Trinity Waives First-Generation Application Fees

The Admissions Office hopes the waiver will increase the number of first-generation applicants.

Going Greek?

Current President of the Inter-Greek Council reflects on public perception of Trinity’s Greek system

EVAN SCOLLARD ’17

Senior Editor

Trinity College’s Greek system is unusual among New England liberal arts colleges, and similarly, Trinity’s Greek Letter Organizations (GLOs) are defined and affected by the fact that this is a liberal arts college. The tight boundary of our hundred-acre plot ensures that most of us know each other by the time we all go out to rush. But where this intimacy continues, the GLOs assert their autonomy from the school and the administration. So we have continued on in this stalemated battle, the GLOs asserting their autonomy from the school and the administration pushing Greek life out of the Trinity narrative.

Prospective students browsing the College’s website will not see much about any of the GLOs, despite all of the fanfare for a cappella groups, sports teams, and other recreational organizations. The alumni reading the Trinity Report know than meets the eye. Serowik feels there is more to “Generation K” also drew attention to Alexa herself, though Serowik " Generation K" also drew attention to Alexa herself, though Serowik "

Football Wins First Home Game of Season

Trinity crushes Bates 38-7 in season home opener

SAMANTHA BEATI ’17

Contributing Writer

Trinity Football returned on Saturday, a day marked by excitement not just for Family Weekend, but also the new turf field that was redone in the offseason. The Bantams hosted the Bates Bobcats on a very warm and sunny afternoon. The game started with the Bantams, who trailed in the beginning of the first quarter when Bates quarterback Sandy Flasher ran the ball into the end zone.

COURTESY OF Caroline Deveau

TRIP SLAYMAKER ’18

A&E Editor

As a first-year student just beginning at Trinity, it can sometimes feel difficult to plant lasting roots, or make an impact on a bustling campus. That won’t be a problem for Alexa Serowik ’20, whose video project “Generation K” has been spreading like wildfire through the student body. The video has climbed past 55,000 views in its first two weeks online. It features Serowik performing her song of the same name as she poses in the surf of a New England beach, singing about millennials, Katniss, technology and September Vogue. Interest in “Generation K” also drew attention to Alexa herself, though Serowik feels there is more to know than meets the eye.

COURTESY OF Meghan Collins ’19

Lucas Golon ’19 as he scores his first career touchdown.
The Trinity Tripod
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The Tripod is always looking for new writers and contributors. If you are interested in writing, please send an email to tripod@trincoll.edu

Tripod Editorial
Globalization vs. Xenophobia

Historians call the last seventy years or so—the time period between World War II and the most recent—the Long Peace. Despite what one may hear on a cable network with a 24-hour news cycle or through the increasingly entertaining-driven American news outlets, there has been a notable lack of direct military conflict between any major states since World War Two. Diplomatic alternatives to war in a globalized world coupled with exponential technological advancements, have had untold benefits on humankind. Average global life expectancy has doubled from 35 years to almost 71 since 1940, while the number of people living in abject poverty has fallen by 33 percent, even as our population increased by 250 percent. The rate of deaths due to war per capita is the lowest it has ever been in modern human history, while terrorism, genocide, and murder are similarly low. Things have gotten much better over the last seventy years, as the world has become increasingly globalized, connected, and collaborative. But over the last year or so, it seems that the Long Peace is becoming increasingly fragile, as cracks begin to appear that may be symptomatic of something much worse than the relatively minor unrest that has occurred during this time period.

The elephant in the room is, as usual, Donald Trump. He has continuously stood in opposition to any sort of international cooperation (for even, in some cases, mere diplomacy). He champions a form of xenophobic nationalism that stretches way beyond isolationism. To say nothing of his bluster about border walls, deportation forces, and Muslim bans, his xenophobia manifests itself in much subtler ways as well. For example, Trump wants to eliminate the entire J1 student work/travel visa, a longtime visa granted for international students to travel and work in America for a summer. He wants to impose massive trade tariffs on all of our major trade partners. He opposes TPP and NAFTA. Trump seems otherwise, other religions, and other cultures as enemies. His opinions are not forthcoming from the rest of the world, yet doesn’t understand how harmful the breakdown of global unity could be. It is only because of our connected world that Steve Jobs, the son of a Syrian immigrant, was able to start Apple. Global cooperation fuels scientific discoveries, from CERN to the ISS. Globalization has allowed us to enjoy German cars while wearing Italian clothes and eating chocolate in Peru. Our universities, and the universities of untold other nations, have benefited from the sharing of ideas and cultures and products—all products of globalization. But Trump would rather close himself, and America, off from all of these other ideas on a platform of “America First!” And with this breakdown of connectedness that his brand of militant nationalism brings, I worry so will the diplomacy that has facilitated the Long Peace thus far. The main problem isn’t that Trump is peddling such nonsense, however. The problem is that we are buying into it. Between 38 and 43 percent of Americans support his policies, however reservedly. It’s not just because of party politics: ideas like Trump’s massive tariffs and his vision for a much larger government are marketed unRepublican. Yet a vast majority, perhaps even a plurality, of Americans support his antiglobalization tirade. Many other nations have fallen prey to similar attitudes. Just look at the successful Brexit vote in the United Kingdom, spurred by demagogues like Nigel Farage with his misinformation, smear campaigns against immigrants, globalization, and those deemed “un-British.” Just look at the burkini bans and other prohibitions of self-expression found in France under the guise of their militant secularism policies. Look at the segregated schools in Germany, with Turkish immigrants only permitted in the lowest levels of German school setting, while the gymnasiuim (the highest level of German high schools) reserved only for those of German descent. The crusade against those who are different colors or practice different faiths is not isolated, and this worries me deeply.

