

The College Reporter

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Porterfield addresses newest fraternity members, shares new vision for Greek life



photo by Emma Brown '17

Dan Porterfield, president of the college, and the Interfraternity Council (IFC) addressed new fraternity members in an effort to promote Greek life unity.

BY SHIRA KIPNEES

Senior Staff Writer

Last Monday, Feb. 2, Dan Porterfield, president of the College, welcomed the newest fraternity members on campus, congratulating them on their bid acceptances and extending his well-wishes for the second year in a row. Also joining Porterfield at the welcoming ceremony was Margaret Hazlett, dean of the College.

According to Mark Rooney '17, president of the Interfraternity Council (IFC), both Porterfield and the IFC

wanted to share their vision for what the F&M Greek community could be—one based on honor, pride, and tradition, as well as one that looks out for everyone's best interests.

"We want F&M's Greek community to serve as a model for the nation," Rooney said.

He also explained that Porterfield's speech included pointing out that the new members were joining great organizations on campus that preach

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Yik Yak representative defends positive intentions of misused social media app

BY STEVEN VIERA

Managing Editor

and

ABIGAIL QUINT

Editor in Chief

A series of articles published in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, including "What You Need to Know About Yik Yak, an App Causing Trouble on Campuses" and "A New Faculty Challenge: Fending Off Abuse on Yik Yak," have addressed issues on college and university campuses across the nation associated with Yik

Yak, which also has a significant following at F&M. Yik Yak, a social media app launched in 2013, creates a bulletin board for users within a certain geographic area where they can post anonymous messages. Users can comment on these posts, as well as vote them up or down, and users receive a "Yakarma" score based on the cumulative upvotes and downvotes earned by their posts and comments. However, the cornerstone of Yik Yak

see YAK, page 2

Upcoming Apple watch shows promise in growing wearable technology market

BY NOAH SUNSHINE

Senior Staff Writer

Remember the media frenzy when Google announced Glass, the connected heads-up-display that brought its search engine anywhere and kept just a hotword away? Tech skeptics came out in droves, claiming the avant-garde project would be the end of our privacy.

The tech industry has since come up with a much more mild solution that, in a way, seems like a no-brainer: smartwatches. Glasses are part of a deeply personalized routine, and those (like me) plagued with terrible eyes will always struggle with ocular tech solutions. But a watch, that anyone can take off the rack and wear out of the store, offers an ideal accessory-turned-personal assistant. It handles notifications, voice commands, and remote control capabilities discreetly, with a subtle buzz on your wrist that prompts an easy, equally subtle glance.

Well, that's the dream. Smartwatches as a piece of hardware are riding the bleeding edge of tech manufacturing, as their size offers little room for a touch screen, processor, Bluetooth radio, and most importantly, battery. Everything we see this year (and saw last year) are infants in a steadily expanding family.

Unsurprisingly, when Silicon Valley rock star Apple announced their first smartwatch, the excitement for the form factor increased exponentially, even when it was still months out.

Now, in February, we are only two months from the Apple Watch release, and any self-proclaimed Apple fan is considering the purchase. The fact is, though, that no one outside of Apple has tested their upcoming device, so in order to make an educated decision about purchasing one, we need to look to its contemporaries.

Android has had several smartwatches out for the last six months, in a wide variety of shapes and styles,

experimenting with the crowd to find the smartwatch sweet-spot. Motorola introduced one with a circular face, indistinguishable from a regular watch at a distance, and far-and-away crowd favorite at Google's I/O conference when it was announced. It was plagued with terrible battery life, in no small part due to the relatively large screen, but the shortcoming has been largely mitigated by software updates that have given it a solid day of real world performance. Battery life has been a concern for the Apple Watch since some small leaks from journalists have exposed it as a possible shortcoming. Those looking to purchase will have to decide for themselves if charging nightly is worth the hassle. It will be, after all, offering a lot: notification management, music controls, fitness tracking, and many more features that we aren't sure about.

What the watch seems to excel at over its android brethren is the fashion aspect: Apple has already teased a gold version of the device, a first for both smartwatches and the company. They typically choose more "practical" metals for their handsets and computers which get dropped, bumped, and scratched. But for a watch, gold makes sense—it doesn't tarnish, doesn't damage your skin, and looks really, really good.

So while Apple is a few months behind in their entry to the smartwatch game, they still have enough to distinguish themselves in the new market. But even Android fans should be excited by Cupertino's new device: it's competition that will push companies to develop better hardware, update software, and price competitively. Come April, we'll all know more about the mystery device, but until then, everyone should be waiting with cautious optimism; the Apple Watch is a good thing.

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Riemann’s Crime Watch



Thursday, Jan. 29, 9:30 a.m.—A student reported that his roommate was audio recording him.
Friday, Jan. 30, 11:28 a.m.—Officers from the Department of Public Safety (DPS) responded to a domestic dispute in Schnader.
Friday, Jan. 30, 11:00 p.m.—DPS responded to a report that students were cutting down bamboo on the Baker Campus. The students were collecting the bamboo for a theme party.
Saturday, Jan. 31, 12:00 a.m.—DPS re-

sponded to a noise complaint at College Hill. The students were asked to turn their music down.
Saturday, Jan. 31, 4:15 p.m.—DPS responded to a noise complaint at College Hill. The party was shut down.
Saturday, Jan. 31, 11:30 p.m.—DPS responded to an odor of marijuana on the fourth floor of College Row.
Sunday, Feb. 1, 1:56 a.m.—DPS responded to the report of an underage intoxicated student in Weis. The student was released to a friend.
Monday, Feb. 2—A resident reported that a bench was stolen from their yard on North Charlotte. DPS found the bench and the students returned it.
Tuesday, Feb. 3, 9:49 a.m.—DPS responded to a fire alarm in Schnader. The alarm was triggered when a student burnt a cookie they were reheating in the microwave.
Thursday, Feb. 5—It was reported to DPS that seven beanbag chairs were stolen from Bonchek common rooms. The beanbag chairs have not yet been located.
Thursday, Feb. 5, 10:00 p.m.—DPS responded to a noise complaint in Ware.

Riemann’s Advice

Little known fact: stealing is illegal in 50 out of 50 states in the United States of America.

Interfraternity: College president stresses unity in Greek community

continued from page 1
high ideals and values, and that the new members need to live up to those expectations and become leaders on campus.
“Dr. Porterfield said that we need to be the men on Saturday nights that we are on Tuesday mornings; men with honor, integrity, intellect, and compassion,” Rooney said. “Dr. Porterfield also spoke a bit about bystander intervention and sexual assault, and that we all have an obligation to be an active bystander and help those who are having a problem or are in an uncomfortable situation.”
Rooney noted that Porterfield’s message was well-received and reiterated by the IFC, saying that they were important. “It was great to have Dr. Porterfield stand behind us as we move forward as a Greek community,” he elaborated.

Yak: Dean of College shares concerns over malicious nature of anonymous application

continued from page 1
is it’s anonymity.
“This allows students to speak their mind in a public, yet private setting,” said Alexander Romano ’18, Yik Yak’s campus representative at F&M. “It creates moments where students find comfort knowing that they are not alone in some of their thoughts.”
Romano is one of 350 Yik Yak campus representatives at over 290 schools around the nation. He described his responsibilities as building the Yik Yak brand by monitoring posts, reaching out to individuals and organizations speaking negatively about each other on the app, and hosting contests and giveaways of koozies, stickers, ping pong balls, and other merchandise. He also has some communication with Yik Yak’s national office—which is currently planning on doing a bus tour of colleges on the East Coast—about how to improve the Yik Yak culture at F&M in a constructive, community-oriented way.

“This is the purpose of the application: to connect a community in an anonymous way and bring them closer together,” Romano said.
By contrast, according to “What You Need to Know About Yik Yak,” the app often turns into a forum for students anonymously cyber-bully their peers or issue threats of violence, a sentiment echoed in “A New Faculty Challenge,” which focused on students using Yik Yak as a vehicle to undermine or berate professors or administrators behind their backs.

In fact, in response to instances of cyber-bullying at high schools and middle schools, Yik Yak has implemented a policy known as geo-fencing to prevent access to the app within a certain radius of schools, according to the article “Yik Yak Founders: ‘Bullying’ App Was Meant to Be Non-Judgemental Real-Time Bulletin Board,” published by the International Business Times.

to the new members that while they represent their specific fraternities, they represent all Greek life at F&M, as well as the school as a whole,” Rooney said. “That was received very well, that we are all in this together.”
Rooney also noted that the trend of having Porterfield speak to new fraternity members is a tradition the IFC would like to continue in the coming years, as it shows the new members that the Greek community is a collective unit and that Porterfield stands behind F&M’s Greeks.
“It’s great to get all the new members in the room together and show them that we are in fact a whole community and not fragmented,” Rooney said. “It’s also meaningful to show that Dr. Porterfield stands behind our community.”

