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Suebsaeng '11, Markay: No greater premium on journalism since Watergate



Photo Courtesy fandm.edu

Asawin Suebsaeng '11 recently wrote a book with his colleague and fellow reporter at The Daily Beast, Lachlan Markay on their experience covering the Trump administration.

BY GABBY GOODWIN

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This past Thursday evening, Asawin Suebsaeng '11 and Lachlan Markay, reporters for The Daily Beast, offered a reading of their book, *Sinking in the Swamp: How Trump's Minions and Misfits Poisoned Washington*, at the Writer's House. Suebsaeng, who graduated from F&M in 2011, was an English major and Editor-in-Chief of The College Reporter.

Suebsaeng and Markay now currently work as investigative White House reporters for the *The Daily Beast*. The two of them have covered the activities of the Trump administration, earning angry denunciations from our current president's followers, as they have uncovered stories such as Giuliani's plan to foreclose the Russia investigation and Omarosa's secret tapes.

At the reading, Markay read parts from the first chapter of their book, titled "Another Shitstorm in Fucktown," while Suebsaeng read parts from the chapter "He Can't Handle Jail." After these readings,

the floor opened for questions and students, professors, and faculty were eager to learn more about what Suebsaeng described as the "darkly humorous" tone of the novel. Suebsaeng and Markay, in their novel, offer an uncompromising account of the serious, yet humorous lives they live interviewing White House officials in Washington D.C. In their reading, hearing accounts of experiences with officials such as James Comey and Cliff Sims was entertaining and, frankly, any political media junkie's dream. After having listened to the two chapters they read, students and

faculty alike seemed eager to read the novel and follow their adventures as political reporters in Washington D.C. in 2020.

The pair also gave a craft talk earlier that day to students and other members of the F&M community, during which they both discussed their journalism careers and took questions from the audience. Suebsaeng and Markay discussed their unique relationship as investigative reporters with opposing political views. Suebsaeng leans left on

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many political issues whereas Markay takes a more conservative stance. They commented that their professional bond was established during the 2016 election and now spend their time covering the Trump white house. When asked about how they navigate the Trump Presidential landscape and avoid partisanship Suebsaeng and Markay discussed the importance of prioritizing objectivity and giving perspective, while not voicing their own political leanings. Suebsaeng said “You

are not playing for anybody’s team”, pointing out that the Daily Beast’s tagline is “Non-partisan but not neutral.”

As investigative journalists, Suebsaeng and Markay discussed their experiences dealing with sources and highly sensitive information. When discussing how to communicate and form relationships with sources, Markay highlighted the fact that “journalist[s] [are] only as good as [their] sources” and in order to develop trust it is important to “go about it piecemeal.” They also added that part of what comes with being a journalist is accepting the fact that people

won’t always like you. It is vital to have a “thick skin” when interacting with sources and looking for information.

When asked about the role of journalism in this current political climate, the two argued that “There has not been a greater premium on investigative reporting since watergate.” According to Suebsaeng and Markay, aspiring journalists should not steer away from a career in journalism even though the field is rapidly shifting from its traditional landscape.

At the end of the talk, Asaswin Suebsaeng encouraged students at F&M who are interested in journalism as a potential career

to reach out to him. Having been an F&M student himself, he highlighted his willingness to act as a resource. It was clear that Suebsaeng, like many F&M alumni, was eager to give back to the student body.

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Search underway for College’s Chief Officer of Diversity and Inclusion

MIRA LERNER
Copy Editor

Last Tuesday night, a town hall was held in the Alice Drum Women’s Center to discuss the search for F&M’s first Chief Officer of Diversity and Inclusion (CODI) with President Altmann. Also serving on the panel were Carrie Rampp, F&M’s Chief Information Officer and chair of the search committee; Dr. Felicia Brown-Haywood, Chief Diversity Officer at Millersville University; and TaLisa Ramos, Assistant Director of Student Engagement at Penn State Harrisburg.

After introductions, President Altmann briefly spoke about what she envisions the role of CODI to be and how F&M is approaching the hiring process. The school has hired Greenwood, a search firm, because they have access to a large pool of candidates, President Altmann said. She also mentioned that Greenwood is women-owned, has a good reputation for placing women of color, and the senior officer is a woman of color. The search will most likely take some time, but they are hoping for the position to be filled over the summer.

The search committee serves to advise President Altmann. The committee will establish an evaluation rubric, modify the job description, figure out how to assess candidates, conduct off-site interviews, bring finalists to campus, and interview finalists in conjunction with broad representation from students and school employees. Finally, the committee will make recommendations to President Altmann. Ms. Rampp was able to elaborate more on the specific details and responsibilities. She said that



Photo Courtesy fandm.edu

A panel was held last week to discuss the search for F&M’s first Chief Officer of Diversity and Inclusion. President Altmann and other college official discussed the search process as well as the importance of the position.

many people meet candidates and have the opportunity to provide feedback, emphasizing that the committee representatives are not the only people involved in the selection process.