America, along with much else of Western civilization, is at a crossroads, where citizens are choosing between a unit-ed world and a divided one. We need connectivity. Not only does it allow us to fully utilize our human capital globally, it also prevents disaster. How would nationalist, xenophobic, swaggering President Trump have handled the Iran Hostage Crisis? Or the Cuban Missile Crisis? I suspect with much more violence than necessary. The traditional paradigm of liberals versus conservatives is breaking down, and in a few weeks, the choice won’t really be left versus right anymore. It will be a referendum on America’s place in (or separate from) the rest of the world. We cannot afford to make the wrong choice.

The Trinity Zen Group
HARTFORD CONNECTICUT

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Connections

Sept. 20: The name of David Lemkull’s property management firm is SML Real Estate, Inc. The number of Trinity properties managed by Lemkull is 12, not 13. There is only one of the other 12 residential properties managed by SML at which residents have received notices alerting them to balcony concerns—two apartments at one property.

Errors and Comments
tripod@trincoll.edu

2 SEPTEMBER 27, 2016
Investigation Sheds Light on Cause of Balcony Collapse

CAMPBELL NORTH ’17
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

An official inspection of 1715 Broad Street has provided further insight into the possible cause behind the balcony collapse on the night of Sept. 10. While the new admissions policy follows the form of a box on the Common App that students can check indicating that they are the first of their family to attend college, the application fee is immediately waived. The new admissions policy also reflects Trinity’s partnership and participation with “I’m First,” an organization for first-generation college students. Trinity’s fee of $85 falls on the lower end of cost relative to peer institutions, whose fees can run upwards of $80.

If a student applies to many colleges, the cost is magnified, and application fees are often crippling financial burdens for students from less affluent backgrounds. The purpose of application fees is primarily a deterrence. If it were free to apply to college, admissions offices would be inundated with meaningless applications. Further obstructing an already complicated and costly system is the new policy of applying for first-generation students.

Before the implementation of the new measure, which will go into effect immediately, Trinity’s College Admission Office had a non-refundable application fee for students, albeit on a case-by-case basis.

The new policy seeks to systematize the waiver of application fees, which in this case will compensate the stigma sometimes associated with first-generation status, particularly for applicants from low-income families. In the words of Perez: “If you don’t systematize the fee waiver, then you’ll lose the kids who don’t have the courage to ask… it’s embarrassing.” Trinity is apparently on the cutting edge of such practical reform. The only one of its peer institutions to have such a policy in place is Bowdoin.

Very few colleges currently have systematized fee waivers for first-generation students, though Trinity’s example may inform other schools. The removal of application fees for first-generation students helps to pool in as many students from diverse backgrounds as possible while simultaneously ensuring the success of each candidate.

The move away from application fees for first-generation students helps students to avoid the question: “make sure that Trinity continues to be a place that represents society.”

Rebecca Reingold ’17
OPINION EDITOR

On Tuesday, Sept. 27 during Common Hour on the second floor of Mather, students would like to pursue.

The new admissions process is the cutting edge of such policy reform. While investigating the College’s admissions policies, I would like to give them an opportunity to make change and advocate for the change of our system.

RR: What do you think of the College’s admissions policies? SC: I’m hoping those who don’t know about the problems with the criminal justice system will gain a new understanding. I also hope that those who have a solid understanding will learn how this advocacy organization is trying to create positive change. For all students, I hope the event will inspire others to think about how they might try to make change.

RR: How do you think students will react to this event?

SC: I think that there are a lot of students on Trinity’s campus who care about social justice and fair treatment of people in the criminal justice system. Some students need a faculty advisor, and that’s what I am willing to do. I hope students will go to the Student Government Association to start a new organization on campus. I hope that they will come to me. I also hope that those who have a solid understanding will learn how this advocacy organization is trying to create positive change. For all students, I hope the event will inspire others to think about how they might try to make change. SC: I do know that students need a faculty advisor, and that’s what I am willing to do. I hope students will go to the Student Government Association to start a new organization on campus.

Why are they coming to Trinity? SC: They’ve been important stakeholders as Connecticut policymakers deliberate policy options to reform our criminal justice system. They’ve helped influence the policy initiative in the state. They’ve written a book that details the realities of why the criminal justice system is broken. They’ve helped in the community we might find that some of our freshmen, sophomores or juniors might want to become involved with the Malta Justice Initiative. Currently, the group is collecting data on employers using parole and parole to hold a job as a condition of their release from prison, so we need to make sure employers are willing to give people a second chance. After all, these are people who paid the price for their conviction. I thought this would be a great opportunity for Trinity students—if they are inspired by the Common Hour event— to start a Malta Justice chapter or create an internship with this organization. I’m happy for their conviction.

