

The Trinity Liepod

-ESTABLISHED 2016-

"Now Then-Wesleyan!"

Tuesday, April 6, 1823

Volume LMNOP
Number VII

Paintball War Begins

HUGH JANUS '21
STAFF WRITER

page **9** Trinity students are finally fed up with the weekend paintball attacks and have formed an armed paintball militia.

All Drugs Legalized

MAX E. PAD '21
GHOSTWRITER

page **7** In a bold policy move, Trinity has announced that it plans to legalize all drugs for student consumption.

JBS "R" Us

DUMB & DUMBER '22
MANAGING EDITOR

page **2** JBS has announced that the Chapel will be converted to a retail location for JBS-themed merchandise.

Watters Fellowship

NOT A DRUG DEALER '24
TRIPOD INTERN

page **12** Never one to let Tucker steal the limelight, Jesse Watters '01 has created a student fellowship at Fox.

Also in this week's issue...

"Are you sure that's supposed to go there?" a review of Health Center STD testing, page 96

New COVID-19 variant found in Psi U basement, page 21

What happened to darters? A *Tripod* investigation, page 69

Tucker Carlson '92 Will Lead Annual Commencement

CUCKER TARTLSON '23
FAKE NEWS EDITOR

The administration and trustees confirmed to the *Tripod* that Fox News Host Tucker Carlson '92 will be the guest speaker as well as among the honoraria at the 195th commencement exercises to be held on the morning of May 21, 2021. President Berger-Sweeney commented, "I never miss a night watching Tucker, so it's only fitting we should give him a platform that is the climax of the academic year." Berger-Sweeney added that an a cappella duet to open the event featuring the #1 cable talk show host and Professor of Sociology Johnny Eric Williams singing 'Neath the Elms together is not to be missed.

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GETTY IMAGES

Fox News standout Tucker Carlson '92 has been selected to give this year's Commencement address after pleas from students.

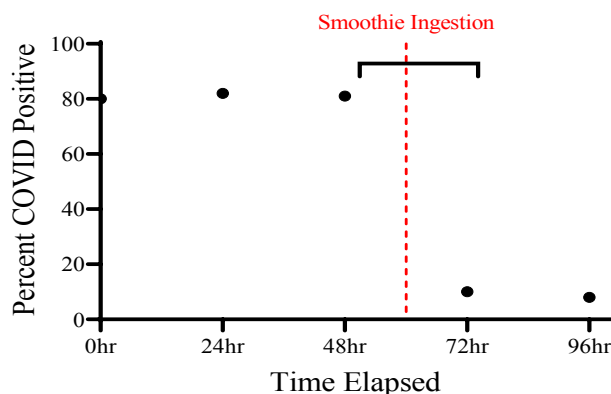
Mather Smoothies Can Cure COVID

WALTER WHITE '22
CERTIFIED METH CHEMIST

In a groundbreaking study published in *Nature 2.0*, the Heisenberg lab group has discovered that drinking Mather smoothies

once daily can successfully cure COVID. In a completely legitimate scientific study, the implementation of a smoothie protocol, or "juice cleanse," saw a remarkable decrease in rates of COVID.

see SMOOTHIES on page 1823



Ingestion of a Mather Smoothie saw a significant decrease in the COVID positivity rate from 80% to 10%.

Statue of Assaiante Replaces Bishop

MARTIN HORAN '1823
CONTRIBUTING ALUM

In the dark of night over spring break, the statue of Washington College founder Bishop Thomas Church Brownell was quietly replaced by a 20-foot statue of Paul Assaiante. The Trinity men's squash coach, who holds the longest winning streak in college sports history with 252 consecutive matches and 13 national

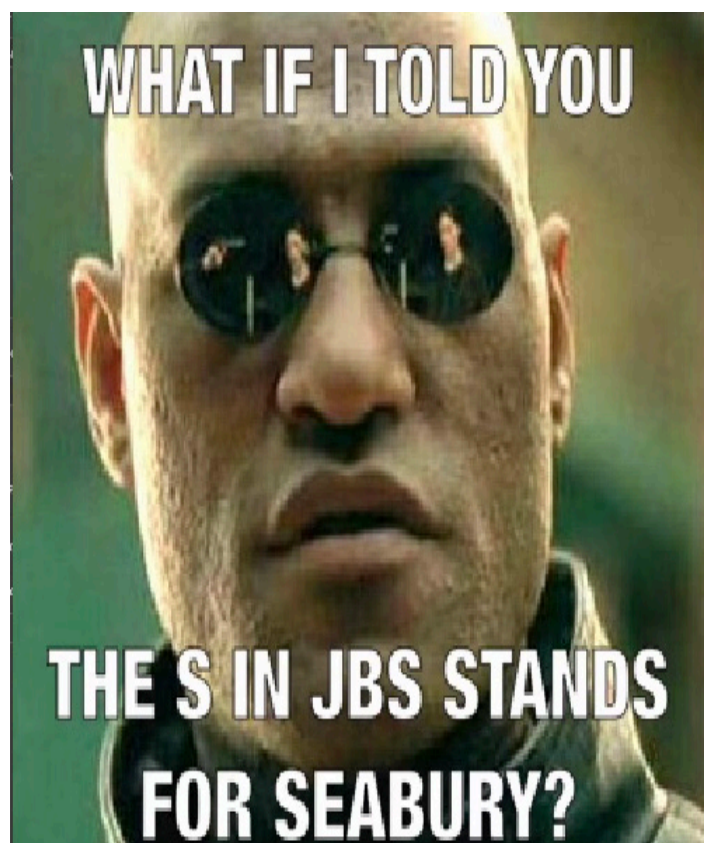
championships, is captured in bronze wearing his signature warmup suit with 2 squash racquets and one tennis racquet tucked underneath one arm. The other arm is outstretched in a familiar pose, as if blessing the Quad. At the gala unveiling of the statue in March, most alumni seemed pleased by the change, but some were left puzzled, thinking it was a statue of Dr. Anthony Fauci.

Trinity College to Celebrate Soon its 202nd Anniversary

LAWSUIT MAGNET '21
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In a break with tradition, the administration has announced it will be celebrating the 202nd anniversary of Trinity College in 2025, instead of the bicentennial in 2023. "We feel this will allow us to create an event that people will talk about," explained trustee Stephen Wewom '78. "Aren't we talking about it right now? See what I mean?" he added with a

smile. "200 is an arbitrary number that speaks to the old way of doing things. We have our own way. I'm proud of that." "After all," he added, "math and numbers themselves are heteronormative patriarchal social constructs, so why engage with them?" So far, no formal plans have been made for the 202nd anniversary, but the faculty is considering its standard 10-point reduction in grade for assignments turned in late.



For more *Tripod* memes and insightful observations on events since the pandemic began at Trinity, check out the back page.

The Trinity Liepod

Established a long time ago
"Now Then-Wesleyan!"

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
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DUMB&DUMBER '22

"EXECUTIVE" EDITOR
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Opinions expressed in *Liepod* editorials represent the views of the entire Trinity community. Those opinions are meant to offend all readers of the paper. Additionally, opinions expressed in the Opinion section belong to the entire *Liepod* staff and must be taken extremely personally.

The Trinity Liepod is never looking for student contributions in photography, writing, and graphic design. Anyone interested in joining the *Liepod* should leave us alone and not contact us. Additionally, all members of the community are discouraged to attend our meetings at 5 pm at our offices behind a freshmen laundry room.

All businesses requesting advertisement placement in the *Liepod* should be aware that advertisements in the paper are not that successful. Advertising in the *Liepod* is not a logical method for your business to succeed financially.

Trinity College

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CORRECTIONS

There are no corrections to report on because we never make mistakes, ever.

Tripod Editorial: Fake News Trinity College Must Hire A Scientologist Chaplain

The motto of Trinity College is Pro Ecclesia Et Patria, meaning "For Church and Country." It could not be more irrelevant. The Christian character of the College died long ago while the historic chapel only serves as a setting for Instagram posts by students who last went inside during their admissions tour. The last meaningful politician produced by Trinity College was former Governor of Connecticut Isaac Toucey, H'45. 1845, that is. Obviously, something is wrong.

The Trinity Tripod therefore calls upon President of the College Joanne Burger-Sweeney to say, "Heritage be damned!" and further trample on the neglected traditions of our College by hiring a chaplain from the Church of Scientology. Only the brilliance of L. Ron Hubbard can bring religiosity back to Trinity College.

For the ignorant who were mistakenly accepted by our admissions department, Lafayette Ronald Hubbard is the Jesus Christ of the Church of Scientology. Simply put, he was a genius who supposedly stated, "If you want to make any money, the only way to do it is to make a religion." Trinity sure could use some money. It's no longer possible for the admissions tours to take prospective students around campus without encountering a pot-hole the size of a small pond.