President Altmann recognized that some view the search for a CODI as an effort to absolve the school of blame, which she denied. She also assured that she does not believe one person will fix all of F&M’s problems, there must be a structure in place. The school is preparing to support the incoming CODI by providing them with staff, the results of the campus climate survey, and the bias incident reporting system. Additionally, the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMCA) will turn into an office for intercultural affairs and multicultural spaces around campus are being refurbished.

President Altmann likened the CODI to a personal trainer; we are all responsible for diversity and inclusion efforts, we just

need some help developing the muscles. This person will have the experience and academic degree necessary to be a bridge-builder at F&M. In terms of a title, she has been looking at other schools for reference and is currently thinking of using “Chief Officer of Diversity and Inclusion.”

The rest of the meeting consisted of Dr. Brown-Haywood and Ms. Ramos recounting their experiences leading diversity and inclusion initiatives over the many years that they have been engaged in such work. At times they asked questions, such as what do students want in a CODI and if there was one thing students could share with the CODI, a burning desire, what would it be? Some responses included the importance of addressing faculty and staff needs, understanding that diversity comes in many different forms, and the need to address diversity and inclusion in academics, not just campus life.

When recounting her interview

at Millersville University, Dr. Brown-Haywood mentioned that the responsibility for diversity and inclusion cannot fall solely on one person. Every part of the college must be committed to achieving these goals. She also said that the CODI must have leverage, which is why it is important that they will be reporting to President Altmann. Dr. Brown-Haywood repeatedly praised President Altmann for her commitment to diversity and inclusion at F&M and commented on the progress the school has made already. She seemed impressed that F&M was actively searching for a CODI and said that we are on a great path. However, Dr. Brown-Haywood and Ms. Ramos both adamantly reminded the room that a CODI looks different on every campus and F&M needs to find what works for our specific community.

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Editor suggests how to talk about politics with family members

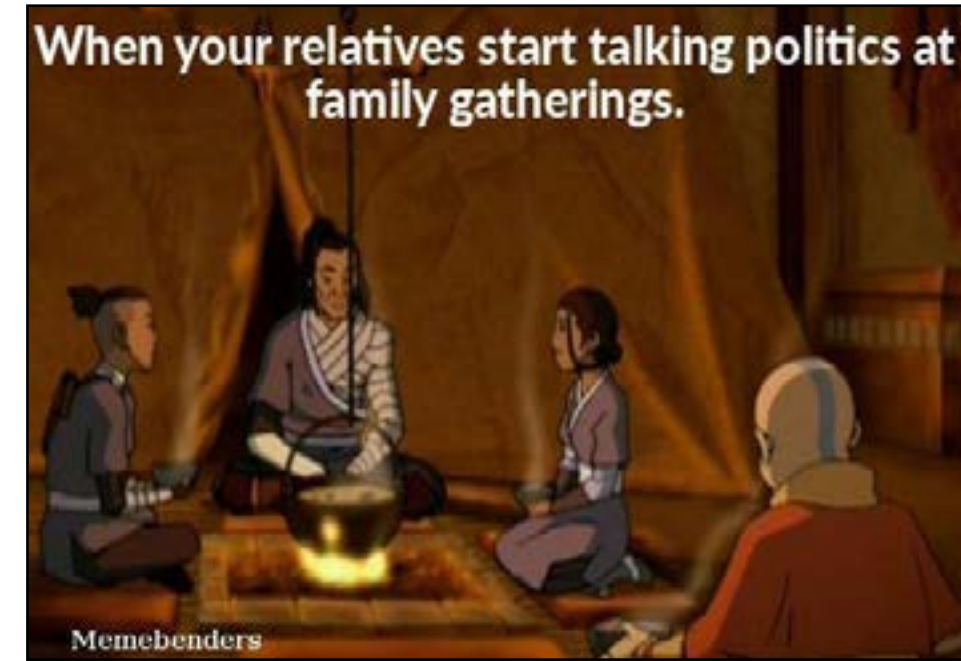
BY SOJIN SHIN
Opinion & Editorial Editor

Primaries are happening, the presidential election is drawing nearer, and most F&M students are heading back home for spring break. For those of us whose political opinions do not line up with our parents’, it can be a tricky time of the year.

My instinct is to stay away from these topics, but hey, sometimes it happens. In fact, political topics come up when you least expect them. Sometimes, you are just at the mall, eating chicken teriyaki from a styrofoam container and trying to catch up with your most beloved uncle. Then he says something that makes your blood freeze for a second: “So, who are you voting for?”