What do you think of the College’s admissions policies? SC: I’m hoping those who don’t know about the problems with the criminal justice system will gain a new understanding. I also hope that those who have a solid understanding will learn how this advocacy organization is trying to create positive change. For all students, I hope the event will inspire others to think about how they might try to make change.

How do you think students will react to this event? SC: I think that there are a lot of students on Trinity’s campus who care about social justice and fair treatment of people in the criminal justice system.
Sports Schedule on Canvas, Within Budget

ERIN GANNON ’19 A&E EDITOR

The enormous construction projects visible from the Lower Long Walk are report-edly within budget and on schedule, according to Renwick, Director of Athletic es and Recreation and Chair of Physical Education. The completion of this project would take the shape of athletic fields is actually two separate projects conducted by the Athletics Department.

The first ongoing project, currently near completion, is the renovation of Jessee/ Miller field, home to the Football and Men’s Lacrosse teams, and the surround-ing track complex. The second project is the construc-tion of entirely new baseball, softball, and soccer venues.

The construction of Deeane Miller field began shortly after the football team’s final home game last November. “The day before the last football game, we had a couple of alums who knew that we were taking off the turf,” Renwick said, “and wanted to take some mementos, so they took a couple pieces and swatches of the turf, and that kind of started it.”

The TriPod spoke with Student Government President Ryan Miller ’17 to discuss the results and his hopes for the year.

Miller stated that this election was one of SGA’s most exciting yet. “Records from the Office of Student Activities, Involvement, & Leadership (SAI)” mark the election this fall as SGA’s most competitive election in recent years. With 12 candidates vying for five seats and 12 seats available, the run-off election was the most intense yet. “The day after the Homecoming ball, softball, and soccer venues. The second project of the Jessee/Miller field for the past sev-eral years. “The surface, along with the surrounding track, had reached a point where, regardless of the football team’s home winning streak, needed to be replaced,” Renwick said. “Turf fields do eventually wear out and we felt it was time for our field to be replaced based on our needs and that of a synthetic turf installed by the same company that placed the former turf, made of a rubber sand infill mix, and plays closely to what you would get from natural grass.”

The Board of Trustees and the College Leadership, who are responsible for final ap-provals of all capital projects on campus, approved the base-ball, softball, and soccer fields project the last week in June. The new fields project has been in discussion for the better part of a decade, and construction started on July 1. “The summer was very dry to us, so the project is currently on or slightly ahead of schedule,” said Renwick. “So long as the weather is kind weather-wise as well, the project should complete by early to mid-December.”

Members of the Trinity community traveling on the Lower Long Walk can ob-serve that the softball field is near completion, which has raised questions concerning the softball team’s season is in the spring. Renwick noted that this was because of the grading of the fields. “From the high side of where the softball field lines meet to the lower side, our women’s soccer field was at the low side, there was a severe difference in elevation.”

Construction workers had to level the women’s soccer field first in order to reuse resources, moving excess dirt into that area to fill in the dis-parity. Additionally, the Depart-Ment was only authorized to move a maximum amount of earth at a time by the Con-necticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. In addition to the field up-grades, all of the new venues will be connected by a paved sidewalk, so they can now capture all of that data on their devices.”

As for his aspirations for newly elected officials, Miller stated that “it is important that the recently elected SGA officials hit the ground running as a voice between the school administration, SGA, and their classmates. The triad offers so many opportunities for students to use their voice for positive change and I want the new senators to use that voice in new ways. We are encouraging students to ask questions, explore collaboration on campus resources, and provide programming specific to their classes that will benefit all students in the community. You don’t have to venture far down the Long Walk to realize that Trinity students are bold thinkers with creative ideas. The new senators can work with their classmates to highlight and open a dialogue on new opportunities for us to grow as a residential liberal arts college, the SGA will succeed in its goals for the year.”

The senior class officers are considered by some to have the most responsibility of class officers since their duties include planning and organizing notable events throughout the year, including the Senior Week. When asked about the senior class officers and their roles Miller said, “I could not be more excited for the senior class officers. There’s a mix of returning and new senators, so we’ll have new perspectives on the programs for the class of 2017. We had our first introductory meeting Sunday evening and I am incredibly confident in the seniors on Student Government. Those elected have established themselves among their classmates as leaders in the community. You don’t have to venture far down the Long Walk to realize that Trinity students are bold thinkers with creative ideas. The new senators can work with their classmates to highlight and open a dialogue on new opportunities for us to grow as a residential liberal arts college, the SGA will succeed in its goals for the year.”

Commenting on SGA’s long-term goals Miller expressed hopes of bringing the Trinity community together by saying, “One of my goals for this year is to work with the greater Trinity community to highlight the many paths students take while at Trinity. First year students through graduating seniors may take classes across departments, join organizations and teams, discover new hobbies, work on research with faculty, intern here in Hartford or study abroad, and participate in community service. We’re at a unique time at Trinity as we approach the schools Bicentennial - the decisions and changes we make as a community now will affect us at the college now but could absolutely have a positive influence on the future decision making of future Bantams.”

To increase SGA’s accessibility, Miller encourages students to reach out to their class senators or send questions and ideas to me at SAPresident@trincoll.edu.

