young people, local government is an abstract concept. While American Millennials may rabidly follow the news on the Hill and in the White House, the news happening in their local communities can perhaps feel more distant: physically close, but not necessarily as relevant or dramatic due to the focus of modern news media. 32-year-old Kevin Ressler feels differently.

As the executive director of Lancaster's Meals on Wheels program, Ressler is consistently in close contact with the Lancaster city government. Now Ressler is aiming for political office himself. Ressler, a Democrat, has entered the Lancaster mayoral race and hopes to represent his party in the general election later this year.

Ressler cites Lancaster's high levels of poverty and racial disparities in economic achievement as the major reason he decided to campaign. The urban development of Lancaster's downtown area has disproportionately benefitted certain members of the community but not all—nearly 30% of Lancaster residents are below the poverty line despite the millions of dollars funnelled into the downtown area in recent years. Ressler explained, "When I realized none of the political candidates or people talking about running for office

were talking about [poverty and unemployment] it became a moral obligation for me to at least step into the ring."

"What's been important for me and for this run has been making sure that issues of justice, equity, and disenfranchisement are given a voice," Ressler says. He is the second black man to run for mayor in Lancaster and if elected, would be the first black man to ever serve as mayor in Lancaster in addition to the being the youngest ever.

"I would argue that I'm the most broad-based experienced candidate," Ressler says. He is running in the Democratic primary against Norman Bristol Colon, a consultant and Latino activist that could become Lancaster's first Latino mayor, and Danene Sorace, another consultant that has served as the finance chair of the city council.

Ressler said, half-joking, that the hardest part of running his campaign has been getting his laundry done. He is still working full-time as the head of Meals on Wheels in Lancaster in addition to fighting for the city's mayoral bid. He also has a two-year-old daughter and he and his wife are currently expecting another child. Balancing family, work, and a political race is no easy feat, but Ressler says his team of dedicated volunteers has helped. His campaign manager and communications director are both volunteering because "they believe in what they're doing." Ressler says



Photo courtesy of LancasterOnline.com

Lancaster mayoral candidate Kevin Ressler, Democrat, continues to lead the Meals on Wheels program in the city of Lancaster while running his campaign.

that dedication is humbling.

He also says that being able to connect with members of his neighborhood, even ones he doesn't know personally, has made the campaign worth it. "You get to meet a higher percentage of the community—you get to hear their hopes, their aspirations, their fears, and their challenges. And that's an honor." Ressler and his family live in a "distressed neighborhood" by choice, and he enjoys representing the issues of his overlooked community on the campaign trail.

Ressler hopes that F&M stu-

dents pay attention and vote in the race because they are members of the Lancaster community and the government should serve them, too. The last day to register to vote is April 17, and only Democrats may vote in Pennsylvania's Democratic primaries. The mayoral primary is May 16, which means F&M students must request an absentee ballot. The general election will be November 7.

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## CRIME WATCH

**Friday, March 31, 6:05 p.m.:** The Department of Public Safety (DPS) was called to Ware College House for the odor of marijuana and ultimately confiscated marijuana and drug paraphernalia from students.

**Saturday, April 1, 1:08 a.m.:** DPS received a report of an underage intoxicated student at the Phi Kappa Psi house on 560 W James St. The student was evaluated by EMS and left in the care of a friend.

**Saturday, April 1, 1:31 a.m.:** DPS responded to a report of an underage intoxicated student in Marshall Hall.

**Saturday, April 1, 2:04 a.m.:** DPS received a report of disorderly conduct at the Phi Kappa Tau house on 605 College Ave after a fire alarm was pulled. DPS believes it was pulled intentionally by a non-brother and the incident is under investigation.

**Saturday, April 1, 8:10 p.m.:** DPS responded to a noise complaint in Thomas Hall.

**Sunday, April 2, 1:51 a.m.:** DPS received a report of an intoxicated underage student in Bonchek College House. The student was evaluated by EMS and left in the care of a friend.

**Sunday, April 2, 11:59 a.m.:** DPS received a noise complaint by a Lancaster resident at the practice fields.

**Monday, April 3, 12:12 am:** DPS responded to a report of an open door at a house on the 400 block of West James St. No trespassers were found.

**Monday, April 3, 3:16 p.m.:** DPS received a report that two signs were taken off the walls of the Alumni Sports Fitness Center (ASFC).

**Tuesday, April 4, 11:08 a.m.:** DPS received a report of a damaged door at the College Hill apartments.

## Russia: International community responds to terror attack in Russia

**continued from page 1**

morning on Thursday (02:00 GMT). The building is in Tovarishchesky Prospekt in the east of St Petersburg. The head of the local authority Konstantin Serov was quoted, “An explosive device found in the flat has been made safe. Several suspects have been arrested; they didn’t resist and there’s now no threat to local people”

Jalilov’s DNA was identified in the bombed subway car and his remains were later confirmed by his parents. In addition, his DNA was also found at the other station on the bigger explosive device. This has led authorities to believe that he has acted alone. When Russian investigators raided his home, where they confiscated tape, tin foil, and other suspicious items.

In light of the terroristic attack on Monday, leaders from all over the world have expressed their

condolences. President Vladimir Putin of Russia, who was supposed to meet the Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko in St Petersburg on Monday, said: “The city authorities, and if needed, the federal authorities, will take the necessary measures to help the families of those affected by the blast.”

The Telegraph also quotes a phone call between Putin and President Trump, where both leaders “agreed that terrorism must be decisively and quickly defeated.”

Additionally, in the United Kingdom, Prime Minister Theresa May and the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Boris Johnson expressed their horror and grief over the attack.

