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THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

<http://www.the-college-reporter.com>

VOLUME 52, ISSUE 11

Kappa Sigma Fraternity purchases new house after decade-long search

BY STEVEN VIERA
Senior Editor

Last week, the Kappa Sigma fraternity, Delta Rho chapter purchased a new house located at 445 College Ave. They anticipate moving out of their current house at 249 N. Charlotte St. by Fall 2016.

“Our alumni president, Dave Coyne, has been searching for a new house for around 10 years now,” said Nathan McClellan ’16, president of Kappa Sigma. “Most of the process has been waiting for the right property to become available for sale. After it had been identified around a year ago, there has been a lot of fundraising among our chapter’s alumni in order to make the purchase. Recently, we went before the City’s zoning board and they approved our plans for the property and that was the final step before the purchase went through.”

According to McClellan, many



photo courtesy of Nathan McClellan ’16

The brothers of Kappa Sigma recently purchased a new house, located at 445 College Ave. They hope to have it ready to move in by Fall 2016.

brothers are excited about the move and hope that it will help them connect with the campus.

“Well, we are kind of a relic of the old F&M off-campus student housing situation, before [College

Row Apartments] and the [College Hill Apartments] had been created,” he said. “We are relatively far from campus currently so we want to get closer which I think will make involvement in the F&M

community easier and decrease any issues that may emerge from students walking farther away from campus.”

Now that the sale has been finalized, McClellan indicated that some construction is necessary before brothers can move in; he noted work would be conducted to enlarge spaces in the basement and first floor. By the time brothers move in—which should be in Fall 2016, depending on construction—the house will be able to accommodate 14 residents, in contrast to the current house, which can only hold 10.

“Although we leave behind our historic house at 249 N. Charlotte St., we hope to carry its traditions into the new house,” McClellan said.

Senior Steven Viera is a senior editor. His email is sviera@fandm.edu.

Construction projects aim to improve F&M’s health services, athletic spaces

BY STEVEN VIERA
Senior Editor

Dan Porterfield, president of the College, announced in an email in late October that work would begin on a series of major construction projects. Upon completion, both projects—which are scheduled to be finished by Spring 2016—will result in the renovation of restaurant space in College Square into an infirmary and health services as well as the installation of a new floor and track in the Alumni Sports & Fitness Center (ASFC).

“[In College Square] the project is located on the east side of the first floor, in what was formerly the Gibraltar and Doc Holiday’s restaurant space,” said Sheldon Wenger, assistant director for project management from F&M’s Facilities & Operations (F&O). “The demolition phase was com-

pleted on Nov. 11. Permitting will take place over the next four-to-six weeks, and then construction will begin around the middle to end of December.”

The renovations in College Square come as a part of F&M’s partnership with Lancaster General Health (LGH) to provide increased health services to students. In his email, Porterfield pointed out that the new facility will feature a 9,200 square-foot health and counseling center complete with triage, exam, and treatment areas, laboratories for on-site medical screening, individual rooms for counseling, and community spaces for programs like yoga, athletic training, and more.

Porterfield also noted that when health services moves out of its

see CONSTRUCTION, page 2

Bechtel, Merritts, and students explore different sensors to identify landmines

BY STEVEN VIERA
Senior Editor

Timothy Bechtel, visiting professor of geosciences, is part of an international team that is tasked with developing an effective, inexpensive, and easy to use system for identifying and disposing of landmines in areas around the world. At F&M, Bechtel is assisted on this project by Dorothy Merritts, the Harry W. and Mary B. Huffnagle Professor of Geosciences and chair of the Earth and Environment Department, as well as a number of student researchers.

Funded by a NATO Science for Peace and Security Program grant, Bechtel and his colleagues plan on building remote-controlled robots that non-experts, such as farmers and members of non-government organizations, can be trained to use, according to [this article](#) from

F&M’s news website. Bechtel’s specific charge as part of the international effort is to figure out which landmine detection sensors will be best for the robot, noting a number of possible options, such as infrared or metal detection.

“No single device works in all conditions, so we want to test all available devices to find the best combination of sensors,” he said in the F&M News article.

Landmines come in two main types: anti-personnel and anti-tank. Anti-personnel mines are small and designed to maim, while anti-tank are larger and designed to disable vehicles. Bechtel discussed that landmines, particularly anti-personnel, are often deployed at strategic locations within civilian areas.

“If there is a critical well in a

see LANDMINES, page 2

Inside this Issue...

Opinion & Editorial
“Editor urges F&M to hold Paris in the light”

page 6

Campus Life
Silantro brings quirky, fresh cuisine to Lancaster

page 8

Arts & Entertainment
Newest Bond a specter of what could have been

page 9

Sports
Philadelphia 76ers off to yet another sad start

page 10

Viera's Crime Watch

The College Reporter was unable to secure the crime logs this week to provide this article. We apologize for this inconvenience, and we will have them for you at the earliest possible opportunity!

The College Reporter Corrections Policy

The College Reporter welcomes comments and suggestions, as well as information about substantive errors of fact that call for correction. Contact us via email at reporter@fandm.edu or at (717) 291-4095.

The College Reporter Story Idea Submission Policy

The College Reporter welcomes story ideas from the college community. If you have or your organization has an idea for a Reporter story, email it to us at reporter@fandm.edu with the subject heading "Campus Story Idea" by Monday at noon the week before publication. Story ideas will be accepted at the discretion of the Editorial Board.

Sexual Misconduct: Questions and Answers

Question #16: When does the College take steps to investigate claims of sexual misconduct without the express consent of a complainant?

If a complaint comes to the attention of the College that indicates that the alleged perpetrator may be an ongoing threat to the victim or to others, Title IX obligates the Title IX Coordinator to investigate. The extent of the investigation is dependent on the information available, the nature of the allegation, and most importantly, the ability to investigate without exposing the victim's identity if they choose to be anonymous. For instance, if the victim does not give the name of the alleged perpetrator, the investigation is very limited. If the name is known but there are no witnesses other than the complainant and they choose not to file a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator usually, with the permission of the victim, interviews the alleged perpetrator and makes appropriate recommendations. Except in extreme situations when there is corroborating evidence or a clear danger to the victim or community, the College does not levy sanctions when a formal complaint has not been filed. The exception to this is a No Contact Order, which can be enacted when a complaint is made regardless of the process for investigation. No Contact Orders are not sanctions, do not appear on a student's record and apply to both parties.

