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The College Reporter interviews F&M's new president, Dr. Barbara Altmann

BY RUBY VAN DYK
Layout Assistant

This past week Ruby Van Dyk had the chance to interview F&M's new president, Dr. Barbara Altmann. A former French Medieval Literature Professor at University of Oregon and, more recently, Provost at Bucknell University, Altmann has spent her career working at Colleges and Universities. Altmann is not only F&M's first female president but is the first Canadian president as well. During the interview she discussed her goals and strategies, Greek Life, F&M's former president, Dr. Dan Porterfield, and what she hopes to do to help F&M grow. This past week, U.S. News reported that F&M has ranked 36th among national liberal arts colleges, tying with Bucknell and Lafayette. This puts it up from 39th last year and 47th two years ago. This is the highest F&M has ranked since 2002.

Ruby Van Dyk: Many of us haven't had a chance to meet you yet, or weren't able to attend your common hour interview, can you talk a bit about your

background? How did you end up in academia? What brought you to Franklin & Marshall? **Barbara Altmann:** This is my third institution I've been at during my academic career. My first job out of graduate school was at the University of Oregon for 25 years, and then I was most recently at Bucknell University as Provost. I've now been on the job for four weeks here, today. I was really excited to come to F&M; it was an unmatched opportunity, one that I couldn't resist. I have spent my whole life in academia and am very passionate about my own research field which is medieval french literature. I do a lot of work with 600 year old books and figuring out how the Middle Ages is still relevant to the 21st century, which is a endless and fascinating puzzle. The environment here at F&M is one in which I thrive. I love being around curious, interesting, motivated people like the people here, so it was just a real privilege to have the chance to join it.

RVD: What did you learn from your time at both Bucknell University



Photo courtesy of Peter Durantine

President Barbara Altmann wants F&M to be a well-known name across the country

and University of Oregon? **BA:** I was a full-time faculty member for 23 years and I loved that role. But as I got further into my career I developed a strong interest in how universities and colleges work, and it was really when my older son attended a small liberal arts college that I saw first hand as a parent and educator what kind of an education that can provide. Here at F&M, and other liberal arts

colleges, we are providing a type of education that is uniquely designed to produce students who can be flexible and capable in any career they embrace. In a way, I'm an example of that. My training was highly interdisciplinary and taught me a way of thinking and approaching things from an analytical standpoint. That's what we're doing here at F&M.

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Writer discusses Hurricane Florence, creating havoc across North Carolina coast

BY MAX SANO
Contributing Writer

This article will be based off of information, data, and news on the storm prior to Friday, September 14th. As of right now, this is what there is to know about Hurricane Florence and how it is affecting North Carolina and the rest of the Mid-Atlantic region.

At least three storms have battered the region since 2008: Hurricanes Irene, Arthur, and Matthew in 2011, 2014, and 2016, respectively. The strongest of the three, Hurricane Irene, had winds

with gusts up to up to 135 miles when it hit the North Carolinian coast. According to the National Weather Service, on September 13th—one day before the storm reached North Carolina—Hurricane Florence approached the coast as a Category 2 Hurricane, with winds of up to 110 miles an hour. Up and down the coast of the Carolinas, waters were expected to rise from four to eight feet. Two towns in North Carolina, Greenville and Jacksonville, were predicted to have a storm surge of over 12 feet as of Thursday evening. The strongest winds

were expected to reach Wilmington, NC early Friday morning.

The eye of Hurricane Florence made landfall on Friday around 7:15 a.m. Hurricane-force winds of up to 80 mph are expected to hit coastal counties and move further inland throughout the day. What was originally forecasted as a Category 4 storm has been downgraded to Category 1 when it hit the coast this morning. Upwards of hundreds of thousands of people are expected to lose power over the course of today and into the weekend as the storm slowly moves inland across the Carolinas.

By 2:00 p.m., Hurricane Florence was about 35 miles west-southwest of Wilmington, and the wind dropped to 75 miles an hour.

Four deaths are already linked to the hurricane, which include a mother and her infant daughter when a tree fell on their house in Wilmington. Separately, a woman died of a heart attack this morning in Hampstead. Emergency responders were unable to reach her due to downed trees. Local authorities also reported that someone passed away while turning on a generator in Lenoir County. Some

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Altmann: F&M's first female president hopes to work on building on college's endowment throughout her career

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RVD: Did you have a chance to speak to our last President, President Dan Porterfield before or after accepting the position? If so, did he give you any advice?
BA: Dr. Porterfield has been enormously helpful to me and very generous. I spoke to him when I was still a candidate for the position and had a really important hour with him that gave me a much understanding of the enormous amount he's done for F&M. He continues to be extremely generous, and he and I stay in pretty close touch. My job now is to figure out how to continue all the fantastic initiatives that Dr. Porterfield launched, and then continue to the next stage.

RVD: What primary goals/strategies do you have as you come into a new position here at F&M?

BA: The goal is to build on everything that is going really well right now. We have an opportunity to continue to build on how we model the best students but also the best faculty and staff. Making sure we continue to demonstrate that the advantages of a diverse student body are important, and I believe that diversity of every kind is a precondition to excellence. What we're doing now is redefining the importance of bringing in the best and brightest from everywhere. That means students from across the country and around the world, but also here from Lancaster County as well. We want to draw students locally as

well as nationally and globally.

