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On-campus panel discusses the past, present, future of DACA and Dreamers

BY BORIS ZYUMBYULEV
Staff Writer

“We can’t survive without illegal immigration, we can’t afford it.” This is what immigration attorney Wendy Chan said at the “DACA and Dreamers” Panel, held on Wednesday evening in Bonchek College House. Joining her at the panel were Professor Stephanie McNulty of the Government Department, Professor Laura Shelton of the History Department, and Sanjee Soliman ‘17, an alumna and Dreamer. Moderating the event was Cheska Mae Perez ‘21, student and Dreamer. Sponsors of the event were Mi Gente Latina, College Democrats, Alice Drum Women’s Center, and Sisters.

The focus of the panel was, of course, DACA and the government action, or inaction, towards it. DACA is an executive action taken by President Barack Obama, which protects undocumented immigrants who have entered the US before the age of 16 from deportation. Following a background check for eligibility, these immigrants, commonly called Dreamers, are given two-year permits with which they are able to both work and study in the US. According to numbers cited during the



Photo courtesy of Cheska Mae Perez.

This past week the Diplomatic Congress hosted a panel entitled “The Future of DACA and Dreamers” which featured community members, professors, students, and alumnae.

panel, the program has protected around 800,000 people. However, on September 5, President Trump moved to end DACA, as he had said he would do during the campaign. The Department of National Security set the date of March 5, after which permits will start expiring.

So far 6 separate bills have been discussed in the House and in the Senate; however, only one seems to have bipartisan support. The bill was introduced by Senators Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Jeff Flake (R-AZ), Dick Durbin (D-IL), and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) as the Dream

Act of 2017. Even so, the Act is a point of contention between the two parties, especially in the more polarized House. To a large extent, immigration and Dreamers blocked the government budget and led to the government shutdown of January 20 to January 22.

The panel held at Franklin & Marshall discussed the impact of the ending of DACA, the future of Dreamers, and their stories. According to Attorney Wendy Chan, Chan and Associates, which is based in Lancaster, PA, are largely affecting the undocumented

dreamers both mentally and physically. Being unable to apply for a permit inhibits those people from re-applying for driver’s licenses and forces them to work under the table. That is, regardless of the fact that they still pay federal taxes and contribute billions in government revenue, without being eligible for any social care. Additionally, Dreamers face the threat of deportation or detention in a detention center. A significant portion of the associated stress and fear with the ending of DACA comes from the fact that a lot of people do not know what to expect. This affects the Dreamers themselves, as well as their families and friends.

Cheska Mae Perez noted during the panel how according to a survey conducted by the Washington Post, 86% of Americans support DACA. The question then became why is the administration ending the program. To that Wendy Chan added that Republicans are interested in being harder on immigration, through some form of Border Security. However, Professor Shelton observed that between 1986 and 2004, the budget enforcing that immigration security has increased

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Republicans release Nunes memo, accuse F.B.I. of bias in Russia investigation

BY JOSHUA CROPANZANO
Contributing Writer

On Friday, House Republicans released the highly controversial ‘Nunes memo,’ claiming it detailed bias against Donald Trump by the F.B.I. In the days before the release, Rep. Steve King (R-IA) tweeted that the memo would reveal a conspiracy “worse than Watergate.” To summarize, the Nunes memo revealed that the F.B.I. was aware that Christopher Steele, a former British spy, was working for Fusion GPS, a firm hired by the DNC to investigate

Trump, and that Mr. Steele was personally inclined against Trump, stating it was “his mission” to prevent a Trump presidency. Using information turned over by Christopher Steele, and possibly other information which was not released, the F.B.I. submitted a request to survey Carter Page, a then-Trump aide, on the grounds that he was colluding with the Russians to swing the election. Indeed, it appears that Carter Page had been in contact with a Russian intelligence operative in 2013. Republicans allege that the material Steele

turned over was not sufficient to justify surveillance and that Mr. Steele’s limited assertions provided the basis for the Russian investigation. However, the memo lacks evidence which would prove that the Russian investigation was fabricated as a means of slandering Trump’s administration or that the surveillance of Carter Page was used with the intent of gaining information that could be used against Donald Trump’s campaign. House Democrats have stated that the Nunes memo lacks authenticity because of dangerous omissions and inaccuracies,

although the public is not yet aware of the nature of these.

