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Diamond Princess cruise ship forced into quarantine off coast of Yokohama

BY ELLYN FRITZ
Staff Writer

When most people think of a cruise, tropical weather, palm trees, and unlimited amenities come to mind - not necessarily a fourteen-day quarantine. For the passengers on the Diamond Princess cruise ship, retirement and birthday celebrations quickly lost their excitement when a case of the coronavirus was confirmed in a guest offshore who had previously traveled on the Diamond Princess on February 1st. The guest had traveled one five-day segment of the Diamond Princess' fourteen-day itinerary and was diagnosed with the coronavirus in a local Hong Kong hospital six days after disembarking the ship in Yokohama.

On February 4th, Princess Cruises decided to cancel the next voyage of the Diamond Princess for the Japan Ministry of Health to complete their comprehensive review of the health status of all guests and crew, which revealed ten positive tests of the coronavirus from guests. Those infected were transported to on-shore hospitals by a Japanese



Photo courtesy of CNN.

The Diamond Princess cruise ship has been quarantined due to cases of Coronavirus. Coast Guard watercraft, while the ship was required to remain in Yokohama under quarantine for fourteen days by the Ministry of Health.

According to Princess Cruises' daily statements in regards to the quarantine, "Princess Cruises will refund the full cruise fare for all guests including air travel, hotel, ground transportation, pre-paid shore excursions, gratuities, and other items. In addition, guests will not be charged

for any onboard incidental charges during the additional time onboard." Additionally, "[Diamond Princess] has added additional live TV channels and a large selection of in-room movies available in multiple languages. The cruise activities staff is packaging games, puzzles and trivia and delivering them to guest staterooms."

Despite the enhanced guest experience, their efforts to quarantine did not prove effective.

Within the first four days of the official quarantine, over one-hundred guests tested positive for the coronavirus. However, as of February 18th, 542 cases of the virus had been identified among the 3,711 quarantined passengers and crew, making the ship the site of the most infections outside of China, according to USA TODAY.

Kentaro Iwata, an infectious disease specialist at Kobe University, posted a scathing youtube video about his visit to the ship on February 18th, stating, "The cruise ship was completely inadequate in terms of the infection control... There was no distinction between the green zone, which is free of infection, and the red zone, which is potentially contaminated by the virus." Iwata was in Africa during the Ebola outbreak, in China in 2003 to help with SARS, and has traveled to various countries to provide assistance with cholera. He said that he was not fearful of acquiring those diseases as the patients and doctors knew how to properly protect themselves from the diseases. However, Iwata was fearful of becoming infected

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Trump associate, personal friend Roger Stone sentenced to three years in prison

BY ERIN MAXWELL
Staff Writer

This past Thursday, Donald Trump's longtime political confidant Roger Stone was sentenced to over three years in federal prison for obstruction of Congress, witness tampering, and false statements. The sentence is one of the more serious ones handed out as a result of Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian election interference. The charges, in this case, pertain to

Stone's dishonesty to Congress when making statements about the Trump campaign's theft of and benefit from Democratic Party emails.

Stone and his defense lawyers have actively sought to avoid any prison time, citing his lack of criminal record and his traits as a citizen, even going so far as to say "the process really to some extent has already been the punishment" according to Politico. Donald Trump seems to agree with this

opinion, arguing that the jury and court had an anti-Trump administration bias. He has openly criticized the prosecutors and Justice Department's prosecution. On Twitter, Trump stated "This is a horrible and very unfair situation. The real crimes were on the other side, as nothing happens to them. Cannot allow this miscarriage of justice." Some have argued these tweets lend themselves to the politicization of the Department of Justice and potentially even

greater obstruction of justice.

So far, three men have been sentenced in connection with the Mueller cases. Paul Manafort was sentenced to seven and a half years, Rick Gates to 45 days, and Micheal Cohen getting 3 years for similar charges. Federal prosecutors generally put together sentence recommendations from calculations and factors detailed in a 600-page manual. The threat of perceived politicization pulls

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Diamond: Passengers of multiple nationalities impacted by cases of coronavirus on cruise ship

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with the coronavirus onboard the ship because guests and patients were not properly protecting themselves within the quarantine. Iwata stated that the situation was “completely chaotic,” mentioning one scenario where one medical officer had seemingly given up protecting herself and others, believing she was likely already infected.

February 19th was the final day of the quarantine and the first day of the disembarkation process. Although the passengers finally got to leave the ship for the first time in two weeks, the Diamond Princess’ passengers were met with a confusing and frustrating array of circumstances.

Passengers, who had about two hours of fresh air during their time on the ship, are being required to undergo another two week period of quarantine upon arrival in their home country - reflecting the lack

of trust their governments have about the cruise ship quarantine’s effectiveness.

The United States, Canada, Australia, and Hong Kong are arranging for their citizens to travel home via charter flights this week, Princess Cruises said in an update on February 19th. All of those governments are requiring a second quarantine, the cruise line says.

The U.S. government brought more than 300 American passengers back to the U.S. on chartered repatriation flights early this week.