Besides inventing a religion, Hubbard served in the Navy and wrote science fiction books. He and his wife also managed to orchestrate

the largest infiltration of the U.S. government with over 4,000 covert agents. Again, genius! Why isn't Trinity encouraging its woke students to be "bold, independent thinkers" like Hubbard in their protests against police brutality? Even Jesus Christ wasn't that bold. Clearly, the icon of Jesus must be replaced by a portrait of the founder of the Church of Scientology.

Believing that all humans have a thetan, or an immortal soul, practitioners of Scientology also believe that Xenu, the dictator of a Galactic Confederacy, brought millions of his people to Earth 75 million years ago and killed them with hydrogen bombs. You technically must be an Operating Thetan III: Wall of Fire to learn this but the *Tripod* just saved you over \$100,000 worth of Scientology courses. However, according to Scientology doctrine, you may contract pneumonia since the *Tripod* is not an authorized source.

Who wouldn't want to listen to a Scientologist chaplain reveal the truth? In addition to greatly expanding the spiritual and religious life community, Scientology can also be studied along such worthwhile traditions such as the occult. Just imagine how happy Tom Cruise would be to learn that a first-ish-rate institution like Trinity is studying the great religion. If he donates a building to replace McCook, it will have been worth it.

Instead of pushing students to attend study abroad programs like Semester at

Sea, where one quite literally spends a semester on a cruise ship, Trinity could offer a study away program on one of the Church of Scientology's Sea Organization ships, where you can be exposed to blue asbestos! Woke leftists are not encouraged to apply, since they will inevitably be outraged at the fact that officers aboard the ships are always referred to as "sir," regardless of gender. Disobeying the rules is also discouraged. Just ask Valeska Paris, who had her passport taken away, was forced to manually work for 12 years, and was unable to leave the ship unescorted for six years for her impudence.

Of course, the Counseling Center will have to be shut down since the Church believes psychiatry and psychology to be barbaric. If anyone is troubled by this, one need only look at the success of the Church in rehabilitating Lisa McPherson, Elli Perkins, or Noah Lottick (all of them may be dead but I'm sure their thetans are thriving!).

While Scientology was supposedly too crazy for Charles Manson, it certainly isn't for Tom Cruise, who stated "When you're a Scientologist, and you drive by an accident, you know you have to do something about it, because you know you're the only one who can help." Who doesn't want to feel like that? Praise be to L. Ron Hubbard and to Trinity's next Scientologist Chaplain!

-*The Trinity Liepod*

Reunions To Be Based on College Ranking, Not Class

DANIELLA NESTITS '22
FAKE NEWS EDITOR

The administration stunned the NESCAC this year by announcing that class reunions in 2021 would be organized around the College's ranking at the time of graduation as determined by *US News & World Report*. This marks a radical break from the tradition of organizing the annual alumni gathering in Hartford around graduation year. For example, previously, all classes ending in 0 or 5 would have come back

to campus at the same time. Today, it would be classes that graduated while Trinity ranked between 15 - 20 in the leading college benchmark.

"The truth is that alumni from a time when Trin ranked in the top 20 want nothing to do with those miscreants from #46," commented trustee Chris Crozier '63. "Don't look at me though. That ranking didn't even exist until 1984." When asked how the event will be organized for classes that predate the magazine's ranking, a member of the administra-

tion who wishes to remain anonymous simply smiled while rubbing his thumb and index finger together.

More recent graduating classes, as well as current students, expressed deep frustration with the decision. "It's not our fault that JBS doesn't care about the single most important college ranking!" lamented Hugh Jass '19. It remains to be seen whether other NESCACs, who all outrank us every single year, will follow suit with the decision advanced by the College administration.

CCLC In Vernon

FAITH MONAHAN '24
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

5 page The *Tripod* reviews the current state of the Cross Cultural Living Community in Vernon during the pandemic.

Chapel Search

KIP LYNCH '22
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

6 page The *Tripod* spoke with former Trustee Jim Tozer '63, a donor to the College, about the ongoing search for the next College Chaplain.

Weekly Bangers

LIZ FOSTER '22
BITS & PIECES EDITOR

9 page Liz Foster '22 is back, providing you with four songs to bang your head to as Zoom school continues.

The Liepod

EXECUTIVE EDITORIAL BOARD

12 page The *Tripod* brings you a satirical version of the paper, equipped with plenty of memes.

To Our Readers:

Keep your eye out for the *Tripod's* Sunday morning feature series on issues of history, importance, and interest to the Trinity community. Check it out on Instagram or our website, trinitytripod.com.

This week, the *Tripod* considers the history of the College's Old Campus prior to the move to Summit Street.

Campus Remains in Yellow Alert Level Despite Pronounced Increase in Active COVID Cases

DANIEL J. NESBITT '22
MANAGING EDITOR

Chief of Staff and Associate Vice President for External Relations Jason Rojas and Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Management Joe DiChristina reported that Trinity's COVID-19 active case count has risen to 37, all of which are students, in an email addressed to students, faculty, and staff on Monday, Apr. 5. This surge to 37 active cases is the highest active case total so far this semester.

Rojas told the *Tripod* that "the majority of cases have had a nexus" with positive cases that had already been identified, including students who were in quarantine. He also added that there were still some cases for which a nexus has not been identified, so the College "will be paying particular attention to those cases in the coming days."

Just a week prior on Monday Mar. 29, as the *Tripod* previously reported, there were only eleven active cases (eight student, three employee/affiliate) with six students in isolation and 19 in quarantine. On the next day, Tuesday

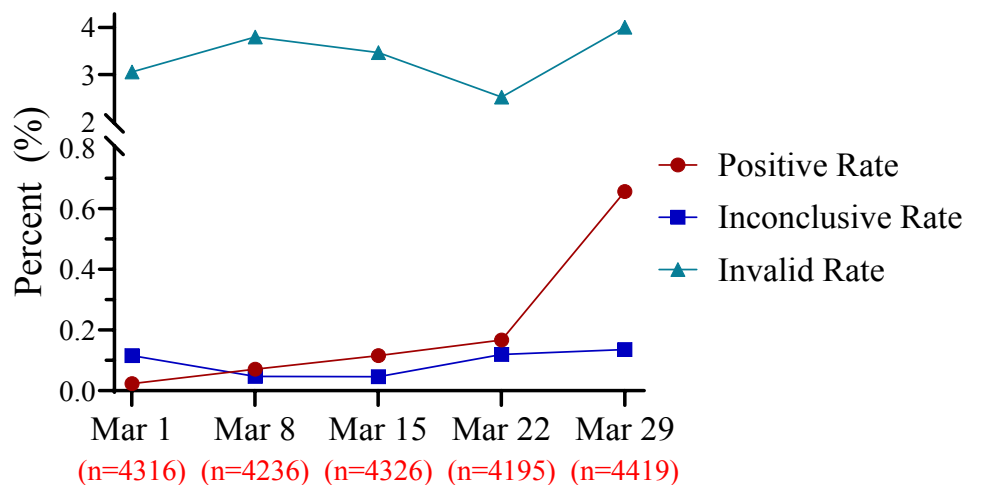
Mar. 30, Rojas reported an increase to 17 active cases (15 students, two employee/affiliate), and then again to 25 active cases (23 students, two employee/affiliate) on Wednesday Mar. 31, as previously reported by the *Tripod*. This increase in

cases on Mar. 31 prompted the College to change the campus alert level to "Yellow" from "Green."

Now, as of Monday Apr. 5, there are 37 active student cases with 21 students

see COVID CASES on page 5

Trinity Weekly COVID Testing Rates: Mar. 1-Mar. 29



Since in-person classes resumed Mar. 1, the weekly positive test rate at Trinity has gradually risen from 0.02% to 0.17%, but the week of Mar. 29 saw the positive rate rise to 0.66%.

Berger-Sweeney Announces Her Plan for Committee to Evaluate Building Names

JACK P. CARROLL '24
NEWS EDITOR

President of the College Joanne Berger-Sweeney announced Trinity's plans to rename Wheaton and Seabury Halls prior to the beginning of its bicentennial year in 2023 in an email addressed to members of the Trinity community on Wednesday, Mar. 31. In addition, Berger-Sweeney reported that the College will be "examining the histories of more than 30 buildings on our campus that are named for individuals and considering whether any changes are warranted."

In the email, Berger-Sweeney outlined plans to relaunch the Committee on Named Facilities and Commemoratives in July 2021. The committee—which was created by the Board of Trustees in 2013—will be composed of administrators, faculty, and staff from a broad range of offices and organizations. Also, the college archivist will serve as an adviser to

the committee which will be required to submit a report on its judgement of "the suitability of opportunities and requests" to the President and the Board of Trustees. Furthermore, Berger-Sweeney noted that the director of donor relations "is no longer included in the committee membership, as the focus on naming, renaming, or commemoration at Trinity should be based on our values and shared history, not solely the size of a donation."