The F.B.I. did inform the FISA court that the information used to open this surveillance may have come from a politically motivated source, although it did not specifically clarify that this information came from a man funded indirectly by the Democratic National Convention. Additionally, it is not clear how crucial the information submitted by Mr. Steele was in the FISA court decision. The Nunes memo claims

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DACA: Panel discusses politics and economics of immigration reform in DipCon event

by 119% across both political parties. The general trend, according to Professor Shelton, is that immigration mostly depends on the economic and political circumstances in the countries where those movements of people are happening. As such, enforcement has generally been observed to be ineffective in affecting immigration rates.

Professor McNulty joined this discussion to explain some of the political realities in Washington. The most crucial detail is that few in Congress, where is the biggest standstill between the political parties and hardline factions, want to get through a clean Dream bill. In other words, House members want to pass a minibus package with several additional changes to legislation together with Dreamers (if at all).

In reference to an interview by Attorney General Jeff Sessions, who said he wanted to model the Dreamers program by the Immigration Act of 1924, Professor Shelton explained what can be expected from that statement. The

Immigration Act of 1924 worked on the principle of quotas by country, as each quantity of immigrants allowed depended on certain characteristics. By design, the Act was intended to discriminate based on religion, culture, nationality, race. The immigration law was changed in 1965 to a less discriminatory one, which scrapped the quotas by nation, but it preserved the cap to accepting immigrants. In other words, the Attorney General bringing up that model might indicate the possibility that future Dreamers will be affected by their nationality, race, religion, or any characteristic the Trump administration decides.

In the second part of the discussion, Professor McNulty discussed the injunction to the DACA appeal by a California Federal Judge. The injunction allowed Dreamers looking for renewing their permits to do so in the period between October and now. However, as the Professor noted, since no new applications are processed by the program, the injunction only extends the

window for current DACA beneficiaries, which does not put as much pressure on Congress for a legislative decision.

Just towards the end of the panel, Professor Shelton pointed out the “weird” aspects of the current political and social climate. According to her, historically there’s a push-back by large scale employers whenever politicians get hard on immigration. In the words of Wendy Chan, “these people are feeding us”. However, politicians seems to not feel the push-back. Additionally, social and civil unrest and opposition also seems to have little effect. To Professor Shelton, the discussion of immigration this time around, specifically the treatment of Dreamers, is more a discussion of civil rights, and not border security or documenting people properly.

The last item discussed by the panel was the existence of Detention Centers and how they are used. In contrast to the Obama administration, which deported as much people annually as did the Trump

administration in 2017, the usage of Detention centers is much higher now. Those centers are structured like prisons, and they exists for the enforced housing of undocumented immigrants; however, they have quota systems, which they aim to fulfil. In other words, those centers are packed at all times. In some cases, entire families are put into Detention, together with 9 month old infants and children.

The main conclusion of the discussion on DACA and Dreamers was championed by both Dreamers on the panel, Cheska Mae Perez and Sanjee Soliman. Their message was that Dreamers are everyday normal people, and that the DACA program is essential to a lot of people from all over the world. And even if moving forward can seem more and more frustrating, the most important thing now is to call Congress and tell them that one is in support of the Dream Act.

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Memo: Security community expresses concerns over leaked memo, impact on investigation

that McCabe said no surveillance would have been approved without Steele, but insiders claim that this is a distortion of the truth and a misrepresentation of McCabe’s statements. It is entirely possible that further evidence, which the public is unaware of at this time, was used. Indeed, the Democrats


attempted to release their own “Democratic Memo,” but the Republican-led Congress did not approve their request.

What is known is that the surveillance was re-approved many times. In order to prevent abusive surveillance of American citizens, FISA warrants must be

approved and then re-approved every six months. In total, Comey and Yates - both of which Trump later fired - approved the warrant initially. At various points Dana Boente, McCabe, and Rod Rosenstein re-approved the surveillance. McCabe stepped down last week amid pressure from the administration and Rosenstein was the one who approved Mueller’s investigation in the first place. If this memo does invalidate the Russian investigation, it would also prove Rosenstein to be working against

Trump politically and justify his removal. Replacing Rosenstein, then, would theoretically give Trump additional leverage over Mueller and his investigation. When asked if he still had confidence in Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, Trump responded with, “You figure that one out.” Figure it out indeed, for the political intrigue in the administration is far from over.


