



# The College Reporter

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THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE

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## Washburn elected chair of F&M's Board of Trustees, first alumna to hold office

BY STEVEN VIERA  
Senior Editor

Last Thursday, Oct. 15, Sue L. Washburn '73 was elected by unanimous vote to serve as the new chair of F&M's Board of Trustees. Washburn, who came to F&M in 1969 as part of the first female cohort admitted to the College, was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1995 and will be the first alumna to serve as its chair.

The Board did not plan on voting on a new chair until their next quarterly meeting in February, but Washburn garnered such strong support during the nomination process that the vote was able to occur early.

"Sue stood out not only in terms of experience and leadership, but also as a very generous, dynamic and thoughtful person who cares deeply about students and the College," said John Burness '67, chair of the Board's Trusteeship and Governance Committee, according to [this article](#) on F&M's news website.

Currently vice chair of the Board, Washburn is also the head of the Compensation Committee and serves on the Executive, Marketing



photo courtesy of fandm.edu/news

**Sue L. Washburn '73 was elected chair of F&M's Board of Trustees.**

and Communications, and Trusteeship and Governance Committees, according to the article on F&M's news website. In the past, she served as chair of the Advancement Committee from 2003 to 2008, the Enrollment Committee from 2012 to 2014, the Presidential Search Committee in 2010, and the vice-chair of the Long-Range Strategic Planning Committee from 1998 to 2002. As a member, Washburn served on the

Campaign Executive Committee from 1992 to 2002, the 2001-2002 Presidential Search Committee, in addition to the Academic Investments, Alumni Programs and Development, Buildings, Grounds and Sustainability Committees.

Washburn's three-year term will begin on July 1, 2016; she will succeed two-term chair, Lawrence I. Bonchek, M.D., P '91.

"During the past 20 years as a trustee, Sue has earned the admiration of the entire Board as a tireless and highly effective colleague, especially when asked to take on exceptionally important responsibilities," Bonchek said, according to the F&M news article. "At the top of that list, I would put her service as chair of the search committee that brought Dan Porterfield to Franklin & Marshall. As a consultant for higher education institutions around the world, she has also given us the benefit of her expertise on a range of challenging and sometimes sensitive issues. Whenever we have needed a sure and steady hand, clear perspective and sound judgment, we have always been able to turn to

Sue."

After graduating from F&M with a bachelor's degree in English, Washburn went on to earn a master's degree in management and marketing from Clarkson University and also completed advanced study at Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management.

Her resume includes serving as the vice president of St. Lawrence University, Centenary College, and The Evergreen State College; former chair of the international board of trustees of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE); and the founding principal of Washburn & McGoldrick Inc., a strategic planning, marketing, development, and governance firm.

"I was the first in my family to go to college," Washburn said, according to the F&M news article. "I came here on a Classics scholarship and met incredibly smart students and inspirational faculty members... I learned how to learn. For that, I'm forever grateful."

Senior Steven Viera is a Senior Editor. His email is [sviera@fandm.edu](mailto:sviera@fandm.edu).

## West Liberty Street opens behind College Row, links F&M to downtown Lancaster

BY STEVEN VIERA  
Senior Editor

In a message to the F&M community, Mike Wetzel, associate vice president for facilities management and campus planning, announced the opening of West Liberty Street on Wednesday, Oct. 14. The road replaces a metal pedestrian bridge, disassembled last year, that links F&M's campus to downtown Lancaster.

The street, which runs for just more than one-tenth of a mile, stretches from behind College Row to Thomas Armstrong Boulevard. According to [this article](#) from Lancaster Online, the road has about 20 parking spaces on either side as well as sidewalks, tree plantings, and stop signs at both intersections. In his email, Wetzel also

pointed out West Liberty Street features LED-lighted crosswalks to warn motorists to the crossing of F&M Facilities & Operations utility vehicles.

According to the Lancaster Online article, the street can handle projected traffic volume. In addition, Lancaster City will handle maintenance of West Liberty Street.

The construction of West Liberty Street occurred as part of the College's Northwest Gateway Project, a collaborative effort between F&M and LGH to renovate the 28-acre site behind College Row. Formerly a rail yard owned by Norfolk Southern Corp., the College purchased the space with plans to convert it into an athletic facility, including the construction of Shadek Stadium.

## Sexual Misconduct: Questions and Answers

Question #12: Why do we use the term "sexual misconduct" instead of "sexual assault"? Doesn't that sugarcoat the problem?

