

The Trinity Tripod

-ESTABLISHED 1904-

“Scribere Aude!”

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Volume CXV
Number V

Board of Trustees

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MANAGING EDITOR

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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Chartwells Employees Protest Food Outsourcing

JAY PARK '22
NEWS EDITOR

During the spring semester of the 2018-2019 academic year, Trinity College's dining services provider—Chartwells—announced their intention to outsource the production of their “Grab and Go” options (otherwise known as “Outtakes”) to New Jersey and New York. Outtakes is the brand of pre-made food products, such as sandwiches and salads, sold in the Bistro, the Cave, and Mather Hall. Unite Here Local 217, the union which counts many employees of Trinity Dining Services as members, has objected to this decision, claiming that these products have been produced in-house for over 15 years without issue.

The union indicated that Chartwells made this outsourcing decision because the New Jersey and New York facilities can better assure that their products are allergen-free. However, according to Lead Union Steward for Local 217 at Trinity College Nene

Villegas, the in-house production can, and has been providing these food items with the same level of diligence concerning allergens.

Villegas spoke with the *Tripod* and contends that the real reason behind Chartwells' outsourcing is in the interest of “saving money,” which comes at the expense of Local 217 Union members.

Villegas has stated that the union has negotiated “in good faith” with Chartwells to keep the production in-house because “the quality of the product was better in-house.” Villegas continued, noting that the union is “trying to keep production here because it is faster and not made in another state” and because “the students deserve freshly prepared food.”

Despite continued union objection to their proposal, Chartwells outsourced production in late September of this semester.

see CHARTWELLS on page 3

Trinity Rowing Takes Head of the Charles



TRINITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Men's rowing performed well at the Head of the Charles in Boston. Story on the back page.

EAC Barnyard Hosts Annual Trintoberfest

Over the past weekend, Trinity College Entertainment Activities Council (EAC) Barnyard hosted its annual Trintoberfest.

The event had beer,

pretzels, and other festive foods to commemorate the month of October. Pictured below is several members of EAC Barnyard, who planned the event.



ALI ODERMANN '21

EAC Barnyard (members pictured above) planned the Trintoberfest event.

Death's Brother Shown at Austin Arts

The department of Theater and Dance presented *Death's Brother* (*A Hair Piece*) adapted from *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller.

The show, directed by Mitch Polin, featured Caroline Bacon '23, Megan Bodmer '23, Daish-

ly Diaz '21, Nayantara Ghosh '22, Kayla Killiebrew '23, David Marottolo '22, and Nicole Saltzman '22, featuring stage manager Jingpei Wang '22 and assistant stage manager Cameron Cortes '22.

Congrats to all students involved in this production!



JOHN ATASHIAN/OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Death's Brother at Austin Arts Center is based, in part, on Arthur Miller's play.

The Trinity Tripod

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"Scribere Aude!"

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The Trinity Tripod has been published by the students of Trinity College since 1904. Its staff members are committed to the reporting and distribution of news and ideas that are relevant to the College community. The *Tripod* is published weekly on Tuesdays during the academic year. Student subscription is included in the Student Activities Fee (SAF). For non-students looking to subscribe, a one-semester subscription costs \$10.00 and a one-year subscription costs \$20.00. Please address all correspondence to:

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The Trinity Tripod is always looking for student contributions in photography, writing, and graphic design. Anyone interested in joining the *Tripod* can email tripod@trincoll.edu. Additionally, all members of the community are invited to our meetings, which are held **Sundays at 7 p.m.** at our office in the basement of Jackson Hall.

All requests for advertisement placement in the *Tripod* can be found by consulting the newspaper's business manager at tripodads@trincoll.edu. Additionally, our website holds information regarding standard rates for advertisements.

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CORRECTIONS

Tripod Editorial

A Note on Anonymity in the *Tripod*

Throughout recent years, many students have reached out to the *Tripod* asking to submit articles, typically opinion pieces, anonymously. The most common reason we see that students wish to write without attaching their name to an article is fear of being associated with an especially controversial opinion. Because of this, our official editorial policy is to never accept anonymous opinion pieces, unless an extensive, legitimate explanation is provided. What constitutes this "legitimate explanation" is at the discretion of the Editorial Board. For this week's issue, the *Tripod* chose to run an opinion piece on the Hong Kong/China crisis, and took the author's assertion that, as a Chinese citizen, he and his family would potentially be put in danger if a name was attached to the piece. This is one of the few cases where the *Tripod* has allowed an anonymous opinion piece and the decision was made on the crux of this question of safety.

While the policy of a "legitimate explanation" may turn on the whims of the extant staff, its spirit attempts to transcend that limitation. When an opinion enters the realm of inciting potentially vi-

olent retribution, great care and editorial discretion is required in the consideration of its publication. The *Tripod's* decision to run this anonymous opinion is not made lightly. Rather, it is the summation of countless discussions with the author of the piece and a thorough vetting of their reasoning for anonymity that resulted in the ultimate decision. This is not an arbitrary decision either: we exercise journalistic prudence in deciding what to publish. Exceptions are rare, precisely as the literal definition suggests.

The policies that dictate newspaper publication play an important role in how a newspaper is run, and the *Tripod* is no exception. However, with a constantly changing staff as well as complete turnover every four years, it can be extremely difficult to decipher and decide what policy and rules are set in stone for the paper. In coming years, the *Tripod* aims to move in the direction of peer publications such as *The Bowdoin Orient* and *The Williams Record*, which have established extensive policies available on their respective websites. These editorial policies cover how meetings are run, how corrections are made,

ethical practice and all aspects of running a newspaper. They set a standard for how an incoming staff can operate as well as a guidebook to default on when questions of anonymity, as here, come into play. As the *Tripod* begins work on this process, we invite all comments and suggestions from members of the community to provide stability to the process of printing our paper for years to come.

This week's anonymous piece is about a sensitive topic, written by a student genuinely concerned for their safety in their home country. To make certain that all opinions can be heard on campus, we wanted to give this student the opportunity to contribute their voice to ongoing political conversations on a topic of importance to all. In the coming months, we would love to see increasingly different and varying ideas represented in our opinion section, and truly encourage everyone who is inclined to write and present an argument to submit to the *Tripod*. It's as easy as sending an email to tripod@trincoll.edu or going to trinitytripod.com.

-GMR

Want to write for the
Tripod?

Join the conversation by
emailing tripod@trincoll.edu
or
visiting our website,
trinitytripod.com.

Letter to the Editor

Campus Safety Responds to Trinity Security Concerns

My job is to do all I can to keep this campus and every member of the Trinity community safe. That's a responsibility I take very seriously, and it's work that I do in partnership with all of you, with local law enforcement, area residents and organizations, and, of course, my team in the Department of Campus Safety and our contractor, Securitas.

It was particularly distressing when we experienced two significant incidents on campus recently, a robbery on Sept. 12 and a burglary on Sept. 17. Today, I write to you to provide you with updates and information on both of those cases and to reiterate our dedication to keeping Trinity a safe place in which to learn, live, and work.

First, updates on the cases. In the robbery, two of the three individuals involved were apprehended immediately, while the third is still being sought. The sole offender in the campus burglary was identified the same day as the

incident through the cooperative efforts of Campus Safety and the Hartford Police Department (HPD). The police are moving forward with their work to hold those involved in both incidents accountable. While it was unsettling to have two such incidents occur on campus in less than a week's time, I ask that you consider these incidents in the broader context of an entire calendar year. In fact, over the last several years, Hartford has experienced a decrease in crime in virtually every recorded category. Further, the events that occurred on our campus occur in similar frequency at other colleges and universities. That said, we should not ignore the fact that these occurrences were highly concerning, and appropriate strategies should be implemented to ensure to the best of our abilities that they do not recur.

Based upon my decades of experience in law enforcement at the Hartford Police Department, I have

learned that addressing criminal activity is not only challenging, but can be viewed typically as a moving target. Often when criminal activity is addressed in one area, it can simply move to another. The occurrence and selection of our campus as the scene of these recent incidents, then, may have been influenced by factors well beyond our boundaries.

Nonetheless, I have met with administrators of the college and members of my department's leadership team to strategize our current and future deployment of personnel. We have historically worked with the HPD to develop strategies based on observed crime patterns or in conjunction with large community events such as the Hartford Marathon, Pope Park Festival, and various parades, to mention a few.

We maintain frequent communication with HPD's Community Service Officers who are assigned to the south end of Hartford. We have maintained

the presence of a Hartford Police officer on our campus each weekend to be a visible presence on campus and to accelerate any necessary police response. These efforts will continue. In addition, we are part of the Southside Institution Neighborhood Alliance (SINA) safety committee that works with citizens and businesses to stabilize and improve the Frog Hollow neighborhood.

