

The Trinity Tripod

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Trinity College

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GRUBIN WINS PRESIDENCY OVER BLUM

DIALLO, RAMIREZ, BROWN, CAILLOUETTE WIN VICE PRESIDENT SPOTS

JAMES E. KUKSTIS '10
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In the most heavily participated in Student Government Association (SGA) election in recent history, SGA Executive Vice President Andrew Grubin '10 defeated former SGA Executive Vice President Bryce Blum '10 to become SGA President-elect. Grubin will serve for the entirety of the 2009-2010 year. Grubin beat Blum 626 votes to 513.

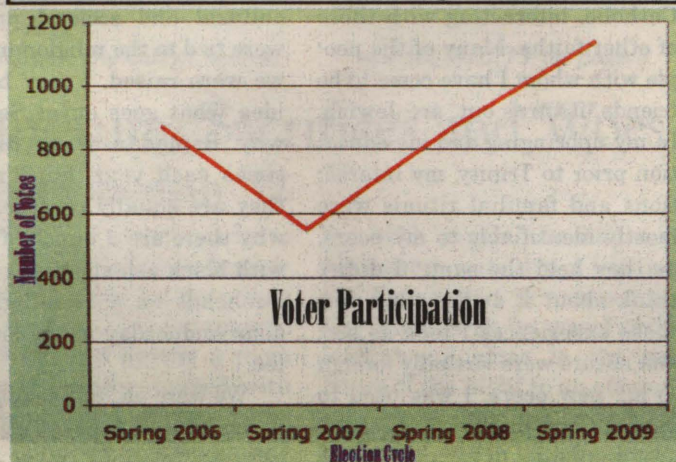
"After a long and hard-fought race it is nice to return to business," said Grubin. "There are several issues that the SGA must address before the completion of the semester, such as writing the meal plans for next year. I believe that my election was the result of the student body's faith in me to accomplish what they want done. The other important factor contributing to my election was my friends; they gave me the support necessary to succeed."

"I wasn't surprised so much as disappointed," Blum said of his loss. "This is something that I have wanted for a very

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SGA President	
Andrew Grubin '10	626
Bryce Blum '10	513
SGA Executive Vice-President	
Ibrahim Diallo '11	587
Chris Gardner '10	504
SGA Vice-President of Finance	
Krystal L. Ramirez '10	549
Alexandra Powell '12	539

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Students Collaborate to Host Charity Concert

GREG LEITAO '12
NEWS WRITER

Thanks to efforts of Students for Scholarship, a Scholarship Benefit Concert showcasing Fabulous, Mike Jones, and Juelz Santana was hosted last weekend at Trinity College. On Friday, March 27, the Koepfel Community Sports Center (KCSC) was used for the first time ever as a concert location, a move that concert organizer Josh Biren '09 believes has opened up another on-campus venue for students.

True 2 Life and Zee Santiago '09 performed as the opening acts. They enthused the audience and enhanced the atmosphere of the concert from the start.

Biren pointed out that by opening up KCSC, there is now an indoor spot that can house the entire student body

and potentially be used as a rainy-day option for Commencement and Spring Weekend.

"This event was almost five months in the making," said Biren. "There are a lot of challenges in throwing the first event in a new building. With that said, I think it went very well."

In a press release from the commission, the event was described as a "collaboration of myriad individuals and campus groups in order to foster a unifying sense of school spirit and duty to the surrounding community." It additionally was created as a way to give back to the local Hartford Community, by helping a local student experience what Trinity has to offer.

The purpose of the concert was to make enough money to put together a scholarship for a local student who wishes to attend Trinity. An anonymous alum of the school volunteered to match the proceeds. The final sum will be placed in a permanent endowment, the income from which will be used to finance a student's college education.

Many of those involved with the concert were pleased in the way that KCSC proved itself as a successful venue. The success of the security, stage, and new floor left many hoping that more events could be in the near future. Ryan Crapser '10, chairman of the venue committee, agreed with this optimistic perspective. "One of the most important aspects of the concert," Crapser says, "was how it successfully showcased the KCSC as a venue with a tremendous future for major events. I truly believe that this concert has paved the way for future events at the KCSC."

The concert committee was made up of both seniors and juniors, which is a great benefit for next year's Scholarship Benefit Concert. "Being one of the four juniors involved in the making of the concert is a great advantage," said Crapser, "because we have learned what works and what doesn't, and now can make the appropriate changes to improve upon the concert for next year."

The committee is currently not releasing information about the amount of money

see RE-ELECTION on page 5

see SCHOLARSHIP on page 8

The Roots to Headline Spring Weekend 2009

ABIGAIL ALDERMAN '11
ARTS EDITOR

This Sunday, the Life Sciences Quad will be filled with the melodious sounds of multiple amazing performers. The 2009 Spring Weekend Concert will open with the two winners of Thursday night's Battle of the Bands, *The Wish Bish* and *The Mill Band*. The bands, who competed against three other bands in the competition, won the position to open for a duo on the rise, as well as two Grammy-winning artists. Matt and Kim, a young band from New York, will provide a frantic and lively live show. After recently releasing a new album, *Grand*, in January, Matt

and Kim's fresh sound will be a great addition to the concert. Estelle will perform as Trinity's first ever female Spring Weekend artist. Her most famous song, "American Boy," on which she collaborated with Kanye West, has recently skyrocketed her fame. Her amazing vocal skills, as well as her energetic persona, will make for an amazing performance. Headlining the concert will be Philadelphia-based band, The Roots. This hip hop act, famous for infusing jazz in their songs, always supplies exhilarating live shows. This unique line up, running from 12 p.m to four p.m., promises to provide something for music fans of all types.



weblogs.newsday.com

The Roots will play Trinity's Life Science Center Quad this Sunday afternoon.

Poll Reveals Dodd's Approval at Lowest Point

REBECCA BROWN '11
NEWS EDITOR

Connecticut Democratic Senator Chris Dodd, preparing for an uphill battle for re-election next year, continues to make appearances throughout the state. On Tuesday, April 7, Dodd visited the fire headquarters in Middletown to discuss an amendment he worked on including setting aside federal funding for CT fire departments.

In a statement released by Dodd's office, President of the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut Pete Carozza said, "This is yet another example of how hard Chris Dodd fights on behalf of firefighters every day [...] Firefighters across the country should count Senator Dodd as one of their staunches allies in Washington."

Interestingly enough, as polls reflect numbers proving Dodd's position is shaky at best. Carozza is not the only one to refer to Dodd as a "fighter." Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, who accompanied Dodd to Middletown last week, said to *The Hartford Courant* that "Senator Dodd is a model of fighting for the people of

Connecticut."

Unfortunately for Dodd, on Friday, April 3, Quinnipiac University published poll results that had voters disapproving of the Senator's job performance 58-33, his lowest numbers to date. As of March 10, those numbers were 49-44 percent. Dodd trails both of his potential Republican opponents, State Senator Sam Caligiuri and former Ambassador Tom Foley. Matched against Rep. Rob Simmons, Dodd also loses 50-34 percent.

Quinnipiac University Poll Director Douglas Schwartz stated that "A 33 percent job approval is unheard of for a 30-year incumbent, especially a Democrat in a blue state. Sen. Christopher Dodd's numbers among Democrats are especially devastating. Since the AIG controversy, his approval rating among Democrats is down to 51 percent, and only 58 percent of Democrats say they will vote for him against Simmons, who, at this point, is the best known and strongest Republican challenger."

The numbers seem to be a result of Dodd's recent entanglement with the AIG bonus

Trinity Tripod

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SGA Election Results

continued from page 1

Vice-President of MAC

Malcolm Brown '10 - 1010

Vice President of Entertainment

Chase Caillouette '10 - 1012

Senators-at-Large (5 Seats)

Melissa Litwack '10 - 579

Dan Zauderer '10 - 452

Remy Renault '10 - 563

Terry Reilly '12 - 427

Adam Katcher '12 - 523

Fabio Botarelli '10 - 375

William Yale '12 - 475

P.J. Constantinides '12 - 321

11 Days Until Relay for Life

April 25-26, 2009

Top 5 Fundraising Teams

1. Praxis - \$4,429.50

2. Planning Committee - \$3,090.00

3. Community Service - \$2,227.00

4. The Trinity Fund - \$2,200

5. Snow Day - \$1,105

Celebrate Remember Fight Back

Tripod Editorials

Religion and the Student

During this time of the year, it is almost impossible to escape the presence of religion, even in a place like Trinity, where the subject is often easy enough to ignore, if you so choose. Trinity's religious options are many and varied, and are proudly hailed on Admissions Tours. We have an outstanding Chapel and an outstanding Chaplain, a vibrant and active Hillel House, and energetic congregations of many faiths. But to the average Trinity student, such obligations need not be pressing.

Coming out of a Catholic High School in Boston, the biggest cultural shock that I faced was not as a middle-class student interacting with students from a seemingly higher socioeconomic status, but as a Christian, more specifically a Catholic, interacting with those of other faiths. Many of the people with whom I have come to be friends, it turns out, are Jewish. In my upbringing and my education prior to Trinity, my interactions and familial rituals were mostly identifiable to my peers, as they held the same. I didn't think about it at the time, but these experiences I took as second nature were virtually foreign to my new peers. I was used to having Good Friday off of school, they were used to getting off Yom Kippur, and neither of us really knew what the other one was.

A few nights ago I was watching the Red Sox game with three of my fraternity brothers. We started talking about the upcoming weekend, and we noticed that of the four of us, none shared the same religious upbringing. I was a Catholic, the other three were composed of one Jew, one

Muslim, and one Hindu. The Hindu, who hails from Nepal, had interestingly gone to a Jesuit high school, like myself, and as a student educated by a faith other than his own, had a different experience than I did as a student educated by a faith on which I was raised. This casual conversation between the four of us ranged from eating practices to holiday rituals to parenting styles, all of which differed among us all. Two things struck me: first was that Trinity had somehow provided me with a very diverse group of friends, second was that it appeared a large part of our religious identity, rather than being spiritually based, was cultural. Though we may not be as practicing or faithful as we once were (or as our parents might hope), much of our cultural and societal practices were tied to the religion in which we were raised. I may have no idea what goes on at Seder, or why Ramadan is at different times each year, but I'm sure they are equally confused as to why there are a bunch of people with black ash smeared on their foreheads on a seemingly random Wednesday in the late winter.

We were all, in a healthy and normal way (I believe), critical of our own religions. What we are comfortable with is boring, and in a college experience that is supposed to be full of growth and maturation, a time that, for many of us, is the first time we do not have to strictly follow religious guidelines set out by our parents, it seems fitting to explore the nooks and crannies of our own comfort zones, while looking at and examining others'

too. A friend of mine, Jewish and from Westchester, told me a story once which hinged upon some thing called "Jewish geography." Until recently the extent of my knowledge of Judaism revolved around Seinfeld and Entourage, so I had little to no idea what he was talking about; I thought maybe it had something to do with the Arab-Israeli conflict. I was wrong, of course, and I found out afterwards that it refers to Jews from the New York area basically networking based on where they live. This remained a foreign object to me, until I returned home. My parents grew up in Boston, and like many others moved out of the city when they got married. I remembered, then how whenever they met someone who had a similar back story, they connect based on which parish in the city they had belonged to. Jewish geography on a smaller scale.

Any initial discomfort I may have experienced has led mostly to intrigue. Though I may still not understand why 'The Murray Hill Song' is quite so poignant or funny, part of the value of college is having peers that have different experiences. Where would we be if we associated only with those who we understand? We would be, for one, very bored and boring.

It is always interesting to learn about traditions of those of other faiths, because in most cases they relate in large part to families and personalities. We often use our upbringing, justifiably or not, as an excuse or reason for our behavior. Whether or not we are practicing or devout while at school, for many of us our religion (or lack thereof), because of the way it has affected our youth, is ever-present.

Tripod Editorials represent the views of the executive board of *The Trinity Tripod*, comprised of the Editor-in-Chief and the Managing Editor.

Letter to the Editor

Kimball-Stanley '09's Softball Comments Taken Out of Private Context

In last week's *Tripod*, editor James Kukstis penned a very thoughtful editorial about how obtaining quotes for news articles has changed with the advent of the Internet. By some happy coincidence, this was illustrated nicely in an article on the Front Page about the suspension of Trinity's Intramural Softball League because of violations with the league's drinking policies. I am a captain of one of the teams and was quoted in the article as saying, "This is especially lame for us since we did get the message about drinking. It seems that if a few bros do the crime, we all have to do the time."

This quote was taken from a private e-mail I sent to my team when I was explaining why we did not have a game that day. Normally I wouldn't mind being quoted in a *Tripod* article; I have happily supplied the paper with

many quotes over the last four years, and beyond that I really just love seeing my name in print. However, it is unfortunate that they decided to use this quote since, had I had a say in the matter, I would have asked them not to. The main reason being that I could see immediately after reading the article how it might be misconstrued, and I was not surprised at all when one commenter on the *Tripod* Web site responded by saying that it was inappropriate for me to blame "bros / frat culture" for the suspension and pointing out that people in the Fred drink just like everyone else.