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The College Reporter

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Full Staff Opinion



As it is now February, we at The College Reporter are reflecting on our New Year’s Resolutions. January is a time of goal-setting and self-improvement for most of us. At the beginning of each year the world takes a moment to reflect on their pasts and collectively decides to make the next year better. However, by February, many of us find ourselves losing our motivation. As the stresses of life set back in, we fall back on old habits. If you have fallen off the horse with your new year’s resolution, don’t give up! Although it is no longer new year, it is still a great time to work on achieving your goals. Renew your commitment to your goals, and to yourself.

Opinion & Editorial

Staff Writer Commentary

Celebrities make statement by supporting Times Up Movement

BY SAMANTHA MILOWITZ
Layout Assistant

On January 7th, 2018, the Golden Globes had a darker (pun intended) and more serious cloud surrounding the typically light-hearted award ceremony. With each passing car that pulled up to the red carpet, celebrities were decked out in black gowns and suits in support of the new Time’s Up movement. The Time’s Up movement was created in light of the flood of sexual assault cases and victims who have come forward in recent months. While the movement focuses on giving women the courage to come forward with their experiences and stories, it also focuses on women finally receiving equal pay and respect in all industries. For the Golden Globes, this movement was especially prevalent because they did not have any female directors nominated this year. In light of this, and after so many powerful men in Hollywood have been exposed, it would have been ridiculous to go on with the award show as if it was just another fun night.

This is not the first time an awards show has been absorbed by an issue in the culture of Hollywood; in 2016, the Oscars had a lot of controversy surrounding it when there were no black nominees in any categories, sparking

the #oscarssowhite movement. While award shows are normally meant to be a celebration, they are also the perfect platforms to bring up real-world issues. While wearing black seems like a simple enough idea to express solidarity, it also is the perfect way to address sexism on award shows. For the first time, reporters couldn’t simply scan the bodies of the women and ask them, “who are you wearing?” The decision for everyone to wear black deterred people from focusing on the clothing, and forced them to pay attention to the issue at hand.

The stretch of red carpet on every award show has always bothered me since questions are always asked concerning the clothes the women are wearing, but never the men. The Time’s Up movement removed the privilege of prioritizing women’s appearances from the reporters, instead emphasizing the goal of taking power away from these male superiors that have taken power away from women.

This flood of sexual assault cases did not just come out of nowhere; I attribute these women coming forward to the election of a man who has used his power to dominate women as well: Donald Trump. The one good thing about Trump’s election is that it seems to have woken people up to male dominance and power. His elec-

tion has caused women to face their attackers and to stop them from rising to any higher place of power. When Trump was elected, I was in shock; I had been promised by everyone I had known that Clinton would win, that I would be a part of the years of the first female president.

For the first time, I felt limited by being a woman; if Trump could get elected simply because he was a man, what hope was there? I grew up privileged in the sense that I never felt I couldn’t accomplish something because I was a woman. Now, not only do I feel that being a woman will interfere with my ability to go into the profession I want, but that it will interfere with my ability to feel safe in the presence of a man

in power. Although this truth is scary, these women coming forward gives me hope that women will take this power away from men, together.

The Time’s Up movement is going to start a long theme of award shows facing issues of gender and race in the industry. For now, the lightheartedness that award shows used to center around won’t be as evident as it used to be, but this is what has to be done in order for change to come about. Although the Golden Globes appeared to look like one giant funeral, it was not a sad occasion, but a hopeful one, for the future of women.

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Photo courtesy of Getty Images
Celebrities honored at the Golden Globes this year use the typically light-hearted event to promote the Times Up movement that supports women’s rights.

Editor shares opinion on Trump’s State of the Union Address, importance of education

BY ALEX PINSK
Managing Editor

In Donald Trump’s 2018 State of the Union Address, which took place this past Wednesday, January 31st, we heard a lot about America’s economy. Trump essentially began his speech by pointing out the positive economic influence that his presidency has had over the past year. He mentioned that there are “2.4 million new jobs, including 200,000 new jobs in manufacturing alone.”

He also made it clear that the new tax-cuts have been beneficial for working-class Americans and that “unemployment claims have hit a 45-year low.” And that is all well and good, assuming these statistics are fact-checkable.