Internally, we have shifted personnel to areas that we believe warrant increased coverage given recent salient events. Further, I encourage you to use Trinity's shuttles and Campus Safety's walking escorts after dark. The department operates the off-campus shuttle 7 days a week from 5:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. and contracts with Dattco bus services to provide the on-campus shuttle Sunday through Thursday from 6:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., and Thursday through Saturday from 8:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m.

Finally, we need all

community members to use best practices for safety, for your own sake and that of the whole campus. Closing exterior doors behind you, closing and locking windows and safety screens, not propping doors - no matter how inconvenient, ensuring that your personal effects remain secured and out of sight, and being aware of your surroundings are a few of the strategies I recommend. As we work cooperatively to safeguard our community, I assure you that the Campus Safety Department will continue to hear your concerns, welcome your suggestions, and remain nimble and proactive in our deployment and responsiveness to the security needs of the college.

-Director of Campus Safety Brian Heaven

Tripod Editorial

Women at the Summit: Do We Celebrate Coeducation?

As Trinity recognizes 50 years of coeducation, the College has promoted a series of events marketed as "Women at the Summit." Programming has involved panels, guest speakers, and celebrations throughout campus and the world. My experience at Trinity and experience as a woman has been closely entwined. Before ever beginning classes as a first-year, I was a participant in in Venture, a pre-orientation program designed with women's leadership in mind.

I benefited greatly from being so closely and quickly connected to a network of women at Trinity, a resource I hope every female student has access to today.

In the midst of our celebrations as a community, I recognize that Trinity has a lot to commemorate regarding this historic occasion. The College has made significant strides in enrolling and supporting women. I'm incredibly grateful for the various women on campus I have regarded as leaders and role models. Because of this, I have at-

tended many of the "Women at the Summit" events to learn more about this anniversary at Trinity and recently attended one entitled, "Women in Leadership: A Conversation with President Joanne Berger Sweeney and Board Chair Cornie Thornburgh '80."

The conversation between the two women was especially significant, as Trinity is the first NES-CAC school with both a woman president and board chair of the College. The two women spoke perceptively about their experiences as leaders, and how Trinity has changed and grown since making the decision to embrace coeducation fifty years ago.

To contribute to the conversation, moderator of the event Sarah Cody '95 asked about student leadership at Trinity. The two panelists named two female students. Cody, who was excited to talk about her connection to the *Tripod* when she was a student, asked if the paper was today run by a woman.

President Berger-Sweeney

didn't know, so she guessed and suggested that the editor-in-chief of the *Tripod* was one of the staff's managing editors, a man.

I (Gillian) am the editor-in-chief of the *Tripod* and I have been since the fall of 2017, taking one semester off to study abroad between then and now. Despite this, the male students on the *Tripod* staff collectively receive more associations, correspondence, and questions for editor-in-chief of the *Tripod* than I do any given week of the academic year. For a long time, I blamed this community-wide lack of association for editor-in-chief of the *Tripod* on entirely myself—I wasn't outgoing enough or I didn't do enough work to promote the school newspaper.

When I initially joined the *Tripod* editorial board as a first-year, I was working with mostly male editors, typically older than me. It was extremely intimidating to help on production nights or voice my opinion on articles. However, this gave me

the opportunity to learn a lot about leadership and self-confidence during my time at the *Tripod*.

Throughout the celebrations of coeducation, I have noticed that there is a lack of recognition for student leadership on campus. Many of the student leaders on campus are women. They are leaders of sports teams, political clubs, cultural organizations, *a capella* groups, just to name a few. They are accomplishing impressive things that are changing our campus for the better.

As I attend each "Women at the Summit" event, I see many of the same faces in the audience and many of the same people recognized as leaders. I fear that by calling these students "women leaders," we are losing recognition of their accomplishments.

Additionally, if Trinity only recognizes one or two student leaders and one or two administrative leaders who are women throughout this celebration, while there are dozens of notable women on

campus accomplishing important goals, I fear we are doing the mission of coeducation a disservice.

Today, the staff of the *Tripod* is still majority male. Many members of the Trinity community still assume that the person in charge of the paper is a man. These are all personal indicators to me that there remain strides to be undertaken in this celebration of coeducation. As we commemorate this occasion, it is important to keep in mind the obstacles women still face at Trinity.

Today, I am happy to work with male students who redirect *Tripod* correspondence to me or shout out to correct President Berger-Sweeney. For this historic occasion at the College, it is crucial to move past the idea of noting "women leaders" and instead highlight the work of many "leaders who are women."

-GMR

Board of Trustees Hold Annual Fall Meeting over Weekend; Curriculum, Facilities Addressed

BRENDAN CLARK '21
MANAGING EDITOR

The Trinity College Board of Trustees held their fall meeting this past weekend, addressing a myriad of issues facing the College presently and in the coming years. The Board was also in attendance at Trinity's Wall of Honor Induction Ceremony on Friday, Oct. 20, which recognizes the considerable philanthropic gifts many alumni/alumnae and business associations have made throughout history in support of Trinity.

The Board, which meets three times during the academic year, as well as for a Board retreat in May, convened on Thursday, Oct. 17 and concluded their meetings on Saturday, Oct. 19. Chair of the Board of Trustees Cornelia P. Thornburgh '80 spoke with the *Tripod* before the meeting, adding that key topics of discussion included "enrollment and student issues, the faculty's new curricular revision proposal, and the forthcoming capital campaign." Thornburgh added that "as with any campaign, you don't get all the money at once," but stressed that the con-

tinued planning discussions are critical to the execution of a successful campaign. The campaign is a "critical one" for the College and Thornburgh stated that the "Board is excited to oversee it."

Several members of the college's Curriculum Committee also presented at the Board meeting on Oct. 18, where they discussed the curricular revision proposal that has been presented to the faculty and solicited feedback from Board members on the proposal. Saturday's meeting was reserved for "setting goals and future agenda items for the board," added Thornburgh.

Thornburgh also stated that facilities needs would be a topic of discussion at the Board meeting, with special attention afforded to the "heating system and its continued repairs." Thornburgh continued that the gradual replacement of the heating system would be completed "over a period of time" and would likely require the "issuance of public debt" to finance the project.

The 2019 Wall of Honor Ceremony, which took place on Friday in front of the Fuller Arch, saw

the following individuals and organizations recognized: Roberta P. and Raymond J. Beech, Suzanne d'Harcourt Hooper and Michael C. Huebsch, the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at the African Leadership Academy, Shuk Kuen Cheung and Bun Chak Poon, Donald E. Scott, and William B. Tyree and Kathryn George Tyree. Thornburgh added that this ceremony recognizes that it is important "not only to ask for gifts for the College, but to celebrate them as well."

The Board also inducted new trustees this weekend who were appointed in July, including Eric Estes '91, John S. Gates, Jr. '76, Jeffrey B. Hawkins '92, and Kelli Harrington Tomlinson '94.

The thirty-one Charter Trustees, together with the Funston Trustee, are charged with "preserving Trinity's mission." President of the College Joanne Berger-Sweeney and President of the Trinity College Alumni Association also serve on the board in an ex-officio capacity. Thornburgh stated that the "Board's role is not to manage, but to inquire and ask questions."

Chartwells Workers Protest Against Food Production

continued from page one

An immediate repercussion of the outsourcing of production has been the loss of four dining service employees at Trinity College, added Villegas. While the employees did not lose their jobs, they were "bumped" to other positions and have assumed work that diverges from their previous assignments. Villegas maintains that these employees have "lost what they had done for a long time."

Local 217 has most recently escalated this issue to arbitration, a form of alternative dispute resolution, with the legally binding decision being made by

a third-party "arbitrator." The union is seeking the return of preparation and production of the grab-and-go options to Trinity's in-house facilities. Along with the arbitration, the Chartwells labor relations management has been in contact with the union's labor relations master to facilitate this arbitration. The union expects to receive this decision between November and December, 2019.

The *Tripod* also reached out to Director of Dining Services at Trinity College Martin Turcotte, as well as Resident District Manager of Chartwells Paul Vermeal, but did not get a comment prior to publication.

The College Campus Safety Report

Tuesday, Oct. 15
On-Campus Dorm

Sex offense (rape). Referred to Title IX coordinator.

Tuesday, Oct. 15
Near 76 Vernon (Campus Safety)

Vandalism on walkway.

Sunday, Oct. 13
Funston

Stalking on campus.

Saturday, Oct. 12
122 Vernon Street (AD)

Burglary/larceny.

Intercollegiate Update: News on Nearby Campuses

The 2019 College Admissions Scandal

Lifetime Television Channel will release a made-for-TV movie about the recent college admissions scandal featuring celebrities Lori Loughlin and Felicity Huffman. The scandal has shaped the world of college admissions, and has begun important conversations about privilege and prestige in the admissions process.

