



The College Reporter

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Senior Associate Dean Maria Flores-Mills to join Colgate University in June

BY KATHERINE COBLE
News Editor

Colgate University and Franklin & Marshall College announced this month that Maria Flores-Mills, the Senior Associate Dean of Franklin & Marshall for four years, will depart from the College at the end of the semester. She will begin a new position as Dean of Students for Colgate University in Hamilton, New York beginning on June 4, 2018. Flores-Mills is the second major administrator to announce her departure from the College in recent months after President Dan Porterfield announced his intention to join the Aspen Institute in Washington, D.C. this June.

Flores-Mills has been a member of the Franklin & Marshall's Office of the Dean of the College since 2014. When asked what she felt has changed the most about the College since her term began, she mentioned that she is especially proud that the number of alcohol transports to the hospital has declined since she began her position and additionally feels that fraternity and sorority life has "evolved in a positive way" by "living its values more." She also noted change in the diversity and volume of social activities avail-



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

Senior Associate Dean of the College Maria Flores-Mills will depart from Franklin & Marshall in June to serve as Dean of Students for Colgate University in New York.

able students, saying that she feels she has "worked really hard to cultivate a lot of different opportunities and activities for students across the spectrum of interests and ideas."

Colgate will be the fifth campus Flores-Mills has worked for and she maintains that there is a particular culture at every institution that an

administrator must adjust to. Unlike Franklin & Marshall, Colgate has a division one athletics program and has a slightly larger campus population overall with roughly 2,900 undergraduate students. Flores-Mills will also have slightly different responsibilities at Colgate and says she plans to "circle back

to diversity and inclusion work" as she began her career in multicultural affairs and previously served as a Posse Foundation mentor.

When asked to reflect on her time at F&M, Flores-Mills cites the Dean of the College, Margaret Hazlett, as "one of the most phenomenal parts about working" for F&M and says that during her tenure at F&M Hazlett has become a "mentor and role model both." Her advice to students considering pursuing a career in higher education is to keep an open mind and pursue opportunities even if the specific job responsibilities are not what they initially had in mind.

"Young professionals want to step into the ideal role," Flores-Mills notes, "And sometimes that works but other times you have to pay your dues a little bit."

It is the opportunity for mentorship and varied experience is what makes a job fulfilling. "There's so much to be said for working with people that you respect and admire and are philosophically aligned with," Flores-Mills adds. It is clear she found this community at F&M.

Sophomore Katherine Coble is the news editor. Her email is kcoble@fandm.edu.

Franklin & Marshall hosts second annual Creativity and Innovation Symposium

BY KATHERINE COBLE
News Editor

On Saturday, January 27, Franklin & Marshall College hosted the Creativity & Innovation Symposium. The annual event is in its second year at F&M and involved students, parents, alumni, and faculty.

The symposium specifically centered on the Creativity, Innovation and Design course offered by the College last fall. The course was co-taught by five professors and one staff member: Etienne Gagnon of

the physics department, Dan Ardia of the biology department, English professor Kerry Sherin Wright, Bryan Stinchfield from the business department, film professor Dirk Eitzen, and Teb Locke, the director of ITS on campus. Last summer the College arranged for all of them to study at Stanford University's famous School of Design Thinking to re-examine education and integrate creativity into their curriculum.

The result of this trip was the Creativity, Innovation and Design course, a team-taught interdisciplinary course with 18

students split into six groups. Each group was partnered with a nonprofit organization in the Lancaster area. The students worked with these organizations to identify issues and test solutions. The curriculum ranged from guest lectures about entrepreneurship to homework assignments such as "Make a table." At the end of the semester, all of the students presented their work to an audience that included members of the F&M and Lancaster community.

This course was one of just many programs at F&M highlighted during the Creativity

& Innovation Symposium. The event was hosted by the founder and CEO of the public relations firm Skai Blue Media, Rakia Reynolds. The agenda of the symposium included a keynote talk by Reynolds, a series of breakout sessions, and a speech by the CEO of Curemark and a College Trustee, Joan Fall '79, about how to better mentor young innovators.

