



# The College Reporter

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## Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to be indicted on corruption charges

BY SUNYA HASSAN

News Editor

After nearly a decade in power, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is now facing a series of corruption charges against him.

On Thursday, February 28, Israel's attorney general Avichai Mandelblit, announced that his office plans to indict Prime Minister Netanyahu on corruption charges after a two-year investigation. Prior to recent events, Israeli police had recommended that Netanyahu be indicted for bribery, fraud, and breach of trust in three different cases.

They claimed that the prime minister had a "bribery relationship" with Shaul Elovitch, the controlling shareholder of the Israeli telecommunications company, Bezeq. Police stated that Netanyahu advanced regulations that favored Elovitch, concerning the merger of two telecom companies that earned Elovitch millions of dollars. In return (from 2012-2017), Elovitch allowed Netanyahu to access and dictate the content on his company's news website 'Walla! News.' In an interview with Israeli investigative TV program 'HaMakor,' Avi Alkalai, former chief editor of the news site, stated that «there was an attempt

to paint all that had to do with the prime minister's household in a positive light and not negative.» Netanyahu and his associates would place flattering photos and articles of themselves, as well as remove any articles that were critical of the prime minister and his family. Purportedly, they also had a hand in the hiring of reporters and editors.

Netanyahu is also suspected of wrongfully accepting over \$282,000 worth of gifts in the form of cigars, champagne and jewelry from Israeli expatriate and Hollywood producer Aaron Milchan, as well as Australian businessman James Packer, who is more famously recognized as the ex-fiancé of singer Mariah Carey. They reputedly sent these gifts to Netanyahu's residence in Jerusalem and in exchange, the prime minister promoted legislation that benefited Milchan, though it ended up being blocked by the Finance Ministry.

In the third case, Netanyahu is accused of colluding with the Israel's top-selling newspaper, Yedioth Ahronoth, to hurt its competition in exchange for favourable coverage. He offered to press competing newspaper, Israel Hayom, and cut down its free distribution. In return, Yedioth Ahronoth would treat Netanyahu

more kindly. Though the deal was never completed, investigators say.

Netanyahu has denied all accusations, deeming them as part of a witch-hunt orchestrated by the press and police. He could face up to 10 years in prison if convicted of bribery and a maximum 3-year term for fraud and breach of trust.

Mandelblit's decision to indict Netanyahu is announced just six weeks prior to the Israeli general election and could severely damage Netanyahu's chances of being reelected for a fourth term. Anxious about the impact the allegations would have on the upcoming vote, the prime minister's right-wing Likud party petitioned the high court on Thursday in a last-minute attempt to block the announcement, but

it was promptly rejected. Under Israeli law, Netanyahu can also defend himself in a pre-trial hearing before the charges are formally filed in court, and possibly persuade the attorney general to have them dropped. Though it is currently unclear whether that process will begin before the election on April 9. Either way, it will most likely take a few months. In the meantime though, Israeli law states that a prime minister is not legally required to resign if he is indicted and Netanyahu has indicated that he does not intend to step down if he has to stand trial.

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## The College Reporter

Transparency. Accuracy. Credibility.



THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT  
NEWSPAPER OF  
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The College Reporter was formed in 1964, as a successor to The Student Weekly, which was formed in 1915 by the union of The F&M Weekly, founded 1891, and The College Student, founded 1881. The crest of The College Reporter was designed in 2004 by Kim Cortes '05.

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Photos courtesy of pbs.org.