Now, let's keep this in perspective. It was only one comment, so it shouldn't be considered too big of a deal, and the quote itself is referenced only in passing in an article whose main focus is Intramural Softball. But I really hate it when I fulfill stereotypes of myself, and I was sure that someone would take what I was saying as an insult to fraternities, since, well, why not? So in this regard, the use of my

quote is annoying to say the least.

As for the quote itself, it was clearly a joke. Beyond that, I was not under the impression that "bro" had anything to do with frat culture. We may even have some in the Fred. But it certainly does refer to a certain drinking culture, so I think the reference in my e-mail was apt, and hopefully kind of funny.

Overreactions and misunderstandings are often predictable with campus issues, and I wish the *Tripod* would consider that before quoting a private e-mail. I like to know when I'm going to be saying something in the *Tripod*, so that I can try to say what I think in the best way possible for the paper. As James wrote last week, "It seems that the progression from handwritten letters to e-mail, however smooth, has not been kind to meaning and intent." The *Tripod* would be wise to consider that sentiment more seriously in the future.

Love,

David Kimball-Stanley '09

OPINIONS

The Trinity Tripod

Socrates' Views and Washington Gurus

Zach Sonenshine '11

Socrates said, "True knowledge exists in knowing that you know nothing." In the wake of the current economic meltdown and the transition from one administration to the next, Socrates words have become both increasingly valuable yet increasingly disavowed.

Knowledge, or even brilliance for that matter, is a necessary but insufficient ingredient for success. Antithetical to the current stream of consciousness regarding the mess that we call the economy are humility, judgment, and experience beyond the specified area of focus. These lost qualities are most notably absent in three glaring sectors: (1) the Obama administration (particularly his chief economic advisors, Larry Summers and Tim Geithner), (2) Congress and (3) the private sector.

The Obama administration has frequently been referred to

as "the best and the brightest," a reference that dates back to the Kennedy administration. Certainly, this title may be fitting; Obama may have, in fact, acquired the leading minds of our time. Unfortunately, however, as Socrates cautions, brilliance alone does not translate into success. Rather, the admission of limitations (humility) is an invaluable asset that has escaped our policy makers.

The economic crisis that we have encountered is so large and so drastic that it would be arrogant for any individual to claim to be able to comprehend, let alone solve, the issues it has created. The Geithner-Summers tag team, however, seem to have insulated themselves in their intellectual corner, aiming to unilaterally determine the direction of economic policy.

Geithner, the career techno-

crat came of age in the era of deregulation, or failed regulation, and lacks the private sector experience that is so valued as a criteria for Secretary of Treasury, a position that typically goes to CEOs of major corporations. It is precisely because everyone is only an expert in defined areas that the dangers of insularity are so great; thus when individuals like former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker, who now heads a commission on financial recovery, are rumored to feel the administration is not listening, it's a problem.

Summers, while undoubtedly brilliant (he was Harvard University's youngest ever tenured faculty member), has historically lacked judgment – a topic that Frank Rich touched on in a Sunday *New York Times* editorial. Summers

see *HUMILITY* on page 5

The Housing Conundrum: Sacrifices and Woes

Caroline Bodian '12

A few weeks ago I contemplated taking pictures of the cockroach that frequented our room. I devised a plan in which I would strategically place an open bag of Cheez-Its on the counter and wait for the insect to emerge from the wall. As soon as it came out for an afternoon snack, I would proceed to whip out my camera and take incriminating pictures of the intruder. I would send those pictures straight to the SGA Housing Committee and pray for a better room rating that allowed me a chance to reside in the highly-esteemed Jarvis or the luxurious Summit. Unfortunately, my plan was a bust; the cockroach decided to stick to a low-carb diet.

I'll admit my plan was a bit far-fetched and, yes, I have better things to do than sit around

and wait for a cockroach to come out of a wall, but desperate times do call for desperate measures. This year I was given the privilege of having a room in Wiggins, well-equipped with a kitchen and a private bathroom. The only downside was living with the knowledge that I would be screwed for housing next year. My room rating gives me the options of crap or crappier for next year's housing; my lottery number is a whopping 1750.

My room earned a well-deserved "A-," a grade that could only be tarnished by a convincing appeal to the SGA housing committee. Alas, I couldn't produce a convincing argument as to why the grade should be lowered, so I started weighing my other options. I could live in a house, or I could

live with people who had very low lottery numbers. I felt that the first option threatened my life. There was no way I could walk home alone in the wee hours of the night to an off-campus house and live to tell the tale. My other option would force me to make more friends in undesirable dorms. I decided I would rather live with people I am closer with in a less than satisfactory dorm room than with faux friends in a more desirable dorm room.

At this point, I have a good sense of who my roommates will be. I've successfully managed to dodge the dreaded friend drama. You know, the "She's my friend, but there's no way I can live with her" spiel. Now, the big question is, where on earth am I

see *DORM* on page 4

Media Inappropriately Covers "Sexting" Among Teenagers

Alyssa Baylor '12

"Sexting" is the newest addition to the list of dumb words made fashionable and sexy by the media. According to CNN, six teenagers in Pennsylvania were charged with distributing child pornography when they were caught "sexting," or sending nude pictures of themselves to each other via text messaging.

Both CNN and CBS cited a recent nationwide survey by the National Campaign to Support Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, which found that one in five teenagers have sexted. The survey resulted in a media frenzy explaining to parents all across America what their child could be doing with their new camera phone and how child pornography laws could force little Billy to

have to register as a sex offender.

While I would love to make the rather antiquated argument of how the law should be rewritten to keep up with technology, or how the current law was never meant to bring twelve year old girls in training bras to justice, I could not help but notice the déjà vu of it all.

Media networks' coverage of this new "trend" among teenagers seemed vaguely reminiscent of the hysteria surrounding the Web sites Myspace and Facebook just last year. Parents, already feeling powerless to monitor their teens' online activities, fed into news networks' virtual attack of the networking sites. The

see *NUDE* on page 5

Are Handheld Devices a Necessary Interruption?

Anne Benjamin '10

I do not own a BlackBerry or an iPhone, and I kind of like it that way. I use a flip phone with a simple texting feature. Needless to say, I only receive e-mails on a computer. Although I receive texts and phone calls throughout the day, I enjoy periodically checking my e-mail, instead of receiving it immediately on a handheld device, as is the increasing trend. Unfortunately, most people are familiar with the following scene: You're at dinner, or in the middle of a conversation, and the other person whips out their PDA and their eyes leave yours in a necessary frenzy to see how they have been contacted. An intimate encounter with a friend is all too often interrupted by the buzzing of an e-mail notification. Here, we are presented with a paradox. Of course, it's rude to check your e-mail in the midst of a

personal encounter, but is it also rude not to?

With the influx of BlackBerries, iPhones, and other portable e-mail devices into our culture, have the standards for a timely response and our connectivity been raised? How quickly are we actually expected to respond to e-mails?

Not long ago, e-mails were confined to the computer. Computers, though perhaps portable, could not be pocketed, and G3 had yet to be invented. Sending somebody an e-mail might mean you'd get a response later that day, the next day, or even in a few days, depending on that person's access to a computer. Moreover, an e-mail did not warrant an instantaneous response, unless of course, you e-mailed someone you knew sat at a computer all day. If you wanted an immediate response, you would

get their phone number.

But suddenly, e-mail has become a more urgent form of communication. I wonder, am I at a disadvantage, in terms of employment opportunities and the like, because I do not answer e-mails immediately? I like to think my lack of phone-attentiveness makes me polite, but that may, in fact, not be the case.

Even my parents, during dinner, feel compelled to keep in contact, through e-mail, with people from work. Dinner used to be family time; we did not even pick up the landline telephone while we ate. Perhaps it's old fashioned, and I am wrong to distance myself from my phone. I am deeply saddened that I may be "shooting myself in the foot" by not jumping on every opportunity imme-

see *IMMEDIATE* on page 4

Against Tech-Paranoia: Why We Should Embrace Our Gadgets

John Downes-Angus '11

Our generation was born at a time that caused us to come of age within a massive and rapidly growing technological world. We know this. Because this is a fact, it is therefore impossible for us to imagine a world without this massive element we call technology. We can feign nostalgia for a pre-tech world, but any attempt to talk about such a world sounds contrived, a mere simulation of the "older ones" who can still make these nostalgic complaints.

Thus, it seems that tech-paranoia – the fear that technology is taking over our lives – is a fundamentally empty fear. As far as our generation is concerned, nothing has been taken over. Like it or

not, the tech-world is our world, not an encroachment upon our mythical pre-tech world. Realizing this can help avoid making the serious mistake of accepting the paranoia of those who fear technology.

I did not own a cell phone until my freshman year at Trinity. I could claim some high-brow Emersonian aversion to technology, but I (usually) try to be honest, so I cannot make that claim. Here was my reasoning: (1.) I do not like having cluttered pockets and I regarded cell-phones as clutter-causers. (I sure as hell was not going to attach my phone to my waist because I happened to enjoy having friends and maintaining the appearance of a socially-functional teenager.) And (2.) I casually mocked my sisters' cell phone use because I found it kind of funny (NB "funny," not "scary" or "depen-

dent"), and getting a cell-phone would open up the space for my sisters to call me "hypocritical."

Despite my late introduction into the cellular-communication world, I never experienced a dramatic change in the foundations of how I function as a social being. My face-to-face and un-technologically mediated experiences did not get sucked into a scary vortex of dehumanized technological encounters with others.

Technology is an integral part of our experience and – if history has anything to say – fearing its expansion can only make us succumb to those who infuse us with unwarranted paranoia.

This may shock readers aged 35+, but, the transition actually felt quite normal: The effect on how I functioned socially was comparable to the consumption of a third beer – indeed, a very minute effect.

What can this mean? What can I derive from the fact that acquiring a cell-phone did very little to inhibit or noticeably alter my pre-cell-phone life? This might suggest that – despite what most 35+ and excessively tech-paranoid folks will tell me – the tech-world is not an encroaching enemy. Here's what my unaltered social life seems to imply: Modern technology was part of my reality before it was in my possession.

Thus, our generation can no longer distinguish between the mythical "un-tech human experience" and our modernized human experience in which technology has become an integral part. I do not say this to suggest that we have become robots, or that we are technology, or that we have permanently lost track of the notion of a

see *WE* on page 5

The Culture of the Used: Thrifting in Secondhand Shops

Erica Stisser '11

Terminology is important to the thrift shopper – call us bargain-hunters and we're cheap; call us vintage-buyers and we're pretentious artists. But the secondhand industry deserves more credit than it gets. Sure, there's the exclusivity issue (items to purchase rarely come in multiples, so once it's sold, it's gone), and the ick factor (nothing that a little laundry detergent can't fix), but at the heart of thrifting is the unconscious desire to be part of a story. It's the idea that secondhand items are purveyors of history, and that involving ourselves in the cycle of ownership creates a kind of karmic connection to the past. Anyone familiar with the whole "Where's George?" campaign can understand the feeling – tracking the number on the dollar bill and tracing its journey to your hands is almost as thrilling as the fact that you're a buck richer.

As a clerk ("retail associate" if you want me to be professional) for the past three summers at a thrift store in Southern Connecticut, I've come to find that there's a certain type of people who shop secondhand. They're shoppers who want to own a story, but they're also characters who want to tell you theirs. Thrift stores have an unspoken rule of share and share alike, which makes them less of knickknack depots than cultural marketplaces – think the salons of Enlightenment France, but with a suburban setting and small-town gossip replacing philosophical discourse. Most visitors on a given weekday are quiet and nondescript, young mothers with strollers in tow, but the regulars bounce in with a pocket full of quarters and the latest

installment in local gossip and scandal. There's the 60-something social worker who buys dated sets of Nora Roberts novels to read to inmates at the women's prison, and the Greek deli owner who scrounges for onesies to clothe his ever-expanding family. Thrifters don't rush the shopping experience, because, paradoxically, ease of purchase is less important than intrigue of search. Simplicity reigns at Crate & Barrel, but throw pillows at the thrift store must be sought out, examined, and worthy of note – bonus points if the needlepoint is hand-stitched.

The only downside of thrifting, a habit that feeds the economy while inversely slimming the wallet? Shopping purely for the sake of a bargain. Some people can't seem to resist a "three for a dollar" sign, even if it refers to Snoopy-themed Christmas ornaments. The most defining characteristic of secondhand culture is the freedom to mismatch, and the eagerness to explain such disparity in dress or décor. Thrifters are hardly ever wallflowers. Sure, it's a consumer culture, but not the same one that inspires silence and guilt in mainstream America. Thrifting encourages community and conversation, and, since most shoppers arrive in groups, there are friends to hold you accountable to the seduction of bargains. It's a world of economic backwardness, and therefore, cultural intrigue – where new is taboo and value climbs with years and scuff marks.

So, to people-watchers everywhere – welcome to the hub of the hobby. Park self at Goodwill. Wait. Watch. Be enthralled.

Immediate Email Responses May Be Advantageous

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diately. Perhaps, the public emailing that I considered rude is not rude anymore, but necessary. Has our world changed so much that conducting personal business in the presence of others has become the acceptable norm?