One of the breakout sessions was hosted soccer coach Dan Wagner and was titled "The

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CRIME WATCH

Saturday, Jan. 20, 12:26am - The Department of Public Safety (DPS) performed a medical assist for an intoxicated student on 625 Lancaster Ave.

Saturday, Jan. 20, 1:08am - DPS responded to a loud noise complaint in Bonchek College House.

Saturday, Jan. 20, 2:00am - DPS received a noise complaint for loud music in Thomas Hall.

Saturday, Jan. 20, 9:29am - DPS received a call from the Alumni Sports Fitness Center (ASFC) regarding students trespassing in the workout area.

Saturday, Jan. 20, 9:26pm - DPS responded to a loud noise complaint on 625 Lancaster Ave.

Sunday, Jan. 21, 12:13am - DPS responded to a publicly intoxicated female student on College Hill.

Sunday, Jan. 21, 12:44am - DPS performed a medical assist for an intoxicated student at Ware College House.

Sunday, Jan. 21, 1:00am - DPS responded to Ware College House for a loud noise complaint involving a party

Sunday, Jan. 21, 1:03am - DPS responded to a vehicle accident in the Ware College parking lot. No F&M students were involved.

Sunday, Jan. 21, 2:09am - DPS performed a medical assist at New College House.

Sunday, Jan. 21, 12:04pm - DPS noted a drug violation at 608 W James.

Monday, Jan. 22, 12:11am - DPS performed a wellbeing check in Buchanan Hall.

Monday, Jan. 22, 1:01am - A student reported to DPS that his car had been stolen from the 600 block of N Charlotte St.

Thursday, Jan. 25, 5:52pm - DPS performed a medical assist in Harris for a sick employee.

Thursday, Jan. 25, 9:17pm - DPS responded to a loud music noise complaint at 608 N Charlotte St.



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

Senior Alison Renna was one of many F&M students, faculty, and staff to attend the College's second annual Creativity and Innovation Symposium on February 27.

Creativity: Professors, faculty, and students unite for discussions on increasing innovation

F&M Soccer Africa Project – Arms Against Slavery in 1859?” and Professor Kibler served as the game facilitator. Kibler is well-known for incorporating such simulations into her Introduction to American Studies courses.

The symposium was a celebration of creativity and innovative programs at F&M, which have undoubtedly increased in recent years at the College. The symposium will likely occur for a third time next year with new programs and courses being highlighted. The College is expected to remain on the forefront of educational innovation in the future.

Another session at the symposium was a game stimulation hosted by Dr. Allison Kibler, a professor of Women’s Studies and American Studies at the College. The session was called “Slavery, Political Violence and Justice: Was Abolitionist John Brown Justified in Taking up

Sophomore Katherine Coble is the news editor. Her email is kcoble@fandm.edu.



The College Reporter

Transparency. Accuracy. Credibility.

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT
NEWSPAPER OF
FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE



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The College Reporter was formed in 1964, as a successor to The Student Weekly, which was formed in 1915 by the union of The F&M Weekly, founded 1891, and The College Student founded 1881. The crest of The College Reporter was designed in 2004 by Kim Cortes '05.
The College Reporter is a weekly student-edited newspaper, published every Monday except during exam and vacation periods. The website was created by Tim Jackson '12, Christian Hartranft '12, Joshua Finkel '15, and Lauren Bejzak '13. The subscription rate is \$51 per year.
The Editorial Board, headed by the Editor-in-Chief, has sole authority and full responsibility for the content of the newspaper. The College Reporter and its subsidiaries are designated public forums. All content is selected and printed by a board of elected or appointed students. The Masthead Editorial is the majority opinion of the Editorial Board. No other parties are in any other way responsible for its content, and all inquiries concerning that content should be directed to the Editor in Chief. All opinions reflect those of the author and not that of The College Reporter, with the exception of the Masthead Editorial.

Full Staff Opinion



As this spring semester begins, there is a chance for everyone to start new. Each of us has the chance to start fresh and end the school year out on a high note. Despite the constant stress and assignments that this semester will undoubtedly bring, we must remember to keep everything in perspective and to never get too overwhelmed by our responsibilities. Research shows that information retention and processing speed are both negatively impacted when the brain is experiencing stress.

