"Scribere Aude!" Tuesday, March 5, 2019

### Curriculum Changes

**AMANDA HAUSMANN '21 NEWS EDITOR** 



A working group has been formed to tackle expansive changes to Trinity's curricu-

### Doctors Without Borders

**SUZANNE CARPE '22** STAFF WRITER

page

The Tripod highlights Doctors Without Borders, a new organization at Trinity.

# Minimum Wage

**HUNTER SAVERY '20** OPINION EDITOR

page

Raising the minimum wage is all it's cracked up to be, writes Democrats president Hunter Savery '20.

# Chapel Singers

BEN GAMBUZZA'20 CONTRIBUTING WRITER



Former Tripod editor Ben Gambuzza '20 reviews the Chapel Singers' album from Scotland.

Also in this week's issue....

Park Place and Boardwalk to Close, page 3

MOCA hosts Women's Appreciation Dinner, page 7

Chris Evert visits Trinity, page 11

# Churchill Club SGA Proposal Draws Ire

KIP LYNCH '22 STAFF WRITER

The Student Government Association met on Sunday, Mar. 3, in order to discuss class initiatives, the sponsorship of Entering the Workforce During #MeToo and International Women's Day 2019: Around the World, and the future of the Bantam Bus Pass. The Student Government also heard committee updates and The Churchill Club's request for approval.

With the exception of the graduating Class of 2019 council, each class council has created an initiative aimed at meeting the needs of the student body, such as laundry, textbook expenses, and free snacks on weekend nights. The Budget Committee highlighted their recent email informing the student body on meeting dates and deadlines for those requesting alternative spring break trips, staple event status, and funds. The Student Life Committee described their progress on revising the Integrity Contract, which will be voted on by the faculty in the coming months. The Academic Affairs Committee approved the extended withdrawal period and the add/drop period. The Sustainability Committee highlighted its progress in organizing GreenFEST, noting their booking of four bands as

well as various student and faculty speakers. The Sustainability Committee is also finalizing its plans for implementing composting on Crescent Street. The SGA also discussed the future of the bus pass with the Connecticut Department of Transportation, mandating that Trinity either join its UPass program, which would result in an increase in the student activities fee, or cancel its bus pass program.

The Student Government Association heard a presentation by The Churchill Club. Seeking the recognition and approval of SGA, The Churchill Club highlighted its focus on studying Western civilization and philosophers. Hosting speakers and reading groups with the aim of receiving academic credit, the club intends to meet weekly. The club faces controversy, with a large number of people planning to ask questions of the club's leadership. Questions were raised about the overlap of the rhetoric used by the Churchill Institute and far-right groups. The club also faced controversy for its focus on Western civilization, and its conservative leanings. despite the club's leadership emphasizing the organizations non-partisan status and its goal of discussing as well as criticizing Western civilization.

# Men's Hockey Wins **NESCAC** Title



TRINITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

#### **CAT MACLENNAN '20** STAFF WRITER

Trinity men's hockey played two fiercely competitive games this weekend to win the NESCAC championship and to advance to the NCAA tournament next weekend. The Koeppel center was packed with eclectic fans cheering on the Bantams. On Saturday, the Bantams fought hard against the Hamilton College Continentals. The Bantams set the pace 14 seconds into the first period with senior Mark Knowlton firing a wrist shot into the back of the net. The crowd grew rowdy through the game as the Bantams worked to control the rest of the game.

Hamilton had two opportunities to tie the game in the first period, but junior goaltender Tedy Loughborough held his ground and kept the Bantams in the lead, shutting down both of the attempted shots. Early in the second period, the Continentals were able to capitalize on a man up situation after a penalty against the Bantams and tied the game. It was now 1-1, but the Trinity fans and players didn't let up, they defended their home turf.