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Staff writer provides opinion on U.S. intervention in Venezuela

BY SARAH YE  
Staff Writer

The United States is notorious for destabilizing any leftist government in the global south that doesn't exist to serve our interests. We sponsor and initiate economic warfare, regime changes, assassinations, and devastating civil wars. We did it to Nicaragua, when the terroristic CIA funded the equally terroristic Contras during the Reagan administration. We've been trying to bring down Cuba's government since the 1960s, sabotaging the socialist state's economy and trying to assassinate Fidel Castro over 600 times, according to Cuban officials. Other terrorized countries include Iran, Iraq, Haiti, Syria, and Libya, all subjected to corrupt American intervention. Our country infers in foreign affairs under the guise of a helping hand, trying to install "democracy" and "order" into countries that do much better without our influence. If there's any type of democracy that isn't the capitalist, Western ideal America likes to shove in everyone's faces, we try to bring it down.

American terror is on full display in Venezuela. For decades, we've had our fingers in Latin America's politics, and our very own toady President Trump has only aggravated the situation. On January 23, Juan Guaidó declared himself acting president of Venezuela. Funnily enough, 81% of Venezuelans hadn't even heard of him (Con El Mazo Dando) just

the week before. Guaidó bases his claim on Article 233 (Venezuelan Analysis), which states the President of the National Assembly will be acting president for 30 days until a new election can be held. It can only happen if the President of the Republic becomes "permanently unavailable to serve," and Maduro has not fulfilled any of the reasons listed. Trump and his Republican lackeys support Guaidó, even though his presidential claim is completely unconstitutional. Naturally, Trump is the ideal person to help Latin American governments after calling Mexicans "drug dealers, criminals, and rapists." He definitely has Latin America's best interests in mind.

Why are we harassing Maduro and the Venezuelan people over Guaidó's illegitimate claim to presidency? The same reason why we harass a bunch of other countries: oil. Our National Security Advisor John Bolton, an imperialist warhawk who looks like he sells Kentucky fried chicken on the side, admitted as much on FOX Business, stating, "We're looking at the oil assets ... It'll make a big difference to the United States economically if we could have American oil companies really invest in and produce the oil capabilities in Venezuela." Oil isn't the advertised reason behind American intervention, however. Our government and media are pushing a human rights crisis in Venezuela, and of course, the holy United States has to step in and send aid to the suffering people; except our aid isn't really aid.

The "aid" we're trying to send is actually to push a regime change (NPR), and some of it isn't aid at all. Venezuelan authorities discovered that an American air freight company attempted to ship a crate of weapons (McClatchy) for Guaidó's backers to use. Because of America's malicious intent, Maduro has blocked aid from us, but he's accepting it from the International Red Cross and the United Nations. If you'd like to criticize Maduro for not accepting aid (that's not really aid) from America, remember when Bush refused Cuba's help after Hurricane Katrina's devastation? A lot of people could've used the 1,586 doctors and 26 tons of medical supplies that Castro offered, but Bush rejected him anyway, and many poor folks are still suffering from the destruction.

America pretends to care about Venezuelans, bemoaning the state of the country and all the starving people, but if we really wanted what was best for Venezuelans, we would listen to Venezuelans. According to Hinterlaces, the first Venezuelan intelligence agency, 71% of Venezuelans are against American sanctions, and 86% of Venezuelans are against international military intervention to remove Maduro from power. Trump clearly wasn't listening, considering he threatened the Venezuelan military that still backs Maduro. If we really cared, we would leave Venezuela alone. American sanctions and interventions disproportionately harm poor, working-class citizens, the black and brown folks of the global south,

while the wealthy can survive our terror.

It's laughable for Western media to point at Venezuela and call Maduro's presidency a "failure of democracy" when our own country is a democratic travesty. As much distaste as I have for Hillary Clinton, she won the popular vote in 2016 and still lost the presidency. In 2018, Maduro won 67.84 percent of the vote, and the fairness of the election was upheld by about 100 foreign election observers (Venezuelan Analysis). But it's America that's truly democratic, right?

America repeatedly criticizes leftist governments of being corrupt and totalitarian, but who has put some of the most horrendous dictators into power after overthrowing democratically elected leaders? Who has had some of the most criminal presidents in history, white men who terrorize the global south with American imperialism and capitalism? Who infiltrates leftist governments and interferes in foreign affairs that don't pertain to them? The failure of democracy is not in the global south; it's here, at home. Instead of backing coups and economic attacks, America should focus on fixing its own horrendous government. Hands off Venezuela, and hands off the global south.