If I am not expecting a call or text, I will leave my phone in my bag, on the vibrate setting so it is out of my way. I feel that what's going on with the people around me is the only thing with which I should be immediately concerned. I also do not like to be expected to respond immediately. Just because I have a phone does not mean I should be available to anyone at anytime. Shouldn't my face-to-face happenings take priority? In my opinion, conducting personal business on a phone while in the presence of others is extremely rude. I try to avoid this type of rudeness whenever possible. I like to think about the past, even the recent past, during which a constant stream of e-mails (or texts, or phone calls) had no way of

creeping in and interrupting real social interactions. One friend with similar views on the matter told me she was "notorious for not responding immediately" to texts and phone calls. Clearly, it has become poor form to wait to gratify the person on the other end.

My inclination to keep a peaceful detachment has become a problem of increasing significance. Despite my hatred for handheld devices that receive e-mails, I cannot help but think that the people that use them are "more on top of things" than me. In the world of "first come first serve," I would be losing by responding to an e-mail when I sit down to a computer rather than responding to it immediately like many are able to do. I am afraid, and saddened that since I am growing up and gaining more responsibilities and contacts, I will eventually have to "suck it up," get a BlackBerry, and stay completely aware of my technological contacts and happenings with, potentially, anyone in the world.

Dorm Room Options Need More Exposure

continued from page 3

going to live next year? This is the part where I think Trinity could do a great service to freshmen as helplessly clueless as I am. I've gotten several recommendations from upperclassmen about where to live, but I have yet to see what most of the dorms on this campus look like.

When my friends and I discuss rooms, I feel like it's the blind leading the blind. Unless you managed to make friends in every single dorm on this campus (in which case, props to you), then I find it hard to believe that you know what each and every dorm looks like. I think that some assistance is required in this daunting

process. Pictures of every dorm would be a good place to start. Wouldn't that be nice to just click on a link and have a photo and a description of each dorm? I think so. Another way to enlighten those who need enlightenment, would be to have a special day, (lets call it "dorm day" for simplicities sake), during which freshmen can roam around campus and scan all the dorms. Upperclassmen would be notified that freshmen (or whoever wants to look) might show up at their door, so as to avoid any confusion. This would provide us with an up close and personal look at the rooms, and if we're lucky, the person living in the dorm might give us a little

tour. For now, though, I guess we can just knock on people's doors anyway and hope for the best. I doubt anyone would seriously protest. The bottom line is that Trinity needs to do a better job informing its students of housing options. If there is something out there that I am unaware of, then for God's sake, make it more known to the public!

With the first of May just around the corner, we have to get cracking and start making some big decisions. Hopefully a better housing system will be in place in following years. But for now, I wish everyone luck in procuring a pleasant living situation.

Tripod Senior Editor Carver Diserens '09 Interviews President James F. Jones, Jr.

Carver Diserens: There has been a lot of news in the past week, so it was difficult for me to decide what was the most noteworthy item to ask you about. We had the SGA elections, the new faculty scholarships and the International Hip Hop Festival. In that spirit, I was wondering how you felt about the intramural softball league being disbanded?

Jimmy Jones: I think it's unnecessary for students to be mixing alcohol with athletics. I don't mean to sound like a prude – I think of myself as the least prudish president I know – but I really do not think that athletic or social groups should have their reputations rise and fall based on booze. If the point of playing softball is to provide some sort of social forum for inebriation, then I think that defies the whole point of intramurals in the first place, which ought to be to get people on a playing field and provide some sense of camaraderie in an athletic environment. It's a wonderful thing because I'm such a believer in athletics. To get the athletics all mired up with partying and booze strikes me as being a completely counterproductive and nonsensical combination of two antipodal pastimes.

CD: The way I look at it, if I wanted to, I could go stand out in the quad right now, I could have a beer; it would be allowable. I could also stand out there with a baseball glove and have a catch while doing it. Then all of a sudden when more people join and it becomes organized, it's not allowed.

JJ: They should just have a pick-up game then. It should not be involved in any administrative or organizational group. One should not mire up an intramural program with drinking too much.

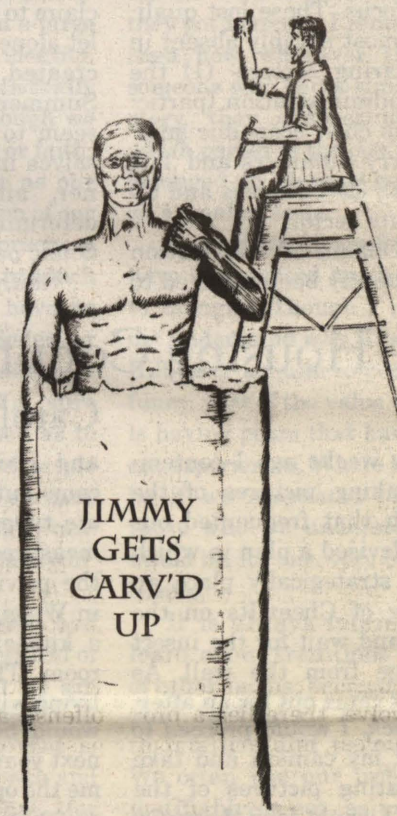
I'll tell you what I've really got on the brain, I'm glad you brought up drinking. I was really mad with all of you this past Sunday morning [April 5]. I was angrier with you than I have been since I got here. I was walking over to an event in Mather and I'm supposed to speak at 11 o'clock and I was on the Long Walk at about 10 'til. I turned the corner by Williams and my blood pressure probably went up to stroke level because the Long Walk itself was under garbage. It looked like a cesspool. I started picking up trash in front of Williams and five or six students leaving brunch stopped along the way and helped me start cleaning it up. There were pizza boxes, McDonalds bags, beer cans, napkins, every kind of cup, and I completely filled up the first garbage can. The students started at the other end

and started helping me. Then two Campus Safety officers, who were doing their usual foot patrol, stopped and helped pick up the trash. By the time we met outside the Northam Towers we had filled up every trash can on the long walk.

I kept thinking two things to myself. When I was your age, at the University of Virginia, we were considered one of the biggest party schools in the country, but never once in four years did I ever see The Lawn at The University of Virginia wrecked. We wouldn't have dared. First of all, it was the most aesthetically beautiful place any of us had ever seen, but number two, it was our lawn. So back to Sunday morning, one of the students looked at me and said, "Dr. Jones, you really look angry." And I was. I was angry at the student body. Now, that's not the right thing to say because the student body was not out having a party on the quadrangle. But the Long Walk at Trinity is one of the top two or three most aesthetically perfect, open places that I've ever seen in North America. It's incomprehensible to me why anybody would trash the quad, because the quadrangle here is such a magnificent space. So that's my little side bar to your question about alcohol.

CD: Back to the alcohol issue, the idea behind the Amethyst Initiative is that if students are allowed to drink more freely, they will do so in a more responsible manner. Given that Spring Weekend is approaching, how does that idea play into the prohibition of alcohol consumption at many of the events? For example, students are not allowed to bring alcohol to the luau on Friday night. As a result, does it worry you that students may drink a lot more before attending, and show up in much worse shape?

JJ: As long as the law remains the law, we must abide. Such is reality even though we know the consequences and have for a very long time.



Militaristic Terminology: The Other Side of Football

John Culver '11

Another tumultuous and exhilarating football season is over and fans are gasping for air as we wait impatiently for August pre-season to roll around. As football followers, we love to throw around the pigskin, play flag and tackle football, and barbecue our self-proclaimed masterpieces of chicken, hotdogs, and hamburgers before our favorite teams violently clash for four physical quarters. The astonishing athletes, who can hit hard, use their bodies as blockades and catch and pass with sharp precision, continue to dazzle us. Football is attractive to its viewers because it is a game that reflects war, and this is communicated by its idiosyncratic terminology.

Prior to the 20th century in America, many more football players were seriously injured than they are today. Some were even killed in matches. These warriors played the sport with risk and with a lack of adequate padding that now prevents injuries. At the turn of the century, the government threatened to ban any competitive playing of the sport unless new rules and regulations were made to insure player safety.

Football can be reduced to an equation: a blend of war and eviscerating competition.

While football and its pug-nacious character have continued to evolve, there lies a profound, timeless, militaristic root in the game, an essential component to football's lure. Let us examine some of the militaristic terminology and definitions:

1. Shotgun: when a quarterback receives or hikes the football at an extended distance.

2. Bomb: refers to a deep, far pass, emulating the dropping of a bomb at a specific target: the wide receiver. This also reflects the aerial component of warfare that is complimented by a ground component or, in football: running game.

3. Audible: refers to a last second maneuver or play change. Parallels a military decision known as an audible which refers to a drastic change in battle plans.

4. Offense: the eleven players with the ball who are trying to outflank the defense in order to get to the end zone just as militaries rage offensives.

5. Defense: like militaries

defending their own territory, the defense holds steadfast against a scheming and often overpowering offense.

6. Sweeps: or attempts to outflank the defense by the runningback and offense. In war, armies attempt to outflank one another hoping to surround and destroy the enemy.

7. Trenches: battles between the offensive and defensive lines are said to be the battles in the trenches. Trenches were born in World War I as a dreary, slow-paced, and far-reaching series of tunnels and deep holes in the ground, which produced myriad stalemates. Linemen often engage in stalemates when both blockers are tied up with one another for many series.

8. Shovel pass: where a player flicks the ball to another teammate. Reflective of when soldiers passed a shovel to one another after completing the construction of a foxhole or trench.

9. "He has a gun/cannon:" is a term that references a quarterback's ability to throw a football at menacing speeds with precise accuracy. And a sharp pass is often called a "bullet."

10. "Taking a shot" refers to an offense attempting to throw a pass into the end-zone.

These enumerated military-related plays, terminology, calls, and positions are only some of the examples of the impact of warfare on the game of football. The sport is a derivative of war and competition. Would football be the same or would it be able to survive without its militaristic jargon?

No. The aspect of war is inseparable from the game. Football requires its players to disassociate themselves from the rules of society and allows them to regress to atavism. Not many sports allow men to tackle and hit one another at maximum thresholds. The militaristic speech exemplifies the solidification between sport and war and propels the athletes to acceptable destructive behavior. The violent acts in football and war would be considered criminal if they were done outside a competitive game or in war. It is fitting that football has borrowed from the schema of the military, and it is through that engine that football exists.

Nude Text Messages Cause Unfounded Reaction

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result was a backlash of crazy overprotective soccer moms demanding the password to their child's online profile account.

Now it seems that sexting is a new technological advancement parents feel so inclined about which to obsess. As a result of news coverage, child psychoanalysts have been asked to comment on how pop culture can be blamed for teenagers feeling the need to bare all, not only in cyberspace, but now also on their cell phones.

But both parents and media are asking the wrong questions. The issue is not pop culture. The issue is the reaction this new awareness of "sexting" has elicited. Instead of emphasizing the ridiculousness of the law or the incompetency of prosecutors who are punishing cheerleaders to the same

degree as child molesters and rapists, the media has chosen to psychoanalyze kids. By doing so, they inadvertently blame parents and burden them with the task of figuring out why their son does stupid things like forward nude pictures of his ex-girlfriend to all of his friends.

I am not saying that parents and teenagers should not be made aware of the consequences of sexting. Teens could ruin their chances for any career before they even graduate high school just because of the current law. However, I do think we need to question the way news networks go about warning parents and informing the general public. Is a little rationality too much to ask for?

I am tired of news networks always trying to play "catch-up" with the trends of youth. They sensationalize everything and then try to analyze pop culture as if they have nothing to

do with it. What were the first stations to report on the Vanessa Hudgens scandal, when nude pictures of her were circulating on the web? Entertainment news is not the only media outlet that determines what is relevant in pop culture. Legitimate news networks such as ABC, NBC and CNN all report on the same nonsense and juicy gossip that they will later criticize teenagers for feeding into.

If the media would stop pretending to have the inside scoop on the secret life of the American teenager and just report a story without all the fluff, then maybe the public would react with the same forthrightness.

But then again, maybe I am asking for too much. After all, Americans love to fret over the youth. It makes for great small talk, I guess, chatting about the latest antics of crazy kids today.

Humility, Prudence Would Best Serve Economy

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is infamous for his gaff that curtailed his stint as Harvard's President. Additionally, Rich reports that in 2008 Summers made \$5.2 million working for a hedge fund and \$2.7 million in speaking fees from Citigroup and Goldman-Sachs.

Combined, these two brilliant minds are imperfect to say the least. While this may not seem to be a bold statement, they have both been placed on somewhat of an intellectual pedestal.

The administration's arrogance, as stunning as it may be, is only exacerbated by Congress – the intended check on the administration's power. Plainly, Congress, as an institution, is financially illiterate. Thus, Congress entrusts the "brilliant experts" to fix the economy so that it does not have to get its hands dirty with nettlesome financial knowledge. We have seen this script before: Fed Chairman Alan

Greenspan was treated as a guru every time he appeared before Congress. Regrettably, Greenspan's misapplied faith in markets' self-correcting became clear only as he left office.