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

## Democrats seek to improve standing in House with upcoming special elections

**BY BENJAMIN GROVE**  
*Layout Assistant*

After the 2016 election that saw a transition from a Democratic president to a Republican one, the Democratic party is hoping for positive results from five upcoming special elections to increase their numbers in the House of Representatives. The five special elections for house seats are Georgia’s 6th District, Montana’s at-large House seat, Kansas’ 4th District, South Carolina’s 5th District, and California’s 34th District. Most of the seats are vacant because their previous representatives were selected to serve within President Trump’s administration.

Georgia’s 6th District seat for the House of Representatives is up for grabs because former representative Tom Price became the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services. The seat is the most likely out of the four elections in red-leaning states to swing toward the left wing. Although Georgia’s 6th District is historically conservative in voting, Jon Ossoff, a Democrat and former House staffer, has already raised over \$3 million toward his campaign.

However, the opposition to Ossoff—the Republican candidates and the Congressional Leadership Fund—has raised over \$2 million to air ads against Ossoff. Georgia’s former secretary of state Karen Handel is in leading on the Republican side. Dan Moody, another Republican candidate, has



Photo courtesy of election.com

**Democrat Jon Ossoff has emerged as a source of hope for Democrats. Ossoff is running to represent Georgia’s 6th district, despite it being historically Republican.**

been endorsed by Georgia Senator David Perdue, which leads to more contention—not only for the Republican candidacy, but for the election as a whole. The election for Georgia’s 6th District position will be a two-round system, with initial voting on April 18 and run-off voting on June 20.

Montana’s at-large House seat is another special election with a chance of going blue since Montana’s former Representative, Ryan Zinke, was selected to be Trump’s secretary of the Interior Department. According to CNN, the Democrats have been successful at winning Senate and governor positions in Montana, but the House seat, of which Montana only has one, has been unattainable for Democrats for the past two decades.

The House seat is Rob Quist, a Democrat and populist, versus Republican Greg Gianforte, who lost the race for governor of Montana in 2016. Republicans are confident that they will retain control of the House seat in Montana. The voting for Montana’s House Representative is set for May 25.

Due to now-former Representative Mike Pompeo having been chosen as Trump’s CIA director, the Representative seat in Kansas’ 4th District is now vacant. The District has been known to and is expected to vote Republican as it has in the past. Democrat James Thompson is facing off against Republican Ron Estes, but he is having tough luck due to his dispute with the Kansas Democratic Party, which denied him \$20,000 for his campaign.

However, Democrats still hope to capitalize on anti-Trump sentiments. The election will take place on April 11.

In South Carolina, the 5th District is seeking a replacement for now-former Representative Mick Mulvaney, who took a position as Trump’s budget advisor. The 5th District has, like the other state districts mentioned, voted Republican historically. There are 15 candidates running, and the first round of voting, the primaries, is set for May 2. The final vote will take place on June 20.

California’s 34th District, which encompasses a part of Los Angeles County, is looking to replace its former-Rep. Xavier Becerra, who recently became California’s attorney general. The district is known to vote Democrat, so it is likely that the new Representative for this district will be a Democrat. The election will take place on June 6.

With five representative spots to fill, Democrats are hoping to win these five special elections, which will allow them to further their goal of House majority, which can be attained by filling 24 GOP seats with Democrats. Overall, it is extremely likely that California’s 34th District will vote blue, but the other four elections are relying on anti-Trump fervor to bring Democrats closer to their goal of gaining seats in the House of Representatives.

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# SPECIAL FEATURE

## FIVE BOOKS THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

BY DANIEL PORTERFIELD, PhD

PRESIDENT OF  
FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE

### *Invisible Man*, by Ralph Ellison

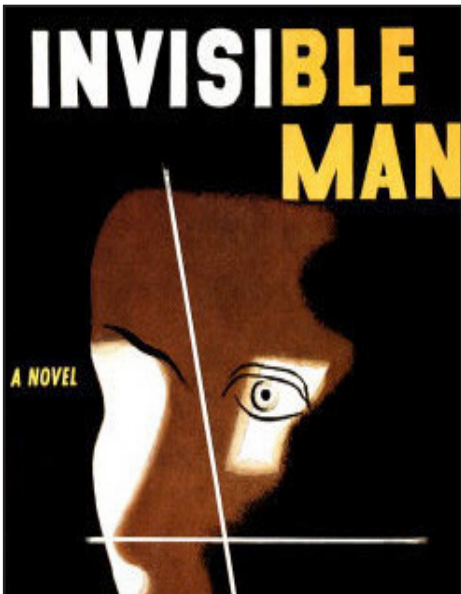


Photo courtesy of candlesbook.com

In 1981, my sophomore year at Georgetown, I read this epic 1952 novel during spring break, barely pausing to eat or sleep. Ellison's mas-

terwork displays the nameless narrator's deepening despair as one form of racism after another strips away all his illusions. There's the battle royal scene when drunk white townsmen force black students to fight blindfolded for a single college scholarship. There's the narrator's briefly-held job making paint for the exterior of the U.S. Capitol building, a perfect shade of white whose purity comes from the presence of ten drops of black coloring absorbed and erased within the mixture. There's the stunning revelation when the narrator grasps that the white leaders of the radical Brotherhood movement have been using him as a token spokesperson.

*Invisible Man's* brilliance inspired me to learn more about the role of literature in the African-American freedom struggle and turned me into an English major.

### *The Light From Another Country: Poetry from American Prisons*, edited by Joseph Bruchac



Photo courtesy of amazon.com

In 1986-87 I taught classes in two prisons — and met courageous students who dedicated themselves to keeping

their minds alive within the belly of the beast. Through that, I stumbled upon Bruchac's little-known anthology containing hundreds of poems from prison. The writing was striking, honest, and often beautiful. For these women and men, poetry provided a weapon against the assault on dignity that all prisons carry out. Just like other poets, writers such as Carolyn Baxter and Jimmy Santiago Baca explored vast topics like love, hope, friendship, injustice, and nature. This book called me to pursue a Ph.D. and write a dissertation on the captive voice — writing that reaches for freedom within conditions of confinement.