While the two actresses are not mentioned in the film, Trinity College is. In a scene of the movie where the mastermind behind the scandal meets with a prospective college freshman, the student in question admits that her SAT scores and GPA are not up to par with Yale University, her dream school where her boyfriend attends.

"Realistically, if I want to be near my boyfriend, should I just be going for Trinity?" she asks, to the horror of her mother.

"Don't give me heart attacks, and don't sell yourself short," the mother in the film responds.

Brown University

In October, Brown University found the fraternity Sigma Chi guilty of hazing and alcohol violations, according to the *Brown Daily Herald*. In a College-sponsored investigation, the College was found guilty of "misrepresenting information and violating University operational rules."

Brown confirmed the suspension to the *Herald* for the next five years, lasting until 2024. Meanwhile, members of Sigma Chi are ineligible to join any other Greek organization at Brown. The fraternity did not take the steps to appeal the decision, and will not be holding activities either on or off campus.

Sigma Chi is not the first organization at Brown to receive suspension. The Buxton International House lost privileges in January 2019 for unauthorized possession of alcohol, according to the *Herald*. Sigma Chi has been at Brown since 1914.

Tufts University

Tufts University recently made the decision to keep its Confucius Institute agreement. The educational collaboration between Tufts and Beijing Normal University in China has existed at the College since 2015 and focuses on Chinese language and culture education, according to the *Tufts Daily News*.

Tufts was urged by Congressman Seth Moulton (D-MA) to disassociate with the Institute because of its funding provided by the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. Moulton argued that the organization "undermines human rights by shaping the perception of the Chinese on issues such as Tibetan independence, China's relation with Taiwan and the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre." In the *Daily*, a Tibetan-identifying student at Tufts expressed her concerns.

Despite the debates, Tufts will continue its association with the Confucius Institute as of October.

OPINION

Despite Resistance, Vaccines Important for Public Health

ELEANNA DAVOS '20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the last 10 years, there has been a great uptick in the number of people who have become vocal on not vaccinating their children. While the majority of their claims are unfounded and unsupported, this movement is now becoming a danger to society. Being a parent means doing what is best for your child, following the guidance of physicians and specialists of those who are smarter and more knowledgeable than you.

So why is it that now parents have taken it upon themselves to withhold proper care and decide on behalf of their children? They will not be vaccinated with no reason other than they think (with no medical background) that vaccines will harm their child. There are two schools of thought presented in the anti-vax movement: that vaccines lead to further health complications, some irreversible, and that vaccines are not an effective method. Rather, children should be exposed

to the hazards in their environment and will build their immune system that way.

In an ideal world, I suppose parents could do whatever they want to harm their child with no repercussions to society. Considering that is not possible, we need to put this entire movement into perspective and understand that parents making these uneducated cavalier decisions are not only selfish and unintelligent, they are putting other children at risk. One parent's mindless decision not to properly care for their child is not just a disservice to their own child. They are putting other children around them at risk and in danger on behalf of their own reckless decision.

Immunity is the body's way of preventing disease. When a baby is born, his/her immune system is not fully developed, which can put him/her at greater risk for infections. Vaccines reduce a child's risk of infection by working with his/her body's natural defenses to help safely develop immunity to disease. The vast majority of parents in the Unit-

ed States fully vaccinate their children according to the recommended immunization schedule. Forgoing vaccinations creates a risk of contracting diseases. It also creates risk to communities and vulnerable groups of people who cannot be vaccinated because of their age or health status.

To put this into perspective, many vaccines are unable to be given to newborns, such as the measles vaccine, which is recommended at 12-15 months of age, leaving young children vulnerable. Many diseases are particularly dangerous for young children. There are also some children who can't be vaccinated, such as pediatric cancer patients who are undergoing chemotherapy or radiation treatment. These children are at increased risk of serious complications or even death. Vaccines are not just about protecting your child. Vaccines protect other children and the entire community. Vaccine-preventable diseases (with the exception of tetanus) are spread from person to person. The decision of a parent

to not vaccinate their child can endanger other children and vulnerable people.

Measles has been at the forefront of the anti-vax movement, even though measles has been largely controlled because most people get the very safe and very effective vaccine. We are now seeing dangerous new outbreaks because some parents are refusing vaccines for their children. There have been repeated measles outbreaks in the United States – such as the Disneyland outbreak, among six others this year – because of communities where too many parents refuse the vaccine. To make matters worse, parents are now lying on school registration forms, stating and verifying that their child has been vaccinated just to enroll their child, while keeping the fact that by enrolling their child hundreds of other children are now at risk. Vaccines are not just about protecting your child. Vaccines protect other children and the entire community. Vaccine-preventable diseases are spread

from person to person.

The common cold at Trinity spreads like wildfire. Imagine what would happen if people were attending with no form of immunizations, making them perfect targets for diseases and illnesses that we have otherwise protected ourselves from. Communities depend on high immunization rates to keep vaccine-preventable diseases from spreading. When more people are immunized, there is less risk for everyone. The more parents that choose to not vaccinate their children, the greater the risk that infection will spread in the community. The consequences of contracting major illness are not harmless. Measles can cause brain swelling, which can lead to brain damage or death. Mumps can cause permanent deafness. Meningitis can also lead to permanent deafness or brain damage. Vaccines are not a guarantee protector, but they do provide us with the added defensive shield from these illness that we otherwise wouldn't have.

Hong Kong, China, and the Meaning of Democracy

In the past four months, the protests in Hong Kong have been reported on the news all across world. The declining “Financial Center of Asia” has been blemished by violence and chaos. Caused by the controversial Extradition Bill with concerns that it would further deteriorate the autonomy and the self-governance of Hong Kong (HK), a quarter of the population took to the streets and protested. The protesters were still not satisfied after the withdrawal of the bill and asked the HK government to fulfill the so called “five demands,” which were essentially asking the government for the implementation of universal suffrage, amnesty for arrested protesters, and an independent probe into the police use of force. The HK pro-democracy protest attracts attention from around the world and particularly democracies in the West. The slogan “Stand with Hong Kong! Fight for Freedom” has been widely used by people and politicians who are supportive of the HK protesters and consider the protest to be a democratic movement. Almost

everyone in the West, ranging from college newspaper editors to the general manager of the Houston Rockets, has been posting and pronouncing the slogan “Stand with Hong Kong” as if this is a new global trend in which everyone wants to take part.

It's not surprising that the West is obsessed with this slogan, because the Hong Kong crisis from their point of view is simple: pro-democracy protests, good; authoritarian China, bad. I bet most of them who chanted/typed vehemently “Stand with HK” online know nothing of the nuances and facets of the crisis itself. There is a clear social cleavage between the younger and older generation in terms of their attitudes towards the HK government and China, a cleavage which has been forming in Hong Kong for decades. Contrasted with older generations, (some of whom fled to Hong Kong when the Communists took over China in 1949, who also enjoyed economic prosperity of HK in the 1970s and 1980s) the younger generation was disillusioned about their future not only because of

exorbitant housing prices, social immobility and income disparity, but also due to the fact that the economic power of mainland China has surpassed that of Hong Kong to certain extents. The feeling of despair of young people was also exacerbated by the fact that the Chief Executive of Hong Kong was elected not by the popular vote, but rather by a 400-member “Election Committee” whose members are disproportionately from the business and elite classes. Most of them favor pro-Beijing and business interest in the Legislative Council.

I'm not here trying to defend the HK and the Chinese government in any way. The HK government and its executive, on one hand, are responsible for their failure to directly address these problems by alleviating income disparity and providing more affordable housing for the growing young population. It's Carrie Lam's, the current Chief Executive, fault for refusing to withdraw the extradition bill immediately after a quarter of the HK population marched on the

street. And, it's her fault for fooling herself into saying that the majority of HK people support the bill. The Chinese government, on the other hand, used the common tactic of censorship and pivoting public attention and rhetoric by scapegoating U.S. and the Western powers for their “interferences in HK anti-extradition bill marching.” The Chinese government and media also delegitimize protesters by describing them as “young losers.” These tactics only escalate the crisis and hinder the real efforts to address the underlying issues that drive these young people to get on the street in the first place. As someone who is from China and came to study in the U.S., I'm a student of democracy and I believe there is nothing wrong if the people of Hong Kong demand the change of electoral rules for universal suffrage; however, when political issues like universal suffrage in HK cannot be solved in the foreseeable future, the least the HK government can do is to come up with real concrete policies to fix these issues.

The Chinese government should keep its promises by keeping its hands off Hong Kong because it backfires every time the Chinese government attempts to meddle with Hong Kong's autonomy.

The Hong Kong Crisis is far more complex than the simple binary nature of democracy vs. autocracy. Not all protesters are committing vandalism, nor are all police officers “beanbag-gun-wielding” as claimed in a *Tripod* article from Sept. 10, 2019. A world where people are more inclined to adhere to their own comfort zone has been flooded with sensational headlines. Now more than ever, it is important for college students to reject the tendency towards oversimplification and actually think in a non-binary, and multifaceted manner about international incidents.