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Netanyahu's deal with Yehudit is horrible; here's why it matters

BY ELENA ROBUSTELLI  
Contributing Writer

In a desperate attempt to get re-elected in April, Israeli Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu announced a technical bloc last week with Otzma Yehudit (Jewish Power), an alt-right political party that has been likened to the Ku Klux Klan. Otzma Yehudit is essentially the resurrection of the Kach party, a group led by the bigoted Rabbi Meir Kahane that was banned from Israel's Knesset in 1994. The two party platforms are eerily similar to one another, both advocating for the ethnic cleansing of Christians and Arabs in Israel, the revocation of the Oslo accords, and complete Israeli rule, among other problematic

ideologies. The party also embraces deportation of those who challenge the state's decisions, which is a swift denial of Israel's current democracy. Otzma Yehudit will likely gain at least two seats in the Knesset, and Netanyahu's deal could put a member on Israel's Judicial Selection Committee.

Luckily, several Jewish organizations in the U.S. who fall everywhere on the political spectrum have condemned Netanyahu's new alliance, including the Anti-Defamation League, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the American Jewish Committee, and the New Israel Fund, among others. This move is significant because while Jewish organizations often focus on foreign policy issues relating to Is-

rael and Jews around the world, they rarely weigh on internal Israeli matters.

As an American Studies major and Judaic Studies minor, I fear that this fiasco could cast a negative light over the Israeli people rather than simply its narrow-minded leader to the point that it affects the 2020 elections here in the U.S.

If progressive candidates are afraid to speak about Israel and separate the state from Netanyahu's choices, the public will further demonize Israel for actions that are not reflective of its citizens as a whole. But if Republicans choose to continue blindly supporting everything that Netanyahu decides, they will be irrefutably giving into the xenophobia of a supremacist party that should

have never regained political recognition in the first place. What's more, I wouldn't be surprised to see the number of anti-Semitic and BDS-related acts spike up on college campuses because of this merger.

A core value of contemporary Judaism is social justice, especially given the Jewish people's history. We know this and we love this about our faith. But in light of this alignment, it's becoming increasingly more difficult for non-Jews to see that value because of one man's decisions, and that is a tragedy in it of itself.

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Campus Life

Jose Antonio Vargas recounts experiences as an undocumented immigrant

BY ALLISON SHOCKLEY  
Contributing Writer

What's more American than driving? For many of us, this is a privilege we often overlook. The little plastic card that gives us agency over our travel plans. Mobility. But not everyone has that privilege; in fact, only 12 states allow undocumented immigrants to drive. Pulitzer-prize winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas, this past Thursday's Common Hour speaker, was terrified of being pulled over and potentially deported for simply driving in the state of Pennsylvania.

Vargas discovered that he was undocumented at sixteen, when he tried to get his driver's license. Coming over from the Philippines when he was 12, Vargas had no documents to prove his citizenship.

Though his guardian grandparents were legal citizens, he had not gone through the process. And, contrary to popular belief, it is not an easy process. There's no line you can just get in to become a citizen. That's why there are currently 11 million undocu-

mented immigrants in the United States.

In fact, there are a lot of false narratives perpetuated about undocumented immigrants that Vargas addressed in his talk. Like 1) they commit more crimes than natural-born citizens—false. 2) They cost tax-payers billions of dollars—in fact, undocumented immigrants still pay thousands of taxes. 3) Open borders allow drugs and gangs to pour into communities—just false and offensive. And many undocumented immigrants don't even cross the border; they come here on airplanes.

Vargas talks about how important it is to counter these false and offensive narratives through storytelling. That's why he publicly came out as undocumented and wrote an article for TIME magazine about why they haven't deported him yet. To do this, he called ICE. "You've deported 400,000 this year alone. Why am I not one of them?"