Construction: Ongoing renovations should not disrupt access to existing athletic facilities

continued from page 1

current location in Appel Infirmary on campus, that space will be renovated into Harwood Commons, which will serve as the new home of the Office of Student and Post-Graduate Development (OSPGD).

The College is contracting local architecture firm Cornerstone Design to design the new space, which, according to Wenger, will result in two-thirds of the existing area becoming an infirmary and

the other one-third will remain as a social space for student use. Additionally, Benchmark Construction, a local contractor, has been hired to perform the renovations, which should be completed by about May 31, 2016.

In the ASFC, work is underway to install a new indoor track and field flooring system that complies with National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) regula-

Landmines: Bechtel will also study terrain of Eastern Ukraine as part of NATO project



Timothy Bechtel, visiting professor of geosciences, is part of an international team designing a robot that will help identify and dispose of landmines.

continued from page 1
village, whoever controls the village will mine it and know where the mines are so they can use the water," he said in the F&M News article. "If they were to lose the village to the opposing combatants, then somebody will get maimed, if not killed, trying to get water."

Aside from his current project, Bechtel has spent 15 years working with another international team to develop a holographic landmine sensor.

Bechtel has also been tasked with researching terrain in Eastern Ukraine, according to the F&M News article, where Ukrainians are fighting a civil war against separatists backed by Russia and

the regime of Vladimir Putin. For this research, Bechtel, Merritts, and student researchers will explore Northeastern Pennsylvania, where soil moisture content and chemical composition are similar to that of Eastern Ukraine; both, in fact, are coal-producing regions.

Additionally, Bechtel plans on drawing on students outside of his researchers to complete the project.

"We'll be taking groups of students—focus groups, if you will—giving them minimal training and having them detect mines," he said in the F&M News article. "We'll be able to go and test sensors in a realistic setting not too far from F&M."

tions and guidelines.

"The new floor will be installed on top of the existing floor," Wenger said. "The upper track will also be receiving a new floor, but it will be smooth whereas the main field house will have a textured finish, similar to our outdoor track."

Sasaki Associates from Boston, Massachusetts is serving as the

architect, and the flooring installation will be conducted by Benyon Sports Surfaces. According to Porterfield, the construction, which will take place from Nov. 2, 2015 to Jan. 31, 2016, should not disrupt access to normal ASFC facilities, such as locker rooms, the fitness center, the strength and conditioning center, the pool, and more.



Along with the Alumni Sports & Fitness Center, pictured above, spaces within College Square will undergo renovation in the coming months.

Staff Writer Commentary

Attacks in Paris prompt writer to contemplate how to defeat

BY NICHOLAS RIEBEL
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I was going to write an article on House Representative Joe Pitts' announcement of his retirement and its implications. I also considered writing about the shenanigans of Donald Trump and Ben Carson, but I decided they could wait. And due to various events this week, I had to postpone the writing of my article for this issue to Saturday, and that has made a big difference in my topic choice. As I thought about that, and the effects that little things have, conspiring and colluding to make changes in the larger plans of your life, I thought about how my grandparents, until recently, lived in Paris.

I was relieved to see that several of my friends who were in Paris at the time were alright, and that as far as I knew, none of my friends or relatives seemed to have been caught in the violence there. But as of this typing, more than 100 people have been killed, there is going to be a curfew in Paris, France's borders are going to be closed, and French President François Hollande has declared a state of emergency (<http://huff.to/1LÆ1Jb>).

It is important to remember, I think, that the point of terrorism is to make people afraid: Terrorists are, at the root, terrorizers. While it is not known yet (as of this typing) the identities of the attackers, I think it is reasonably safe to say that these were Islamic terrorists, likely members of ISIS, as they have claimed responsibility for the attack: (<http://bit.ly/1Ya75eD>). These attackers were likely young men, tricked and brainwashed to kill and harm others, and themselves, for no real reason. If there is a God who is just, what rational, what moral person could truly believe that that

same deity would wish for them to throw not only his or her own life away, but to destroy the lives of so many innocents?

I have written before about the overblown fears of ISIS, and yes, they are overblown. I dare question the wisdom of Ben Carson and others who believe that we must "destroy them before they destroy us" (<http://bit.ly/1MJ6vAD>). But ISIS is not a powerful enemy. Their best attempts to harm us is to, without warning or mercy, cowardly kill unarmed, innocent civilians.

As we mourn the lives lost, the pain and suffering inflicted in Paris, we must remember not to act merely out of revenge, and bomb ISIS's "caliphate." (<http://huff.to/1yt22MM>). While we should help the Kurds and the Iraqis defeat ISIS's military, we must remember that defeating their ideology and their ideas should be our focus. ISIS knows that if we bomb it backwards without any political solutions, without healing the divisions in the areas they have conquered (such as in Anbar province in Iraq) they will just come back when the Shi'ite militias and Iraqi Army leave the Sunni areas. I am speaking from the surge's ultimate failure: in 2007, when President Bush sent more troops to Iraq, he did roll back terrorism there. But the divisions were not healed among the Sunnis, Shiites, and Kurds, the group reformed, took on a new name, and expanded into Syria and retook the areas of Iraq they were driven out of before.

Only those ignorant of history, and without common knowledge, will say that we face an implacable enemy and must bomb them into oblivion so we may triumph and survive. This is impractical nonsense. If we wish to truly defeat ISIS, we must stop their terrorist attacks against us, our

friends, and allies, block their ability to engage in their hybrid of guerrilla warfare and terrorism in Iraq and Syria, and work on political solutions to stop the violence in Iraq, Syria, and Libya. We must do our best to foster dialogue among the ethnic and religious groups there, so that we can help them live in peace or partition the nations if it is found to be absolutely necessary.

ISIS is an enemy only so long as people there believe they are the best force in the Middle East (as hard as this seems to us). When we work to strip that illusion away, they too will join the world in seeing ISIS for the atrocity it really is. As I have said before, that is when and how ISIS (and terrorists groups) will ultimately lose: not on the battlefield, but in the war of ideas.