The College, as did all colleges, formerly used the term sexual assault, but a decision was made in recent years to change the terminology. To illustrate why, I will give an example from a sexual misconduct investigation and hearing that occurred several years ago and was the genesis of the terminology change (None of the students involved are current students.) On the first spring day of the year, a few male students decided to entertain themselves by setting up a gauntlet on Hartman Green for students while they rated the female students on their physical attributes, using a 1-to-10 rating scale. When these young men were confronted about their behavior and the extremely hostile environment it was creating, some responded that they never laid a hand on anyone, they weren't hurting anyone, and it was just a joke. In other words, unless they caused physical harm, they did not see the offense. The use of the term sexual assault perpetuates this notion, and therefore, the College uses the term sexual misconduct with the exception of the Sexual Assault Response Team, or SART (We still use SART because it is a nationally used term and the acronym is easily recognized).

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## Staff Writer Commentary

### Sanders won Democratic Presidential Debate with his ideas, insights

BY NICHOLAS RIEBEL  
Staff Writer  
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If you listen to the pundits and the politicians, they will tell you that Hillary Clinton overwhelmingly won the Democratic presidential debate, held last Tuesday in Las Vegas, Nevada. And why shouldn't they? If Bernie Sanders wins, the rich pundits and politicians are going to be taxed more heavily to pay for things like education and health care. If Hillary Clinton wins, suffice it to say, they won't be as concerned about that happening.

Clinton, it must be admitted, was the most polished, practiced, and prepared. She is a very good politician. She obviously knew the right things to say, and the right ways to say them. But just because she had the best performance does not mean that she won the debate. Just because she says she's a progressive, just because she says she will push for progressive reform, doesn't mean she actually will.

The same media which dismissed Donald Trump as being too fringe and conservative for the Republican party is dismissing Bernie Sanders as being too fringe and liberal for the Democratic party.

Donald Trump, of course, is not too fringe and conservative for the Republican party. According to at least one poll, it is possible he may lose due to not being sufficiently conservative. Very conservative Republicans, I suspect, will end up supporting the more ideologically pure Ben Carson and Ted Cruz. Bernie Sanders, in the opinion of the media, is an interesting phenomenon: although they contend that the Democratic party is growing just as extreme as the Republican party, Bernie Sanders

is just too far out there for even most liberal Democrats. Surely, in their minds, he is a candidate without a path to the nomination.

But soon enough, despite (or perhaps because) of his honest commitment to democratic socialism, he started doing well in the polls, and he is catching up to Hillary Clinton in Iowa, and may have even overtaken her in New Hampshire (<http://bit.ly/1XbCiNN>). And make no mistake: he could be the Democratic nominee, and go on to win the White House, especially if Donald Trump becomes the Republican nominee. As of this time, he looks extremely likely to be their standard-bearer.

Sanders did not brag about his accomplishments in his opening remarks, unlike his opponents. That was because he is dedicated to his agenda: to remove the disproportionate influence of the rich and powerful from our democracy. It is a cancerous growth that will be difficult to cut out, but it must be cut out, or our country will not survive. If Wall Street and these special interests continue to accumulate power, we will reach a point in which our legislators and presidents don't even pretend to serve the interests of their constituents anymore. They will unabashedly serve the interests of the rich and powerful, who will use the government to accumulate further wealth and power at our expense.

Clinton is pretending to be liberal now, and it's kind of funny to see how she's acting as though she'll be tougher on Wall Street than Bernie Sanders would be. She's lying. Her career in politics has been serving their interests, and she will continue this if she becomes president (<http://bit.ly/1LP0cf9>). Her actions speak

louder than her words to me, and I hope they do to you as well.

Sanders says the right things, and does the right things too. That's why I support him and not Clinton. Even more than President Obama, she will sell our democracy to the highest bidder. In that way, she's not much different from a Republican, but at least some of them do it out of principle (at least in part), whereas Clinton and Obama do so merely in their own pursuit of

wealth, power, and prestige.

This is in addition to Clinton's other failings as a candidate, like her weaknesses with social issues and foreign policy, and I simply do not trust that she will do the right things as president. Bernie Sanders has walked the walk. That's why I feel the Bern.

We need Bernie Sanders as president. His valiant debate performance proved that he will lead the country toward our best future.