RVD: What do you see as F&M's biggest strengths? Weaknesses?
BA: I think our challenges are the same challenges that are shared by similar schools around the country. For F&M specifically, we are not yet blessed with an enormous endowment in order to run our many wonderful programs. But that being said, we are really outperforming many of our various metrics and doing a lot with very little. My job as President, along with the rest of the senior staff, is not only to keep at the cutting edge of the academic front and provide students with the best education, but also to work on building our endowment. In terms of strengths, we are strong across the board, from sports, performing arts, studio arts, humanities, businesses, sciences, etc. We don't have any weaknesses in our broad selection of programs and just need to continue to make room for new disciplines.

RVD: You are F&M's first female president. As a woman, what different or new perspective do you hope to bring to F&M?
BA: I don't ever want the fact that I'm the first woman President at F&M to be a distraction. It isn't newsworthy within itself except in the fact that it is high time in an institution that is more than 230 years old to break out of the mold of what may be seen as a typical college president. I'm honored to be F&M's first female president, but I also don't think it is surprising that F&M was willing to go there. I think there is probably going to

be a little extra scrutiny during these first few months, but I think it's important for female students and alumnae of the college to see themselves reflected at the head of our leadership as well.

RVD: Throughout the country, many colleges that are similar to F&M have been limiting and/or changing the presence of Greek organizations on their campuses. What is your stance on Greek organizations? Do you have any plans to make changes or improvements to Greek organizations on campus?
BA: I think the greek presence at F&M is important. The principles on which Greek houses were founded are really some of the most sterling principals. I think what we need to do always is help our Greek organizations find the best possible way to work with the college and be true citizens of the college, not just of their own houses. I think we have every indication that they are interested. I also think the way in which we try to work with our greek organizations here is very open, transparent, and collaborative, and that's the way it should be.

RVD: What has been your favorite thing about being at F&M so far? Is there something that stands out?
BA: It's the fact that F&M is a place where open dialogue can happen. It happens everyday in every corner of the campus, from things that might seem the most trivial to what might seem the most critical, important, and difficult. One of the things that F&M does very well, is provide forums for open dialogue. It's

things like the Day of Dialogue that we have coming up or our institutionalized Common Hour that allow platforms for the campus to talk about many of the issues that we face as a nation and as a globe. I haven't had anybody be shy about raising any of the hard questions with me in my first four weeks, and I wouldn't want it any other way. These can be hard conversations, but the very fact that we do it, is a great sign of health.

RVD: What do you hope to be your primary legacy at F&M?
BA: When you follow a couple of really great Presidents, your first hope is to not screw it up. But beyond that I think that as an institution we're at a great place to make F&M shine for all the things it does well. I'd like to help get the light out from under the bushel for F&M and make sure we're known across the country as one of the real powerhouse colleges in terms of the education we can provide. I've also been thinking about how we tell our story both nationally and locally, it's important that we talk not only about the rigor that F&M is known for but also the reward that it provides. There is a lot of satisfaction that comes along with the rigor here and I think getting out the joyous nature of discovery that one can receive at F&M is something we should continue to push. We are high flying and will continue to do so.

Sophomore Ruby Van Dyk is a Layout Assistant. Her email is rvandyk@fandm.edu

Florence: Hurricane floods have forced governors of North Carolina to issue mandatory evacuation

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300 people were rescued throughout the course of Thursday evening to Friday morning in New Bern, NC. They were saved from flood-marooned houses, with 40 more people still awaiting help.

The amount of casualties and displaced people thus far demonstrate the necessity for the state and federal governments to cooperate over the course of this storm. In the days leading up to Hurricane Florence, mandatory evacuations were issued by the governors of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Governor Cooper of North Carolina commented this morning that "the state's rivers are rising, and will continue to rise, in some

places to record levels." Federal Emergency Management Agency and other government officials outlined a vast deployment of resources: 1,100 FEMA rescuers in North and South Carolina, 40 aircraft, more than 7,100 members of the Coast Guard, 500 medical personnel deployed to shelters, and the deployment of the National Guard of both Carolinas.

In spite of all the preparation, there is still much more potential for damage in the coming days, with clean up and recovery expected to cost into the billions.

First-year Max Sano is a Contributing Writer. His email is msano@fandm.edu.

CRIME WATCH

Saturday, September 8, 8:11pm - DPS received a report of suspicious activity on College Avenue

Saturday, September 8, 8:49pm - DPS responded to a drug and alcohol offense in 520 North Charlotte

Sunday, September 9, 4:16pm - DPS received a report of a drug and alcohol offense

Sunday, September 9, 1:14am - DPS responded to a report of consumption, possession of alcohol, and public drunkenness

Monday, September 10, 11:36am - DPS received a report of harassment

Tuesday, September 12, 5:00pm - DPS received a report of theft in Williamson parking lot

Tuesday, September 12, 7:22pm - DPS responded to a report of a drug and alcohol offense at Schnader Hall

Tuesday, September 12, 10:26pm - DPS received a report of theft in Weis Hall

Thursday, September 14, 2:16am - DPS received a report of a drug and alcohol offense in the West Parking lot

Thursday, September 14, 2:51am - DPS received a report of consumption and possession of alcohol, as well as a noise complaint at Bonchek College House

Staff Writer Commentary

First-year comments on extreme risk, gun responsibility laws

BY GRACE LEWIS
Contributing Writer

It's hard to talk about guns, and I bet that when people read the first phrase of this article, they will immediately go to the next one. Everyone has a different opinion of how controlled and monitored guns should be in our society. All of our different beliefs can make it difficult to talk about such a polarizing topic. However, no matter where your opinion falls on the spectrum, I hope we can all agree that we don't want people to get hurt or be killed in the violent matters that currently plague our society. We want to help each other, and we want to protect each other; it's part of our evolution to do so in order to ensure the survival of our species. But the tough part comes in knowing how to help each other. It can be very difficult to go up to someone and say: "Hey, I'm worried about you," even though it sounds simple.