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“To be honest, I hear only negative comments about Yik Yak from students,” said Margaret Hazlett, dean of the College. “It doesn’t seem to be a very positive tool since students can post things anonymously, and I tend to hear about hurtful or insensitive anonymous posts. It seems to me that it breaks down community instead of bringing a community together. I find it very hard to hear about comments directed to particular students, faculty, or staff. It’s very hurtful and doesn’t reflect well on our F&M community.”
According to Romano, anyone who is upset with a particular “Yak” can report it as inappropriate and downvote it; “Yaks” with five downvotes are deleted from the feed.
“Yik Yak is not a social media outlet for bullying,” he said. “We try to promote a healthy and entertaining environment for everyone.”

Hazlett suggested an alternative to the discourse on the app, mentioning the Diplomatic Congress’ (DipCon) F&M Forums Series as an outlet to discuss issues on campus.
“In my opinion, a forum that brings people together to voice concerns or frustrations or invites collaboration and problem solving or celebration is a healthier and far better means to communicate than anonymous electronic posting boards,” she said. “In the age of Yik Yak, it is great that the student government is providing an alternative that fosters healthy community engagement and discourse.”

According to Romano, Yik Yak is available for download on the iOS App Store and on Google Play, and students can like FandM Yik Yak on Facebook for more information.

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Masland on Sexual Misconduct

Last semester, on Oct. 29, a forum was held to give students the opportunity to hear from Margaret Hazlett, dean of the College; Pierce Buller, general counsel to the College; and Jan Masland, F&M’s Title IX coordinator, about the process of handling reports of sexual misconduct on our campus. Mark T. Harmon-Vaught ’15, president of the Diplomatic Congress (DipCon) recorded each of the 18 questions asked by students, and each week, Masland will address one of these questions.
Question: It seems like we are behind the curve. Why is the College only now creating a Title IX Coordinator position? Did we have a similar role before?
Answer: In April 2011, Joe Biden called a press conference to announce that the long-ignored Title IX regulations dealing with sexual harassment would henceforth be enforced. Those regulations required schools to appoint a Title IX Coordinator. F&M found, upon looking at its policies and procedures in the context of the announcement, that, in fact, we were in very good shape. In 2006, the College had appointed a Task Force made up of faculty, administration, and students to spend a year looking at how reporting of sexual misconduct on our campus could be encouraged. At the time of the Vice President’s announcement, our men’s group—1 in 4, now MUASA—was eleven years old, and SAVE and the Alice Drumm Women’s Center had been presenting Take Back the Night and other programming for well over a decade. Our policies and procedures were well documented and complied with most of the recommendations that Biden was announcing. They continue to be updated on a regular basis as regulations, best practices, and research evolve.
At the time of the press conference, I had been the Director of Sexual Misconduct Services for six years, a role that was very similar to the current Title IX Coordinator position, although now the role entails more attention to the newly emphasized federal regulations. The Title IX Coordinator position is in its third year. David Proulx, vice president for finance and administration, served for two years before the role was added to my position as Director of Sexual Misconduct Services in August 2014.

The College Reporter Corrections Policy

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

Staff Writer Commentary

Buhari’s leadership could prove a gamechanger in Africa

BY ADITYA
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In the last five years, the insurgency led by the terrorist Islamist front Boko Haram has caused over a million Nigerians to be displaced from their homes. Consequently, it brings great surprise and even relief that the rule of Nigeria’s incumbent president, Goodluck Jonathan, known in the international community for his cavalier attitude towards the myriad of problems facing his home country, is being challenged from former General Muhammadu Buhari, a pro business military strongman known for crushing similar insurgencies in Nigeria in his political past.

As head of the military government between 1983 and 1985 , Buhari was seen by supporters as tough on corruption and in his dealings with rebellions.

For the invested public and geopolitical observers, the fate of Africa’s largest economy is of enormous importance considering the consequences of its future success or failure.

Jonathan’s PDP Party has governed Nigeria for the last 15 years, and has little to show for it. Under Jonathan, Nigeria has made little progress in tackling its endemic corruption: visible to visitors to the country as an immutable factor of daily life. Furthermore, in recent years nearly 18,000 Nigerians have died as a consequence of turbulent political violence, perpetrated by several factions of which Boko Haram is but one, albeit a very significant one.

All of that being said, under Goodluck Jonathan’s governance (or rather misgovernance), the Nigerian economy has remained one of the world’s fastest growing economies, although it can be said that this is due to

extraneous factors such as the drop in global oil prices and lack of government intervention similar to the Indian model of economic growth. Nigerian infrastructure remains woefully inadequate and its teeming cities can be held as symbols of inequity; where pockets of wealth exist surrounded by some of the most squalid slums in the world.



For What
It's Worth

Arguably the most visible, Makoko in the city of Lagos, was described by the top geopolitical commentator Parag Khanna as making “Dharavi (in Mumbai) look like Paris.” It can be said that there is more than enough reason for Goodluck Jonathan to be ousted by the ballot box.

Buhari is a strongman, in an era where the authoritarian political structure is being touted as more effective at delivering basic results than the messier democratic alternative. Recently, India, a country similar to Nigeria not only in terms of development but in terms of nominal economic size and regional importance democratically, elected an authoritarian figure, Narendra Modi, to office on the back of his promise to tackle corruption and foster growth through neoliberal principles. The similarities between the two are astounding, and indeed Modi was elected with an enormous mandate making him the most powerful Indian leader in 30 years.

It is not inconceivable that such a figure could come to power in Nigeria, with a similar mandate for change. Yet just as is the case with Modi, seen as a religious chauvinist by many in India, Mr Buhari too has his skeletons in the closet. An ex-general, he came to power in a coup and is accused of not only numerous human rights violations including ordering his citizens to be flogged as a

form of discipline but also for his economic policies which caused the Nigerian currency to depreciate in the face of a trade deficit. Buhari banned political meetings, free speech, and executed people for crimes that were not capital offenses.

Yet, many in Nigeria believe he deserves a change in office. In a country where many in power display their status over the common man brazenly by wearing wristwatches “worth many times their annual salary” Buhari has a history of forcefully exposing the illicit

dealings of the elite. Regardless of his character, Nigeria has strong enough institutions that it seems unlikely that it will turn into some kind of autocracy despite the personal leanings of Mr. Buhari if he is elected. Infrastructure and security, undoubtedly the most ardent needs of the nation are areas where Buhari is the man for the job. If Mr. Buhari can provide the strong leadership and national vision that Nigeria needs, it is certainly possible that Africa could be the home of a new global economic power.

Have
something to
say?
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Full Staff Opinion

Skip 50 Shades this V-Day

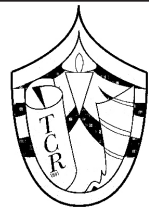
Take your lover to Vagina Monologues at F&M instead

With Valentine’s Day approaching, love is in the air. Special dates are planned, reservations are booked, and — lest we forget — Galentine’s Day is celebrated. But here’s some news on a wholly different kind of love: A particularly shocking headline this past week heralded that ticket sales for the Valentine’s Day release of *50 Shades of Grey*, that eyebrow-raising, heart-pounding, fan-fic turned BDSM-lite novel turned blockbuster — boomed on Fandango. The movie has had most popular pre-sale success since *The Hunger Games*, and the most popular R-rated pre-sale ever for the site (<http://variety.com/2015/film/news/fifty-shades-of-grey-is-fastest-selling-r-rated-title-in-fandango-history-1201406966/>).

So, yay for cinema. Yay for Valentine’s Day. Love conquers all. Blah, blah, blah. But our staff on The College Reporter, however, view this surge of ticket sales as a troubling trend. It would be one thing if *50 Shades* was purely about escapist sexcapades, but in fact, the relationship between the protagonists Ana and Christian is actually one riddled with abuse and manipulation. Bedroom antics aside (after all, as long as there’s consent, to each their own), Christian, an older, experienced, and extremely wealthy man, seduces the young ingenue Ana. He proceeds to stalk her and intimidate her. And, though the sex they go on to have is theoretically consensual in a legal sense, please note that it is sex that Christian pressured her into having. This is not romance or love. It is abuse. The popularity of this book series and upcoming film is very concerning because it normalizes, and even romanticizes, the abusive relationship at the center of the franchise. For more information, check out this twitter feed: <https://twitter.com/50shadesabuse>.

But hey, there are some bright spots in this season of love, and many ways to combat the presence of abuse in *50 Shades*. For instance, February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. The organization Love is Respect organizes this important month and offers suggestions for friends and help for victims. The website includes a live chat and many resources to assist those struggling with dating violence. Visit <http://www.loveisrespect.org/> to learn more.

Another special event in February, especially around Valentine’s Day, is the annual celebration of women known as *The Vagina Monologues*, by Eve Ensler. The play, written in 1996, is widely staged in February. F&M’s production is taking place this weekend in the Other Room Theater on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7pm. The play focuses on, quite simply, what does it mean to have a vagina? How does modern American woman relate to her own experience and sexuality? It gives women, and their oft-unnamed sex organs, a voice and a forum to laugh, cry, share, and come together. And in our culture today, where millions of Americans will surely pass a few hours this weekend watching the wide-eyed Ana fall prey to the predatory Mr. Grey, *The Vagina Monologues* are more relevant than ever. Happy Valentine’s Day, all.