Trump went on about how the nation is now in good standing because of the positive changes that he has made regarding wealth and finance -- highlighting his own personal goals for the country. While he did mention a few more of his values, he notably did not touch on education -- mentioning

it only twice and not featuring it as a significant issue.

Certainly it is important to invest in America’s economy; in order for the majority of people to live comfortable lives, they must be employed. However, people with higher levels of education, statistically, tend to secure higher-paying jobs which allow for more comfortable living. Thus, by deduction, investing in education, or at the very least informing people of opportunities, would be the best way to strengthen the economy.

Currently the universal demand for education is high; yet, in many countries, opportunities in education remain low. This may be because leaders are so focussed on creating more jobs and decreasing poverty levels -- both admirable goals.

These are, potentially, only temporary fixes, however. It seems that in order to fix the problem of income inequality, or at least ameliorate it, we must examine its roots -- one of which is education inequality.

While the United States has significantly higher standards of education than do less-developed countries, this nation is still lacking. There are still thousands of students who do not even consider college as an option purely because they do not know the extent of the financial aid that is available to them. That needs to change.

Were Trump to focus on education and to work toward implementing change throughout the nation, other countries might follow suit. He needs to recognize that education inequality is an issue (even if it does not affect his high-class standard of living) and voice concerns about it.

The United States could easily help other countries with goals to increase literacy rates and provide information regarding opportunities in education -- which is necessary. Many countries remain fixed in sexist, racist values that are magnified when examining education. As early as elementary education, boys are often given greater opportunities than

girls. Not only that, religion, political affiliation, socio-economic status, among other elements play a role in determining whether or not a child can attend school and for how long.

It seems to me that an ultimate goal should be to eliminate the contingency of these factors on education. However, that being said, and serious goal needs to be approached in smaller steps.

Education is not an issue that affects one percent of the population. It is a universal issue and should be a universal priority. In order to minimize income inequality we must fortify education networks, increase opportunities, and inform people that education need not always be a financial setback.

The United States has a responsibility, as a developed nation, to encourage changes in education policy in other countries, and to strengthen its own.

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Campus Life

Imam Khalid Latif speaks at Common Hour on race, religion in America

BY VANESSA CHEN
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This week at Common Hour, Imam Khalid Latif brought us his talk—Breaking the Melting Pot: Realities of Race, Racism, and Religion in America. Latif is the University Chaplain of New York University, Executive Director of the Islamic Center at NYU, and Chaplain for the NYPD.

Latif opened the talk by asking the audience to examine why they see things the way they do. He pointed out the prevalent anti-intellectualism in America, where people only see what is literally presented, and thereby form black and white perceptions of the world. Latif asked the audience to think critically about the nuance of everything.

Latif offered a personal anecdote of his encounter with a middle aged white woman in New York City. The woman had assumed that he did not speak English, insisted on knowing where he “really came from,” and

how he would say “excuse me” in “his language.” Latif said she was an example of people who couldn’t see past what they literally see. Just because she saw the color of his skin, his beard, and his cap, she could not comprehend how a person who looks different than her can come from the same place. He said that living as a minority is to be constantly compared against the norm, and deemed outside the norm. The minority always has to defend themselves against being deemed as “the other.” One can see the power of privilege in how easily the privileged can dismiss and invalidate the perspectives and stories of the minority.

Latif spoke about another personal experience of discrimination. He was attending the 9/11 memorial event along with people who had lost loved ones on 9/11. Latif was dressed in a uniform that displayed his Chaplain ranking, waiting for the ceremony to start, when three men in suits ap-

proached him and asked to see his credentials. A woman who had lost her child in 9/11 spoke up for Latif and reproached the three men. Latif said that this mother knew no one was going to say anything back to her as she stood at the site of 9/11, so she used her privilege to stand up for him. Latif said it is very important for the people in positions of privilege to pull others up, just like this mother did for him.

Latif then talks about his experience working at a refugee camp in Bangladesh, helping Rohingya Muslim refugees who escaped from the genocide in Myanmar. Of the many pictures Latif presented, there was the picture of a little girl about four years old. She is orphaned, and most likely witnessed her parents’ death. Latif said she was orphaned by hatred, and all of us are responsible for letting it happen with our indifferent attitude.