As a person from South Korea, a nation that transitioned from a totalitarian government to full-blow democracy (we impeached our last president in 2017, mostly through civil disobedience and peaceful protests) over the span of 60 years, I have encountered many situations when I deeply disagreed with someone I loved. I have made mistakes, argued, gotten upset, and pretended I was less upset when I was called down for dinner. Over the years, however, I learned to talk about my perspectives when political and social topics inevitably surfaced. The key is really simple: make a conversation.

When you are talking with your parents or family members, remember that you are discussing rather



Political topics can make family gatherings uncomfortable. Photo courtesy of imgur.com

than debating. In debates, the ultimate goal is to win. In discussions, the goal is simply to lay down as many different ideas as possible. So, don’t use accusatory language such as “You are wrong,” “You are ___,” or “It is unacceptable to.” Open conversations with phrases with modifiers such as “in my opinion...”, “I think”, or likewise. It doesn’t matter how right we think we are. You are likely eating dinner, watching sports, or whatever your family tradition is. You don’t have to create an arbitrary battle where nothing is to be really gained.

Along the same lines, be careful how you use research. With the advent of smartphones and Google, we have all the information available in the world at our fingertips. Sometimes, when someone proposes an argument, it is so easy to pull up a statistic, reject their logic with

numbers, pie charts, bar graphs... the list goes on. This is particularly easy if a person is seriously misinformed (because, well, we all secretly know that we are always right). But here is something to consider- it can be humiliating to be wrong, especially if the other person is a jerk about it. While it might be effective to completely crush an opponent with facts in a public debate, in this case you are talking to a beloved (or at least somewhat related) person.

Instead, recognize the sense and logic in the person’s argument. Take a moment to understand, to think about their backgrounds and experiences, and to realize why they might think and speak the way they do. You might understand them. You might feel pity for them. You might, as unlikely as it sounds, agree with them, even. Through

conversations like these with my mother and grandparents, I have found so much common ground. While we do not agree on everything, we learned that love and empathy can coexist with our differences.

Having said that, I understand that these tactics are not applicable to all situations. There are domineering people whose goals are not to discuss various issues but to dominate the conversation. I have been friends with numerous people from LGBTQ+ communities (something I view as being more related to ethics than politics) whose pains have been trivialized and mocked by their own parents. I have been friends with a Christian girl who was branded by her friends as anti-feminist and backwards the moment she voiced a concern about abortion. While I did not agree with her, I felt skeptical about the expediency at which the renouncement happened.

Sometimes, a person can be marked by political ideas they hold rather than their relationship to other people. If that is the case for you, first of all, I am sorry to hear that. Secondly, don’t feel obligated to convince anyone. At the end of the day, we are all separate people, and we are all entitled to our opinions. If a loved one’s words hurt you too much, don’t bother to bear with it all. It’s not your cross to bear (nor do you really have a right to).

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Transparency. Accuracy. Credibility.

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NEWSPAPER OF
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Full Staff Opinion

As the semester progresses, most of our time is occupied with reviewing notes, preparing for exams, and writing papers. It is hard to manage social life and personal interests on top of all of this. Still, if you have an hour or two available, make sure to attend school-hosted events.

There is a surprising amount of entertainment that F&M provides. CEC regularly hosts Trivia Night, Bingo Night, and other school wide events. Pay attention to the emails: F&M often invites exciting guests like Zuzu acrobats. Attending plays and musicals is a good idea as well for a night of culture. There are endless movies and documentary screenings. If you are stressed, different organizations and college houses, provide mindful workshops on a weekly basis. Yoga Sessions are available on Mondays and Fridays at the Student Wellness Center and Hardwood Commons, respectively.

Make sure to attend at least one town hall or educational discussion on campus. Since the student protests this past fall, there have been information sessions and updates related to the new bias reporting system. Discussion and debates hosted by F&M professors are great opportunities to have an enriching dialogue about various topics.

Lectures by renowned artists, social workers, and businesspeople are often offered by different departments and organizations. TCR recognizes that F&M is a place which we create together as a community. It is what we make it.

Attend programming events for self-development, relaxation, entertainment, and communal betterment! Reach out to reporter@fandm.edu with any questions about this week’s edition of The College Reporter.

Evelyn Farkas'89: Her Career in Foreign Policy, Congressional Campaign

BY RUBY VAN DYK
Assistant Managing Editor

Evelyn Farkas graduated from Franklin and Marshall in 1989. She has worked in the field of foreign policy ever since, spending time working under President Obama in the Department of Defense. Farkas has worked for the Senate Armed Services Committee, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and U.S. Marine Corps University's Command and Staff College. She also sits on F&M's board of trustees. Ms. Farkas is now running for Congress in New York's 17th District. Recently, Assistant Managing Editor Ruby Van Dyk '21 had the opportunity to interview Ms. Farkas. This interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.



