



The College Reporter

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lancaster PA
Permit 901

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2018

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

<http://www.the-college-reporter.com>

VOLUME 54, ISSUE 15

17 students and teachers killed at public high school in Parkland, Florida

BY BORIS ZYUMBYULEV

Staff Writer

17 people were shot dead on Wednesday, February 14, at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. The shooter, Nikolas Cruz, was a former student at the school who had been expelled for disciplinary reasons, and has been described as a “troubled kid” by reports from faculty, administrators, and other students.

On Wednesday, Nikolas Cruz arrived at Stoneman Douglas High School at 2:19pm with an UBER. He carried a black backpack, where he had stashed a semi automatic AR-15 rifle and a number of loaded magazines. The rifle had been purchased legally by Cruz in February 2017. According to reports the shooter remained only in the freshman building. He shot in 5 classrooms and hallways on the first and second floors, before getting rid of the weapon and leaving the premise by blending



Photo courtesy of abcnews.com.

Family members wait embrace outside of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida following a deadly shooting that left 17 dead.

in the chaos. Later Nikolas Cruz allegedly stopped by a Wall-mart, a Subway, and a McDonald’s before he was caught by the police at 3:41pm. Officer Michael Leonard, who arrested him without trouble,

noted that Mr. Cruz looked very much like a “typical high school student” at the moment.

President Trump’s first public response to the event was through Twitter, where he began with, “My

prayers and condolences to the families of the victims of the terrible Florida shooting. No child, teacher or anyone else should ever feel unsafe in an American school.” Following that the President continued that he was already working with Florida Governor Rick Scott. On the following day, the national address was aired, where the President called for unity in the face of tragedy, but also focused on mental health, and not so much on gun control.

Gordon Weekes, the Broward County’s chief assistant public defender informed the press that Mr. Cruz is held at the county’s jail without bond, and has been put on suicide watch. Additionally, Thursday, February 15, Mr. Cruz was accused of 17 counts of premeditated murder. As the police is still trying to piece the story of Mr. Cruz’s life, it seems that the shooter has been suffering from

see CONGRESS, page 2

Benjamin Jerner, Esq comes to F&M to speak about transgender civil rights law

BY RUBY VAN DYK

Staff Writer

On Thursday, February 15th, Benjamin Jerner came to F&M to discuss the current legal landscape impacting access to public bathrooms. Jerner, a lawyer from Philadelphia, has spent the last 20 years practicing law and specializing in estate planning, probate and estate administration, adoption and legal issues impacting gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender clients.

Jerner’s talk, titled “Bathrooms - Where do we Stand (or Sit?)” had a great turnout. Students, faculty, and even a few members of the Lancaster community all gathered to listen to Mr. Jerner. Jerner started out by laying out a brief history of public restrooms. Public restrooms were created in ancient Rome and have been subject to controver-

sy ever since. Jerner pointed out the fact that women used to be excluded from public restrooms until they entered the workforce during the Industrial Revolution. Bathrooms were also segregated by race until the Civil Rights Movement. This means public bathrooms have had a history of exclusion.

In the last few years the issue of public restroom use in regards to transgender people has begun to garner more attention and debate. Some people argue that transgender individuals should have to use the restrooms that corresponds with their biological sex rather than their gender identity. According to Jerner, this is extremely problematic because this could subjugate transgender individuals to the risk of physi-

see TRUMP, page 2

Passengers and crew dead following plane crash outside of Moscow, Russia

BY SUNYA HASSAN

Layout Assistant

On February 11th, a Saratov Airlines flight crashed about 25 miles from Moscow’s Domodedovo Airport. The Antonov An-148 aircraft held 65 passengers and 5 crew members on board, all of whom died during the crash. The plane was headed to a Russian city called Orsk, near the border of Kazakhstan, but it disappeared off the radar shortly after takeoff. The An-148 went down in Ramenskoye District, in the Moscow region. CNN’s Matthew Chance reported from Moscow that “The snow is very dense...the Moscow region has had some of its heaviest snowfall in decades. It’s not clear at this stage whether weather was a factor in this crash.”

While the official cause of the

crash remains uncertain, Russia’s Interstate Aviation Committee (IAC) suggested that ice and some matter of human error likely holds responsibility. The ice might have hampered the speed sensors, which is partly the pilot’s fault as they failed to turn on the heating unit for the plane’s measuring equipment. This results in flawed speed data, which caused the pilots to incorrectly speed up in order to avoid stalling, precipitating the plane’s plummet from the sky just a few minutes after taking off. In a public statement, the IAC said, “A factor in the development of a special situation in the flight could be the wrong data about flight speed on pilots’ indicators which was likely due to iced Pitot tubes

see ECONOMY, page 2

Inside this Issue...