Full Staff Opinion

The College Reporter needs you Newspaper serves vital yet dwindling function

We, the editing staff of *The College Reporter*, are all dedicated F&M students. That's why we know the caliber of our fellow classmates. Here at F&M, we have some of the hardest working and most analytical students out there. And that's why we find the lack of passion and participation in journalism so shocking. As our College ranking has risen to an ultimate high this year, article submissions to *The College Reporter* have hit a record low. Our meetings are poorly attended and our editors often devote extra time every week to filling in their sections—and we just want to know, what is going on?

A College as competitive as ours needs a student-run newspaper to be taken seriously. It's the only way to legitimately represent ourselves as student body, be our own informants and educators, and effectively express our diverse voices and perspectives. A true democracy cannot exist without journalism; and even as students, our voices carry significant weight. No opinion or policy is too small to cover or express.

We understand that adding an extra writing assignment to the week can be daunting. But what does it say about our students here if our opinions and our interests in the news of the school, the city, or the world are left silent because of an extra 600-word "assignment"? What does it say about F&M students that writing a critique of our new favorite album or covering the season of our favorite sports team is "too much extra work"? Over the past years, many F&M students have expressed concerns about the passive nature of our student body.

Writing for the *Reporter* is your chance to change that reputation. This is your opportunity to be heard, F&M. Be curious about the institution you pay \$60,000 a year to attend, be curious about the city you live in, and use the newspaper to inform your fellow students about what interests you in the world. We all want our resumes to stand out to graduate schools and potential employers, and nothing is more impressive than writing for your college's newspaper. It shows initiative, it shows effort, it shows thoughtfulness, it illuminates your critical thinking and writing abilities—all of which they care about immensely. Write for us, F&M. We want to hear you, and the school needs to hear you.



The College Reporter

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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 Hartranft '12, Joshua Finkel '15, and Lauren Bejak '13.

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.

Are you interested in writing about events on campus and the world?

Then write for *The College Reporter!*

Email reporter@fandm.edu or come to our meetings on Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the *College Reporter* office in the College Center!

Contributing Writer Commentary

Football, masculinity, and the curse of Dr. Barbie: *Writer examines place, privileges amid male-dominated spheres*

BY MORGAN KINCADE
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When I walked into the Brickyard this past Sunday to watch the New York Giants face off against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, most of the tables were full. There was only one television screen playing the Giants game. In front of it, a middle-aged fan sat at a table, and he invited my brother and me to sit down.

We exchanged pleasantries. He cracked jokes. He checked if the man I had come with and I were dating. When his friend arrived several minutes later, he introduced us and explained that we were just brother and sister. His friend responded to the first, “When I came over, I doubted she was your date, but ya never know!” I smiled stiffly, for some reason trying to let him think he was being pleasant.

Big Ford trucks scaling rocky terrain, Corona Lite that they swear you can’t tell is lite, oversized Domino’s pizza laden with meat, and antidotes to erectile dysfunction. A game of NFL football is a grand performance in masculinity on the field, in its commercials, and—as I experienced last Sunday—in the spaces we inhabit as we watch it. Usually I try to tune out the female objectification in commercials, the hypermasculinity, but on that day it was harder to forget that this was a space designed neither by nor for women.

And so I settled in for three and a half hours with our new friends. I found that they had a comment to deliver about the women who made an appearance on or off the screen: the relative merits of the Buccaneer cheerleaders, how much more attractive Fox News hosts are in comparison the “butch” ones on MSNBC, how one of them should “trade up” their girlfriend with one of the twenty-something girls that

had just left the bar. So I tensed up and locked my eyes on the screen in anticipation anytime a woman appeared.

I felt bizarrely aware of my body, knowing it was up for scrutiny by the much older strangers I was sitting with. Moreover, I felt embarrassed by how I was falling into a gendered passive role, either gluing my eyes to the screen so I wouldn’t have to respond, or smiling so that they wouldn’t have to know about my discomfort, only serving to affirm their senses of humor.

As they launched into a conversation about their desired 24-hour cheerleading channel, they proceeded to mock male cheerleaders for taking on a female role as they simultaneously expressed envy for the pretense to look up women’s skirts. They teased a male player for “crying like a little bitch.” I was aware of my body in the presence of men in a male space designed for straight men. I sat uncomfortably aware of my body in a space set up by and for men.

But they were nice people. They called out jovially to other Giants fans when they entered the bar. They told us about how they chipped in for one of the waitress’ daughter’s 16th birthday to get her a jersey of her favorite player because she’s a “great, hardworking kid.” I started chastising myself for my discomfort. I thought, “Calm down. They’re being nice. They’re just a little tipsy. They mean no harm.” And then it occurred to me: “Why on earth am I trying bend over backwards to be grateful to these men for letting me sit down at their table?” No, they didn’t mean harm, but this isn’t really about intending harm. It’s evidence of a tacit social acceptance of men’s entitlement to comment on female bodies and to judge which are pleasing enough to exist in male spaces, and it’s about the effect that acceptance has

on women when they grow up in conditions saturated by it.

Only a few hours earlier, I had read an article from *The Atlantic* entitled “Yes, Even Doctor Barbie Sends Girls the Wrong Message.” Aware of the critique that Barbie teaches girls to see themselves as sexual objects, Mattel has tried rebranding Barbie with the advertisement campaign “Imagine the Possibilities” in which young girls take on professional roles—roles of power. And yet, recent studies show that girls ages 4 to 7 were less likely to identify themselves as capable of attaining the same careers as their peers who played with a Mrs. Potato Head, even if they were playing with a Dr. Barbie. Why would playing with a Dr. Barbie have this effect on young girls? Because Dr. Barbie is beautiful first and a doctor second. What Barbie taught us as children is reaffirmed by society today: whatever you choose to do, make sure you’re pleasing to men as you do it.

There was a moment in Michael Kimmel’s Common Hour lecture two weeks ago that is inextricably linked to what Barbie taught us. Kimmel recounted a hazing example in which sorority sisters lay facedown on the floor in their underwear as fraternity brothers walked around the room circling the fat on their bodies and “areas of improvement.” I was shaken by the story because, although I’ve never undergone that, the story isn’t alien to me. It would be a mistake to write it off as an isolated case carried out by superficial people. No, it’s a culmination of the gender dynamics we—thoughtful, shallow, fun, boring, and normal people alike—have internalized and live out on a daily basis whether we’re aware of it or not.