This leaves us to the private sector. The CEOs of Wall Street, all of whom are impressively-credentialed people of enormous success, wealth, and power, presided over the greatest financial debacle of our time. They understood financial markets and organizational politics, but were blind to dangers such as systemic risk, financial leverage and the dangers of black boxes. They trusted the so-called gurus, who ran units in mortgage and derivative markets. Shortly before he was pushed out of office as CEO of Citigroup, it turned out Charles Prince had failed to understand the bank's exposure in these markets.

Individuals, including the so-called brilliant ones, are flawed, as Socrates knew.

Indeed, the founders, when drafting the constitution, recognized the arrogance of individual brilliance. The remedy is a system of checks and balances so that individuals or even administrations (which in turn are led by individuals) are constantly checked. Over time, that system works. But in certain periods, like the last decade, it may disappoint greatly because we become so invested in following gurus (like Greenspan) that we abdicate the system of checks and balances.

Socrates words, "True knowledge exists in knowing that you know nothing," is by no means code for "let's trust the smart people because they know what to do." Rather, Socrates would likely conclude that the issues of our time are undoubtedly larger than any one individual. Conclusively, criticism, prudence and humility over brilliance and insularity might prove to be a more direct path to success.

We Can Function Normally With Technology

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"human experience." The realization that technology has become an integral part of the modern human experience should not be scary.

In order to properly exploit the potential benefits of modern technology, we need to ignore the invasion of the real enemy: the tech-paranoid. People who use the nostalgia for the past to create a collective paranoia have a history of inhibiting progress – progress that eventually does more good than bad. Christian theologians claimed that the printing press was the devil's work. Newton's Calculus faced some serious opposition because it challenged the Aristotelian understanding of infinity. Etc.

Indeed, the Christian Church liked to make a hobby of choking scientific and technological progress/expansion. This is not a stab at Christianity, but a stab at insti-

tutions that use paranoia – i.e., paranoia of un-Godly behavior that ran against the way that humans "normally" function – to stifle progress. This "Oh my God this is so against normal human behavior" thesis has been employed by more than one institution.

There is a new institution to fear: the Church of the nostalgic 35+ people who infuse our culture with the misguided paranoia that technology has made it impossible for us to be "humans." Technology is not a conscious being and, therefore, it cannot willfully or consciously impose itself upon me, John Downes-Angus.

Technology is an integral part of our reality, and only we can be its consciousness. Do not fear things like blogs or technological advancements like the "Kindle." Do not let people tell you that Facebook or e-mail or cell-phones somehow dehumanize our experience. We cannot go back in time to a

world without modern technology, so this idea that we have been de-humanized is an empty and meaningless one that cannot help us anymore.

Technology is an integral part of our experience and – if history has anything to say – fearing its expansion can only make us succumb to those who infuse us with unwarranted paranoia.

Think like Gutenberg, the man who placed the printing press into the hands of those who were willing to accept it; do not think like your parents. Make your own human consciousness the dictator of our unconscious and rapidly spreading technological world.

Use this technology to accomplish something great and new and do not just sit back and call it an enemy, because you will be left sadly behind, complaining alongside people whose date-of-birth is such that they simply have no idea what our reality is like.

Have anything to say?

WRITE FOR
OPINIONS!

Please send articles to
Anne.Benjamin@trincoll.edu or
Joshua.Ephraim@trincoll.edu

Scott '82 Announced to Speak at Trinity's Commencement

ALESSANDRA SIRACO '11
NEWS EDITOR

In an e-mail to the Trinity community on Tuesday, April 7, President James F. Jones, Jr. announced the 2009 Commencement speaker. "I am pleased to announce that our Commencement speaker this year is Joanna Jeanne Scott '82," said Jones in the e-mail. He went on to list her various achievements as an author and a professor.

"Professor Scott is, in the opinion of those whom I consult on the matter of a Commencement speaker each year, the letter perfect choice for this year's Trinity ceremony," said Jones when asked why Scott was chosen as the speaker this year. "2009 marks the 40th year of co-education here at our College, and so we thought that having a Trinity alumna speak would be most fitting and that giving honorary degrees to women would be an appropriate way to mark the 40th anniversary."

According to Jones' e-mail, Scott has published eight novels as well as various other works of literature and is a pro-

fessor at the University of Rochester. Jones noted that there are various important factors that go into the arduous task of selecting a speaker for Commencement. "Trinity does not pay our Commencement speakers, we do not pursue the name game, and we always try to have someone come to speak who is somehow attached to our College," he said. "What better a choice than Professor Scott, with her extraordinary career, one of our own?"

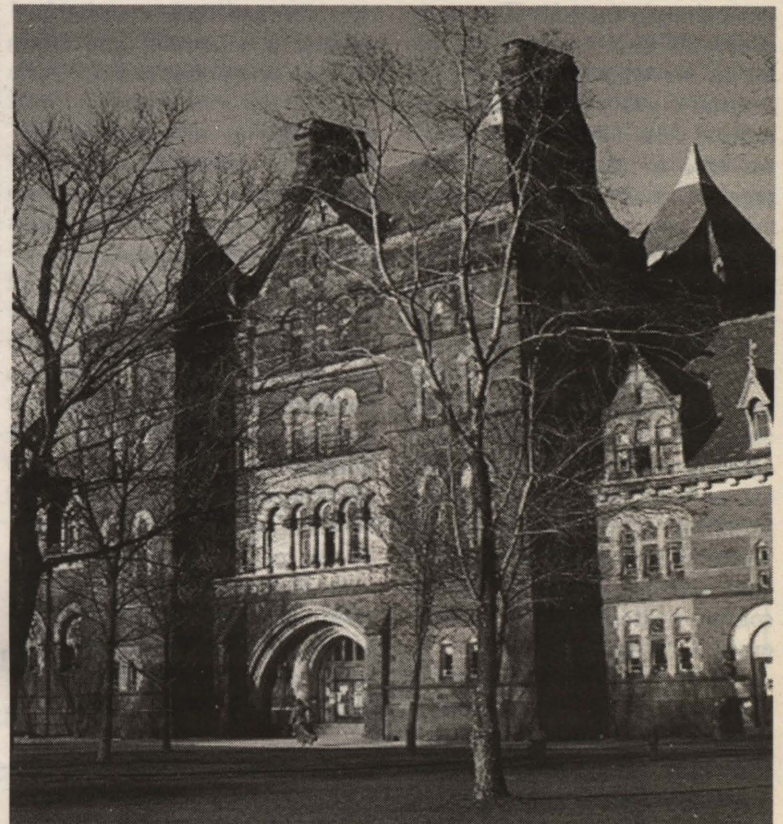
Scott's Commencement address this year is highly anticipated. "I could not be more pleased that Professor Scott, who is very distinguished as a scholar and a writer and, importantly for Trinity, a teacher, was free to come and then agreed to give the speech," said Jones. "This will be a Commencement address for our memories."

Various honors will also be awarded at this year's Commencement. "Marjorie Van Eenam Butcher will be presented with an honorary Doctor of Science in recognition of her more than 33 years of 'conveying the elegance of mathematics' to students as a

member of the Trinity College Department of Mathematics," stated Jones' e-mail. "Deborah Bial, Ed. D, president and founder, The Posse Foundation, will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters."

These two women have made important contributions for the Trinity community. "Professor Butcher is of course a legend at Trinity: first woman ever hired to serve on the faculty, first woman ever tenured, and Professor Butcher's loyalty to all things Trinity is displayed in that nearly every day of nearly every week, she is on campus going to some faculty meeting or some lecture or some reception," said Jones. "She celebrated three or four years back her 50th year of being associated with this College; do the math."

The other honoree, Bial, has also influenced Trinity in resonating ways. "Dr. Bial is one of the nation's heroines, to be sure," said Jones. "She founded the Posse Foundation and has lit more candles in this fractured world of ours than most of us combined. What Posse has done for Trinity is off the charts, so we



hcap.arts.org

Scott will speak at Commencement, held on the quadrangle near the Long walk.

thought that having someone like Debbie here for our celebration of co-education was on the mark indeed."

When Commencement arrives on May 17, Scott, Butcher, and Bial will join the

graduating class of 2009 to share in their celebrations. "I could not be more pleased that these three remarkable women will be on the podium at this wonderful event 'Neath the Elms," said Jones.

Trinity Hosts Robot Competition

ALLISON PICKENS '12
STAFF WRITER

With participants from five different countries and 13 different states, Trinity College's annual Fire Fighting Home Robot Competition marked its 16th year this past week. Accolades were given out to teams from a variety of different age groups, who showed the most proficiency in robotics creation and execution. These robots, which included complex wiring, colorful fans, and exotic designs, were created entirely by students with the goal that their robot would complete a specific task. A group called Blastoise, which included students from Misgav High School in Misgav, India, won the overall grand prize when their robot successfully and quickly navigated its way through a maze in order to extinguish a candle.

Before the competition began, President James F. Jones, Jr. opened with a speech thanking the creator of the competition, Karl W. Hallden Professor of Engineering David Ahlgren. Jones referred to Ahlgren as a "faculty eagle," as he has been a member of the Trinity faculty since 1973. Jones also presented Ahlgren with two multimillion-dollar memberships to the Connecticut Science Center. Extremely pleased with how the robotics competi-

tion has grown through the years, Ahlgren noted his gratification with how the event has expanded into an international competition.

Sponsoring the two-day event was a New Jersey company, Versa Products, Inc., which operates the production of directional control valves. Jen Larson '77 is a Trinity graduate and CEO of Versa and donated Versa valves to competitors free of charge. Students who used the valves in their robots with the most creativity and ingenuity won the Versa Valves Challenge award. A team from the George School, a private school in Pennsylvania, won this aspect of the competition.

The event also received sponsorships from companies, including Grandar China, SolidWorks, Circuit Cellar, Scientific American, and Mind Sensors.

This year was the first time a separate event was added to the competition. RoboWaiter, co-sponsored by the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities, called for students to create a computer-controlled robot to navigate itself around a working kitchen. Each team's robot had to move a plate from a counter to a table. The winner of this portion of the competition was a team from Grand Valley State University in Michigan. Second and third

place prizes were awarded to a Florida team and an Israeli team, respectively.

The competition was not limited to high school and college students. Teams as young as sixth grade were able to enter the Junior Division. Winners from the Junior Division included three Chinese teams from two different Chinese junior high schools. The winners in the high school division included two Israeli teams, a team from West Hartford, Conn., and another Chinese team. The senior division, a division open to college-aged students, heralded teams from India, Israel, China, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts as winning competitors. Trinity College, however, did not go unrewarded. A team called Firefly took third place in a senior division event in which robotics kits were used to maneuver robots.

Despite numerous setbacks, which included robots misfiring, running off course, and crashing into walls, all of the student-run teams were excited to participate. Gil Azevedo and Samuel Nunes, two students from a winning Portuguese team, were elated to be participating in Trinity's competition for the first time. They noted that their participation in Portuguese robotics competition inspired them to look internationally for more competitions.

Professor Edits, Compiles Book About Holocaust

JOHN DOWNES-ANGUS '11
STAFF WRITER

In a book entitled *Who Will Write Our History?* Trinity's Charles H. Northam Professor of History Samuel Kassow has compiled and edited a series of writings—authored by Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto—which contain what *The Guardian's*

John Crace called "a remarkable social history of life under the Nazis." Boston.com's Michael Kenney said that these writings include "interviews [...] and documents collected by researchers, many of them teenagers, under the direction of historian Emanuel Ringelbaum."

In an interview with *The Guardian*, Professor Kassow said that Ringelbaum was a "leftist social scientist, whose sole interest was in creating an accurate portrait of Jewish life by initiating 82 research projects into everything from the role of women to synagogue architecture, jokes and soup

kitchens."

"Ringelbaum wanted everything to be contemporary," said Kassow. "He urged everyone to write down what they saw and what they were thinking as soon after the event as possible" because "[l]eaving it even a week before writing could mean people might either forget or somehow misremember."

"[We] have to avoid the mindless relativism where all genocides become much the same, and the Holocaust the same as Hiroshima is the same as Dresden."

Samuel Kassow
Charles H. Northam
Professor of History

Crace tells readers that, "For Kassow [the book] is testament to the idea that the written word can be a potent act of resistance."

In his *Guardian* interview, with respect to the history of genocides, Kassow pointed out that "each genocide is different in its specificity" and that we "have to avoid the mindless relativism where all genocides become much the same, and the Holocaust the same as Hiroshima is the same as Dresden." If we follow this logic of relativism, Kassow said, "you get to the kind of absurd position where Israel gets likened to the Nazis over Gaza."

Common Hour Program to Analyze Finances

NINNA GAENSLER-DEBS '11
NEWS WRITER

On Thursday, April 16, Trinity College is hosting a Common Hour Symposium entitled, "Region-Making In Connecticut: Fostering Cooperation and Improving Governance."

The recent economic downturn is forcing the government at all levels in Connecticut to rethink how the services they provide are financed. Connecticut currently faces a \$4 billion deficit for the next two years, which will inevitably lead to diminutions in state-aid to municipalities.

Regionalism, a political ideology that focuses on the interests of a particular region or group of regions, is being examined by the state and municipalities as a direction they might be forced to take in order to provide basic services.