As previously reported in the *Tripod*, Berger-Sweeney first announced Trinity's intentions to rename Wheaton and Seabury Halls in a message to members of the Trinity community on July 1, 2020. These plans were a part of the College's response to a statement of list and demands issued by the Umoja coalition; though the President's message clarified that Trinity's plans were only "a list of initial commitments of actions that [the administration] can take as soon as



TRINITY COLLEGE

Seabury Hall, named for Bishop Samuel Seabury, was a subject of contention before flaws in the research were identified.

practicable."

In their list of demands to the administration and the Board of Trustees, the Umoja coalition proposed the renaming of Nathaniel Wheaton and Samuel Seabury Halls, and cited to documents which purported to show connections to slavery.

Berger-Sweeney noted in her email this week

that, regarding Seabury, a "citation was incorrect" and the "treatise and sermons were misattributed." Berger-Sweeney added that she has "apologized to members of his family, some of whom are still members of our community." In an emailed response to the *Tripod*, Rojas clarified that no changes

see BUILDINGS on page 6

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CORRECTIONS

Tripod Editorial

Thoughts on the Process of Renaming Campus Buildings

In response to the death of George Floyd and the protests that followed, many institutions faced a reckoning over their ties to slavery and racism. Trinity College was one such institution. As students and alumni detailed their own alleged experiences of racism through mediums such as Instagram, our College President felt compelled to take action. Where did she begin? President Berger-Sweeney set herself to the task of making a series of promises, setting up various committees and tasks forces, and expressing her empathy with the student body. One of her commitments was to immediately change the names of Seabury and Wheaton Halls.

In her email to the Trinity community during the summer of 2020, Berger-Sweeney stated that the College administration was committed to changing "the names of Seabury and Wheaton Halls immediately. While we do not seek to erase these two prominent figures from Trinity's history, we do not support having our students live in residence halls that commemorate individuals who used religion to justify slavery. We will appoint a multi-constituent committee this fall to determine new names."

However, in its rush to empathize with and support some students, President Berger-Sweeney and her administration committed itself to an action based on an incomplete set of information. While the *Tripod* applauds Berger-Sweeney and the College for affording thoughtful consideration in retrospect, we must be vigilante and deliberate in our actions from the start. Acting on misinformation (which was, in fact, created by students as part of a course), the administration acted without full knowledge of the facts. This is a cautionary lesson in never acting un-

til the full scope of the situation is known and has been authoritatively cited.

In her most recent email, Berger-Sweeney explained the impetus behind the administration's commitment to change the name of Seabury Hall, stating "that decision was based, in part, upon research indicating that Bishop Samuel Seabury, after whom one of these buildings was named, had authored a treatise espousing racist views, views that any member of our community today would reject." As it turned out, however, that "Further research on the matter made it clear that a citation was incorrect: a treatise and sermons were misattributed." Berger-Sweeney took responsibility, stating "I regret this error and have apologized to members of his family, some of whom are still members of our community."

She further states that this "experience has made it clear that we must have a thorough and deliberate process for the naming (or renaming) of spaces on our campus that articulates clear and specific objectives and criteria."

What form that process takes—and why renaming decisions are made—is a process that will require thoughtful deliberation in the weeks to come. We should not change names merely because we ran, nor should we do so without ensuring that all constituencies, especially alumni, are consulted in the process. The institution belongs to more than merely those who attend at any given moment. It belongs to an entire lineage of students with varying interests and understandings of our College's history and the key figures who have contributed to its success.

We are also in want of a review of our College's history, a broad and critical inqui-

ry which cannot be achieved through the Primus Project alone. To truly make strides and understand the facets of Trinity's history, particular troubling moments cannot be studied in isolation. They must be viewed as part of our larger narrative, as one touchstone among many that helps us understand the limitations and realities of a particular moment in time. We cannot merely hold up the darker sides of our history at the expense of all we have to celebrate. As the *Tripod* has written before, as we approach our Bicentennial, we are called as never before to consider our College's history.

In proceeding with this process, we must also be certain to get out facts right. There cannot be mistakes nor reliance on misinformation. Likewise, when students are called to study Trinity's history, their research must be checked and checked again. When we rely on information and sourcing in the world of academia to make our case, we must be certain that the authors of a piece have invested the necessary time and have cited to the correct authority in their works. Taking student work at face value when making critical decisions, as here, can result in abject failure.

The College can and should commit resources to the study of its history that allow us to reflect on the past without the same errors experienced in the renaming process. Further, the College should take action only once it can safely say that a historical figure has committed some egregious action. Mere suppositions cannot be enough. To honor and respect our history, we must make deliberate actions as we consider contentious figures of the past.

-The Trinity Tripod

Want to write for the *Tripod*?

Join the conversation by
emailing tripod@trincoll.edu

NEWS

CCLC Moved to Vernon Place

FAITH MONAHAN '24
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The cross-cultural living community (CCLC) was initiated “to bring in students of all backgrounds who wish to build and live in a safe, self-affirming, energetic, and close-knit community,” according to Trinity’s website. CCLC members began living in Doonesbury Hall during fall 2019, but the concept predates the introduction of these students to the building. Planning began during the Bicentennial Strategic Planning Commission meetings and was included in the Global College Subcommittee Report in 2017. The CCLC’s first year housing students in Doonesbury was interrupted in spring 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and since fall 2020, Doonesbury has been used as a space to house quarantined students on campus. Members of the CCLC have been moved to the 4th floor of Vernon Place for the 2020-2021 academic year, and it appears that those students will likely remain there for the coming year.

Director of Housing Operations Susan Salisbury told the *Tripod* that “Currently the plan is to reserve Doonesbury for isolation purposes in the fall. The CCLC will continue to be housed on the 4th floor of Vernon Place.” The current interim president of

the CCLC Gabriel Sorondo '22 added that he does “agree there is a general consensus that, aside from Doonesbury, [Vernon Place] is the best allocation we could have found.”

The movement from Doonesbury to Vernon Place, however, has impacted the functioning of the CCLC. Doonesbury was specifically selected due to the spaces provided and the 2019-2020 academic year and was the CCLC’s first active year. Simran Subramanian '22 has been a member since fall 2019 and has lived in both Doonesbury and Vernon Place. She described that “we had a real sense of community [in Doonesbury] and that’s been the main difference living in Vernon, with the lack of common spaces and the kitchen.”

Professor of Political Science Reo Matsuzaki, who helped initiate the CCLC, told the *Tripod* that “There’s all these kind of things that really made CCLC special and more like a community, and in that sense, I think separate from some of the other things you find on campus.” The spaces that Doonesbury Hall provided, including its size and location, a kitchen for cooking meals, and communal living areas, have made the building useful for quarantining students, but these spaces are also important for building a sense

of cross-cultural community living. Vernon Place lacks the same important features.

Matsuzaki added, “as a quarantine space, maybe other spaces are not as good [as Doonesbury]. But then again the CCLC is a space for many students of color.” Matsuzaki indicated that he hopes “that other spaces are considered and the pros and cons will be weighed and to see, really see, if other spaces won’t work as a quarantine space.”

Sorondo added that it saddens him “that the college would take a space that provided a haven for POC students, queer students, and international students; I wish there was another solution than this, but it is the way the cards have been dealt and all we can do is only hope that our return to Doonesbury is sooner than later. I wish the administration would seek other isolation spaces that did not have to come at the expense of the CCLC.”

The administration has not indicated that it is actively seeking alternative isolation locations for the fall semester. The CCLC remains active, and Subramanian clarified that “Our applications for next year are live, so I encourage you to apply if you’re looking for a residential community that offers a safe space and support for all students.”

COVID Cases Surge

continued from page one

in isolation on-campus, 16 in isolation at home, and 77 students in quarantine for potential exposure to an active COVID-19 case. In their email, Rojas and DiChristina announced that the yellow alert level would continue “at least through Wednesday, April 7.” They clarified that although “the situation is manageable, the number of cases remains concerning.” Their email indicated that they are waiting on the test results from Monday, Apr. 5 and Tuesday, Apr. 6 before making a decision about the alert level status on Wednesday, Apr. 7.

The sharp uptick is reflected in the College’s weekly COVID PCR testing data. The graph on the front page shows the weekly testing rates for positive, inconclusive, and invalid results, as well as the total number of tests performed each week; The negative test rate was omitted for scale and clarity. As shown in the graph, the weekly positive test rate had gradually increased from approximately 0.02% to 0.17% between the weeks of Mar. 1 and Mar. 22, however, it sharply increased almost four-fold to 0.66%, reflecting this past week’s spike in cases and change to alert level yellow. There were slightly more tests conducted for the

week of Mar. 29 (n = 4419), which could reflect the additional tests conducted for those students in quarantine for potential exposure.

There is no clear pattern or trend for the inconclusive test rate. Per the College’s Dashboard, an inconclusive test is a test for which “only one of the two viral probes signaled detection of the virus.” Similarly, there is no clear trend for the invalid test rate, however, there was a spike in the invalid rate for the week of Mar. 29 similar to the positive rate.