Those passengers are now undergoing new quarantine at military bases in California and Texas, and fourteen of them have tested positive for COVID-19 and are in hospitals.

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Stone: Several Justice Department prosecutors step down following Stone sentencing drama

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at the very framework of justice in the United States system. Since the verdict overruling their suggestion on Thursday, all four prosecutors working on the Stone case have stepped down from their position, with one even resigning from his position within the department in protest.

The Justice Department has since issued a memorandum stating that the prosecutor’s recommendation was inappropriate and that they took the proper steps to restore justice. However, many still see the

continuation of the obstruction, although Trump has maintained that he stays “out of things to a degree people wouldn’t believe,” according to ABC.

With the maximum sentence for Stone’s crimes being 50 years, the sentence handed down after Trump’s involvement has sent waves through Capitol Hill, as many point fingers at continuing unwarranted corruption of the highest office in the country.

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Photo courtesy of the Washington Times.
Trump associate Roger Stone was escorted by police after receiving three years in jail.



Photo courtesy of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.
Australian firefighters continue to battle with wildfires in the southeast of the country.

Australian wildfires continue to rage on across country’s southeastern coast

BY PATRICK CULCASI
Layout Assistant

Fires are still raging across the continent of Australia, especially in the southeastern quadrant of the country. The whole country has been ravaged by months of natural disaster, with different fires constantly burning in different areas of the country. According to Business Insider, there is still one month left in the fire season in Australia, and this year’s fires have already been worse than any the country has had on record. Thousands of animals have been affected, 32 people have been killed, animals have died, homes and habitats have been lost. According to The Guardian, 7.7 million hectares or roughly 29,730 square miles have been charred. Many of the native animals in the country, like koala bears and kangaroos, have lost their habitats as a result of the flames. Naturalist groups have worked to save these unique animal species and shelter them until there is no risk in returning them back to the wild.

The root of the Canberra region fire was started by an amateur bee-keeper according to the New York Post. The bee-keeper accidentally caught a section of brush on his property alight while using his smoker to sedate the bees. This then spread across the Canberra region and through the Australian bush. This instance is just one of many everyday actions that have led to one of the most catastrophic fire seasons on record. Many scientists have argued that, whatever the starting point of the fires may be, their increased frequency is the result of global climate change. In places like Australia, where fires are already common, the actions of humans can alter the climate,

leading the drying out of trees, soil, and brush. The environment thus becomes the perfect tinder.

The fires have left the entire country of Australia in need of help. Several nonprofit organizations have been helping with relief for animals and humans as well as wrecked infrastructure and nature. Some of these organizations include the Australian Red Cross, which is accepting donations. The Australian Salvation Army is advising people to send money instead of goods, so people can use funds in the way they most need. The World Wildlife Foundation is accepting donations for feeding and caring for the injured koala population, and finally, Airbnb is even offering free housing for displaced peoples. On top of organizations and companies sharing their help and goodwill, individuals, such as Australian celebrities have asked people to donate to local fire companies and relief efforts.

This is one of the worst instances of wildfire in the world to date, and it shows no sign of slowing. The Washington Post writes that climate change issues have been at the forefront of the political discussion in Australia for years. As it stands Prime Minister Morrison is not interested in climate change policy. Morrison was in fact on vacation when the fires broke out, but he has guaranteed \$1.4 dollars and 3,000 defense force members to help in prevention and reparation efforts. The fires have raised the prominence of climate change as an issue in Australia, and it remains to be seen how the country will finally handle the disaster it has been facing.

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Editor Commentary

Importance of seeking out professional help to treat mental illnesses

BY SOJIN SHIN
Opinion & Editorial Editor

It is often said that depression is like the common cold. Most people experience it at least once in their lives, and sometimes it disappears on its own. Feeling a little blue is a natural thing, perhaps even a good thing that gives us a moment to think about ourselves.

However, we should remember that even the common cold can develop into a more severe disease without proper treatment. Recurrent depressive thoughts, lethargy, and a sense of despair could be signs of chronic illnesses. They could be detrimental to one’s life in work, classes, or even within encounters with close friends. Self-care might work for mild symptoms, but professional help is absolutely necessary in these severe cases.

There are multiple forms of care one can seek. One of the more accessible methods F&M provides is counselling. All students have up to eight free counselling sessions. Even though the time needed to observe significant improvement through counselling depends per person, counselling is generally accepted as an effective therapy method. Not only that, counselling can also be useful in short-term stress relief. It doesn’t take a formal diagnosis of depression, anxiety, or any other personality disorder in order for one to seek counselling services. Over-extension or build up of stress can be harmful as well. If you are feeling more stressed or moody than usual,



Student Wellness Center provides eight free counselling sessions to all students

Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

consider taking advantage of the resource. Most people would agree that eating healthy, exercising, and taking vitamins are good ways to take care of the body. However, it is just as crucial to be attentive to one’s thoughts.