### Full Staff Opinion

#### Wegmans to open in Lancaster amid cheers and jeers

Christmas came early to the residents of Lancaster on Sunday morning, with the news that a Wegmans would be opening near Long's Park in just two short years. For those of you who do not live in the northeast and have thus never done grocery shopping the right way, Wegmans is a supermarket chain that provides a wide range of products with a smile. If you've had to deal with the classic "It's 10:00 p.m. and I need organic spinach puffs and Provencal goat cheese" debacle, have no fear—Wegmans has got you.

The problem, though, is that not everyone needs organic spinach puffs, and especially not in the middle of a food desert. If at this point, you catch yourself asking what a food desert is, we're glad you asked: According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, a food desert is an area where fresh, nutritious, and affordable foods are not readily available, particularly to people who do not have access to cars.

Now you might be asking, "But Lancaster County produces some of the most bountiful harvests in the entire country!" And you'd be right—about Lancaster County, but not the city. A quick, albeit unscientific, search for "grocery stores" in Lancaster, PA reveals that only a handful of grocery stores operate in Lancaster City, and mostly on the edges of town, outside of walking distance for folks without cars. Additionally, many of these grocery stores are not supermarkets, but specialized shops—Mandros' Imported Goods, for example—which are fine, but do not carry the essentials that people need on a daily basis. Another problem is that most of these stores close at early hours, limiting the opportunities people have to go shopping.

As a disclaimer, we're not trying to belittle any shop, or make you feel guilty for sharing pro-Wegmans posts on Facebook—in fact, we're excited, and we shared many of those posts, too! But what we do want to call attention to is the difference between what the community might want and what it might need. So while it's fine to be excited for Wegmans, the community may not need another high-end, high-priced grocery store on the edge of town. Maybe what it really needs is an affordable, locally-sourced market for the downtrodden, oft-overlooked citizens of Lancaster City. Bue we do need those organic spinach puffs, though. That's not up for debate.



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## Contributing Writer Commentary

### Pennhurst offers tricks, not treats, for portrayal of mentally ill, ethics of its enterprise

BY LAUREN WACHSPRESS  
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October has arrived, and with it comes the opening of Halloween-themed haunted houses sure to make you scream in horror. Infamous for neglect and abuse during its time, Pennhurst State School and Hospital of Spring City, PA now has a new purpose. The old asylum became a seasonal haunted attraction starting in 2010. The website for the haunted attraction includes an excerpt on its history, deeming it: "a history riddled with accusations of torture, abuse and neglect."

The legend page adds a new dimension, creating a fictionalized world that sets a foundation for the attraction. An invented Eastern European psychosurgical genius has come to conduct his unethical experiments on the murders and sociopaths at Pennhurst. After dying in a fire, the ghost of the doctor, as well as nurses and patients, are "haunting" the complex, waiting for new arrivals. Visitors may walk through the former hospital's halls and see the constructed horrors for themselves.

The asylum's attractions don't end there. According to Pennhurst's rather gorey website, those who enter, if they dare, can also test the odds—and presumably their stomachs—at Pennhurst's The Tunnel Terror, a full 900 feet hall below the original school "upgraded" with catacombs and cheap thrills, a self-guided "Ghost Hunt" through the Mayflower Building,

*"Is it right to profit off of the disturbing past of this once very real asylum?"*

*Are the actors and actresses fostering a harmful perception of the mentally disabled and mentally ill?"*

feature specials for Mother's Day. Following the asylum's rebranding as a haunted attraction in 2010, there was much controversy over ethical concerns.

Is it right to profit off of the disturbing past of this once very real asylum? Are the actors and actresses fostering a harmful perception of the mentally disabled and mentally ill? The owners and those involved

with the project were quick to respond to the controversy. The clever backstory created a pool of victims consisting of sociopaths, rapists, and murders.

They claimed this prevented any insinuations of mockery towards

mental handicap or mental illness. The criminals are the people being experimented on, not the disabled.

The attraction hosts doctors and nurses experimenting on another collection of society's misfits. Unfortunately, the owner's justification seems to condone the torture of sociopaths and other criminals.

Others have claimed there is a history lesson in itself to be experienced during the haunted attraction. Is going through the motions of the outrageous staged torture some odd way to empathize with those who were once abused in similar ways in those same rooms? The acting is undeniably reminiscent of the asylum's disturbing history.

Maybe the uproar at first seems like a reaction of ultra-sensitivity. Perhaps Pennhurst Asylum is simply meant to be a fun Halloween attraction based on shallow perceptions of illness, often stereotyped in horror movies. Yet, in a world without institutions, where many the mentally disabled are imprisoned, it can be hard to differentiate between criminals and the mentally disabled.