### *The Circuit*, by Francisco Jiménez

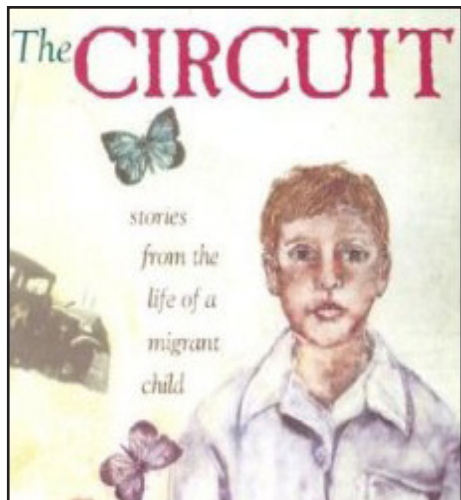


Photo courtesy of amazon.com

Jiménez was a legendary professor of Ethnic Studies at Santa Clara University, and this collection of short stories and vignettes is a memoir of his childhood. I first read it in 2004 while developing a course called The Needs of Newcomers, in which my students tutored and mentored newly-arrived immigrant children in Washington, DC.

In clear, poignant prose, the book shows a child's perspective as a loving family of undocumented migrant

workers circles the state of California harvesting crops for subsistence wages. For years on end, they possess nothing except their love, labor and hope—and belief in the American Dream. Francisco can only attend school periodically, but truly loves learning. The book makes plain the child's stress and shame of not grasping the teacher's English words while being told to his face that Spanish is bad.

It's painful reading—but it opens the heart and puts on the page problems children can't easily convey. Through it all, we see how family, faith, and Mexican culture give the Jiménezes both dignity and joy in deprivation. This book made me want to teach from it. I've now done so more than ten times and always learn something new from my students' responses.

*The Circuit* ends tragically, as Immigration officers pull Francisco from 8th grade just as, having learned English, he's proudly reciting the Declaration of Independence. But the larger narrative is uplifting; eventually the little boy returned to America and became a celebrated Santa Clara professor.

### *Wit*, by Margaret Edson



Photo courtesy of charlottecultureguide.com

Winner of the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, *Wit* tells the story of Dr. Vivian Bearing, a majestic and friendless scholar of 16th century poetry as she deals with Stage IV ovarian cancer. I read the script in 1997, my first year as an assistant professor of English at Georgetown. The play shows how Professor Bearing bases her identity and self-worth on being a rigorous teacher and towering scholar. But how durable is this foundation as death comes near? Reading Edson's superb work early in my academic career was a gift — and a warning.

### *Goodnight, Moon*, by Margaret Wise Brown



Photo courtesy of harpercollins.com

*In the great green room  
There was a telephone  
And a red balloon  
And a picture of-  
The cow jumping over the moon*

How many times did I recite these words at bedtime to one of my three daughters? For all the books I've read over five decades, none approaches the moral resonance of Margaret Wise Brown's evocative 1947 classic.

When we become parents, our lives change forever. Our children become our calling. They are helpless miracles, depending fully upon us. We are theirs, and they are ours.

*Goodnight, Moon* does the parental work of making young children feel safe enough to sleep. Within that great green

room, simple and secure, there's a fire to keep them warm, mush to eat, a comb for grooming, balloons and toy bears for fun. There's artwork, mittens and kittens, and a quiet old lady whispering "hush." The quiet rhythms of the text suggest order and coherence, a secular prayer. And so it concludes,

*... Goodnight stars  
Goodnight air  
Good night noises everywhere*

If the children feel secure, we parents see a larger picture. Beyond the great green room, it's actually dark and wintry. There are mice in the room, invaders from outside. The old lady is, well, "old" — and her image vanishes from the room when we wish her goodnight. Has she left the room, or left the living?

*Goodnight, Moon* hints at scary realities and then resolves them so the children can nod off. But what about the adult readers? Sadly, life has taught us too much. When we whisper the book's final lines, and invoke the vast cosmos that's ultimately indifferent to our children's little lives, it may not be so easy for us to close our eyes.

In these times, as a friend once wrote, we parents aren't actually holding our babies. They're holding us.



Republicans go nuclear to disrupt Democrats’ attempt at filibuster

BY NICK RIEBEL  
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In what should be a surprise to no one, Senate Republicans have done the unprecedented and used the “nuclear option” to eliminate the filibuster for Supreme Court nominees. For those readers not familiar with this legislative maneuver by now, it means, in effect, that Neil Gorsuch’s theft of Merrick Garland’s seat on the Supreme Court will be complete, and that the former will soon be confirmed, as Donald Trump’s first major judicial victory. A victory, unfortunately, unlikely to be his last.

With Gorsuch’s nomination and confirmation, we will likely see the Supreme Court, which is right now relatively divided with only a modest conservative tilt, will have a right-wing majority for at least a generation. As I have written earlier, the Citizens United decision is here to stay, cementing Wall Street and special interest control over our politics. Roe v. Wade is extremely likely to be overturned in the near future. The question over that will be whether it will truly be left up to the states

to decide on the status of abortion within their jurisdictions, or whether a socially conservative Court will ban it everywhere. A similar situation could occur with gay marriage (marriage equality, if you prefer). If *Overgefell v. Hodges* is ruled as un-Constitutional, we could potentially see it rolled back in the states as well, even if it is supported by the people there. Numerous Supreme Court decisions, approved by Justice Gorsuch, will also likely adversely affect our environment, foreign policy, infrastructure, education, and economy.