As the College continues to operate under the yellow campus alert level, certain restrictions will continue to be in effect. Under this alert level, dining from Mather Hall and The Bistro is grab-and-go only. There is a capacity restriction of ten students for “organized, supervised student activities,” while outdoor, unsupervised gatherings are restricted to six students. Notably, all athletic events, such as games and practices, are cancelled. Furthermore, students are only allowed to be on their own floor within their residence hall, and all dorm common areas are closed. Finally, students living off-campus “are not permitted in residence halls,” and students living on-campus are likewise “not permitted in off-campus housing.”

Barnyard Plans In-Person Events for Spring Weekend

GARRETT KIRK '24
NEWS EDITOR

The *Tripod* corresponded with team members from Barnyard, the College’s entertainment activity council, in advance of the annual Spring Weekend undergraduate concert.

Members of Barnyard told the *Tripod* they “are taking great time and consideration into planning this year’s spring weekend. Although we will not be able to gather the majority of the student body in the same way that we normally do, we certainly have some fun covid-safe in-person and virtual components to announce in the coming weeks.”

Barnyard initially sent a College-wide survey in Febru-

ary to gauge student interest for spring weekend activities. Regarding this survey, Barnyard members said that they “have spent a good bit of time reviewing the survey and are very excited about the rest of Barnyard’s events for spring 2021. We will definitely have a solid mix of in-person and virtual events, assuming it remains covid-safe to do so, in addition to our usual giveaways as well.”

Barnyard noted that they “received an interesting mix of feedback from students through the survey that was distributed in February. One of the largest challenges that we have faced, that was affirmed through the survey, is making our presence known to underclassmen who have

not been able to experience many of the staple Barnyard in-person events. We are working to continue the legacy of Barnyard events and ensure that students, both under and upperclassmen, are able to identify Barnyard and associate positive experiences with the organization.”

Barnyard added that their “primary goal in every event that we plan is to create an experience for students that is engaging and enjoyable. Though difficult to cater to every student in every event, we aim to create a broader calendar of events each semester that has something for everyone. This year specifically, we have shifted toward creating experiences that engage the student body, de-

spite the limitations of covid.”

Team members from Barnyard additionally stated that “In previous years, Barnyard has almost solely relied on the ability to plan in-person events, so in many ways it felt as though we had to go back to the drawing board this year. We determined that we would not be able to safely execute many of our staple events in a way that was still fun and engaging for students, and therefore had to employ a great deal of creativity, especially with Spring Weekend. Although we will not be hosting a virtual version of our annual concert, we do have a full weekend of events that we think students will still greatly enjoy, despite them being

different from years past.”

Despite the upcoming in-person activities that are planned, safety still remains at the forefront of Barnyard’s agenda. Barnyard team members told the *Tripod* that they “spend a good bit of our time considering both the Trinity and CT state covid guidelines for in-person events, in addition to working with the Dean’s Office, and consulting the SAIL office, to ensure that everything that we are doing is completely safe for students.”

Safely socializing during a pandemic is a challenging endeavor for everyone, but Barnyard conveyed to the *Tripod* that “although times may be unprecedented you can still count on Barnyard for some fun surprises.”

College Campus Safety Report: Mar. 29 - Apr. 5

Tuesday, Mar. 30
On-Campus

Sexual Offense - Rape.
Case referred to Title IX Coordinator.

Saturday, Apr. 3
Jackson Hall

Vandalism - Property.
This case remains open.

Rome Campus Celebrates 50th Anniversary with Remote Events

GARRETT KIRK '24
NEWS EDITOR

The *Tripod* recently spoke with Director of the Office of Study Away Jennifer Summerhays regarding the Rome Campus' 50th anniversary.

The *Tripod* first reported on the College's plans for commemorating this achievement in 2019 before the celebration was derailed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Summerhays told the *Tripod* that "plans for the Rome Campus 50th Anniversary were well-underway when the pandemic hit. Numerous stakeholders on and off campus had worked tirelessly to organize an engaging program that was ultimately postponed."

Summerhays remarked that the original plan for the 50th anniversary involved a "celebratory week" at the Rome Campus during mid-March, 2020. They had also planned a number of significant events, including "cooking classes with local Chef Andrea Consoli...a semi-private visit to the Sistine Chapel guided by former on-site director Livio Pestilli...with the week culminating in a dinner and evening celebration at the Villa Aurelia."

Summerhays indicated that the Office of Study Away hopes to carry out "some version of our original plan"

when able, but that they have developed a remote option to celebrate the anniversary. This semester, "the Office of Alumni Relations in collaboration with the Rome Campus and the Office of Study Away are hosting *Tuesdays in Rome*." These remote events occur one Tuesday per month and highlight the Rome campus prominently.

According to Summerhays, "the first two events had hundreds of alums in attendance," crediting the planning and marketing of Director of Alumni Relations Steve Donovan and Rome Campus Director Stephen Marth, along with the Rome Campus' "passionate alum base," for the success of the events, describing them as "a positive way to celebrate the Rome campus until we can be there again in person."

There have also been recent discussions about adjusting offerings at the Rome Campus. Over Summerhays' tenure as Director of the Office of Study Away, she has observed "that programs must remain flexible to grow and thrive. They must adjust with the needs of students and as the world changes. At the same time, programs should remember how and why they started; we should allow history to inform change. The goal is to build on what is good, and gen-

tly recycle what is worn out. It's a delicate balance, but I think we are achieving it in Rome. We have made some positive changes in the areas of experiential learning, immersive language projects, DEI initiatives, health and safety protocols, and visiting student outreach, without disrupting the magic of the program's origins."

There may be changes on the horizon for the College's Rome Campus, as Summerhays indicated that the Office of Study Away is "continually revising and refining, working on improving our academic and co-curricular offerings and strategizing about how to set ourselves apart from other programs in Rome. At the moment, we are exploring a new model for summer programming, language immersion initiatives, and an expanded portfolio of internship offerings."

Summerhays added that the Rome Campus "is at the very heart of who Trinity has been. It is rare, after 50 years, to have a study away program still intact and going strong. The Rome campus remains exceptional because of the thousands of people who care about it." The College's official plans for a rescheduled Rome campus celebration are expected to be reported later in the year once pandemic conditions are clearer.

Re-Naming Buildings

continued from page one

will be made to Seabury Hall at this time. In addition, Rojas indicated that the Board of Trustees is still reviewing plans to rename the Wheaton dormitory, stating that "we will share the results of those discussions after they have occurred and, at a future time, the schedule for renaming, if that is to occur." When asked about the available opportunities for members of the community to provide input on the renaming plans, Rojas stated that the committee will likely "review verifiable information and research from the broader community."

The coalition earlier this summer provided a list of alternative figures who "have made strides for the college and in other ways that do not tie into the dehumanization of our fellow human beings" for the College to consider during the renaming process.

The recommended figures include former Dean of Multicultural Affairs Karla-Spurlock Evans, Professor of Philosophy Maurice Wade, Professor of Religious Studies and Interstudies, (Emeritus) Leslie G. Desmangles, and James Williams or "Professor Jim."

In the spring of 2019, the alleged proslavery beliefs of Wheaton and Seabury were detailed in *Trinity and Slavery*—a project developed by students enrolled in Amer-

ican Studies 406: *The History and Memory of Slavery at Trinity*. Student research found that in 1850, the second president of Trinity College, Reverend Nathaniel Wheaton, delivered a sermon "laced with proslavery rhetoric, focusing on religion as a defense of slavery" at Christ Church in Hartford, Connecticut. Also, the project alleged that Samuel Seabury, the first Episcopal Bishop of Connecticut, wrote *A Westchester Farmer* (1774), in which he "supported and justified the enslavement of black men and women in order to allow the colonies to continue to be connected to England, who relied heavily on the Transatlantic slave trade." The student research on Seabury and the content of the pamphlet have since been contested, and a message on the Trinity and Slavery website indicates that "researchers have found some errors of fact in what is presented here."

In March, Trustee Michael Gary '86, told the *Tripod* that the Board of Trustees' new Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion did not discuss the proposed renaming of various buildings on campus. When asked if the Trustees plan to implement any of the initiatives, Gary stated that "these recommendations are operational in nature and therefore the responsibility of the administration to act, review, and implement."

Tripod Speaks With Jim Tozer '63 On Chaplain Search

KIP LYNCH '22
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Although the search committee for the next College Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life set an Apr. 9 deadline for applications, it is unclear when the committee is expected to make its decision. Dean of Student Life and Director of The Bantam Network Jodi Goodman previously indicated to the *Tripod* that the committee hopes that whoever fills the position starts on July 1. The position was open to applicants beginning on Mar. 5, leaving applicants only slightly over a month to apply.

