

The Trinity Tripod

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Trustees Name Dobelle As President

Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of the Committee to Search for a President, Alfred J. Koepfel '54 announced that Evan S. Dobelle will succeed Tom Gerety as the 18th President of Trinity College on Saturday, December 10th.

"One could not be more honored to be here," said President-elect Dobelle in a press conference Saturday afternoon. "Borden Painter has served with integrity and it allows me the opportunity to come in after a calming period."

Dobelle added that "we need to look at bringing to the country more of what Trinity has." He noted that Trinity's location in an urban environment is an asset which should be explored more, and expressed a strong commitment to liberal arts education.

"I think that what made us choose Evan above everyone else was his hands-on experience in urban settings," said Chairman Koepfel. "We have seen him make successes

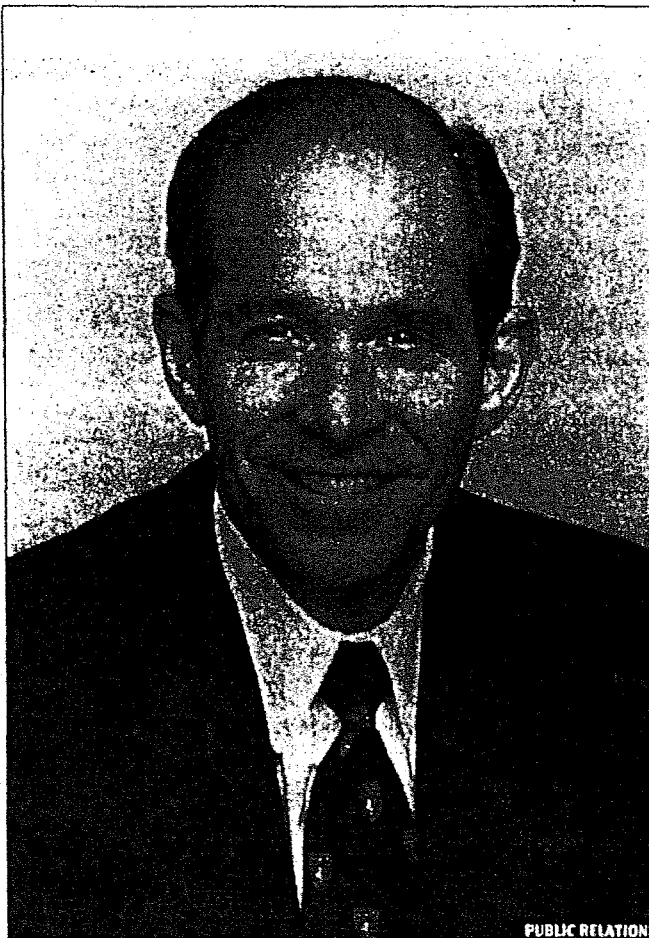
in the past out of what may have been called grim situations... We do know that Evan has good experience in fundraising, as Finance Chair of the Democratic National Party."

"I think that he brings experience in city relations and that's a definite plus for any President," said Director of Community Relations Eddie Perez. "He seems like a person well-versed on city and community issues."

As far as the duration of his stay, Dobelle said, "This is not a place you go on from... this is a place you come to... for me to be the eighteenth president in 172 years, [it shows that] people come here for a long time."

Dean of Students David Winer said, "I think he will make the College much more prominent and visible to the public eye. He has lots of academic and intellectual ideas and will find ways to effect them. I think he will lead Trinity very nicely into the 21st

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Dobelle's Political Experiences Profiled

Evan S. Dobelle, the new President of Trinity College, has served in both education and in public service. In the 1970's, Dobelle entered politics and served his state and his nation in many different positions.

Dobelle entered public service as an aid to Senator Ed Brooke, a Republican from Massachusetts, from 1971-1973. After leaving Brooke's office, Dobelle was elected Mayor of Pittsfield on the Republican ticket and was re-elected in 1975. He then went on to serve as commissioner of environmental management for Massachusetts.

In 1977, Dobelle was beckoned to the national political scene. On February 9th, President James E. Carter announced his intention to appoint Dobelle to serve as U.S. Chief of Protocol with the rank of Ambassador. However this appointment, as well as the selection of fellow Massachusetts Republican, former Nixon Attorney General Elliot Richardson, angered the newly elected Speaker of the

House, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill. The White House had neglected to consult with the Speaker on these selections and O'Neill commented in the future the Carter Administration should "consult the Speaker of the House" when considering appointees from Massachusetts. The relationship between Carter and O'Neill worsened in the next four years and was a major factor in Carter's problems with Congress.

Despite O'Neill's objections, on March 2nd, Carter praised Dobelle as a "very distinguished public servant in his own right" who represented "a new generation of leadership." However, the President noted that Dobelle had been converted from the ranks of the Republicans into the Democratic fold. As Chief of Protocol, Dobelle would be assuming a key role in the nation's dealings with foreign powers. The President thought the position so important he labeled it as being the "Ambassador of Ambassadors." Dobelle was the youngest

Chief of Protocol at that time. Dobelle and his wife Kit worked closely with the Carters. The two studied Spanish with Mrs. Carter and Gay Vance, the wife of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, in 1977. Mrs. Dobelle accompanied the First Lady on her tour of Central America in the summer of that year.

In April 1978, the Presi-

dent, with the support of Secretary Vance, recommended that Dobelle, despite his former connection to the Republican party, should serve as treasurer of the Democratic National Committee. President Carter named Mrs. Dobelle to take over as Chief of Protocol. In that role, Mrs. Dobelle would serve at the

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Presidential Search Process Completed

The announcement of Evan Dobelle as Trinity College's newest President came after a nine month nationwide presidential search process. In the search, which Chairman of the Board of Trustees Alfred Koepfel, '54, described as "long and arduous," a committee of thirteen members of the Trinity Community reviewed over 150 applications.

The search committee

narrowed down the applicant pool to twelve individuals, who were interviewed. After this first round of interviews, the pool was narrowed down to seven candidates, who were interviewed again.

After the second round of interviews, the committee eventually came to a consensus, choosing Dobelle, at their meeting on December

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