### Let's Get The Last Word, 10/19/15: Reliving the CNN/Facebook Democratic Presidential Debate's finest moments

We of The College Reporter love the news. And this past Tuesday, we fell in love with Anderson Cooper. At the CNN/Facebook Democratic Presidential Debate, the host made it plain he was there to indulge no candidate's ego. Join us as we relive the most important questions asked at of one of this week's most important happenings:

To Hillary Clinton: "You supported [Obama's] trade deal dozen of times. You even called it the "gold standard." Now, suddenly, last week, you're against it. Will you say anything to get elected?"

To Governor Martin O'Malley: "Governor O'Malley, the concern of voters about you is that you tout our record as Baltimore's mayor. As we all know, we all saw it. That city exploded in riots and violence in April...Why should Americans trust you with the country when they see what's going on in the city that you ran for more than seven years?"

To Senator Jim Webb: "Senator Webb, your rating from the NRA, you once had an A rating from the NRA. You've said gun violence goes down when more people are

allowed to carry guns. Would encouraging more people to be armed be part of your response to a mass shooting?"

"My question for the candidates is, do black lives matter, or do all lives matter?" (Okay, so this was technically a Facebook question, but we deemed it hard-hitting enough to be included here.)

To Governor Lincoln Chafee, in questioning the candidate's explanation for voting for the Glass-Steagall Act: "With all due respect...what does that say about you that you're casting a vote for

something you weren't really sure about?"

To Governor Chafee: "You and Hillary Clinton both voted for the Patriot Act which created the NSA surveillance program. You've emphasized civil liberties, privacy during your campaign. Aren't these two things in conflict?"

To all the candidates: "Franklin Delano Roosevelt once said, "I ask you to judge me by the enemies I have made." You've all made a few people upset over your political careers. Which enemy are you most proud of?"

**Do you believe in the journalistic process?**  
**Do you think the press should be a watchdog?**  
**Do you want to make your voice heard?**

**Email [aschulma@fandm.edu](mailto:aschulma@fandm.edu) to write for Op-Eds, and let freedom ring.**



# Campus Life

## Wallach discusses minority visibility, persecution during Common Hour

BY CHRISTA RODRIGUEZ  
Contributing Writer

This past Thursday's Common Hour featured Kerry Wallach, assistant professor of German at Gettysburg College, who gave a talk on why minority visibility matters, specifically with regard to the Jewish community.

Kerry Wallach teaches German and Jewish studies at Gettysburg College. She received her PhD in Germanic Language and Literature in 2011 from the University of Pennsylvania. Her research focuses on early 20th century German and Jewish literature and history, gender and sexuality, media and film studies, and individual and consumer culture. Her recent publications have been concerned with Weimar film, journalism, and Jews in popular culture. She was awarded the Women in German Dissertation Prize in 2012 for her dissertation.

Wallach began her lecture with a few thought-provoking questions for the audience. These included: "What does a Jew look like? When is it possible to spot a Jew? And to conclude that someone is Jewish based only on that person's appearance?" Wallach meditated on these questions and more throughout her presentation.

Wallach presented the TV show *Seinfeld* as an example of perceived Jewishness. Wallach says that the setting, names, use of language, and food preferences of the characters are stereotypically Jewish. Wallach pointed out that we make educated guesses or assumptions based on clues, but the question remains, can we conclude that these characters are Jewish?

In the Middle Ages, Jews were forced to wear materials to signify that they were Jewish as part of Western European legal codes. With the ex-

ception of the events of the Holocaust, Jewish people became harder to recognize after the Enlightenment. Wallach quoted an article that proclaimed, "be a man in the streets and a Jew at home." This indicated that being Jewish was thought to be a private thing and that in public they should present themselves like everyone else to avoid persecution or discrimination.

Wallach says that many Jews consciously decided to become less recognizable because of rising anti-semitism. However, any Jews who hid themselves were perceived by others as dangerous imitators of non-Jews. Jewish women were stereotyped to be always overdressed and jewelry-obsessed, which is how anti-Semites claimed to identify them. The more modern Jewish women become, the less identifiable they are as looking different. Wallach says that Jewish men are more recognizable because of material signifiers or, less obviously, by their circumcision. In this way, Jews are gendered male, and Jewish women are less visible.

Wallach also relayed the risks of appearing Jewish in public in the 1920s. This meant displaying Jewishness on the body or performing Jewish activities such as reading a Jewish newspaper. The fear of anti-semitic attacks conflicted with a new pride of identity. Therefore, people chose to mark their Jewish-ness with caution, only displaying signs that other Jews would recognize. This allowed them to feel safe being Jewish at home and in public. Women in the 1920s controlled their image through things like dying their hair blonde and using plastic surgery for nose corrections.