One may argue that the Court would not be that radical with Neil Gorsuch on it. After all, Gorsuch seems like such a nice, charming guy. Never mind that he might actually be to the right of Antonin Scalia, even more extreme than the deceased originalist judge (this article being quite illuminating on that front): <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/31/us/politics/neil-gorsuch-supreme-court-nominee.html> . The truth is that Gorsuch will be a radically conservative justice, who will move the Supreme Court as far to the right as he possibly can.

This conservative Court is one which has passed an absolutely absurd decision in the Citizens United case, and will do more to make our lives hell. And please, after you have thought about the ramifications of an unrestrained conservative Court, on all the progress we have tried to make over the years, particularly on civil rights, why we would want someone who would reverse it with a smile— a polite, friendly smile, mind you, but it doesn’t matter to me one’s demeanor as they slide the knife into my back.

And no, Justice Roberts’ one vote to save Obamacare does not mean that occasionally the Court will make reasonably moderate decisions. John Roberts only voted to save Obamacare, in that one instance, so as to not make the Court look overtly partisan, causing damage to its prestige and legitimacy, and consequently, to Roberts’ own personal power and legacy. And when Justices Breyer and Ginsburg (not to mention Kennedy) pass away or retire, Trump will make the Court perhaps permanently conservative, for many decades. Think of it— as America becomes more left-wing

and progressive, the Supreme Court will become increasingly right-wing and regressive. (At such a point, I would hope, the Court could safely be ignored by a reasonable, democratic people, although I highly doubt it).

I must ask: why would any Democrats in their right mind, I ask, not want to oppose Gorsuch? Trump’s already deeply unpopular, under federal investigation, generally is not perceived as being trustworthy or honest, and didn’t even win the popular vote for the presidency. Why should we trust his puppet, Gorsuch, on the highest court in the land? Democrats, please, I implore you— the mature, “adult in the room” strategy hasn’t worked very well for us over the Obama years. Let us remember the definition of insanity, and do something different. Even if we can’t keep Gorsuch off the Court, we may be able to remove him later, depending on the results of the investigation into Trump, and how far the web of corruption expands: it is possible it expands it expands to Gorsuch. Let us not forget what we are fighting.

see FILIBUSTER, page 5

Reading for pleasure, rather than binge-watching Netflix, beneficial in long run

BY ALEX PINSK  
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We live in a society where binge-watching Netflix, worshipping cable, and connecting with others by bonding over TV are standard behaviors. College students are particularly guilty of mindlessly watching television to unwind after long days of classes and activities. It goes without saying that TV is a valid way to keep up with popular culture as well as a relaxing nighttime activity. However, while there is nothing overtly wrong with this lifestyle, there are, arguably, more valuable ways to spend one’s free time.

Many people, namely students who read articles, textbooks, novels, etc., for different courses, are sick of reading by the time they are finished their homework and ready for a relaxing activity. They get so used to reading academic literature and scholarly articles in classes that they begin to associate reading with work; they see reading as more of a chore than anything else.

So much can be learned from reading literature. It is easy to become engrossed in a novel’s characters and their lives, to absorb oneself in the imagery and reflection, to constantly be learning new things. In fact, “[t]hrough reading, you expose yourself to new things, new information, [and]

new ways to solve a problem” according to Inspiration Boost. Reading can also boost awareness about different issues and theories that one may not have been familiar with previously. It can help a person to explore new and different writing styles, different historical timelines, and even new and creative plot-lines. Not only that, the more you read, the faster a reader you become. Fast reading is an important skill in almost any field of study because in almost every job, there are constantly elements of reading that can become tedious if a person cannot get through them fairly quickly. The more books you read, the more books you read for fun, the more it will certainly help you in the long run.

Additionally, while a TV and a

laptop with wifi cannot travel always travel with you, a book can go with you everywhere. It does not require wifi, and it does not need to be charged. You do not need cable to read your favorite book; it is tangible and it is constant. Too, the screens of TVs, laptops, and phones put significant strain on your eyes. Studies have shown that watching TV right before going to bed is bad for your eyes and makes shutting off your brain to go to sleep very difficult. However, because a book does contain a screen, it is a great way to relax before going to bed.

While many of us are guilty of binge-watching Netflix before going to sleep, we have to remember that books to are engrossing, tell stories, and can capture our attention for long

periods of time. Before TV everyone read and got the same enjoyment out of reading that our generation seems to get out of TV. Reading is more beneficial and has many positive long-term effects.

So, as summer approaches, run to the library, check out a few books to read for pleasure, and read for a half hour before bed each night. Find some novels that pique your interest and enjoy them. Mix some books in with your Netflix to keep yourself in the habit of reading. You may find that the reading you do now will benefit you later in life.

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



Photo courtesy of college.usatoday.com



Filibuster: Democrats must not surrender to Trump, Republican Party

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The Republicans’ recent health care fiasco, if nothing else, should have told us that the Grand Old Party shouldn’t be trusted anywhere near the capital, let alone actually governing. Yet, despite all of the analysis of why they couldn’t pass healthcare reform, something important, I thought, was missing. The “secret” elephant in the room, that a “liberal” media hides from us, so as to desperately try to portray themselves as truly neutral. This “secret elephant” that any slightly attentive person can observe is that modern, Republican conservatism has simply failed. Reagan’s policies do not work, and never have. The bill didn’t work, not because of competing factions within the Republican party necessarily, than the fact that their bill simply didn’t work— because it couldn’t— as their ideology does not work in the real world. Indeed, it could be argued that conservatism, or at least right-wing ideology, in general fails. The evidence is overwhelming; there is a reason that human society in general has become more progressive