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Photo of the Week: The View from Our Window



Unpaid internships need reform

Programs too often lack oversight

BY GREG FULLHAM
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To college students across the country, the internship—a temporary position, either paid or unpaid, designed to provide basic work experience in a particular field—is all too familiar. Beth Throne, associate vice president of Student and Post-Graduate Development at F&M, believes, “Notwithstanding whether an experience is paid or unpaid, nearly every work experience can help college students clarify the path they may want to pursue beyond college and the academic and extracurricular acumen they may want to build to take them there.” Work experience can have clear, career-building value in developing skills and cultivating references, but the worth of the unpaid internship has come under fire recently, and for good reason.

Many of these internships, particularly those at for-profit companies, are exploitative, discriminatory, and lacking in any meaningful regulation.

In the professional world, employers hold a distinct advantage over prospective student employees. According to the Bureau of Labor statistics, the current unemployment rate between ages 20 and 24 is 10.8%, much higher than the total unemployment rate (5.6%). As a result, competition for experience is fierce, and employers can get away with offering unpaid positions because desperate students are willing to work without pay.

This is a fundamentally exploitative practice. The U.S. Department of Labor has developed six criteria to protect unpaid

interns—(1) the internship must be similar to training given in an educational environment, (2) the internship must be for the benefit of the intern, (3) the intern cannot displace paid employees, and must work under the supervision of existing staff, (4) the employer cannot derive an immediate advantage from the internship, (5) the intern is not necessarily entitled to a job at the end of the internship, and (6) both parties must understand that the intern is not entitled to wages for the time spent in the internship—but these regulations have gone largely unenforced because of reduced funding for the Department of Labor, and many companies flout the rules with impunity.

The lack of oversight means that interns often go without pay even for work that doesn’t fit the above guidelines. Throne notes, “The film, publishing and finance fields are notorious for offering unpaid experiences in this regard, and have fallen under increasing legal scrutiny.”

Even more dangerous, however, is the fact that unpaid interns do not fall under federal employment protections because they aren’t classified as true employees. This means that they have no grounds for lawsuits against workplace harassment, discrimination, and unsafe conditions, and can be exposed to a host of threats as a result. California, Illinois, New York, Oregon, and Washington, D.C. have recently enacted laws covering unpaid interns, but protections still fall alarmingly short elsewhere in the country.

In addition to allowing employers to take advantage of unprotected, unpaid labor, the

process is highly discriminatory. Most lower- and middle-income students cannot afford to take part in an internship without pay, so the playing field is tipped unfairly in favor of students from higher-income families. Throne said that, of the 73% of F&M students who engaged the Office of Student and Post-Graduate Development, “A majority of students secured paid internships, with a percentage of that group foregoing a valuable unpaid experience because of the financial hardship presented by a summer without wages.”

F&M has taken admirable and important steps to help students combat this hardship, offering educational credit and stipends for some internships, but in the end, these measures merely legitimize and enable the broader exploitation of student workers by for-profit employers rather than provide a resolution for these F&M students.

While unpaid internships are unlikely to disappear given that many companies on shoestring budgets, from newspapers to startups, simply don’t have the money to pay interns, comprehensive reforms are absolutely necessary. Federal employee protections must be extended to unpaid interns, and the Department of Labor must prioritize the prosecution of predatory companies. Lawsuits against multi-million dollar companies like Fox Searchlight and NBCUniversal have brought attention to the plight of the unpaid intern, and it is time for the federal government to take up the issue.

Refusing vaccination endangers everyone

BY NICHOLAS RIEBEL
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You are entitled to your own opinions, but not to your own facts. And even then, your own opinion isn’t necessarily as valid as someone else’s. Your “opinion” on whether or not parents should vaccinate their children against measles (and by extension, whether anyone should vaccinate against measles, and other serious maladies) is not as valid as doctors who know the scientific facts, and know what they are talking about because of their medical training.

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and Kentucky Senator Rand Paul made headlines recently on the measles vaccine, which is needed to prevent the disease from spreading (as it is highly contagious). Chris Christie argued it should be the parents’ choice on whether to vaccinate their children. Rand Paul said that “I’ve heard of many tragic cases of walking, talking, normal children who wound up with profound mental disorders after vaccines” (see: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/plum-line/wp/2015/02/03/how-the-vaccine-controversy-shows-the-limits-of-gop-libertarianism/>). The truth is that this is not true, and the vaccine works.

I do not mean to dismiss conspiracy theories out of hand; after all, the greatest ones sometimes turn out to be true (just look at Nixon’s Watergate, suppression of left-wing activists, and other “Dirty Tricks”). And I understand that it is okay for parents to be concerned about their children’s health and safety. Yet, the scientific facts are that we all need to be vaccinated against this virus.

As the Washington Post article discusses, there are limits to freedom and even to libertarianism. Ultimately, even in the freest democracy, we have limited rights. We cannot murder each other, for example. We also cannot shout fire in a crowded theater. We do not have the freedom to drive tanks to work, or even to drive down the wrong side of a street. We recognize, for the most part, that for other people to enjoy their freedoms, we must limit some of ours.

The late Prime Minister of Great Britain, Margaret Thatcher, once claimed that “... there is no such thing as society. There are individual men and women, and there are families”. She said this at a time when Ayn Rand’s style of thinking was becoming increasingly prevalent, to the point where it is now essentially government policy: where self-interest is the norm and where it is moral to act to further yourself, rather than do anything for society, which is you and everyone else. Parents who fail to vaccinate their kids are not just exercising their “freedom” and failing as parents. They are endangering other people, their kids, and themselves. All of this, over an easily treatable virus that has been known to kill people, especially in less developed parts

of the world where access to this vaccine is rarer.

Vaccines are amazing. Rather than defeating the virus when it affects you, it actually prevents you from getting the virus. That is the point: no more, no less. Exercising your “freedom” to exempt yourselves and your children from this or any other ailment is not liberating or sticking it somehow to our government or president, it is merely foolish. It is equivalent to living in a place known for earthquakes and building your house in such a way that will crush houses next to you if it falls. When your freedom can or does adversely affect others, it becomes negotiable.

Chris Christie and Rand Paul are almost certainly going to at least attempt a run for president. You would think, as the potentially next leader of the free world, that they would understand the basics of science and medicine, and encourage people not to let themselves and their children get sick and spread disease. I mean, Rand Paul is allegedly a doctor.

But Chris Christie should know even better, maybe even more so than Rand Paul. After all, he imprisoned nurse Kaci Hickox after she returned from helping save people from Ebola in west Africa. And he acted on absolutely no reason whatsoever, when there was no chance Ms. Hickox could infect anyone. He just wanted to be super sure, to look good in the polls (See: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/dandiamond/2014/10/27/chris-christie-stuck-her-in-prison-so-ebola-nurse-says-shell-sue/>).

This should not be surprising, though. The Republican Party puts anti-government paranoia above science all the time. This is why we can’t pass legislation to combat climate change (or global warming, because the Earth is increasing annually in temperature).

It just seems odd to me (especially considering millions of people must take them seriously) that they would make such inaccurate and potentially dangerous statements that they or their advisors must know are unfounded and untrue. And why on Earth would they take medicinal advice from Michele Bachmann, who claimed in 2011 while running for president that the HPV vaccine caused mental retardation (see: <http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2011/sep/16/michele-bachmann/bachmann-hpv-vaccine-cause-mental-retardation/>).

This sort of rhetoric may play well amongst the Tea Party, but to win the White House, Chris Christie and Rand Paul might need to convince moderates that they actually have what it takes to be president. These sorts of statements, I suspect, will not help.

And just to clarify: there are always at least two sides to a story. Sometimes, though, one is right, and the other is wrong. The measles vaccines work, and if someone disagrees, use real science, and prove it. Otherwise, don’t risk peoples’ lives, and convince other people to jeopardize the lives of their families, on nonsense.