Photo courtesy of wikipedia.com

Evelyn Farkas who graduated from F&M in 1989, recently took an interview with Ruby Van Dyk, Assistant Managing Editor.

Ruby Van Dyk: I've had the opportunity to read about your background, but I'm wondering if you could briefly introduce yourself to our readers and give them some insight into your career and your life?

Evelyn Farkas: Yes. First of all, I'm the child of Hungarian immigrants. My parents fled communist Hungary in 1956 really with nothing. When they got here, they had to work really hard to make ends meet. They spoke very little English and moved to Chappaqua, New York where they raised me and my siblings. We were not well off so I had to work very hard growing up, but I was lucky enough to be living in a place where the public school was outstanding. My guidance counselor helped me navigate the college application process which landed me at F&M.

RVD: What year did you graduate F&M and what did you major in? What were you a part of on campus?

EF: I graduated in '89 and I majored in Government. My minor was German but because I studied abroad in Freiburg, Germany, I ended up having enough credits for a double major by the time I graduated. I was also Vice President of student government. I joined a sorority sophomore year, then when I came back from studying abroad I decided to run for student government my junior year. Only at a small school like F&M could I actually do that and win. I was also President of the German club, which was mainly

cultural, and I would say, culinary.

RVD: So, what do you feel like F&M taught you that you think benefited you not only in your career but also in life?

EF: I learned so much at F&M. I learned about comparative government. I think it's quite interesting that back in the 80's I was learning about Japanese Government versus Communist China, versus the Soviet Union, versus Western Europe and the United States. I also enjoyed my constitutional law class and my philosophy class. Some of these classes really stuck with me. Also my higher level German classes where I was reading really sophisticated newspaper articles. I feel that I learned a lot substantively, and I also made lifelong friendships--I think that's had the biggest impact on my life. My closest friends in the world are friends from F&M.

RVD: Do you think that you benefited from the liberal arts model of education?

EF: Yes, I think I'm very well rounded as a person, thinker, and

professional because of the interdisciplinary education that I received. I think the reason I can function as an executive in increasingly senior roles is because I learned how to cross the streams of thinking. To be a good leader at increasingly higher levels, you have to be able to think creatively. I think a liberal arts education allows you to do that.

RVD: Can you walk us through the trajectory of your career? When you were at F&M were you thinking you wanted to pursue foreign policy?

EF: I knew I wanted to do something international. As time went on, I think I got more of a sense that I'd like to be involved in diplomacy, but I didn't know how I would do that. After giving my resume to an agency, I ended up taking a job with the Council on Foreign Relations. I really lucked out because I didn't have any contacts there, my parents weren't linked in to the council on foreign relations. But I have to say, I don't think they would have pulled my resume out of that pile if I hadn't had Franklin and Marshall College on it. I ended up working twenty years in Wash-

ington, equally divided between Congress and the Pentagon. My last job was working for President Obama when I was appointed by him to be his Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasia.

RVD: What made you decide to run to represent New York's 17th District in Congress? Was there a specific moment or particular issue that galvanized you to do that?

EF: Well, a couple things. First, ever since the 2016 election and Russia meddling in our elections, my hair has been on fire. Increasingly, I have realized that this is an all-hands-on-deck moment. I felt that the way I could continue my service was by raising awareness, by appearing on MSNBC, writing op-eds and explaining to the American people what was happening and helping people fight politically, but I wasn't in the arena myself. Then, one morning while traveling in Tbilisi Georgia, I literally woke up and asked myself, "What would I do if Donald Trump won?" I realized I'd have to get engaged in politics in my home district. Two weeks later, my Congresswoman announced she was retiring. On one hand, it happened suddenly, but on the other it was a process that started with the Russian interference.

RVD: What issues are most important to you?

I'm running to protect the American Dream and what that means is obviously our political freedom, but also our economic opportunity. There is so much economic insecurity that needs to be addressed by congress and I aim to do that. I actually want to start by addressing the climate crisis, because nothing else matters with our Earth on fire and melting. A lot of how we would address our climate crisis will also help when it comes to economic insecurity. Then, in no particular order, obviously health care--we need to have a public option. We need to provide not only in my district, but nationwide, access to affordable housing. In addition, we need to do something about gun safety and women's rights. Gun safety is a neglected issue under this President. I will work to make sure that the good legislation that was

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Farkas: How her experience at Franklin & Marshall College has shaped her and perpetuated her present career

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passed under this House of Representatives will get passed under the next one. Likewise, with women's rights we need to codify, which means put into law, Roe v. Wade and provide access for reproductive health.

RVD: As F&M students approach postgraduate life, the future can seem daunting. What advice do you have for F&M seniors and upperclassmen as they embark on a new chapter of their life?