The author of this piece expressed to the Tripod that they need to publish anonymously due to fear of retaliation from the Chinese government when they return home for winter break.

Trump's Foreign Policy: Finding a Recipe for Peace

ETHAN YANG '20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I'm going to be honest – in 2016 I, along with countless other college students, thought the election of President Trump was going to lead the nation into something akin to World War Three. I was wrong and now I think Trump's foreign policy in the Middle East has been, by far, the best of any president in recent history.

Granted that's not saying much considering the Obama administration failed in its promise to bring our troops home and then proceeded to bomb Libya back into the stone age, creating a civil war. George W. Bush, in 2001, brought the country into what's become a never-ending war in the Middle East. Over 500,000 individuals have died as a result of US involvement post 9/11, we have spent trillions of taxpayer dollars, and both sides of the political spectrum are only calling for more bloodshed.

Of all people, Trinity alum Tucker Carlson is probably one of the biggest

critics of these wars, not CNN or MSNBC. The fact that the mainstream media and the foreign policy establishment are so quick to attack proponents of peace is absolutely shameful.

Today, the biggest thing in the news is the removal of 50 US troops from the Syrian-Turkish border. The controversy is that those troops were essential to keeping stability in the region and preventing a Turkish massacre of the Kurdish militia, our allies.

I do concede that a hasty pullout would be questionable. That was, until the Trump administration secured a ceasefire for our Kurdish allies to retreat.

Furthermore, there will always be a reason to be anywhere, whether it is "weapons of mass destruction" in Iraq, ISIS in Syria, or every single human rights violation in every part of the world. However, let's not get distracted from the broader issue: US involvement in the region has caused the carnage and instability that exist today.

Further, the United States has no clear inter-

ests in continuing to send our men and women in uniform into harm's way – to fight and die in a region most of us can't point to on a map. According to the Watson Institute at Brown University, there have been over 21 million refugees that have been created, 5.9 trillion dollars spent since 9/11, and an appalling list of human rights violations, all due to US incursion in the Middle East. If we can barely trust our government to run the country here at home, why would we even think about nation-building in the Middle East? Saddam Hussein, Muammar Gaddafi, and Bashar Al-Assad are all awful men and brutal dictators, but our wars have been more destructive than they could have ever hoped to be.

Taking a more reserved stance on foreign policy is putting America first, no matter your political stance. The national debt is soaring over 22 trillion dollars, and the Pew Research Center reports that 393 billion dollars are owed for this year's

interest payments alone. Along with this shocking figure, the US government has greenlighted a defense budget of 684 billion dollars for 2019 and 738 billion dollars for 2020. For context, these figures are greater than the next seven countries combined, dwarfing our rivals China and Russia.

These wars leave us with no money for ourselves and are a betrayal to the taxpayer. Yet it seems like few Democratic presidential candidates are speaking out and even fewer are standing with the President's decision. Free public college, for example, would cost 79 billion dollars a year according to the Department of Education, entirely feasible if we reformed our foreign policy.

Keeping tens of thousands of troops in the Middle East and even more all around the world is not building a better American infrastructure. It's time to take the money wasted on bloodshed and invest it here at home, or better yet, to not take it from the

taxpayer to begin with.

The words of George Washington say it best. In Tocqueville's legendary book, *Democracy in America*, Tocqueville cites a letter Washington wrote to advocate for a more reserved foreign policy. The letter reads, "Why quit our own to stand on foreign ground? Why, by intertwining our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, rivalry, interest, humor or caprice?"

Washington was referring to the tumultuous and unstable situation in continental Europe that many wanted the US to intervene in. Sound familiar? The feuds and conflicts in the Middle East and around the world are seldom our problem. Most of the time our actions make things worse. Our birthright as Americans and our gift to the world is the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Waging endless wars prevents us from guaranteeing any of those rights. Let's bring our soldiers home.

Psychedelics: The Future of Mental Health Treatment

DANIEL NESBITT '22
OPINION EDITOR

As many of us are aware, there is currently a mental health crisis in our generation. Across almost all demographic measures, rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation are increasing at an alarming pace. While there are a myriad of ways to go about addressing this problem,

ibogaine, LSD, MDMA ("ecstasy"), mescaline, and psilocybin (found in magic mushrooms), as well as derivatives and analogues of these substances.

In recent years, however, more researchers have begun to explore the effects of psychedelic treatment on anxiety and depression, in addition to substance abuse. One of the most promising psychedelics

dose of psilocybin, around 60% of patients were no longer clinically depressed or anxious, and 80% experienced reduced symptoms of depression and anxiety. These findings are simply astonishing, indicating that psilocybin could be more effective than typical SSRIs like Zoloft or Prozac, but without the common major adverse side effects. In addition, there have been some studies indicating that psilocybin, in conjunction with cognitive behavioral therapy, helps with smoking cessation and alcohol dependency. It is important to note that more studies must be conducted before definitive conclusions can be drawn as there are very few studies so far, and all have relatively small sample sizes.

While psilocybin currently has the largest body of research among psychedelics, there are others that show great promise as well, namely DMT (ayahuasca) and LSD. For the treatment of depression and anxiety, the literature, though limited at this point, indicates that both drugs could help produce positive outcomes,

much like psilocybin. One LSD study found that participants, even a year after treatment, showed greatly decreased anxiety

native to methadone. Furthermore, a 2018 study found that "ibogaine was associated with substantive effects on opioid with-

"Psychedelic drugs have enormous potential for combating mental illness and addiction."

"While there are myriad ways to go about addressing this problem, one of the most effective and promising possible remedies is psychedelics."

one of the most effective and promising possible remedies is psychedelics.

Unfortunately, in the late 1960s, the FDA developed extremely strict regulations, hampering research for decades to come. Currently, there are many psychedelics classified as Schedule I controlled substances under the Controlled Substances Act of 1971. Some examples include DMT (sometimes referred to as ayahuasca),

so far is psilocybin. While the volume of literature is still relatively small due to the illegality of the drug itself, study after study has found promising results. For example, a 2016 study of cancer patients found that five weeks after taking a high dose of psilocybin, patients showed statistically significant improvements on a number of medical depression/anxiety scales. Furthermore, six months after a high

levels. Further, a recent meta-analysis of studies measuring LSD's effect on alcohol dependency found that LSD nearly doubled the chances of a positive outcome. One 2016 study of patients with major depressive disorder found that treatment of DMT led to, on average, a 50% reduction in symptoms.

Another psychedelic worth mentioning is ibogaine. Most of the research on this psychotropic has focused on its potential role in combating opioid addiction, a crucial field given the current opioid crisis. Multiple studies have found that ibogaine is an effective treatment for opioid dependence, particularly with heroin, and could perhaps be another alter-

drawal symptoms and drug use in subject for whom other treatments had been unsuccessful." Despite these enormously positive effects, ibogaine remains a Schedule I drug under federal law.

Psychedelic drugs have enormous potential for combatting mental illness and addiction, however drug prohibition has impeded these great scientific discoveries. What sets psychedelics apart is that there is very little risk for addiction and negative long-term effects. Through the continuation of prohibition, hundreds of thousands, if not millions of people, are unable to seek promising treatment options. This is why we must end the drug prohibition entirely.

FEATURES

Women at the Summit: WGRAC Then and Now

GILLIAN REINHARD '20
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As part of Women at the Summit: 50 Years of Coeducation at Trinity College, Oct. 2 saw the event WGRAC Then and Now: 1970s to Present, a panel presentation of the history of the Women and Gender Resource Action Center (WGRAC) at Trinity. Panelists included publisher of the MA Thesis "The Evolution of Coeducation at Trinity College" Beth Miller IDP '00 M'03, co-coordinator of the Masculinity Project and president of EROS (Encouraging Respect of Sexualities) Lucemy Perez '21, director of the counseling and wellness center and professor of psychology Randy Lee '66, current director of WGRAC Laura Lockwood M'95, and former director of the Trinity Women's Center (1990-1998) Diane Martell. The panel was moderated by Shakira Ramos Crespo '02 and began with a performance by the Quirks *a capella* group.

The panelists addressed the culture of Trinity and how it is evolved in the fifty years since coeducation. Perez stated that "there is work to be done, but

No Discrimination Seen

Vice-President Advocates Quota

By Tony Piccirillo

"As near as we can tell," through the 1972-73 academic year, there is "no hard evidence of any discrimination against women," at Trinity said vice-president Thomas A. Smith. Smith said he advocates the maintenance of the quota in the absence of this evidence.

Smith, Donald Viering '42, chairman of

Explaining the grounds for maintaining the quota, Smith cited that the college is "still making the transition from a men's college to a coeducational college."