Counselling is sometimes paired with administration of psychotropic drugs. This requires a prescription from a certified medical professional. In fact, one should never attempt to self-medicate or acquire these drugs in any other way. For one thing, it’s illegal. Second, badly administered dosages can actually worsen the symptoms. Dosage and the type of the drugs depend heavily on individual factors including body weight, genetic history, pre-existing conditions, and even the weather and environment in which a person

lives. Also, there are numerous types of drugs available even for the same condition. For instance, antidepressants include groups of serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs), and so on. Their side effects vary from weight gain or loss, coronary malfunction, headaches, and even dry mouth. You don’t want to mess with that. Lastly, it is important to always consult your medical professional when you want to stop taking psychotropic drugs. Suddenly stopping the administration of these drugs can cause withdrawal symptoms that are both psychologically and physically devastating.

One of the most important things about treating mental illness is finding a way that works the best for

you. The above mentioned two, usually used in combination, are the most standard ways to treat any form of mental illnesses. Still, there are also other types of therapy one can seek: art therapy, music therapy, or behavioral therapy. Counselling services are often specialized based on the counselor’s expertise, which varies from general psychotherapy, psychoanalysis, cognitive-behavioral therapy, and far more. While the most important thing to remember is to consult a medical professional that will plan an adequate approach, options are always open. Do not give up because one method did not work. There will always be a way.

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Dark side of feedback feature, fear of participation in student journalism

BY DIANA LICHTENSTEIN
Staff Writer

I started writing for *The College Reporter* (TCR) earlier this year and have had nothing but great experiences thus far. The email feature has always been intriguing to me. The function is that anyone can email a writer on the staff, either anonymously or with the identification of their person. I have received one very kind email from a professor who did identify themselves and they commented on their appreciation of one of my articles. Because of this, I have naively always thought that there could be no negative side to the email feature. I was wrong. A few weeks ago, a fellow writer was emailed anonymously by someone who, to say the least, did not appreciate their piece on the Iowa Caucus.

A little while back, one of my fellow staff writers wrote a news piece and an unnamed person chose to email said writer with harsh and unwarranted comments. This piece was not even an opinion piece. It was a regurgitation of the news.

Also, *The College Reporter* does not go through a process of peer review nor are we at the same caliber as The New York Times, so let me apologize if there are ever slight inaccuracies in the news that we produce. The anonymous email started with the subject line, “If You Are Planning on Being a Journalist...” Well, if the emailer is a journalist, this criticism would be more justified. Anyway, there were other comments that I had a problem with. In one sentence the emailer claimed that the writer spoke to something that was “conjecture only.” That was not the worst of it, though. The person also called the piece “poor journalism” and, to finish it off, they wrote, “Enjoy your time in college, it should be the freest time of your life...” This felt condescending to me. The writer who received this email is tough and can handle it, but what about those who couldn’t have? These types of emails, which I understand are not that common, could be a factor in what makes aspiring writers reluctant to write for *The College Reporter*. I tell almost

all of my friends who are interested in writing about how approachable TCR is, but I fear that many are afraid to speak the truth out of fear of getting backlash.

Anonymous readers can hide behind a screen and type things that they would never audibly utter. This is the problem.

The feedback feature has many benefits, and the majority of the time it functions in a positive way--complimenting an article, for example. Our staff also welcomes construc-

tive criticism- keyword, “constructive.” By all means, give us helpful feedback that would allow for better and more artful pieces in the future. However, borderline bashing a piece will not better someone’s articles. To whoever reads our articles, if you are going to be harsh, please at least be transparent and identify yourself.

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Free press is an important feature of any democratic society
Photo courtesy of freedom.press

Campus Life

Dr.Yusef Salam spoke about criminal justice system, major impact on his life

BY NINA KEGELMAN
Staff Writer

“Yusef Salaam, do you have anything to say before we sentence you?”

Dr. Yusef Salaam, one of the “Exonerated Five,” a group of teenagers wrongfully convicted for the 1998 rape and assault of Trisha Meili in Central Park, opened this week’s Common Hour with that question. The roaring crowd before him quickly quieted. Salaam’s arrival was eagerly anticipated, but as he took the stage, the excitement surrounding his visit fell away, replaced with a more somber recognition of his far from glamorous journey here.

Salaam’s talk, titled “The Criminal (In)Justice System: Guilty Until Proven Innocent,” explored the effects of his false incarceration on his life and the ways he has coped with and overcome the experience. At first, Salaam spoke slowly, deliberately. He’d done seven years for a crime he didn’t commit. One of his best friends did thirteen. Hanging on his words, the Common Hour crowd sat with a sort of uncertainty and impatience perhaps reminiscent of Salaam’s own feelings throughout his ordeal.

But Salaam said at the time of the verdict, he was still hopeful. He still believed that truth would prevail- that it was the criminal justice system. He dove into a poem he’d delivered when he was asked that very first question. “I stand accused,” he repeated rhythmically amidst an articulate rant about the injustice of his accusation. It wasn’t until he finished that it became completely clear that those were the same words written in the court records that the then fifteen-year-old Salaam responded to the judge on the day of his sentencing, along with some words of one of his heroes, Malcolm X.