But what if there was a way to

protect people from themselves and the potential dangers of firearms. Everyone after seeing the tragedy of a mass shooting or suicide, we learn that someone else was worried about the mental stability and well-being of the person. The statistics are out there; we know that the presence of guns in a household increases the chances of suicide and homicide (Everytownresearch.org). So what if we could help the people that we are worried about, especially if they have access to firearms?

Currently in our country, there are 13 states with a law called the Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO), also known as Red Flag Laws, including my home state of Washington (Giffords Law Center). This law allows for a family member, a friend, or a police officer to petition a judge to temporarily remove the firearms of a person who may pose a risk to themselves or others. This person would not have access to or have the ability to buy or sell any firearms for

up to a year. This may seem extreme, but a study from Duke University in looking at the effects of an ERPO law in Connecticut—which has been in place since 1999—has been proven to be effective and save lives (Swanson).

The question remains, if ERPO is so effective at saving lives, why isn't it all over the country? Let alone in the state of Pennsylvania? The answer is vague and frustrating because no one wants to have the difficult conversations.

Only a few days ago, on the 12th of September, House Bill 2227 (a version of ERPO) was tabled (House Bill 2227)—essentially meaning that any discussion of the Bill has been suspended indefinitely. If the bill does not get talked about, it does not get passed, which could result in more hard times for our community.

We as a society need to be able to have the tough conversations in order to help protect each other from the viciousness that infects our lives. The desensitization that we feel or are

beginning to feel when seeing a tragedy in the news is not normal. I often find myself thinking that whatever horrific event occurred, could have been worse. I don't consider the damage that has been done to the people affected but only how the body count could have been higher.

That kind of thinking is dangerous, and I am sure I am not alone in it. The seeming indifference we feel towards the smaller massacres was not there even a decade ago, the frequency of our tragedies has gone up exponentially, making us feel nothing. So if you're still with me, I ask of you to have the difficult conversations; therefore, we can begin to make the progress needed to ensure our exponential trend becomes negative again and the numbness begins to turn into feeling.

First-year Grace Lewis is a contributing writer. Her email is glewis@fandm.edu.

Only nine months? Why we should be concerned about Louis C.K.'s return to comedy

BY ISABEL PARIS
Staff Writer

Nine months have passed since the #MeToo movement swept across the country and the world. Men of varying degrees of power, from the entertainment industry to the political sphere, were accused of sexual assault against their co-workers and other women. Every day a new story was brought to light about someone else who had taken advantage of his role in society. Louis C. K., a famous comedian, was one of these offenders who committed gruesome and disgusting crimes against women with whom he worked.

These offenses had started in 2002 and had only been brought into the light last year. Louis C. K. had made a statement stating his "regret" but never actually said he was sorry. In his address, Louis said: "The power I had over these women is that they admired me. And I wielded that power irresponsibly. I have been remorseful of my actions. And I've tried to learn from them" (Louis CK, New York Times).

This so-called apology did little to help his reputation and was not even convincing to the public during its delivery. Just like all the other celebrities before him, Louis seemed remorseful only because he felt like he had to. There was little sympathy in his actions and in his words. Society had not seen or heard from him since last November, and frankly, that is how people have wanted it. Until now.

On the 25th of August, Louis C. K. reappeared in New York City

performing a new comedy special. He was invited to speak to at the Comedy Cellar, a famous Manhattan comedy club for comedians and entertainers, and received a standing ovation.

The club owner, Noam Dworman, defended Louis by saying that there should not be a life sentence for someone who "does something wrong" (Vox). First of all, doing something wrong would be lying to a family member or cheating on an exam, not sexually assaulting multiple women and asking if he can masturbate in front of them. Secondly, why would Dworman the day after Louis's performance say that "he just wants to do the right thing" in bringing good talent? How is bringing back a comedian nine months after being accused of sexual assault and having him joke about rape whistles the right thing?

There has been a lot of backlash against the Comedy Cellar and Louis for returning; however, the support that has been given to Louis is a small herd of male comedians. Comedian Michael Ian Black tweeted three days after the performance that he is "happy to see him try." SNL actor Michael Che is amazed that people "aren't satisfied" after Louis is being gone for "so long" (Vox). What Che doesn't realize is that nine months is not a significant amount of time. Actresses and female celebrities have been caught in scandals, and it takes them years to return and land jobs that are even remotely respectable and popular—yet nine months seems to be the perfect time for Louis C. K. to immediately get a

job and return gracefully? I want to know why these men feel as though their opinion is what makes it okay for men like Louis C. K. to return as if they were the ones who were assaulted and humiliated all these years.

The problem with C. K.'s return and many other male celebrities that were accused of sexual assault is that they are starting to be welcomed back with little regard for the wrongs of their pasts. Kevin Spacey is starring in the upcoming movie Billionaire Boys Club. Al Franken will probably worm his way back into the political realm or find a job that pays him millions of dollars. Charlie Rose and Matt Lauer will somehow show up on TV once again.