I was pretty lucky because I knew I wanted to do something international, and pretty early on I set-

tled on international affairs. If you don't have that advantage, I would say the most important skill you can hone is the skill of knowing what you don't want to do and what you're good at. So take the first job and don't overthink it, but use it to figure out what you're good at and what you like. Don't let other people tell

you, including your parents, what you should do or what you should like. Listen to your gut.

Ms. Farkas' primary is in June.

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Common Hour Speaker Ann D. Gordon on women's suffrage in US

BY NINA KEGELMAN
Staff Writer

This week's Common Hour speaker was Ann D. Gordon, a Research Professor Emerita at Rutgers University, historian, editor, and self-described "cranky secular feminist." Gordon's talk, titled "Celebrating Women's Suffrage? It's Complicated," critically examined the meaning of the 19th Amendment for American citizens and the much larger story of suffrage than what the celebration of its anniversary suggests.

Beginning with words of the 19th Amendment, which declare that the right to vote "shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex," Gordon introduced not only the gaps in the Amendment itself but the difficulty of getting it to be law. After a long battle for

suffrage and women's rights, dating back to even before the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, when the amendment was signed into the constitution on August 26, 1920, the headlines were, according to Gordon, "not great big news."

The rest of Gordon's talk explained the reason for this underwhelming response to the 19th Amendment, as we would see it now. Though it was a great victory for gender equality theoretically, the 19th Amendment was far from a solution to voter suppression, and Americans knew it. In fact, one of Gordon's most striking references was to a piece written by Southern white women, who initially opposed it, came to support the new amendment under the logic that it would still prevent black women from voting. If black men still lacked the vote due to discriminatory voting requirements undermin-

ing the 15th Amendment, what would the 19th Amendment change for black women?

While Gordon emphasized how white supremacy generally interfered greatly with universal suffrage, she didn't discredit suffragette's enormous efforts to change their state constitutions, one by one. In Colorado, for example, photos show women lining up at the polls the very same year they earned suffrage. The image shows children hiding behind their mothers' skirts; At 7:15 am, women were out voting before their children's school day even started. Gordon clarified that even though Southern suffragettes were able to change their state constitutions, there is evidence of yearly efforts to convince voting men and lobby women around universal suffrage. Failing did not mean there was no trying.

Some states like Pennsylvania,

Gordon explained, didn't even change the exclusively male suffrage in their constitutions until the 1930's, over a decade after the 19th Amendment passed. Until Voting Rights Acts and the advances of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960's, the victory of the 19th Amendment was, although impressive politically, somewhat arbitrary legally. Gordon called it a "flawed victory."

Reflecting on the perception 19th Amendment today, Gordon noted that there is an overwhelming lack of recognition of this achievement- and the long history of suffrage- monumented in our country. She turned towards a complicated debate over a statue planned for Central Park, which originally only featured Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony but later included Sojourner Truth. The issue of who is represented remains, as Gordon holds that the battle for suffrage required extensive mobilization of people over a long period of time. The main problem she has with it? The new statue depicts a fictional reunion of Stanton, Anthony, and Truth, engaged in some meaningless imagined activity around a table for the sake of appearing inclusive.

Concluding her talk, Gordon reiterated the significance of the 19th Amendment for gender equality despite its failure to secure universal suffrage. It changed the rules about what women could and could not do. It forced the male monopoly on voting to fall, which is no small feat. As a basic component of American history, Gordon stressed that the passing of the 19th Amendment was the work of three generations of women; the goals of eliminating voter disenfranchisement today will be the work of many more to come.



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu.

On Thursday, February 27th, 2020, Ann D. Gordon spoke at Common Hour on the topic of Women's Suffrage. She highlighted how both sexism and racism come into play when discussing issues associated with women's suffrage. This major historical milestone involves more complicated issues than initially come to mind.

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Arts & Leisure

Pete Davidson receives undeserved criticism for his new Netflix special

BY AHMED ABUKWAIK

Staff Writer

Slight spoiler alert

Here is maybe the first review, not counting tweets, of Pete Davidson's new Netflix special, *Alive From New York*, that doesn't completely crap on it.

The well-known comedian uses his special to address a flurry of issues, most notably his beef with Saturday Night Live (SNL), Louie C.K., and his break up with Ariana Grande.

We'll get into the actual special, but what stood out the most to me was the coverage he got after it came out. *TMZ* and *The New York Times*, two different but major entertainment outlets, published headlines as follows: *TMZ's* read, "Pete Davison LOUIS C.K. IS A 'PIECE OF S**T' ... His Downfall Was Great!!!" and *The New York Times* headline read, "Pete Davidson's new Special Seems Like It Could Use a Hug." *The New York Times* article said that the debut felt "like a late-career effort, the kind tossed together quickly to satisfy the terms of an ill-advised contract." Hmm... what? One of

the most absurd jabs made at Davidson's special was the questioning of how he even became famous. I wouldn't call this backlash to anything he said in the special, and Pete made sure to avoid any career ending controversy, but it is certainly playing down how comical his special is. Although he has a nonchalant attitude, do not let that deceive you. Those jokes are well crafted and, most importantly, funny!