To see official election results, go to calendar.trincoll.edu.
Terrorist Attacks Raise Questions for Candidates

MATT EPSTEIN '19
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Sept. 17, three separate attacks were carried out on U.S. soil, leaving one person dead and nearly 50 injured. In Minnesota, Dahir Adan, a 22-year-old Somali-American stabbed 11 people at a mall. In New York and New Jersey, two homemade bombs exploded and a third pressure cooker bomb was found undetonated. While the investigation is ongoing, Afghan-American Ahmad Rahami was captured after a shootout, and has been charged in the case of all three bombs.

Our nation’s attention should be on those affected. However, the attacks also bring terrorism and national security to the forefront of the ongoing presidential campaigns. With just nine weeks left until ballots are cast, the recent attacks could have large implications for who becomes our next President.

In the post-9/11 era, Americans are predictably wary of terrorism. Naturally, both major party candidates, Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, were quick to respond to last weekend’s attacks. At a campaign rally, Trump used the attacks as a talking point, in a departure from his usual stump speech, telling the audience “just before I got off the plane, a bomb went off in New York and nobody knew exactly what’s going on.” Trump, so it seemed, did know what was going on, as he announced that a bomb had exploded hours before any official confirmation that it was in fact a bomb. He drew criticism for speaking on this topic while potentially uninformed. Later in the night, Clinton also talked to reporters about the explosions, saying that she had been in contact with New York City officials.

In no uncertain terms, immigration has been at the forefront of the President campaign. Trump and Clinton, however, have had different approaches to the issue. Trump preaches the value of a large border wall, mass deportations, and a temporary hold on immigration from traditionally Muslim countries. Clinton suggests a pathway to citizenship for those already in the country and urges the U.S. to serve as a safe haven for those displaced in the Syrian refugee crisis.

Since ISIS has claimed responsibility for the Minnesota stabbings and the accused bomber in New York and New Jersey had reportedly “radicalized,” it is easy to see how recent events could incite fear in voters, swinging them toward policies of isolationism.

When it comes time to vote, Americans must remember that we are a nation of immigrants, one that has historically come to the rescue of those in need. Perhaps this is already showing, as Clinton leads polls when it comes to choosing which candidate Americans trust on matters of terrorism and foreign policy.

In this Nov., the American people will elect our next president. The stab-bings in Minnesota and bombings in New York and New Jersey have brought terrorism to the center of the campaign. In many ways, Americans will have to make the choice between succumbing to fear, or embracing pragmatism in the coming weeks. Terrorism fundamentally aims to scare people into abandoning their normal way of life. If our country gives into fear, last week’s attacks would be a success in the eyes of the perpetrators.

Trinity Administration Seeks to Hide Greek Life

From the faculty or staff. Affiliated students underplay their membership in the classroom for fear that they will face backlash from their professors. I must concede, many of our older professors and deans have good reason to look at our GLOs critically; they survived the recklessness of fraternity culture in the 1990s, when pledging tanked most young men’s GPAs and threatened the academic reputation of the College. That suggests a defiant ignorance, however, if they refuse to reevaluate the current system before of their dis- taste for the previous one. More likely, the College’s efforts to push Greek life out of the Trinity con- sciousness has left them without the evidence with which to argue against the GLOs. They simply do not know us, so they carry on with an unfavorable impression of Greek life and accordingly push us further out of Trinity’s public face in an effort to distance themselves from what they perceive as an insidious institution. And so the cycle continues.

Members of GLOs have a duty to challenge those false perceptions. We own some responsibility for our poor repu- tation among many fac- ulty and administrators if we do nothing to show them how wildly different our system is from that of the 1990s and early 2000s. While they ex- pect drunks and elitists, we must show them that student leaders and ac- complished athletes com- prise the Greek student body. Not only do many of us hold positions in stu- dent government, exclu- sive academic programs, clubs, and historic stu- dent organizations, but also the average Greek student holds a GPA .33 points higher than the average non-Greek stu- dent. In fact, the average fraternity man — so often the victim of caricature for academic careless- ness — holds a GPA .33 points higher than his non-Greek counterpart.

Where they expect elitism, we must remind them that we have brought in GLOs specifically oriented towards minority students and are currently working to develop more opportuni- ties for young women hoping to join Greek life. Additionally, some of this information has per- meated the barrier separ- arating the GLOs from the administration’s good grace. Resistance has, in some circles, waned into apathy, and else- where — especially among newer faculty and staff — the Greeks have enjoyed a great deal of coopera- tion. IGC functions fairly independently and GLOs have begun to be invited to public events, like the campus block party. This progress is slow, howev- er, and we still encounter regular resistance on is- sues like expansion or the private property rights of Greek houses. But it is still progress — progress that GLOs must work diligently to advance.