Opinion & Editorial
Student shares thoughts on
Florida shooting

page 3

Campus Life
Common hour talk
educates on oragami

page 5

Arts & Entertainment
Student reviews Fall Out
Boy’s latest album

page 6

Sports
Men’s wrestling wins
senior night match

page 7

Congress: Government comes to budget agreement in early hours of morning

continued from page 1

significant mental illness. Weekes, and Cruz's public defender, Melissa McNeill, both stressed that this needs to be taken into account as the judicial process continues.

On Thursday afternoon, the Anti-Defamation League reported that a white supremacist organization called the Republic of Florida had informed them that Mr. Cruz had some militant training with them. The spokesperson from ROF was named Jordan Jereb. The story was then quickly picked up by ABC, the Associated Press, NYT and many more other media

sources. However, a few hours later, Jordan Jereb backtracked his statement; additionally, Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel reported in a press conference that there's no confirmed connection between ROF and Nikolas Cruz. Later the story was traced back by the ADL to several threads on Discord and 4chan. Politico contacted Joan Donovan, a researcher who tracks online misinformation campaigns for Data & Society, a think tank in New York City, who called the tactics used by trolls on these two platforms as "source hacking." Politico also reported

that some of the trolls participated in conversations with journalists from ABC and NYT and purposefully fed them misinformation.

On Friday, the Federal Bureau of Investigation admitted to being informed about Nikolas Cruz, but that they failed to act upon the information. On January 5, a person close to the gunman called the FBI to tell them of "Cruz's gun ownership, desire to kill people, erratic behavior, and disturbing social media posts, as well as the potential of him conducting a school shooting" according to a statement by the Bureau. Mr.

Cruz had an extensive social media history, where he would showcase his guns and be prone to animal cruelty. Additionally, Florida Senator Marco Rubio and Florida Governor Rick Scott criticized the FBI and its director Christopher Wray for failing to act upon the information. U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, according to Reuters, has ordered a review of the Bureau and the Department of Justice procedures.

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Photo courtesy of wsocvtv.com.

Mourners in Moscow, Russia continue to hold vigils following the deadly plane crash that killed all passengers and crew on board on February 11.

Russia: People hunt for answers following devastating plane crash

continued from page 1

(speed probes) which their heating system were shut off." The pilots had placed the An-148 on autopilot after taking off from Domodedovo Airport but took its manual controls back when they heard alarm signals warning of conflicting speed data. Earlier reports indicated the plane's captain had chosen not to have the plane undergo de-icing before takeoff. The crew decides whether to have the plane sprayed by de-icing liquid, depending on the weather conditions and the state of the plane. Incidents like this have happened before. Iced-over pitot tubes were cited as the likely reason for an Air France plane crash in 2009 which killed over 220 people. And another An-148 aircraft in March 2011 which killed all six crew members during a training flight.

The An-148 model itself has a rather spotty safety record with crashes and a string of major incidents in which pilots struggled to land safely. This Ukrainian-de-

signed regional jet was first introduced in 2009. Historically, Eastern European made aircraft haven't always matched their western counterparts in terms of safety or reliability. The jet that crashed Sunday was part of the batch of planes that GTK Rossiya had complained about several years ago, according to the Flightglobal report in 2010. Saratov Airlines has grounded other An-148s in its fleet pending the Moscow crash investigation.

According to spokesman Dmitry Peskov, Russian President Vladimir Putin expresses his "deep condolences to all those who lost relatives and friends in this disaster." The White House also made a statement saying that the United States "is deeply saddened by the tragic deaths. We send our condolences to the families of those who lost their loves and to the people of Russia."

First-year Sunya Hassan is a layout assistant. Her email is shassan@fandm.edu.

CRIME WATCH

Friday, February 9, 12:31am - The Department of Public Safety (DPS) responded to a report of harassment at College Hill.

Friday, February 9, 10:06pm - DPS received a loud noise complaint at 504 W James St.

Saturday, February 10, 8:23pm - DPS received a loud noise complaint for a party in Marshall Hall.

Sunday, February 11, 12:09am - DPS received a report of intoxicated students on the first floor of Weis College House.

Sunday, February 11, 12:50am - DPS responded to a loud noise complaint in North Schnader Hall.

Monday, February 12, 1:52pm - DPS responded to a report of damaged property at 625 Lancaster Ave.

Monday, February 12, 5:40pm - DPS responded to a medical assist in College Row.

Tuesday, February 13, 6:24pm - DPS performed a medical assist for a student who twisted her ankle in Dietz Hall.

Thursday, February 15, 2:11pm - Suspicious activity reported in Steinman College Center.