He opens with talking about how Louie C.K., the top dog at SNL at the time, made his life difficult. Yes, Davidson did make clear jabs at him, but I don't think it was that deep. I think Davidson saw a harmless opportunity to poke fun at a down Louie - not call him a piece of sh**, as *TMZ* so eloquently put it. Also remember, this is a *stand-up* special, not a press conference. Some might respond to this by saying: "Well, why does he use this as a platform to talk about what's going on in his life then?" Well, the man made a career out of telling jokes, and everything said in his special should be taken with a grain of salt.

The next big thing Davidson talks about is his break up with Ariana

Grande, which I thought was hilarious. He mentions that her going around talking about him in interviews justified his responses, and he jokes about how Netflix giving out specials made him think "eh why not." I'm not sure how much I agree with that, but he did make it funny. What's great is it's not foul, or vulgar, and doesn't put anything we don't know about her out into the open. His jokes about her are well written, well delivered, and don't spoil either the comedian or the singer.

Pete Davidson's delivery reminds me of the hungover kids in my 8 a.m. who have to answer a question in class, and the awkward laughs that aren't really laughs make it even more funny. He plays into the weird, awkward, not really caring, pot-head character. This type of delivery makes the ridiculous things he says that much more funny. However, one thing did stand out to me: the choppy editing. Obviously, we know that these specials are not a one time delivery gig, but there was a clear shift that was slightly confusing to me as a viewer. However, it does not take away from the hilarity that he produces.

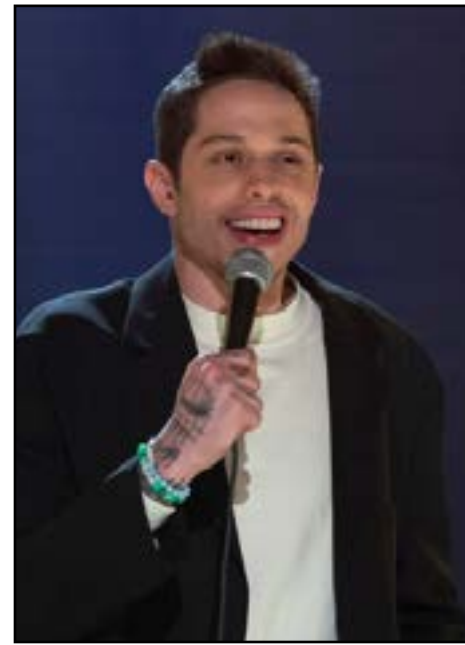


Photo courtesy of nytimes.com

Pete Davidson covers everything from Louie C.K. to his break up with Ariana Grande in his new Netflix Special, *Alive From New York*.

P. S. If you put on the special during a "Netflix and chill" kinda night, make sure you check back on the screen at the halfway mark. There's a special joke about those people ;)

Go watch it! It's hilarious.

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Netflix releases recent similar films that serve to destigmatize mental illness

BY DANIELLE RICE

Arts & Leisure Editor

Netflix is always releasing new movies. In the past couple of months, it has released several interesting ones which happen to include or focus on mental health and mental illness. These are always important topics, and film can be a way of helping to destigmatize and shed light on certain viewpoints and voices that are not always heard. Here are a few of the recent, especially noteworthy films I have seen.

Miss Americana

As an avid Taylor Swift fan growing up, I was intrigued when I saw her new documentary on Netflix, *Miss Americana* (2020). Before watching it, I would have claimed I knew most things about her; however, I was shocked by all of the things that I learned. Most of all, I was shocked by how many of her sentiments I shared. The documentary follows her career, from its start in 2006 when she was 14, until her most recent album release last year. Although it follows her career, it allows for a close look at her personal life, revealing many intimate thoughts, feelings, and moments with the world. It effectively shows her depth as a person and humanizes her, which is the opposite of what the media has done for years. I found the documentary so impact-

ful because it shows Swift's journey through life, and the growth she has experienced that has led her to become the person she is today. It covers so much, from her struggles with body image issues to her coming to the realization that she had spent so much of her life focusing on being a "good" person. Like any other documentary about a musical artist, it also has moments showing the "behind the scenes" of her creating songs for her albums. Another aspect I found very interesting was the process of Swift publicizing her political stance. Despite many of her advisors pressuring her not to do it, she had such strong beliefs that she felt she could not stay silent if her voice could make a difference in the election. It is an eye-opening documentary, and I recommend anyone and everyone to watch it!