"The college is uncertain of the consequences of any dramatic shift in the enrollment pattern," Smith said, and so should keep a quota on women.

now to run a successful intercollegiate athletic program, he added.

Dulz responded, "quotas are controls over what the student body looks like." The quota at the College accentuates the belief that "men are the first class citizens," she stressed.

Higgins said the purpose of this College is

is necessary to attract prospective freshmen to the College, he added.

Dulz said she views the admissions office as "a gatekeeper." "Admissions gives the College control over who the students are," she added. Dulz also asked, "What are the criteria of who gets to come?"

The College should determine "how

TRINITY TRIPOD

WGRAC is a big factor in changing campus culture for the better." She also concluded that students were taking significant initiative to shift campus culture. Martell spoke about gender relations among the faculty, such as tenure rights for female professors. Lockwood spoke about the increase of support and creation of the Queer Resource Center. Lockwood praised the recent actions of the current administration to recognize the value of women's centers as well as the importance of understanding intersectionality in WGRAC.

To supplement these Women at the Summit events, the *Tripod* found a few articles in the paper's archives regarding women's issues at Trinity since the decision to go to coeducation in 1969.

Board of Fellows

Junior Susan Crimmin's speech concerning the needs of women at Trinity was the center of discussion at the Board of Fellows meeting last Saturday. The board, which consists of alumni, serves as an advisory group to President Lockwood. For their first meeting this fall the board invited two students and two faculty to discuss various aspects of college life and curriculum.

Crimmins spoke about co-education and the needs of woman at Trinity. She maintained that women still feel like an addition to the schools. More women professors needed to provide models for students as well as greater encouragement for women to enter professional fields. Crimmins said.

Chris Seagris, '72, the only woman on the Board, agreed with Crimmins. She said she would not have come to Trinity, if she had known what Trinity coeducation was like.

Mario Poliferno, assistant professor of

mathematics, spoke on behalf of about the Independent Studies Pr Freshman Seminars. He noted that year seemed more academical than before.

Peter Basch, '74, chairman of Executive Committee, (SEC), spoke about the organization and the purpose. He said the SEC was not a figurehead group, but that it handle any student related issue can channel its efforts through committees as well as mail committees such as medical food service, he said.

Lockwood discussed the program and suggested there some changes in the Education and the American Studies program. The board plans to meet November and February.

TRINITY TRIPOD

(Above) In 1973, the Trinity Women's Organization (TWO) sponsored a discussion over gender quotas at Trinity.

(Left) In 1973, a junior at Trinity spoke critically about the role of women at Trinity College.

(Below) In 1972, Susan Avery '74 was elected news editor of the *Tripod*. *Tripod* editor-in-chief Susannah Heschel '73 called for more female participation on the paper.

Tuesday, March 14, 1972

Tripod Elections Held Sunday

TRINITY TRIPOD

Heschel also announced a call for additional women reporters for the *TRIPOD*. She said that only 11 members of the *TRIPOD* staff of 47 are women, less than 25 per cent. Only four of these, she said, are editors or assistant editors. Heschel said she hoped that "those coeds who clamor for greater involvement of women in College affairs" would take "greater interest in writing for the *TRIPOD*."

TRINITY TRIPOD

Why Drive Two and a Half Hours to the Hunt?

GILLIAN REINHARD '20
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"The Hunt" is a ubiquitous aspect of the Trinity social scene. Ask many students or alums and they will tell you that the Hunt refers to the Far Hills charity horse races held annually in New Jersey. What is this event and why do Trinity students drive *en masse* two and a half hours to New Jersey each October?

On Saturday, Oct. 19, Trinity students traveled to New Jersey for the ninety-ninth anniversary of the Far Hills horse race, described by *Daily Mail* as "the place where tens of thousands of raucous revelers party" and by *The New York Post* as a "drunken bro fest."

According to Wikipedia, the event began with a fox hunting event (hence the name, "the Hunt") founded in Montclair, New Jersey in 1870. In 1916, the event moved to Moorland Farms, where

it is still held today. The standout aspect of the Far Hills races is the financial aspect, as the total earnings for the owner of a winning horse can receive up to \$1,000,000.

Today, the Far Hills races is best known for its parties, rather than its horses. *The New York Post* specifies that the tailgate lot is divided into two areas for a crowd reaching up to about 35,000—one for a "younger frat crowd" and another for "Garden State socialites... pouring fine wine into crystal ware." However, as both *The New York Post* and Trinity Instagram pages will clarify, no one is there for the horses.

In a 2016 article, *The New York Post* attempted to trace the origins of the horse race's rise to fame, crediting social media for the influx of attendees in recent years and the rise of #TheHunt.

The winner of the Grand National race was a horse called Brain Power.



NEW YORK POST

Many young attendees (Trinity students not pictured above) of the horse race tailgate do not go to the actual horse race.

Profiling the SGA Members from the Class of 2023

NATALIE SUKHMAN '23
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Student Government Association (SGA) recently held elections for the first-year class at Trinity, the class of 2023. This year, senatorial positions for the incoming class were unopposed, however, there was an election held for the class of 2023 president won by Jason Farrell.

Throughout the year, first-year SGA members serve on various committees and in recent years have organized cookouts and formals.

These profiles are meant to give first-year students and other members of the Trinity community the opportunity to learn more about those representing them in student government.

Adyanna Odom, Senator

Odom is one of four senators for the Class of 2023. She is from Houston, Texas and is interested in majoring in International Studies and Public Policy & Law with a minor in Human Rights Studies. Some of her hobbies include hiking and doing painting by numbers. At Trinity, Odom is involved with La Voz Latina, the Temple Hip Hop Festival, and CONNPirg. She is excited to be at Trinity to experience the multitude of opportunities and meet the cool people who attend. She was inspired to join Trinity's SGA to help foster an environment that students feel like they can succeed in. Some of her goals as a senator include making sure Trinity students have the best quality lives possible on campus. She also hopes to visit all 61 national parks during her lifetime.

Jason Farrell, Class President

Jason Farrell is the President of the Class of 2023. He is from West Hartford, Connecticut and wants to double major in Political Science and Human Rights with a minor in Spanish. Some of Jason's hobbies include playing piano, singing, playing soccer, and running. He is excited to be at Trinity because of the opportunity to meet people from all over the world and encounter many new perspectives. In addition to being a key representative for the Class of 2023 in the Student Government Association (SGA), he is on the track team, sings for the acapella group the Trinity Pipes, and works at the Underground Coffeehouse. Farrell's ambitions include studying abroad in a Spanish-speaking country to improve his language skills and attending law school to become a civil rights attorney. His desire to give the Class of 2023 a louder voice so they all feel like Trinity is a place where they belong led him to join the SGA. This year, as Class President, Jason wants to help make SGA a place that all students feel comfortable to approach and voice their ideas.

Max Norteman, Senator

Norteman is a Class of 2023 senator from North Attleboro, Massachusetts who intends to major in Political Science. A few of his hobbies include rugby, journalism, storytelling, radio, and movies. Some of the activities Max participates in at Trinity are the rugby team, writing for the Trinity Tripod, hosting a podcast, and volunteering at Cinestudio. He loves being a Trinity student because he is surrounded by people who are just as excited to change the world as he is. Norteman joined SGA because he wanted to make sure that everyone's voices are heard, all while continuing to make Trinity a safe and comfortable campus for all. One of his goals is to write a weekly column/biography on the facility and food service staff because he believes they deserve recognition for their greatness.

Deion Kelly, Senator

Kelly is a Class of 2023 senator from Atlanta, Georgia. His intended major is Sociology with a minor in Mathematics and Education. Some of his interests include singing, dancing, and motivating others. At Trinity, Deion is currently involved with SGA, the Trinity Pipes, the Trinity Gospel Choir, MOCA, and is volunteering at the COOP. He is very excited about Trinity because of the new adventures he hopes to embark upon with his fellow classmates. Kelly was led to join the SGA to ensure that being the "voice" of Trinity's community incorporates the school's mission to engage, connect, and transform.

Joshua Jacoves, Senator

Jacoves is a Class of 2023 senator from Tinton Falls, New Jersey. He plans on majoring in Public Policy & Law with a minor in Political Science. Some of his interests include hiking and camping. In addition to the SGA, Joshua is involved with Treehouse, Brew Club, and the Hillel House at Trinity. He chose to get involved with the SGA because he wanted to be able to represent the Class of 2023 by bringing their ideas and perspectives to the other SGA members as well as Trinity's administration. As a senator, Joshua hopes to enact common sense change here at Trinity to make Trinity the best it can be and to help every student succeed. After college, he wants to pursue constitutional law to help make the world a better place.

Diverse, Qualified Students Supported by MRT Interns

OLIVIA PAPP '23
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Trinity's Multicultural Recruitment Team is a program led by the Office of Admissions that aims to make a positive impact on the college community. This team ensures that Trinity to admits qualified students who will bring a sense of diversity to campus. It also gives these noteworthy students the exclusive opportunity to experience the Trinity culture over the course of a weekend.