Jerner: Lawyer speaks to the legal arguments of bathroom controversy

continued from page 1

cal harm, social isolation and could publicly out them as transgender against their will. Jerener added that institutions failing to recognize and legitimize people for who they are makes people, especially young people, feel excluded and illegitimate. Jerner stated that he thinks the solution is gender inclusive bathrooms, not just allowing transgender individuals to use whichever bathroom they preference, but allowing all people to use all public restrooms.

Jerner then went on to discuss some of the legal arguments in regards to the issue. People who are against Gender Inclusive Bathrooms argue a few things. First, that Title IX does not apply in this case because protections based on "sex" only apply to biological sex. Secondly they argue that allowing transgender individuals to use bathrooms for the "other" sex violates the privacy of cisgender individuals.

These arguments according to Jerner, and many others are not strong. He argues that Title IX does

in fact apply to transgender individuals because their "sex" is the issue at stake and is therefore protected. He also argues that the presence of transgender people in bathrooms does not implicate privacy concerns more than the presence of any other individuals in public restrooms.

Near the end of his talk, Jerner stated that he didn't have a definite answer in regards to how to deal with this issue. Do we wait for it to slowly become more acceptable? Do we fight in lower courts and wait for the decisions to rise of through the ranks? He wasn't sure. But he added that it was important to note that there has been some progression with private companies including Target and Walgreens, and that is hopeful.

Jerner closed by reminding his audience of three things: First, that people need to use the bathroom. Second, that transgender people are people. And third that transgender children are children and we have a duty to protect them.

First-year Ruby VanDyk is a staff writer. Her email is rvandyk@fandm.edu.

Staff Writer and Contributing Writer Commentary

Writer shares interview with Professor Nimershiem, TCR’s Professor of the Week

BY SHAWN KIM
Staff Writer

Professor Nimershiem is an Associate Professor of Mathematics at F&M. She is teaching two sections of the Connections 2 Course “Shape of Space” this semester.

I got the chance this week to sit down with my Calculus III professor from last semester, Professor Barbara Nimershiem. Though I thoroughly enjoyed Calculus III because of how interesting and applicable it was, without Professor Nimershiem, who has such a zeal for what she teaches, it would not have been the same.

In this interview, Professor Nimershiem talks about what brought her to teach mathematics, the classes she is teaching this semester, and her hobbies.

How long have you been teaching at Franklin and Marshall College?

26 years. I started in 1992.

What are some of the courses you are teaching now?

I’m teaching 2 sections of the Connections 2 course, “Shape of Space”. It’s actually the first time I’m teaching this topic as a connections course. It’s about understanding possible shapes of our universe and how scientists may one day figure out the shape of the universe. The first part of the course is setting up that question of what the shape is because people don’t really think of our universe of having a shape. To do that we study 2-Dimensional universes first then shapes for 3D universes.

What brought you into mathematics?

In college I wanted to teach kindergarten, but because I went to a college that didn’t have any edu-

cation courses, I wasn’t certified for kindergarten, so I taught math instead. I taught high school math for a couple of years, which involved a lot of documenting state standards- whether students could add/subtract/multiply/divide fractions, decimals, and percents. And I noticed that teaching kindergarten would also involve that, and I didn’t want to spend my life checking off state standards, so I tried math graduate school, and ultimately found myself at F&M.

Of the courses you taught, which ones have been the most interesting to you?

That’s a difficult question. I’ve been lucky to teach a lot of courses involving geometry, shape and visualization. But I’ve definitely enjoyed teaching Calculus III, Topology, Geometry, Shape of Space, and Symmetry.

What is one thing you like about the F&M (more regarding the academics)?

Students are very interested in learning things. I like the academic commitment at F&M, the commitment to expanding their intellectual life rather than working for a grade. The student body has changed since I first came here, and the college’s talent strategy has lead to a more inclusive and more diverse student body. A lot of students here want to be defined by more than their grades, and it’s evident.

What can F&M improve on?

I wish that students and professors were not as crunched for time- not as pressured by time. It prevents people from doing what they really want to do. Some of the more difficult situations I’ve been in have involved academic dishonesty, which can come from a time pressure to do things by certain deadlines.

What excites you about mathematics?

It’s beautiful. I really like to spend time thinking about things, and I get paid to sit around and think and draw beautiful pictures.

How else are you involved with the community at F&M?

Well, I’m a Posse mentor. The Posse foundation recruits a group of students to come to campus together and support each other for the four years they are here. Posse partners with colleges to give this group of students leadership scholarships. One of the goals of the program is for the demographics of the leadership of the country to reflect the demographics of the country. I get to be a part of that as the mentor for Posse 4 Miami. Also, as part of my service to the College, I serve as the Secretary to the Faculty, so I take minutes at faculty meetings. In the past, I’ve been on other committees such as the Committee on Academic Status and the Student Conduct Committee.