Each student, even though it may be difficult to do, must find time for themselves to relax and relieve their stress. Whether it's through going to the gym, watching Netflix, or doing other relaxing activities of your choosing, find time for yourself and get away from the books whenever possible. Stress is only harmful and if you are doing work or studying while overstressed, it may be even less helpful than taking the time for yourself to wind down. Five to ten minutes of a break are proven to be helpful and can help you to be more effective in finishing your work. In addition, making a schedule of your daily work and what needs to be done by can eliminate feeling overwhelmed or feeling like the workload is undoable.

We can only do our best and despite the mounting pressures of school, we must stay within ourselves. By managing your stress and maintaining a healthy balance between work and play, this could be your best semester yet!

Opinion & Editorial

Staff Writer Commentary

Writer shares experiences after participating in Women's March

BY RUBY VAN DYK
Staff Writer

On Saturday, January 20th I got up early, pulled on my winter clothes, got a cup coffee and walked to Lancaster train station all whilst simultaneously holding a sign with Ruth Bader Ginsburg's face on it. Why? The Women's March. We caught the train to Philadelphia and met up with 50,000 people to march. It was a unseasonably beautiful January day and the sun was out as people young and old marched, signs held proudly in the air. The march

started at Aviator Park and moved towards The Art Museum, where many speakers and performers spoke to the crowd about politics, feminism, racism and the ME-TOO movement. Cheers erupted as women called for change and progression in today's culture. People had signs that ranged from feminist takes on Dr. Seuss quotes to Beyonce lyrics. As I stood looking out into the massive crowd my heart swelled with pride. I was proud to be a part of an amazing day, and most importantly, proud to be a woman.



Photos by Ruby Van Dyk

First-year Ruby Van Dyk is a Staff Writer. Her email is rvandyk@fandm.edu.

Contributing writer provides personal insight into Common Hour, "Against Empathy"

BY SHAWN KIM
Contributing Writer

This past Thursday, Dr. Paul Bloom of Yale University delivered a talk about empathy, a topic that has distinguished him for his unique perspective. Dr. Bloom makes a case against empathy, denouncing it as a potentially reckless motivator.

Dr. Bloom began his talk by defining empathy by referencing the well-known phrase, "putting ourselves in the shoes of another person". One thing that Dr. Bloom additionally established was the difference between compassion and empathy- compassion as showing concern and care, while empathy as a more vicarious experience. After doing so, Dr. Bloom made his first point- "Empathy is biased". He argued his point by explaining an experiment conducted on European male soccer fans. In the experiment a subject received a shock on the back of his hand then watched another person also receive a shock. Through trials, the shock was given to fans of the same soccer team and fans of opposing teams. The study revealed that when subjects witnessed soccer fans of the same team getting shocked, an empathic neural response

was evoked, but not so much with fans of opposing teams. Bloom revealed that mutual and superficial factors, such as ethnicity and appearance, were significant in evoking empathy.

Bloom then discussed the innumeratecy of empathy. He recognized school shootings and how much media attention they received, but revealed that these events made up only 1% of US homicides. Bloom clarified that he was not denouncing the significance of school shootings but was revealing how empathy creates a provincial perspective. He explained that empathy constricts us to focus our attention on single individuals rather than groups, favoring irrational and emotional motivations rather than logical and rational considerations. To further his point, he discussed the massive media attention given to a young white teenager who had been kidnapped, and the contrastingly dearth of media attention and awareness about genocide and crime occurring in Africa at the same time.

Bloom used the metaphor of a spotlight to further explain empathy. Though empathy shines the light on certain issues, it is limited just like a spotlight. This spotlight simile was

displayed in the Ebola crisis, during which much more attention was focused on the few "light-skinned" patients than on the multitude of dark-skinned patients. He also argued that the "spotlight" caused by empathy allowed for the manipulation of it by unscrupulous groups of people. He argued that empathy exhausted individuals who tried to "put themselves in the shoes of another person", leading to stress and poor health.