The *Tripod* spoke with Multicultural Recruitment Team Intern Masho Jmukhadze '22 and chair of the program and Senior Assistant Director of Admissions Courtney Roach '16 to learn more.

Both students and ad-

missions counselors make up the Multicultural Recruitment Team, and they serve to organize and coordinate their two main events, the Fall Preview and the Passport to Trinity event in the spring. Through these two programs, prospective students gain first-hand insight into the daily life of a Trinity student. Not only are these students able to identify a greater sense of campus and student culture, but they are also able to see the role living in an urban setting plays in a college students' life.

This program is highly advertised to students through the Trinity website as well as through email and word of mouth. The application process is fairly detailed, as appli-

cants are required to write a reflection on their participation in past communities and speak on how they will continue to engage with the Trinity community. Students must also send in their transcripts as well as a recommendation letter.

The admissions team decides who is admitted into this program. They are primarily looking for academically inclined students who will strive to engage with the Trinity community. The team is drawn to applicants who are not afraid to try new things and bring new perspectives and ideas to campus. Student participation is a crucial component to the success of the program, and the more numbers behind the program, the stronger the program and the overall

Trinity community will be.

Student interns also play a large role in this process. Throughout the year, these interns are plan and coordinate the visit days. They plan activities both on campus and in the Hartford area for the prospective students during these weekends. Only first-years can apply to become interns, and during the first semester of participation, the intern must work with admissions as a tour guide in order to gain a greater understanding of the work of the Office of Admissions.

The interns plan ways to make the weekend as interesting and fun as possible, whether it be by attending a comedy show in downtown Hartford or doing something fun on campus.

The Multicultural Recruitment team also tries to integrate the city of Hartford while prospective students are on campus, in order to highlight how accessible and lively the city is.

The Multicultural Recruitment Team is looking for any type of student involvement, especially through hosting the students during the one-night visit days in both the fall and spring. Hosting prospective students allows future members of the community the opportunity to figure out if Trinity is right for them. For those interested in hosting, they can reach out to Courtney Roach (courtney.roach@trincoll.edu) or Masho Jmukhadze (mariam.jmukhadze@trincoll.edu) to learn more.

Arts & Entertainment

Album Review: A Look Back at *The Life of Pablo*

ELIZABETH FOSTER '22
A&E EDITOR

When Pitchfork released their list for the best albums of the past decade, Kanye West's *Yeezus* and *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* fell among the top 20, with the latter dubbed second only to Frank Ocean's *Blonde*. Succeeded by his own prodigy, West's influence in the industry throughout the decade is unmistakable.

However, an iconic moment missing from Pitchfork's account of the best albums of the decade was Kanye's *The Life Of Pablo*. The 2016 LP is far from the rapper-producer-mogul-etc's magnum opus, but I'm here to make the argument that *TLOP* was far from a T-FLOP—and to highlight some of the iconic moments lead-

ing up to its release.

Let's start where it all began: Kanye West plans for a 2014 release of an album titled *So Help Me God* following 2013's *Yeezus*. Things fall apart and soon enough, it's 2015 and Kanye tweets a track list for an album supposedly titled *Swish*. Soon enough, *Swish* transforms into *Waves* before finally becoming *The Life of Pablo* on Feb. 9, two days before the album's release.

On Feb. 11, Pablo premiered at Kanye's Yeezy Szn 3 show at Madison Square Garden. The exact moment *Pablo* dropped, I was settled into a couch in the arts magazine's office of my high school. For the next two hours, the show, complete with the Kardashians decked out in feathery garments, enraptured me. "Feed-

back" and "Facts" quickly became my favorite songs and persist in my playlists to this day. As the album has aged, I've only grown to appreciate it more.

The record is filled with moments so weird they could be only Kanye-level brilliance. The sampling of Desiigner's "Panda" on "Pt 2" not only was an absurd artistic decision, but also helped to skyrocket the G.O.O.D. Music signee's career. Remember when you couldn't escape Desiigner's eclectic "GRRRA!" noises? Me neither. And who can forget the gospel beauty of "Ultralight Beam" featuring Chance the Rapper in the prime of his career? In 2016, it truly was a God dream. Rihanna's appearance on "Famous" and Young Thug's crooning of "baby I'm back in town" on "Highlights" are two

other stand out moments that bring a smile to my face every time I play *Pablo* on loop. A\$AP Rocky and Tyler, The Creator's remix of "Freestyle 4" is owed a shout out as well; the beautifully chaotic "WHAT THE FUCK RIGHT NOW" features a cacophony of noise mixing with the Wang\$ap duo's respective flairs and Tyler mumbling an iconic "Floopy goober, motherfucker, floopy fuckin' goober."

Kanye's editing of the track "Wolves" also marked a moment from which the music industry would never return. The era of streaming had finally cemented itself, allowing mega artists like Kanye West to tweak their tracks, patching them like a video game update, until the pieces reached their full potential. In his tweeting "Ima fix wolves," Kanye

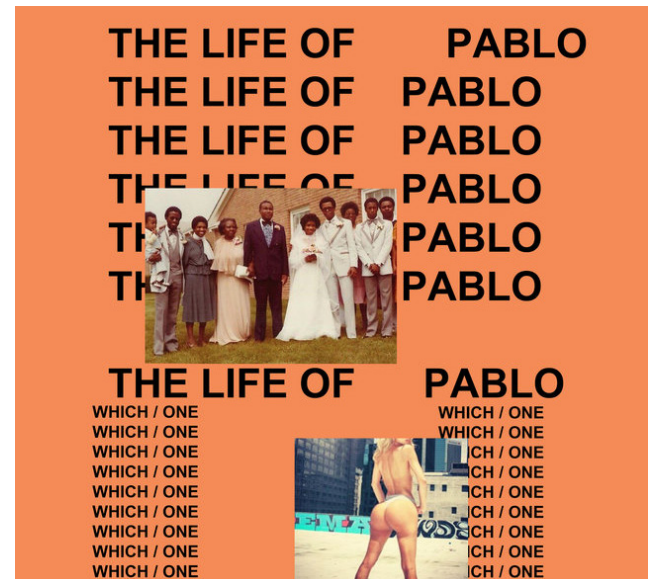
proved that the industry was more digital than ever. After adding, removing, and re-adding features from Sia and Vic Mensa, the song eventually stayed stagnant on the album. The final "Wolves" is a haunting track that's become the backing track to countless memes, Tik-Toks, and emotional moments in my car.

The long term effects of *Pablo* last to this day as Kanye's devout fanbase now knows to expect nothing but disarray during an album rollout. The *Life of Pablo* also marks a highlight of the rapper's tribute to his religion as he stated that the highly anticipated *Jesus Is King* is also a gospel album. A Pitchfork album of the decade *The Life of Pablo* may not be, but an iconic piece of music, art, and Kanye-ness it most certainly is.



Left: *Joker* (2019) promotional poster featuring Joaquin Phoenix

Right: *The Life Of Pablo* (2016) official album cover by artist Peter De Potter. The art features Kanye West's parent after their wedding ceremony and the behind of model Sheniz Halil.



Todd Phillips' *Joker*: So Close to a New Classic Film

MACIEK J. PRADZIAD '23
STAFF WRITER

Todd Phillips' *Joker* is a film that will challenge an audience's view on complex characters in the same vein as Martin Scorsese's *Taxi Driver* and *The King of Comedy*. However, *Joker* does not reach the technical and cinematic heights of the aforementioned masterpieces. Although the film's exploration in mental health awareness within urban areas is perfectly portrayed by Joaquin Phoenix's performance and beautifully captured by Lawrence Sher's cinematography, the shallow writing ultimately brings the film down.

The plot of *Joker* revolves around Arthur Fleck, a comedian who consistently fails to bring

happiness into the dark and decrepit metropolis of Gotham City because of the never ending bullying he endures due to his mental health issues. The constant isolation Fleck suffers from a cold, uncaring society inevitably leads him down a harrowing path of madness that makes him revolt against his surroundings by becoming the embodiment of chaos: the *Joker*.

The visual storytelling of *Joker* at times was extremely impressive, especially when it came to the combination of directing and cinematography. The various symmetrical wide shots Phillips and Sher were able to capture truly pronounced not only the filthiness of Gotham City, but also the loneliness and isolation Fleck felt when surrounded by mil-

lions of people who pass him by. Even the unhinging of Fleck's mind was shown subtly by making the camera slightly off center at times, making for a compelling image and letting the audience know visually that the problems on screen are worsening.