The symposium features two sets of panelists, each addressing key issues and challenges concerning regional development and cooperation in Connecticut.

Dean and Director of the Center for Urban and Global Studies and Paul E. Raether Distinguished Professor of Sociology and International Studies Xiangming Chen said, "This event represents one of the important roles that the [Center] can play in promoting research and policy discussion concerning the major economic, political, and social challenges confronting the city of Hartford and the Greater Capital Region. The event will be a timely forum for an honest exchange of viewpoints among academics, politicians, business leaders, and community residents. I hope this dialogue can help us find more effective

ways of cooperating across municipal boundaries to deal with regional development issues such as transportation and public services.

The first panel, which will discuss the political, procedural and policy implications of the economic downturn, will feature Oz Griebel, president of MetroHartford Alliance; Rep. J. Brendan Sharkey of the 88th House District; and Lyle Wray, executive director of the Capital Region Council of Governments. It will be moderated by Director of Community Relations Jason Rojas.

The keynote address, "Seeking Common Ground: Weighing the Costs and Benefits of Regionalism in CT," will be delivered by Dennis Heffley, Professor and Head of the Department of Economics at University of Connecticut. He will address such questions as: What does regionalism mean for Connecticut? What do we need to do in the short vs. long term? Where do we start to become more regionally cooperative and effective in Connecticut and the Greater Capital Region?

The second panel, which will discuss regionalism more broadly and comparatively, will feature Associate Professor and Chairman of Policial Science Departments at Trinity College Kevin McMahon, the John R. Reitemeyer, James Gomes, director of Clark University's Mosakowski Institute for Public Enterprise, and Brian Osoba, an economics professor at Central Connecticut State University. It will be moderated by Chen.

The symposium will take place at 10:45 a.m. in the Washington Room in Mather Hall.

Elections Prompt Impressive Turnout Grubin Wins SGA President-Elect With Increased Voting

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long time, and I thought I was a strong candidate for the position. [...] I understood that being abroad made my task even more difficult, particularly since I was running against a candidate as qualified as Andrew. I wish things had worked out differently, but I am very happy for Andrew and I know he will do an excellent job of representing the SGA, the student body, and Trinity."

"I will absolutely continue my involvement with the SGA next year," Blum said. "This is an organization that I have spent more time working for than I care to count and there is no way I will turn my back on it until long after I graduate in the Spring. I'm not sure exactly what my role will be, but I will be looking to Andrew and the rest of the body to see where they think I will be most valuable."

Despite the loss, Blum was very grateful to his campaign staff. "[They] worked incredibly hard on my behalf," he said, "and there is no way this election would have been so close without their help. At the end of the day, the bulk of the campaign rigors fell on them. [...] If nothing else, I learned that there are people on campus that are willing to put their own lives on hold to help me when I need them. There is no more rewarding feeling, even getting elected."

Voter turnout for this election was the highest in recent years, with 1139 students casting their votes for president. One year ago, 866 voted, and two years ago a mere 548 chose to exercise their right, when Andrew Maia '08 handed former *Tripod* Editor-in-Chief Joe Tarzi '08 a crushing

defeat 436-148. Last year's contest was similarly a blowout, when Nathan Kirschbaum '09 won over David Kimball-Stanley '09 578-288.

"The SGA has successfully advocated for the student body over the past year," said Elections, Recruit, and Communications Chair Adam Katcher '12. "Significant accomplishments include acquiring the multi-purpose floor the Koeppel Sports Center, getting the College to foot the cable bill, and working with Chartwells to improve meal plans. The dramatic increase in voter turnout reflects the SGA's active role in representing the student body."

During the Executive Vice Presidential Debate, both candidates, Chris Gardner '10 and Ibrahim Diallo '11 were clear in their support: Gardner for Grubin, and Diallo for Blum. Grubin and Gardner are both brothers of the Sigma Nu fraternity. What many predicted to be a ticketed race, though, did not end as such. Diallo, current SGA Vice President of MAC, defeated Gardner 587-504.

"I am really honored to have the opportunity to serve as Executive Vice President," Diallo said. "I look forward to a great year working on behalf of the student body. I believe the student body evaluated the candidates and made a decision based on who they thought would best represent them and speak on their behalf. [...] There are those who sincerely believe Gardner was the best candidate. I may not have their votes, but I look forward to working on their behalf as well."

In the closest race in recent history, Krystal L. Ramirez '10 defeated Alexandra Powell '12 for SGA Vice-President of Finance by a mere 10 votes. Though Ramirez and Powell both have served only one semester on budget committee, Ramirez has been in the Senate for over two years, experience which likely contributed to her win. "I would like to think that I won," Ramirez said, "because 569 students realized that I was the more qualified candidate, given my previous leadership experience not just in the SGA but in other campus organizations."

"I am very honored to have been elected to the VP of Finance position and given

the opportunity to continue to serve the student body," Ramirez said. "I am so grateful to everyone who voted for me, because I only won by a margin of 10, and I hope to prove to those who did not support me that I can, in fact, be fair and unbiased and that I will work for their interests and listen to their concerns."

All elected are hopeful and enthusiastic about the coming year. "There are several goals that I have for the SGA next year," Grubin said, "including the implementation of a real intramural sports program and a reform of the bookstore. However, more important than what I plan on accomplishing is what the student body requests of us. The SGA will be open to the ideas and suggestions of all students, not just SGA members."

"I hope that our collective administration will accomplish great things," Ramirez said. "While at this point we can't exactly know what's

going to come at us next year, I do think Ibrahim and Andrew had some great ideas in their platforms." "I have worked with both Grubin and Ramirez really well in the past," said Diallo. "I commend their passion and commitment to serving the student body. I have tremendous respect for [Ramirez]. She has done so much for the student body and too often her hard work goes unnoticed. If you look back at SGA's accomplishments in the last two years, she has been at the forefront of it all. As for Andrew, he is a hard worker and it will be a challenge to keep up with him as his vice president, but I hope to be there whenever he needs me."

More important than what I plan on accomplishing is what the student body requests of us. The SGA will be open to the ideas and suggestions of all students, not just SGA members."

Andrew Grubin '10
SGA President-elect

Eight candidates ran for five Senator-at-Large positions, which were won by Melissa Litwack '10 (579 votes), Remy Renault '10 (563 votes), Dan Zauderer '10 (452 votes), Katcher (523 votes), and William Yale '12 (475 votes).

Malcolm Brown '10 ran unopposed for Vice President of MAC, and Chase Caillouette '10 ran unopposed for Vice President of Entertainment.

Grubin's victory is the narrowest victory since the three-way race of Spring 2006, when Devin Romanul '07 edged out the competition, Zachary Contreras-Gould '07 By 21 votes. Whitney Hart '09 was also a candidate, gathering 181 less votes than Romanul.

News In Brief

Captain Rescued From Pirates

After five days holding Capt. Richard Phillips hostage, three pirates from Somalia were killed by various U.S. snipers. One of the pirates had surrendered prior to the shooting, and the other three were killed in order for Phillips to go free. Somalia, upon hearing of the three pirates' deaths, stated that it would attack Americans in the near future.

Boat Crashes, Kills Passengers

In Florida, a recent tragic and startling accident on the waters caused much distress. When a boat hit a tugboat that was stationed at the dock, seven individuals were hurt. Five more people were killed by the incident. Rescuers had to construct a makeshift way to get to the victims, as the dock was under construction when the incident occurred.

Pilot Passes Away While Flying

For those afraid of flying, a certain trip on Sunday would have been disastrous. The pilot died during a flight going from Florida to Mississippi. There were six passengers aboard the aircraft, one of which had a pilot's license, but for a different type of plane. With the help of those on the ground, the passenger was able to land the airplane at the Southwest Florida International Airport.

Manicure Becomes Dangerous

For a supposed relaxing and enjoyable indulgence, one woman's manicure outing recently turned into an ill-fated scary and traumatic event. While getting her nails done at a Baltimore salon, the woman's acrylic nails were immersed in acetone, which spilled, causing a fire. The woman was badly burned by the unexpected and unfortunate fire.

Intercollegiate Update

University of Rhode Island

The University of Rhode Island recently accepted a new sorority to its campus. Gamma Xi Delta is the most current addition to Greek life at the University. It currently has 37 members, and its president is considering making the sorority national soon.

Colby College

Two 21-year-olds and one 22-year-old students were arrested at Colby College on Sunday. They were all involved somehow in trying to prevent the Colby Emergency Response Team from aiding a student who was in need of medical attention.

Brown University

Brown University is about to welcome a new (famous) member of its community. Emma Watson, the actress best known for her portrayal of Hermione Granger in the *Harry Potter* movies, is set to attend the University in the near future.

Wesleyan University

Wesleyan saw an increase in its number of applications for the Class of 2013. The acceptance rate, however, dropped from 27 to 22 percent. The class size has stayed the same with 2,201 students. There was also an increase in the number of Early Decision applicants.

Bates University

A student organized the collection of over 4,600 yogurt lids to win Bates a grant to fund a play area for the local Boys & Girls Club. The chapter's playroom is in need of renovation, and the student saw the lid-collecting competition as an opportunity to do good.

Bowdoin University

Bowdoin now offers students a minor in economics and finance following a vote put to the faculty last week. The idea has been debated upon since 2005, but was finally agreed upon in the hopes of giving graduating students an edge in the job market.

Scholarship Concert Delivers

continued from page 1

raised or the number of people who attended the event. Tickets for the concert cost \$30, which many students believed was too high a price. In the week leading up to the event, committee members and volunteers sold tickets in both dormitories and Mather Hall.

After the success of the first Scholarship Benefit Concert, there is hope that it will become a largely profitable annual event. "Students for Scholarship will continue to exist on campus," Biren states, "We are eager to take what we have learned and improve on this event next year."

Thanks to the combined efforts of Carver Diserens '09 and Elizabeth Brown '09 the concert was publicized and covered by many news outlets, including fellow NESCAC and Connecticut newspapers. A promotional ad was also featured on a Hartford radio station.

[Editor's Note: Diserens and Brown are members of the Tripod staff.]

Re-Election Called Into Question for Sen. Dodd

continued from page 1

scandal, in which Dodd first refuted his involvement in related legislation, and then later backtracked.

According to Quinnipiac University, 59 percent of voters are angry, while 33 percent are "bothered but not angry."

Despite these results, Independent Connecticut Senator Joe Lieberman predicts that Dodd will win the 2010 race.

As reported by a Tuesday, April 7 article published in the *Courant*, Lieberman said, "I've been there. It's obviously been a tough couple of months for Chris, some of it unfair [...] But I'm convinced, based on what Chris Dodd has done for Connecticut and America, that he'll be re-elected. I think people will say, 'Hey, we've got a good senator here. Let's not lose him.'"

In further Connecticut news from Washington, Dodd and Lieberman announced on

Thursday, April 2 that the state is receiving \$25,879,723 to provide single-family housing loans and homeownership financing loans.

"In these tough economic times, the American dream of homeownership is out of reach for far too many Connecticut residents, but with these loans, that is going to change. These government-guaranteed loans will make the dream of homeownership a reality for many Connecticut families," said

"I'm convinced, based on what Chris Dodd has done for Connecticut and America, that he'll be re-elected."

Joe Lieberman
Connecticut Senator

Dodd.

Additionally, over \$3 million in federal funding is being allocated to fix up the courthouse. This move is part of a nationwide plan to convert federal buildings into "green" buildings.

"These funds will contribute to our economic recovery in the short term by creating jobs in Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven, while also helping to diminish our long term environmental impact," said Dodd.

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“Comedy is a distortion of what is happening, and there will always be something happening.”
- Steve Martin

HUMOUR

Failed Proverbs and Sayings

“Give a man a fish, and he will be very confused...”

“You can never step twice into the same river, but you can step on the banks of the river all you want.”

“The early bird catches the worm, unless the worm sleeps in.”

“Patience = Virtue.”

“Always a bridesmaid, never a groom.”

“A watched pot never boils. An unwatched pot overcooks pasta.”

“The grass is always greener if you water it regularly.”

“Never say never unless you use it in this saying.”

“A penny saved is practically worthless.”

“All is fair in love and cage matches.”

“Fool me once, shame on you. Foul me twice, shame on you again...you jackass.”

“Life is full of contradictions. (Not really).”

“A rolling stone gathers no moss. Unless its one of those freak rocks.”

Campaigns vs. Environment

PINE COHN
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

The campaigns for the recent SGA elections have been detrimental to both the college campus and the planet. Over the past couple of weeks, candidates for SGA positions have been flying all of across Trinity, wasting vast amounts of the school's resources as well as the Earth's natural resources. I write to speak out about these injustices our so-called leaders of this college have committed and hope to gather support in rectifying this situation.