What are some of your hobbies?

I like to ride my bicycle. I also like to cook food from my husband’s (Professor Wendell Ressler, who is also in the Math Department) garden. Last night we had eggplant parmesan subs for dinner- eggplants which we grew in the garden. I also like to sew but I don’t get to do it as often.

You said you like to bike... What’s the most difficult bike trail you’ve been on?

Well, my husband and I go on weeklong bike trips almost every summer. We’ve biked across Pennsylvania and have biked from here to Cape May. We’ve also been on a big loop starting in Lancaster and going through Annapolis and Harper’s Ferry. Last year, we biked the New Ma-

drig Fault Line along the Mississippi. I’ve ridden my bike in Nova Scotia and a lot of different states, including Maine and Florida. I’ve even biked very close to some of my student’s houses. I’ve done a bunch of centuries, which are 100 mile rides. I once rode 102 miles, probably the longest ride I’ve ever done.

Who is your role model?

My mother. She was also a math teacher. She struggled with aging too early because of Parkinson’s disease. Yet she did it with dignity; she inspires me.

Franklin and Marshall is privileged to have a professor like Professor Nimershiem. The topics involved in courses such as Topology, Calculus III, and Shape of Space are not topics that can be easily grasped, yet Professor Nimershiem makes it so that they are intriguing and understandable. I always recommend taking any class that Professor Nimershiem teaches because of the fervor that she brings to every class.

First-year Shawn Kim is a Staff Writer. His email is skim2@fandm.edu.

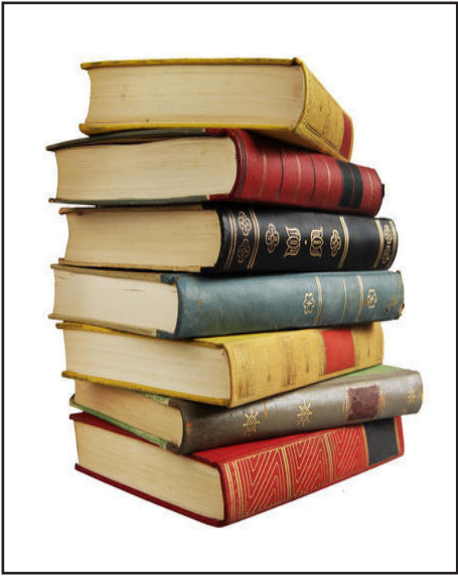


Photo courtesy of indiamart.com

F&M’s Mathematics Department is lucky to have Professor Nimershiem who teaches courses in both mathematics and connections. She is beloved by her students.

Layout assistant discusses recent Florida shooting, importance of gun control

BY SAMANTHA MILOWITZ
Layout Assistant

Growing up, I participated in mandatory fire drills; we would line up against the door, laughing and not taking anything too seriously as the alarm blared throughout the school. The teachers would try to tell us how serious this was, but we would never listen; as children, we were invincible and blind to the possibilities of danger in the real world. During my first year working at a day camp, I was introduced to a new drill, a drill I never thought

I would need to complete: an active shooter drill. The officer conducting the drill held a gun in one hand, telling us how it would work: We would hear one gunshot and we would have to scatter and hide. That was it. Once the siren went off, we would know the drill was over and we would be able to go back outside. They said we had to be prepared since we were taking care of little children. We asked, “What happens if they find where you are hidden?” We knew, though, what the answer would be. It was the first time I recognized that I was no longer safe in

my country, in my school, or in my home. It was the first time I didn’t feel invincible.

With the recent school shooting taking place in Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, I could not help but view these school shootings as a new epidemic in America. 17 people were killed in Parkland by an expelled student named Nikolas Cruz. Cruz had been expelled from Douglas High School and was a known “troublemaker.” He was even investigated by the FBI once when he posted a comment on social media stating, “Im go-

ing to be a professional school shooter.” All of these signs indicate Cruz as a likely suspect to commit a mass shooting, but why didn’t anyone put these signs together before everything happened? Schools have now started speaking about recognizing these signs in students to avoid further shootings. A video titled, “Evan,” created through the Sandy Hook Promise organization speaks to looking out for the signs of a student school shooter. The fact that there were so many indica-

see SHOOTING, page 4

Staff Writer Commentary

Shooting: Why lack of gun control is the main source of the problem

continued from page 3

looked into it, is startling. However, even though we can be aware of the signs of a school shooter, this will not cut off mass shootings at the source. What if it is not a student shooter but an outside person?