As beautiful as these shots were, they would not be as effective if they were not complemented by Phoenix's disturbing performance as the title character. The way Phoenix was able to portray a man whose social abilities are inhibited by a pathological laughing condition and other mental disorders truly emphasizes the way in which our society tends to ignore and stigmatize these issues. Phoenix clearly demonstrated the depths of madness that a mind can

reach when constantly isolated with a compelling performance that truly showed the actor's emotional range and dedication to the art of acting.

Although there were some standout aspects of the film, the weakest cog in the entire machine was the writing. Despite the fact that the plot made coherent sense, I felt that the romantic subplot including Sophie Dumond (Zazie Beetz) was unnecessary and did not add to the plot. The acting talents of Beetz were unfortunately wasted as she had less than 10 minutes on screen, leading up to a reveal that felt underwhelming as it was underdeveloped. Aside from that plot quirk, the writing of the film felt so bloated in the ideas and issues it was trying to present that it felt like it was say-

ing nothing. Granted, the strongest statement the film made was about the stigma of mental health within our society; however, issues of celebrity worship, income inequality, and gun violence felt like they were included strictly as talking points, not necessarily issues that Todd Phillips or Scott Silver had a stance on.

Joker is a visually striking film whose grimness will leave audiences unsettled with the depiction of madness unfolding before their eyes and the consequences that come with it. Although it has a strong message about mental health awareness, the film fails to deeply analyze the other societal issues people in urban areas are facing today and ultimately takes on more than it can handle.

The New Phenomenon Tiny Desk Concerts: A Review

HUNTER SAVERY '20
A&E EDITOR

I am writing this article to remedy a grave oversight on behalf of myself and the entire *Tripod* arts section. I truly dropped the ball and let this go on for far too long. I failed to recognize the triumph of the human spirit that was the *NPR* Tiny Desk Concert performed by Jamaican reggae legend, Shaggy and Police frontman, Sting. The recording was released back in mid-July, but wrapped up in a hot girl summer filled with impeachment drama and \$5 margarita deals, the concert went overlooked by this critic. After much delay and at the behest of my roommate, noted outdoorsman and consonant

enthusiast William Tjelteit, I finally watched the dynamic duo take the tiny stage. Boy, was I sleeping on this one! Checkmate atheists, because nothing short of divine intervention could have created such a wondrous pairing. Although the duo may seem like an odd couple, reggae was a major influence for The Police's brand of new wave rock, as evidenced by their classic bop "So Lonely." These legends came together out of mutual admiration and the results are purely electric, yet the sound is wholly laid-back.

The concert kicked off with a rendition of Sting's classic "Englishman in New York," now including Shaggy's verses about a Jamaican in New York. The song was light-hearted and

the reggae-inspired groove was undeniably infectious. The two paired as well as Trinity and L.L. Bean with a chemistry that seemed truly preternatural. The effervescent Shaggy called his pal "Stingy" as the two gassed each other up and redefined their already legendary acts. The second song "Don't Make Me Wait" was every bit as jubilant as the last and Sting's sound was brought to a new level with Shaggy's verses and ad libs. If there is such a thing as a soulmate, these two have found theirs and it is impossible not to smile while watching them jam. This Anglo-

Caribbean collision was already worthy of many a conversation, but the two did more than weave their own hits and styles to-

gether. In their last piece, Shaggy and Sting trotted out a fusion of "Shape of My Heart" and Juice Wrld's "Lucid Dream" with guest vocals on the latter from Gene Noble. Again, the age old villain of genre has been defeated. There are no more boxes in music, we have reached the height of postmodern music. Everyone can find joy in this concert, Democrats and Republicans, kings and peasants, boomers and millennial socialists, there's something here for everyone.

In these dark and polarized times, it's more important than ever to highlight the bright spots in the world, particularly those that bring together people from different backgrounds. Shaggy and Sting's collaboration is an

affirmation of everything fine and decent in the world. This may not have been the best Tiny Desk Concert, and the album that this collaboration produced, *44/876*, is far from the best work of either performer, but the chemistry of these two performing live makes something greater than the sum of its parts. So if you find the time, sit back and take in Shaggy and Sting's *joie de vivre*. The mighty Kurt Vonnegut once wrote, "I urge you to please notice when you are happy, and exclaim or murmur or think at some point, 'If this isn't nice, I don't know what is.'" So take notice of one of God's great gifts and head over to *NPR* music, you won't regret it.

A Look into the Historic Vernon Street Soapbox Derby

CONNOR STRUYK '20
STAFF WRITER

As is probably quite obvious by now, I have a deep love for almost everything automotive. I spend far too much of my time browsing the internet looking for interesting car advertisements and Formula One races are one of the few things that can get me out of bed on the weekend before noon. It is for this reason that Trinity has sometimes disappointed me. Trinity is located between two of the most historic race tracks in the United States: Lime Rock Park and Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park. These two tracks are close by, which is why it shocked me that there is no real motorsport tradition or passion for racing on campus at all.

As it turns out, there used to be. Several decades ago, Vernon Street played host to a soapbox race. From what I've been able to find, it seems as though Trinity's fraternities would create their own soapbox cars and race against each other down Vernon Street. For those of you who don't know, a soapbox car uses exclusively gravity and driver skill to try and get down a hill the fastest. For some unknown reason (I'm sure it had something to do with safety), this tradition was stopped. I propose that we try and bring it back but this time, organize it on a grander scale. Instead of having only the fraternities participate, the race should be open to all cultural houses and

student organizations.

The race could be run in a similar way to how Red Bull does their annual soapbox races around the world. The course would be marked out and lined with hay bales for safety and along the course small jumps or obstacles could be placed. The Red Bull races are somewhat extreme in this regard. However, I feel that even a significantly toned-down course would still be highly enjoyable. Cars would be standardized based upon a certain tire and bearing each team would be required to use. Other than that, each team would basically have free reign as to how they could create their own car. Teams could be judged not only on who completed to track the fastest, but on categories such as who created the nicest car, who had the most creative costumes, and who had the best crash. Safety could be improved (admittedly not much) by forcing all drivers to wear crash helmets and safety harnesses. Cars would also be sent down the track one at a time to avoid potential collisions.

I admit that this idea would probably be a hard sell as there is a not insignificant safety concern as well as the issue of closing Vernon Street for a day to allow the race to happen. However, this soapbox race used to be a tradition and I feel that with a few modifications, this race could be conducted safely and help bring the different student organizations on campus together.



@CAMPTRINCOLL

A soapbox derby race as captured by the Instagram @camptrincoll.



@CAMPTRINCOLL

The @camptrincoll Instagram captured the tradition of the soapbox race on Vernon Street.

SPORTS

Bantams Improve After Difficult Opening Start

Volleyball has Unfortunate Loss to Wesleyan

Trinity Women's volleyball team traveled to Wesleyan this past weekend only to add three more unfortunate loses to their 7 game losing streak. Thursday's loss was against No. 24 ranked Wesleyan, giving The Cardinals a 7-1 overall record in the NESCAC. After trailing behind at the start of each set, the Bantams furiously competed to close the gap until eventually the Cardinals closed out for a 3-0 victory. In game two of the weekend, the Bantams faced its second nationally-ranked program, falling to Johnson & Wales 3-0. The Bantams came out with just .095 on the afternoon but managed to stay within 12 points in each set. For Saturday's contest, the Bantams faced Juniata, No. 14 in the nation. While the Bantams had the lead for the majority of the first set, and kept it close in the third, they were unable to close out on any of them, making it their third 3-0 loss of the weekend. Trinity will face Colby this upcoming Friday in hopes of remaining in the pool of playoff wildcards.

Women's Soccer has a Draw Against Middlebury

In perhaps their best game this season, Trinity Women's soccer put on a defensive show this past Saturday against #1 Middlebury. In a scoreless 110 minutes of play, neither team could find the back of the net. With Middlebury leading Trinity 5-3 in shots on goal, the Bantams sophomore goalkeeper Jennifer Stuart kept all five from traveling between the goal pipes. Although both teams had their fair share of opportunities to score, Middlebury was able to find the back of the net in the second overtime, only to have it called back due to a foul prior to the shot. The Bantams offense was led by freshman Aspen Hawkins, contributing to two of the three shots on goal. With an overall record of 4-6-2, Trinity will go on to face Eastern Connecticut State University on Oct. 23 at 7pm.

Football Defeats Colby College Mules

This past Saturday, the Trinity Bantams improved their record to 4-2 after a 43-7 victory over Colby College Mules. Starting out strong in the first quarter for the Bantams were Tijani Harris and DeVante Reid, scoring both touchdowns in the first quarter to put the Bantams ahead 14-0. The Trinity defense came out firing in the first half, forcing Colby to punt on all five of their possessions. The Bantams continued to consistently put up numbers, scoring 8 in the second quarter, 14 in the 3rd quarter, and 7 in the fourth. The final touchdown of the game was a 12-yard pass to senior tri-captain WR Koby Schofer, giving Schofer his Trinity-record, 22nd career touchdown reception. The previous record was held by Tom McDavitt's '94 record of 21. The Trinity offense finished with a total of 480 yards to 268 for the Mules. The Bantams hope to add to their 3-game win streak next Sat., Oct. 26 against Williams College.