The issue is that as a nation we are and will allow these occurrences to continue if we keep brushing them off as something that can just go away with "good behavior." Our criminal system is the same way with rapists and sexual predators. Their crimes are never seen to be as grave as others, and the men who commit such crimes are released back into society with the assumption they will not return as long as they are "good." Unless society changes its attitude, powerful men will continue to remain ignorant about how they act towards women.

Sophomore Isabel Paris is a Staff Writer. Her email is iparis@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of Variety.com

Louis C.K.'s return to comedy has sparked controversy as he was only out of the spotlight for nine months after it had been discovered he had committed acts of sexual assault.

Opinion & Editorial, continued.

The Onion Dip

THE COLLEGE REPORTER'S SATIRICAL COLUMN

BY TESS FIUMEFREDDO
Contributing Writer

Welcome to Water World

Picture this: a hot, sunny day at Franklin & Marshall College. Birds are chirping, kids are laughing, and parents are sobbing over their children becoming adults. My parents refuse to cry in front of me and just leave. As soon as they're gone, I decide to wash my hands before I get started with my day. This is something that should be no problem whatsoever, correct?

Wrong. When I walk into the bathroom and turn on the tap, the sink decides to explode, effectively drenching me from head to toe. With water forcefully attacking me, I blindly attempt to turn off the sink; instead, I somehow make it even worse by pushing the handle in the wrong direction. I'm too embarrassed to yell for help, so I shut my eyes and feel around for the handle once more. I'm finally able to turn it off and stare at the horrifying mess I've made.

Everything, no exaggeration, is covered in water. I look into the mirror, absolutely mortified at what I've done, only to see an even more terrifying sight: myself. My hair is hanging limply around my face, my perfect make-up has given me two black eyes, and my once white shirt is now an opaque cloth in front of my polka dot bra. I don't have a clue what to do next, so I wade my way out of the bathroom and look both

ways down the hall. Thankfully, no one is there to witness my walk of shame, but my flip flops enjoy breaking the silence with their repetition of squeak squash, squeak squash. I move as quickly as I can into my room, and I am grateful to only be humiliated in front of myself.

Later that day, I reenter the bathroom to take a nice, relaxing shower after such a hectic afternoon. Once I step inside and turn it on, a similar sequence of events happens once again. The second the water goes on, I am pushed against the back of the shower wall. Now, if you've somehow never had to use a community shower, I'll let you in on a secret: they're pretty disgusting. Hair, shampoo, and other undefinable substances line the walls, and you definitely don't want to find yourself pressed up against one.

Unfortunately, that's exactly where I find myself. The water feels like knives pressing against my skin, and never have I ever felt such sharp pain all at once. I'm being attacked by something that's supposed to keep me alive, and I find myself hating it more and more. As there are other people in the bathroom, I don't want to walk out of the shower after only thirty seconds, so I subject myself to more torture. I don't think I've ever showered so quickly in my life. After the damage is over, I look down and notice that my entire body is red from the pain. Even worse, my back is completely sore from being so abruptly shoved, and I just know it's going to bruise.

Needless to say, I have tested out every single shower and sink to figure out which ones won't lead to my certain death. I have been here for almost a month now, and I can confidently say that I haven't been attacked by water any more. Well, kind of. I have seen a spider in a shower which has caused me to slip and fall, but

I can't blame that entire event on the water, now can I?

The moral of the story is: water may be necessary for survival, but don't believe for one second that it's your friend.

First-year Tess Fiumefreddo is a Contributing Writer. Her email is tfuimefr@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of ubisafe.org

Sometimes faucets and other contraptions that carry water malfunction, and we end up having more issues than necessary with the water itself. It is quite unsettling yet inevitable. Needless to say, water is vital, and we are so lucky to have access to it.

Full Staff Opinion

This year's U.S. News and World Report college rankings have confirmed what we all think: F&M is truly on the come-up. In the list of National Liberal Arts Colleges, F&M landed at #36, tied with Bucknell and Lafayette, which is three spots up from last year and 11 up from two years ago. This is the highest F&M has ranked since 2002. Other notable rankings are #33 in Best Undergraduate Teaching, #28 in Best Value, and #6 in Most Innovative.

It is easy to see that F&M is constantly improving right before our eyes and continues to establish itself as one of the nation's top colleges. Former President Porterfield has undoubtedly set F&M up for continued success. However, as we enter the new Altmann era, these rankings signify how F&M is committed to growth. Not is F&M expanding it's campus through the construction of Shadok Stadium and the Winter Arts Center, this year's freshmen class reflects F&M's dedication to finding excellence within diversity. The class of 2022 hails from over 37 states and 19 countries around the world.

Although these rankings are simply numbers, they remind us of how fortunate we are to attend a school that is on the forefront of innovation and achievement. As the school year and work load picks up, it is heartening to remember that even through the long nights at Martin or Shad, it truly is a special thing to be a Diplomat.

Sincerely,
TCR Editing Staff

Campus Life

Wes Moore, CEO of Robin Hood Foundation, inspires at Common Hour

BY JEREMY MAUSER
Contributing Writer

"The only way that I was going to succeed was if other people helped me, and the only way they would succeed was if I helped them."

Prolific author and entrepreneur Wes Moore visited the Franklin & Marshall campus this past Thursday, September 13, to speak at Common Hour with the title, "The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates." Moore spoke of important events that shaped his life and offered inspiration for those in attendance.

Many may know Moore for his work as an author. His debut novel, *The Other Wes Moore*, tells the story of two boys of the same name and same background who take completely different paths in life, with one becoming a scholar and the other facing a life sentence for murder.