A lot of gun supporters blame these school shootings on mental health, but what they do not focus on is that that student or person would not have committed a mass shooting if they didn't have one thing: a gun. I'm speaking to this now because in light of so many recent shootings, I am tired of waking up in the morning to see that so many innocent lives have been taken because a gun has fallen into the wrong hands. President Trump recently addressed the school shooting in Florida by saying, "mental health is your problem here ... this isn't a guns situation." How is this still a question after so many shootings have taken place? It is only two months into the year of 2018 and already 1,853 people have died due to gun violence, according to Gun Violence Archive. Although we can recognize that anyone that would kill innocent people must be mentally unstable in some capacity, we must also recognize

that those people would not be so dangerous if they didn't have a gun in their hand.

As I watched President Trump stand on his podium, speaking to how he's going to visit the survivors in Parkland and how students who feel "lost, alone, confused, or even scared," should speak up about their issues, I felt like punching the screen. What will it take? There were approximately 307 shootings in 2017, and there

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School underwent a tragedy this past week, something that should not have to be endured by anyone. The crime and tragedy in the world has gotten out of hand. Our current president and our lack of gun restrictions are not helping.



Photo courtesy of nydailynews.com


allowing anyone to own a gun? There is no reason why a 19 year old, who has shown signs of violence, should own a gun. There is no need for any of us to own guns, unless we are protecting ourselves from someone else that has a gun.

I do not believe that we need to abolish the second amendment; we simply need to create more restrictions so that they don't fall into the wrong hands.

Our second amendment was not intended to be used for evil but for protection. If we do not reconstruct our ideas on gun ownership, people will continue to think of guns as just another object and terrible things will continue to happen. I don't like the world we are living in now, and I know that it shouldn't have to take every single person going through a mass shooting to figure out that we need restrictions in our gun laws.

No one wants to see children running from buildings, no one wants to wait for a call to see if their friends or family are safe, and no one wants to send their child off everyday, worried that the same thing might happen at their school.


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NEWSPAPER OF
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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 Hartman '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



On Friday, February 9th, the Opening Ceremony for the 2018 Winter Olympics took place in Pyeongchang, South Korea. For the past two weeks, athletes from around the world have competed in various events, displaying feats of athleticism, teamwork, and determination. These athletes have been preparing for years to participate in the Olympics and represent their countries. There have been a fair share of unforgettable moments already during the 2018 Winter Olympics. Shaun White capped off a redemption story winning the gold medal in the half-pipe. In addition, 17 year old Chloe Kim introduced herself to the world in style taking home a gold medal of her own. These incredible moments make the Olympics not only exciting for participants but for viewers as well. It is thrilling to see athletes from all over the world compete against each other in these professional sports.

The Winter Olympics only happens every four years, so it is a treat for everyone to have the opportunity to watch the best skaters, skiers, curlers, etc. fight for gold. Not only that, the Olympics is a time to be patriotic and come together as a single unit. There are very few times when all different countries can come together with their respective athletes and flags in order to enjoy such excitement.

Although it is midterm season, and the workload is significant right now, if we have any opportunity to watch the Olympics, we should. It is a great stress-reliever for everyone. We wish all the athletes and their supporters the best of luck over the next couple of weeks.

Campus Life

Thomas Hull talks applications of origami to math, science at Common Hour

BY CHRISTA RODRIGUEZ
Campus Life Editor

This past Thursday's Common Hour talk, "Folding Paper, Polymers, and Robots: Origami and Math," was given by Thomas Hull, Associate Professor of Mathematics at Western New England University. He spoke on origami and its applications to both math and science. ChengCheng Zai '18 proposed this Common Hour, which was also sponsored by the Math Department, Office of the Dean of the College, Office of Multicultural Affairs, and the Art Department.

Hull impressed the audience with the many different forms origami can take, from a wasp, to a demon, to a cuckoo clock that can do everything except tell time. These creations were made primarily by origami enthusiasts who also held careers in math or the sciences, because, as it turns out, mathematics is highly applicable to origami.

He told the audience that origami is a Japanese word, coming from "ori," meaning folding, and "gami" meaning paper. The reason we don't just call it paper folding is because the art is more historically and culturally relevant in Japan, especially since it holds religious significance there.

Hull had some of his own complex origami creations on the stage, but also showed some even more complex creations on the screen. Next to the picture of these origami figures was a picture of the unfolded paper, showing the intricate patterns. He explained that two types of creases are formed from unfolding the paper, mountains and valleys. Looking at the figures and the unfolded paper side by side, one can make out which parts of the paper made which folds made which parts of the origami figure when it was folded up.

To demonstrate more of the basics of origami, and to connect this to math, the audience members each had their own square pieces of paper. Hull instructed the audience to use a pen to make a dot in the center of the paper. Then, he said to make a few folds over the dot. Once the audience folded their desired amount of folds, he asked them to open the paper back up and count the amount of mountains and valleys the paper had. As people called out their different numbers, he recorded them on a spreadsheet, allowing the audience to see what each of the pairs of numbers had in common. By doing this, Hull was able to show that each person's mountains and valleys had a difference of two.