Both teams scrambled to put another one in the net but the regulation game ended in a tie. Both teams had many attempts at the game winning goal in overtime and after many attempts, senior Ryan Pfeffer took it into his hands to bring home the win, sending the puck past the goal line. The crowd erupted in excitement as the team celebrated on the ice. The glass rumbled with fans

see HOCKEY on page 11

### Chinese Student Association in the Works

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Students have been working towards forming an on-campus organization specifically for Chinese international students at Trinity, possibly to be associated with the national organization, Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA). CSSA is the official organization for overseas Chinese students in

GILLIAN REINHARD '20 universities across the derstand us," he said. "We classes. The organization world. The purpose of the club would be to spread Chinese culture and serve as a bridge for Chinese international students and the greater student body.

According to international student Xi Wang Chinese students have been working to form this organization for a long time. "It's really important for other international students and other American students to unhope this club will help us better integrate into American college life."

A recent article from November released by the Office of Communi-"Trinity cations, titled Expanding its Connections to China" explained that in 2007, there were only three international students from China at Trinity. Today, that number has expanded to 91 students across the four

has a growing number of members and plans to formalize their plans to be approved by the Student Government Association as a cultural organization.

"Katie Clair (International Student Advisor) and Noah Weber (Summit Fellow for International Student Support) have been fantastic in their support around campus. We really appreciate their support," added Wang.

# The **Trinity Tripod**

Established in 1904 "Scribere Aude!"

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# Trinity College

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CORRECTIONS

# Tripod Editorial

# In Response to The Churchill Club

recent controversy surrounding the Sunday night Student Government Association meeting was a clear indicator of the social climate in the Trinity community. As an observer at the meeting, I was struck by both the impressive questions asked by students who attended and my own realization I was watching political discourse in action, something I am not typically exposed to on campus.

At Trinity, like at most college campuses, students often spend time with other students like them- be it similar socioeconomic backgrounds or political beliefs. Besides conversations in the classroom, there is not much opportunity to engage in debate of any kind in day-to-day life on campus. I am as guilty of this as anyone- most of my friends share beliefs very similar to mine. Very rarely am I challenged by different ideas.

The outpouring of student support at this event indicated to me that there is not enough space for political discourse on campus. Trin Talks, sponsored by ConnPIRG, is a great example of students with differing ideas who can join discuss issues civilly. The SGA has

initiated the formation of a political union committee, composed of representatives from the four political organizations on campus (the Democrats, Republicans, Socialists, and Libertarians). At the recent meeting, it was a step in the right direction to see attendance from two of these representatives. The political union committee hopes to ensure that there is a way for all sides of the political spectrum to have a voice on campus and to understand different ideologies. Most importantly, the committee will provide feedback to SGA on political discourse at Trinity and learn how to best provide outlets to discuss these issues.

What happened on Sunday was an example of conversation on campus. As the editor of the *Tripod*, I have written countless editorials calling for more activism on campus, and for the first time in a long time, I was impressed by the dozens of students who attended an SGA meeting to protest something they didn't agree with.

No matter your stance on what was discussed at the recent SGA meeting, it is important that students can organize movements and feel as if they can have their opinion heard on campus.

In the days following Sunday's SGA meeting, debate has erupted across campus, and the Tripod office is no exception. The question arises if SGA ever gets to vote, will The Churchill Club be recognized as an official Trinity organization? Even members of the senate still cannot give their own clear opinion, and the end of the meeting saw a promise to organize a forum to discuss these issues further. SGA members have to consider the issue further, as well as the imapet of their decision as voting time draws near. However, the hard work of activists across the spectrum must be commended, and the community can only hope that students will continue to feel safe and respected when discussing their beliefs.

-GMR

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Join the staff or submit an article via the "Get Involved" section of our website, *trinitytripod*.

com.