Moore shared insight into the title of the bestseller at Common Hour, explaining that he initially thought that it was the "dumbest book title." After he argued to the publishers that the story was not just about the two kids and that nobody even knows who the "original" Wes Moore is, they explained that the focus of the title was on "The Other." There are "Wes Moores" in every community, and each is one decision away from taking a completely different path in life.

This relates to the charity work of Moore, who serves as the CEO of the Robin Hood Foundation, New York City's largest poverty-fighting organization. And part of the organization's initiative involves asking

students what they do with their talent.

After asking the audience what it means to be talented, and how everyone should use their talents, Moore explained that talent is defined more by someone's GPA than GPA. He argued that the direction in which people's lives are going says more about their talent than the doctorate that they may earn and that the question "Who did you choose to stand up for when it wasn't easy?" is more important than "What's your major?"

Moore learned this from Harry Belafonte, the singer and social activist whom he met while making a guest appearance on the TV program "Morning Joe." He told everyone at Common Hour that after asking Belafonte about why he always did what he felt was right, even when he knew not everyone would agree, the singer answered with a smile: "Because it's more fun to live that way." The speaker then urged everyone to stand up for what they believe is right, and that, "if you're not doing it to be selfless, do it to be selfish."

Moore also gave an extensive background on the events of his childhood that shaped his mentality and attitude. This includes his only two memories of his father—the first being when his father told him to never put his hands on a woman, and the second being when he watched his father die. Moore was four years old in both instances.

He and his family then moved from Baltimore to New York to live with his grandparents, and he got lost in the new setting. Moore explained that he was handcuffed for



Photos courtesy of baltimoresun.com

Wes Moore spoke on his New York Times best selling book, *The Other Wes Moore*, at last week's Common Hour. The talk resulted in a standing ovation.

the first time while eleven years old, and that he hurt people who loved him.

His mother sent him to the Valley Forge Military Academy, but he did not understand the system and tried to run away five times. This included a sergeant handing him a fake map to the train station so that his commanding unit could laugh at him as he ran in the woods aimlessly.

But Moore learned an important lesson during a conversation he had with his mother over the phone while at Valley Forge. After he told her to take him away from the military school, she told him something that hit home:

"Too many people have sacrificed for you to be here. You have to understand it's not all about you."

A few years later, he and some football players started their own non-profit organization as college students after realizing that the or-

ganization they interned with did not help properly incarcerated kids with readjusting their lives. Moore then spoke to the audience about discovering their passions.

"If [an activity] is something that makes your heart beat a little bit faster, then go after it."

To conclude his speech, Moore encouraged the student body to live interesting lives and work harder than ever before.

The audience rewarded the speaker with a standing ovation at the conclusion of his speech, but this was not the end of the hour. During the question-and-answer portion of the afternoon, he offered a final thought from his debut novel.

"We're products of our expectations—not our environments."

First-year Jeremy Mauser is a Contributing Writer. His email is jmauser@fandm.edu.

Writers House hosts open mic, student poets share stories, build community

BY AMANDA LEONARD
Contributing Writer

Poetry can often be a very vulnerable art form. A poem can be a cry for justice, a provocative uncovering of the truth, or a witty, humorous anecdote.

No matter the subject, it's important to create a safe space for authors to share their work. On F&M's campus, the safe space is the Philadelphia Alumni Writers House.

On Monday, September 12th, the Writers House held its kick-off party and Open Mic night, complete with pizza, sandwiches, soda, desserts, and most importantly a showcase of student poetry from creative writing majors and first-years alike.

The night started off with an introduction from Writers House

Director, Professor Kerry E. Sherin Wright, followed by a read-aloud of the House's Mission Statement, and finally, all performers and spectators going around and introducing themselves with their names and pronouns. After some discussion about upcoming events, the Open Mic commenced.

Only six people had signed up in advance to perform. However, after the first few poets performed, several audience members started to gain the confidence to share their work, and the set list tripled.

The poems tackled subjects from the movie *Dead Poets Society*, to Dominican heritage, to healing after trauma, and varied in length, structure, and rhythm. Some students shared several pieces. First-year Tess Fiume-

reddo performed a trilogy of poems entitled "You Asked For It," which emphasized the importance of "doing your own thing."

In getting a chance to hear other poets' work, Fiumefreddo said: "Learning about how people's minds interpret one form of writing differently is very eye-opening as a fellow writer."

Audrey Lee is an active participant in the Writers House and a member of LIFT, the campus slam poetry group. She performed a series of couplets entitled "American Dream" that she wrote for her poetry class. "I took the current and ongoing injustices in America into account to explain the unachievable myth of the American Dream and how the concept exploits marginalized peoples," Lee said.

Cari Molin contributed a poem

that included an extended metaphor referencing unrequited love. They said that they felt totally comfortable sharing in this environment. "[Open Mic] was really chill; everyone was really cool," Molin said.

The Writers House is holding several other events during the semester, including visits from authors, "Shakespeare Aloud" sessions, Donut Wednesdays, and a Murder Mystery party. The first monthly Community Meeting for the House will be held on October 17th.

Visit www.fandm.edu/writers-house/events or the Writers House Facebook page for more information.

First-year Amanda Leonard is a Contributing Writer. Her email is aleonar1@fandm.edu.

Arts & Leisure

New brunch restaurant opens in downtown Lancaster City on West Orange Street

BY DANIELLE RICE
Contributing Writer



Photo courtesy of thebreadpedaler.com.