Wallach recounted the Zionist response to April 1933, when there was

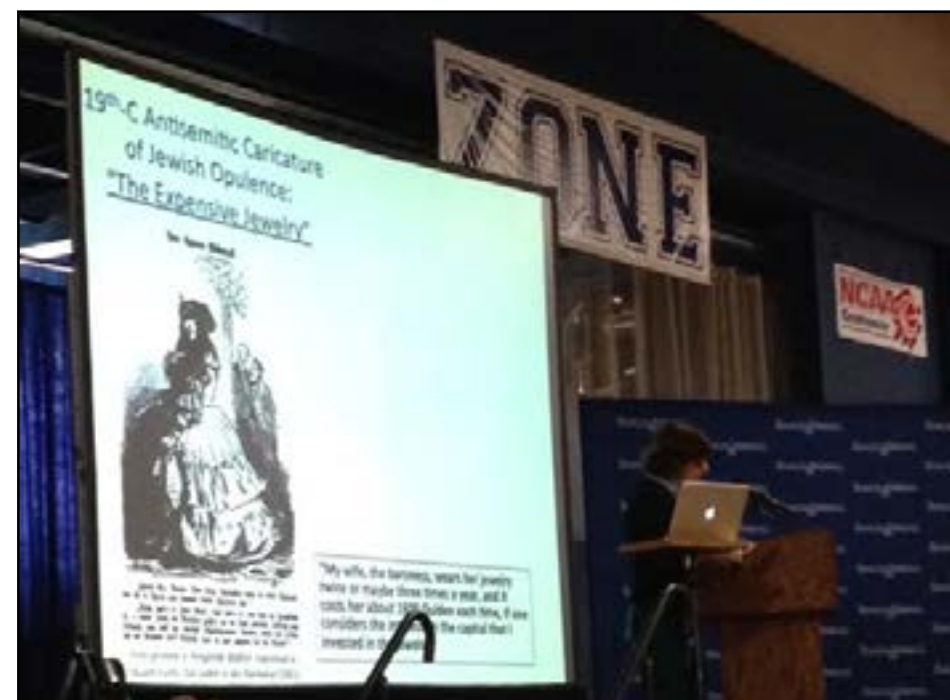


photo by Ellie Gavin '18

Kerry Wallach, assistant professor of German and Jewish Studies at Gettysburg College, spoke to F&M students about how minority visibility has changed over the years.

a boycott of Jewish-owned businesses in Germany. This occurred during the rise of the Nazi party, when wearing the star of David was enforced. A 1933 article encouraged Jewish people to "wear it with pride, the yellow badge!" This shows a counter-movement of pride in Judaism even in the face of persecution.

Currently, anti-semitic attacks have reached new heights in Europe. This is also evident in the new products made to protect Jews from being detected.

"The history of the Jewish quest to be seen and at times to be invisible or less conspicuous is one that intersects and parallels similar pursuits by other minority groups," Wallach said.

Wallach cited a few examples to illustrate her point; African Americans with lighter skin can pass as white, and people that identify as queer may not be perceived to be so by their appearance, which lessens the discrimi-

nation they face on a daily basis.

"Sometimes revealing one's identity can result in feelings of shame, being ostracized, by one's family or society, perhaps a prison sentence or even death or suicide," Wallach said. "Hiding one's identity is often accompanied by a counter impulse to proudly become visible through self-identification."

Wallach feels that people need to act as educated observers and go beyond what is visible to see other differences, and ended her talk by advocating for inclusion and acceptance.

"We must learn not only to read the many codes associated with self-identification and minorities, but also to be constantly receptive to their presence whatever forms it might take," Wallach said.

First-year Christa Rodriguez is a contributing writer. Her email is [crogrigu@fandm.edu](mailto:crogrigu@fandm.edu).

## Office of Multicultural Affairs to host open discussion on Planned Parenthood

BY ELLIE GAVIN  
Campus Life Editor

This Tuesday, Oct. 20, the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMCA) will host a discussion for members of the F&M community to gather and discuss their reactions to the ongoing controversy surrounding Planned Parenthood.