His “She-ro,” though, as Salaam put it, was his mom. She taught him about resistance: “the struggle.” As he stood stylishly dressed in a suit, scarf, and sunglasses, appearing triumphant over his trials, the messages she instilled in him were evident. Salaam seemed matured by his time in prison. As he put it, he did the time; he didn’t let the time do him.

The talk proved reflective, as Salaam recounted his career successes and spiritual revelations after the devastating conviction.

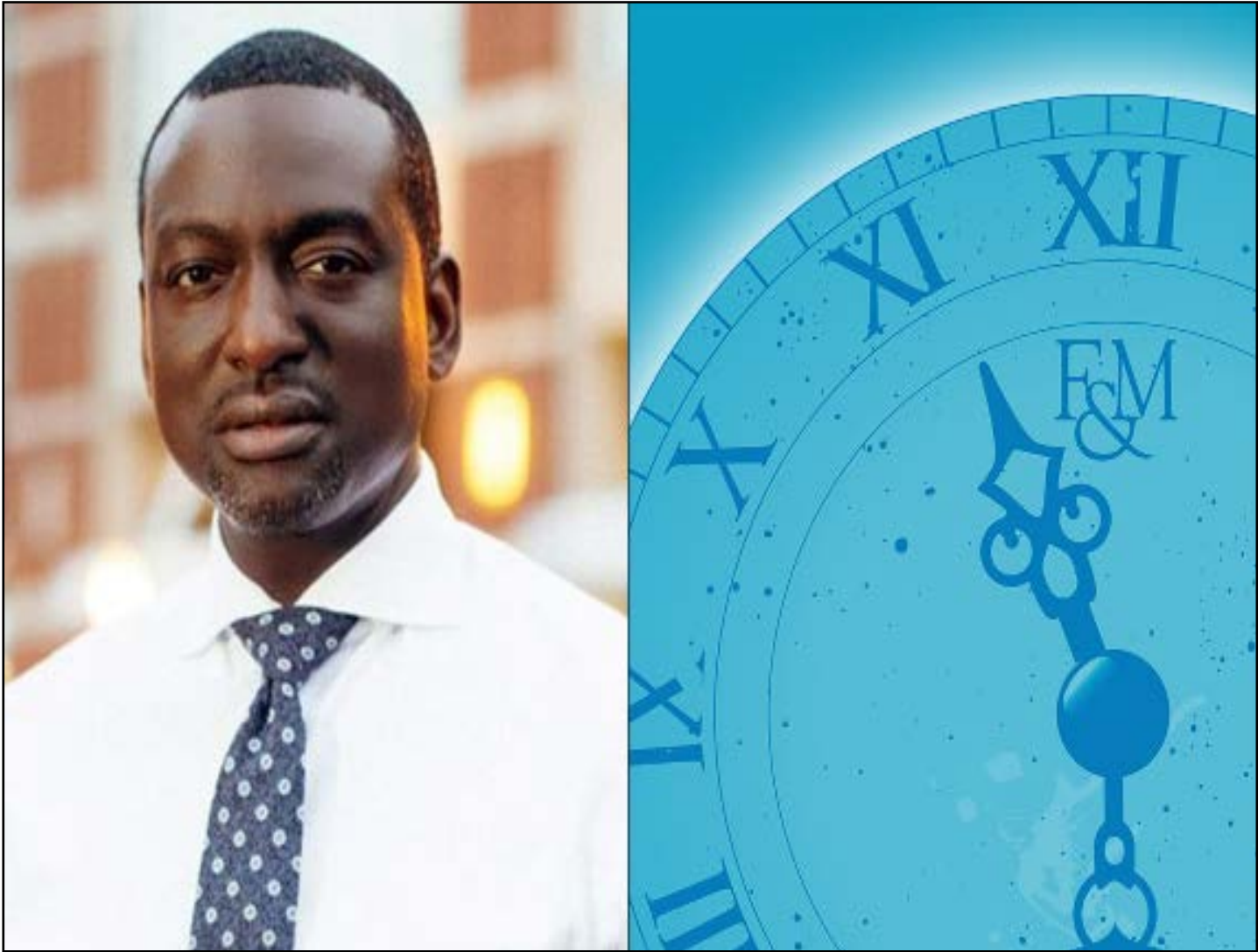


Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

Common Hour speaker Dr.Yusef Salaam discussed the ways in which false incarceration impacted his life and how he coped.

An avid reader, both in prison and out, Salaam found solace in the stories of Joseph written in the Bible and the Quran- a figure who, too, was falsely accused of rape but prevailed free in the end. Eventually, his passion for knowledge led him to his gainful careers in technology, rather than in the painful cycle of recidivism. God has a plan for everyone, he asserted.