The Bread Pedaler made its debut on August 24th, on the corner of Water and Orange Streets. This new restaurant, open Tuesday through Sunday, 7 am to 2 pm, puts a unique twist on a regular brunch place. The moment I walked in, I was greeted with a warm smile, a “how are you?” and most importantly, the menu. Customers order at the counter, take a seat, and warm food is brought out to the table.

At first glance, the menu may seem small, but, in fact, it contains a variety of breakfast and lunch options for everyone from meat-lovers to vegans. The menu contains breakfast sandwiches, breakfast bowls, breakfast tacos, topped toasts, sandwiches and salads. Keeping with the bread theme, the restaurant sells bread by the loaf, both fresh as well as day-old for a discounted price. You can’t fail to notice the large stacks of loaves of bread above the kitchen, visible when you first walk in.

The restaurant’s set-up and design aspects are some of the things

that set it apart from your average brunch place. The aesthetic is a modern, clean look with some rustic accents: hardwood floors, wood paneling and wooden tabletops. A white ceiling speckled with exposed light bulbs adds to the atmosphere. A large window, complete with window seats looking out onto Orange Street and bringing in a lot of light to the restaurant, creates a feeling of continuity with the street.

One of its claims-to-fame is that all ingredients are fresh, locally-sourced, and organic. The layout of the restaurant provides a look into the exposed kitchen (something fun to watch as you

wait for your food) which also reinforces the idea of truly fresh foods made right in front of you.

Another striking aspect of the restaurant is the drink storage. Instead of a typical soda fountain, there is one big cooler—on the right when you walk in—that contains bottled sodas, orange juice, teas, and water. The other drink option was coffee, which I was excited to try. The area was carefully set up with mugs and glasses lining shelves above a counter and dispensers for both hot and iced coffee. There was vanilla syrup, cream, sugar, and everything you might need for your coffee thoughtfully placed in small containers.

I ordered coffee, which was robust and delicious, and a Mediterranean Bowl, which came to my table a few minutes later. I was immediately pleased with my choice because of the perfect sunny side up egg, two pieces of toast and fresh vegetables. I broke the yolk over the bowl—full of tomatoes, spinach and kale, halloumi cheese, tapenade (an olive paste), and tzatziki sauce—and dug in. The ingredients tasted fresh, and the toast was exceptionally good, but I was most pleasantly surprised by the amazing flavor of the meal due to the tapenade and tzatziki sauce; I’d definitely recommend trying this one!

After I finished my meal, I decided I needed to come back because there were so many more options I wanted to try on the menu. The atmosphere is laid back with music playing, perfect for an off-campus weekend brunch with friends or a fun study group meeting. If you try The Bread Pedaler, you won’t be disappointed!

First-year Danielle Rice is a contributing writer. Her email is drice1@fandm.edu.

The newest romantic comedy on Netflix: To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before

BY CAROLINE MARTIN
Contributing Writer

To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before broke out on the Netflix scene only one month ago, generating quite a lot of buzz in this short period of time. Based on the best-selling young adult book by Jenny Han, the film adaptation is directed by Susan Johnson and stars Lana Condor as Lara Jean Covey, Noah Centineo as Peter Kavinsky, and Israel Broussard as Josh Sanderson.

The film begins with Lara Jean crushing on childhood friend and neighbor, Josh Sanderson. Josh, however, is off limits since he is soon to be the ex-boyfriend of Lara Jean’s sister, Margot, who is leaving for college in Scotland.

Instead of telling anyone, including Margot, about her secret crush, Lara Jean writes letters confessing her love and keeps them hidden in a box in her room. In total, there are five letters, including one to Josh Sanderson and one to Peter Kavinsky, the popular boys at school. Unfortunately, someone steals them and mails them all out to the boys addressed in the letters, leaving her in a frightened frenzy. In order for Lara Jean to convince her sister’s ex, Josh, that she doesn’t like him, she finds herself in a fake relationship with Peter Kavinsky, the jock of the school who wants to make his

ex-girlfriend, Genevieve, jealous.

Right off the bat, it’s clear that *To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before* is a romantic comedy whose targeted audience is teenage girls. There are certain aspects such as the high school setting, the dropped gorgeous boy and the obnoxiously pretty bully which are often seen in other young adult romantic comedies. Unfortunately, this also makes the plot very predictable.

Lana Condor’s awkward portrayal of Lara Jean Covey is embarrassingly realistic. Covey is depicted as antisocial, insecure, and a terribly lousy driver. Perhaps the issue with Lara Jean’s character is how her personality completely changes after (fake) dating Peter.

This change gives the impression that Covey needs a boy to make her happy, which is not a message that should be directed towards an audience of predominantly teenage girls. More emotional character development with Lara Jean as her relationship with Peter progressed would have gone a long way in the development of this story.

Peter Kavinsky, played by heart-throb Noah Centineo who is becoming an overnight celebrity, is the classic stereotypical male teenager found in every young adult romantic comedy ever. Peter loves sports, has a sarcastic sense of humor, is a good student that comes from a broken



Photo courtesy of vulture.com.

home and is ultimately very attractive. To many people, he is the epitome of a perfect boyfriend, besides basically using Lara Jean to get the attention of his ex. Peter never pressures Lara Jean, as their first rule of the fake relationship is “no kissing,” and he regularly expresses his sensitive, emotional side with her.

Throughout the film Lara Jean and Peter have many angsty moments, making it obvious both of them actually like each other. At times, it becomes frustrating that the characters are entirely oblivious to their strong feelings toward each other.