Fractured

By director Brad Anderson, the psychological thriller *Fractured* (2019) focuses on a man and his family, who are on a road trip around Thanksgiving time. When they stop at a gas station, his young daughter falls into a construction site and breaks her arm, so the parents rush to the nearest hospital. After the father, Ray, goes to wait for his daughter and wife to come back from getting a CT scan, the front desk, and eventually the whole hospital staff, assures him that there is no record of his daugh-

ter being admitted. Ray then goes to extreme measures to find his family and bring them to safety. This movie will make you question your sanity as you experience events through Ray's eyes. The acting stood out, and the intense, mind-bending plotline made this film a must-see.

Horse Girl

Although *Horse Girl* is a 2020 film, watching it, you might believe it was made much earlier. The psychological drama was directed by Jeff Baena and co-written with Alison Brie, who also stars as the main character, Sarah. The film centers on Sarah's life as a young adult, working at a crafts store, seeing her old horse, and visiting her mother's grave. It employs comedy to show some of Sarah's awkward interactions, such as her trying to ask people in her zumba class to celebrate her birthday with her and her trying to give advice to the girl who is learning to ride her old horse, even though she has no affiliation with the stable. Throughout these experiences, Sarah comes off as sweet and well-intended but is often unable to fit in. We see her have strange dreams and start to sleep walk, and we soon watch her begin to spiral into insanity. She starts to believe that she is a clone of her dead grandmother and that she is being abducted by aliens. Her paranoia seems to get worse and worse, and she is even checked into a mental health fa-

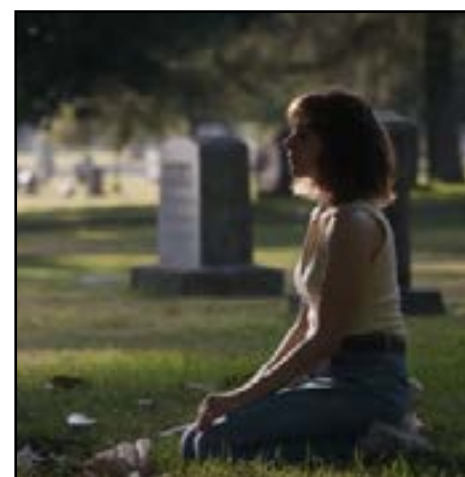


Photo courtesy of relevantmagazine.com

Horse Girl is a 2020 film that follows Sarah, a young woman who develops a worsening mental illness as the film progresses. The film was co-written by and stars Alison Brie.

cility. Despite the movie focusing on Sarah and showing some of the things that she saw, the viewer, grounded by other characters in the movie, doesn't believe that what she is experiencing is true but that it was in her head. I thought some of the aspects of Sarah's life shown were somewhat arbitrary and didn't seem to tie nicely together in the end. *Horse Girl* is unlike anything I've seen before, and although the film had its flaws, I think it's an interesting depiction of mental illness, and I think viewers would get something out of it.

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Tyson Fury and Deontay Wilder's rematch was much anticipated and did not disappoint. Read more below...



The Astros sign stealing scandal provokes MLB pitchers across the league. Read more below...

Franklin & Marshall Sports

Much anticipated rematch shocks boxing fans as Fury defeats Wilder

BY CONNOR MIRABELLA

Staff Writer

Tyson Fury and Deontay Wilder have maintained one of the most famous beefs in recent boxing history. Tyson Fury, a British-born, 6'9 boxer of Irish-traveler descent has been undefeated throughout his professional boxing career despite several hiatuses from the sport, in which he struggled with his weight, mental health, and substance abuse. Fury has made a fascinating and dominant comeback to the sport of boxing. His comeback culminated over a year ago in his first match against the also undefeated Deontay Wilder. Wilder had amassed a staggering 42 wins exclusively by knockout to earn him a shot at the heavyweight belt. Few of these fights ever looked very close; Wilder controls the space in the ring and is almost always moving towards his opponent and putting them on their heels, relying heavily on his right hook for finishing punches. Anybody who has seen this Alabama born brawler compete would consider his right hook to be a lethal weapon.

Despite the strength and tenacity of each fighter, their first bout in 2018 went the full 12 rounds and ended in a highly controversial draw (as many draws are). Most of the boxing community agreed that Fury dominated the start of the fight and should have been winning on all of the judges' scorecards into the later

Some MLB pitchers may intentionally throw at Houston Astros batters

BY GABBY GOODWIN

Managing Editor

Over the past couple of weeks, the Houston Astros have been the primary focus in the world of professional baseball for their latest sign-stealing scandal. Mike Fiers, a pitcher who played for the Astros in 2017, told *The Athletic* that the organization used a video camera in center field to film the opposing catchers' signs to the pitchers. Astros players or team staffers watching the live camera feed behind the dugout would then signal to their batter what kind of pitch was coming.