Latif reminded the audience to not seek an emotional solution to the genocide. He asked us not to feel bad

for a few days and then go on with our lives, to not only seek to ease our own guilt without actually doing something to help. He said, “organized evil will always win against disorganized justice,” and implored us all to help.

To conclude the talk, Latif urged us to stay informed. He said that there is a lot of controlled narrative in the media, so it’s important for us dig deeper to see the whole picture. Latif told us to look deep within ourselves, and see that our fears tell us more about ourselves than the things we fear. He says hatred and prejudice is formed because we are not living with other people, but living with the stereotypes of other people. As a solution, Latif implored us to go out and start conversations with real people—to listen to their stories, to understand their perspectives, and to expand our own.

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CEC brings Creed Bratton to campus for a night of music and comedy

BY CHRISTA RODRIGUEZ
Campus Life Editor

This past Monday, January 29, Creed Bratton visited campus along with Erik Abel ’99. Both participated in the Q&A, held in the Roschel Performing Arts Center at 5pm, while Bratton also performed music and comedy in Roschel 8pm that night. Both events were free to students. The events were hosted by the College Entertainment Committee (CEC), and sponsored by OSPGD, Alumni Relations Office, and New, Ware, Weis, and Brooks College Houses.

Creed Bratton is best known for his role by the same name on the NBC television show *The Office* and his membership in the rock band The Grass Roots. Erik Abel, an F&M alumnus, is currently the owner and a podcaster at Focused Noise as well as a head booking agent at Adler Music Group.

At first, CEC assistant chair Kathleen Miao suggested that they sponsor tickets to see Bratton at the Chameleon Club, as he performed there on Sunday. However, Erik Abel emailed CEC asking if he could bring Creed to

F&M, which launched the events that occurred on Monday.

The first part of the Q&A session involved Bratton and Abel being interviewed by CEC Chair Sarah Silverstein. Towards the end, Silverstein invited questions from the audience. Bratton entered the stage, walking lethargically and stumbling into his chair. When speaking, he abruptly coughed, which immediately had the effect of perking him up. He asked the audience how many of them thought he had severely aged until that moment, which produced laughs.

Silverstein asked what they would say to students looking to enter the entertainment industry. Abel advised to “go where the action is,” and approach people with value by demonstrating what you can bring to the table. Creed shared his experience going to speech therapy because he stuttered as a child. It was there that he was recommended to do public speaking and acting, and he found that he loved it. He said he also had been playing music as far as he could remember. In this way, he said he didn’t choose his career path, “it chose me.” Abel agreed with the sentiment that



Photo by Kathleen Miao

Creed Bratton, known for his membership in the band The Grass Roots and his role on the TV show *The Office*, participated in a Q&A and performed on campus.

“everything happens for a reason.” When he attended F&M, he was cut from the varsity basketball team, but it opened the door for him to DJ for WFNM.

One audience member asked Bratton if the rumors of a *The Office* revival were true. According to Bratton, they have not contacted him about the revival, but he teased, “you never know.” He does, however, still keep in contact with most of the cast from the show. “We’re all family,” he noted, as they had all worked together for over eight years. When asked about the moment he thought he “made it,” Bratton commented that one should not think this, as they should always strive to be better. “You get complacent,” Eric added, if one believes they have reached the pinnacle of success.

Creed Bratton’s performance included both song and comedy. He additionally announced that his special, shot in San Francisco, is coming soon, and his 7th solo album, *Heart of*

Darkness, is being released April 6. Bratton played some songs from The Grass Roots and some of his own, with bits of comedy in between. To close his performance, he played the song “All the Faces.” This song was featured in the last moments of the final episode of *The Office*.

As all the actors were allowed to pick how their characters would end on the show, Bratton pitched the idea of singing his song. He said when doing the table read, he flipped to the last page of the script and saw he would be singing his song, and tears came to his eyes.

After the event, CEC made the statement: “CEC was thrilled to bring Creed to F&M’s campus. Seeing the student body’s reaction was incredible and we hope to keep providing fun and free late-night programming for students.”