Alumni had previously voiced concerns over the timeframe to the *Tripod*. Scott Reynolds '63 described how the last search for a College Chaplain took around a year. Furthermore, the search committee at the time was forced to reach out to potential applicants because it was dissatisfied with the ap-

plicant pool. The committee eventually chose the Rev. Allison Read, who served from 2008 to 2020. Reynolds, who is leading the fundraising effort to rename the Friendship Chapel in honor of the Class of 1963, remarked that the search committee's decision to confine the search to a month was "troubling."

Former President of the College and Professor of History, Emeritus Borden W. Painter Jr. '58 remarked that the search timeframe "seems rather brief. In addition, this time of year is the busiest for many clergy because of Lent, Holy Week and Easter."

The *Tripod* interviewed Jim Tozer '63 P'89 P'90 who, in addition to serving as Trustee from 2005 to 2013, established several scholarships for Trinity students, including the Tozer Family Scholarship Fund as well as the W. James Tozer '63 Bantam Bold Scholarship. Tozer served as an advisor to Jim-

my Jones during his tenure as President of the College and was a member of The Chair's Circle from 2014 to 2015, where donors must donate between \$10,000 to \$24,999 each year. Tozer is also a member of the Elms Society, where individuals "have included Trinity in their estate plans or supported Trinity through a special gift vehicle."

On the prospect of Trinity hiring a non-Episcopalian as College Chaplain, Tozer described how the previous Episcopal chaplains, the Rev. Allison Read and the Rev. Daniel Heischman, were both "extremely well-regarded." He stated further that he "would find it surprising that if we didn't look for a good Episcopalian, we wouldn't find a good Episcopalian." Tozer additionally noted that the "Episcopal Church is truly a 'wide tent,'" referring to the Episcopal Church's ecumenism and liberal stance on social justice issues,

Describing the timeframe of the search as "very short," Tozer noted how "typically, the search committee is defined before they do the actual search." He emphasized that "if there is a real search, if you engage alumni associated with the Episcopal Church and the leadership of the Episcopal Church in finding candidates, we will end up with a strong pool of candidates from which to choose." Stating that "it takes a search process, not a sorting of applications," Tozer pointed out that "If all [they] do is apply, you just get somebody's friend or someone who needs a job."

Upon learning that only one member of the search committee is involved with the Episcopal community on campus, Tozer stated "that does not make sense or looks like a deck stacked against...maintaining the heritage [of the College]." Tozer voiced his belief that people on the search committee should

have experience in previous chaplain searches and felt that alumni and/or those who have been ordained in the Episcopal Church should be involved as well.

Reflecting on the possibility of a non-Episcopalian chaplain, Tozer remarked that "In breaking this tradition, there is bound to be some form of alienation with the graduated Episcopal community." Tozer voiced his overall frustration with the current process, stating that he was "personally disappointed and think it is not in the College's interest to back away from this [tradition]."

The *Tripod* reached out to two members of the search committee, Sara Barrett '21 and Diante Dancy '21, for an interview. Dancy did not respond to multiple requests while Barrett stated that "Members of the search committee have been asked to direct all questions to Dean Goodman."

OPINION

Groceries: The Missing Piece to Trinity's Food Services and How Trinity Can Adapt to Address This Problem

SKYLER SIMPKINS '23
OPINION EDITOR

This school year saw the closure of the Cave, which was most people's principal grocery store on campus. The Cave never

want to travel to Target or Whole Foods and grab some healthy food for their dorm avoid doing so out of fear of repercussions. The severity of these repercussions, no one knows. Trinity needs to acknowledge this missing

groceries and ingredients, they become healthier as they are actively cognizant of what they are ingesting.

What are some methods Trinity could use to safely provide students with an outlet for healthier eating? There are a couple of ways. First, Trinity could invite a grocer to campus. Second, Trinity could provide resources for students' transportation to grocery stores. Personally, I believe the first method is the best, but it will be much more costly upfront for the school. Since the Cave is now closed, Trinity could renovate the back portion of the cave to encompass a fully stocked grocery store with much more than chips and microwavable pizza rolls. The front portion of the Cave is already modeled in a way that makes stocking groceries easy, so only the back of the Cave would have to be remodeled. Trinity must provide actual healthy ingredients instead of an assortment of microwave meals. Trinity could also print out flyers with recipes safe to make in the microwave, so all students can access these healthy, homemade recipes. Providing students with an on-campus grocery store will promote a healthier campus in many ways. For one, students will remain on campus and not be required to leave to go grocery shopping elsewhere and two, students will be cognizant of what foods they are digesting: the calories and the nutritional value.

Remodeling can take time and a lot of money, however, so another option Trinity could introduce is transportation cash. Buses at Trinity can take you to grocery stores, but the safety of public transportation in today's world is questionable at best. To ensure the safety of Trinity students, transportation cash could be introduced as a way to transport students without a large, crowded bus. Each semester, Trinity could provide students with money to buy transport by Uber or Lyft. This money could be given to students biweekly to ensure that students do not abuse the money and use it for goods other than transportation. Trinity could also partner with Uber or Lyft and provide all students with discounts for those services while

they are enrolled at Trinity. If Trinity wanted to avoid rationing out transportation money to students or partnering with a transportation service, Trinity could itself begin a personal transport service. Trinity would hire individual drivers who would operate within a couple of hours each day and by appointment. Students would book times to be picked up and be escorted to the grocery store or other essential place. Student travel groups could be limited to protect the safety of both the students and the drivers. Bantam

Students might feel guilty grabbing food in Mather, so providing groceries to make healthy meals in your dorm will make self-conscious students feel much more comfortable in their skin and will allow healthier food options for individuals who feel guilty even looking at a serving of pasta.

College is a time for self-exploration, and I believe it should also be a time where students find the healthier equivalent of themselves. Limiting food and travel hinders students' abilities to experiment with healthy, homemade foods.

"Trinity needs to acknowledge this missing piece and instead of closing the principal location on campus for students to grab some in-dorm snacks, provide students access to groceries—on-campus or off."

had a huge variety, but it had just enough for the average college student. With the closure of the Cave, many students have been left without a place to buy snacks for their dorm room. Outtakes at Mather has helped ease this missing segment by carrying most of the typical college snacks, but never has Trinity provided for students who want organic, healthy

piece and instead of closing the principal location on campus for students to grab some in-dorm snacks, provide students access to groceries—on-campus or off.

Ensuring the health of students is essential during COVID, and the best way to do this is to provide students access to healthy foods and snacks instead of restricting them to what meal swipes can

"Allowing students to buy and use healthy ingredients not only produces a healthier student population but a student population knowledgeable of ingredients and nutrition. Also, buying ingredients and compiling them into microwaveable-safe recipes allows students to take interest in their food."

snacks, or students who just want normal groceries without the trans fats. This is the missing piece to Trinity's food services: groceries.

Students must see to other means to have these goods delivered to them. Whether through Amazon or services like Shipt, students must search to find ways to get their groceries. Travel has been banned

buy. Allowing students to buy and use healthy ingredients not only produces a healthier student population but a student population knowledgeable of ingredients and nutrition. Also, buying ingredients and compiling them into microwaveable-safe recipes allows students to take interest in their food. Health-consciousness

"Providing students with an on-campus grocery store will promote a healthier campus in many ways. For one, students will remain on campus and not be required to leave to go grocery shopping elsewhere and two, students will be cognizant of what foods they are digesting: the calories and the nutritional value."

except for essential trips, often backing students into a corner. Students who

should be a goal for all of us nowadays; when allowing students to buy healthy

"Each semester, Trinity could provide students with money to buy transport by Uber or Lyft. This money could be given to students biweekly to ensure that students do not abuse the money and use it for goods other than transportation."

bucks could be accepted as payment, allowing students a quick and easy way to pay for almost everything at Trinity. Whether a personalized travel system or transportation rations, Trinity could experiment with many ways to bring healthy eating to campus.

Aside from the health precautions we must take amidst a pandemic, Trinity students and other college students in general strug-

Health must be figured out early so we all can figure out a healthy lifestyle to fulfill our individual dreams and passions in the healthiest way possible. College is the perfect time to set ourselves up for success both with respect to knowledge and health. By providing different outlets for culinary experimentation, Trinity will set its students up for success. Further, with Trinity only providing the utensils,

"Trinity should either provide transportation funds, develop personalized transportation services, partner with transportation services, or remodel the no-longer-used Cave into a grocery store in order to give students the chance to initiate a healthier lifestyle."

gle with eating disorders at a large percentage. By providing students with more food options than just what happens to be carried at Mather, students will have a larger array of food from which to choose. With more options, students struggling with eating disorders will be able to choose healthier options instead of eating nothing at all. Health is a major concern amidst a pandemic and in college. Trinity must jump ahead of these concerns by offering more and healthier foods for students to eat in their dorm room or to make themselves.

students will individually visualize and in turn initiate the process to a healthy and productive college experience. Let the students try the vegan cookies or the pizza-in-a-cup microwave recipe as they are beginning their journey to identify the life they want to lead. Trinity should either provide transportation funds, develop personalized transportation services, partner with transportation services, or remodel the no-longer-used Cave into a grocery store in order to give students the chance to initiate a healthier lifestyle.