Bloom, however, took the time to recognize the importance of empathy in certain circumstances, specifically those involving pleasure (i.e. being a parent, reading books). But he concluded his talk by asserting the effectiveness and rational power of compassion, separate from empathy.

I had previously read an article titled, "The Perils of Empathy" by Dr. Bloom, which was one of the reasons why I was especially excited for his Common Hour. When I first read the article, I was intrigued at the unconventional insight that he provided by attacking empathy, and listening to Bloom talk, reminded me of those same ideas. However, I developed some skepticisms to some of his points, specifically involving the re-

lationship between compassion and empathy.

Are compassion and empathy not intertwined? Dr. Bloom began by differentiating the two, providing his own definitions of each, but how separate are they really? I found myself wondering whether compassion without empathy risks being disingenuous. After all, doesn't the ability to be wholly compassionate rest its foundation on empathy? For example, when donating to certain charities and organizations, we may be perceived as compassionate by others. However, empathy seems to differentiate the superficial and indifferent acts of compassion from the genuine acts of compassion. As one of the commenters on his WSJ article wrote, "compassion and sympathy don't exist in a vacuum". Dr. Bloom's points still maintain their validity because even if the two emotions cannot be separated, rationality and logic should remain an essential factor in how we act and perceive certain circumstances.

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Campus Life

Paul Bloom, Yale University psychology professor, argues against empathy

BY SARAH FRAZER
Contributing Writer

This week's Common Hour was given by Paul Bloom, an award-winning author, renowned scientist, and professor of psychology at Yale University. In his latest book, *Against Empathy: The Case for Rational Compassion*, and at his Common Hour talk of the same name, he contends that empathy can, in fact, make the world worse.

First, Dr. Bloom claims that he is not against people having emotional intelligence: understanding what others need and want. He simply views this skill as morally neutral since sadists and other immoral people also desire to know the feelings of the people whom they hurt.

Bloom's issue is with the idea of "putting yourself in another's shoes." Bloom cites the neuroscience of empathy - that when empathetic people have their brains scanned in labs, the science shows them to feel literally, in one sense, that hurt in their brains.

The problem illuminated by this test is that empathy can cause people to feel emotionally exhausted. Buddhist literature distinguishes between sentimental compassion, which is draining, and love, which fills someone with happiness and energy. "Compassion gives rise to good health and pro-social motivation. Empathy gives rise to stress and poor health," concluded Bloom.

Dr. Bloom discussed an argument people make in support of empathy as being good for the world, the empathy-altruism hypothesis. This hypothesis suggests that if you feel empathy for someone, you are more likely to help them.

Even if one assumes this idea to be true, it can sometimes have negative consequences. For instance, there are countless cases where aid we give to people in the developing world does not help them and actually makes their plights worse. The reasons for this problem are manifold. The money or resources could fall in the hands of malevolent people. When people give money to child beggars, it often does not help them since they are run by criminal gangs and do not see the benefits of that money. Moreover, the more people give, the more children will be pushed to beg for money.

Bloom did not sugarcoat it. "You're making the world worse," he said to anyone who gives to charity without really researching how it helps and to where it goes. "It depends what you want," Dr. Bloom continued. "If you want to feel really good about yourself, you should give to a kid in need... savor each [donation you give]."

Then, there are the problematic aspects of empathy, the reality that people have biases when they empathize. Scientifically speaking, "we feel more empathy when someone is the same skin color as us... we are very swayed by in-group out-group" Bloom ex-

plained, "We are horrified by attractive girls who are abducted." He cited the figure that when Natalee Holloway went missing, she received multiple times the amount of news coverage than all of Africa at that time.

"When we let our emotions guide our moral feelings, we ignore the numbers," Bloom argued. Mass shootings make up 1% of all homicides, yet it feels like more because "numbers don't mean much to us when we are driven by emotion." According to Bloom, intellectual acknowledgement involves being unfettered by emotions, and this way of viewing problems is ultimately much more productive. If you consider the absolute amount of suffering from homicide, the amount from school shootings is, frankly, a drop in the bucket.