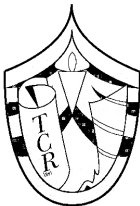
over the centuries, and that those who have opposed progress have tended to be on the “right” side of history. Democrats, we as a party must fight the other side which cheats (stole a Supreme Court seat), breaks its own rules (on using the “nuclear option” to illegitimately move their judge onto the Court), is openly corrupt (just look at Trump’s conflicts of interests, if nothing else), may actually be treasonous (in favor of Russia, of all countries, Obama is right— Reagan would certainly be rolling in his grave), and, above all: simply is incompetent because their leaders don’t know what they’re doing, their ideology doesn’t work, and they can’t win without bending every conceivable rule and circumstance to their advantage (for example: the House would likely be controlled by Democrats if Republicans did not viciously gerrymander most of it). If we preemptively surrender, as we have become far too accustomed to doing, over anything, we will not only hand Trump a second term, and the Republicans the keys to perpetual power, but

our only thought will be— “well, we should move further to the right and be more bipartisan next time; I suppose Senator Manchin (for example) as our candidate for president was simply too liberal.” Let’s fight hard, let’s fight smart, but above all, let’s actually fight the other side for once! We have to do it for our nation, the world, and for ourselves, friends, and families. Otherwise, why even have a Democratic party? We might as well just give

up completely. I certainly hope it doesn’t come to that, but I still fear that it may. And if we cannot even stand up to that irredeemable person, Trump, and his administration which proves to be simultaneously both inept and evil, then we don’t deserve to be in government at all. Senior Nick Riebel is a staff writer. His email is nriebe1@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of chicagotribune.com



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# Campus Life

## Founder, President of Posse Foundation Deborah Bial talks diversity in America

BY SHIRA GOULD  
Staff Writer

Deborah Bial, the Founder and President of the Posse Foundation, came to Common Hour on Thursday, April 6, to facilitate a discussion about diversity in the workplace and in America as a whole.

The Posse Foundation began in the 1980s as a way to allow students to form diverse communities within their lives at school. Posse scholars are leaders who are dedicated to the college experience and betterment of the world. Bial explained that she began the organization when one student who had dropped out of college told her that college would have been a great experience had she had her “posse,” and thus Posse became the name of the organization. Posse forms a community which is beneficial to both its members, and those who are not members, but live amongst them. Posse scholars are charged with the mission of bettering their campuses both by attaining leadership positions themselves and encouraging others to do so as well. The scholars are ultimately responsible for leading by example.

Bial began her talk by asserting that the room would be a safe space despite the heavy discus-

sion that would take place. She wanted the talk to be interactive. Shakeyla Flores, a junior from Posse Miami, facilitated the discussion. First, Flores asked what the goal of the Posse foundation is. Bial stated that the mission is to establish a leadership network which accurately reflects the diversity of America. Bial presented a slide show which contained images of political events that have occurred within the past couple of years including political ads, protests, and the election of leaders. She also presented a slide show which broke down the demographics of major leadership entities in America like CEOs of Fortune 500 companies, senators, congress people, and college graduates. The vast majority of each of these leaders are white men. For example, according to Bial, of the CEOs of the Fortune 500 Companies, six are black, ten are Latino, and twenty-four are women. Likewise, 93% of senators are white and 83% are men. Bial stated that this lack of diversity does not accurately portray the demographic makeup of America, where in major cities white men are not the majority. Flores then asked Bial to discuss the new administration, which Bial stated reflects the fact that America is not yet a post-racism



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

Deborah Bial, president and founder of the Posse Foundation, presented on the need for inclusiveness in the workplace and on college campuses in the United States.

society.

Bial implemented a human survey activity towards the end of her talk. Each chair in the auditorium contained a blue card and a yellow card. Bial asked a question, and charged the audience to raise one of the cards if it applies to them. First, she asked that anyone who experienced or witnessed hate, bigotry, or prejudice raise their blue card. The audience soon became a sea of blue notecards until she asked them to raise their yellow card if the incident did not feel resolved, and the majority of blue card holders shot up their yellow cards. Next, Bial asked audience members to raise their blue if they were afraid of the polarization in American politics. Again, almost everyone raised their card. After a few other questions, Bial opened the microphone up to the audience. Audience members asked questions pertaining to the polarization of America, how to get those who disagree with their point of view to partake in the conversation, and what is the most effective way to get one’s voice heard.

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## Holocaust survivor Ruth Klüger gives reading of her memoir, *Still Alive*

BY SARAH FRAZER  
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, April 4, Ruth Klüger, a survivor of the Holocaust, spoke at Franklin & Marshall about her experiences in Nazi Germany and the concentration camps she was deported to. Klüger read passages from her autobiography, *Still Alive: A Holocaust Girlhood Remembered*.

In the book, Klüger first describes her childhood, specifically growing up surrounded by anti-semitism in Vienna, Austria, where she was born. While Austria claimed after the war that it had been invaded and occupied by Germany, in order to separate itself from Germany and to absolve the country of any responsibility for and complicity in the Holocaust, this rendering of history is, in fact, misleading. Nazi Germany annexed a willing Austria in March, 1938. At this time, Klüger remembers, her father showed her the new currency of the country; however, Klüger was never able to fully know her father. She had believed that he was killed at Aus-

chwitz until she wrote *Still Alive*, at which point she learned that he was transported to Ukraine. To this day, Klüger does not know what happened to her father or how he died. In fact, Klüger, like others in her situation, still does not know what happened to her relatives or where and how they died.

As a child, Klüger was not supposed to know about death or dying. She read a passage from her memoir in which she describes overhearing her family members talking about a cousin of hers, who was tortured, when he was a teenager. Klüger expressed that such horror stories were not unusual when she was growing up, in a country riddled with state sanctioned anti-semitism. Moreover, at this time, half of Vienna was forbidden to Jews. Klüger remembers hearing Nazi boys singing songs about Jewish blood in the streets.