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Photo by Kathleen Miao

Arts & Leisure

Joe Wright directs *Darkest Hour* based on the life of Winston Churchill

BY NICK STOLTE
Contributing Writer

Darkest Hour is a competently made “Oscar Bait” film following Winston Churchill during his accession to Prime Minister at the most harrowing time for the British Isles in the Second World War. When the film focuses on the desperation of Churchill and his British Empire, it is about as good as any film of 2017. Sadly, the film gets bogged down in procedural politics, and falls into many of the biopic conventions that cannot match the prowess of the rest of the movie.

Gary Oldman’s performance as the iconic Prime Minister is rousing, and his Oscar nomination is well deserved. Every moment Oldman is on screen the film soars, and yet his inspiring performance is not enough to help Joe Wright’s film to transcend the biopic genre. At times the film descends into conventional tropes all too familiar of an Oscar season film, and a once scene in particular would have been laughably bad if not for Oldman’s instant classic of a performance.

Joe Wright’s greatest contri-



Photo courtesy of www.shaw.sg

Gary Oldman stars in *Darkest Hour* as Winston Churchill directed by Joe Wright.

bution as director is recognizing that *Darkest Hour* is first and foremost, a vehicle to remind the world that Gary Oldman is one of the greatest living actors. When the film focuses on Churchill’s supreme “Blood, toil, tears, and sweat” and “We shall fight on the beaches” speeches Oldman is the spitting image and voice of one of the most important men in the history of the modern world. However, the film takes an interest in the conflict within Churchill’s cabinet, as the infamous appeaser Neville Chamberlain (Ronald Pickup)

and his crony Viscount Halifax (Stephen Dillane) seek to undermine the Prime Minister. Here the film becomes conventional, and at times boring.

Using Chamberlain and Halifax as villains at a time when the Nazis were on the cusp of total European domination is confounding, and this conflict is never as compelling as Great Britain’s struggle against the Werchmant. At this point, the United Kingdom stands alone against Hitler, and their defeat seems assured. A particularly poignant scene shows Churchill

pleading with President Franklin Roosevelt for assistance at this desperate time, and Oldman forces you to feel the fear and abandonment Churchill felt during these trying days. To Wright’s credit, the scene is expertly shot, and the cinematography compliments Churchill’s isolation in a creative and effective way.

Darkest Hour is quite good, though it does not match the quality of many other Best Picture nominees. Christopher Nolan’s *Dunkirk* covers similar territory in a much more stimulating fashion, and that masterpiece has a much better shot at taken home the Oscar than Joe Wright’s.

However, Gary Oldman is simply excellent, and any other actor would be foolish to take the role of Churchill for the next generation. He is as instantly iconic as Daniel Day-Lewis’ Lincoln, and though Oldman has been snubbed many times throughout his illustrious career, it would be a stunning shock to see any other man take home the Best Actor Oscar this February.

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Actress Salma Hayek stars in contemporary film depicting life of Frida Kahlo

BY ABIGAIL SOKOLSKY
Layout Assistant

Though *Frida*, a biographical film drama of the life of Frida Kahlo de Rivera, was released in 2002, it has recently come under the limelight once again in the wake of the “#MeToo” movement. *Frida* follows the life of the renowned Mexican artist known for her folk style paintings in the mid 1900s. Frida Kahlo is still hailed today as a feminist icon and major figure of the surrealist movement. This film, starring Alfred Molina, Geoffrey Rush, and Salma Hayek honors this important historical figure remarkably.

As a whole, *Frida* adheres to the actual life of Frida Kahlo, beginning with a traffic accident which was to shape her life and detailing the tumultuous relationship she would then enter into with Diego Rivera, a muralist of some renown during her lifetime. The film thus captures how ongoing health issues lead Frida Kahlo to a life as a painter when confined to her sickbed,

and further suggests how the pain that follows her throughout life informs such paintings as *The Two Fridas*, *Roots*, and ultimately *Without Hope*.

Frida succeeds in drawing parallels between Frida Kahlo’s life and the themes present in her paintings by including the paintings themselves within the film. For instance, following her failed pregnancy, the film shows Frida devastated in the aftermath of her failed pregnancy. With a traumatized fervor, Frida then begins to paint, creating the disturbing and poignant *Henry Ford Hospital*, an image of pain and loss. Following the death of Leon Trotsky, a communist leader and political refuge in Mexico, the film flashes between his assassination and her reaction upon hearing the news, showing her creating *The Two Fridas* as well as animating her within the painting. This cinematic decision to take a portrait image of Frida from within one of her paintings and animate it is visually stunning, a dynamic way of bringing a painting alive only made possible by motion picture, a way of

reforming and paying homage to the original art.