The event will take place during uncommon hour, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at OMCA's office at 625 College Avenue. Sophomore Ceci Plaza, who interns for OMCA and organized this event, said the purpose of the forum is to give students an opportunity to express their thoughts and opinions on the matter. "Planned Parenthood has been a hot-button topic recently and, before the protest tree was cut down, there were many posters advocating support for Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood also visited campus and

handed out t-shirts and other goodies with the cooperation of the Women's Center," Plaza said. "Their presence on campus, whether you agree with what [they] do or not, makes me think that this is something we need to talk about."

Plaza said the event will consist of a few discussion questions to get the conversation going, but for the most part, Plaza hopes that the conversation will be free-flowing. The idea is for attendees get to have an honest, open conversation and speak freely about whatever aspects of the conversation they care most about.

Plaza stressed that while the issues surrounding planned parenthood and health care are important for everyone to be thinking and talking about, they are especially relevant to the collegiate community, specifically college women.

"The issues surrounding Planned

Parenthood are affecting women across the nation and college-aged women need to know about what's happening to their healthcare," Plaza said. "College campuses can also be sites of protest, where students can organize to show their support or lack thereof for any political topic, movement, or decision. This discussion is important for everyone to have, but it's particularly important for us here at F&M because we want our campus community to be well-informed and educated about their options."

While Plaza thinks that this is an extremely important conversation, she also realizes that the nature of the subject can make many people uncomfortable, and hopes that this discussion can foster more open, respectful communication among students who may otherwise be hesitant to speak their mind.

"The goal of this discussion is just

to get people talking in a safe space. Depending on your beliefs and opinions, Planned Parenthood can be a touchy subject, but we want to open that door," she said. "With food and friends, even this potentially uncomfortable topic can be approached in a non-threatening way where everyone can make their voice heard."

No matter what their opinion on Planned Parenthood is, Plaza hopes the discussion helps everyone to be more informed and comfortable.

"My hope is that people will walk away with an understanding of various perspectives and an idea of their position on the matter and what they can do to show their support for Planned Parenthood if they choose to do so."

Sophomore Ellie Gavin is the Campus Life Editor. Her email is [fgavin@fandm.edu](mailto:fgavin@fandm.edu).

# Arts & Entertainment

## Sicario falls short of becoming one of this year's great films Strong cinematography, score support weak plot, unoriginal dialogue

Film Review  
*Sicario*

by Preman Koshar

If Denis Villeneuve's newest film, *Sicario*, could be defined with a single word, it would be anxiety. Within minutes of opening, guns have been fired, dozens of bodies have been found, and a surprise explosion takes place—these become the norm for the remainder of the film. In *Sicario*, Emily Blunt stars as FBI special agent Kate Macer, who primarily works to stop the drug trade near the Mexican border. She and her partner (Daniel Kaluuya) are ultimately asked to join a special task force led by possible CIA agent Matt Graver (Josh Brolin) and assisted by a possible hitman, Alejandro Gillick (Benicio del Toro), to find the men responsible for the aforementioned bodies and explosion. From there, Kate learns that there is a troubling gray area between good and evil, and that very few people are who they claim to be.

The film has excellent cinematography, and will undoubtedly be nominated for an Oscar in this regard. There are many beautiful panoramic shots over cities and deserts, and numerous interesting, artistic shots during the more close-up and action-packed scenes. I would say that *Sicario* might win the Oscar in cinematography, but if *The Revenant*'s cinematography is half as good as it appears in the trail-



photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Emily Blunt won a Golden Globe in 2007 for her role in *Gideon's Daughter* and in 2009 was named the BAFTA British Artist of the Year.

er, then the Oscar is already decided. The score is also impressive, filled with jangly, aggressive noises that are clearly designed to raise your hackles when appropriate, and to keep the momentum going during slower, more dialogue-focused scenes. The score reminded me of a lone banjo player wandering down an empty road—eerie and anxiety provoking, while not going so far as to be unpleasant. The acting is well done as well. Emily

Blunt does a great job as a conflicted, but tough agent, but the theme of the tough guy (or gal, in this case) who doesn't believe in a gray area feels a bit overdone and melodramatic. Every action ever committed by humankind is a shade of gray; there is no true black and no true white. It's annoying when characters don't seem to be able to understand this. The other characters do a good job in their supporting roles, especially Josh Brolin, who has

## The Martian has a detailed, intricate plot that is impossible to predict Matt Damon gives a powerful performance, assisted by stunning special effects

Film Review  
*The Martian*

by Joe Yamulla

Ridley Scott's *The Martian* is an absolute box office hit right now. As of last week, the film's earnings had already risen to more than \$108.7 million. Matt Damon stars in the movie and certainly does not disappoint. After viewing it shortly after it was released, I immediately considered it to be one of the top movies of the year and a worthy candidate to receive several Academy Awards. *The Martian* was an A+ smash that I think everyone should see.