Klüger’s family was to be resettled in an all-Jewish shtetl, she said. They were deported to a ghetto in Czechoslovakia, which she considers to be the first of



Photo courtesy of dakotastudent.com

Ruth Klüger told of her personal experiences during the Holocaust while reading excerpts from her memoir, *Still Alive: A Holocaust Girlhood Remembered*.

the three camps in which she was imprisoned. Klüger recounts the camp as an overcrowded place, where everyone wore a yellow star. At the concentration camp, Nazi officials divided people into groups, based on who they deemed would be useful to them in work camps and who would go directly to extermination camps.

Klüger was sent to another work camp, the name of which she does not remember. Klüger explained that she and other Holocaust survivors she knew felt a reluctance to remember names of camps; even her family didn’t remember where it was she was held. Klüger reflected that, “perhaps the ultimate luxury is being able to mourn every death.” She elaborated that, in the death camps, one got used to death because it occurred so often. Her grandmother died in prison.

see KLÜGER, page 7



## Klüger: Professor, author tells of her experience as a child of the Holocaust

continued from page 6

Klüger was transferred to the death camp Auschwitz, a ride she describes as “the longest trip I’ve ever taken,” even though, in reality, it was a relatively short ride in distance. Klüger expressed her feelings of being abandoned and discarded by society. In the freight car, a woman was crying and had urinated in her mother’s lap. Her mother gently pushed the woman away, showing her compassion and humanity, even while there was excrement all over. Even today, Klüger said, freight cars make her uneasy. She explained that she hardly ever gets to speak about this because, if she brings it up, people become silent. But Klüger remembers it so clearly, that her “childhood was forced into a blackhole.”

Once the doors opened in the suffocating freight car, Klüger

and the other prisoners stepped out to get fresh air, but it was not much better in the death camp, where one could smell people’s dying bodies. Klüger could not cry because she did not want to attract attention. At the entrance to the death camp read, “labor liberates,” a statement Klüger described as murderously ironic.

In her talk, Klüger said she identifies with certain aspects of the horror movie, *Get Out*, such as the paranoia, which she thinks was a surviving factor for her. It was helpful to be paranoid in Auschwitz, as the social order catches up with your delusions if you are paranoid. Her mother was paranoid until her death, many years later in the U.S.

At Auschwitz, people were once again selected, some to go to gas chambers and others to work camps. Klüger lied about her age, claiming to be fifteen instead of

twelve, so that she could be with her mother and avoid the gas chamber. She was sent to a work camp. Still, there was always the fear of death; as Klüger expressed, she thought the grass would outlast her. She felt no comfort in the camp and was always thirsty, a feeling much worse than being always hungry since you can die faster from thirst.

Once Auschwitz was liberated by the Soviets, Klüger immigrated to New York City. She received her PhD from Berkeley. She became a well-published author and professor. During her career as a professor, Klüger taught at both the University of California Irvine and Princeton University.

Klüger remembered that, at Auschwitz, Jews said they had to survive so that they could write about what happened to them and educate others. At first, she did not write, since others already

had, and she felt the story had already been told. It was not until her sixties that she decided to tell her story.

Looking back on her book, *Still Alive*, twenty years later, Klüger said that people can change. She no longer feels as much anger towards Germany, a country which has learned from its past, so that “what is left of Nazi Germany is fringe.” Now, Klüger attested, “Germany is an outstretched hand in Europe.” Germany has let in one million refugees, while the U.S. capped its admittance of refugees at ten thousand, even before the new administration’s travel ban. Klüger concluded by remarking that Germany is leading Austria, the U.S., and other countries by far in this regard.

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## F&M Players performs annual *Broadway Revue*, themed *They Live In You*

BY KATHY HIRSCH

Contributing Writer

During the weekend, from April 6 to April 8, the F&M Players brought a slice of Broadway to Lancaster in their show, *Broadway Revue: They Live In You*. This performance starred students from all class years and showcased twenty Broadway numbers.

This year’s show commemorated the 35th anniversary of the founding of the F&M Players. To celebrate, this year’s theme, *They Live In You*, revolved around the history of the F&M Players. The musical theater group was formed in 1982 by a group of students from F&M’s Theater Department. Since their first show, *Godspell*, the group has performed more than eighteen musicals including big names like *Guys and Dolls*, *Grease*, *Into the Woods*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*.

Co-directed by James Morogiello ’18 and Abbie Reed ’17, this show featured songs from previous performances along with numbers from current Broadway hits.

The first act featured comedic performances. One such number was the “Brotherhood of Man” with soloists Fermin Serrano ’19, Thomas Lehman-Borer ’18, and Angela Lacerna ’19. This act was followed by two Halloween-esque performances, “When You’re An Addams” and “Join the Family Business,” from the *The Addams Family* and *Young Frankenstein* shows respectively.

The big hit, “My Shot” from *Hamilton* ended the first act with a bang. The number featured solos from Nadia Johnson ’17, Astrid Perez ’18, Seth Duncan ’19,



Photo courtesy of pinterest.com

The F&M Players’ show *Broadway Revue: They Live in You* entertained students and community members in The Green Room Theatre on April 6, 7, and 8. The show recognized the 35th anniversary of the founding of the F&M Players in 1982.

Fermin Serrano ’19, Kevin Gallagher ’17, Catie O’Gara ’18, and Asia Mateen ’17.

While it may seem impossible to fill Hamilton’s shoes, this crew lived up to expectations and exceeded them.

The *Chicago* hit “Cell Block Tango” opened up the second act and prepped the audience for the amazing numbers still to come. One number that followed in the second act was “Not Alone” from *A Very Potter Musical*.

At the end of song, it was

clear that the singers Darby Lucius-Milliman ’20, Molly Minter ’19, KT Thomas ’18, and Melanie Greenwald ’19 were having just as much fun performing on stage as the audience was watching them.