While Frida Kahlo’s life is thus accurately represented, there still remains the question of her sexual orientation. History does know that she was married to Diego Rivera and engaged in extramarital affairs, there is no evidence that Frida was interested in women, though she has been hailed as an icon of the LGBTQ movement, a symbol of confidence and pride. Why then, are there a number of scenes in *Frida* which both directly and indirectly allude to Frida Kahlo being romantically interested in women? The answer to this question is that the director of the film, Harvey Weinstein, insisted on the inclusion of such scenes due to an inappropriate and predatory interest in lead actress Salma Hayek, who played the role of Frida Kahlo in the film. Salma Hayek tells her story in an article entitled *Harvey Weinstein Is My Monster Too* published in The New York Times. Salma Hayek details the harassment she endured in her time working under Harvey



Photo courtesy www.equilibrarte.net
Salma Hayek and Alfred Molina star in *Frida*.

Weinstein, joining a tragically growing list of victims who’ve spoken out against Director Weinstein this past year.

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F&M picked up an important win versus a in conference rival this past Wednesday. Read more below...



photo courtesy of wikimedia.com

Editor Katie Coble discusses the recent case against trainer Larry Nassar. Read more below...

Franklin & Marshall Sports

F&M Men's Basketball continues strong season with win

BY GABBY GOODWIN
Sports Editor

In a game against Ursinus this past Wednesday, the Franklin and Marshall Men's Basketball team had a day to remember.

With a 80-77 win over the Bears, F&M's Matthew Tate scored a career-high 35 points and F&M's Brandon Federici beat the all-time scoring record for F&M Men's Basketball.

Scoring 14 points in the Ursinus game, Federici brought his career total points to 1,935, breaking the all-time scoring record held by Georgio Milligan.

In 2012, Milligan set the record with 1,932 points, and though near the end of the season, Federici has time to break the Centennial Conference all-time scoring record, of which he is just 39 points shy.

Scoring first, Ursinus came

out strong, scoring four points just two minutes into the game. F&M countered the Bears' effort by outscoring them 18-7 over the next five minutes bringing the score to 18-11.

The Bears then retook the lead 24-20 until two free throws from Tate tied the game 24-24 with less than eight minutes left in the half. Tied again at 28-28, the Dips took the lead 31-28 with just five minutes left. Ursinus upped the Dips a point, bringing the score to 33-32, but F&M closed the half out by outscoring Ursinus 9-4 and taking the lead 42-36 at the break.

F&M opened the half by clenching a 50-39 lead, however, the Bears, determined to keep the pressure on, came within two of the Dips, 50-48, with less than 15:00 left in the half.

Back and forth, the Dips and the Bears both continued to chip



Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com

The Men's Basketball team has come out of the gate this season with an 18-3 record. They continued their streak this past Wednesday against Ursinus and look to keep it going.

away. Both teams began to feel the pressure when the Bears were just 3 points shy of the Dips with 1:18 left.

However, the Dips hit 3-for-4 and Tate came up with a steal and added two more points to the board for F&M, securing a Diplomat win.

Since Ursinus, the Dips beat Muhlenberg this past Saturday

with a 77-70 win, bringing their overall record to 18-3. F&M Men's Basketball comes out on Wednesday at 7:00 PM to play against Hopkins, at Hopkins, in another Centennial Conference game.

Sophomore Gabby Goodwin is the sports editor. Her email is ggoodwin@fandm.edu.

Larry Nassar sentenced to prison following numerous sexual assault claims

BY KATIE COBLE
News Editor

The world of women's gymnastics has been shaken in recent months after revelations of child sex abuse by famed doctor Larry Nassar have come to light. Nassar was a sports-medicine doctor for the United States' national gymnastics team and an osteopathic physician at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan. Nassar pled guilty to sexual assault charges and was sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison on January 25, 2017. He previously pleaded guilty to federal child pornography charges on November 22, 2017 and was sentenced to 60 years in prison for these crimes in December 2017.