The basic plot of the movie (without spoiling anything) is that Mark Watney (Matt Damon) and his team are working on a project as the first human venture to Mars. However, when disaster strikes and a storm forces the crew to evacuate the planet, Watney gets left behind after it was believed that he was killed. To the dismay of everyone on Earth, it turns out Watney survived and is left to survive



photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Matt Damon received his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on July 25, 2007. He was the 2,343rd person to receive this honor.

on the space station left on Mars with a finite supply of food and water. He schemes ways to survive on a planet with no life until a mission from Earth is able to attempt to bring him home.

When it comes to the structure of the movie, the cast is pretty ideal. Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Jeff Daniels, Chiwetel Ejiofor, and Kate Mara were all-stars in this one. Each portrayed their character in an original

and gripping way. Second, the effects in the film were absolutely stunning. From the vast landscape of the mysterious planet of Mars, to the shots of space travel, the expensive budget proved to be absolutely worth it.

Also, the plot line was actually extremely intricate. Many survival films have a linear outcome, however, I was on the edge of my seat pondering the various outcomes throughout the

nailed the casually sadistic CIA agent role. He is scary and disarmingly charming at the same time. The plot has strong momentum, and barrels forward at a refreshing pace, but was a little too predictable for my liking. A movie of this caliber, with such lively characters, should have had more of a twist. I should not have been able to see the ending coming two-thirds of the way through the movie. The dialogue is decent, but not exemplary. A lot of corny, stereotypical action phrases are used during combat, and while the general discussions between characters weren't poorly written, they weren't powerful or particularly eloquent, either.

Overall, *Sicario* is a strong film with a lot of good attributes—even a few great ones. However, it's unfortunate that it fell a bit short in some key areas, such as the plot and dialogue. *Sicario* could have been one of this year's greats, but instead it will be remembered as one of this year's "pretty goods."

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Review Rating:

**B+**

*Sicario's* strong cinematography and score are marred by a weak plot.

entire duration of the movie. Ridley Scott showed impressive creativity as he created a box office hit that spends a majority of its time focusing on Damon.

If *The Martian* is a sign of what's to come with films this season, movie fans should be optimistic. The only critical comments made by movie reviewers are that the film is predictable. However, as mentioned, I found the opposite to be true. I was filled with suspense and excitement while watching this film. It is fun for all audiences, making it marketable and especially popular. I highly recommend that you, along with friends or family, make time to go see *The Martian* before it leaves theatres.

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Review Rating:

**A-**

*The Martian* had a strong, unpredictable plot that held a lot of emotional weight.



Playoffs for The Major League Baseball regular season are beginning. Read more below...



photo courtesy of adweek.com

# Franklin & Marshall Sports

## NBA season begins, superstar players bring teams attention

BY JOSEPH YAMULLA  
Sports Editor

It seems like it just ended, and basketball is already back. Next week, the top basketball players in the world will be lacing up their sneakers as the NBA season tips off with the Cleveland Cavaliers and Chicago Bulls.

It's no surprise that this season is highly anticipated, as all eyes are on the defending champion Golden State Warriors and the rest of the top teams in the league as they

compete to be crowned champions in June.

Going into the season, the Warriors are still listed as the top team in the NBA in the power rankings. Young stars Steph Curry and Klay Thompson have the Bay area poised to make many playoff runs now and in the future.

However, despite how good this team is, winning championships back to back is one of the most difficult things for any professional sports franchise to accomplish.

Many people favorite defending Eastern Conference Champion Cleveland Cavaliers and LeBron James to finally bring a championship back to the city of Cleveland. It is still debatable as to who was the better team last season. The Cavaliers had several key players injured such as Kyrie Irving, Kevin Love, and Anderson Varejão.

These losses forced most of the team's burden to be placed on the shoulders of their leader in LeBron James. Last season, his efforts were not quite enough. He hopes to help Cleveland breakthrough this year and win his third championship.

Even though Cleveland and Golden State are labeled as the two best teams in basketball, the road to the Finals will certainly be difficult. Even in the Eastern Conference, the Cavaliers have to face an upstart and very talented Washington Wizards team, and the well-balanced Atlanta Hawks and Toronto Raptors.