"We don't comment on individual cases."

How true. We don't care about



Jose Antonio Vargas, Founder & CEO of Define American, Pulitzer prize-winning journalist, Emmy nominated filmmaker and author, shared experiences as undocumented.

individual undocumented immigrants when they are babysitting our children, mowing our lawns, cleaning our houses, Vargas says. When we can exploit their labor, we love to overlook their undocumented status. It's when we forget that they're people that we want to deport them—or put them in jail (there are 40,000 undocumented people in jail every day).

Vargas discussed the elements of his memoir, of his "selfish" project to find out why he's so "messed up," as he puts it. He talked about exploring the lying, passing (including eliminating his accent), and hiding (even from close friendships) that he had to do because he was undocumented. He also talked about how writing this book made him realize he needed therapy—and that's not a bad thing.

It also led him to question everything: Why do goods and commodities travel more freely than people do? How does an iPhone have more migrant rights than a human being? Why is it okay for White people to expand across the world to grow their industries and empires but people of color can hardly travel at all without being interrogated and deemed criminals?

Through all of this, he realized that "legality is a matter of power, not justice." That citizenship is about being a good neighbor and sharing space more than it is a piece of paper. And by that definition, we definitely do have a citizenship crisis.

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Jose Antonio Vargas discussed countering false narratives about undocumented immigrants at Common Hour, part of the topics explored in his memoir, Dear America.

Full Staff Opinion

As the deadline for essays and midterm exams draw nearer and with just a few more days 'til spring break, things can feel a little stressful. And along with that stress and those late nights spent studying comes a higher susceptibility to sickness.

Because of this, it is important to try and maintain a healthy sleep cycle and to take breaks

between studying for relaxation and de-stressing. That may mean grabbing a quick smoothie from Blue Line with friends, or simply taking quick power naps in your room.

Whatever your preference may be, a little bit of self-care goes a long way when it comes to keeping your mental and physical health in check.

No matter how many exams and papers you may have, don't forget to eat a balanced diet and stay hydrated so that you're not low on energy while trying to get through the week.

Also, try not to be cooped up in your dorm or library all day. A little bit of physical exercise and some fresh air and sunlight does wonders to clear the mind

and battle fatigue. So F&M, study hard and try not to procrastinate too much! And dedicate some time to your own self-care needs in order to avoid getting sick, so to not make an already stressful week any more miserable.

Spring break is just around the corner so do your best this week to make those days off feel even more rewarding!



# Arts & Leisure

## Lancaster City “Restaurant Week” downtown brings great deals for locals

BY DANIELLE RICE  
*Layout Assistant*

Mark your schedules, Lancaster’s “Restaurant Week” is coming up and here are some of the best deals. Who doesn’t love a delicious meal for a good deal? Downtown Lancaster’s “Restaurant Week” is coming up, a week in which certain restaurants offer set deals on limited menu items which continue for the whole week. This season, deals start March 4 and last through March 10. Restaurant Week has been around since the fall of 2011, and occurs during the Fall and Spring every year for a full week. This year, a record thirty-seven downtown restaurants are participating.. Prices range from \$10 to \$40 and include everything from prix fixe dinners to breakfast omelettes with a drink. The nice thing about these deals is that they usually include a full meal, so you won’t be paying extra for a beverage. Additionally, you get to try a variety of food items from menu offerings. For example, Anita’s on Walnut is offering a “pick two” of their sandwiches, salads, flatbreads, and soups, and the meal



Photo courtesy of visitlancastercity.com.