Hull had given one of his stu-



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

Thomas Hull, Associate Professor of Mathematics at Western New England University, spoke at Common Hour on new applications of origami to science.

dents the task of figuring out the math for a complex origami formation. He stressed that even he did not know the answer to the problem, but the student started figuring it out. To their surprise, the United States Air Force started to become interested in their work, which they believed could be used to make a self-folding solar panel for spaceships.

Hull showed videos of other self-folding technology scientists are working on using origami techniques, though mostly at the

micro level. At the end of his talk, he showed a video of a recent development where origami being applied to an invention involving self-folding sound barriers that contract and expand to the change in the flow of traffic.

Hull was enthusiastic for the future of math and origami and its potential for changing the world, with his own work and beyond.

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Writers House hosts sex talk as part of Consent and Sex Education Week

BY ALEX PINSK
Managing Editor

Monday, February 5th, the Writer's House hosted a session titled "What's Good Sex?" as a part of last week's Consent and Sex Education Week. During the session, Professor Janine Everett, professor of Public Health, spoke to students about a wide range of topics surrounding consent, safe sex, and good sex. She addressed concerns that students had about these issues and answered any questions that they had.

To begin her talk, Professor Everett discussed the importance of consent in any relationship. Not only did she define consent, but she described it as something that "ends at the moment one person is no longer enthusiastically into things" and clarified that it "can be given and retracted at any point." She went on to remind everyone that no one can accurately provide consent while under the influence of substances—drugs, alcohol, etc. She addressed the issue of consent specifically because many people vaguely understand what consent means but do not understand that it has many facets.

Professor Everett continued by de-

scribing the particulars of safe sex. She described the different barriers, such as condoms, dental dams, finger cots, and female condoms. She even provided samples of most of these forms of protection, capturing her audience and issuing visual aids.

One of the purposes of this talk was to address the significance of good sex, not just safe sex. Thus, Professor Everett spent time talking about the importance of enjoying oneself while engaging in sexual acts. Society is so focused on STD prevention and safe sex—albeit both of which are vastly important—that good sex is not always a priority. In fact, many people do not even know what good sex feels like. Describing different types of lubricant and sex toys, Professor Everett explains that if used correctly and safely, these items can prove very enjoyable for all parties involved.

Professor Everett also addressed the importance of talking with one's partner in order to ensure everyone is on the same page. Specifically, she talked about transgender sex and the importance of communication and setting ground rules. Not only that, Everett talked about body image, explaining that "social and peer acceptance is so



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

important to young adults, and it can change behaviors;" i.e., people might do things that they are uncomfortable with in order to please others. This is not okay. People should be comfortable, know their bodies, and be enthusiastic with all aspects of their sexual encounters.

During the Q&A at the end of the session, Professor Everett addressed students' questions surrounding these issues. One student asked how the people who actually attend these sessions can communicate what they learn to those who did not attend and are not as receptive. Professor Everett said the best way to pass on information from these forums would be to "be confident. Give little bits in the way people can handle. If they feel threatened, it's not your problem."

The goal "What's Good Sex?" was to communicate openly about sexual relationships—particularly, the issues and misconceptions within. Professor Everett imparted her knowledge about healthy sex onto students who can now bring that information to their fellow students and the F&M community.

Throughout the week, speakers came to discuss matters regarding sexual misconduct, domestic violence, and healthy sex. Forums were held and even Common Hour was focussed on these issues. Each event brought a new perspective on these perpetual issues.

Sophomore Alex Pinsk is the Managing Editor. Her email is mpinsk@fandm.edu.

Arts & Leisure

The mania of “M A N I A,” the evolution of Fall Out Boy from punk to pop

BY ISABEL PARIS
Contributing Writer

Just as many bands continue to change their brand and their sound, so does Fall Out Boy when their seventh album dropped in late January.

The one-time pop-punk band is now just a pop band as they move away from their edgier sounds and extremely long song titles. Priding themselves early on in their careers of having songs with long titles, “I’m Like A Lawyer With The Way I’m Always Trying To Get You Off (Me & You)”, their longest title with a whopping seventeen words. However, their newest album now has a song that has, in their own way, a measly six words.

This among other things changes the perception of Fall Out Boy and how their album is now a collection of their new-found pop identity however maintaining some of their old characteristics within their music.