In a letter that I wrote to all the Greek alumni in my capacity as the Pres- ident of the Inter-Greek Council, I noted this shift- ing of winds and how they too must act responsibly to continue this momentum. The administration will not come round to Greek life if our alumni continue to act antago- nistically, using their potential donations as a weapon. Of course they should expect some political re- sponse when they are personally funding our College, but they should do so in the interest of ad- vancing Trinity’s collec- tive interests rather than going forward combative- ly, widening the schism. If instead, our alumni can work in tandem with the administration to bet- ter the College they will expand the number of their view of their GLOs, along with the undergraduates now affiliated with them. Through the combined effort of alumni reengage- ment and student diplo- macy, the GLOs can hope to return to our place as a distinguished part of this College’s tradition — something to be celebrat- ed rather than tolerated.
Students Overlook What Hartford Has to Offer

AUDREY O'BURNE ’20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Trinity College attempts to involve its’ students with the Hartford community through groups such as the Cities Program, the Community Learning Initiative, and other volunteer opportunities. However, when I asked students about their experiences while living in Hartford, few see Trinity’s connection to the city as something to be embraced.

Hartford is home to a number of famous sites, each holding distinct historical and cultural significance, not only for Connecticut, but for the nation. Some of these sites include the Mark Twain House, where the famed author wrote Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, the Harriet Beecher Stowe House, home of the prominent abolitionist and author of Uncle Tom’s Cabin, and the Wadsworth Atheneum, which holds pieces by artists such as Caravaggio, Salvador Dali, Jack-son Pollock, and Monet. If this is the case, why do most Trinity students opt to spend the majority of their time on campus, instead of in Hartford? The reason for this is that there is a noticeable “darkside” to the boroughs of Hartford, of which its citizens and the students are less proud.

From the colonial days of the United States through the mid-twentieth century, Hartford played a significant role as the oldest city in Connecticut, a hub for abolitionist movements and a center for industry and insurance companies. These industries allowed the city and its citizens to flourish. However, in the mid-twentieth century, this inner-city success began to decline. Cigna, a large insurance company that was originally based in the Hartford, moved its headquarters to a suburb. Later, shopping malls outside of Hartford began to grow, causing department and family-run stores in the city to suffer and eventually close. Then, during the 1990s, Hartford’s population dropped a shocking 13 percent. This drop had dangerous implications, as the people who left the city were no longer spending money in Hartford. The poorer populations in Hartford could not afford to move elsewhere and were unable to contribute capital to revitalize the local economy.

The problem is cyclical and until those who are still living in Hartford are able to fully support themselves and the local industry, it will not be solved. Equally troubling as the economic issues, is the drug epidemic in Hartford. According to the Hartford Courant, projections estimate that this year in Connecticut there will be more deaths due to accidental overdoses of heroin and other opioids than last year. In addition, violent and non-violent crimes have been on a steady rise for the last decade. To get a feel of student opinions on Hartford, I asked a variety of Trinity students how they feel about living here. The immediate reaction was, more often than not, negative. Even if nothing has happened to them personally, students referred to the darkside to living in Hartford. In addition to viewing work by the famous artists listed earlier, the trip reminded me of museum visits I had made in other cities, such as New York City’s Metropolitan Museum of Art. In short, I intend to go back to the museum, and explore other the offerings of this historic and dynamic city.

As I am not from Hartford or the surrounding area, I did not know much about the city when I first arrived at Trinity. I approached the museum trip with an open mind and a sense of excitement about what was in store. My hope is that other Trinity students can find a spark to build their own relations with an open mind and a sense of excitement about what was in store. My hope is that other Trinity students can find a spark to build their own relations with the city of Hartford.

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Greek Life Spotlight: AEPi’s Aaron Kirshenberg ’18

AMANDA MUCCHIO ‘18 FEATURES EDITOR

The Tripod sat down with Aaron Kirshenberg ’18, Founder and President of the newly added Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi) Chapter at Trinity. Trinity Tripod: What made you want to bring an AEPi chapter to Trinity?

Aaron Kirshenberg: I wanted to bring an AEPi chapter to Trinity because I am an active member of a true Jewish social organization on campus. I knew there were a lot of Jewish guys around and I wanted to bring them together in a less religious aspect. That being said, AEPi is not exclusively Jewish - all of the brothers just share similar values.

TT: What was the process like in getting your fraternity approved?

AK: The process of starting a chapter, and finally getting approved by the administration was not an easy process well worth it. I first contacted AEPi nationals in the spring of my freshman year. They were confused at first and I realized that I would need to gather an initial group of guys, to show that there was actual interest. In the fall of my sophomore year nationals conducted interviews and inducted six founding fathers into the fraternity. Working with AEPi representatives, [Title IX Coordinator] Tim Dunn, Dean DiChristina, and [Director of Campus Life] Kathryn Wojcik, we were finally recognized by the school at the start of this semester.

TT: What steps did you take to prepare AEPi for opening?

AK: We rented a house at 21 Brownell Avenue for this year. We will move in early and build a bar in the basement, painted the house, and fixed up the basement.

TT: Do work you exclusively with any faculty members or administrators on campus?

AK: We don’t only work with certain faculty members. While our faculty advisor is Ronald Rieker, we’re open to working with everyone. The administration has been really helpful thus far.

TT: What is your future plans for your fraternity? AK: We have a lot of big plans going forward. We are about to close on securing a house on Allen Street for the next school year. We also want to host a lot more philanthropic events throughout the year and get involved on campus.