**Layout Assistant offers readers a guide to Lancaster City Restaurant Week March 4-10.** comes with a cookie, all for \$10. If you want a full meal - an appetizer, entree, and dessert - at an upscale fine dining restaurant, you will definitely save money taking advantage of some of the prix fixe deals, even though they are at a higher price point. Offerings range from \$30 to \$40 depending on how expensive the restaurant is. The best deals, however, seem to be found at more casual dining spots and cafés. Among the best deals is Copper Cup Coffee, offering a breakfast for two option for just \$10. This includes a choice of two muffins and two drinks, including their lattes and teas. Cafe One Eight has a similar deal, offering two fruit and yogurt parfaits for \$10 as well as three other \$10 options. While many restaurants have incredible deals, make sure to check to make sure you’re actually getting a bargain. The

French restaurant, Citronelle, offers a Sunday brunch of an entree, side and dessert for \$20. Splits and Giggles, the ice cream shop close to campus, offers a similar deal: soup, sandwich, and dessert but for only \$10. I found myself surprised and disappointed, however, by the deal of one of my favorite restaurants, Rachel’s Creperie. Their deal consists of two crepes (from a limited menu) and two soups for \$20. Since the crepes are regularly priced around \$6-\$8, you don’t seem to be saving much. All in all, if you want to save on some great food, check out downtown Lancaster City during the week of March 4-10. Just be sure to check out the regular menu prices to make sure the deal is as good as it seems! Check out more deals on the Lancaster City Restaurant Week website, which allows you to search for options by price or type of cuisine.

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For more information visit: <https://lancastercityrestaurantweek.com/restaurants/>

## Staff Writer lists the benefits of podcasts and which ones you should listen to

BY ABIGAIL DOTTERER  
*Staff Writer*

Besides looking cool when saying that you listen to podcasts, there are benefits listening to them in general. According to Forbes in 2017, at least 112 million Americans have listened to podcasts, 67 listening to them monthly.

**Optimize time, multi-tasking**  
The first pro about podcasts is that really, you can listen to them anywhere. In the car, on the bus, or even in the shower. They can work as good background noise while working out at the gym, so while you are exercising your body, your mind is as well. Listening to an audio-drama can make a plane or car ride go by faster, making yourself realize that the time flew by.

**Picking up on New Interests**  
By scanning through your built-in podcasts app on your phone or the section on Spotify, you can find shows on almost anything. Politics? Check. Sports? Check? You can find a podcast about almost anything. There are tons

of different topics, from broadcasts like “The History of English” to “Canadian True Crime.” Listening to podcasts can also be helpful while attempting to learn a new language. There are several out there that tell the country’s news and grammatical concepts at slow paces. It can be good to listen to dialogues in your target language to improve your listening skills as well as increase your vocabulary for potential speaking situations.

**Staying Informed**  
A big reason why I am slowly getting into more podcasts is to know more about the happenings within our government and our political climate. For news like this, I’ve started to listen to shows like “Can He Do That?” from The Washington Post which focuses on Donald Trump’s presidency, since it is “unlike any other that’s come before it,” says the podcast description. Besides this, “The Daily” from the New York Times is another option as well for domestic politics. “Pod Save America” is an interesting podcast to listen to as



Photo courtesy of lisa-dion.com.

**Podcasts offer a hands-off alternative for media consumption.** it includes four former aides to President Obama joined by journalists, activists, politicians, and comedians to have a “freewheeling conversation about politics, the press, and the challenges posed by the Trump presidency.” But besides listening to super serious political podcasts, it’s nice to keep up with the entertainment industry through these shows as well. Dax Shephard’s “Armchair Expert” interviews several celebrities, even the ones that usually conduct interviews themselves

including Jimmy Kimmel, Conan O’Brien, and Ellen DeGeneres.

**Personal Growth**  
If you look for them, there are many lifestyle podcasts out there, giving tips on how to improve one’s living habits. Some of these include “The Good Life Project” and “UnF\*ck Your Brain” which is “the podcast for high-achieving feminist women who struggle with anxiety, self-doubt, and imposter syndrome,” according to the Spotify description label. Other podcasts like this include “Gals on the Go” which is geared for college students about various topics including independence, careers, and body image. Podcasts can be slipped into anytime during the day, whether it’s when you are cleaning the house or sitting on the bus. They another option to spend your time, allowing you to learn something new, even if it’s ten minutes or up to two hours.