The band has been dominating the charts since their first album, Take This To Your Grave, in 2003 with its strong electric guitar and relatable yet angsty lyrics primarily written by bassist Pete Wentz. With each album, they have con-



Photo courtesy www.ecollegeimes.com

Fall Out Boy’s new album, “M A N I A” released in January 2018, does a great job of showcasing the band’s sound variety.

tinued to find their unique sound and they have evolved into something more and more pop and less punk. This album is their first attempt at pop sounds while still keeping some of the punk aspects intact. The first track, “Young and Menace”, has the usual EDM touches that call back to old albums but still maintains heavy production and overdone electronic waves over the lyrics. This song is definitely made to be used when running because, who wouldn’t want to be called young and a menace while running? The track, “Stay Frosty Royal Milk Tea” makes multiple allusions to pop culture

like the line “I’m about to go Tonyma Harding on the whole world’s knee” definitely keeps the lighthearted and different quality that separates this band from others.

The band also plays some mel-low songs like “Heaven’s Gate,” that play towards a moral/love problem and “Church” that includes a choir and bells playing in the background to exemplify the idea that the only church to be needed is a woman. A shocking attempt to step away from their usual darker lyrics, “Champion” is an attempt by Pete Wentz to give uplifting lyrics which is seen as either brave or unusual for the band as a whole.

Fall Out Boy will continue to rise as their strong beats and relatable lyrics infiltrate radios, computers, and phones. “M A N I A” is another representation of the band’s versatility and ability to change their sound while still holding on to their old identities as a band.

As a longtime fan, this album is just as good and if not better in terms of being different that will keep their fans happy and will hopefully bring new fans too!

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SyFy network series *The Magicians* appeals to fantasy lovers of all ages

BY ABIGAIL SOKOLSKY
Layout Assistant

SyFy Network’s *The Magicians* has been gaining popularity since it first aired in 2015. Based on the 2009 novel *The Magicians* by Lev Grossman, the series follows the magical lives of characters Quentin Coldwater (Jason Ralph), Julia Wicker (Stella Maeve), Alice Quinn (Olivia Dudley), Eliot Waugh (Hale Appleman), Penny Adiyodi (Arjun Gupta), and Margo Hanson (Summer Bishil).

The series begins with Quentin Coldwater, a troubled college dropout more interested in the childhood fantasy novels he read as a kid than the real world around him. Feeling out of touch with reality, Quentin obsesses over a childhood story, *Fillory and Further*, that he used to enjoy reading with his friend Julia Wicker when they were younger.

Now adults, Julia tries to encourage Quentin to put down the books and engage with the world around him, not suspecting that they are both about to discover that *Fillory* and magic are real. Invited to take an entrance exam for the magical Breakbills Academy, Quentin and Julia soon find



Photo courtesy www.tvseriesfinale.com

Actor Jason Ralph stars as Quentin Coldwater in SyFy network’s *The Magicians*

themselves immersed in a world of magical creatures and monsters.

While the following of *The Magicians* has seemed niche for the first and second seasons, in the last year there has been a steady growth in viewership as more readers of the original book and fantasy fans gravitate towards the series. As Katherine Howard ’19 puts it, “I do enjoy the show and its loose interpretation of the book. It’s like a grown up version of *Harry Potter*,” a sentiment which isn’t uncommon among supporters and critics of the series alike.

Those who have read the book as well as watched the series inevitably note the discrepancies

between the two, some finding the show to be a fun reworking of the original plot while others find these deviations to be too fundamental a shift. Kyle Snyder ’18 remarks “I didn’t initially like it, in part because I didn’t like the way they portrayed some of the characters, but I think had I finished the entire thing, I may have grown to like it more. It didn’t portray itself like I imagined it when I read the book?”

Also apparent among viewers of *The Magicians* is a preexisting appreciation for fantasy, making the invocation of childhood fantasy favorites commonplace when fans speak about what makes the series so appealing. Indeed, *The*

Magicians owes the foundation of its popularity to the existence of such series as *Harry Potter* or *The Chronicles of Narnia* which precede it. The universality of these childhood favorites has instilled in people everywhere an appreciation for fantasy worlds and a thrill at the idea of magic existing in congruence with the everyday, mundane world with which we are familiar. For this reason, the series also appeals to a younger audience.

Jonathan Sorokin, age sixteen, comments that “I do enjoy the show, because I like how it takes the *Harry Potter* vibe that we all grew up with and love but ages it up to fit another stage of life; a stage with more complications in interpersonal relationships, a stage where your friends are like family, etc. Though it’s a stage that I’ve not yet reached, I acknowledge the reality of it and love the fantasy twist that *The Magicians* lends to it.”

It is no wonder that *The Magicians* is quickly becoming a hit among lovers of the supernatural regardless of age.

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Editor Joe Giordano offers insight on what the future holds for a Cavalier-Warrior final game. Read more below...



photo courtesy of 1000logos.net

F&M Wrestling dominates Sacred Heart 37-11 in Senior Day match. Read more below...