# NEWS

# Working Group Discusses Changes to the Curriculum

AMANDA HAUSMANN '21 NEWS EDITOR

Trinity College's Curricular Reform Working Group is currently looking at a number of suggested changes to the College's curriculum that in the future may be put into formal proposals for faculty to vote on. These suggestions include changing the number of credits required for graduation from 36 to 32, requiring students to complete two "experiential learning" units, eliminating the second-language requirement, requiring students to formulate an "interdisciplinary academic pathway," and requiring students to complete a minor. Recently on Saturday, Feb. 23, the Working Group and other Trinity faculty met to discuss some of these suggested changes, however, the Working Group has yet to propose language for the College's faculty to be able to vote on any changes.

According to the Working Group website, which all members of the Trinity community have access to through their Trinity credentials, there have not been any large-scale changes made to the College's curriculum since 2007. In April of 2007, "the

faculty adopted four additional general education requirements that took effect with the class entering in the fall of 2008," the Working Group states on their website. The requirements are relatively similar to the general education distributions that were previously required, however the most prominent changes were the addition of the first-year seminar requirement and the second-language requirement. Professor of Physics and Environmental Science Christoph Geiss believes that making changes to the curriculum "every ten years or so sounds about right. You don't want to change the curriculum every few years. I think one should also give a curriculum the chance to prove itself. That takes time." Professor Jack Dougherty, a professor of Educational Studies and the director of CHER (Center for Engagement Hartford and Research) says, "I think it's good for there to be thoughtful discussions about the curriculum. It is also important to remember that if the goal for Trinity is to highlight our curriculum, there's more than one policy tool to accomplish that goal. This means the College

can use mandates, incentives, or capacity building to develop students' ability to do certain things." to take five courses rather than four both limited the students to take advantage of all that Trin-

One of the most dramatically different changes suggested the Working Group is the shift from a 36 credit graduation requirement to a 32 credit graduation requirement. According to the Working Group, proposal should be considered alongside the experiential requirement and a reduced load of general education requirements. Students would normally be taking a four credit load in every semester over eight semesters." Two questions posed below this suggested change ask if academic credit would still be given for TA-ships and if the College would continue to give academic credit for Physical Education. Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs Tim Cresswell says this suggestion came up when "the Inside and Outside the Classroom subcommittee of the strategic planning process recognized a number of problems with our current curriculum and suggested solutions." One of the identified issues was "a concern that semesters in which students have er than four both limited the students to take advantage of all that Trinity has to offer and led to a comparative lack of engagement in the classes themselves. They proposed reducing the minimum credits needed for graduation to 32 credits, in line with all but one of our NESCAC peers."

Additionally, Dean Cresswell stated that the subcommittee identified issues related to "a lack of integration and reflection across the curriculum and a lack of equity in access of opportunities, particularly experiential education." A solution addressing these issues lies in the suggested experiential learning requirement. On their website, the Working Group outlines this suggestion as requiring all students to fulfil two of the following: a course designated as Community Learning Initiative by the Office of Community Learning; a community learning experience either through the Community Action Integration Internship, the Liberal Arts Action Lab, or a Community Learning Research Fellowship; a community-based research with a faculty member; a community-learning rience undertaken in a study-away program. According to data posted on the Working Group website collected on the graduating classes between 2014 and 2018, 57% of Trinity students naturally fulfilled the experiential learning suggested requirement by completing at least two community-learning based experiences. However 30.3% of students only completely one requirement, and 11.9% of students completed zero experiential learning related units.

While there have not been any formal votes to realign the curriculum, Professor of Theater and Dance Mitchell Polin says, "I am hopeful that the faculty will vote on any potential changes to the curriculum near the end of the spring semester. However, there is significant discussion, debate, and review which must occur prior to any such vote." Polin added that, at present, "we are now engaged with such a review and I am inspired by the passionate conversations taking place between faculty and students, across divisions, which are raising both exciting and important

### Boardwalk and Park Place Dorms to Close in Fall 2019

KAT NAMON '22 NEWS EDITOR

Starting in the first semester of the 2019-2020 academic year, both Boardwalk and Park Place residence halls will be closed to students and will not be a part of the upcoming housing lottery to take place in April. During the fall of 2012, both residence halls received exterior repairs. and would need even more work to remain livable. The upgrades required would be extremely costly to the school, totaling around \$2 million, a cost that does not include the interior upgrades that the residence halls would require. The issue of the two residence halls was discussed during an SGA meeting on February 3.