In light of this scandal, pitchers across baseball have been checking their calendars to see when they will have the opportunity to get retribution against the Astros for cheating by intentionally throwing at Astros hitters. MLB commissioner, Rob Manfred, said, in a sit-down interview with ESPN, that he would be sending out a memo warning teams not to throw at Astros hitters, noting that the punishment would be severe. "We have been working on for

rounds. Wilder did not earn this fight for nothing, however, which he revealed by knocking down Fury in dramatic fashion twice during the last 3 rounds. Both of these knock downs looked as if they could have been the end of the fight to everyone watching, including Wilder. Despite surviving a barrage of punches and jabs for over 10 rounds, Wilder's confidence had not faltered into the end of the fight. That being said, the only word I can use to describe the look on Wilder's face after Fury got up from the second knock down is defeated. I am not alone in believing that Wilder felt he was starting to give Fury his best- was that still not enough?

The draw was criticized by many, but no clear consensus emerged about who had won the bout. More trash talk from each fighter and discussion of the fight led to a scheduled rematch between the two boxers. Although they expressed mutual respect for one another after their first match, none of those sentiments appeared leading up to their second fight which had so much trash talk that the boxing league would not allow the two to do an official face-off (albeit, ridiculously- neither fighter has actually tried to attack the other outside the ring). The much anticipated rematch took place this past Saturday night, where Wilder's pompous entrance in a 40 lb costume brought him right to the center of attention. The flashy

habits of Wilder reflect his preparation and style, but Wilder could not have anticipated what was to come in a fight where he was favored to win by betting odds, commentators, and admittedly myself.

Fury had said many times in press conferences that he was having the best training camp of his life (a common tout) and planned to be relentless from the first bell to the last. He was going to try and outpace Wilder while constantly walking him down, preventing Wilder from getting into his own flow and using that lethal right hook. This is exactly what spectators everywhere saw when the opening bell rang.

Fury moved carefully and intensely towards Wilder the second the fight began and threw punches and jabs without pause. Wilder was clearly a little taken aback by the change of pace and kept closing towards Fury in bad positions, leading to them getting wrapped up. In each wrap up, Fury kept his left arm outside and over Wilder's (as if he was grappling, which nobody wants to see in a boxing match) in order to keep his right hand at bay. The tide was fully turned by the third round when Fury knocked down Wilder with an epic shot to the head, just behind the ear. For those who aren't as familiar with boxing, the spot behind the ear is very difficult to land but can be devastating, regularly causing athlete's legs to give out from

under them even if they retain full consciousness. Fury's dominance continued almost unresisted from there on out until Wilder's own corner called the fight during the 7th round. Wilder was furious with the referee for, as he saw it, allowing Fury to land more rabbit punches (to the back of the head) despite warning that he'd punish any fighter who did so.

Fury earned my fandom in this fight with an unprecedented dominance of one of the best boxers alive, but I too shared some questions about punch location. A lot of Fury's punches did in fact land towards the back of the head, to the point where I wished someone could draw a sharpie line on each fighter's head to show which punches would be considered legal and illegal. Was this fight the result of poor calling or is it possible that Fury was going to give Wilder the business regardless of the missed calls. That being said, Wilder was not the same fighter after his third round knock down, which was landed by a potentially questionable punch behind the ear. As exciting as the sport of boxing is, there should be certain levels of rule clarification that do not leave decisions up to discretion, but instead, up to a matter of technical fact and rules.

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"It's just not acceptable" (nypost.com).

Dodgers pitcher, Ross Stripling, was very outspoken on the issue, saying he "would lean towards yes" when asked if he would seek retaliation against the Astros in the form of throwing at hitters.

Manfred considered stripping the Astros of their 2017 World Series title, but didn't, as such a thing has never happened in the history of major league baseball before. Manfred suspended manager A.J. Hinch and General Manager Jeff Luhnow for a year (before owner Jim Crane fired both of them), fined the Astros \$5 million, and docked the team's first-and-second-round picks in the next two drafts. Dodgers star Cody Bellinger called Manfred out for what he believed was a "weak" punishment.

Aside from the penalties already placed on the 2017 World Series champs by Manfred, the Astros will suffer a more painful self-punishment. The championship itself is forever tainted and, like the 1919 Black Sox, the current Houston Astros team will forever be known as

the one that cheated. The glory they felt as they lifted the trophy and slipped on their World Series rings is gone.

Jim Crane's apology on behalf of the organization, which stated that "It was the Wild West of tech and we were best at it because we removed any moral compass when it came to rules and decency and we won a World Series because of it and earned all this cash, and we are giving neither back nor are we apologizing. Crane out," was not received well by anyone, for that matter.

According to Manfred, however, "Whatever a team does, for better or worse, it's part of the responsibility of my position - we'll continue to work with the Astros to help them put this behind them. I think in the time that's gone by, some players have been out individually. I think they've done a much better job taking responsibility and expressing remorse" (nypost.com).

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