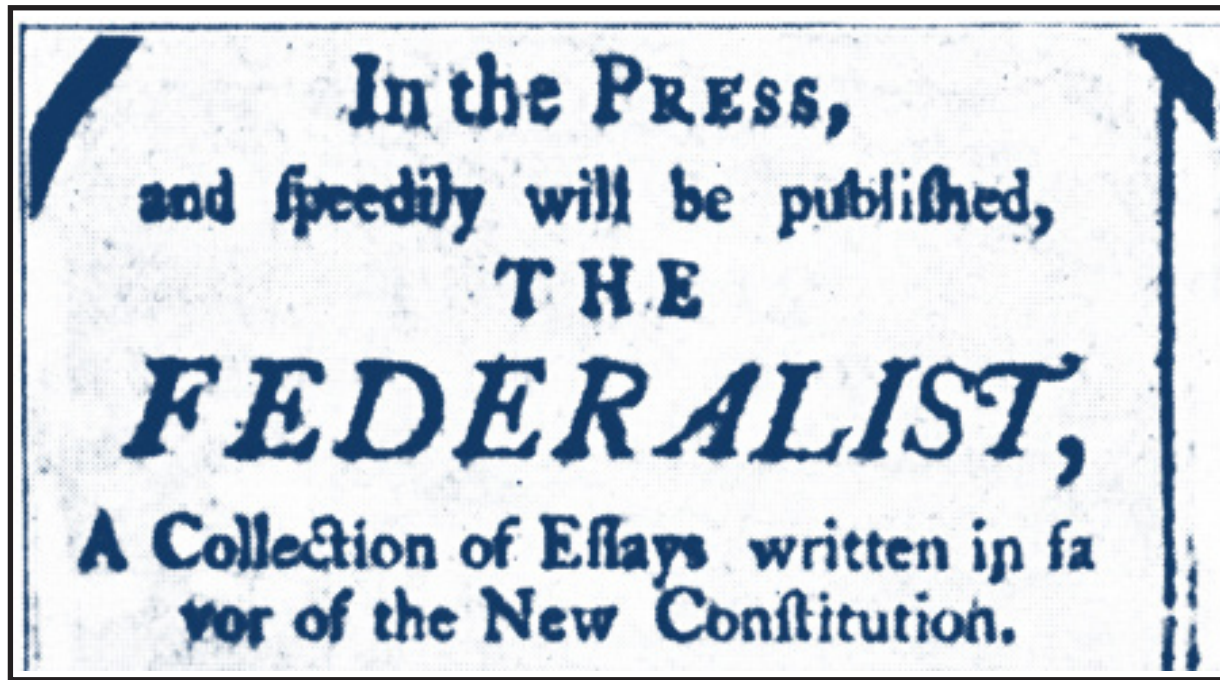


Photo from the National Constitution Center

Introducing: The Diplomat Papers

Anonymous Fummer pens series to spur on-campus change

Disclaimer: In the past, The College Reporter has maintained a policy of refusing to publish anonymous articles, as we believe writers should openly support their own opinions. However, in this instance, a member of our community wanted to follow the historical precedence set by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay with The Federalist Papers in a critique of our campus structures. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Erin Moyer at emoyer1@fandm.edu.

The Federalist papers begin with Alexander Hamilton writing, “AFTER an unequivocal experience of the inefficiency of the subsisting federal government, you are called upon to deliberate on a new Constitution for the United States of America.” We are currently at that point in our campus history. The College Houses are approaching the 10th year of their experiment, and we have come to the 228th anniversary of the founding of Franklin College.

During the past 10 years, there have been dramatic cultural and social shifts on campus. The College Houses were inaugurated, the dorms that are home to the houses have been renovated, and numerous buildings have been added to the campus infrastructure. The prioritization of the College Houses above other edifices of cultural integration in numerous ways has been deleterious to a pro-social campus environment.

The Houses have and continue to provide a verbose mechanism for campus integration for incoming first-years and transfer students. The House system has made it possible for students to latch onto a strong identity within the campus and provide adequate support for first years.

This article is the first in a series modeled upon the Federalist papers, which were published anonymously under the pseudonym Publius. The goal of the following articles is to rally support for greater centralization of student activities for the purpose of propagating campus unity instead of house alliance and reliance.

While it may be possible for one to have loyalty and enthusiasm in supporting one’s house, it seems that support for the Houses has trumped school spirit for “Dear Ol’ F&M”.

The central tenet of the forthcoming argument is that the campus for the past few years has embodied the Pre-Constitution era of the United States, under the Articles of Confederacy, where States rights ruled. In the F&M sense, we are in this phase currently, a great deal of funding, effort, and focus are placed on the House system. The merits of the House system has been mentioned above, but the campus is in sore need to adapt the current system to achieve a variety of goals.

One of the most important goals of reformation of the campus is a reinvigoration of campus wide programming that fulfills a need in the gaps of campus social life that are left by a focus and onus placed on the House system. This may be possible by bringing back campus traditions to provide more gravitas to those events that already exist.

A second important goal for this is to improve lackluster and divided campus spirit. There are many groups that rancorously support themselves, and others that are similar in nature to them but do not participate in other parts of campus life—centralization may resolve this issue.

Ultimately, reformation ought to result in greater centralization of programming and more power towards organization that represent and serve the entire campus body, rather than divided factions of it.

Fall graduate plagued by school policy

Alumna unable to obtain physical diploma, hampered in applications

BY GEORGIANNA PISANO-GOETZ

Contributing Alumni Writer
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Students graduating early hoping to gain an edge on employment may be disappointed to find out they will not be hired until they have their physical diploma—which Franklin & Marshall College will not release to students until May.

I started the application for the Education Program in Korea (EPIK) in May 2013, more than six months before I would be graduating from F&M. I was in Chicago participating in an intensive, month-long TEFL course that would certify me to teach English as a foreign language. The application was long and arduous, as becoming a foreign resident and employee requires a lot of paperwork.

Luckily, I was in a great position because I already knew where and when I wanted to teach and had started the ap-

plication early enough that I had plenty of time to get my documents together. I was working with Greenheart Travel, a chaneler that would communicate between me and EPIK, the Registrar at F&M, and various federal agencies to get my paperwork done.

On top of classes, my senior seminar, and working, it was a stressful time. I turned in my application in August, interviewed over Skype in November and was accepted into EPIK the next day. I was relieved to have my post-graduate employment in order and incredibly excited to be leaving in February (two months after graduation) for South Korea.

I had notified EPIK in my initial application that I would not be graduating until December 2014, and they had given me until Jan. 15 to turn in an official, apostilled copy of my diploma. I blissfully worked through the end of the semester and was in constant contact with the Regis-

trar checking on the status of my classes, grades, transcripts, and diploma.

I was in constant contact with the Registrar because, ever since I had decided, in the beginning of my junior year, to graduate in December, I had gotten a lot of mixed messages from the offices across campus who seemed to have subpar communication between and within the offices.

My transcripts had a “note” on them that indicated I would be graduating in December, but, when I applied to graduate, Spring 2015 was the only option. My Registrar liaison put another note in my file—a note that other members of the Registrar would fail to see if I spoke with anyone other than my initial liaison. I had been notified before that F&M does not print diplomas in December but that I would be able to request a certified graduation “letter.”

The policy of not printing diplomas did not make sense to me, and I thought there was

a possibility an exception could be made if I secured the employment first. My advisor at Greenheart Travel did not feel confident about the graduation letter, since EPIK’s requirements were based on international labor agreements that have little wiggle room. When December and January rolled around, I was again told the diploma was unavailable.

I reached out to President Porterfield, since I had been informed that I was accepted to EPIK but would not be able to leave in February if they did not receive an apostilled copy of my diploma. I soon found out from Mr. Alan Caniglia that it is part of F&M’s charter that they don’t print diplomas for December graduates until June.

What followed was a continuation of the miscommunicated mess in which a graduation letter was sent to Greenheart Travel that had not been apostilled and I had to get another copy sent to me so I could get it apos-

tilled and send it in myself. The deadline passed, and I will not be leaving for Korea for another eight months, in August.

I have gone from quickly capitalizing on my graduated status to a scramble to find something worthwhile to do until I can go where I really want to be.

Did the college do everything it could? Yes. Despite miscommunication and a poor system, the Registrar, President Porterfield, and Alan Caniglia worked with me to provide me with a special graduation letter that I could provide in lieu of my diploma.

But why was that everything that F&M could offer?

Because when it comes down to it, my alma mater prevented me from acquiring employment – and isn’t that kind of the point of college? I would suggest that F&M take a good, long look at why it can’t offer the best to its students and maybe try and change that outdated charter while they’re at it.

Campus Life

Common Hour features author Bakken on writing in Greece



Photo by Emma Brown '17

Common Hour featured Christopher Bakken, professor of English at Allegheny College and author of *Honey, Olives Octopus: Aventures at the Greek table*.

BY SAMANTHA GREENFIELD
Senior Staff Writer

This past week, the Common Hour lecture was given by author and professor of English at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania, Christopher Bakken. Bakken wrote the culinary memoir, *Honey, Olives, Octopus: Aventures at the Greek Table* as well as multiple books of poetry and a translation of Greek poetry by Titos Patrikios. He also is the director of Writing Workshops in Greece:

Thessaloniki and Thasos. Bakken began by explaining that he would treat this lecture as a memoir sandwich, meaning he would read from his memoir then give a talk and then finish by reading from his memoir. He read the opening scene in which he is in Greece with a traditional Greek family who harvest olives and use the food of the land to create culinary masterpieces. Each ingredient, whether vegetable, fish, or olive oil, was collected and cooked

by the family. Bakken grew up on a family farm in Wisconsin that grew an array of different crops organically until his family was introduced to the “efficiency” of DDT and the ease of a large tractor. The farm changed into a single crop farm, growing only corn. This, Bakken explains, not only ruined the soil; but also, caused high cancer rates in his family. This part of his life has changed the way Bakken views food.

He asked the audience how many of them could name where each ingredient on their dinner plate last night came from. He asked members of the audience who knew where 100% of the ingredients were from to raise their hand. Around 10 people were able to do that. He then asked those whose new where 50% of their ingredients in last nights dinner came from. Around 10 more purple were able to raise their hands.