The show then gradually evolved from fun and comedic numbers to a more emotional tone. The seniors sang a heartfelt final song, “Seasons of Love” from *Rent* featuring Becky Brannon ’17.

Finally, the last number, “They

Live In You” from *The Lion King*, wrapped up not just this show, but the history of the F&M Players. While the seniors sang in the front of the stage, their fellow Players acted out the history of the F&M Players behind them. By the end of the song, the entire group was onstage to finish an evening of phenomenal singing, dancing, and acting.

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# Arts & Leisure

## Netflix Original series, *Thirteen Reasons Why*, stresses mental health awareness in high schools

BY JESIKA ISLAM  
*Arts & Leisure Editor*

Over this past weekend Netflix released its newest original series produced by singer and actress Selena Gomez, *Thirteen Reasons Why*. *Thirteen Reasons Why* is an adaption of the popular young adult novel by the same name. It took me less than thirteen hours to binge-watch the entire series and am currently in the process of rewatching it a second time.

Over the last year, Netflix has released an abundance of new, original series and subscription rates have resultantly skyrocketed. Netflix has particularly excelled at producing high-quality series adaptations of books. The sit also recently released its adaptation of *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, which immediately became popular. The book series was written by Lemony Snicket, about orphaned siblings that are trying to find their new home while simultaneously solving the murder of their parents and avoiding their treacherous relative, Count Olaf. Netflix has shown itself capable of doing what movies and made-for-TV shows cannot do, they are allot the right amount of time necessary to translate a book into a

show. For example, with *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, the movie only allowed half an hour per book, for the first three books. For a thoroughly detailed book series, this was not enough time to develop the plot and provide imperative explanations on the big screen. But with made-for-TV shows like *Pretty Little Liars* the show strayed far from the series and added parts to keep the show on air for longer.

The Netflix version of *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, allots two hour long episodes per book, exactly about the time each book took me to read. Aside from Neil Patrick Harris’ perfectly strange and strangely perfect performance of Count Olaf, the show took its time to build the unfortunate atmosphere, gloom, and doom that the movie failed to create. So when I found out that *Thirteen Reasons Why* was being turned into a Netflix series, I was really excited.

For those who are unfamiliar with the book, the story revolves around the circumstances that led to the death of Hannah Baker played by Katherine Longford. The story starts when Clay Jensen, portrayed by Dylan Minnette, receives the tapes that Hannah recorded to explain the

thirteen reasons, and the thirteen people, that led to Hannah’s untimely death. The Netflix show does an unbelievable job capturing the angst, depression, loneliness, and all that it feels like to be in high school.

The story is not without its faults, however. While some of the characters are flatter than others, some of them are just entirely unrelatable. However, the show does help illuminate how serious mental health issues are, especially during the awkward and sometimes depressing developmental stage that occurs in high school. High schoolers are often considered melodramatic and short-sighted, and therefore the seriousness of their issues can often go unnoticed or ignored by friends, parents and even those that are supposed to help, guidance counselors. The show reminds the audience of the helplessness that high schoolers sometimes feel, that sometimes it all is too much, and the mental health problems that can make this stage additionally difficult. That being said, the show does not glorify suicide nor does it depict depression as glamorous in any way. The show clearly wants to send the message that no one should resort to that route. *Thir-*

*teen Reasons Why* simply reminds us of the repercussions of our actions, when we choose to bully, reject, or neglect a person in need of help. It serves to remind a young adult audience that it is impossible to always discern what another person is going through mentally or privately, so treating everyone with the kindness they deserve is imperative.

Using Netflix also allowed the show to truly do the book justice because Netflix does not have to conform to the FCC protocols, or the rating status of movies. Because of this, the show is able to depict the truly terrible things that can happen at high school like bullying, online harassment, rape, assault, and suicide.

I would recommend *Thirteen Reasons Why* with the caution that the show depicts a lot of disturbing scenes that are capable of triggering trauma. The actors, the plot, and the filming of the show is incredible, every scene is filled with hints and clues, and every piece of dialogue is completely jam-packed with meaning. If you have the twelve hours to spare, consider watching the show.

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

## The Onion Dip: The College Reporter’s Satirical Column

## Student decides that his “Myrtle bod” has to wait until next year

BY KYLE HUNTZBERRY  
*Satirical Columnist*

Zach Jones, a sophomore BOS major and member of Greek life, was forced to forgo his quest for a “Myrtle bod” primarily because he has been “swamped with work and chilling with the boys” for the past eight months.

“Yeah, honestly it was a tough call,” said Zach. “I talked with my boys about it, but it’s just too late in the semester for me to get my six pack back. I guess I’ll have to wait till next year.”

In the past eight months, Zach has only worked out once. He was going to get into a routine, but the week after the workout he could barely lift his arms. When asked about how he’ll deal with the beach, Zach responded, “I’m not too worried about it. I’m gonna wear a dope

tank and American flag chubbies. No need for me to ever take the tank off.”

“It’s a savvy, veteran move,” said Mike Apple, a soon to be four-time Myrtle-goer. “I think it just shows a lot of maturity. He knows not to

flaunt it if you don’t have it. As long as the tank is white and not by Hurley or Quiksilver, I think he’ll be just fine.”

Reports are now indicating, however, that Zach has started to go to the PIT two days a week to build

up his “beach muscles.” His workout routine has only consisted of a variety of curls.

*Senior Kyle Huntzberry is a satirical columnist. His email is khuntzbe@fandm.edu.*



Photo courtesy of sfgate.com



The F&M Softball team has bounced back from adversity with a four-game winning streak. Read more below...



photo courtesy of logos.wikia.com

The Chicago Cubs and Cleveland Indians prove to be strong World Series contenders. Read more below...