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Jamie Belfer recaps F&M Baseball’s first two games of the season. Read more below...



University of North Carolina Men’s Basketball defeat Duke in a major upset. Read more below...

# Franklin & Marshall Sports

## F&M Baseball defeats Hampden-Sydney College in first two games

BY JAMIE BELFER  
*Layout Assistant*

F&M Baseball travelled to Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia for their first two games of the season on Saturday, February 23. Although Hampden-Sydney already had three games under their belt (2-1), the Diplomats were unfazed and fearless as they stepped onto the field. In the top of the first inning of the first game, sophomore J.J. Freeman stroked a single to left center off of the Tigers’ starting pitcher Chase Mayberry. Senior Dan Marano got on base due to an error by the pitcher, moving Freeman to third. However, the Diplomats failed to capitalize on this opportunity and went into the bottom of the first with no runs. The Diplomats got off to a rocky start, giving up two runs to the Tigers. The Diplomats’ starting pitcher, Jonathan Cole, got the leadoff batter to ground out to third for the first out of the game. The two-batter, senior Blake Hartman, started a rally by singling to center field. Junior Andrew Kasiski then smashed a long double to left, scoring Hartman. Senior Tyler Blevins followed with a gap shot to right center field, which allowed Kasiski to score, putting the Tigers up 2-0. Both teams were unable to score in the second inning. The Diplomats ral-

lied in the third inning to push one run across. Freeman started the inning off with his second hit of the game, a single to right field. Pinch hitter Kyle Ebert grounded into a double play. However, F&M forged a two-out rally starting with Marano’s double to left field. Sophomore Don DiLoreto singled to left, scoring Marano for the first Diplomat run. Cole shut down the Tigers in a 1,2,3 inning in the bottom of the third. The bats went quiet for both teams in the fourth, fifth, and sixth innings. In the top of the seventh, Freeman reached first on an error by the second basemen. Ebert moved Freeman to third with a single to center. Freeman scored the second run for the Diplomats on a wild pitch. After tying the game up, Coach Ryan Horning replaced Cole with first-year Charlie Wright in the bottom of the seventh to finish the game for the Diplomats. Cole had a strong first outing with six strikeouts, one walk, five hits, and two earned runs. Coach Jeff Kinne for the Tigers replaced Mayberry with junior Cameron Meyers in the eighth inning. The game was still tied 2-2 going into the bottom of the ninth. In the top of the ninth, senior Danny Blugis doubled to left, giving the Diplomats a chance to score. Although the next two batters grounded out, Blugis was

able to advance to third. Freeman had the game-winning hit, a bomb to left center field, driving in Blugis to put the Diplomats up 3-2. With their four, five, and six batters coming up, the Tigers hoped their power hitters would start a rally in the bottom of the ninth. However, the first two batters grounded out to shortstop and second base. The last batter singled to left field, but was thrown out at second base, trying to stretch his single into a double. With a strong pitching performance, solid defense, and timely hitting by the Diplomats, F&M was able to cap-

ture their first victory of the season. The Diplomats’ bats came alive in the second game as they defeated the Tigers 10-4 in an offensive slugfest. This game was Coach Horning’s 100th career victory for the Diplomats. Franklin & Marshall will play their next two games against Gallaudet University in Washington D.C on Saturday, March 2 and Shenandoah University in Virginia on Sunday, March 3.