Bakken told the rest of the audience, who were clearly in the vast majority, that he did not want to make them feel guilty. In fact, he said that he even succumbs to the lure of an easy meal from McDonald’s from time to time.

Bakken explains what got him started in the food business was an experience he had at a farmers market in which he looked around and noticed that the boxes of produce were, in fact, wholesale boxes. He asked one of the ven-

dors where his watermelons were from. The vendor shrugged and said, “I’m not sure, maybe Georgia.” The whole point of a farmers market, Bakken exclaims, is that you get your food from the actual farmer.

He then met Amish farmer, David Yoder, who was only selling the seasonal produce of cucumbers and celery. Bakken went to Yoder’s farm and saw the diversity of crops cultivated and was inspired to strike a deal. Bakken began a Community Supported Agricultural system that linked Yoder’s farm to a farmers market in Bakken’s own garage. Members of the CSA would come help farm and transport the produce and Yoder would receive a profit.

To finish, Bakken returns to his memoir depicting the Greek family and himself enjoying the marvelous culinary and family traditions of Greece. Without thinking about it, Greek families are being subversive and revolutionary eaters.

They naturally know where each ingredient on their plate is from and even where each ingredient in their glass is from. Bakken argues that this is revolutionary and can change the corporate dominated food market we have succumbed to today.

Senior Samantha Greenfield is a senior staff writer. Her email is sgreenfield@fandm.edu.

Alumnus Ganse opens local bookstore specializing in antiques

BY ABIGAIL QUINT
Editor In Chief

When David Ganse ’86 saw the space in the basement of the Lancaster Seminary, he knew that his bookstore, Adamstown Books, had found its home at last.

Adamstown Books, operating out of a beautiful red brick buildings on West James Street, offers a diverse selection of titles. Personal interest and location influence the variety of the collection. Specialties include Civil War history, religion and theology texts, Victorian-era books, and Pennsylvania history writings. Adamstown Books offers both book from these time periods as collectors items and also modern books with information on these specific categories. Overall, antiquarian and collectable books comprise the majority of the collection. Ganse also runs the website for Adamstown Books, providing another way to reach his readers.

After years working in the transportation industry, Ganse decided to follow his passion for antique books and open a bookstore. For a few years, he operated solely

online. He researched the antique book market, visited independent bookstores, and amassed a significant collection of books to build an inventory. After Cokesberry Books, a Christian bookstore, went online exclusively and left the Lancaster Seminary, the space sat empty. Ganse was happy to bring a bookstore back to the Lancaster Seminary, especially in such a convenient space. The proximity to the Lancaster Seminary itself as well as F&M and the other universities and colleges in Lancaster made the space an obvious choice.

Ganse offers merchandise for many different audiences. The theology and religion books, both antique and modern, appeal to the professors and students of the Lancaster Seminary, along with religious enthusiasts and researchers in the area. Civil War buffs and Pennsylvania history fanatics also enjoy Ganse’s wide selection of collector’s items. He also specializes in researching and discovering books for clients. With Ganse’s connections in the industry, he can locate specific books and



Photo by Emma Brown '17

David Ganse '86 recently opened a physical location for his bookstore, Adamstown Books, in the basement of the Lancaster Seminary, located near the College.

help researchers or collectors find obscure texts. However, beyond the antique collector group, Ganse provides books for audiences. He stocks a children’s section and also provides bargain books in a mix of subjects. Ganse’s goal is to grow his inventory.

“I call it used and antiquarian. It is collectible books, and a variety of used books. We recognize that we have these different communities to reach: the Seminary, F&M, Lancaster, and the collector community. We are consciously trying

to provide different things for different groups,” Ganse said.

For Ganse, “pricing books is an art and a science.” Like many bookstore owners, Ganse must compete with the big warehouse stores.

However, the special collection of first edition printings and rare books gave Ganse a special market. He is committed to providing books affordable for different markets, including students.

see BOOKSTORE page 7

Bookstore: online store moves to Lancaster, sells obscure titles



Photos by Emma Brown '17

Adamstown Books specializes in antique, used, and collector texts in Civil War history, Pennsylvania history, Religion, and Theology. Ganse has had an online store for a few years and finally found the perfect space for a store in Lancaster. Clients include professors, history buffs, local collectors, historians, and researchers.

continued from page 6

“With our different price points, there really is something here for everyone,” Ganse said.

At F&M, Ganse majored in business, anthropology, and philosophy as a special studies student.

He managed to graduate in three years as a commuter student.

The multi-faceted nature of his F&M education helps him manage a business, maintain client relationships, and appreciate the variety of antique books in the collection. Ganse reflects fondly upon his time at F&M, especially the relationships with professors.

“There was a clear sense that

they were interested in you as an individual and your personal growth, it wasn’t just cut and dry academic approach. I strongly benefited from that,” Ganse said.

Adamstown Books is featuring 20% off from Wed. Feb. 11 to Sat. Feb. 21 with an F&M ID. The store is located across College Avenue at

the Lancaster Seminary.

Store hours are Wed. through Sat. from 10am to 3pm. Complimentary hot beverages are provided.

Senior Abigail Quint is Editor In Chief. Her email is aquint@fandm.edu.

Christopher Bakken discusses craft, writing, publication

BY ARIELLE LIPSET
Campus Life Editor

Christopher Bakken is a writer unafraid to explore different parts of the world in addition to different genres. His book, *Honey, Olives, Octopus: Adventures at the Greek Table* recounts his travels to Greece and the traditions embedded in Greek culinary experience. Bakken visited F&M this past Thursday for a packed day including Common Hour, a craft talk in the Philadelphia Alumni Writer’s House, and a reading in the evening.

His craft talk in the Writer’s House involved students from higher-level creative writing classes taking on genres of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.

While Bakken admittedly “doesn’t do fiction,” he had plenty to say from the perspective of a poet and a creative non-fiction writer.

teacher informed him. Prose, on the other hand, didn’t come as easily. He defines prose or non-poetry as “the art of addition.”

For ages, Bakken said, he was “forced to write prose. This was the kind of writing [he] had to do.” His creative non-fiction journey began with his desire to travel.

Bakken sought out a trip to Greece and proposed to a food-cooperative magazine that he would write an article on food in Greece. In turn, the magazine rejected his proposition, writing “you’re a poet...[we doubt] you can write a sentence.”

Bakken wrote far more than a sentence. He crafted and published his culinary memoir detailing the eight factors of Greek cuisine: olives, bread, wine, fish, cheese, beans, meat, and honey. Alongside these elements, he drew on his experience and the people he encountered along the way.



Photo courtesy of www.allegcheny.edu

Bakken self-identifies as a poet. He detailed his first encounter with poetry at a bookstore, in which his teacher led him to the poetry shelf.

He picked up William Carlos Williams’s *Selected Poems* and was enamored with its beauty and simplicity: “I was amazed how a poem could be just about the movements a cat makes as it climbs from a cupboard,” he explained.

However, he noted that a work’s content alone may not sufficiently convey its meaning. “A poem deals with negative space,” Bakken said, “unlike other kinds of writing, it’s the blank space that means as much as the writing that speaks from the page.”

At a young age, Bakken started to “arrange his words in these little patterns.” He didn’t even know that he was writing poetry until a

As a poet, Bakken’s prose is naturally lyrical. He has published two books of poetry, *Goat Funeral* and *After Greece*.

After Greece is a poetic encounter covering all that he couldn’t or didn’t say with prose through his memoir.

He returned back to Greece on multiple occasions and conducts a workshop there during the summers to teach a travel and food writing class.

He encouraged students to experiment with writing styles, as he has done.

On publication, he said that many envisioned his manuscript as something else entirely. He encountered a publishing company that suggested he shift his writing style to embody an “Eat Pray Love for men.”

Writer Christopher Bakken joined students in the Philadelphia Alumni Writers House to talk about his past publications including poetry and creative non-fiction works.

He stuck with his gut and searched to find a publisher that would take his writing for what it was—anything but “Eat Pray Love.”

Like any other successful author, Bakken explained that he needed an “elevator pitch” to push the publication of his memoir. He suggested that students consider how to best present their writing for means of sales.

For creative non-fiction, he said, “you must remain true to the topic. Of course, dialogue isn’t something easily remembered—unless you are journaling through all aspects of life.”

He suggested that filling in the blanks is a process of scene and character develop that with practice, one must master.

“Finding your truth,” he said, “is everything for what the writing

will become.” He had the whole room laughing when he began talking about the struggle to write. He said he usually composes “roughly 40-50 drafts of any single poem.”

“We all know how difficult writing can be,” Bakken said. The students shook their heads with understanding. Bakken said that becoming multi-genre was something that seemed to happen instantaneously.

He apologized for lack of further explanation or suggestion and insisted that finding the right place and time will provide opportunity for imaginative beginnings.