Nassar was the team doctor for the USA women's gymnastics team for nearly twenty years. According to NBC News, he was the subject of an internal investigation at Michigan State University in 2014 after a misconduct complaint was filed against him. The investigation led to no charges. A year later in 2015 he was fired from his position at USA Gymnastics "after learning of athlete concerns" and they referred him to local law enforcement. Nassar maintains that he retired from USA Gymnastics and did not retire. In September of 2016, Nassar was the subject of a piece in the Indianapolis Star in which two former gymnasts including Rachael Denhollander accused him of sexual assault. This news led Nassar to be fired from his job at Michigan State University, with the school stating he had broken "certain employment requirements" created after the

2014 complaint. Nassar was initially charged with the sexual assault of a minor in November 2016. Since then more than 250 women have come forward with allegations of sexual abuse.

These 250 women include many famous Olympians and Olympic medalists including Jamie Dantzscher, McKayla Maroney, Jordyn Wieber, Gabby Douglas, Aly Raisman, and Simone Biles. Maroney has alleged that Nassar repeatedly assaulted her when she was 13 continuing until her retirement at the age of 20. She has filed a lawsuit against Nassar, Michigan State University, the United States Olympic Committee and USA Gymnastics alleging that she was paid \$1.25 million to sign a non-disclosure agreement in an attempt to cover up the abuse. Two-time Olympian Aly Raisman was one of hundreds of women to give a victim statement during Nassar's sentencing.

Nassar sexually abused young girls for decades under the guise of providing a unique, top-notch medical treatment. His stellar reputation for treating Olympians, world champions, and collegiate stars made him an intimidating figure to accuse. Nassar sometimes assaulted girls with their parents in the room. All of his victims were minors at the time of the abuse, some as young as six years old.

The scandal has had far-reaching implications outside of Nassar himself. USA Gymnastics, the US Olympic Committee and Michigan State University all employed Nassar for decades. Questions have emerged about when they knew about Nassar's behavior and what they did (or didn't

do) to stop it. Dozens of women have filed lawsuits against these organizations alleging that their accusations and concerns about Nassar's behavior were ignored, disputed, and covered up.

USA Gymnastics announced on January 18, 2018 that they would be ending their association with Karolyi Ranch, the famed Texas training facility that served as the US National Team's official training facility for more than 15 years. The camp is still owned by Bela and Martha Karolyi, arguably the most famous coaches in the history of gymnastics, supervising legends such as Nadia Comaneci and Mary Lou Retton. Both are now the subject of a lawsuit alleging they ignored routine sexual abuse by Nassar at their facility, despite Nassar being ineligible to practice medicine in the state of Texas. Gymnastics like Olympian Jamie Dantzscher have alleged that the Karolyi Ranch fostered an intense, competitive, and emotionally abusive environment where Nassar's abuse was allowed to flourish.

The scandal has had a massive impact on the organizational structure of US Gymnastics, with president Steve Penny retiring in March 2017 in light of the allegations and the organization's entire board of directors resigning following Nassar's conviction. Valeri Liukin, the national team coordinator and father of Olympian Nastia Liukin, resigned from his position on February 2. The organization has also lost sponsorships and advertising deals with companies like T&T, Hershey Co., Kellogg, Procter & Gamble and Under Armor.

The scandal has also impacted Michigan State University and its local community of East Lansing. University president Lou Anna Simon and MSU's head athletic director Mark Hollis have both resigned in wake of the Nassar trial.

News of Nassar's sexual abuse comes at an especially important moment in light of the #MeToo movement, which survivors such as McKayla Maroney have specifically mentioned as motivating them to come forward about their experiences with Nassar. Rachael Denhollander, the first woman to publicly accuse Nassar of sexual assault and the last woman of more than 150 to give a victim impact statement during his trial, alluded to this movement while asking the judge to impose the maximum sentence on Nassar:

"Look around the courtroom, remember what you have witnessed these past seven days... This is what it looks like when institutions create a culture where a predator can flourish unafraid and unabated... It looks like a courtroom full of survivors who carry deep wounds. Women and girls who have banded together to fight for themselves because no one else would do it. Women and girls who carry scars that will never fully heal but who have made the choice to place the guilt and shame on the only person to whom it belongs, the abuser."

Nassar, 54, is expected to spend the remainder of his life in prison.

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