Biden's American Jobs Plan: Climate Change First

ALEX WECHT '24
OPINION EDITOR

On Wednesday, Mar. 31, President Biden visited Pittsburgh, PA where he unveiled his \$2 trillion infrastructure proposal titled the "American Jobs Plan." The project is ambitious, aiming to spearhead climate change while simultaneously creating jobs.

Unfortunately, Biden's proposal already faces extensive blowback. The main roadblock lies in the view, shared widely among politicians and the citizenry at large, that it's a choice between jobs and the environment: the idea that we can have one but not the other. The thinking is that, if we move to sustainable practices, our economy will crash. This is a misconception that has impaired progress toward sustainable practices and has delayed our nation's transformation to a clean energy paradigm.

Understandably, local economies with thousands of workers dependent on the fossil fuel industry find it especially hard to support a transition to clean energy. Anyone would be skeptical, to say the least, if told his or her job might be eliminated, but our current circumstances and our future prospects both suggest a serious change is coming regardless—and change is bound to spawn many new and exciting livelihoods. Electric power. Wind pow-

er. Solar power. New and improved robotics. Industrialization of drones. Change is coming, whether we like it or not. We need to learn and train to grow as the future demands. Though many of us see this as a no-brainer, we need to remember that fossil fuel dependency is a longstanding habit and that old habits die hard. We all want a fighting chance against climate change, and we can all make a living in a world of clean energy.

Powerful people, and the nature of our political system, make it seem as though sufficient progress is impossible to come by in America. Take President Biden's \$1.9 trillion pandemic aid plan as a prime example. A bill that passed in a 50-49 vote, during one of the longest debates in modern Senate history—ringing in at 27 hours to be precise. This aid plan addressed an issue that should not be politically polarized, at least to the degree that Congress made it. Looking at how Congress handled that bill, the prospect of President Biden's historically unprecedented climate change investment gaining legislative approval seems uncertain.

There are a variety of beneficiaries of the fossil fuel industry, and they have pushed back against the frightening climate science realities that confront us. This includes the large number of politicians, especially members of Congress, that are lobbied by the fossil fuel

industry, thereby making it nearly impossible to pass "green" bills. This push-back needs to be halted. Fossil fuel advocates need to understand and act on the fact that their children's lives depend on them changing their shortsighted ways.

One labor leader worried over the difficulties of retraining fossil fuel union workers to work in clean energy questioned Biden's plan by inquiring: "Would you ask Tom Brady to play linebacker just because he's a football player?" I think this is the wrong question. This is not about the livelihood of one football player, or even one football team, it's about our entire nation and its future. I understand how union leaders and workers feel; they are entitled to assistance and security as they transition from jobs in the fossil fuel industry toward new opportunities. Indeed, President Biden's plan includes \$16 billion to aid this transition, an important feature of the overall initiative.

Nonetheless, the American Jobs Plan holds its title for a reason. President Biden plans for hundreds of thousands of union jobs to be created, specifically in the fields of sustainable energy (wind and solar, as primary examples), sustainable transport in all of its facets, and construction of roads and bridges (which will foster resiliency in a time of changing climate).

More blowback to the

energy transition—which should be positive news—includes proof that clean energy is more efficient. Experts have stated that it takes far fewer workers to build electric cars. While it takes a few hundred workers to operate a nuclear or coal plant, it takes less than ten to operate a wind farm, and just about zero to operate a solar farm. Think about that. This highlights the inefficiency and stupidity of the American economy. We could be using clean energy with less human input. This would not only save our planet; it would also incentivize better and more focused education for more Americans. This would mean better educated and healthier people, on top of a more promising future for our nation and our world.

The transition away from fossil fuels doesn't decrease the number of blue-collar jobs as much as detractors claim. In fact, the traditional infrastructure investments that are included in Biden's bill would create massive amounts of union jobs. Though clean energy may not provide a number of job and wealth opportunities equivalent to those offered by fossil fuels right off the bat, it would provide hundreds of thousands of solid union jobs over the long term, on top of the huge benefits that sustainable energy would provide. This is a necessary change, and one that we will have to accept. We must take the bitter with the sweet. I

am thrilled that an American president, for the first time, has invested so generously in climate change.

Four years ago, Donald Trump proclaimed in a statement regarding the United States departure from the Paris Climate Accords, "I was elected President to represent the citizens of Pittsburgh, not Paris." Well Mr. Trump, as a Pittsburgher myself, I can tell you that we support the development of clean energy; in fact, if you visit our Steel City, you might notice that we are a leader in eds-and-medcs and have changed quite a bit since the 40s.

President Biden's plan makes sense. It makes sense environmentally, and it makes sense for job proliferation. It is a question of whether our nation will unite behind it instead of crying over spilled milk (if the plan passes Congress, that is). This is what dealing with climate change looks like. It's not pretty, and it is going to get uglier, especially if we don't adjust. Biden's plan, although ambitious, is modest when we consider just how much our lives are going to have to change over the course of the next hundred years. As Americans, I would ask that we stop thinking of sustainable energy as the adversary of jobs. It is important that we come together, support the workers who will be affected most, and start our journey to a sustainable nation.

'Operation Varsity Blues' Impact on Higher Education

JACK P. CARROLL '24
NEWS EDITOR

The newly released documentary *Varsity Blues: The College Admissions Scandal* has brought the 2019 college admissions bribery scandal back into the national spotlight. The film's investigation of the \$25 million scam—in which a group of celebrity families used their wealth to cheat their way into top U.S. colleges and universities—serves as a testament to the inequities that exist within the college admissions process.

However, the DOJ's prosecution of the parents and coaches who were involved in the affair has done little to weaken the reputation of our country's overrated and overpriced network of colleges and universities. If anything, the scandal has further bolstered the perceived val-

ue of a degree from a prestigious school. The unique and individual realities of the college experience have become commodified: many now view an elite education as a valuable asset that guarantees one the path to a successful future—a promising concept that is far from reality.

As the author of *The Price of Admission* Daniel Golden states in the film, "This scandal is not necessarily a reason for colleges to change their ways. Because it makes these colleges seem more exclusive and desirable than ever." Golden explains that, "If all these rich people are willing to go to these incredible lengths and risk jail time just to get their kids into these colleges, then they must be extremely valuable."

Unfortunately, a review of this year's admissions cy-

cle confirms Golden's analysis. In March, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that the decision to waive

"If anything, the scandal has further bolstered the perceived value of a degree from a prestigious school."

SAT and ACT requirements by many highly selective institutions has resulted in a surge of applications. For example, Harvard University received more than 57,000 applications for next fall's incoming class which marks a 47% year-over-year increase. In addition, applications to New York University were up by 17%; while the University of Southern California (a party to the 2019 scandal) experienced a 7% increase.

Drawing from Common App data, the article notes that applications through Mar. 1 were up 11% nation-

wide; however, the number of applicants has only risen by 2.4%. This means that "roughly the same number

of students are just sending out more applications"; as well as that the "furry of applications are concentrated at more selective colleges."

Beyond these data, I have personally noticed a cultural obsession over prestige and rankings among members of my peer group. During my senior year of high school, my classmates (who were academically-inclined) would frequently rave about the low acceptance rates and high reputations of the colleges to which they applied. Also, my peers would complain about not being able to at-

tend their "dream" schools. On one occasion, I remember a student complaining to her friends that she had to attend the University of Connecticut – mind you, it is among the most well-respected and competitive schools in the state.

As these data and stories demonstrate, Operation Varsity Blues has done absolutely nothing to improve the operations of higher education. In addition to legitimizing a broken admissions system, this scandal has shifted the focus of the college search away from the distinct needs and interests of the students applying to them. Unless we teach our nation's students to see beyond the falsehoods and hysteria of the admissions process, our greedy colleges will continue to preside over our youth's decisions about their own futures.

Arts & Entertainment

“Hurry Up With My Damn Croissant”: An In-Depth Dunkin’ Donuts Chicken Croissant Sandwich Review

LIZ FOSTER '22
BITS & PIECES EDITOR

As the great Kanye West once said, “In a French ass restaurant, hurry up with my damn croissant.” At the ripe hour of 1:30 P.M. on this Sunday afternoon, I embodied the great spirit of Mr. West. However, I was not dining at the likes of Le Jules Verne or Au Pied de Cochon, but rather an American staple: Dunkin’ Donuts. The Massachusetts-based company is an essential piece of New England culture, a tried and true palace of breakfast treats and caffeinated beverages for the unwashed masses across the North Eastern United States.