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Arts & Entertainment

Marsh’s biopic cleverly captures Hawking’s struggles, success *Redmayne’s performance stuns, while plot remains predictable, fast-paced*

Movie Review
The Theory of Everything

by Noah Sunshine

The issue with biopics is kind of an obvious one—how can a movie hold up when the viewer is intimately aware of the fate of the main character? There is no suspense, and as a result, little drama. Entering *The Theory of Everything* cold had me worried because, for those of us that are familiar with great physicist Stephen Hawking, there is no fear. He becomes paralyzed at the end, and the process in between is merely sadness directed towards a degrading life.

I was, in many ways, correct about *The Theory of Everything*. I was correct about the predictability of the storyline, as it is faithful to Hawking’s actual story, for all intents and purposes. I was also correct that this forces the movie to be somewhat reductive—James Marsh’s imagining of the physicist’s life is forced to abide by the two things that everyone already knows. The first is that Hawking is paralyzed. The second is that he is a genius.

The audience is reminded of these truths every few minutes, be it through a stereotypical ‘genius at the blackboard’ shot à la *Beautiful Mind* or *Good Will Hunting*, or frequent close-ups of star Eddie Redmayne’s twisted hands and uncoordinated feet



photo courtesy of www.commonswikimedia.org
Eddie Redmayne has already won seven awards for his role as Stephen Hawking and is currently nominated for the Academy Award.

that prevent the story from striking any personal chords. Hawking is kept at a distance because these two facets of his character are inherently unrelatable to the average viewer.

The film is also guilty of capitalizing on the viewer’s innate feelings for Hawking, often accelerating the story since we already know his struggle. As a result, I found him married and with two kids before being able to remember the name of his wife. I forgot what Redmayne’s voice sounded like because, once his ALS was introduced, the story barreled through that part of the plot like a freight train.

The train stops when Hawking is finally rendered immobile, finding his way from place to place in a motorized wheelchair, and reclaiming some agency for himself. I consider this the turning point in the movie as he suddenly becomes a character again instead of a prop, and when the film itself starts to get a bit more heartwarming. Since the audience knows the ending, it needs these feelings along the way to give the viewer something he or she doesn’t already have; I’m disappointed it took so long.

Cinematography in *The Theory of Everything* is excellent. Though falling victim to a few tropes (like the aforementioned chalkboard scene),

there are several dizzying shots fit for a modern art museum. Marsh capitalized on the strong visuals with many scenes free of dialogue. Redmayne and Felicity Jones, playing Jane Hawking, built a wonderful nest of emotion even when Redmayne’s character was rendered fully speechless, highlighting instead the devotedness but flawed love of the two leads through actions interpreted in flawed, human ways.

The Theory of Everything is worth seeing at some point, though maybe once it shows up on internet-based venues.

While it suffers from a very flawed vision and overambitious timeframe, the acting and visuals were artistic and worthy of the Oscar nod. It won’t win Best Picture, but Redmayne stands a chance to win Best Actor if the Academy sees his performance as the brilliance it is more than the novelty it could have been.

Noah Sunshine is a senior staff writer. His email is nsunshin@fandm.edu.

Review Rating:

B-

The Theory of Everything has excellent performances and visuals, but the plot is rushed.

Bob Dylan’s new album continues his legacy, honors his past *Shadows in the Night* reminiscent of Sinatra’s classics, Dylan’s unique style

Album Review
Shadows in the Night
Bob Dylan

by Julia Chirls

Singer-songwriter, artist, and writer Bob Dylan has continued to influence the music industry with his talent in rock and folk for over five decades, and he is still going strong. On February 3, his 36th studio album, *Shadows in the Night*, hit iTunes following the releases of two singles: “Full Moon and Empty Arms” and “Stay With Me.” For the production of his latest album, Dylan made covers of 10 songs from legendary vocalist Frank Sinatra’s 59 studio albums recorded during his 60-year career.

Dylan’s career took off in 1963 when he released his second studio album, *The Freewheelin’ Bob Dylan* at age 22. Of the 13 songs on its track list, 11 were original compositions. That year, it placed on the U.S. Billboard 200 at number 22. In 2003, it was ranked 97 on Rolling Stone magazine’s list of the 500 greatest albums of all time.

Since the start of his admirable career in 1959, Dylan has won numerous awards for his legendary work. These include 10 Grammy Awards, one Academy Award, and one Golden Globe Award. Dylan hit another milestone when he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1988. He also received a well-earned Lifetime Achievement Award at the 1992 Grammy Awards.



photo courtesy of www.commonswikimedia.com
Dylan was awarded the Polar Music Prize in May 2000 and in May 2012, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

What many may not know about Bob Dylan is that he is not only a successful singer and performer, having sold more than 100 million records, but is also an accomplished artist. Since 1994, he has published six books of original drawings and paintings, over 200 of these pieces have been showcased.

Bob Dylan selected a list of tunes for *Shadows of the Night* that honors Frank Sinatra’s beloved music, but at the same time incorporates his own talent that earned him the overwhelming following that he has today.

The third and most popular song on the album, “Stay With Me” is also the second single, which was released January 19. The original version recorded by Frank Sinatra was used as the main theme for *The Cardinal*, a Golden Globe winner for Best Motion Picture Drama in 1963. The film touched upon various social issues present at the time of the film’s release such as racial prejudice and war.

Dylan sings along to the slow tempo of the tune, making the song into his own with his acclaimed bluesy voice. A synthesizer as well as a small ensemble of strings in the background contributes to the somber mood of the lyrics.

“Some Enchanted Evening” is the sixth song on the album and was featured in the musical *South Pacific*, the Tony Award winning Broadway show that tells the story of a romance during World War II.

Bob Dylan joins Frank Sinatra on the list of 24 singers to cover the song. The music includes strings accompanied by a piano, adding to the elegance of the background instrumentals. The featured artists create the perfect balance with Dylan’s unique style.

Shadows in the Night is a perfect way to reminisce and remember the incredible career of Frank Sinatra, Bob Dylan, and many other artists, as well. More importantly, it is a wonderful listen to enjoy a classic spin that world-renowned singer-songwriter Bob Dylan has brought to the present music industry.

Sophomore Julia Chirls is a staff writer. Her email is jchirls@fandm.edu.

Review Rating:

A-

Shadows in the Night combines the legendary talents of both Bob Dylan and Frank Sinatra.

Walls’ vivid familial memoir offers courageous honesty

The Glass Castle *filled with tales of loss, confronts a stark reality*

Book Review

The Glass Castle

by Livia Meneghin

“I was on fire. It’s my earliest memory.” (9)

Jeannette Walls’ memoir, *The Glass Castle*, includes many encounters with fire, and weaves through the tragedy a detached memory.

The first section of *The Glass Castle*, before her incident engulfment, describes her Park Avenue self sitting in a taxi and witnessing her mother scavenging for food. Walls continues the narrative recounting, through the eyes of young Jeannette, constantly doing the skedaddle from house to house across America with her highly dysfunctional yet inexplicably vital family. The circus-like reality is filled to the rim with unimaginable tales of loss, horror and an underlying acknowledgement of danger, leading to her bubbling over desire to escape. For Walls’ main attraction: maintaining an impressive sense of critical distance.

Walls’ upbringing was dictated by the sense of the adventure her parents chased after. Jeannette collected rocks and geodes to raise money to put food in the refrigerator.

ator. Jeannette almost drowned in “a natural sulfur spring in the desert...surrounded by craggy rocks and quicksand” to learn how to swim (65). Jeannette didn’t have a choice.

Walls started off her writing career remaining in the background, working for her high school newspaper in Welch, VA and using it as an excuse to attend school functions, such as football games. After travelling to New York, Walls got a degree from Barnard and started working as a journalist. She became a gossip columnist for MSNBC.com as well, writing news (truth unknown) about others. It was her second husband, writer John Taylor, who convinced her to tell her own story.

The Glass Castle takes on the voice of Walls’ younger self and carries through time until just before her decision to write the memoir itself.

All of the narration, therefore, is from her past. While this may require research and gathering other voices, Walls had the advantage of time. She flatly delivers bad news, and only directly points out issues like her father’s alcoholism when her younger self learned the terminology. In the middle of the book, Walls starts to make distinctions between herself and her siblings,

and starts to notice the issues of her family unit, particularly her father.

A dramatic scene, and pivotal moment in Walls’ life, was when her father ruined their planned-to-be-perfect (for once) Christmas. She quickly described the flames consuming the needles on the tree, and the ornaments exploding, and her father drunkenly laughing. She ends the chapter simply stating, “When Dad went crazy, we all had our own ways of shutting down and closing off, and that was what we did that night” (115). But is her unemotional language only possible because of this time gap? Or is maintaining critical distance her only choice, since the writing process itself is forcing Walls to remember these painful moments? Maybe she’s shutting down again, in a sense, by remaining detached.

Creating critical distance seems to be more than a writing tool; sometimes it’s the only choice an author has. Memoir writing requires gaining the trust of readers; Walls is revealing her story to the world, and also to her family, but she has to convince everyone that her story is real (at least that her memories are real.) Readers may or may not feel empathy for the narrator. By creating a critical dis-

tance, Walls is establishing herself as a responsible writer. She never complains about her situation, in the content or in the language, her second level of authority of the story.