Both buildings put together only offer a total of 44 beds, and given the small size of the residence

halls, it was decided that it would not serve the school well to keep them open and continue to spend money on the upgrades and changes required for the dorms to provide students with a satisfactory and safe living area. Since they will not be available for residence during the upcoming academic year, students will have two fewer dorms to choose from when going through the housing lottery next month. It is undetermined how long these dorms will be closed for, and according to an email sent by Director of Residential Life Susan Salisbury, they may not reopen at all. Despite this, Salisbury and the rest of the Office of Residential Life are open to suggestions from students, faculty, and staff regarding their opinions, concerns, or questions on the closing of the residence halls in addition

to other housing options available on campus. They will be accepting input regarding the kinds of changes students, faculty, and staff want to see made to the interiors and exterior of residence halls. According to Salisbury, both Park Place and Boardwalk are safe to live in, however, "the dialogue regarding future plans for all student housing will take place on Wednesday, Mar. 6 from 6-8 pm and Thursday Mar. 7 from 12:15-1:15 pm at two open forums, both in the Rittenberg Lounge in Mather. After the forums and further discussions with students, more informed decisions can be made in regard to the future of all housing on campus."

Cornelia Thornburgh, Chair of the Board of Trustees, said "residence halls are viewed as a priority" in the Board's planning. Thornburgh added



TRINITY TRIPOD

Park Place and Boardwalk will not be available to students.

that "the Board was informed of the situation with the Boardwalk and Park Place residences and was given an update at its meeting by Dean of Students Joe DiChristina."

Current residents of the dorms have also commented on their condition. Eve Pollack '20, who is the RA for Park Place and Boardwalk, said that the dorms "are livable, but definitely needed repairs and it's a good idea to rebuild."

Questions regarding the closing of the dorms can be directed to Susan Salisbury at susan. salisbury@trincoll.edu.



TRINITY CORE COURSE WITH PROF. TODD RYAN, FACULTY IN RESIDENCE

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# APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 15TH LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

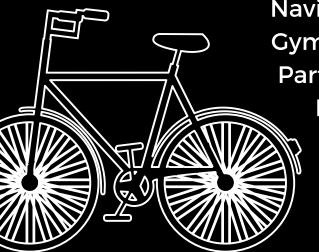
International student housing

Navigo Metro Pass

Gym membership

Partial meal plan

**Excursions** 





# **OPINION**

# Privilege Obscures Importance Of Minimum Wage

HUNTER SAVERY '20 OPINION EDITOR

Last week this paper published an article calling for the elimination of the minimum wage, the article attempted to normalize the idea, to make it seem rational, even desirable, that is a dangerous and irresponsible idea. The minimum wage is essential to ensuring the basic rights of workers across the globe. If it hinders utility or efficiency, it does so in the name of human rights. The article asked us to examine the policy in a vacuum, but policies are not enacted in a vacuum. They hit the ground outside of theory and away from the comfort of the fraternity house. Too often in America we praise the wealthy, as if they are somehow smarter or more deserving of their place, and ignore the humanity of anywork of generations, it safeguards against the kind of predatory and slavery-like practices that businesses have historically dealt in. Arguing against the minimum wage is moronic and reveals not only ignorance to the conditions of people who do not have a house on Nantucket, but also a lack of understanding of history and the on-the-ground reality of massive deregulation. Sorry, but the world is not an Ayn Rand novel; striving as a society to ensure that everyone is taken care of is a noble and necessary pursuit. The world does not need anymore spoiled white boys telling working class Americans that their misfortune is the result of laziness or a refusal to sacrifice, when these same people would never dream of asking CEO's to take a pay cut.