Croissants are no stranger at Dunkin’ Donuts; in fact, any breakfast sandwich can be served on a croissant rather than on a bagel. In my personal and professional opinion, the quintessential Dunkin order is as follows: a bacon, egg, and cheese on an everything bagel with a medium iced coffee sweetened with caramel and a splash

of oat milk. The combination functions as a tried and true hangover cure, or at the very least something that will get you through the next few hours until a “real” meal comes along. In an effort to escape the rat race and avoid living in a Groundhog Day of bacon, egg, and cheeses, I chose to switch things up and order one of Dunkin’s newest menu additions: The Chicken Croissant Sandwich.

Per the restaurant’s website, the sandwich “features a warm, flaky croissant sandwiching a breaded chicken filet, cherrywood-smoked bacon and American cheese.” At available locations, guests can also receive a side of Buttermilk Ranch sauce for their dipping and spreading pleasure. As I pulled the paper-wrapped sandwich from its bag, it radiated the protective warmth that one needs on a scary, gray Sunday. Unfortunately, my first attempt at acquiring Dunkin’ was a massive failure as the restaurant’s ovens were no longer working, so

the arrival of this sandwich was greatly anticipated.

Upon first examination, the Chicken Croissant was definitely not from the streets of Paris. If it were sentient, it would not have been able to muster a “Bonjour” to save its life. However, the chicken looked edible and the croissant, though weighing more than a croissant ever should, looked like it would hold the sandwich together. Upon first bite, I was neither elated nor disappointed. It was what I expected: just a sandwich. The croissant was neither flaky nor egregiously soggy, the chicken was comparable to the Bistro’s own crispy chicken, the cheese was forgettable, and the bacon was quite tasty. I felt no euphoric burst of flavor, but there was definitely something there. The bacon is by far the standout feature of the sandwich with its vaguely crispy texture and salty tang. Additionally, if the Chicken Croissant had no cheese, the world would be no worse a place. This sandwich

is quite literally nothing more and nothing less than a \$4.00 pseudo-brunch acquired via drive-thru.

Out of all the foods to try on a Sunday morning, the Chicken Croissant was definitely the right pick. With just the right amount of satisfaction and disappointment to offer, it succeeded in providing me

sustenance and posing as a subject for review. Out of ten stars, I’d award the sandwich six and a half. Ultimately, if the Chicken Croissant was on a bagel or sourdough loaf, it would be a reasonably decent sandwich, but has anyone ever rapped the words: “hurry up with my damn everything bagel?”



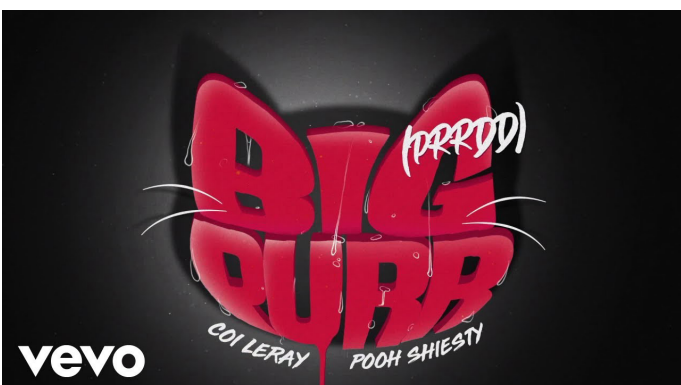
Bits & Pieces Editor Liz Foster '22 advises her fellow peers to choose Dunkin' the next time they want a cheap, yet satisfying breakfast option.

The Return of Liz’s Weekly Bangers: April Edition

LIZ FOSTER '22
BITS&PIECES EDITOR

BIG PURR (Prrr) by Coi Leray ft. Pooh Shiesty

“BIG PURR” circulated around the Tik Tok-verse weeks before its release at the end of March with a deliciously infectious snippet of its chorus that hears Coi Leray sing “He call me big purr/come make that pussy purr,” before Pooh Sheisty hops in as the production kicks it up a notch with extra snares over the simplistic keys. This song may singlehandedly defeat gender inequality as Leray raps about leaving a man after they sleep together and Sheisty brags about how his “SRT make her get wet,” before making a pun on hellcats and female genitalia. The duo are raucous, perfectly complementing each other’s energy during the song. “BIG PURR” miraculously fits a plethora of playlist genres from pregame bangers to shower tunes to girl boss anthems. Simply put, it does not miss.



Vampire Girl by Jonathan Richman

Godfather of Punk Jonathan Richman strays from harsher noise in this alluring 1995 tune about loving women who resemble creatures of the night. “Woah, I get so intrigued when they look like a vampire girl,” he sings whilst strumming a folksy acoustic guitar. Richman sounds as though he’s telling a tale around a campfire, producing a charming effect. He questions, “is she in heaven? Is she in hell?” about his desired “evil girl.”

Dance Yrself Clean by LCD Soundsys- tem

“Dance Yrself Clean,” now over a decade old, is more liminal space than music. Akin to Dexys Midnight Runners’ “Come On Eileen,” the song is timeless, crossing years of time and successfully appealing to listeners. It’s a snapshot of 3:00 A.M. on a Saturday, an indie “SICKO MODE” that sonically switches halfway through, booming into an emotional cacophony that asks the listener to wait ““Wait until the weekend/and we can make our bad dreams come true.” LCD Soundsystem create a universe of their own within the lengthy nine-minutes of “Dance Yrself Clean.”

Mall- whore Freestyle by Bladee

The Stockholm-based collective Drain Gang have earned themselves a divisive reputation among critics and casual listeners alike. Bladee, a Swedish trap-hyperpop rapper, linked with lo-fi legend and Sad Boys member Yung Lean in the early 2010s and the rest is history. “Mallwhore Freestyle” is one of the artist’s more digestible songs, a whirring, glitchy track that features an autotuned voice crooning, “I’m a mallwhore, and my Prada’s look like Tom Ford,” before later whispering how he smells like weed in the Prada store. It’s a braggy, tongue-in-cheek freestyle that will have you ready to drop a rack at Dior before Bladee finishes the song with a boast about his founding Drain Gang does not miss.

Weekly Skylights: The *Tripod* Looks to the Clouds

JOEY CIFELLI '23
A&E EDITOR



March 29, 2021. 7.4/10.

(Left) The clouds look like they always have. The sky is the same as it has always been. The grass today was exactly the way I expected the grass to be. And, at the same time, none of it is the same at all. Every day we wake up and it all feels different. Nothing ever happens twice. How is it that the more something changes, the faster it changes, the more it begins to blur and mix within itself, so that when we look back on it, nothing seemed so different? I'd like to remember the grass each day, the clouds each day. Each one, no matter how similar, entirely separate from all the others.

(Right) Down the quiet thoroughfare in the evening, grazing by the ferns in their fleck speckled pots, slowly drawing to a close at the worn awning of Yawnett's Inn, Nathan Cabby delivered his last customer of the day. The customer, or Rider, as he was called, was dressed in a plaid suit. In many ways the suit emulated the man himself, with its wrinkled fabric and well-thought-out creases and rich color like a cocoa husk just in season. After affirming his well-being and paying four thirty for the trip, Rider grabbed the underside hood of the car and, with a quick flick of his gangly hands, gracefully launched himself from the vehicle legs first. The man landed approximately ten feet from the car in a gentle puff of dust. "Very good, Mr. Cabby, au revoir," he said. And with that Rider trailed off towards the inn, rolling the r around his mouth like a warm morsel of chocolate, letting it slowly dissolve under its own weight and pool around the tongue... and then he was gone, door swaying behind his precise legs.



March 30, 2021. 7.0/10.



March 31, 2021. 8.0/10.

(Left) Two people in dark cloaks stood underneath the gravestone tree. One smoked a pipe, the other smoked cigarettes. Every so often there was a pause, then a moment of flame, or steel, some tapping, and the smoke would drift upwards again. Eventually, she ran out of cigarettes. "That's it," she said, tossing the carton on the wet grass, "I'm done. That was my last pack. I want to leave." The figure next to her held up his hand, silencing her. "We do not litter in the grove of death," he said. He took in a long breath, held it for several seconds, then let it out, slowly, through his nostrils. "It is about to arrive."

(Right) The woman rolled her eyes. "Whatever," she said, and put the carton inside her cloak. The tree began to vibrate. A sound like pickaxes striking ore rang out from inside one of its cocoons. The rough pod split open and a simple gravestone fell out, embedding itself in the soft earth. Engraved in the stone, in plain capital lettering, was the name GRISHA TOMELY. "Very well," said the man, his face shrouded in shadow and smoke, "now we begin." He turned and walked away from the gravestone tree, the other close behind. Gravestones, hundreds of them, of every shape and size, lay scattered throughout the grass. As they walked past their cloaks wavered in the wind, every so often revealing the glint of oiled metal razors.



April 1, 2021. 8.2/10.