Kimmel argued that during the day, college campuses—the college classroom—is the most gender

equal space in America, but at night it is one of the most unequal as white, straight men have the power to shape the party and hookup culture. I do and don’t agree with him. Though I certainly agree that men have an advantage in producing power discrepancies in college nightlife, I disagree with the implication that this power dynamic doesn’t affect the classroom or our daylight interactions. The objectification of women moves beyond the physical into the psychological and social. It starts in the physical and spreads into much more. As I experienced in that sports bar, women’s bodies were up for scrutiny by male viewers. But the problem doesn’t stop there. It also manifests itself in the fact that their opinions about a woman’s looks determined which female opinions they would listen to in the news. It also manifests itself in my impulse to smile complacently at their comments, to be pleasing even as I was disturbed.

It’s in the air we breathe. White, male privilege is not having to notice gender dynamics when stepping into a sports bar, nonetheless the classroom or any other space. And as a white, straight female, the experience is a good reminder of what I don’t have to notice in the air. I don’t have to think about how the vast majority of the cheerleaders being framed as ideals of beauty on that screen were light-skinned, or of the disproportionate number of white coaches and team owners in relation to the number of black players.

When I enter male-dominated spaces, I can’t help but be aware of my gender, how it affects the way I’m treated, and how it then affects the way I respond. But when I walk into white-dominated spaces like many classrooms at F&M, I have the luxury of forgetting about my race and its effect on my interactions with peers and professors.

round.

It is generally reckoned by a good number of political commentators and analysts alike that the long-term trend of the world, increasingly mirrored in rapidly developing South Asia, has been toward greater democratization and decentralization. Indeed, this has not been a trend from which the Burmese could have been shielded, when living perpetually in the shadow of the gargantuan Union of India, with all of its fissiparous tendencies. That being said, it is admittedly too soon to assume whether the

landslide victory of Aung San Suu Kyi’s party will herald a radical departure from what had hitherto been a military stronghold over Burmese politics.

Although now would seem, at prima facie, an adequate time for Westerners to speak glowingly of Myanmar’s baby steps toward cultural enlightenment, it should not be forgotten that vast swathes of that state’s citizenry were denied the right to vote. Myanmar’s Muslim Rohingya minority remain victims of a

see MYANMAR, page 5

Contributing Writer Commentary

Students often overlook benefits of a true liberal arts education *Writer challenges college to look beyond grades for meaning*

BY LAUREN MULIAWAN
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Liberal Arts Institution. We throw this phrase around a lot—so much so that sometimes I think we have forgotten what it means. Reader, let’s do some word association (and by this I mean my roommates and I will do some word association). Liberal arts: college, small classes, interdisciplinary, F&M, problem solving, critical thinking, friends, awesome professors, research, humanities, readings, many subjects/topics, small schools, long papers, discussions, trees, bricks.

Not once in there do I think of grades. Which is why I was a bit upset to read an article about grades at F&M. I believe the article was in jest, but it read a bit too bitterly to be purely sarcastic and seemed to elicit genuine feelings.

F&M is a tough, rigorous environment. When I was abroad my friends and I discussed grade inflation as we were all at good universities and trying to get a sense of life at each one. The other F&M student and I paused, turned to look at each other, and then said, “It’s fair. It’s not an easy place, and a B is good. It’s the 4th most rigorous college for a reason.” Classes are hard. Papers are long. Readings are arduous. College is tough. All of these things are true.

But I have to challenge you, dear reader, to tell me why, despite all of those “difficult” things, you came to F&M, and why you chose to stay. Because here is the thing—the secret to the liberal arts if you will—if this institution wasn’t challenging you, you wouldn’t be evolving, learning, or dare I say, having fun. Yeah, FUN. What is the point of taking an easy class?

To get that easy “A”? That’s crap.

Now, this is a realization that takes time and everyone arrives at this point differently. But, it’s the truth. Your grades do not keep you here, and they do not draw you here. Your favorite classes are the ones that challenge you, the ones that throw you for a loop.

That’s when you learn, you adapt, and you problem solve. It’s those critical thinking skills that produces rich discussion that enriches our minds. College and this liberal arts institution is about finding your passions and pursuing them. It’s about leaving as a wiser and better person.

Earlier this semester Ken Bain, author of *What the Best College Students Do*, spoke at Common Hour. The basis of his work revolves around the idea that students fall into three categories: surface, strategic, and deep learners. Whether you buy into his schema or not, you should take away this: “growth is the discovery of the dynamic power of the mind” (Bain, 4).

Expanding your mind, delving into your passions, and motivating yourself to learn more is inherently better than attempting to get the perfect grades, because the way you approach a topic will get you so much farther than the ability or talent you think you possess. You came here to challenge yourself. You came here to learn. You came here to find a passion. You did not come here to make grades.

So reader, I have a few challenges.

1. Build friendships and support systems. Social skills are important, and having a group of people that you can trust completely is important and essential to your well-being. Shout out to the friends who bring me coffee and watch movies with

me—I owe you.

2. Sleep. You are a much better student and human when you are rested and healthy. Exhausted students are not productive, trust me.

3. Get involved. College is a time to try new things. Join a club, run a student government group, and go to that informational meeting. Your activities help to keep you grounded. The opportunities I have had in my extracurriculars over the past four years have helped to shape me into the person I am today, and I wouldn’t trade those experiences for any grade.

4. Athletes: I must first say you inspire me. First, because the thought of running makes me tired, but more importantly because you have chosen to pursue your passions both on the field and off by coming to a small liberal arts institution.

5. Do your work to the best of your ability. And go talk to your professors. They care about you and how you are doing. If you ask how you can improve, I am about 100 percent certain they will have ideas for you, and if they don’t the Writing Center will. Also, professors are humans, not robots. Go talk to them.

continued from page 4

is a stain on that state’s already marred human rights record. It is deeply uncertain whether Myanmar could have, like its western neighbor, (somewhat) functioning democracy in the absence of the assumed prerequisites of development and management of diversity.

It is potentially problematic for Myanmar’s democratic future that the National League for Democracy will inherit a political structure dominated by scions of Myanmar’s military, for whom 25 percent of all seats in Parliament alone are reserved. Furthermore, national law guarantees that control of the key ministries of defense, interior and border affairs fall to the junta.