The concept of a world without a minimum wage

"Sorry, but the world is not an Ayn Rand novel; striving as a society to ensure that everyone is taken care of is a noble and necessary pursuit."

one in a lower income tax bracket. The establishment of a minimum wage was the is not a new one, in fact for most of human history there was no mandatory base pay, in fact there were no workers rights at all, and guess what? It was terrible. Slavery, serfdom, indentured-servitude, share-cropping, child labor, etc. were all commonly practiced forms of dehumanizing oppression that people have suffered

farce. This assumes that if owners make more profits, they will flow down to the worker, but trickle-down economics has been repeatedly and demonstrably proven untrue. And whose backs will this efficiency be made on? People who at present

"The people most directly affected by the removal of a minimum wage are minorities and immigrants, the people consistently marginalized."

and died to end. If a world without minimum wage is so wonderful, try working a factory job in 19th century America, or better yet, somewhere like modern China.

Slavery was an economically efficient system, why don't we just go back to that? In fact, a lack of economic regulation allows modern day slavery to continue, look no further than Walmart's business practices in Mexico, where employees are paid in store credit. They are stripped of their agency, a common practice in America prior to the mid-20th century. The idea that an economy without a minimum wage would somehow lead to greater benefits is a

cannot afford to live a decent life will be stripped of even more agency within the market. Who will be hit the hardest? Minorities and immigrants of course, because who else would the conservatives love to attack? The people most directly affected by the removal of a minimum wage are minorities and immigrants, the people consistently marginalized, ignored, and discriminated against by conservative policies. Perhaps the author of the article was just ignorant, but whether ignorant or not, a removal of a minimum wage is just another economic policy to benefit white people and hurt minorities.

The article published last

challenge that one could not possibly find a case where the minimum wage was not disastrous. The author must have it backwards, look around the world, the countries with the highest wages, with the most significant welfare states are among the freest and most prosperous nations in the world. How can anyone say that Norway, with its \$21 minimum wage. is a failed economy? The trend continues across the countries that consistently outrank the United States across the board, these countries take care of their people. I challenge anyone who does not believe in the minimum wage to live the life of a working class American in 2019, walk a mile in their shoes, see that it is not enough to keep up with the cost of living, and then tell those people that they are being payed too much.

Wake up, we don't live in *The Fountainhead*, there is nothing heroic about harming the less fortunate. Take Econ 101? Take Intro to Human Rights. Our beliefs have real world consequences removing a minimum wage might make the economy more efficient, but at whose expense? The same people rich white men have always oppressed.

## Open Textbooks Are The Future of Higher Education

and professors should

MATTHEW BOYLE '19 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There is good news for anyone who has ever had to spend \$200 or more on a single textbook; open textbooks are coming to Trinity in the near future. Open textbooks are peer-reviewed, online textbooks created by professors. They are also created through a creative commons license so they can be shared and edited without violating copyright law. Yet, best

are replacing. All of this is thanks to a largely unsung grant program run by the Dean of Faculty, Tim Cresswell, and Information Services. Therefore, my aim is not only to inform the student body, but to call them to action. What the college has done so far is commendable, but it will likely require pressure and advocacy by students and professors to expand upon this first step and make open textbooks widely available on campus.

"What the college has done so far is commendable, but it will likely require pressure and advocacy by students and professors."

of all, they do not require you to buy access codes to do homework and do not cost a cent to read. Of course, if one prefers a physical copy then there are printing costs, but even then, they cost a fraction of the books they

The fight against overpriced textbooks is about more than basic self-interest. It also isn't a socialist fever dream, like the minimum wage, which we all know is detrimental to society. Students

support open textbooks because the practices of publishing companies are simply indefensible. Textbook publishers not only have a monopoly, or rather an oligopoly, but they also have a captive audience: students. The typical rules of a free market don't apply when a product is listed as "required." If students choose not to buy the books, they do so to the detriment of their own education. Moreover, they would never be able to convince enough students to refuse to buy textbooks that it would actually affect the publishers' bottom line. Is it any wonder, then, that the price of textbooks has risen over four times the rate of inflation? Or how about the new editions that come out every year and maybe have two pages arranged differently, while everything else is the same? Only greed explains these outcomes, greed unchecked by a consumer population that can punish publishers by going to their competitors. Even from a conserva-

set, then, open textbooks should be adopted to reintroduce the discipline of free market competition."