TT: Do you ever have any events will you be holding throughout the year? AK: In terms of events, while 21 Brownell isn’t the closest, the house is 10 bed-rooms and the backyard and basement are huge, so we will be occasionally throwing parties. We are trying to secure a space on Vernon Street for social purposes but that isn’t set in stone. As I said earlier, we will try to participate in as many philanthropic events as we can as well.

TT: Is there anything else you would like to add? AK: I’m very happy with how the fraternity has been going. I’ve met my best friends on campus and I can’t wait for everything to keep moving forward as AEPi grows.

Grilled cheese sandwiches were among the many foods offered.
When she sat down with the Trispo, Serowik explained her beginnings with the arts. “I started acting when I was very little. My dad’s name is Jeff Serowik. He was in the NHL, and we were a big hockey family. And then, at age ten I auditioned for Annie in my town, and I ended up getting a role as Pepper. I had to tell my dad that I wanted to retire from hockey, which was super upsetting for him, obviously.” After this first introduction into acting, Serowik was scouted to be a part of the Nickodle workshop in New York City. Serowik worked in screen and theatre acting, auditioning across the country from age ten on.

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Cinestudio Preview: Florence Foster Jenkins Shines

TRIP SLAYMAKER ’18
A&E EDITOR

In many ways, Meryl Streep’s latest character represents the ultimate in overconfidence. Florence Foster Jenkins was born without even the slightest suspicion of talent, yet somehow would go on to perform at a sold-out Carnegie Hall.

What she did have was a natural confidence and firm personality that helped her persevere against the truth that her voice was ludicrously terrible. Occasionally off key when ever she opened her mouth.

Florence Foster Jenkins drops us into the wartime New York City life of an heiress and beloved music patron. This woman seems to be the very essence of a Lady from any era and makes a perfect backdrop for Streep’s alter ego. Serowik’s “Generation K” has garnered attention from students.

and thousands are turned away from her sold-out show. It represents the predestined success of a life that was designed to fail. As this character’s name suggests: She’s a terrible singer.

Director Stephen Soderbergh seems like an impossi- ble task, but Bayfield tries his hardest, inviting only “music lovers” to Florence’s recitals, that is, pre-inter- viewed audience members and very close friends. Flor- ence performs for these au- diences, oblivious to theirCaught

serous’ is always on, if a little eccentric at first, but Florence Foster Jenkins commands the attention of any room she is in. Her character elaborates and becomes clearer as the film progresses, but there is an entire first act before the big reveal. When Jenkins expresses a desire to take up sing- ing again to her husband (Hugh Grant) we finally see what silliness this character is capable of.

Streep was the only choice to play this role, in part because of the need for an emotionally convincing performance that few could get right. The other factor in cast- ing could only have been the great wealth of funny noises involved in playing Florence Foster Jenkins. Streep imitates the real woman’s voice with ease, sometimes whooping, some times shrieking. These are the funniest scenes in the movie, and of course Meryl Streep’s character learns into it. The character has no knowledge of her own vocal shortcomings, in fact she believes herself to be one of the finest singers of her time. This, coupled with Jenkins’ love of exaggerat- ed stage costumes makes the character incredibly fun, but also slightly tragic.

Therein lies one of the challenges of balancing Florence Foster Jenkins: how can the weight of such a fleshed out, visual- ly fascinating and hilarious Meryl Streep character be matched? The rest of the film begins to lag behind the predestined success of its beloved top-billed ac- cession. For this reason char- acter’s like Florence’s young man Pomeroy and beautiful alter ego are played indistinctly by Big Bang Theory’s Stephen Amell. Many songs begin to be released, and thousands are turned away from her sold-out show. It represents the predestined success of a life that was designed to fail. As this character’s name suggests: She’s a terrible singer.

Hugh Grant’s character, St. Clair Bayfield, husband to Florence, fares better.

Guffled laughter, while Bay- field watches the crowd like a hawk, and removes any member who might become too visually hysterical. A cult following begins to circulate around Flor- ence Foster Jenkins, and audiences start to view her either as a high-con- cept comedy routine, or as a lesson in courage and perseverance. Everyone is watching this video, and everyone is watching it that way. And, people are watching it, so clearly it’s effective. When you do something that’s dif- ferent, you have to be pre- pared to take criticism.”

“Generation K” isn’t a brand, it’s just us. When people come up to me and ask ‘What is Generation K? I just tell them ‘I’m Generation K! You’re Generation K! We’re all Gener- ation K!” Serowik laughs about an Instagram post about the girl’s soccer team with their fingers in the shape of a “K.”

“I love when people do the ‘K at me.” She says that she enjoys having a connection to so many people on campus, but that she’s just a home- sick freshman. “I’m real- ly just happy to be here. I’m honored that people are watching this video, and I take negativi- ty with a grain of salt.”

COURTESY OF Alexa Serowik ’20

COURTESY OF geeksodoom.com

Academy Award-winner Meryl Streep takes on the title role in Florence Foster Jenkins.

“The first verse is Kat- niss, the second verse is Kendall and Kylie, who represent what social media has turned into. I saw them on Septem- ber Vogue, and the title was ‘Generation K’ and I knew I wanted to include them. Then, the third verse is Kingdom. Be- cause of the idea that we all think we’re kings and queens on social media. Everyone in social media is just putting on a hat.”