Men's Cross Country Finishes 14th at Invitational

In Waterford, Connecticut this past Saturday, 27 schools competed at the Connecticut College Men's Cross Country Invitational at Harkness State Park. Among the 27, Trinity totaled 367 points to finish 14th, falling behind 13th-place Wesleyan by only 17 points. The team title was won by Williams with 33 points. Individually, Trinity senior co-captain Ace McAlister came in sixth place with a time of 24:49:6. His time was 53 seconds off the first place time. Trinity had a tremendous showing, placing junior Stephen Tyler among the top 50, and senior co-captain Timothy Bogomolov in the top 100. The NESCAC Championships will take place Sat., Nov. 2 at Williams College.

Women's Crew Reflects on the Head of Charles Races

OLIVIA PAPP '23
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Head of The Charles Regatta is one of the most prestigious, famous, and exciting regattas in the world. Traditionally held on the penultimate weekend in October, the Head of the Charles hosts the best, most qualified rowers to compete amongst each other. The entire course is a strenuous three mile distance, which serves as a true testament to the physical and mental endurance of competing athletes. In total, there are 11,000 athletes competing from 24 countries, thus making this regatta the largest in the world. With 66 different events taking place in the 55th Head of The Charles Regatta over the course of Oct. 19th and 20th, both men's and women's Trinity rowing teams were excited to qualify for this esteemed event.

Launching from the CRI Boathouse (Community Rowing Incorporation), the Trinity Rowing

crews first had to row a 7k up the Charles River to the start of the race in downtown Boston, next to the Boston University DeWolfe Boathouse. The course was a feat in itself, as herds of spectators stood cheering at each bridge, fighting for a spot on the sides of the river to see renowned rowers compete.

The Head of the Charles Regatta is an honor to attend, and the Trinity women's rowing program reinforces this special honor by selecting the top eight athletes from the program to row in this regatta. The intended notion is that athletes who trained hard over the summer are rewarded for their work by being reserved a spot for this race. The women's team decided to focus on racing two fours, as prior results in regattas had gone well with these lineups.

The women's team gave it their best effort, as the first four boat came in 13th place out of 36 boats with a time



TRINITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Trinity College womens four cruising down the race course.

of 19:10. The athletes in the first boat were Claire Grigglesstone '21, Kirsten Thiim '20, Summer Dow '22, Isabella Bianchini '23, and coxswain Caitlin Southwick '20. The women's second boat was not far behind in 19th place with a time of 19:32. The athletes competing in the second boat were Katherine Cerulle '22, Olivia Papp '23, Hannah Walsh '22, Deborah Moore '22, and

coxswain Zoe Russel '20.

"The Head of The Charles presents a unique opportunity for us to compete against teams we don't see in the regular spring season," said Claire Grigglesstone '21. "I think both boats laid down a solid performance and still have room for improvement for the spring," she said.

Overall, the weekend of the Head of the

Charles Regatta was an intense, memorable experience. Trinity rowers prepared for this race all fall, as they were on the water to train around 6 o'clock each morning, competing with themselves and others in order to be the best. Whether or not the end results were the intended product, all athletes and supporters had a great time competing and spectating over the weekend.

Trinity College

Inside Sports:
Recap of the week
and Women's Crew

This Week in Sports...

Volleyball

v. Johnson & Wales
v. Juanita

L, 3-0
L, 3-0

Football

v. Colby

W, 43-7

Women's Soccer

v. Middlebury

T, 0-0

Men's Soccer

v. Middlebury

L, 3-0

At Head of the Charles, Men's Rowing Achieves Goals

MATEO VAZQUEZ '21
SPORTS EDITOR

This past weekend the men's rowing team got a chance to be featured in both the Collegiate eight and the Collegiate four at the Head of the Charles (HOCR). The competition in both events was quite intense as Trinity was going up against a vast array of NESCAC teams including Williams, Wesleyan, Bates, and Conn. College all of which were presenting very competitive eights for this year's race.

On Saturday, the team arrived at CRI around noon just in time to see their coach Kevin McDermott get back from the end of his race in the men's senior master four (50+) rowing under the Palm Beach Rowing Association. He did particularly well, placing 4th out of 34th completing the course in a time of 18:05. After, a quick rigging of the boats, the team stayed to the waters of CRI as they practiced for Sunday's race. It was a serene experience as the chaos of racing was a ways down shore. If anything, the practice row was an almost tranquil experience to get some strokes in on the Charles. One of the aspects of the course that the crew practiced in particular was turns. The HOCR is often referred to as a coxswain

race because a turn can legitimately make or break a crew's results.

One of the turns in particular - the Elliot Bridge - is by far one of the most notorious turns as many crews often must make emergency veering off course or risk colliding with the bridge or another crew (something that happens in almost every event). Hence, if a crew cannot execute these turns efficiently, the last stretch of the race could be lost within a matter of seconds. However, this thought was far away from Trinity's oarsmen's mind as they focused on following the man in front of them. They continued throughout practice with this intense focus practicing a rowing term of "head in the boat," quite literally just focusing on the oarsmen and task in front of them and ignoring the distractions outside of the boat.

It is quite easy along the 5000 meters of the Charles to get distracted by the chanting of fans and chaos of boats passing and trying to pass other boats or even the threats of collisions. This is why "head in the boat" ideology is such a crucial aspect to put into practice.

On Sunday morning, the team took to the

waters. The lineup for the crews consisted of: Jack Reid '20, Nicholas Roll '21, Kenneth Somerville '21, Peter Teel '21, Jack Impronto '23, Aidan Lee '21, Aaron Xing '23, Tyler Brennan '22, and coxswain Amelia Churchill '21 in the men's eight. In the four the lineup was: Andrew Frankini '21, Jeffrey Pendergast '23, Matthew Vazquez '21, Chad Obrey '23, and Liam O'Connor '23. After a nice steady state and warmup down the course, the team found themselves right around Boston University (directly across from the giant CITGO sign).

At the start is where the vast array of competition can truly be seen. Hundreds of crews in the warmup areas and more getting in line approaching the starting block is quite a breath-taking sight. Yet it is once again a crucial moment to practice "head in the boat" and focus just on the race ahead. As the Bantams approached the start, they were set to follow Williams College and knew that if they were going to be in any contention to finish the race in a good position, they would have to stick with them throughout the course. Right out of the start the Bantams were cooking at race pace settling in from their high sprint into a smooth and steady pace down the course putting them in a

good mindset to attack the rest of the race. It was quite intense as they passed through multiple bridges, they kept their composure and were able to maintain the margin between them and Williams keeping the race very close. Behind them was the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) and it became quite clear very quickly that the real race was between Williams and Trinity as UCSB began to fall off from the rest of the pack. As the crew approached what would be the tightest turn in the race the Elliot Bridge, coxswain Amelia Churchill '21 called for strong starboard pressure.

Almost instantly the crew responded, and she was able to thread the needle just allowing the buoys to scrape against the side of the boat putting the crew in the shortest and best possible line for the turn. However, as they were coming under the Elliot, they were held up by the Rutgers crew as they failed to yield early enough. Yet, the crew kept their "head in the boat" and as soon as they had the chance, passed through Rutgers within a few strokes. The rest of the race was a blur as they crossed the finish shortly after closing the margin on Williams with every

step of the way. In the end, the varsity eight finished in 11th place overall and was the top NESCAC team at the HOCR.

The Bantams four also presented a strong finish in their event. After an explosive start, the crew settled right into a solid rhythm and began closing the margin on the University of Washington St. Louis crew ahead of them. The four also had an amazing course line and turn as their coxswain Liam O'Connor '23 placed them on a beautiful line through the Elliot turn. As the crew came through the Elliot Bridge, they began building their sprint and finished stern to bow on the University of Washington St. Louis crew. The four finished 18th overall, and hence requalified again for next year.

This year the HOCR is a huge accomplishment for the Bantams as they recently added two freshmen, Aaron Xing and Jack Impronto, to the varsity crew, as well as freshmen Jeff Pendergast and Chad Obrey in the four. The HOCR is a testament of how far the team has come and the degree to which they have worked to obtain that speed. With the fall championships coming up for this weekend, the team is in a great position to once again dominate the NESCAC.

Coming Up This Weekend for Bantam

Fri.

Volleyball @ Colby, 8:00pm

Sat.

Men and Women rowing @ Fall Rowing Festival Worster Tect,
Men Soccer v. Wesleyan @ 11am
Field Hockey v. Wesleyan @ 11am
Football v. Williams @ 1:30 pm
Womens Soccer v. Wesleyan @ 2pm
Volleyball v. Bates @ 2pm