In addressing the objection he hears about empathy always being a force for good, even an imperfect one, Bloom asserted that empathy "is used as a catalyst for anger." Specifically, he referenced President's Trump's telling people to "look at YouTube videos" of downtrodden Syrians to justify an attack he wanted to conduct in the war-torn nation. Indeed, Bloom noted, "the more empathy you have as a trait, the more punitive you are in your actions," according to one study.

Another study found no relationship between violence and a lack of empathy. Yet another compared compassion and empathy; it found



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

that concern and compassion produce good behavior while empathy does not. When distinguishing empathy from compassion, scientists have found that the traits activate different parts of the brain. Some argue that without empathy, humans would have no reason to do good. According to Bloom, that is simply not true. "Real human moral motivation has many sources" he elaborated, whether those sources come from love, religion, concern, compassion, or otherwise. "I'm against empathy as a way to determine what the right thing to do is and as a motivator to get us to do the right thing." It wouldn't work anyway, according to Dr. Bloom.

"I do want to make a useful suggestion: It's very tempting to put yourself in other people's shoes. But I want to suggest it's a moral trainwreck."

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F&M Players present musical *Legally Blonde*, displaying student talent

BY NINA KEGELMAN
Contributing Writer

After months of exhaustive preparation, the F&M Players production of *Legally Blonde* ran last weekend. In this stage adaptation of the 2001 film of the same name, Julia Grumbine '21 stars as Elle Woods, the ambitious, bubbly, and popular president of UCLA's Delta Nu sorority who ventures to Harvard Law School hoping to win back the love of her ex.

The show follows Elle as she, with the help of her chorus of sorority sisters, including delightfully spunky performances from Lily Noble '21, Maeve O'Brien '20, and Leah Finkelstein '18, applies to Harvard, struggles with snarky classmates, and discovers herself.

The first act concerns Elle in the aftermath of an unexpected breakup with Warner Huntington III, portrayed by Matt Henninger '18. Henninger's smooth R&B style vocals and creative depiction of his character as a foolish and narcissistic hipster made his performance very enjoyable. He and Grumbine created a playful dy-

namic in the ups and downs of Warner and Elle's relationship, which continued throughout the show.

At Harvard, Elle meets other law students, each of whom the actors represent through hilarious caricatures. Darby Lucius-Milliman '20 gives a truly engaging performance as Enid Hoopes, an intense liberal feminist, while Dina Spyroupoulos '21 skillfully portrays, Elle's serious and preppy nemesis, Vivienne Kensington.

The set, though simplistic, served its purpose well. Interesting visual motifs such as the Delta Nu sisters' candlelit chants make efficient use of the staircase and balcony pieces. The intimate lighting of Elle and Warner's breakup in "Serious" and the eerie red wash in "Blood in the Water" were sophisticated artistic choices that helped form the moods of the scenes.

Act II, taking a more serious turn, introduces Brooke Wyndham (Bette Scher '21), whom Elle and the legal team must defend in a high stakes murder investigation. Scher's demanding physical performance

thrilled the audience as she sang while jumping rope in the number "Whipped Into Shape." As Elle and the team struggle to prove Brooke's innocence, fun numbers like "Bend and Snap" and "There! Right There!" had the audience laughing despite the suspense of the plot.

O'Gara captured the hearts of the audience as she whimsically sang about love and Ireland, flawlessly executed the "Bend and Snap," and flirted with Paulette's crush, the cool delivery man Kyle, hilariously portrayed by Daniel Rock '20. Her ease on stage and charming voice added an earnest dimension of affection to the show.

Prominent male leads Charles Romano as T.A. Emmett Forrest and Jack Norton as Professor Callahan balanced Grumbine's perky and excitable Elle, engaging the audience as the conflict developed. Romano, with his serious yet encouraging demeanor as Emmett, progressed the character development of Elle while showing an impressive vocal range. Norton commanded the stage as Professor Callahan and smartly played

the gradual reveal of Callahan as a sinister predator in his advances towards Elle.

Julia Grumbine's performance as Elle is arguably the most impressive in the show. A demanding role with a great deal of content, Grumbine's singing, dancing, and acting proved her a dedicated and multi-talented performer. A fresh take on the role of Elle, Grumbine embodied the high-spirited devotion and resourcefulness of the character, not reducing her to her girly naivete.