Faith predominated Salaam’s talk. In fact, it was the faith and atoning of Matias Reyes, Salaam said, that moved Reyes to confess to the crime in Central Park- ending the thirteen-year sentence of one of the five now exonerated. Salaam did explicitly denounce the racism inherently related to poverty and the prison industrial complex. But he went on to state rather matter-of-factly how the case of the Exonerated Five is about more than what most may think. Instead, he called it “a love story between God and His people.” Becoming free and the truth prevailing were emblematic of how a people could be brought low “only to rise.” Salaam encouraged gratitude to God for “the lessons and the blessings.” Falling down constantly is inevitable; getting back up one more time is essential. Drawing on the wisdom of “the great philosopher, Cardi B,” Salaam pronounced: Fall down 9 times, get up 10...

Period.

Salaam, as perhaps many were surprised to find, maintains an optimistic, almost transcendent, perspective on institutions of oppression like racism and the criminal justice system. His advice for the college students before him? Live a full life, pursuing your dreams and ambitions. Underlying Salaam’s story was his defiant defence of the worth of his own life, of poor lives, black lives, or immigrant lives. He stressed the importance of refusing to submit to the toxic messages of systemic racism, affirming value where systems of injustice deny it.

Salaam’s activism flowed easily throughout his inspirational Common Hour talk, resonating among those closest to him in the audience. “Being born here in American doesn’t make you American,” he said, receiving a wave of snaps signaling support and agreement. He spoke out against the PTSD-inflicting family separation at the U.S.-Mexico Border, and he scrutinized the integrity of the 13th Amendment itself, which permits slavery even today. At the same time, Salaam maintained his humor, joking about his daughters, false advertising, and the President of the United States, a figure notoriously implicated in Salaam’s own condemnation.

Nearing the end of Common Hour,

he had time to answer just one, but significant, question: How are institutions such as F&M complicit in the oppression of black and brown bodies?

He immediately reframed. “Think of it this way,” he started. While not appearing to want to understate the ways in which predominantly white institutions can alienate students of color, Salaam stayed committed to the bigger picture. “They want us in prison cells,” he said sternly. “Not college dormitories.” Placing the emphasis on doing well in school and encouraging other minoritized students to complete their college education, Salaam shifted the focus of the struggle from one of racial oppression to one of personal fulfillment. At the same time, voting, speaking out, and uniting for the interests of the oppressed are all invaluable for progress. What Salaam’s story ultimately demonstrated, though, as he finished referencing Gil Scott-Heron’s “The Revolution Will Not Be Televised,” is the intimate relationship between the personal and the political, the individual empowerment and the uplifting of a people.

“I know,” he admitted. “I am the revolution.”

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Arts & Leisure

Oil painting as creative medium, joy in underrated form of art

BY SOJIN SHIN
Opinion & Editorial Editor

The joy of oil painting: not watercolor, not gauche, not acrylic, and not kiddie paint. They are all fun, though!

What image comes into your mind when you hear the words “oil painting?” *Mona Lisa* with her glowing skin and the bluish mountains to frame her face? The Dutch Vanitas, still lives of mortality and secular luxury (or other words, human skulls next to bling)? Or is it a work of Jackson Pollock, those flying streaks of paints? There is no end to the list of famous works created by oil painting.

As you can see, oil paint is a paint medium beloved by professional artists due to its versatility, slow drying time, and luminous quality. Well, those are qualities that we non-professional people can love, too! Today, let’s find out why oil painting is great and why it might be something you want to try.

First of all, versatility. Oil paint is the most versatile of all paints, and much of it comes from the wide range of consistency and viscosity it can have. Oil paint is traditionally made with pigments and linseed oil, and when squeezed straight out from the tube, it has a nice, heavy creamy texture (the thickness of paint depends on the amount of pigmented suspended, however. Paints with high tinting power tend to be thicker). At the same time, oil painting can be diluted so that it becomes as thin as watercolor paints. This is usually done through paint solvents.

What does this mean? Well, it means that you can either slowly stain a painting by adding layers of thin oil paint wash, or go right at it with thick loads of paints (after some underpainting or priming, though.) The former is used to create more traditional paintings, such as Jan Van Eyck’s *Arnolfini portrait*, because it leaves very little brush marks to be seen. The latter technique is used in modern paintings, where mark-making and the painting process become more significant. Monet’s *Water Lilies* (1914) is a good example, as well as paintings made by Lucian Freud. A good way to start is by doing an underpainting, or laying out values, with some variants of earth-toned colors like Burnt Sienna.

Another source of versatility in oil painting is the solvent. As I mentioned, solvents can control the consistency of a painting.



Photo courtesy of Sojin Shin.

Oil painting is versatile and easy to work with because of its slow drying time, allowing for manipulation of the paint after it has been placed.

At the same time, each type of solvent gives unique qualities to the paint it is mixed with. Turpentine, distilled from pine resin, gives paint a matte quality. It is often used to create a rougher (or teethier) surface that slipperier paints can latch onto. It can also dissolve previous layers of paint. Gamsol or white spirit is just a more environmentally friendly version, although based on my experience, the drying time is a little longer. Adding more linseed or Safflower oil to the paint thins it out, slows down the drying time, and gives the paint a shiny quality. The luminosity of *Girl with Pearl Earring* comes from agents like these. Galkyd gives a different kind of shimmering quality but shortens the drying time. There are also numerous other options that I have not listed.