On a more serious note, the lack of representation is an issue unfortunately too prevalent in our society’s movies and television shows. *To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before* attempts to break away from the

typical movie casting mold. It was pleasant seeing Lana Condor, an Asian American actress, play the lead role of Lara Jean, as it added diversity to on-screen acting. On the contrast, the casting of Lara Jean’s older and younger sister, Margot (Janel Parrish) and Kitty (Anna Cathcart), did not provide an accurate representation, as they appeared whitewashed and nothing alike.

Besides the somewhat cringe-worthy quotes, *To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before* has its funny and swoon-worthy moments but, as expected, it stays within the romantic comedy construct. This perfected formula is perhaps one of the reasons why *To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before* is such a big success. On the internet, fans rave about the movie while rumors circulate about the possible film adaptation of the book’s sequel, *P.S. I Still Love You*.

Overall, *To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before* is a reasonably entertaining movie for romantic comedy lovers and people who like a dramatic, angst-ridden film. This movie reminds us how dominate the world of Netflix is and how forms of entertainment have dramatically changed over the years to include movies and television shows streamed online.

First-year Caroline Martin is a contributing writer. Her email is cmartin9@fandm.edu.

Arts & Leisure

Contributing Writer Commentary

Mapping out locations in downtown Lancaster City’s First-Friday Celebrations

BY ASHLEY LITTLE
Contributing Writer

Picture yourself on the streets of Lancaster, excited by the possibility of discovering new things and learning some local history.

This type of excitement marks First Friday celebrations during the first Friday of every month, a recurring event with unique, engaging opportunities not offered regularly in Lancaster City.

When visiting Downtown Lancaster during the First Friday celebration, one can find stores, tents, tables, and musicians central to North Prince and North Queen Streets. Conveniently located within a ten-minute walk from Franklin & Marshall College, F&M students find this location to be convenient and bustling.

Given the large number of stores on this stretch, however, it can be difficult to experience all of the options. This article will serve as your map to First Fridays in Lancaster City, identifying must-see stores, restaurants and art galleries that each offer something different for your next trip downtown.

3 Must-See Clothing Stops:
Hipster: Primitive Threads, located on North Street, may have particular appeal to those who enjoy more traditional college clothing styles. Primitive Threads features brand products from stores such as Vans, PacSun, and other clothing brands that target teenagers. Its



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu.

Downtown Lancaster City bustles with people visiting art galleries, clothing stores, restaurants and more on First-Friday, a celebration of arts, culture and local businesses on the first Friday of every month.

products are discounted and often convey a worn or weathered look.

Vintage: Downtown features quite a few vintage clothing stores, with each displaying unique varieties. Options may feature untraditional, wild apparel or even famous fashion brands. Try out Sophie Stargazer or even Realm & Reason on West King Street.

Thrift: While Downtown Lancaster offers the standard second-hand shops with discounted clothing, it also offers interesting spins on thrift stores. Some of the thrift stores feature name-brand clothing at huge discounts, while others feature organically-produced clothing made from materials from around the world.

Art, Design & Handcraft Shops:

Exclusive to First Friday: keep an eye out for pop up shops featuring personally-crafted jewelry made with gemstones, handmade home goods, and other accessories. First Friday is a busy time for art galleries, in particular. During the celebration, galleries offer sales and additional displays you won’t be able to find on any other day.

Year round: Stores may offer unique glassware, plants, decorations, or unique cultural products produced by people from all over the world. The “Gem Dem” is one example, a jewelry store which allows customers to create their own jewelry with beads, stones, crystals, and more.

Apart from the exceptional artwork, innovation, authentic stores, and music presentations, First Friday offers the chance to see a bustling community coming together and creating connections.

The greatest appeal of First Friday is being able to see this community express itself through artwork, products, and performances. After having a conversation with a self-made artist who consistently displays her work at First Friday celebrations, one takeaway is certain: the dedication to community success here is undeniable.

First-year Ashley Little is a contributing writer. Her email is alittle@fandm.edu.

The College Reporter

Transparency. Accuracy. Credibility.

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Staff Writer: Isabel Paris

The College Reporter office is located on the second floor of the Steinman College Center. Address all correspondence to The College Reporter, F&M #27 P.O. Box 3003, Lancaster, PA 17604. Email: reporter@fandm.edu Business Email: reporterads@fandm.edu Phone: (717) 291-4095.

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F&M Men's Soccer team reclaims boot in game against Elizabethtown. Read more below...



photo courtesy of godiplomats.com

First-year Jamie Belfer offers insight into the start of the NFL season. Read more below...

Franklin & Marshall Sports

F&M Men's Soccer team takes down Elizabethtown 5-1, reclaims boot

BY GABBY GOODWIN
Sports Editor

This past Wednesday evening, the Franklin & Marshall Men's Soccer team hosted their annual Smith-Herr Boot game against Elizabethtown on Tylus field, clenching a 5-1 win, and, once again, bringing the boot back home to F&M.

The annual "Battle of the Boot" began in 1977 and has been played each year since. The Smith-Herr Bronze Boot is a soccer shoe originally worn by Al Hershey, a two-time all American at Elizabethtown and, later in his career, a coach at both Elizabethtown and F&M. The boot is named for Robert Smith, who coached at F&M from 1947 and Ira R. Herr, who coached at Elizabethtown from 1938-48 and 1958-60 (godiplomats.com).