“I wanted the song to be super catchy, and I want- ed the song to stay in your head. I also wanted to give the facts about Generation K.” Serowik says that the song was less about show- ing off her vocal range than it was about get- ting her message across.

She has seen a large variation of responses to the song. “A lot of people use Generation K to mock me, but I don’t think of it that way. And, people are watching it, so clearly it’s effective. When you do something that’s different, you have to be prepared to take criticism.”

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Florence Foster Jenkins is fizzy and light, full of satisfying mo- ments, but it works best when viewed as a charac- ter study by Streep. The depth and hilarity of her performance is reason enough to see this movie. Florence Foster Jenkins will play at Cinestudio from Wednesday Sept. 28 to Saturday Oct. 1.
The Imbune, sense is never revealed nor ing imagery yet, their es are riddled with intrigu ing complexity of Travis Scott. His justification, of trying to However, this attempt of ridiculous, overly dramat be viewed as completely Cudi. This image can also image can be interpreted in regards to losing touch rising from his mouth. This position with white smoke sitting in a hunched over persis er for Houston-based er art for Houston-based eter Erasmus ‘15 will act in Wilde’s 

CONTRIBUTING WRITER JESSICA NEWBERG ‘20 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

ERIN GANNON ’19 A&E EDITOR

When looking at the cov er art for Houston-based rapper Travis Scott’s album Birds In The Trap Sing McKnight, Scott is depicted as a hybrid of what could be a bird and a fallen angel sitting in a hunched over position with white smoke rising from his mouth. This image can be interpreted as Scott’s fall from grace, in regards to losing touch with his southern roots. He discusses this theme in the song “Way Back” featuring Swizz Beats and Kid Cudi. This image can also be viewed as completely ridiculous, overly dramat ic, and unrelated to what his album is really about. However, this attempt of justification, of trying to understand who he real ly is or what he is rapping about, is the entire com plexity of Travis Scott. His albums contain songs that are riddling with intrigu ing imagery yet, their es sence is never revealed nor given any form of context.

On his debut studio al bum, Rodeo, Scott develop ed the reputation as “a rapper who raps about nothing,” which was also present in his previous mix tapes, Owl Pharaoh, and Days Before Rodeo. In these projects Scott managed to establish an aesthetic that is melodramatic, gothic, and of an artificial quality which he makes his own and turns into something worth hearing. Birds in the Trap Sing McKnight, Scott’s sophomore studio album, is no exception to these themes, yet there are nu ences within the record that prove that there is more to Scott than his reputation. Birds in the Trap Sing McKnight, Scott’s most har deous and straight forward album to date, in this, he has finally shed himself of his “up and coming” title. It is clear that Scott is in full control of the vibe he portrays, and does so by using his now, A-list. list of guests in the music in dustry, and his notorious ly mellifluous vocals that are central to his fame. A component to Scott’s artistic transition, was his choice to rely heavi ly on his name. The use of artists such as Kendrick Lamar in the song “Goosebumps,” helps to convey the lyrics message of missing and longing for a lover when they are not physically there. Kendrick uses his ability to convey mood and tempo, and a cadence that differs significantly from Scott’s, but still synchronizes perfectly to the rhyme scheme and ghostly beat that is essential to this love song. The lyrics in “Goosebumps,” like its main hook, “I get those goosebumps every time, yeah, you come around, yeah,” pro vides a perfect example of Scott replacing the usual esoteric themes and replaces it with something that is more relevant to his listeners. Other artists that are featured on this album include the Weeknd, Young Thug, Cassie, Bryson Tiller, and Andre 3000. There are still songs on Birds that play back to older Scott, such as “Beibs in the Trap.” This song, although titled using an intention use of the word “beibs” does not actually feature Justin Bieber. Instead it uses “beibs” as an addition to the famed tradition of turn ing white celebrities’ names into a slang for cocaine.

Despite its arcane and confusing elements, its hard to hate on Birds. In this project, Travis Scott attempts to broaden his audience, but still manag es to follow through with his usual way of distorting what is deemed “ordinary,” into something that is pur zling, unique and beautiful.
The baseball team’s 2016 season was filled with individual player accolades and awards, as well as team accomplishments. Then-senior Scott Cullinane ’16 was awarded with the NESCAC Defensive Player of the Year, as well as being named to the All-NESCAC First Team and the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III New England All-Star Second Team. John- ny Stamatis ’19 and Nick Pizzella ’16 were named All-NESCAC Second Team. Mackenze Genau ’16 made the NESCAC Team. Ryan Vultaggio ’18 spear- headed the efforts to get a college from the city to become an All-Star Team. Wolfie’s dad through a fun game.”