Franklin & Marshall Sports

What does the future hold for a 2018 Warrior-Cavalier NBA final?

BY JOE GIORDANO
Senior Editor

At the beginning of the NBA season, a fourth straight finals between the Golden State Warriors and the Cleveland Cavaliers seemed like all but a formality. With the Warriors resigning everyone in their core group of players and the Cavaliers adding all-star Isaiah Thomas, all of the analysts and fans expected the two teams to face off one more time. However, the outlook does not look as clear anymore after multiple trades and the seeming implosion of the Cavaliers core group.

Right as the trade deadline approached, the Cavaliers stripped their roster down to the core in order to fit around LeBron James and help him secure his second championship for the city of Cleveland. The Cavs sent away an astonishing six players while adding four new players to their roster. They sent away Jae Crowder, Derrick Rose, Iman Shumpert, Channing Frye, Dwayne Wade, and Isaiah Thomas, who they just acquired this offseason.

However, they upgraded in a major way adding loads of young talent in the form of Rodney Hood, George Hill, Jordan Clarkson, and Larry Nance Jr. These four young

players will most certainly add LeBron with the support he needs in order to make a long playoff run. The length and athleticism of this new Cavaliers team has shaken up the entire Eastern Conference, who up until the trade deadline, viewed the Cavs as a very beatable team. These new moves will almost certainly help them deal with the length and guard play of the Golden State Warriors should they meet them again in the finals this year.

However, much like the Cavs, the Warriors will have their own issues returning to the NBA finals. The Warriors currently sit a half game back in their own conference to a new force: the Houston Rockets. This new look Rockets team has meshed and looks primed to push the Warriors to the limit come this playoffs. Going into the all-star break, the Rockets have won 10 games in a row and look to be a team on a mission. The offseason addition of point guard Chris Paul had many analysts questioning whether Paul could mesh with current superstar James Harden. Not only have they meshed, they seem to both be playing the best basketball of their careers. The high octane offensive play of Harden and Paul, coupled with Clint Capela,

Ryan Andersen, and Trevor Ariza has many intrigued for a matchup with the defending champion Warriors.

While many still predict another Golden State versus Cleveland final, it is far from a sure thing. The introduction of this new Rockets core coupled with the emergence of a new Kyrie Irving led Celtics team and conference leading Rap-

tors in the East, have both teams in the fight of their lives to return to the championship. The second half of this season has all the potential in the world and promises to be an exciting final few months of basketball.

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Photo courtesy of NBA.com

With multiple roster changes for the Cavs and various Warrior defeats by the Rockets, a 2018 NBA final rematch does not look hopeful for the two teams.

F&M Wrestling clenches a 37-11 match win vs. Sacred Heart on Senior Day

BY GABBY GOODWIN
Sports Editor

Against Sacred Heart this past Saturday, Franklin and Marshall's Wrestling team seized its third-straight dual win and first conference victory of the season with a score of 37-11. Before the start of the match, F&M honored its senior class of Sam Butler, Edgar Garcia, Dan Martoccio, and Josh Young.

F&M had six points go their way right from the start when Sacred Heart forfeited their 125-pound matchup. Martoccio (133 pounds) followed the forfeit by turning his opponent's shoulder on the mat with 49 seconds remaining in the second period for his fourth pin of the season, earning the Diplomats six more points the traditional way.

F&M's Brett Kulp, at 141 pounds, followed with a dominant performance, registering a takedown and eight nearfall point in the first period. The sophomore grappler put F&M ahead 17-0 by rolling to a 16-1 tech. fall.

After two-straight Sacred Heart

match wins at 149 and 157 pounds, the Diplomat lead was cut in half, bringing the score to 17-8. However, F&M's Jacob Connors, at 165, ended the Pioneer's streak, using a seven-point roll to a 12-2 major decision in the third period.

Josh Young, at 174 pounds, had a 9-1 major decision win that extended the F&M lead to 25-8. Young secured a pair of takedowns

and nearfall points in the victory.

A 7-3 Pioneer decision at 184 brought the contest score to 25-11 overall. However, the Diplomats were able to secure their win and close out the contest with a pair of falls.

In the final matches of the competition, F&M's Philip Robilotto turned his opponent with less than 4 minutes left and F&M's Antonio

Pelusi followed by putting the finishing touches on a Diplomat win with a fall just 11 seconds into the match.

The Diplomats return to action on March 3rd for the EIWA Championships hosted by Hofstra.

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Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com.

F&M Wrestling defeated Sacred Heart this past Saturday with a 37-11 win on Senior Day. The Dips honored its senior class of Sam Butler, Edgar Garcia, Dan Martoccio, and Josh Young before the start of the match.