Drying time, which you can either increase or decrease by the addition of the above mentioned solvents, is one of the greatest aspects of oil painting! Oil paint dries slowly. While that may sound like a hassle, it is actually great to have that legroom! If an error is made, you can easily fix it because the paint is still wet (not fixed). Oil painting is particularly great for color relationships, a very important aspect of painting. Let’s say you have one door that is too red. In acrylic paint, the only option is really to cover the bottom layer, getting rid of the details. In oil paint, you can just blend in a smidge of grey or sap green!

Bob Ross, the host of the PBS

show *Joy of Painting*, actively utilizes this quality to summon fluffy clouds and streaks of red on his sunset. If you have seen the show, you will hear him say a coat of “liquid white” a lot. That’s because he uses the white as a base (which is kind of unorthodox, lighter color typically dries slowly) and adds all the bright pigments that blend in softly with the white! By the way, Bob Ross is also known for some ingenious quotes such as “happy little trees,” “everything that exists has a shadow,” and “beat the devil out of it.” I just had to tell you.

Now, having hyped up oil painting, I do have to give some disclaimers. First and foremost, ventilation, ventilation, ventilation! Ventilation is key! While solvents are fun to work with, they can be toxic if you don’t have a well ventilated work area. Doing it outside is ideal, but just a well-aired space is fine, too. An alternative I strongly recommend is to use water-based oil colors. That sounds contradictory, but many brands make them. They even have water soluble linseed oil, a modified version of the traditional one. With these, you can paint without worrying about your lungs. As for a more minor flaw, oil paint is difficult to get out of clothing. Prepare a pair of work pants and a smock. Do not buy extremely cheap oil paints, some of them are terrible. Tubes that are 36 mL go a long way because of their high tinting power.

Oil painting is fun because it’s a more physical paint than the oth-

er kinds. You can build on top of it, thin it down, drip it down, or splash it like some maniac. Oil paint is fun, because you can make mistakes and you don’t have to worry about it (if you screw up a stroke with watercolors, well, you are screwed).

Oil painting is so much fun because you can hang it up by the door and say you painted it! Just a few tubes of oil paint - cadmium red, cadmium yellow medium, prussian (or ultramarine) blue, ivory black, and titanium white will be good enough to start. Oh, and get a big tube of white. Throw in a viridian green or burnt sienna for a more varied palette, but they are not absolutely necessary. Getting a starter set is also a good idea.

“There are no mistakes, only happy accidents,” Bob Ross once said on his show. But more than anything, he preaches an attitude that it is okay to make mistakes in art. Whatever mistake you make can be turned into another beautiful element, just like how a single black line turns into an evergreen in his videos. And yes, you can do that with watercolors if you are good at improvising, but it’s easier with oil. Want to try oil painting, make some mistakes, and paint beautiful things? Courses on painting are always offered at F&M, and a new art building is finally being built.

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Arts & Leisure

Arts & Leisure Editor recommends international television series on Netflix

BY DANIELLE RICE
Arts & Leisure Editor

With the recent winning of foreign film *Parasite* for the Best-Picture Academy Award, it’s a great time to appreciate film-making work from other countries. International television series can be a great way to learn more about a different culture and language through the context of a storyline and with the help of subtitles and dubbed dialogue. Netflix now has a wide number and variety of shows that have been made in other countries. Here are just a few of my favorites from the past couple of years.

Quicksand (2019) - Swedish television series

At the top of my list is *Quicksand*, a Swedish crime show that opens to the aftermath of a school shooting, which the main character, Maja, is under arrest for. The episodes switch back and forth between the present day where Maja is in jail for the shooting and a past storyline, as she is explaining her story to law enforcement. Her story starts when she first meets Sebastian, who quickly becomes her boyfriend. Their relationship starts off well, but we soon find out that he is toxic for her, and his many deep-set issues begin to seep into Maja’s life. *Quicksand* depicts such realistic portrayals of the pain of watching someone battle addiction and be-

ing hurt by them but, at the same time, not wanting to leave them alone. It also touches on the difficulty of dealing with an abusive relationship alone and the detriments of not getting help, as well as how hard it is to get people to understand your situation. This show hooks you in from the start and doesn’t let go until the mystery is revealed. I watched it with the dubbed English on, and I really enjoyed the fact that the Swedish actors who played the main characters dubbed for their own dialogue. Their accents reminded me that I was watching a Swedish series, and it pulled me into the story more. However, don’t watch this series if you are sensitive to school shootings, suicide, sexual assault, or substance abuse.

Home for Christmas (2019) - Norwegian series

Although it’s a little out of season by now, *Home for Christmas* is a Norwegian series that centers around the holiday season. It’s definitely a feel-good kind of show, and its six episodes are easy to binge in a couple of days (I speak from experience!). *Home for Christmas* is a romantic-comedy series about the stress of going home for the holidays and bringing along a significant other to meet your family. Johanne’s family pesters her to get a boyfriend, even placing her at the table between her two infant nephews, until she finally breaks and lies



Photo courtesy of mirror.co.uk.