Field Hockey Cruising

RYAN MURPHY ’17
SPORTS EDITOR

The Field Hockey team won their fourth straight game on Saturday, Sep. 24, downing Colby in a NESCAC showdown. The Bantams dropped a 4-3 heartbreaker to Williams on Sep. 10, but have since rattled off wins against No. 11 Wellesley, Hamilton, Keene State, and the aforementioned Colby Mules. “We have been working so hard during prac- tice and it’s really great to see the hard work pay off during games,” said mid- fielder Mia Olsen ’17 of the team’s early success. “The team has been meshing well together and it’s nice to have a supportive group of girls looking out for each other on and off the field.” Last week, Kacie Finn ’18 captured NESCAC Player of the Week honors as well as recognition from the National Field Hock- ey Coaches Association as a Division III Honor Roll member for her perfor- mance against Wellesley efforts. Finn scored four goals against Wellesley and Hamilton, all of which came with Trinity trailing in the second half. Her second goal against Wellesley was the game winner and her sec- ond against Hamilton sent the contest into overtime.

Finch kept the great play going against Colby, scoring the first Bantam goal eight minutes into the match, as- sisted by Chandler Solimine ’19. Twelve minutes later, Solimine added a goal of her own off a pass from teammate Slowe ’19. Before the end of the half, Solimine found Finch again for another goal, also returned the favor to Slowe, who knocked in the fourth goal of the game. Already up by a score of 4-1 in the second half, the Bantams added a securi- ty goal in the 65th minute, when Finn found Nicole Quinnan ’20 for the fresh- man’s first career goal. Goalkeeper Lori Berger ’18 saved five out of six shots on goal by the Mules in her third game of the year, allowing only one goal. The Bantams looked to ex- tend their streak to seven games with three matches in the coming days, high- lighted by a double-header this weekend. Connecticut College visits Robin Shep- pard Field on Wednesday, Oct. 5, to keep their streak to seven games.

Wednesday, October 5, 2016
4:00 – 7:00 PM
WASHINGTON ROOM, MATHER HALL

Study Away Fair 2016

Learn about semester, full year, and summer study away programs in more than 40 countries around the world!

Meet with returned study away students, program representatives, Trinity faculty and Office of Study Away staff

For more information please contact: The Office of Study Away 66 Vernon Street Tel: 860-297-2005 Email: studyaway@trincoll.edu Web: www.trincoll.edu/StudyAway/

Spikeball Tournament will be hosting the First Annual Spikeball Tournament on Oct. 2 the team will be recruiting their players to come around the world and enjoy themselves.

“My dad was a kid at heart, so an event like this is right up his alley.”

Mules recalled how supportive his team mates and coaches were when his father passed in the fall of 2015, re- flecting “the bond that already exists within the Trinity baseball pro gram and how it can pull people through really tough times in their life.”

Signing up is easy. Just email either Bren- dan Peirce or Ryan Vult- aggio with the subject line “Spikeball,” and in- clude the team name, your partner’s name, and how you will pay. The entry fee per team is $40, and the deadline for entry is this Friday Sept. 30 at 1:00 p.m., so don’t wait, and be part of a great cause.

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Football Showcases Dominance in Season Opener

There was never any turning back for the Bantams, who continued to control the pace of the game on both offense and defense. Lucas Golin ‘19 scored his first career touchdown in the fourth quarter with a one-yard run into the end zone. Less than a minute and a half later, he scored another touchdown on a 30-yard run. This would be the last scoring play of the day and further solidified an outstanding win by the Bantams.

The Bantams defense was stellar, shutting down the Bobcats’ offense by holding them to just 36 passing yards and allowing them to make just four out of 20 third down conversions. Liam Kenneally ’18 had 11 tackles (nine solo) as well as a sack. Henderson Watkins ’17 had 10 tackles with one tackle for loss. Co-Captain defense Desmond Donahue ’17 forced a fumble and on the next play intercepted the ball, which he returned 88 yards to the one-yard line.

Trinity Head Coach Jeff Devaney said earlier in the week that “Bates is a very tough team to prepare for because of their triple option offense” but the Bantams certainly did their homework, securing the 38-7 win against the Bobcats. The win marked the 21st straight time that the Bantams won the season opener. Next Saturday, Oct. 1, the Bantams will visit the Williams College Ephs and look forward to extending their record in hopes of winning the coveted coveted

Women’s Soccer Continues to Roll Over Opponents

When asked what makes this team successful, defender Sarah Connors ’18 attributed it to the “strong and experienced senior class” which is spearheaded by captains Sheena Landy ’17, Kendra Lena ’17 and Laura Nee ’17.

This Saturday the Colby Mules came into town. Unfortunately for them they would have the same fate as Emerson. The Bantams took down the Mules in a decisive 3-1 victory; all three goals for the Bantams were scored in the first half.

Kirkgessner continued her hot streak from Wednesday with an early goal to give the Bantams a 1-0 advantage. Kirkgessner also assisted Nee for the second goal. Connors then put the nail in the coffin when she scored her first goal of the season on a header from a corner kick. The Mules would score early in the second half to cut the Trinity lead to only two, but the difference would stay the same with the Bantams finishing off the 3-1 victory.

The victory against Colby; perhaps was not even the team’s greatest feat of the weekend. The Women’s Soccer team helped raise a total of $5300 on Sunday to fund research to find a cure for muscular dystrophy. The raffle winners were announced Monday.

Trinity’s next game will take place against Wheaton, a non-conference opponent, on Wednesday.

Sat

Football @ Williams College 1:30 p.m.

Sun

Field Hockey v. U. of New England 12 p.m.

Rowing (M & W) 8 a.m.
Head of Riverfront Regatta & more...