Aside from some minor technical blunders and muttered lines here and there, the show was very smooth and entertaining. The Players clearly have a great variety of skill sets and creative performers to work with going forward. From the energy and spunk of the sorority sisters to the vivacious courtroom ensemble, *Legally Blonde* proved the Players to be a talented troop with more spectacular productions in store.

First-year Nina Kegelman is a contributing writer. Her email is nkegelma@fandm.edu.

Arts & Leisure

Musical film *The Greatest Showman* details the story of the life of P.T. Barnum

BY Abigail Sokolsky

Layout Assistant

The Greatest Showman premiered in December of 2017, directed by Michael Gracey and starring Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams, Zac Efron, and Zendaya Coleman. The film, a musical drama written by Jenny Bicks and Bill Condon, is inspired by the story of the rise of the first great circus, created in 1919 by P.T. Barnum. Set in New York, the film details P.T. Barnum's humble beginnings, fondness for the underdog or socially ostracized, and dream of a society more accepting of outsiders or those considered in opposition to the status quo. The setting of 1900s New York and the juxtaposition of New York elite and the lower class is therefore both historically accurate as well as aesthetically appropriate for a film which addresses the tension between old money and an innovative new generation.

Not only is this film thematically impressive, but the musical



Photo courtesy www.photospy.com

The Greatest Showman starring Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams, Zac Efron, and Zendaya Coleman is received with mixed reviews.

numbers are stunning as well. The first musical number of the film is *The Greatest Show*, sung by Hugh Jackman, Zac Efron, and Zendaya Coleman. This song is recurrent throughout the film, acting as an anthem evocative of strength, confidence, comradery, and determination. While this song is pervasive throughout the film, the most impressive of the soundtrack remains *The Other Side*, a

remarkably well choreographed duet between Hugh Jackman and Zac Efron. This piece is set at a bar as P.T. Barnum meets with Phillip Carlyle, a young man with an upper-class reputation and a knack for performance. As Barnum and Carlyle go back and forth, Barnum making his pitch for why Carlyle should come work with him and Carlyle defending his current glamorous if restricting lifestyle,

the two spin and glide throughout the bar while occasionally knocking back drinks, making for a spectacular routine.

Despite the universal themes and phenomenal soundtrack, *The Greatest Showman* was not initially well received by movie critics. On Rotten Tomatoes the film received only an approval rating of 54% and many viewers found themselves critiquing the film for deviating too far from the original story which the film is based upon. While there are indeed many differences from historical fact (the character of Phillip Carlyle, for instance, is entirely fictitious), the film can still be considered a success given how well done the presentation itself is. Indeed, it is undeniable that *The Greatest Showman* successfully captures the element of the fantastic which was so intrinsic to the prosperity of Barnum & Bailey Circus.

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Music as expression and the role of artist anonymity in the listening experience

BY Shawn Kim

Contributing Writer

Music is a form of expression for an artist, which is why listeners often look into the lives of the musicians to understand what a song may mean. For example, when listening to *XO Tour Llif3* by Lil Uzi Vert, it helps to understand that the song is directed toward his ex-girlfriend Brittany when deciphering references in the lyrics and understanding its heavy tone. However, if music was created only for an artist themselves, there would be no point in releasing songs for the public. The only motivator in this case would be fame, itself. Therefore, music that becomes popular tends to be relatable and universal, appealing to the general public. Comedian Bo Burnham even satires the excessiveness of this in his song, "Repeat Stuff" when he sings,

"I love your hair, I love your name, I love the way you say it

I love your heart and you're so smart 'cause you gave away it

I love your sis, I love your dad, I love your mom

But more than all of that I love the fact that you are dumb enough

To not realize everything I've said has been said before

In a thousand ways, in a thousand songs, some with the same four chords"

Burnham satires this because he recognizes that music industries have noticed this relatability and have exploited it, specifically by making their artists produce ambiguous songs solely to generate profit.