Unbeknownst to a 5-1 Diplomat final score, tensions were high early in the game as the Blue Jays took a 1-0 lead only 11 minutes into the first half. With a determined and primarily offensive

pair of counterattacks, a throw-in from F&M's Steven Yakita into the box allowed F&M's Connor Whitacre to score the first goal of the game for the Dips in the 37th minute.

Entering the second half with a 1-1 score, the Dips continued to produce offensive opportunities and, in the 48th minute, take their first lead of the game with a goal by F&M's Ryan Fincher off of a foul in the box.

Putting themselves in optimal scoring positions, F&M continued to add to the score when, in the 65th minute, F&M's Jim Connolly sent a cross into the box that F&M's Alex Lalovic was able to capitalize on, with a sliding shot on net.

First-year defender, F&M's Dallen Moore, scored his first career goal in the 74th minute of the game, capitalizing on a loose ball from outside the box, sending a low strike through the defense and into the bottom right corner of the net, bringing the score to 4-1.

And as if four goals weren't enough, with just five minutes left in the game, F&M's Jack Brandt scored from a shot on goal 15 yards out on a pass from F&M's Magnus Parente, securing a Diplomat win and the return of the boot.

The Dips improved their record to 5-0--their best start since 2015-

-and the Blue Jays fell to 0-4-1.

F&M Men's Soccer returns to action on Saturday with a 7:00 p.m. conference game against Muhlenberg.

Junior Gabby Goodwin is the Sports Editor. Her email is ggoodwin@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com.

In their annual boot game against Elizabethtown, this past Wednesday evening, F&M crushed the Blue Jays on their own turf 5-1, bringing home boot once again.

Week one of the NFL complete, upcoming match-ups to watch out for

BY JAMIE BELFER
Contributing Writer

The start of the NFL season was nothing short of thrilling. An exciting mix of stand-out rookies and well-performing veterans made Week 1 a fantastic first week of football. In the 16 games played, there were a combination of complete blowouts, nail-biters, and surprisingly, even a tie. The regular season began on Thursday, September 6th. Only two teams, made their season debut on Thursday Night Football. The following Sunday, August 9th, was a jam-packed day of football, with twenty-six teams battling against one another for their first victory of the season. Four awaiting teams went head-to-head on Monday, August 10th.

Thursday Night Football began with the Philadelphia Eagles, reigning Super Bowl champs, facing-off against the Atlanta Falcons at Lincoln Financial Field. While the status of the Eagles' starting quarterback in the 2017 regular season, Carson Wentz, is still somewhat unknown due to his torn ACL and LCL injury last December, Nick Foles and the Eagles were able to get the job done in Week 1. Although the Falcons made a ferocious run down the field in the final two minutes of the game, the Eagles' defense was able to shut them down, securing an 18-12 victory.

There were a few big blowouts on Sunday, the biggest being the Buffalo

Bills' win against the Baltimore Ravens, 47-3. The Bills' offense, led by rookie quarterback Josh Allen, struggled to make completions and find openings around the Raven defense. The Ravens were strong on both sides of the ball, as veteran Joe Flacco had 25 completions for 236 total yards and 3 passing touchdowns. The Raven defense forced 2 interceptions and only allowed the Bills to reach the red zone one time throughout the entire game.

The Pittsburgh Steelers and Cleveland Browns had a very different outcome than the Bills/Ravens as they ended in a 21-21 tie. A controversial call on a punt return in the fourth quarter allowed the Browns to tie the game up in the last eight minutes. Neither team could score in the 10-minute overtime and the game ultimately ended in a tie. Browns' rookie cornerback and No. 4 overall pick in the draft, Denzel Ward, had two interceptions and was in turn named the NFL rookie of the week.

The New England Patriots, Super Bowl runner-ups, played well to defeat the Texans 27-20. The Green Bay Packers lost a close game against the Bears 24-23. The Dallas Cowboys struggled on the offensive end as they had zero third down conversions in the first half, which contributed to their 8-16 loss against the Panthers.

The New York Giants, still trying to figure out their offensive flow under new head coach, Pat Shurmer, were

beaten by the Jacksonville Jaguars 15-20. Rookie running back Saquon Barkley (No. 2 in the overall draft) gave the Giants a sliver of hope with a 68-yard touchdown with 10 minutes left in the game. Yet, they failed to score in the remainder of the game.

One of the most surprising outcomes of Week 1 was the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' victory over the Saints. Buccaneers' 2017 starting quarterback, Jameis Winston did not play as he is suspended until Week 4. However, backup quarterback and 14-year veteran, Ryan Fitzpatrick, was able to lead the Buccaneer offense to narrow victory, 48-40.

On Monday, a stand-out performance from Jets' rookie quarterback Sam Darnold helped the New York

Jets defeat the Detroit Lions by a staggering score of 48-17. Darnold had 16 completions for 198 yards. Running backs Isaiah Crowell and Bilal Powell contributed to the Jets' victory with a combined total of 162 rushing yards with 2 touchdowns.

In the final game of Week 1, the Oakland Raiders, lead by new coach Jon Gruden, lost to the Los Angeles Rams 13-33.

As teams look to continue their success or avoid an 0-2 start, Week 2 is sure to be filled with much more exciting games and great matchups.

First-year Jamie Belfer is a Contributing Writer. Her email is jbelfer@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of a2dradio.com

As we wrap up the first week of the NFL, first-year Jamie Belfer takes a look to see what teams we should watch out for and what teams got off to a slow start. Upcoming match-ups to watch out for this weekend include the Eagles vs. the Buccaneers this Sunday evening.