Reading *The Glass Castle* struck me in a lot of ways. Not only did I trust Walls as an author, but also, I felt what she felt. My upbringing was much safer, but I couldn’t help but understand what she went through. Little Jeannette guided me; I walked with her across the country, to places I’ve never seen. When she found herself in New York, where I’m from, I felt swollen. She was trying to escape, and now, being a senior in college, I also have the option of moving forward from my memories.

Even when writing her memoir, Walls was courageously trying to tell the truth, yes, but she was also trying to put her past in a place where she didn’t have to carry it around anymore. So perhaps Walls’ memoir is like her glass castle, a fortified reminder of her family, but still something she can see through, made of walls that don’t hide the pain it took to build them.

Senior Livia Meneghin is a contributing writer. Her email is lmeneghi@fandm.edu.

The Wachowskis’ new film inspires with ridiculous bent

Jupiter Ascending *reaches for the stars, visually impresses*

Movie Review

Jupiter Ascending

by Brianne Simone

Have you ever wanted to see Cinderella in space? How about Channing Tatum with pointy prosthetic ears? Even if you’ve never wanted to see either of those things, this movie is still worth giving a chance. Coming from the Wachowski siblings is a film about Jupiter Jones. She wakes up at 4:45 am every morning so she can clean toilets and moan about how much she hates her dull, dreary life. Lucky for her, she’s actually very special. Unlucky for her, three royal siblings want her dead. And the only one who can save her is Channing Tatum.

Mila Kunis’s Jupiter is thrust into several beautiful dresses during the course of the film. Elaborate and gorgeous and fitting of royalty. However, each faction in the movie (there are four) gets their own wardrobe and each are fitting for the part each plays. For instance, the outfit the interplanetary police force and Cain, played by Channing Tatum, is sleek and functional. The royal siblings, on the other hand, all wear ornate and intricate pieces to symbolize their greed and their extravagance. Part of why Jupiter keeps changing out of the clothes the siblings put on her is because she is rejecting the arrogance and elitism they represent. This also means the three separate siblings weren’t necessary. Their message differs in small ways, but not enough to justify their presence. The movie starts to drag at around the ninety-minute mark, then finishes with a bang at a total of one



photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Kunis gained popularity for her role as Jackie in *That ’70s Show* and was nominated for a Golden Globe for her role in *Black Swan* in 2010.

hundred twenty minutes. Each sibling probably held the screen for around thirty minutes, so just dropping one would have improved the flow of the narrative greatly.

Perhaps the part I liked best about *Jupiter Ascending* was the futuristic technology in the movie. Channing Tatum’s character flies around on anti-gravity boots and turns solid objects intangible long enough for him to pass through them without harm. It’s really very fun to watch him skate on the air, skidding along buildings and avoiding plasma blasts like it’s as easy as pulling a comb through his gray buzzcut. Cain is a splice. That means he’s a human genetically spliced with a wolf, kept in solitude so he would become ruthless and cold, the perfect soldier. He was thrown out of the Skyjacks (it’s like paratroopers with wings) after he instinctually attacked an Entitled. That’s what the movie calls rich people. This resulted in both him and Sean Bean’s character having their wings cut and

being thrown out of the legionnaires. And that’s fascinating! An entire movie about Channing Tatum and Sean Bean fighting together in space would have been amazing! Instead, there’s an odd and awkward romance subplot between Cain and Jupiter that just doesn’t have any chemistry. When they were speaking to each other as friends and equals, the acting and dialogue flows seamlessly. Once they’re supposed to be falling in love, it starts huffing and puffing like a broken down car.

Luckily, most of the movie is devoted to beautiful scenery and action. The action usually kept at a maximum of four characters, so it never feels too complex or hard to follow. Mila Kunis’s character is thrown around like a pinball for most of the movie, but she grows into herself at the end and gets an action sequence where she has to save her life all on her own. Well, until Channing Tatum saves her. She does fight, though!

Unlike Channing Tatum, who

looked ridiculous in the trailer and yet managed to work, Eddie Redmayne looks as ridiculous in the film as he did in the trailer. Maybe more so. Most of the time, he speaks through chapped lips in a hushed whisper, and then he’ll start shouting mid-sentence. It’s probably supposed to make him seem unstable in a way that varied from the subtle instability of his two siblings. There is one scene in the movie where he and his siblings actually speak to each other. And that’s it. They never speak again. As I said before, each sibling gets around thirty minutes of screen time, yet none of them feel important or even particularly threatening.

All in all, would I have rather seen Channing Tatum and Sean Bean working together as legionnaires? Yes. Was this bad? No. It was fun and there were times I was really into it. There were also times where I sat back and rolled my eyes. *Jupiter Ascending* is equal parts awesome and ridiculous, with cool actions scenes and scenery that makes the extra cost of 3D sting a little less. If you’re going to the movies this weekend and can’t think of what to watch, *Jupiter Ascending* isn’t the worst choice you could make.

Senior Brianne Simone is a contributing writer. Her email is bsimone@fandm.edu.

Review Rating:

B-

Jupiter Ascending is an enjoyable viewing experience, yet the plot is lacking and ridiculous.

Valentino’s new clothing line has universal appeal, style

Designer brings unusual look to the masses, wows fashion world

Fashion Review

Valentino

Pre-Fall 2015 Collection

by Pauline Germanos

The trendiest aesthetic in fashion within the past few years has been cosmic. Shirts, pants, and dresses have gone through machines that pressed on a pattern of the galaxy, something that the “hipsters” have flocked to – apparently even the sky is something they could like before everyone else did. This year, designer Valentino is taking that trend to the couture level and made himself a superstar Pre-Fall 2015 collection.



photo courtesy of www.themarysue.com

Have a formal event you need to attend? Why not stroll on through in a stunning tulle gown that is stitched with glittering stars and planets? When you think about it, it might sound tacky and perhaps like something you’d find that an elementary student crafted in science class. But that’s not the case with this gown; in fact, it looks more sophisticated than gaudy,

and has the right amount of artisan flare without looking like your mother tried making you a dress for the first time with her sewing machine.

Of course, although life is a runway, that doesn’t mean you are always going to be wearing an evening gown. Do you have a more informal cocktail party to attend? Go for a mid-length dress that still sparkles up the right statement that proclaims you are a fashionista, such as this piece that has a more distinct planetary theme as opposed to the starry-night evening gown mentioned earlier.



photo courtesy of www.themarysue.com

The straight neckline tank top helps to elongate your arms and makes for both a nod to the genius that is Valentino and a simply adorable staple item to have in your closet.

Don’t limit yourself to the special occasions or parties: there are plenty of times to be sporting cosmic outfits.

These casual dresses are a fantastic choice of “Take me seriously because I’m academic, but also recognize that I am partially a ce-

lestial fashion goddess and there are no fault in my stars.” Flaunt it and own it, and be comfortable while doing it – if it’s cold outside, either piece works with a pair of black or white tights.



photo courtesy of www.themarysue.com

On the note of cold weather, this phenomenal jacket is going to make you look like a modern day Aubrey Hepburn who took a dip

into the galaxy.

In regards to pattern, this one is the simplest, but rightfully so because you need a jacket that can go along with a multiple of outfit choices. You’ll be dreamy in this jacket and you’ll be in the mood to go for an evening stroll if you choose to sport this piece on a clear night.

This collection in Valentino’s repertoire is already a stand out in the fashion community, and rightfully so. Better keep your eyes peeled and wallets open because this line will be hot and fast like a shooting star – hard to chase, and lucky to have. If you’re unsure of whether a piece from this collection is worth the money or not, I’ll just tell you that it is.

If it’s not in your budget, there are cheaper options out there — or there will be because if there’s one thing about Valentino, it’s that he’s a trendsetter. The stars will shine through the fashion world and stores soon enough.

Senior Pauline Germanos is a contributing writer. Her email is pgermano@fandm.edu.

• New Releases •

Week of Monday, February 9

Music

Tuesday, Feb. 10



Rhiannon Giddens
Tomorrow Is My Turn



Steve Tyrell
That Lovin' Feeling



Brandon Heath
No Turning Back



Blackberry Smoke
Holding All The Roses

Movies

Friday, Feb. 13



50 Shades of Grey



Hits



Kingsman: The Secret Service



The Last 5 Years

Blu-Ray

Tuesday, Feb. 10



Nightcrawler



Rosewater



Olive Kitteridge



Predestination

—photos courtesy of www.amazon.com

Throwback of the Week

Artist: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Work: Violin Concerto in D Major, Op.35

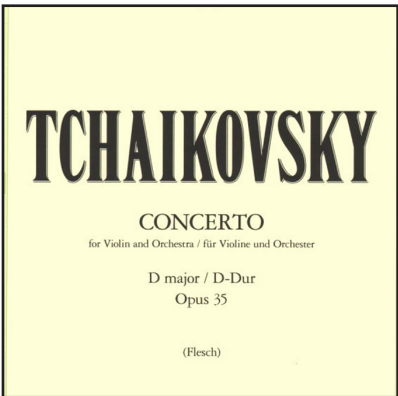


photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

time having written a wide collection of works, including three ballets, ten operas, and six symphonies. Like many brilliant composers, Tchaikovsky led a complicated and painful life, which inspired many of his ingenious creations, including this concerto. Tchaikovsky wrote it while abroad in Switzerland where he went to recover from severe depression brought on by his terrible marriage. The Violin Concerto in D major, Op.35 is one of the most popular performance pieces for distinguished violinists, including the most celebrated violinist of our time, Joshua Bell.