It is not exactly difficult to imagine how, in the light of a threat to Myanmar’s political stability, this could potentially lead to an emergency situation in the country due to progress potentially being handicapped by the military’s ability to steer the

6. Take courses outside of your major. You have done the liberal arts an injustice if you don’t. Self proclaimed humanities through and through? Take a biology course. Scientist who never leaves Hackman? Try an American Studies course. A new perspective will teach you better ways to approach your own passions, and maybe even spark some new ones. Heck, the geology course I took sophomore year is one of my favorite classes, and if I hadn’t been placed into an American Studies course freshmen year I would never have thought to try it, let alone major in it.

Reader, I complain and fret over grades, too. We are programmed to think that way. And I know that this op-ed is grounded in my own experience, and speckled with the nostalgia of a soon-to-be-graduating senior.

But the liberal arts and F&M ask us to explore beyond our immediate lives. They ask us to transcend and to grow. Honestly, that’s why we stay. To discover that we are capable of so much more than we think, and that we are worth so much more than a letter.

Myanmar: Nation's transition toward *democracy a step in the right direction*

Myanmar's recent election boosts belief in democracy

BY ADI RAMACHANDRAN
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The recent democratic election in Myanmar is a much needed boost to those of us that still believe in much maligned democracy—a system, which despite all its flaws and imperfections, is still believed to be a preferable way to govern society and elevate citizens than the authoritarian alternative.

The National League for Democracy party, which won an absolute majority in Burmese Parliament, has ushered in what could be heralded as the

beginning of a paradigm shift in Myanmar’s political history. The 2015 election is seen in the region, and the West, as a step toward the correction of two decades of abusive rule under the military Junta, since it took power in 1990 by violently ousting the newly victorious NDP under the purview of the prolific Aung San Suu Kyi. The Junta would later become internationally infamous for placing the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate under house arrest. The question of the day is whether it would be sanguine of observers to expect a different result this time

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Contributing Writer Commentary

Racist comments plaque F&M Yik Yak in light of events at Mizzou

BY LAUREN WACHSPRESS
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This past week Mizzou could not be avoided on social media. Many F&M students posted Facebook statuses to show support for students at the University of Missouri who feel unsafe. How or why these racist and bigoted attacks are so prevalent in our country is beyond me.

Incidents of racism at Mizzou ranged from shouting threats at students to smearing a feces swastika on a dorm bathroom, coupled with all of the online attacks. The outpouring of threats on the app Yik Yak towards African Americans is astounding. The Yik Yaks include not only vulgar language and racial slurs, but also

violent threats. Many students felt unsafe, yet classes were not canceled to accommodate safety concerns. With threats of being shot or stabbed dismissed as rumors, these students could not turn to their university for help. Initially classes continued and the Yik Yaks were dismissed as rumors.

Until the police apprehended some suspects, the school for the most part ignored the threats on social media. The NAACP set up a hotline for students who felt unsafe to report any threats. The president of Mizzou, who did little to alleviate the racial prejudice, resigned and an interim leader has taken his place. One student's hunger strike and the many African American football players' vow not to play helped

spur his resignation along with a group called Concerned Student 1950.

Protesters and Concerned Student 1950 who criticized the administration for their inaction and lack of support for minority students at Mizzou traveled fast via social media.

The anonymity of Yik Yak presents a huge problem. The attackers hid behind screens and their aggression remains unidentified. F&M unfortunately saw very similar racist and intolerant messages on our local Yik Yak. On Friday, students organized a protest against these prejudiced messages in the Steinman College Center.

It's one thing to hear about such a preposterous racist incidents in Missouri, but having that absurd

backwards bigotry on our campus is very unsettling. President Dan Porterfield's discussion on Tuesday will aim to facilitate a more productive dialogue than those ignorant students who think it's acceptable to take to an anonymous social media platform to voice small-minded views without consequence.

Students need to recognize the systematic racism and oppression that has existed for decades in higher institutions throughout the country.

We must take action to alleviate the racial tension that infiltrates our college. Porterfield's discussion is a good first step to helping F&M take a stand against these bigoted individuals and show support for all our students so that no one feels unsafe or targeted.

Editor urges F&M community to hold Paris in the light

BY AMY SCHULMAN
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Friday night, tragedy struck Paris.

A *New York Times* update on my phone notified me that hoards of people were being murdered by several suicide bombers and gunmen throughout multiple locations in the city. Having spent a semester in the French capital last spring, the reality that the city I had called home for five months was being overtaken by violence was horrifying. It seemed almost too unbelievable to be true. I quickly sent my host family an email detailing my hope that they were safe, and that I was thinking of them. I woke up the next morning to a note from them,

letting me know they were okay and attempting to process the previous night's events.

I stepped off the plane in Paris last January only a couple of days after the *Charlie Hebdo* massacre. The city, deep in mourning, persisted onward in a gathering of more than two million people in a manifestation, demonstrating both respect for those who had lost their lives and portraying the notion that the French capital would persevere. And they did.

The city came together in a unifying act of love for their country, setting up memorials and ceremonies to commemorate those who had lost their lives. The statue, representative of the republic, became decked in posters, flowers, and candles,

a symbol of the strength of the country.

The same thing happened this weekend. The whole world bowed its head in solidarity. A pianist wheeled his piano in front of Le Bataclan and played John Lennon's "Imagine." The same happened in front of the Washington Square Park Arch in New York City. Skyscrapers across the world flashed the French colors of blue, white and red. Communities gathered together and sang La Marseillaise, the national anthem of France.

Twitter and Facebook erupted in #prayforparis hashtags. Snapchat created a Pray for Paris My Story, allowing users across the world to submit personal notes and stories in light of what had happened

in Paris. Heartbreaking moments of tragedy bring the world together.

How can we find peace in this unjust world? This question is too loaded to warrant a single, one-line answer. For now, I look back to my formative years of schooling where we exercised the Quaker practice of holding people in the light. Holding someone in the light helps lift that person to a higher spirit that in turn unites us all, encouraging and uplifting strength and hope. I urge you to hold in the light those that perished as well as the families of the innocent lives that were shed, hoping that one day, we will live in a world where this is not the norm.

Nous sommes tous français.