Quicksand is a Swedish series on Netflix that came out in 2019. It centers around a school shooting and what led up to it.

that she has one. This gives her a few weeks - a “countdown to Christmas” - to find a boyfriend to bring to dinner. Her struggle to find an even somewhat decent date is comical, but it also emphasizes the loneliness of not being “paired off” with someone when it seems like everyone else is. I won’t ruin the ending but know that it is truly heartwarming. The cold landscape of Norway sets the scene perfectly for the series, and I loved seeing the Norwegian winter traditions, such as going to the Biathlon games and cross-country skiing.

Baby (2018) - Italian series

Baby is a little lower on the list but still a noteworthy show. It’s an Italian series loosely based off of a true story about two high school girls who find themselves involved in an prostitution ring.

Despite the bizarre-sounding plot, the series actually has complex characters, great music and cinematography, and a captivating plot. Chiara, who, in the first episode, has a falling out with her best friend, befriends a quirky classmate, Ludovica, who introduces her to the wrong people. Chiara gets involved out of boredom of her city and her “typical” life, and Ludovica gets involved for the money. It includes everything from complex female friendships and familial problems to romantic relationships. Throughout the series, all of the characters seem to make a few bad decisions, and it’s a whirlwind to follow their emotional ups and downs.

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FULL STAFF OPINION


BY TCR EDITING STAFF

One of our goals as a college newspaper is to provide a platform on which students can receive news about the F&M community that is not only accurate, but reflective of the most current issues on campus. In order to do this, it’s crucial that we receive feedback from students, faculty and staff on what you’d like to see us cover. This could be sensitive information that you’d like us to use our investigative resources to look into, an upcoming event, or a topic that you’d never seen us cover.

As a staff, we have decided to implement a new platform on which students are able to express their ideas, thoughts, and concerns about major issues on campus. The link to this platform is available on our website and is open for all students, faculty, and staff to use. Below is a link to the Anonymous Tip form: <http://www.the-college-reporter.com/anonymous-tip/>


We wanted to make the tip function anonymous so readers feel like they can alert us on sensitive information that they may otherwise feel uncomfortable bringing to the attention of our staff. We firmly believe that journalism holds a crucial role on college campuses as it encourages discussion and protects free speech. It is our role to bring issues to light, and inform readers about current ongoing issues at the college.

Readers are always welcome to email our staff at reporter@fandm.edu if they’re interested in meeting with our staff or getting in touch.



The College Reporter
Transparency. Accuracy. Credibility.

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT
NEWSPAPER OF
FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE



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

The College Reporter is a weekly student-edited newspaper, published every Monday except during exam and vacation periods. The website was created by Tim Jackson '12, Christian Hartman '12, Joshua Finkel '15, and Lauren Bejak '13. The subscription rate is \$51 per year.

The Editorial Board, headed by the Editor-in-Chief, has sole authority and full responsibility for the content of the newspaper. The College Reporter and its subsidiaries are designated public forums. All content is selected and printed by a board of elected or appointed students. The Masthead Editorial is the majority opinion of the Editorial Board. No other parties are in any other way responsible for its content, and all inquiries concerning that content should be directed to the Editor in Chief. All opinions reflect those of the author and not that of The College Reporter, with the exception of the Masthead Editorial.

F&M Men’s and Women’s Swimming continue to battle in CC Championships. Read more below...



The Yankees and Dodgers are teams to watch out for in 2020. Read more below...

Franklin & Marshall Sports

F&M Men’s and Women’s Swimming compete in CC Championships

BY GABBY GOODWIN
Managing Editor

This past weekend, the Franklin & Marshall men’s and women’s swimming teams headed to Gettysburg, PA for the Centennial Conference (CC) Championships. The first session of the weekend took place on Thursday, in which the men’s team ended the night with 104 points in first place. Host Gettysburg followed closely in second with 98 points and Swarthmore in third with 86 points. F&M’s first place 200-yard Medley Relay team of Alec Wahl, Thomas Graminski, Brendan Cline, and Christopher Schiavone finished with a time of 1:30.69, setting a new CC Championship record. Further, the F&M 800-yard Freestyle Relay team of Cline, Graminski, Alex Sang, and Wahl finished in third with a time of 6:49.66.

The Franklin & Marshall women’s swimming team finished the first session of the night in 6th place with a total of 52 points. Swarthmore finished in first with 106 points and Gettysburg in second with 92 points.

On day two of the CC Championships, the No. 21 F&M men’s swimming team maintained its first place lead. The Diplomats ended the night with 291.5 points in the top spot while host Gettysburg closely followed in second with 281 points. F&M’s Christopher Schiavone finished in first in the 50-yard Freestyle with a time of 19.99 (B Cut), which established a Gettysburg pool record. F&M’s Thomas Graminski finished in first in the 200-yard IM with a time of 1:51.19 (B Cut), which set a new team record for the event and F&M’s Cameron Mehta finished third in the 200-yard IM with a time of 1:53.33 in order to secure a pair of medals in the event for F&M. Further, F&M’s Willem Stoll finished fourth in the 500-yard Freestyle at 4:35.13 which set a new team record. Lastly, the 400-yard Medley Relay team of Alec Wahl, Graminski, Jonathon Sinton, and Schiavone finished first with a time of 3:18.88 (B Cut).