However, as ambiguous as certain lyrics may be, they can always be traced back to the life of the artist for interpretation. Taylor Swift is notorious for this i.e. mentions of a seemingly unimportant "scarf" that can be traced back to her relationship with Jake Gyllenhaal in "All Too Well". In this way, songs become closed off and prevent a listener from placing their own feelings and experiences into the music. And so, this is why Shiloh Dynasty and H.E.R., artists who seek to do the opposite, are so captivatingly powerful in their music.

Anonymity is not a passive choice in music; it is a powerfully active element. This is shown specifically through Shiloh Dynasty. "Shiloh Dynasty" is an artist who uploaded videos to Vine and Instagram, starting in December of 2015, and began to receive millions of views for his ethereal singing. Shiloh never revealed his face in his videos, but rather let his music speak for himself. As of 2018, his identity has still not been revealed or discovered. Though Shiloh's presence on social media disappeared in the August of 2016, his music from Instagram

and Vine kept being remixed into a plethora of songs on platforms such as Soundcloud. XXXTentacion's "Jocelyn Flores" is the most popular song that uses the audio from one of Shiloh's clips. Shiloh's anonymity was active in creating a mysterious aura around his music, which made his songs universal while preserving its intimacy. People could place their own interpretations and experiences into his music. Shiloh tweeted on May 4, 2015, "I just want to make good music", and this remains true as all his social media platforms provide no real evidence as to who he is. Anonymity of the artist makes music more interesting and more universally relevant; it cuts through all the conventional and gaudy celebrity excess that may have influenced the creation of a song.

H.E.R. also recognizes the benefit in remaining anonymous (though people have discovered her identity). Regarding her name, she said in an interview with the Los Angeles Times, "The mystery is a metaphor for who I am, or who I was at the time of creating the project...I feel like oftentimes we don't like to be open as people about our emotions or things that we are going through". H.E.R., alongside Shiloh, recognizes the potential of music to evoke pure emotion even when it is unattached to the artist. Even her artist name-

H.E.R. proves this; it ironically stands for "Having Everything Revealed" -through her name she is having nothing revealed, but through her music she is. It's even purposefully ambiguous because when she is verbally referenced, she is referred to as "her"- not, "H-dot, E-dot, R-dot".

Shiloh Dynasty and H.E.R. have incredibly unique and delicate voices that are emotionally provocative, but their music just wouldn't retain the same power it does without the element of anonymity. Their music is similar to popular music in that it is seemingly ambiguous and relatable, but their anonymity differentiates them by making their music pure.

In an interview with Rolling Stone, H.E.R. stated, "I am a voice for women who feel like they're alone in these situations. This project came from an emotion, and that's what I want it to be about - not what I look like or who I'm with, but the raw emotion and support for women". Shiloh similarly tweeted out, "Music speaks for those who can't find the words". Both artists use their anonymity purposefully to allow their voices to become the voices of their listeners, becoming vessels through their music.

First-year Shawn Kim is a contributing writer. His email is skim2@fandm.edu.

Op-Eds Editor Anna Goorevich gives updates on F&M Women's basketball's current season. Read more below...



photo courtesy of commons.wikimedia.org

Sports Editor Gabby Goodwin offers insight into Super Bowl LII matchup. Read more below...

Franklin & Marshall Sports

F&M Women's Basketball looks to clench CC Playoff spot this season

BY ANNA GOOREVICH
Op-Eds Editor

For the women of F&M Basketball, experience is a key strength. Especially when dealing with a treacherous regular season that consists of 25 games, the Diplomats will surely look towards their returning players for leadership. Coming back into the season with nine returners along with four new players, the Diplomats hope to improve their record from past seasons and earn a Centennial Conference playoff spot.

The Diplomats started off the season on a positive note, winning three out of their five games in November including a dominating 72-57 opener against Immaculata and a closely fought 70-62 win against Elizabethtown.

The team's first Conference success came against Bryn Mawr on December 2 in a stunning 79-29 win. Senior Erica Brown led the Diplomats to victory by garnering a game high of 20 points.

Despite some losses prior to the holiday break, the Diplomats picked up speed in the New Year, winning four games so far in the month of January.