Campus Life

Dance company previews Fall Dance Concert, discusses the art of dance

BY CHRISTA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

On Thursday, F&M students and community members had the opportunity to preview the Fall Dance Concert, which will be held Dec. 3, 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Roschel's Schnader Theater. The concert featured students from the F&M Dance Company with a total of seven different performances. At Common Hour, students presented excerpts from three of the dances, and the dancers and choreographers discussed the mystery around art and dance.

Associate Professor of Dance Pam Vail spoke about dispelling the myth that there is a specific meaning to grasp from watching dance. Dance is nonverbal communication where the whole body, including the brain, is the place of knowledge and logic.

Vail invited the members of the audience to "embody yourself" and to recognize our bodies as expressive and receptive. Dance's logic is abstract and we should trust that our bodies know how to read moving bodies, Vail explained.

Professor Lynn Brooks, Arthur and Katherine Professor of Humanities and Dance, discussed dance through genre, style and abstraction. She said genre, which pertains to all of the arts, is a "mode of expression that encompasses shared values."

In dance, there are genres such as ballet, modern, and jazz, as well as sub-genres like contemporary ballet, postmodern dance, and folk dance. Styles differ among the genres, such as the various different styles of ballet. Dance



photo by Emma Brown '17

The F&M dance company performed at Common Hour, previewing their Fall Dance Concert, which will be held Dec. 3, 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Roschel's Schnader Theater, and will feature a total of seven different dance performances.

as an abstraction causes people to have different experiences while viewing the same dance because abstractions speak to us in different ways.

The first dance was titled "Botany and Desire," from which the dancers will only perform five minutes out of the longer piece for the concert. Dancer Charley Hagist '16 called the dance an "intimate abstraction" and said that "meaning and dance never go hand in hand" in this piece. The dancers were in practice clothing, but for the real show, there will be costumes, slides with video, and special lighting to enhance the

performance.

The second dance was called "Descent" and was choreographed originally in 2007 by Vail. The costumes for this number, which were not featured in the preview, are designed by Jimmy West. This performance featured a larger group of dancers than the previous one, using complex movements of contemporary ballet.

The third dance, "Canfield," is a reconstruction of a modern dance choreographed in 1969 by Merce Cunningham. This dance was more like a game, where the dancers have rules and the freedom to improvise under the limits of the

rules. It was performed without music, but the music will be added during rehearsals just a few weeks before the performance. The music will be improvised as well, making both the dance and song different each time. Dancers described it as a brain exercise, saying it was easy to "get lost in the piece."

The three dances performed on Thursday were excerpts of longer pieces. Those along with four others will be performed at the Fall Dance Concert this December.

First-year Christa Rodriguez is a staff writer. Her email is crodrigu@fandm.edu.



photo by Emma Brown '17

The dances that were performed at Common Hour were excerpts from the longer dances that will be showcased at the Fall Dance show. Along with the excerpts, many members of the Dance Company spoke about the misconceptions about dance and dance theory. Professor Lynn Brooks, who teaches humanities and dance, discussed dance through genre.

Do you believe in the journalistic process?

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Silantra brings quirky, fresh cuisine to downtown Lancaster

BY ERIN MOYER
Senior Editor

I am here to tell you that the revolution will not be televised. No, it will be served to you on a big, chrome plate, and in your choice of bowl or wrap.

Okay, let me explain what I'm talking about. Picture a Chipotle-sort-of experience, where you get to pick your protein, pick bowl or burrito, and build your dream meal experience. Okay, but replace the bowel-busting Mexican food with fresh, delicious Asian cuisine. And then replace the whole sprawling, national chain vibe with a cozy, local small business right downtown. And give said small business a liquor license. Then, and only then, will you understand specifically how great this place is.

I'm not just describing a pipe dream, oh no. This is real life. This is a real place. This is Silantra Asian Kitchen, right downtown at King and Duke streets. And you should go there.

I have been to Silantra three times now, and never will I be able to eat there enough. Silantra Asian Kitchen opened late this Summer, in the site of the old Red Rose Diner. It is actually just a few doors down from City Hall, the Lancaster Courthouse, and La Dolce Vita.

Let me walk you through a Silantra experience. You walk into a warmly-lit, open dining room. Here's some insider advice: Stride confidently across the room, and order at the counter below the big, chalked arrow that says "Start Here." Go ahead. Don't be shy. You will often see hesitant, first-time patrons linger in the doorway, waiting for some signal of what to do. You don't have to be one of those people. You know better now.

Once you have successfully arrived at the counter, you will be met with food options beyond your wildest dreams. You can order a wrap or a bowl. And you can fill said bowl with a base of organic brown rice, coconut-infused white rice, or even lettuce and spinach. Then, you pick your protein: chicken, shrimp, steak, or grilled portobello mushrooms for all my fellow veg-lovers out there. And then, you arrive at the add-ons. O, the add-ons! You may select from the tamer options of spinach, lettuce, cucumber, grilled pepper and onion. You can't go wrong with the classics.

But Silantra also serves up some funkier options you should really take advantage of, too: Edamame salad. Wasabi coleslaw. Seaweed salad. The world is your oyster. (Silantra does not have oysters, incidentally, but it's not



photo by Amy Schulman '16

Local eatery Silantra Asian Kitchen, offers a new, fresh twist on fast food: customers are offered a choice of wrap or bowl, brown or coconut infused white rice, meat or portobello mushrooms, a variety of vegetables, seasonings, and sauces.

like you'll miss them.) You can finish the whole thing off with your choice of sauce: Sweet and Sour, Yellow Curry, Teriyaki Garlic, Mandarin Orange Vinaigrette, and Sesame Ginger. I know these amazing options are a lot, but don't be overwhelmed. Take a deep breath. It will be okay.

Every time I have eaten at Silantra, I have ordered the same thing. A bowl with coconut-infused white rice. Half portobello mushrooms, and half shrimp. (Do you think Chipotle would let you mix proteins like that? I think not.) Then, I go big: seaweed salad with peppers, steamed broccoli, edamame salad, cucumber, and spinach, all drizzled with the tangy, teriyaki garlic sauce.

I have never been able to finish all my food. And do you know how much it costs me? Eight dollars. Every time I have been there, the service has been terrifically competent and friendly. I'm one of those tiring people who quite likes idle chit-chat, and never do I feel like a weirdo for that at Silantra. I ask my cashier how they're doing, and they actually tell me.