One of the main issues I have with all of the candidates is there atrocious abuse of paper, which has been used to advertise for their campaigns. It was practically impossible over the past couple of weeks to walk a few steps without seeing some sign, trying to persuade you to vote for one student or another. Some of these candidates have printed out hundreds of flyers with their faces printed on them without any consideration for the poor trees from which they were unjustly taken. At lunch one day, I overheard one candidate in particular discussing with several of his cohorts that he had utilized paper resources flown in directly from the Amazon to aide his campaigning, “Yeah it's really the best way to go. I mean, who cares about the Amazon anyway. I hated Apocalypto”. (This candidate will remain anonymous for

his own safety from Green Campus as well as fans of Apocalypto). How dare this individual say such a cruel statement? Apocalypto was badass! I also dislike that he wanted to misuse resources from an already dwindling forested-area.

Another concern of mine is the amount of ink used during the campaigns. On all of the posters and flyers, each candidate fills the pages with huge words and pictures of themselves smiling. These flyers use up an enormous amount of ink, which also derives from one of Earth's natural resources, mainly squid and octopuses. I heard from several sources that one candidate used the ink of an Alaskan

“Yeah it's really teh best way to go. I mean, who cares about the Amazon anyway. I hated Apocalypto.”

- SGA Presidential Candidate on Campaign Paper Use

Orange-Freckled Octopus for his campaign, which is an endangered species. Pictures of this candidate have been placed online, which depict this “leader” personally squeezing the ink from these wonderful creatures into several jars. And to think so many people voted for this person! I guess it goes to show that some people will do some crazy things for campus politics.

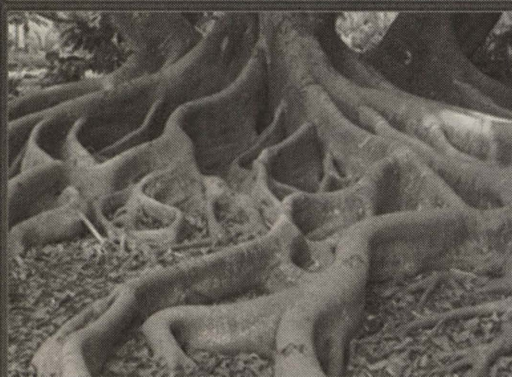
And the tragedy continues. One of the candidates for senator has been caught downtown with a Grey-Bearded Iguana for publicity. He apparently took the animal, which is also an endangered species, to Trumbull Kitchen for a wine tasting to show his commitment to the iguana vote. This kind of behavior is immoral and

see PAPER on page 17

Something to Ponder

Catholics believe the bread and wine presented at the altar during the celebration of the Eucharist go through a process called transubstantiation. During this process, the essence of the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus Christ. If Catholics follow this belief, then wouldn't Catholics be unable to be vegetarians?

THE ROOTS ♣♣♣♣♣♣



ELEMENT - HAZY

These mystical musicians possess many powers, including: dank beats, ill rhymes and sticky-icky. Their melodies lure many youths from lands as far away as New Haven. Originally thought to be a benevolent pack, their true character has recently come into question after their dubious alliance with the Humourous-Absentous Dark Lord, Jimmy Fallon.

60/80

TRADING CARD OF THE WEEK
 CUT IT OUT! COLLECT ALL !!!
 7 OF 9?

Jokes to Avoid Telling

WHAT DO YOU CALL A STORY ABOUT AN UNCONTROLLABLE HORSE?

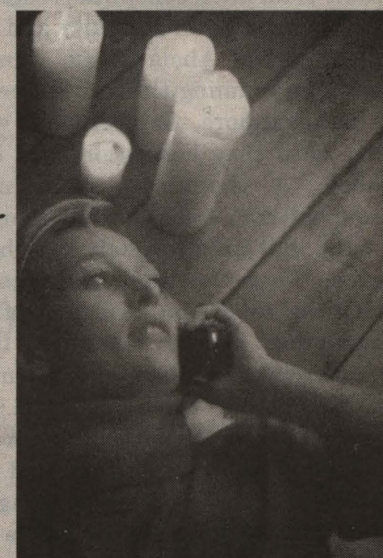
A TALE OF WHOA!!

WHAT IS THE ONLY KIND OF CELL PHONE, WHOSE RING TONE CAN REALLY SET THE MOOD?

A BLACKBERRY WHITE

WHO WAS THE ONLY FAMOUS PLAY-WRIGHT WHO COULD HOLD A GREAT DEAL OF WATER?

SAMUEL BUCKET



Contributors; Ninna Gaensler-Debs 2011
If you would like to contribute to the humour page, please send submissions to vincent.moore@trincoll.edu before the end of the week.

Presence of Professor Bias at Trinity a Minor Cause for Concern

NICOLE DUBOWITZ '10
FEATURES EDITOR

To most people, colleges in the Northeast are known to have a few unifying characteristics: impressive academic reputations, gorgeous fall foliage, and elegant, ivy-covered old buildings. To some others, liberal arts schools like ours are viewed as being too, well, liberal, and not when it comes to our distribution requirements. Many schools all over the country carry stigmas of political bias in the classroom that depend on their locations, religious affiliations, and other factors. As New England is made up of mostly blue states, where does an unaffiliated, private school like Trinity fall on this ideological spectrum?

First, we must acknowledge that professors nationwide tend to lean left, especially those teaching humanities courses. This is backed up by several studies, including one by Professors Neil Gross from Harvard University and Solon Simmons from George Mason University. Gross and Simmons found that 66.6 percent of professors surveyed in the year 2000 had voted Democratic in the past five presidential elections, as opposed to 23.5 percent of professors who consistently voted Republican. They also found that while 92 percent of professors said that they did not share their views with their classes, professors at community colleges and liberal arts colleges were more likely to do so, perhaps a result of the more intimate nature of smaller classes at these institutions.

In my experience thus far, I can say these findings are pretty consistent at Trinity. I can only count on one hand how many times I've heard professors make offhand comments that revealed their preferences or distastes for cer-

tain politicians and political parties. Other students I've spoken with have also noticed a minimal amount of bias in their professors. What surprised us was that out of the comments we did hear, professors did not just make their own beliefs known, but somewhat harshly insulted people with opposing views. Most of the time these were little jabs or jokes that were not related to the lecture, and the class was able to laugh it off and move on quickly. Still, every time it happened, I couldn't help but wonder if any of my classmates felt at all turned off or uncomfortable. Common sense allows us to realize that it was only an opinion that was conveyed, and that the comment should not be taken personally. On a more

After a professor has taken a political stance, can we be sure that that stance does not affect the way the professor teaches the material, or grades our work?

analytical level, however, after a professor has taken a political stance, can we be sure that that stance does not affect the way the professor teaches the material, or grades our work?

Some schools, such as the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW), have had to deal with publicized controversy over professors accused of bias. UW defines bias differently than Merriam-Webster, calling it "an intentional threat or act of harassment or intimidation directed toward a student because of a certain characteristic he or she possesses." UW Professor of Political Science Scott Straus was confronted by a student who felt "singled out for having a belief system which was inconsistent with [Straus]'s conformist liberal view." Others in Straus' class asserted that the student was being unnecessarily combative, and the charges were cleared. Straus said that a discussion in the political science department ended in a consensus that "neutrality was important."

"Universities don't want to get in the business of dictating what professors can say in their classrooms,"

Straus continued, because that could be a "slippery slope to suppression." Provost of UW, Pat Farrell, said that there is a risk of professors censoring themselves and failing to challenge and stimulate their students.

Fellow Political Science Professor Donald Downs said "the fear of offending students is not productive for the exchange of ideas crucial to learning," and "the last thing you want is for people to be afraid to offend liberals or conservatives." Straus added that he "is in the business of teaching ideas and analysis," and thinks professors should take a nonpartisan viewpoint while teaching.

Trinity students approach bias in their classrooms with various attitudes. Alex Champoux '11, a Creative Writing major, thinks that professor bias at Trinity needs to be addressed. "When two [of my] professors break down crying because they're overwhelmed with joy about Obama's election, we know that overpoliticization is a problem," he said. "Classes are too often faux-discussion based," he continued, "Professors have preconceived political goals in their lesson. When challenged, they become indignant." This presents a new variable into the complicated issue, as it is one thing for a professor to talk about his political opinion, but quite another when he refuses to be open to what his students have to say.

Alex Fitzgerald '10 has not seen much bias as he completes his Economics major, and believes this is a sign that his professors are doing their jobs well. Fitzgerald noted that while it depends on the class, "professors lose some credibility when they show their biases because it seems like they cannot convey the information in a factual manner." If professors are allowing their own opinions to penetrate a lecture on what their students assume is history or fact, those students may not be able to discern what is truly accurate. Tim Boucher '11, a Public Policy

and Law major, accepts that "professors revealing their political biases is almost inevitable," but "when it gets to the point where you feel like you have to write your papers to appeal to their political interests, just so you can get a good grade, it becomes unprofessional on their part. That's where it crosses the line between being interesting and insightful to unethical and rude."

In general, I agree with Professor Straus that professors should teach and not preach, as their job is not to indoctrinate students with their own political agendas. At the same time, professors are free to believe whatever they want in their off-campus lives, so they should not be forced to hide those beliefs from their students solely for the sake of being politically correct. So, if there are boundaries, where do they lie? Does it make a difference when a professor is teaching political science or economics as opposed to English or biology? Should a professor make one of these comments without giving students an adequate chance to respond?

I personally believe that students studying political science, economics, and similar subjects should be able to learn from a neutral standpoint, or be exposed to each side of the argument in order to be as informed as possible. Seminars and classroom discussions create an ideal space for personal opinions, since they are more casual environments where students can disagree with each other and their professors. Still, no matter what, students should never be in a place to feel discriminated against by the person who hands out their grades, especially in classes where papers often include political ideas. Fortunately, this does not seem to be a widespread problem on Trinity's campus. Most students have not experienced and have not been offended by professor bias, but professors should still pay attention and take into account the effect their vocalized opinions can have on their students.

Audrye Sessions To Perform at Webster Underground on Wed.

NINNA GAENSLER-DEBS '11
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

The band Audrye Sessions is the result of an alien conspiracy; sort of. In 2002, singer Ryan Karazija and then-guitar player Alicia Marie Campbell had been roaming through coffeehouses in Livermore, California. It wasn't long until they had recorded a demo, added a drummer, and moved Campbell over to bass. Now there was a band, but unfortunately they had no name. Then one day, Karazija was watching television, and a particular commercial got his attention. In the commercial, an alien was burning a CD for a girl, which the little green man chose to entitle "the Audrey Sessions." It was a sign, and after dropping "the" and changing the spelling to Audrye, the band was finally christened.

Currently, the band consists of Ryan Karazija, on guitar/vocals, Michael Knox on lead guitar, Alicia Marie Campbell on bass, and James Leste on drums. Previous band members included violinist Anton Patzner and drummer Alex Feldman. Robbie Salabuddin from Owl Magazine commented, "Though their songs are deli-

cate, they're played with an energy that's far from weak and often unseen in indie music." On their iTunes biography, Audrye Sessions is likened to British bands such as Muse, Coldplay, and Oasis. In an article by Delfin Vigil, in the June 7, 2007 *San Francisco Chronicle*, the band describes themselves as having "a very Brit-rock feel like the Beatles meet Muse. But you can definitely hear Oasis, Verve, Radiohead, Björk, Arcade Fire (string section) and Coldplay influences in the sense that these bands are inspiring to us to create music versus imitating."

In 2007, the band won a spot on Live 105's BFD summer concert, and have played at San Francisco's Noise Pop and Austin's SXSW music festivals. Audrye Sessions made their first recording debut in 2007 with *Braille*, an independent release that led to a major-label recording contract with the RCA Records subsidiary Black Seal the following year. They released a self-titled *Audrye Sessions* EP in October 2008, and their first full-length album was released on February 17, 2009.

Their single is "Turn Me Off," a catchy tune with great guitar hooks,



www.bighassle.com

Audrye Sessions started in California, released an album this year and is now on a nationwide tour.

and sounds somewhat of Siberian-meets-Travis. Some other great tracks on the album include "Relentless," a mournful pleading tune, "Julianna" a biting and upbeat song, and "Where You'll Find Me," which is, in my opinion, the most original and full song on the album.

Currently, Audrye Sessions is touring the country. They will be performing on Wednesday, April 15 at the Webster Underground, with doors opening at 7 p.m. The Webster is located at 31 Webster Street, right off New Britain Avenue about a mile from campus.

Professor McMahon Discusses Nixon's Court and Political Agenda

CAL MILES '10

FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

On Thursday, April 9, Professor Kevin J. McMahon delivered his inaugural lecture as the John Reinhart Reitemeyer Associate Professor and Chair of Political Science, titled "Nixon's Court: The Silent Majority and the Conservative Counterrevolution That Was." McMahon's lecture centered on President Nixon's Supreme Court nominations, their intended political effects, and the Nixon administration's actual long-term effects. However, this was not merely an academic discussion of political theory and empirical observation. Memorable audio clips of Nixon himself, clips from recently-released Watergate tapes, aided in focusing on the process by which Nixon went about choosing and evaluating potential Supreme Court jus-

tics. These clips were memorable not only because they contained comments from President Nixon that would today be called archaically racist or stereotype-reinforcing, but also because of their evidentiary contribution to one of McMahon's main points - that President Nixon chose and evaluated potential justices almost entirely based on their ability to benefit him politically.