Sophomore Kristin Hamill was honored with the Centennial Conference Player of the Week for the first week in January after record-

ing a career-high 24 points in the Diplomats' 76-55 win against Alvernia on January 5. Hamill has consistently been a strong force in the team's offense by averaging 16 points at the time of writing and most notably scoring 20 or more points on six different occasions.

Another team leader is junior Haley Pilone who at the time of writing averages around 18 points per game. One of Pilone's notable performances includes scoring 25 points against McDaniel in an extremely close 67-64 loss on December 9. Additionally, Pilone garnered 29 points in both the Diplomats' wins against Washington College on January 11 and Swarthmore on January 23.

At the time of writing, the Diplomats hold a 5-8 Conference record and sit in eighth place. However, there's an opportunity for the Diplomats to leapfrog Ursinus if they win their next game against the Bears on January 31st. The team's last game against Ursinus was a hotly contested 59-56 win on November 28th. This next game on Wednesday is sure to be competitive as both teams are striving for a place in the playoffs.

The Diplomats' regular season closes out in February. To earn

a playoff spot, the team needs to end in the top five of the Centennial Conference. With seven conference games left, there is no shortage of opportunities for the team to be successful in earning a playoff spot. Make sure to head out to Mayser Gymnasium

to support the Diplomats in their last three home games of the season and in their quest towards the playoffs.

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Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com

F&M junior Haley Pilone led all scorers last Thursday with 21 points and went five-for-six on the free throw line despite the Dips' 70-50 loss to Gettysburg.

Philadelphia Eagles vs. New England Patriots: Super Bowl LII preview

BY GABBY GOODWIN
Sports Editor

Shortly after the Philadelphia Eagles had successfully defeated the Minnesota Vikings 38-7 in the NFC Championship Game, the matchup in Super Bowl LII between the Eagles and the New England Patriots was set.

For the Patriots, this will be their eighth time competing in the Super Bowl during the Bill Belichick/Tom Brady era. Winning five out of the seven presented Super Bowl opportunities, the Patriots seek their sixth title this Sunday.

As for the Eagles, they will be playing in their third Super Bowl in franchise history and hope to win their first NFL championship since 1960. In Super Bowl XXXIX in 2005, New England beat Philadelphia by three points, finishing with a score of 24-21, making it the Patriots' third NFL title.

Fifty-eight years ago, the Eagles beat Vince Lombardi and the Green Bay Packers in Super Bowl XXVIII, finishing with a score of 17-13. That game was the only defeat that a Lombardi-coached team ever suffered in the postseason. That being said, if

the Eagles can find a way to beat the Patriots this Sunday, the team would have a wonderful legacy with post-season victories over Lombardi and Belichick coached teams, in addition to picking up their first Super Bowl championship.

With a wonderful 13-3 regular season, Eagles fans had high hopes for the season until quarterback Carson Wentz suffered an ACL injury which put him out for the season. Nick Foles, the Eagles backup QB, was next in line, and was able to prove himself during a Week 15 game against the New York Giants. However, in games against the Oakland Raiders and Dallas Cowboys, Foles played poorly and the Eagles ended the regular season with a bitter taste in their mouths.

Consequently, doom set upon Philadelphia, at least that's what Eagles fans everywhere thought. With a 15-10 win over the Atlanta Falcons in the divisional playoffs, Foles was finally able to shake off his first-time nerves and lead the Eagles to the Super Bowl.

As far as the scouting report for the Eagles opposition on Sunday goes, Patriots quarterback Tom Brady has

five Super Bowl rings and has proved himself relentless time and time again. Leading his team from a 28-3 deficit to a 34-28 overtime victory in Super Bowl LI over the Falcons, Brady was able to pull off the comeback of the century. Again, trailing the Jacksonville Jaguars 20-10 in the fourth quarter of the Patriots AFC title game, Brady threw two touchdown passes to win the game 24-20.

As far as Sunday goes, be prepared for a decisive last 15 minutes of play from the Patriots that won't go unmatched by the Eagles, as a high-scoring game that could all come down to final minutes is in Super Bowl future.

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Photo courtesy of en.wikipedia.org

In a Super Bowl LII matchup between the Philadelphia Eagles and the New England Patriots, the Eagles have the potential to leave a legacy for the team with a Patriot defeat.