And if my gratuitous descrip-

tion of the food isn't convincing you, Silantra is absolutely laying it on with the drink specials this week. It's all part of their three-month anniversary celebration, and they're choosing to ring in the occasion with some Customer Appreciation specials. I promise you that you will feel duly appreciated. Let me break some of these down.

Order a meal on Monday? Free Blue Moon. Order a meal Wednesday? Free margaritas. How about Saturday? Free wine. Seriously. I'm not making these up, you guys. Actually, this past Saturday, Silantra even had free beer all day when you bought a meal. They are absolutely giving the stuff away, you guys. I really don't know how you'll be able to live with yourself if you keep missing out.

If you couldn't already tell, I really like Silantra. It reminds me that I don't have to eat unhealthy food to eat delicious food. It reminds me how many cool combinations and experiences you can make when you aren't afraid of "fusion," when you get creative with food and bastardize old, staid modes of operation. It re-

minds me how many hidden gems Lancaster has to offer, and how I really need to venture off campus more. And it reminds me how much I love a good drink special. Silantra is slightly quirky, entirely freshened-up fun. We need to patronize places like this, F&M: places owned by local, community-loving entrepreneurs. Places that set Lancaster apart. Places that are really worth being proud of.

So if you do one thing this week, make it dinner at Silantra. Bring a date, and they'll be suitably impressed with your grasp of fun, different Lancaster eats. Bring your parents, and they'll note with pride how well you "get" and "care" for your college's surrounding community.

Bring your friends, and they'll be happy you led them to free alcohol much like an oasis in the desert. Go to take an enviable Instagram picture. Go to procrastinate on all of your work. If you're going to Silantra, you won't be going wrong.

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Arts & Entertainment

Throwback of the Week: Reliving Letterman's take-down of Paris Hilton restores editor's faith in TV's political potential

Commentary
American Television

By Erin Moyer

I believe, as elderly page Kenneth Parcell once asserted, that television is the true American art form. I believe there are certain moments within the medium's history that stay with us, that guide us and inform us. I believe that these classic TV moments leave us not just rejuvenated, but restored.

And one such moment? David Letterman's interview of Paris Hilton shortly after her release from prison.

If you have not seen this watershed moment in a while—indeed, if you have never seen it, I urge you to change that. In the words of Tina Fey, presenting David Letterman with his 2012 Kennedy Center Honors designation, you need to go and watch that piece of poetry right now. It was not until last semester, when I was putting off all of my work and was on a YouTube bender of watching Tina Fey speaking at things, that I first stumbled upon those words. I decided to take a risk and not watch the next suggested video, "Tina Fey Honoring Carol Burnett." I decided to see David Letterman and Paris Hilton for myself. And with that, my fate was sealed. David Letterman is now my idol. And, if he ever returns my calls, my betrothed.

Here's how this all goes down: a whisper-thin, platinum-blonde Paris Hilton comes out on stage. The studio audience meets her with a polite round

of applause, of course, but David Letterman? David Letterman is just emanating contempt for her. It's actually astonishing. You will feel your soul withered from your computer screen, and not just from the radiation it normally gives off. Ms. Hilton sits down, and she and Dave make some idle chit chat. Then, Letterman clears his throat and pointedly says: "So, how was the slammer?" And if you can believe me, the interview only goes uphill from there.

This is not just a caustic run-in between a crotchety older gentleman and a tart, perhaps talentless starlet. This is a staid, mid-Western perspective meeting shiny, coked-up celebrity culture. This is vaguely conservative, common-sense America meeting the platinum-blonde, baby-voiced monster its guilty love of bad behavior created. This is the confrontation America needed, between the forces of the conventional, of the rational, and the embodiment of the exact opposite. And for once, the conventional comes out the winner.

In these eight minutes, we are all David Letterman. We all have the chance to purge ourselves of our addiction to reality TV garbage, to renounce it entirely, to spit on its grave and pretend we never ever liked it. Letterman so thoroughly embarrasses, so incontrovertibly takes down Paris Hilton, that it gives me hope for us yet. It makes me believe that there will always be the sharp, critically-thinking voice of reason out there,

someone who is prepared not just to pinpoint, but to out-and-out embarrass, parts of our culture that so desperately need embarrassing.

When you think about it, Paris Hilton actually exacted such harm onto our culture: she was, after all, the even emptier-headed precursor to the currently-reigning Kardashian reality TV empire. She defined a whole era's idea of "sexy" around slim-hipped infantilization, complete with tiny dogs, tiny voices, and wispy blonde hair. She showed lots of little girls an idea of success and femininity rooted almost proudly in apathy and ignorance, in not knowing what's going on and spending money that you never had to make.

I don't mean to say that Paris Hilton of what is, at the end of the day, only my own idea of being a good role model. But it would be nice if she hadn't popularized the vocal-frying, can't-take-you-seriously baby voice. I would have appreciated it if she hadn't so casually played with her own privilege and status. It would have been chill if she hadn't made her babyish, puerile self the standard of sex and desirability for a long time.

After last week's episode of *Saturday Night Live*, I was really disappointed. My roommate and I stayed in and stayed up to watch Donald Trump host the show. I had hoped *SNL*, so storied for satirizing the political and ridiculous, would finally serve Trump, a man I find very hateful, with the very public comeuppance he has

yet to receive. And *SNL*, bless its soul, definitely did not deliver the refined, sharp critique I had hoped for, that I think we all needed. The cast turned in an episode that was, as the *Reporter* staff wrote in our masthead last week, both non-controversial and thoroughly non-funny. The show very much tiptoed around the serious insanity and hurtful invective the Trump campaign centers on. It took an opportunity handed to it on a silver platter, and gave back only two-bit gags. The show didn't go out with a bang, but a whimper.

And that's why Letterman meets Hilton is so important. We've lost the satirical Stephen Colbert, we've lost Jon Stewart, and it would appear that we are slowly, sadly, losing *Saturday Night Live*. Television could be such an important function of public discourse and pointed satire, and I worry that its place for this capacity is flagging. But, we can at least take comfort in Letterman and Hilton. In this brief, shining moment, we had a host and a show who weren't afraid to tangle with the celebrity establishment, who recognized that they were dealing with the ridiculous and were bold enough to treat it so. As I said, I really believe television is the true American art form. And moments like this, like David Letterman sitting down and embarrassing Paris Hilton, show us what TV can do.