# Franklin & Marshall Sports

## Franklin & Marshall Softball secures four key Centennial Conference wins

BY GABBY GOODWIN  
Assistant Sports Editor

“Don’t let the Dips get hot!”—the infamous maxim you will hear Senior Megan Ryan say when you hang around with the F&M Softball team too much. Bouncing back from a tough string of losses, F&M softball has been on top of their game lately with wins against both Haverford and Dickinson in their past two double headers.

This past Tuesday night, in a double header against Dickinson, F&M pitcher Izzy Schaefer shut down the Red Devil’s offensive attack, allowing just two earned runs in 14 innings. Clutching two wins 4-3 and 6-0, F&M improved their record to 6-12 overall and 4-2 in conference.

After three up and down innings of play, F&M Softball decided that it was time to take action. A push bunt single by F&M’s Crystal Good in the top of the fourth sparked the string of events that were to follow. A fielder’s choice by Dickinson allowed F&M’s Taylor Long to get on base, and F&M’s Lexi Piccinich hammered a double to left center to drive two runs home and take F&M into the bottom of the fourth with a 2-0 lead.

The score remained 2-0 until the

top of the seventh, when F&M’s Kelly Van O’Linda smashed the ball over the left field fence to bring in F&M’s Christine Miles, who had a single earlier in the inning. Van O’Linda’s first homer of the season, and second career overall, gave the Dips a 4-0 lead going into the bottom of the seventh.

Progressing into the seventh, the Dips felt obligated to give the Red Devils some action because would it be a F&M Softball game if the Dips didn’t make it a little interesting?

Entering the last half inning of the first game, Dickinson was able to adjust to Schaefer’s pitches and make something out of the time they had left to work with. Capitalizing on an error, a walk, and a double in the bottom of the seventh, the Red Devils scored two runs, with no outs for the Dips. Pulling as close as 4-3 to F&M, Schaefer produced two grounders and a fly ball to snag the conference victory.

On a victory high into the second game of the night, the F&M bats stayed alive into and throughout the game. F&M’s Erin Russell started off strong with a leadoff single, which was immediately followed by a pair of Red Devil errors, giving the Diplomats a 2-0 lead after the top of the first inning.

F&M expanded their lead to 5-0 in the second, squeezing out three walks before F&M’s Taylor Long delivered with a two-run, two-out double. Battling defensively, Schaefer continued to go the distance in the second game, scattering six hits and allowing zero earned runs in her second win of the day.

At F&M’s next at bat, Piccinich clutched a single before F&M’s Gabby Goodwin came in to pinch run. Goodwin stole second and eventually scored on a single from F&M’s Katie Wenger. Clenching a 6-0 win, the Dips left the Red Devil turf with another two conference wins under their belt.

The Dips faced off against Muhlenberg this past Saturday in a double header, losing the first game 8-2, but coming back full force in the second to clench a 9-3 win over the Mules.

Come out and support Dip Softball at 3pm and 5pm on Tuesday, April 11th as they face off against Susquehanna in a double header at Baker Field. It’s only a young season for the F&M Softball team and the games from here on out are only the start to the Dip’s season long winning streak to come.

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Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com

The F&M Softball team faced adversity early on in this season, but bounced back strong with two Centennial Conference wins this past week against Haverford and Dickinson.

## Cubs, Indians appear to be possible World Series contenders again in 2017

BY JOE GIORDANO  
Sports Editor

The MLB season is back in full swing and there are plenty of intriguing storylines heading into this new season. For the first time since 1908, the Chicago Cubs are the defending World Series Champions and looked primed and ready to repeat their success this upcoming year. However, teams like the Cleveland Indians, who the Cubs defeated to win the World Series this past October, have other plans.

Heading into the season, the Cubs are undoubtedly the favorites to recapture the title. Returning stars like Kris Bryant, Anthony Rizzo, and Jon Lester, among others, look to lead the team back to the championship this upcoming fall. This lineup is stacked from top to bottom and any team will be hard pressed to match up with Chicago’s lineup all the way from the leadoff spot to the 8th batter. In addition, their pitching staff, which is led by the aforementioned Lester and other stars Jake Arrieta and Kyle Hendricks, is among the best in the league

and should play a major role come playoff time.

While the Cubs are the favorites in the National League, the Cleveland Indians also looked primed to return to the World Series after a heartbreaking game 7 loss last October. Returning stars Corey Kluber, Francisco Lindor, and Andrew Miller, along with the welcome addition of Edwin Encarnacion, lead the squad and hope that if they are able to make it back, they will gain a different result than their upsetting loss in what was a classic game 7.

If these two teams were to meet again, no baseball fan would really be upset. These two teams were so evenly matched and created so much October magic in the past World Series that if they were to run it back it would create no shortage of great baseball between two great teams.

After taking a commanding 3-1 lead in the series, the Indians needed just one more victory to etch their names in history and capture their first World Series since 1948. However, the Cubs had different plans as they won games 5 and 6 by scores of 3-2

and 9-3 respectively.

Game 7, however, was an absolute classic. With the Cubs winning by a score of 6-4 in the bottom of the 8th inning, things looked bleak for the Indians. However, Rajai Davis, who had only hit 55 home runs in 11 seasons in his career, delivered a game tying home run.

After a scoreless 9th inning, the game then went into a rain delay, causing stressful situations for both sides. When the action returned, the Cubs rallied for two more runs in top of the tenth in-

ning and held on to win 8-7.

While fans of other teams are undoubtedly rooting for their own teams to make it to the Fall Classic, most baseball fans would be perfectly content with seeing a rematch between the two great teams. It’s a long season, however, and lots can happen. This is, however, the beauty of baseball and is why so many are rejoicing at its return.

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Photo courtesy of usatoday.com

Early on in the 2017 MLB season, the Cleveland Indians and Chicago Cubs prove to be strong World Series contenders, bringing back key returners from last season.