It would be no surprise if Washington, Toronto, or Atlanta makes the next step this season and surpasses Cleveland to go deeper into the playoffs and possibly even to the NBA Championship.

The Warriors have it even tougher out West. The newly reloaded San Antonio Spurs are look-

ing to add another title to their dynasty this season with the help of newly acquired forward Lemarcus Aldridge. Chris Paul and the Clippers, and then of course Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook of the Oklahoma City Thunder, are large threats to the Warriors' quest of repeating their championship win.

The Western Conference is so incredibly deep that teams like the Houston Rockets, Memphis Grizzlies, New Orleans Pelicans, and Dallas Mavericks sometimes get forgotten when talking about favorites this season.

However, each team either has the talent or experience to make a playoff run. It is safe to say that whoever comes out of the West is going to deserve it after battling through such a tough conference.

The NBA is in a great place right now. Superstars are playing in just about every city, and each franchise has something exciting happening. Next week, fans will be walking through turnstiles in their respective arenas and preparing to cheer on their team. beginning of next Summer, when a champion will be crowned.

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photo courtesy of foxsports.com

Above, the Golden State Warriors, of Oakland, Ca. are looking to repeat their NBA championship win from last year, and are already favorited to go far in the post season.

## Teams look to end championship droughts during baseball playoffs

BY JOSEPH GIORDANO  
Staff Writer

As of Friday, only four teams are still playing in Major League Baseball. The Chicago Cubs will take on the New York Mets in the National League Championship, and the Toronto Blue Jays will take on the Kansas City Royals in the American League Championship. Each of these four teams enters with an interesting back-story, and each is looking to end their World Series title droughts.

Of the four teams, the team who has waited the longest is the Cubs. The Chicago Cubs have waited 107 years since their last World Series title in 1908. However, this Cubs team doesn't have the usual bleak outlook of a typical Cubs' team in October. After a massive overhaul of talent, this young Cubs team looks primed for a title run. With the offseason addition of Jon Lester and the emergence of young stars Jake Arrieta, Kyle Schwarber, Kris Bryant, and so many more, this Cubs team looks as sharp as ever.

On their way to the NLCS, they

rolled through the teams with the two best records: the Pittsburgh Pirates and St. Louis Cardinals. After defeating the Pirates 4-0 in the Wild Card play-in game and the Cardinals three games to one in a five-game series, the Cubs look as dangerous as ever. The combination of the Arrieta and Lester at the top of their rotation along with their potent young offense has the Cubs as many experts' World Series favorite as they look to end their 107-year drought.

In the Cubs' way are the New York Mets, who also are looking to end a 29-year World Series drought. The Mets defeated the Los Angeles Dodgers three games to two in a tightly contested NLDS on their way to the series. The Mets' claim to fame this year has been their lockdown pitching rotation. Jacob deGrom, Noah Syndergaard, and Matt Harvey have anchored the team all year with solid outings and look just as sharp in the postseason.

The midseason acquisition of Yoenis Cespedes added a big bat to their lineup as they looked to close holes in their lineup. In ad-

dition, the veteran leadership of David Wright has Mets fans very confident that this is in fact their year.

In the American League, the Toronto Blue Jays will take on the Kansas City Royals. The Blue Jays also have not captured a title since 1993, when Joe Carter hit a walk-off home run to clinch the title for the Jays.

The Blue Jays made many key acquisitions at the trade deadline, adding starting pitcher David Price and shortstop Troy Tulowitzki to an already potent starting lineup, which includes the always-dangerous Jose Bautista and the MVP favorite Josh Donaldson. The Blue Jays overcame a two game deficit in the ALDS against the Texas Rangers and look to keep the momentum going when they travel to Kansas City. After a hot second half of the year, the Blue Jays seem ready to go in what should be an amazing series.

On the other side, the defending American League champion Kansas City Royals come into the ALCS after a comeback of their own against the Houston Astros.

After not capturing a title since 1985, the Royals seemed ready to end the drought last year when they were defeated in a tight series against the San Francisco Giants in seven games. With many of their starters, including Eric Hosmer, Mike Moustakas, Salvador Perez, and Alex Gordon, returning this year, the Royals seem ready to get over the hump and finally capture the World Series that just escaped their grasp last year.

The addition of Johnny Cueto in their starting rotation was crucial and one that could offset David Price in the end and should lead to amazing pitching matchups.

Both the American League and National League Series will include tons of exciting action, high level coaching and fundamental baseball. No matter the result, one of these four cities will finally end their World Series drought and bring an end to what has been a very exciting season of baseball.

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