Erin Moyer is the Senior Editor. Her email is emoyer1@fandm.edu.

Newest James Bond flick is a "spectre" of what could have been Film has entertaining points, but main villain lacks menace, brilliance

Movie Review
Spectre

By Preman Koshar

I recently saw *Spectre*, the latest James Bond film, at the theaters. I am, perhaps, a poor choice of a reviewer for this movie, as I have only ever seen one other James Bond flick: *Goldfinger*. And that was several years ago. But, nonetheless, I decided that *Spectre* looked intriguing, and went to the theaters last weekend. *Spectre*, directed by Sam Mendes, follows 007 (Daniel Craig) on an international adventure to discover who is behind the insidious organization that has been manipulating the world, as well as Bond's personal life, for decades. Much drama ensues, of course: bullets fly, ladies swoon, and James Bond exercises his license to kill liberally all within the first five minutes. I was even beginning to consider a career in the special forces before I remembered that this was a work of borderline ridiculous fiction.

The acting was decent; Daniel Craig continuing to portray a capable and stoic Bond with a good sense of humor. Léa Seydoux played the main female lead, Madeleine Swann, the "Bond girl," very well, but I didn't appreciate her abrupt change in tone from independent woman to seduced maiden halfway through. She was a stronger character than that, and while I understand that this is a Bond film, she could have been so much more—perhaps they will expand her character in future films.

The score was great—it was filled with the classic Bond theme and en-

hanced by newer songs and effects, such as the opening sequence song written specifically for this film by Sam Smith. The dialogue was okay. There were quite a few stereotypical action-y lines that could have been improved, but also a notable amount of well-written humor injected into the right places at the right times. The plot was what was most disappointing, however, and it is really a shame it didn't live up to the other aspects of the film.

James Bond is supposedly unmasking the leader of *Spectre*, the most dangerous and powerful organization in the world, and yet he infiltrates their meeting with surprising ease. The arch nemesis, Blofeld (Christoph Waltz), is not nearly as brilliant or calculating or terrifying as he should be—this is the man who is "the author of all of [James Bond's] pain" after all. He's just not that menacing or brilliant. And, without giving away too much, the whole issue of *Spectre* is never really resolved. Sure, some people die and some people are apprehended, but

James Bond doesn't even consider going after the organization as a whole. Perhaps this is because it would be ridiculous for one man—no matter how many zeros are in his name—to be able to take down an organization that has infiltrated every aspect of society.

In the end, James Bond accomplishes very little and instead seems to pursue personal vendettas more than world saving. In this regard he ultimately seems a bit shallow and narrow-minded, which would have been okay if the film had made it clear that this was going to be resolved in later movies, but instead it suggests that a resolution might be within sight, which seemed foolhardy to me at best.

Sophomore Preman Koshar is the Arts & Entertainment Editor. His email is pkoshar@fandm.edu.

Review Rating:

B

Spectre has strong action, but poor characters and plot development.

Another season of 76ers basketball has begun in Philadelphia. Read more below...



photo courtesy of logodesignlove.com

Franklin & Marshall Sports

Philadelphia 76ers begin season with another sad start

BY JOE GIORDANO
Staff Writer

The beginning of this basketball season has seen the return of a familiar headline for Philadelphia sports fans: the Sixers are winless. After starting a deplorable 0-17 last season, the team has once again begun its season with a 0-10 start. While the team

seems to be improving in certain areas, such as the defensive end, they seem to be stuck in quicksand in others. Now, a few years into the rebuilding phase, one has to wonder: are the Sixers moving in the right direction or did general manager Sam Hinkie run this team into the ground?

When Sam Hinkie arrived as

GM, he began to undertake a process of stripping the team of its assets and beginning to stockpile draft picks. While this seems like a good plan at the surface, there are several issues with its premise. First, Hinkie began to get rid of players the fans enjoyed watching and put together a team that had no business being on a

basketball court, let alone in the NBA. Hinkie traded fan favorites Jrue Holiday and Evan Turner, among others, for draft picks and the “tanking” began.

With a team lacking stars or wins, fan interest is quickly dwindling. Especially in a city so loyal to its sports teams, Philadelphia fans aren’t going to be disrespected and support a team that has absolutely no chance of winning. Every single time the team seemed to turn a corner, Hinkie would trade away a key piece. Michael Carter-Williams, Thad Young, and KJ McDaniels come to mind as players the Sixers would seemingly want in their rebuilding process in order to build young stars around.

However, it was decided that these draft picks were more important to their future than these already-established solid players. Despite their always-high place in the draft, the front office always seemed to “waste” picks. Their acquisitions of Nerlens Noel (who would play zero games his rookie year), Joel Embiid (who has yet to play a game for the team), and Dario Saric (who has not yet come from Turkey to play on the team) seemed to be terrible picks and truly dismissed fans’ intelligence when they adamantly claimed they were not losing on purpose.

While the Sixers organization seems to be in shambles, there are some bright spots for fans to look forward to. The selection of former Duke center Jahlil Okafor (who is averaging 19 points per game through his first 10 games) has given the fans some sense of hope that maybe he is the guy they can build a franchise around. The question now becomes: are the Sixers still a salvageable product or are they too far gone?

While I believe building a losing culture is a dangerous path to take, the Sixers aren’t done yet. With lots of debuts yet to take place such as the aforementioned Embiid and Saric, the surging Noel and Okafor, and a projected top five pick in the upcoming draft have the Sixers trajectory on the rise. Whether Sam Hinkie’s methods have worked or not, this young group of players will give Philadelphia everything they have.



photo courtesy of www.sportsillustrated.com

Pictured above is one of the Philadelphia 76ers’ undrafted rookies, Christian Wood. The 20 year-old from UNLV is out to prove that he belongs in the NBA. The team is currently winless, but there is plenty to be positive about. However, the process is in question.



photo courtesy of www.sportsillustrated.com

Shown above is general manager of the Philadelphia 76ers, Sam Hinkie pictured with Croatian draft pick Dario Saric. Hinkie is attempting to revolutionize the way that the Sixers run their organization, and find a way to accumulate enough assets to win games.

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