"Even from a conservative mind-

tive mindset, then, open textbooks should be adopted to reintroduce the discipline of free market competition. The wrist of textbook publishers needs to be reminded what the yardstick of consumer dissatisfaction feels like.

For these reasons and others, I am urging everyone on campus to pay attention to this issue and do what you can to support free or affordable textbooks. If, as I suspect for most people, what I have said is news, that should give you some indication of how well information spreads from decision making bodies at Trinity to the student population.

We will need to be active participants in the decision-making process if the open textbook program is going to expand any time soon. So keep the conversation alive by

asking your professors, librarians and SGA representatives about the future of open textbooks on campus and make it clear that you support them. If you're really interested, there's always a place in ConnPIRG for more student activists. Just find us in the basement of Mather by the Community Service Office.

Last but not least, I would like to give a shoutout and thank you to the professors who received grants to explore using open textbooks in their classes: Stefanie Chambers, Jack Dougherty, Carol Clark, Troy Helming, Todd Ryan, Clayton Byers and Harry Blaise. I'd also like to thank Dean Cresswell, the SGA, the staff at Information Services and everyone else involved in creating this program on campus.

# Title IX: Trinity Needs To Recognize Due Process

**DANIEL NESBITT '22** STAFF WRITER

In the Feb. 12 edition of the Tripod, I examined in detail the first half of Trinity's official response to the Department of Education's (DoED) proposed Title IX changes. This piece examines the latter half of the College's response.

The College enumerates four more concerns, the first of which is a provision within Section 106.44(b)(2), "which would require Title IX coordinators to bring certain formal complaints automatically." In this case the "certain" complaints only apply to cases in which a Title IX coordinator receives multiple complaints about one individual's conduct. Trinity's objections, in this case, are well-founded as complainants should always have the option to remain anonymous. As discussed in my previous article, the right to anonymity is a building block on which 'exceptions' should be built not the other way around. However, should the DoED revise the provision to include exceptions of anonymity, the College ought to support the amended provision.

Secondly, the College takes issue with Section 106.45(b) (3), "which would require recipients to dismiss a formal complaint if the conduct alleged by the complainant 'would not constitute sexual harassment as defined... even if proved or did not occur within the recipient's program or activity." In this instance, Trinity grossly misinterprets the proposed provision. This provision simply requires complaint recipients to learn to apply a clear and well-established legal standard that has been in place for 20 years (see Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education (1999); More on this later). Furthermore, recipients must only discern whether the alleged behavior as claimed by the complainant, would rise to the Davis standard. If the behavioral allegation does not meet the Davis standard of harassment, then there is no need to have a full fact-finding process at all. The College, for some reason, seems to believe that an extensive investigation and fact-finding process is somehow needed to determine whether reported behavior meets the legal standard - investigations should be conducted to the degree necessary to figure out whether the alleged behavior meets the Davis standard. A full

only after an allegation is deemed to constitute harassment under this standard. Once again, the College's objections are ill-founded.

Third, Trinity objects to the implementation of the Davis standard itself found in Section 106.30. In Davis, the Court defined sexual harassment in an educational environment as "unwelcome conduct on the basis of sex that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity." The College mischaracterizes the Davis standard, arguing it "would narrow the definition of sexual harassment." The proposed regulations do not "narrow" the definition of harassment, rather they restate the definition as established by the Supreme Court and reiterated repeatedly by the courts for 20 years. The Davis standard provides students, faculty, and administrators with a clear and precise understanding of what constitutes sexual harassment, resulting in less ambiguity and uncertainty.