This week we are throwing it all the way back to 1878 when Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky wrote the Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 35, one of the most famous violin concertos of all time. This typically thirty-five minute, three-movement performance is considered by many to be one of the most technically arduous pieces for the violin. Known for his unusually vast creative range, Tchaikovsky is still considered one of the best and most versatile composers of all

NCAA: Blame should fall on individuals rather than program



photos courtesy of Dennis Nett
Under current NCAA policy, punishments are often doled out in a way that those not responsible for the mistake are negatively effected by the disciplinary outcome.

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fecting? The short answer: the players.

The NCAA is currently investigating whether or not the Syracuse men’s basketball team, specifically head coach Jim Boenheim, committed recruiting violations. The self-inflicted ban on postseason play

is Syracuse’s attempt to take the “moral high ground.” However, many find it convenient that the year that Syracuse has a lackluster team by their standards is the year they decided to take this ban. Also, many people view this as Syracuse’s attempt to get out of the expected NCAA-mandated punish-

ments. They feel as though if they get ahead on the punishments, the NCAA will go easier on their punishment and it they will not be as severe. Instead of accepting Syracuse’s ban, the NCAA should look at this issue from another angle. They should keep one name in mind when discussing their punishment of the Syracuse basketball team: Rakeem Christmas. Rakeem Christmas is senior forward on the Syracuse team and now due to the sanctions placed on the program, will never play another NCAA tournament game again. Christmas was quoted as saying last week, “We are all tremendously disappointed that we are going to miss out on playing in the postseason based on issues that do not involve us. However, we support our school and this won’t change how hard we will continue to work in practice and in games.” Christmas, a player who was worked hard for the Syracuse program for four straight years, will now be punished during his senior year and will not get another opportunity to compete for a national champion-

ship. He and the rest of the team had nothing to do with the sanctions, yet they are the ones who are truly being penalized by them.

The NCAA should change the ruling set forth by the university and suspend the people actually responsible for the violation, the coaching staff. The ones actually responsible for the crime should be the ones to take blame, not the players. Let the players play and punish the criminals.

This is not the first time the NCAA has stood by and let those innocent of any infractions take punishment. A prominent example was the Penn State football program a few years ago. The football team suffered tremendously, yet some of the players on the team were not even born at the time of the scandals. The NCAA needs to look inwardly and find a way to change this precedent and help save the seasons of kids who did nothing wrong.

First-year Joseph Giordano is a Contributing Writer. His email is jgiordal@fandm.edu.

Superbowl: Patriots' resilience deflects Deflategate scandal



photo courtesy of marcosolamedia.com
The Patriots were well-challenged by the Seahawks, who, with 2:02 left in play, made victory a serious challenge.

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one more time. Brady threw another touchdown pass, (his fourth of the day) to Julian Edelman. The Patriots went up 28-24 and the roller coaster of Super Bowl XLIX seemed to have turned into the complete other direction.

The Patriots still gave the Seahawks plenty of time to make one last push with 2:02 to go. Then, Russell Wilson and Jermaine Kearse linked up on what very likely will be remembered as one of the greatest, and perhaps luckiest, catches in Super Bowl History. Wilson scrambled around and fired a 33 yard pass downfield. Patriots’ corner Malcolm Butler defended it well, Kearse was unable to snag it out of

the air. However, when he fell, the ball bounced off of his leg and it managed to land right into his arms as he was laying on his back. Yes, it was an incredibly lucky bounce. But, it put the Seahawks at the 5 yard line with what seemed to be the ideal situation to win the game. Seattle had enough timeouts to run the ball with Marshawn Lynch into the end zone. It was 2nd down and 1 yard separating the Seahawks from a touchdown and another championship. Seahawks’ coach Pete Carroll then made arguably the most controversial play-call of all time when he decided to throw the ball instead of run it in for the final yard. Wilson dropped back, tried to squeeze a pass between defenders,

and ended up throwing an interception to Malcolm Butler.

The ending to the game provided drama that you just can’t script. The Patriots showed an incredibly amount of resilience. Not only were they able to overcome the speculations and publicity from Deflategate, they were also able to overcome a pretty daunting deficit late in the game. Malcolm Butler’s interception was an extremely dif-

ficult play to make. In every aspect of this game, New England never quit. Tom Brady was well-deserving of the MVP award as he finished 37/50 with 4 touchdown passes. The Patriots earned the the title of “champions,” and air pressure has nothing to do with it.

First-year Joseph Yamulla is the Assistant Sports Editor. His email is jjyamull@fandm.edu.

UPCOMING GAMES		
MEN’S BASKETBALL		
Feb. 11	vs. Ursinus*	8 p.m.
Feb. 14	@ Muhlenberg*	4 p.m.
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL		
Feb. 11	vs. Ursinus*	6 p.m.
Feb. 14	@ Muhlenberg*	2 p.m.
WRESTLING		
Feb. 13	@ Bucknell	7 p.m.
Feb. 19	@ Millersville	7 p.m.
MEN’S AND WOMEN’S SWIMMING		
Feb. 20-22	Centennial Conference Championship @ Gettysburg*	All Day
MEN’S SQUASH		
Feb. 20-22	CSA Team Championship @ Trinity	All Day
WOMEN’S SQUASH		
Feb. 13-15	CSA Team Championship @ Harvard	All Day
*= Centennial Conference Competition		

NCAA is under attack for its mishandling of disciplinary matters. Catch up on the controversy ... page 11



photo courtesy of gstatic.com

Did you miss the Super Bowl? To catch up on the full game coverage, read on... page 11

Franklin & Marshall Sports

New England Patriots secure Super Bowl title once again



photo courtesy of sfexaminer.com

The Patriots captured the Super Bowl title for the first time since 2004. The team came out strong, with Brady throwing a touchdown to put the Patriots on the scoreboard first. However the Seattle Seahawks managed to tie it up at 14-14 by halftime.

BY JOE YAMULLA
Assistant Sports Editor

The New England Patriots are Super Bowl Champions again. This past Super Bowl Sunday was a game for the ages. It was an incredible come from behind 28-24 win for the Patriots, and a loss that will

take Seahawks’ fans a long time to swallow. For now, the Patriots put the Deflategate scandal to rest as they showed their greatness is not correlated to the air pressure of a football. The game was the opposite of last year’s matchup. It was highly competitive and kept fans

on the edges of their seats until the final play.

New England struck first on the scoreboard, as Brandon LaFell scored on a touchdown pass from eventual MVP, Tom Brady. However, no side was able to take control throughout any point in the game.

The Seahawks responded with a Marshawn Lynch touchdown to tie the game. Rob Gronkowski then scored on yet another touchdown pass from Brady, and the Seahawks still managed to respond by scoring and tying the game up 14-14 at the half.

The Seahawks seemed to gain momentum and take control of the game in the second half. Steven Hauschka nailed a 27 yard field goal to put them up by 3, and then Doug Baldwin caught a touchdown pass from Russell Wilson to put Seattle up 24-14. As the third quarter ended and Seattle was up by 10 with only 8 minutes left to play, only the most optimistic Patriots fans thought that New England could still come back. Seattle is known for its hard-nosed, smash mouth defense led by Richard Sherman, Kam Chancellor, and Earl Thomas. Their defense had managed to keep Brady under control for most of the night and it seemed as if Seattle would become back-to-back Super Bowl Champions. However, Tom Brady and the Patriots had other plans.

Brady and company stormed back. With 7:55 remaining, Brady fired a touchdown pass to Danny Amendola. The New England defense then stopped Seattle, and the Patriots marched down the field

see Superbowl, page 9

NCAA handling of disciplinary action receives criticism



photos courtesy of espn.go.com

Jim Boheim, coach of the Syracuse Basketball team, is currently under investigation for possible recruiting violations and the outcome of potential disciplinary action could hurt innocent players due to current NCAA regulations.

BY JOSEPH GIORDANO
Contributing Writer

Consider the following situa-

tion: your parent or family member commits a crime. The police come to investigate the crime and decide

to punish both you and your parent even though you had nothing to do with crime. This makes little

to no sense and most people would complain that such a punishment is unfair and unjust.

However, this unfair treatment of people who have nothing to do with crimes has become almost a precedent among college sports. The NCAA and universities across the country have consistently punished student athletes for the infractions of university presidents and coaches. Many of these infractions have nothing to do with the athletes themselves, yet they are punished as such. Most recently, Syracuse University announced they would be putting a self-inflicted postseason ban on the men’s basketball team due to an ongoing investigation run by the NCAA. The student athletes themselves committed no crime but rather the coaching staff of the university. But in the long run, who is this punishment really af

see NCAA, page 9