President Nixon took office on the heels of Chief Justice Earl Warren's retirement and with the energy of the "silent majority" of conservative voters, many of whom saw the Warren Court as too activist and too liberal. Particular upset came from the South with regards to desegregation and busing decisions from the Warren Court. Nixon pledged to appoint strict-constructionist judges in contrast to the activist Warren Court. This pledge, along with the cam-

paign of George Wallace in the South and the high crime rates of the late 60s, helped Nixon to win the 1968 election. McMahon played video clips of Nixon campaign commercials that presented crime as an out-of-control epidemic that threatened the livelihood of every American.

Once in office, Nixon's first Supreme Court nominee was Warren Burger. A strict-constitutionalist from Minnesota, Burger was nominated for the Chief Justice position and would preside over the Supreme Court until the 1980s.

McMahon noted the close and odd relationship between members of the Nixon administration and Chief Justice Berger, but seemed to focus more on the later selections for the rest of the justices on the Court, in particular the intended nominations of Hershel Friday and Mildred Lillie in 1971. Both of these

candidates were notably similar to Harriet Myers, George W. Bush's oft-criticized candidate for the Supreme Court - they were both considered unqualified. Furthermore, Mildred Lillie was not a strict-constructionist. However, McMahon used tapes and transcript of Nixon's discussions regarding these nominations to point out that Nixon quite apparently didn't care about the candidate's qualifications or judicial philosophy. Instead, Nixon cared only about the potential for political benefit. He chose Hershel Friday, an Arkansas bond lawyer, because he wanted a nominee from the South. He chose Mildred Lillie because he wanted a woman or a Catholic. One of the more memorable of Nixon's jokes, as told by McMahon, was his suggestion that a male candidate for the Court should undergo a sex change or, as Nixon put it, "castration." Neither of these

candidates, however, actually made it to the Court and instead Nixon nominated Lewis Powell and William Rehnquist, both of whom were confirmed by the senate.

Now of course, the Rehnquist nomination is significant in that Rehnquist steered an arguably conservative Rehnquist Court until 2005, but it is also significant because Nixon did not know if Rehnquist was a conservative or not at the time of the nomination. McMahon presented this as a kind of a fluke on the part of the Nixon and, getting back the subtitle of the lecture, part of the "conservative counterrevolution that was."

In the final segments of his lecture, McMahon pointed out that the Republican coalition that Nixon built in the 1972 election was the groundwork on which Reagan won office in 1980, hence the affirmative subtitle and the central point of the lecture.

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Top 5

Roots Songs To Download



5. "Pass The Popcorn"
4. "Boom!"
3. "Don't Feel Right"
2. "Here I Come"
1. "The Seed (2.0)"

around trinity

Nightgown Does Not Qualify as Nightwear

Normally Vicki's is designed for the boudoir, and AT maintains it should stay that way. One fiery fox decided to challenge this standard on Saturday night, sporting a black-and-white negligee to the frats. A Tripod staffer should really know better.

White Party, or Vagina Monologues?

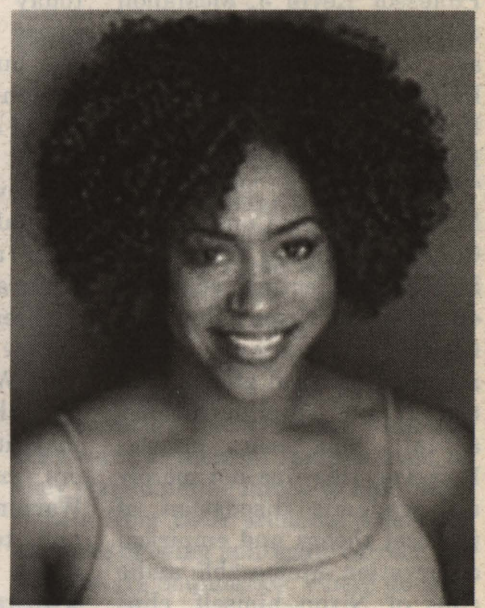
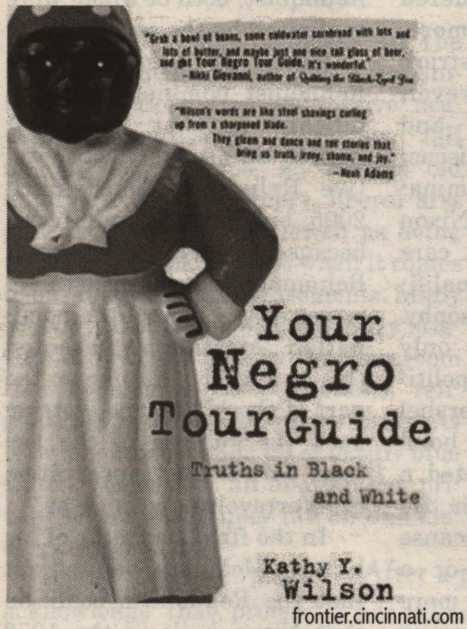
At an annual frat party this weekend, one girl's dance partner was so skilled with his moves that she revealed what seemed to be a real-life, no-acting-involved O-face. AT will never be able to listen to "(I Just Died) In Your Arms Tonight" the same way again.

This is Snot Proper Etiquette

AT was trying to be productive in the library when a certain middle-aged woman was seen blowing her nose into her hands and then wiping the contents on her chair! AT is considering bringing sanitizing wipes everywhere from now on.

AT can't always catch you and your friends at your most devious, and, more importantly, embarrassing moments, so share a naughty tale! Email us at tripod@trincoll.edu.

One-Woman Show Highlights Issues of Class, Race and Gender



The play is adapted from Kathy Y. Wilson's book.

Jeff Griffin, Torie Wiggins, and Kathy Y. Wilson on stage at the Washington Room performance.

Torie Wiggins performed the one-woman play.

ROSALIA ABREU '11 ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

I recently had the privilege of watching the play *I'm Not Your Negro Tour Guide* in the Washington Room in Mather Hall. This one-woman, dramatic monologue that satirizes the state of race, gender and sexuality in America was written by Kathy Y. Wilson, directed by Jeff Griffin, and performed by the phenomenal actress Torie Wiggins. The event was sponsored by WGRAC, Multicultural Affairs, the Chapel and TCBWO/Imani, and it was relatively well-attended. Throughout the night, the members of the audience laughed a lot and really seemed to enjoy the performance.

What was perhaps most enjoyable about the play was that there was a little bit of everything included. The play's powerful message was for black people to be proud of their culture and to celebrate and live black history each and every day, not only during the one month each year that the U.S. designates as Black History Month. I thought that this was a very important point to make, and it really made me

reflect on how I celebrate my own heritage and live out my own history on a daily basis.

Your Negro Tour Guide: Truths In Black and White, the collected columns and commentaries of Wilson, chugs along, and is in its second paperback printing. Additionally, the book has been adapted for the stage as a one-woman dramatic monologue and premiered to a standing-room-only audience February 26, 2007, at the Playhouse in the Park's Alteractive Series. Wilson is also a senior editor at Cincinnati Magazine and a University of Cincinnati adjunct instructor, teaching Women's Studies (Gender, Race, Class, and Sexuality) and Journalism (Columns and Reviews).

Your Negro Tour Guide has been staged to rave reviews in New York City at the HERE and Living Room festivals. The play was praised during Cincinnati's International Fringe Festival, as a feature of the annual conference of the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) and is presently in high demand on the college circuit.

The play stars Wiggins, who has

been performing since the age of two. She was the second African-American actress to graduate with a BFA in Dramatic Performance from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. She currently resides in New York and has appeared on *All My Children* and the new feature film *Love Me Through It*.

In one particularly comedic section of the play, entitled "Verses," Wiggins went through a series of "We have, You have" statements, which made references to distinct prominent figures in pop culture in order to highlight the differences between black and white culture. I found this section to be the perfect mixture of amusement and education. For example, some of the lines included, "We have Tupac, you have Shakespeare/You have Alice Walker, we have Zora Neale Hurston"... "We have James Brown, You have Elvis Presley/We have Malcolm X, you have Martin Luther King, Jr."

Afterwards, a "talk-back" was held, providing an opportunity to meet the playwright, director, and actress and ask them all kinds of questions. The audience wanted to know how they had

each arrived at working on *I'm Not Your Negro Tour Guide* and how the play evolved from Wilson's book. They also wondered why they chose to include certain pieces, such as the beautiful and incredibly moving piece on Hurricane Katrina, with the heartrending images of this tragedy. As the slideshow of the images from Katrina passed on the screen, Wiggins sang a beautiful rendition of Sam Cooke's famous song, "A Change Is Gonna Come." After the play ended, an audience member commented on how much she had appreciated the fact that they had chosen to include this piece because it still has so much significance in today's world.

I am very happy that *I'm Not Your Negro Tour Guide* was brought to Trinity College and am looking forward to having the cast return to our campus to perform for a wider, more diverse audience. The play really opens your mind and heart to new avenues of thinking and envisioning the world. I truly feel that we can all learn something valuable about American culture and about American people as a whole from watching this incredible play.

Cinestudio

Slumdog Millionaire

Slumdog Millionaire is directed by Danny Boyle with a screenplay by Simon Beaufoy. The film is based on the novel by Vikas Swarup. The film stars Dev Patel, Ayush Mahesh Khedekar, Freida Pinto, Rubina Ali, and Azharuddin Mohammed Ismail. Don't miss one of the last chances to see *Slumdog Millionaire* on the big screen, on film! This unlikely Academy Award pick for Best Picture comes alive in a swirl of color, drama, music, dancing, and romance that pulls the audience into the slums of Mumbai—and the dreams of the young people who make it their home. Dev Patel stars as Jamal, tv game show contestant on "Who Wants to be a Millionaire," who flashes back and forth in time to the struggles of his childhood, and his love for the shy orphan he hopes to find again. Director Danny Boyle, whose notorious hit *Trainspotting* was set in the chillier slums of Scotland, has a wildly free imagination, and a deep connection with characters who'll try anything for a better life.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 7:30 and Saturday, 2:30

Two Lovers

Two Lovers is directed by James Gray with a screenplay by James Gray and Richard Menello. The film stars Joaquin Phoenix, Gwyneth Paltrow, Vinessa Shaw, Isabella Rossellini, and Moni Moshonov. Phoenix may be experiencing a major meltdown in the real world, but in what he called his last film, he gives a performance of rare sensitivity and intelligence. Phoenix plays a troubled slacker who moves back in with his Russian-Jewish parents in Brighton Beach. His mother (Rossellini) has his future mapped out: marriage to a nice Jewish girl (Shaw) whose dry-cleaner father needs a partner. Phoenix, however, is more interested in a blonde girl with issues: Paltrow, who gets to explore an alluring dark side. "One of the most interesting movies we'll get to see in 2009. Most miraculous of all, its characters are complicated and uncertain, in ways you often encounter in life but rarely or never do in American movies."

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, 7:30 and Sunday, 2:30

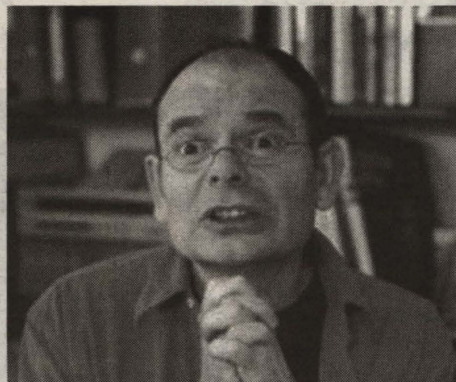
April in Paris Showcases Female French Directors in Festival



moviemartyr.com



mebbe.blogspot.com



frenchculture.org



courant.com

Female filmmaker Anges Varda's *Vagabond* tells the story of Mona in flashbacks after her tragic death.

DANIELLE PIERSON '11
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Film comes in many forms, and *Vagabond* does not conform to classical American cinema. If one wants to view a film with a message, this is not the right movie to see. Agnes Varda, the director, is of the French new wave, a movement that began in the late 1950s. Films by directors of the new wave are products of the directors. The story is secondary to how the story is told, and anyone searching for a moral in *Vagabond* will leave the theater unsatisfied. *Vagabond* is slightly entertaining as it is punctuated with some funny scenes, but, while the film does not have the most enjoyable story, it is well told.

The movie begins with the protagonist, Mona, lying dead in a field looking dirty and a bit oddly colored. It then moves back in time to show the weeks leading up to her death. *Vagabond* is a story of the people around Mona. She is our age, that of a college student, but she is not a relatable character. In fact, she is somewhat unimportant. Mona's last few weeks are told from the perspective of other people.

Mona's story is about the effect she had on others. One relates more with these characters and can enjoy the film by not fixating on understanding Mona because perhaps she is not meant to be understood. For example, one might

learn to love Aunt Lydie, a nearly blind old woman, who sits in a chair all day at her house ordering around the maid. Mona gets the old lady drunk. This scene may be the highlight of the film as Aunt Lydie's fanatical laugh is a major shock.