FAKE NEWS

Steve from Steve's Bagels Selected as New Trinity College Chaplain, Starting Service this Summer

JEEZ NUTS '23
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A recent probe from the *Tripod* revealed that the following members of the community had been assembled into a team à la Marvel's Avengers—but, like, with God—in lieu of hiring a new College Chaplain and Dean of Religious Life: Director of the Bantam Network Jody Goodman, Professor of Music Gail Woldu, Professor of English Christopher Hager, Director of Campus Life Initiatives and Social Houses Kathryn Wojcik, Residential Learning Coordinator and TRINsition Fellow Yasmin Affey '19, and students Diante Dancy '21 and Sara Barrett '21. The search is conducted alongside the Episcopal Church of Connecticut whose input weighs heavily upon the decision of

who will be next to lead religious life at Trinity; however, the majority of students still fail to understand what the actual purpose of the Chapel is. The job entails performing various tasks at the Chapel such as delivering regular Sunday sermons and hosting more eventful services such as baptisms or weddings—and who doesn't want to get baptized next to the Bistro? Amid a variety of candidates including but not limited to former United States Presidential Candidates Vermin Supreme and Marianne Williams, and entrepreneur "Tony from H&L," a local hero has been nominated for the position: Steve the Bagel.

For those unfamiliar, Steve's Bagels is a quaint bagel shop based out of Manchester, CT specializing in breakfast food and drink,

specifically the carbohydrate-filled favorite: bagels. The popular bagel joint formerly held residence in Trinity's own Vernon Social, but the onset of COVID-19 left the campus high and dry, or rather high and bagel-less. The disappearance of the iconic eatery has complicated students' ability to navigate hangovers on Sunday mornings, leading to many unnecessary fifteen-minute drives to Goldberg's that could easily be combatted with the reinstatement of Steve's. The titular Steve stands at the crossroads of the tri-state area as he promises New York bagels without having to leave the humble state of Connecticut. Akin to the tri-state, Steve was seen to be the best representative of the actual Holy Trinity.

In a brief interview conducted with the search com-

mittee, an anonymous member of the team explained the logistics behind this selection: "The decision came out of desperation, but also with the knowledge that students would be highly receptive to such an elusive, admirable figure such as Steve. This year has been all about improving campus and pretending that we've repaired decades of damage, but the addition of Steve to Religious Life at Trinity was guaranteed to be well received among every corner of campus impacted by Religious Life. After all, what's more holy than a bagel?". Further reports indicated that Steve has spent his time away from Trinity's campus devoting himself to the study of the Church. His impeccable study habits allowed him to gain years and hundreds of pages of knowledge within

the first year of his journey.

Steve is set to begin his time as Chaplain as the summer approaches, aiming for a start date of July 1. Attendance at the Chapel is anticipated to skyrocket given that a local celebrity now holds the highest position of clerical authority in the immediate area. "I thought the Chapel was just a back-up castle for the Hall, but now that I can see my favorite baked good there, I'm ready to get tight with God," said one Vernon Street resident with dilated pupils and a loose trail of drool dripping from the corner of his lips. Steve's impact is set to rock the campus as a recent probe into the Office of Religious Life has exposed confidential documents alluding to a new Steve's Bagels storefront coming soon to the Chapel's crypt.

Trin Barnyard Announces Chet Hanks as this Year's Spring Weekend Star in Lieu of "White Boy Summer"

NOT CHET HANKS '24
PROFESSIONAL BS-ER

Unlike his Forrest Gump father, Chet Hanks has emerged to the front page of the internet through nothing but his own entertainment value. After seeing the son-of-a-star rise to fame, the team at Barnyard quickly decided that he would be the best fit for a Spring Weekend guest. Rumors have floated of celebrities like Pete Davidson or internet stars like Trevor Wallace being

invited via Zoom to campus, but a thorough investigation into Spring Weekend planning has revealed Chet as the true performer.

The decision to invite Chet was born after his recent series of tweets in which he describes the guidelines for a "White Boy Summer." Chet was quick to clarify in his initial video that his "White Boy Summer" does not refer to "Trump, NASCAR-type white" but rather the "Jon B., Jack-Harlow-type." For those unaware, the Jon B.

in question is presumably either 1.) the star character of Netflix's quarantine hit *Outer Banks*, or 2. an American singer-song writer; Jack Harlow is a recent breakout rap star most popularly known for his hit "WHAT'S POPPIN."

Outside of excluding conservatives, "White Boy Summer" also calls for no plaid patterns and no Sperry topsiders. Given Trinity College's excess of WASPs and pseudo-WASPs, Barnyard found it necessary to provide the student body

with a nifty guide to prevent problematic dressing and behavior. With such an influential figure like Chet, one can anticipate his audience to be receptive. In discouraging pro-Trump behavior and Sperry's, Chet threatens to rip apart the very seams that glues specific residents of Vernon Street together.

Barnyard anticipates a bit of backlash for such wild card guests, but students are reportedly thrilled to hear of Chet's invitation to campus. "I can't believe we

got someone as influential as Chet. It's almost as good as inviting Lil Sasquatch," said one student when asked about his thoughts on the younger Hanks' presumed performance. In a year fraught with stress and havoc, Barnyard acknowledges that only a guest whose father holds a parasocial connection with the American people through his filmography can repair tainted moods across campus. Trinity College eagerly awaits the arrival of the vanilla king.

"We Have No Way To Prevent This," Says the Only College Where "This" Thing Regularly Happens

SELF-MADE HERMIT '22
FRIENDLESS AND LONELY

In response to yet another pervasive incident of racism and bigotry on campus, an anonymous administrator has responded by saying, "Sorry, what can we do except send an email?" with a shrug. The issue of intolerance is continuously presented as if it were an unknown and also an unfamiliar concept to a College sporting notable alumni like Tucker Carlson and Jesse Water-champions of tolerance and community. "Sure, we've gone to bat for institutions that support views that we condemn,

but the financial incentives were far too appealing. We could better work on the elimination of intolerance on campus if only the trustees could put a price on it. Maybe we can invest in a batch of rapid-Political Compass tests alongside the next shipment of PCR's," responded an administrator.

After a summer of "learning about" the injustices that disproportionately affect women, members of the LGBT community, and students of color on this campus, the College allowed themselves a reprieve from a heavy workload of reading and writing more and more

emails. This breather allowed for the administration to shift their focus and energy as they worked to redirect it to building a stadium on campus that is set to replace the existing facilities for the "field hockey, football, men's and women's lacrosse, and track & field" teams. The decision reportedly comes with a "heavy heart," but the opportunity was considered "too good to pass up" given that the funding is provided by the kind, philanthropic families and alumni of Trinity College. Whether this emphasis on athletics will ensue in the wake of the campus' most recent

incident remains unknown.

"I think they just copy and paste an email and switch up what bad thing happened this time. President Berger-Sweeney and Dean Joe probably play rocks, paper, scissors to see who has to press send this time. It's pretty crazy how a paragraph from three administrators contains all the power to reverse centuries of transgressions and reshape the campus' culture. At this point, it's pretty clear no one will care unless it shows up in the "Alumni for a Better Trinity" Facebook group, so it's just a waiting game at this point," responded

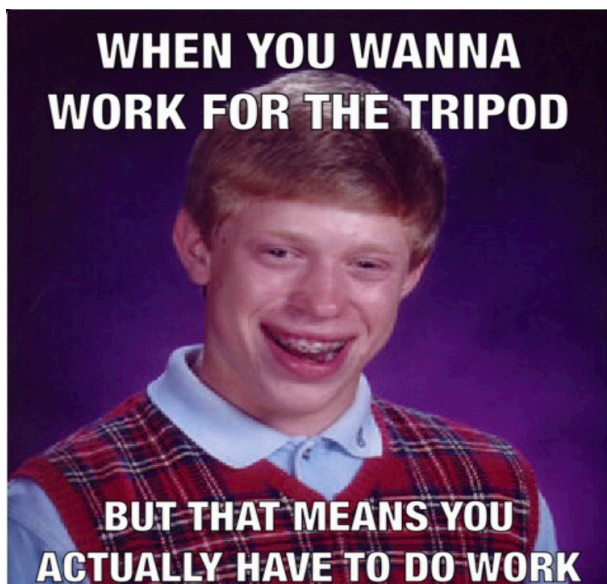
an upperclassman student.

In a 110-acre community ranked nationally as the highest concentration of families with homes in the Hamptons among any liberal arts college, one can imagine how understanding the intricacies of systemic racism has taken a lower priority to issues like which pair of Golden Goose sneakers are most trendy among the student body.

Only time will tell how the Trinity College community will move forward toward a more accepting, comfortable, and equitable future, but hey, at least we can expect a new press box.



Trinstagram: Long Walk Memes for Networking Teens



Me: I only read literary masterpieces

Also me:

The Trinity Tripod

Established in 1904
"Now then-Trinity!"

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Happy April Fool's Day from the *Tripod*

The Trinity Liepod is the Tripod's annual April Fool's Day issue. A real version of the Tripod can be found in the inside pages!