The F&M women’s swimming team left past two teams to take fourth on day two of the CC Championships on Friday. The Dips finished with a total 148 points, while Swarthmore finished in first with 306 points and Gettysburg in second with 298.5 points. The 400-yard Medley Relay team of Janashree Jonnalagadda, Maya Blaisure, Skye Howes, and Julie McFadden finished in third at 3:59.89.

On day three of the CC Championships, the No. 21 F&M men’s swim team added six medals. The Diplomats ended the night with 533 points in the second spot while host Gettysburg finished in the top spot with 548 points. F&M’s Thomas Graminski finished in first in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 55.63 (B Cut), setting a new CC record for the event. F&M’s Cameron Mehta and Alec Wahl set school records with each of their silver medal finishes in the 400-yard IM and 100-yard Backstroke, respectively. Further, the 200-yard Freestyle Relay team of Cline, Schiavone, Matt Hopkins, and Alex Sang finished in first and broke the school record with a time of 1:21.58 (B Cut).

200-yard Freestyle Relay team of Julia Pavlov, Katherine Hirsch, Erin Fago, and McFadden finished in third at 1:36.62 to set a new team record. Additionally, Skye Howes finished in fourth in the 100-yard Butterfly with a time of 58.58 to set the new team record. Competition continues on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. with the preliminary heats of the 200-yard Backstroke, 100-yard Freestyle, 200-yard Breaststroke, 200-yard Butterfly and the 1,650-yard Freestyle.

Senior Gabby Goodwin is the Managing Editor. Her email is ggoodwin@fandm.edu.



Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com.

F&M Women’s Swimming finished 6th out of 7 teams after day one of the CC Championships. However, they fought their way back to 3rd place after day three.

Yankees, Dodgers, Astros predicted to be teams to beat in 2020 season

BY PATRICK CULCASI
Layout Assistant

Spring training is about one week in, and as new faces arrive at camps, a few teams are still facing scrutiny from players and fans. Following the Washington Nationals’ World Series Victory, the off-season has been filled with interesting trades and an ongoing sign-stealing scandal. The 2020 season should be one to watch. Young talent is on the rise within the league; however, there are also several returning stars. According to MLB.com, the New York Yankees and the Los Angeles Dodgers are the top two teams on the preseason poll. Those two teams are closely followed by the Houston Astros and the Minnesota Twins.

The Yankees stand atop that list after their acquisition of former Astro and star pitcher, Gerrit Cole. The Yankees have power hitters to provide their offense, and the crucial addition of Cole bolsters the strength of their pitching staff, thus making them a complete team. If the Yankees aren’t at the top of the league, they will certainly be leading the American League East. The Dodgers, the number two ranked team, have recently

acquired Mookie Betts and David Price from the Boston Red Sox. Betts is a top player in the league and has talent in both hitting and speed on the basepaths. Price is a veteran starting pitcher who will fall into the pitching rotation alongside All-Star pitchers like Clayton Kershaw and Walker Buehler. The Yankees and the Dodgers rightfully find themselves on top of the preseason poll through a combination of blockbuster acquisitions, returning veterans, and rising young talent.

In addition to trades that have led to breaking news, sign stealing (which is against the unwritten rules of baseball) has also made the headlines for a couple teams. Most notably, the Houston Astros have been accused and punished for years of sign stealing. This scandal has made some fans and players question the legitimacy of the team’s success in the postseason (a World Series victory and other playoff runs). The Astros cheated by using the centerfield camera pointed at the catcher to see what pitch was coming. They then banged on trash cans to signal the pitch to their teammates up at bat. The MLB has punished the Astros by banning the Gen-

eral Manager and the Manager which resulted in the Astros firing both of them. Additionally, the team was fined and their first and second-round draft picks were taken away for the coming two years.

A number of players have spoken out about their feelings regarding this scandal. Mike Trout, L.A Angels star outfielder, said, “If you know what’s coming, it’s going to definitely help them.” Trout and others have said how much easier the job of hitting a baseball would be if the batter knew what pitch was coming. Giancarlo Stanton of the Yankees said something similar: “If I knew what was coming in ‘17, I would have hit 80-plus home runs.” One might wonder

whether the Astros will live up to the prediction that they will end up being the third-best team in the league. The season will reveal if their stars can actually hit as well as they have, or if sign-stealing has carried them to success the last couple years.

No one knows what the season will hold, as there are many questions yet to be answered. Will the preseason poll be correct, or will a different team shock the baseball world? Teams have about one month to prepare for the 2020 season before opening day begins on March 26th.

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Photo courtesy of espn.com.

After key offseason trades, the Dodgers should be a powerhouse team in 2020. Many questions surround how the Astros will perform after the revelation of their sign stealing.