While one finds fun moments in the film, one finds no answers. Instead, *Vagabond* poses many questions. Mona is a completely free person whose freedom is admired by many of the characters in the film, but this freedom is looked down upon by others. Instead of telling us that Mona is great because she is free, the film asks us whether or not one can be too free. Varda leaves this to the viewer to decide for his or herself.

Vagabond is not about plot, but rather about the process of developing the story. Varda separates Mona's story into chapters divided by eerie music. She tells a chronological story of the events leading to Mona's death, but interestingly, this given order does not feel important. None of the events particularly relate to her death. She dies completely by chance, and Varda's choice reminds the viewer that this story is not full of hidden meanings.

Vagabond is a decent movie, but it amazing in what it intends to be. Mona is not meant to be a likeable pleasant character that is easy for the viewer to deal with. Varda did not create a film intending to entertain the viewer. She does try to tell a story in a unique way and she succeeds in doing this.

Cause Toujours!, directed by Jeanne Labrune, highlights the common misunderstandings that arise daily between human beings. The four main characters struggle to discover the whereabouts of their mutual friend Lea. However these miscommunications lead to eventual love and acceptance.



toutlecine.com



montrealmirror.com

Ma Vie en Cineamascope, directed by Denise Filiatrault, depicts the career of Quebec singer Alys Robi. The film follows Robi's life through flashbacks of her childhood, adolescence, and adulthood to the emotional break-down she encounters in later life.



archive.filmdeculte.com



archive.filmdeculte.com

Vendredi Soir, directed by Claire Dennis, is based off the novel by Emmanuèle Bernheim. The film follows a protagonist who goes for a drive to escape the pressures of her life. When she gets stuck in a large traffic jam in the city, she meets a man who will change her life.

Recently Announced Spring Weekend Artists Seem Promising



showclix.com

Matt and Kim are a young dynamic musical duo from New York.

Matt and Kim, a punk/dance duo, was formed in 2004 by Matt Johnson and Kim Schifino. Their music is a combination of kick and snare drums, along with anthemic, synth-driven choruses. Matt and Kim met while they were attending the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn and they began playing local warehouse shows together. They have since been utilizing networking sites such as MySpace and YouTube. The duo released their first self titled CD in 2006 with the media group "Iheartcomix". This past January, Matt and Kim released their second album, *Grand*, with Fader Label. Their live shows are frantic and really get the audience excited. *Grand* contains songs that capture the essence of living life as a poor, young person in the city.



myspace.com

The Roots combine jazz and hip-hop in their captivating songs.

The Roots are a Grammy award-winning American hip hop band from Philadelphia. They infuse jazz into their music, which makes the hip hop music extreme eclectic. The Roots continue to use live instrumentals in their shows, which creates an exciting atmosphere for the audience. The group is composed of the MC Black Thought, Questlove (drums), Kamal Gray (electronic keyboard), F. Knuckles (percussion), Captain Kirk Douglas (electric guitar), Damon Bryson (Sousaphone), and Owen Biddle (bass). The band is also featured as the house band in Jay-Z's *MTV Unplugged Album*. This most recent album, *Rising Down*, was released in April of last year. Questlove has confirmed that the group is working on a new album, entitled, *How I Got Over*.



uk.real.com

Estelle's recent collaboration with Kanye catapulted her to fame.

Estelle is a Grammy award-winning singer-songwriter, rapper, and producer from England. She first emerged in 2004 with her album *The 18th Day*. This album won Estelle a Mobo Award for Best Newcomers. She hit real fame in 2008 with her collaboration with Kanye West titled "American Boy". This song topped the UK Singles Chart, and it also reached the top-ten in countries all over the world. "American Boy" was number seven on *Rolling Stone's* list of the 100 Best Songs of 2008. "American Boy" was the hit of the summer, attracting a wide range of fans. Her album was executively produced by John Legend, who states that Estelle's sound is "a unique blend of hip hop, pop, reggae and soul". She will be the first female to perform at Spring Weekend.

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Trinity Baseball Outscores Bates 49-7

continued from page 16

Bantams really got it started.

Bates senior starting pitcher Chuck Murphy-Romboletti began to fall apart, walking the first two batters and letting up six runs on five hits.

The Bantams continued their dominant way of play into the sixth inning when they scored seven runs against still struggling Bates pitcher, Murphy-Romboletti. Bates mustered only one run in the fourth inning and two in the seventh, leaving the final score at 21-3 in Trinity's favor.

The second game of the doubleheader brought a similar fate for Bates. Sophomore pitcher Andrew Janiga pitched the first seven innings for Trinity before being replaced by first year reliever Edward Donovan and junior closer Derek Anderson, who each pitched an inning.

Janiga allowed two runs on six hits, while his teammates chased his Bates opponent after three innings, scoring nine runs. The Trinity men got themselves on the scoreboard early when Abbott scored on a sacrifice fly from Graham.

Unable to rebut in the bot-

tom of the first inning, Bates also struggled to establish themselves in the top of the second.

Trinity quickly got Bantams on base. Among the six Bantam runs scored, Killeen homered to right centerfield, scoring three. Just after Killeen rounded the bases, Graham got on base with a single and was brought home minutes later when his teammate, James Wood slammed a home run to right field, Trinity's second in the inning.

The game continued in much the same fashion. The Bobcats changed pitchers three

times, but struggled to hold the Bantams off. The game ended with a score of 14-2.

Trinity finished the weekend with a record of 18-3 overall and an impressive 9-0 against NESCAC schools. Bates drops to 7-13 overall and maintains a conference record of 3-6. Trinity holds strong in first place of the NESCAC Eastern Division, while Bates slips to fifth place.

The Bantams hope to continue their NESCAC dominance when they see Colby College in a three-game series that begins at home on Friday, April 17.



Courtesy of Matt Sullivan '10

Outfielder Matt Sullivan sneaks around Bobcat infielder and sits safe on second.

The *Tripod* Congratulates NESCAC Men's Lacrosse Player of the Week Harper Cullen

Cullen, a junior attacker, led the team with nine goals over a 2-0 week. On Wednesday at Eastern Conn. St., all of his game-high four goals came in the crucial third quarter to turn a 6-2 halftime deficit into a 7-2 Bantam lead.

Romanowsky Scores Five as Bantams Pick Up Win

continued from page 16

Trinity scored on all four of the free positions they were awarded in the second half, which put them four out of six overall.

The Trinity women also won 14 of the 19 draw controls in the game.

The team currently holds third place in the NESCAC standings with two games left to play.

The two top-ranked teams in the conference, the Colby College White Mules (10-1

overall, 6-1 NESCAC) and the Tufts University Jumbos (10-1 overall, 6-1 NESCAC), have delivered the Bantams' their only two losses thus far in the season.

The Trinity women will be playing Middlebury on Saturday, April 18, and Amherst on Friday, April 24. Both games will be played at Sheppard Field. Middlebury (5-4 overall, 4-2 NESCAC) and Amherst (6-4 overall, 3-3 NESCAC) are both ranked just behind Trinity in the conference standings.

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The Trinity Tripod



Trinity College SPORTS

Inside Sports:
The *Tripod* congratu-
lates Harper Cullen,
page 15

The Trinity Tripod

Women's Lacrosse Dominates Bates College Bobcats

ALEX FITZGERALD '10
SPORTS WRITER

The Trinity College women's lacrosse team beat the Bates College Bobcats, 13-

Trinity, ranked No. 9 in the nation, has now won back-to-back games and four out of their last five.

Sophomore midfielder Rachel Romanowsky led the

junior attacker Molly Radis started the scoring 9:10 into the game.

Trinity responded with goals from junior attack Jenn Calver and Romanowsky within five minutes to bring the score to 2-1.

However, Trinity could not hold the lead going into half-time. Bobcat junior attacker Molly Dilworth scored with 2:30 remaining in the half and tied the score at 2-2.

Bates was outshot 16 to eight in the period and was lucky to have only surrendered two goals. Bobcats sophomore goalie Mara Kreuger gave a stellar performance by making eight saves in the half.

The Bantams started the second half strong, working the score into their favor, as they outscored Bates 11-3 in the period.

Trinity scored three times in the first 4:35 of the half to take a 5-2 lead.

Bates made it clear they were not out of the game, however, scoring three goals of their own.

Trinity scored in the next eight minutes to make the score 6-5. Trinity played sharp defense and Bates was unable to score again in the remaining 17 minutes of the match.

Freshman goalie Gina Dinallo recorded a total of five saves. Junior midfielder Sarah Remes' goal off a free position was the first of seven unanswered goals scored by the Bantams in the following six minutes to put the game away. For the final 10 minutes of the game, Trinity played lockdown defense to ensure its 13-5 win.

Trinity outshot Bates 22-6 in the second half and 38-14 overall.

Sophomore midfielder Alisen Urquhart scored twice and recorded the Bantams' only assist of the game. Calver and senior defender Lauren Peck each scored twice for Trinity. Remes and senior attacker Jesse Schultz also added a goal apiece for the Bantams.

see ROMANOWSKY on page 15



Freshman goalie Gina DiNallo stops many Bobcat shots as Trinity tops Bates.

5, on Saturday, April 11, at Robin L. Sheppard Field. The Bantams improve to 5-2 in the NESCAC and 9-2 overall. The loss brought the Bobcats to 3-4 in the NESCAC and 7-5 overall.

way for the Bantams, scoring five times.

Marred by cold weather and steady rainfall, the first half was a low-scoring affair. The teams were tied at two for the duration of the half. Bates

Trinity Gives Coast Guard 18th Consecutive Win

DAN KUPPER '09
SPORTS WRITER

The Trinity Softball team fell to the United States Coast Guard Academy Bears 2-0 on Wednesday, April 8. The game marked the fourth consecutive loss for the Bantams, who lost every game in a three game series against Tufts College two weekends ago. The Bantam women started the weekend with a 9-10 record overall, 2-3 against NESCAC teams.

Freshman ace Hayley Feindel pitched the entire game, allowing only three hits, to lead Coast Guard (22-2) in the shutout. Feindel improves her personal record to 18-1. The Coast Guard Bears have won 18 consecutive games and sit atop their conference standings.

Trinity (9-11) freshman pitcher Katherine Poulos remained consistent for much of the contest, throwing a complete game and allowing just five hits. In the top of the third, however, Coast Guard senior left-fielder Jeannie Crump launched a solo home-run off of Poulos to put the Bears up 1-0.

Coast Guard struck again in the top of the sixth inning when junior third-baseman Courtney Wolf went deep for a solo shot. This put the Bears

up 2-0, a score that they wouldn't relinquish for the rest of the game.

A late offensive surge for Trinity occurred in the bottom of the seventh inning when junior center-fielder Jessica Tait, leading off first base, stole second. Moments later, teammate sophomore left fielder Melanie Orphanos reached first on a wild pitch. Feindel proved to be unphraseable, however, as she

led the Bears out of the inning unscathed.

Feindel, who allowed only two walks, struck-out nine batters on this particular day when the Trinity offense seemed to struggle for much of the game. Orphanos was the only consistent offensive threat for Trinity, who went two for three and reached base in all three at-bats.

Trinity remains in fourth place in the NESCAC East

with a conference record of 2-4.

The Trinity women were scheduled to play a three game series against Amherst this past Wednesday. However, the contest was cancelled due to inclement weather.

The Bantams travel to Western Connecticut State University on Wednesday, April 15 for an evening doubleheader.



Courtesy of Jennifer Bowman

The softball team looks on as teammates struggle to hold their own against on-fire Coast Guard Bears on Wednesday.

Baseball Takes Three From Bates

EMILY GITTLEMAN '11
SPORTS EDITOR

The Trinity College baseball team ventured north this weekend to face NESCAC East opponents the Bates College Bobcats in a three-game series.

On Friday, April 10, the Bantams entered the series with a 15-3 record, 6-0 in the NESCAC. Looking to maintain their spotless NESCAC record, they came out strong against the 7-10 (3-3 in the NESCAC) Bobcats.

Bantam junior and righthanded pitcher Jeremiah Bayer pitched seven innings, allowing only three hits and a single run, all in the first inning.

The score remained 1-0 Bates until the top of the third. The Bantams put themselves on the scoreboard when junior first baseman Kent Graham brought junior outfielder Jack Abbott home on a sacrifice fly.

With senior catcher and team co-captain Sean Killeen on third, junior right fielder Jim Wood singled to right field, scoring Killeen. From first base, Wood scored on a double slammed to center by junior center fielder Matt Sullivan.

The inning ended with Trinity ahead by two runs. They continued to dominate into the fourth inning, when they added another eight runs to their 3-1 lead. Graham, Wood, junior outfielder Joe Markovich, and freshman third baseman Sean Simons drove in runs.

Simons added three runs with a three-run home run to center field at the end of the half-inning.

The Bantams continued to play sharp defense, preventing the Bobcats from scoring until the bottom of the ninth, while adding another three runs to their impressive lead.

The game ended with a final score of 14-2.

The Bantams arrived on Saturday, April 11, set for a repeat of the day before. Freshman lefthander James Ramsey pitched all seven innings for the Bantams, allowing three runs on seven hits.

In the first three innings, in the first of two games, Trinity put six runs on the board, compared with only one from the Bobcats. But it was not until the fourth inning when the

see TRINITY on page 15