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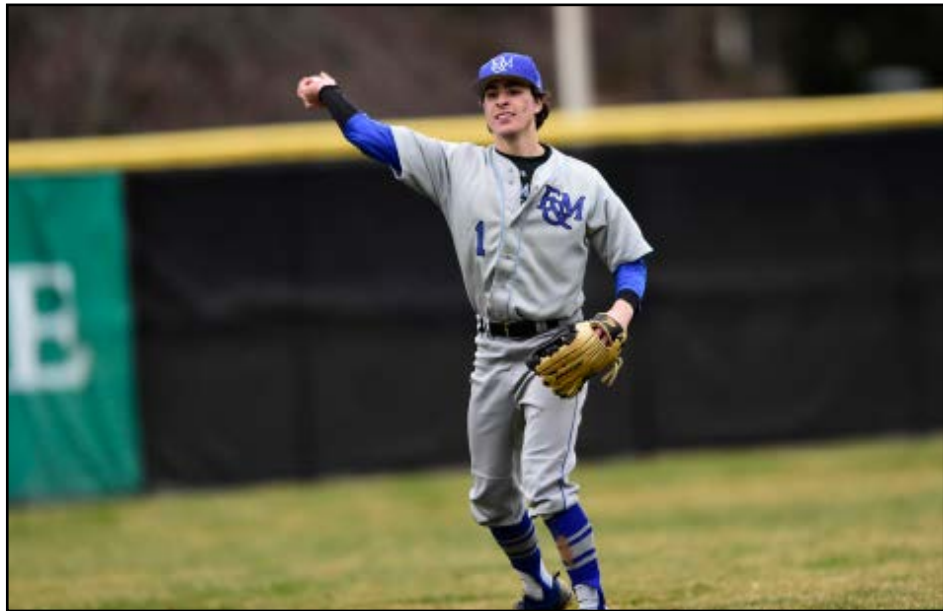


Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com.

After a close 3-2 victory against Hamden-Sydney College in their first game of the season, F&M Baseball dominated in a 10-4 victory in the second game.

## UNC Men’s Basketball defeats Duke in 88-72 upset, rematch this Saturday

BY GABBY GOODWIN  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Within the first minute of the game, Duke’s freshman stud, Zion Williamson, blew out his left sneaker and went down. Suffering from a mild sprain in his right knee, UNC’s Luke Maye took full advantage of the freak injury to the freshman, finishing with 30 points and 15 rebounds, helping the Tar Heels beat Duke 88-72 on February 20th. A star-studded crowd of former President Barack Obama, Spike Lee, and Hall of Fame outfielder Ken Griffey Jr. packed into the stadium looking for another highlight-filled show from Williamson. “It was just a shock for us,” Duke forward Cameron Reddish said. “Obviously, we’re used to playing with him, so playing without him was very difficult. We missed him today” (espn.com). Cameron Johnson added 26 points and Garrison Brooks had 14 for the Tar Heels (21-5, 11-2). By winning their ninth of 10 games and beating a top-ranked team for the first time since 2013,

they pulled into a first-place tie with the Blue Devils (23-3, 11-2). For Duke, RJ Barrett matched a season best with 33 points and fellow freshman Reddish added a season-high of 27 -- but the rest of the team combined to score just 12 points total. Duke looked lost without Williamson. Meanwhile, North Carolina took advantage by scoring 32 of its first 34 points in the paint, finishing with a 62-28 scoring advantage. The Tar Heels never trailed, pushing their lead to 22 points on Johnson’s layup with about 16 minutes left and holding on tight until the end. Since the eventful game against the two powerhouses on February 20th, UNC has gathered wins against Florida State, Syracuse, and Clemson. Duke, on the other hand, suffered a loss to Virginia Tech, while clenching wins against Syracuse and Miami U. Out for his third consecutive game against Miami this past Saturday, Zion Williamson might still not be back when No. 3 Duke faces off against No. 5 UNC on Saturday, March 9th at 6:00 PM,

in what will be, and always is, a very exciting game to watch!

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Photo courtesy of charlotteobserver.com.

UNC Tar Heels defeat the Duke Blue Devils. After Duke’s superstar, Zion Williamson, injured his knee, Luke Maye and the Tar Heels went on an offensive frenzy.