Lastly, the College objects to a provision in "Section 106.44(a), which limits an institution's jurisdiction

to which Title IX policies would apply to conduct that occurs 'within its education program or activity." Trinity argues, "if cases are limited based on jurisdiction, then it is highly plausible that incidents involving members

alleged wrongdoing outside Trinity "education programs or activities." These non-punitive support measures should be strengthened and made available to students.

Trinity's objections to the DoED's proposed changes

"While the College objects to this new. limited jurisdiction, the College fails to paint a clear picture as to what optimal jurisdiction would

of an academic community might very well go unreported." This argument is perplexing, as the College seems to imply that there ought to be no limits placed on its jurisdiction to ensure that all incidents are reported. However, to have no limits on its jurisdiction would be absurd. Furthermore, "conduct that occurs 'within its education program or activity," can be interpreted quite expansively. While the College objects to this new, limited jurisdiction, the College fails to paint a clear picture as to what an optimal jurisdiction would be. Lastly, there is nothing in the regulations that prohibits Trinity from providing non-punitive measures to students affected by

are, without a doubt, well-intentioned. While the intent is laudable, Trinity's current procedures fail to provide both complainants and respondents with the procedural due-process protections fundamental to any fair adjudication process. As I have written before, protecting the rights of all involved parties and providing support for students affected by sexual misconduct are not mutually exclusive. Trinity can provide more fairness in these cases while still providing as much support as they want to provide. It is in Trinity's best interest to adopt the DoED's proposed changes because improving fairness and due process is the right thing to do.

#### Gun Control Bills Are Unconstitutional emocratic

**ELEANNA DAVOS '20** STAFF WRITER

50 million households in the United States have a legal gun in their home. That is around 46% of the worldwide total of civilian owned guns, according to the United Nations. The purpose of our Second Amendment (one that I take very personally and utilize myself very proudly) is the right to bear arms, which in our world today has essentially marked you with a target if you supported this amendment open to constant scrutiny and questions as to why you feel the need to own guns and for what reasons. But that's a tale for another day. While it may be easy to stereotype all Republicans or conservatives into the category of anti-background checks, I hate to burst your bubble but just because we are for our Second Amendment right doesn't mean we are against background checks. But there are some aspects of these two proposed bills that are inappropriate and offensive to legal gun owners.

This past week the house passed two bills

which in some subliminal ways blame legal gun owners for the actions of criminals and gun wielding sociopaths. The first of the two bills is HR-8, titled the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019 which would criminalize behavior such as allowing your friend to use your gun at the range. The second bill is HR-12, titled The Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2019, whose proposed goal by the Democrats in the house is to address the "Charleston Loophole". This loophole allows for automatic clearance if the FBI fails to complete requisite background checks within three days. This bill would increase the window that the FBI has to complete their background check from 3 days to 10 days, while also changing mental illness to be more expansive and explicitly defined.

Like myself, there are many rational thinking conservatives who would not oppose portions of these bills, but there are sections that are a little offensive to gun owners, such as needing to pay a fine if you wish to go to the range with a friend who does not have

a license to carry (LTC). While this is a sensitive matter to some Amer-

icans, the majority of gun owners use them for target shooting (which is an Olympic Sport), home/ self-defense (because the average response time of police officers is approx. minutes), hunting, practicing the craft, etc.

Let's first address the portion of the bill that is fair and reasonable. I have spoken with a handful of Republicans and conservatives who are legal gun owners and most of them have no issue with more background extensive checks. Massachusetts has some of the most stringent gun laws and, in my experience, it takes about 10-20 minutes to purchase a gun utilizing the FBI system and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. This practice would be universal to all states with the implementation of the bill. Those who would need to worry about this bill are people who try to purchase guns with a criminal history. This is a problem with the system, not legal gun own-

ers. This portion of the bill

should have been implemented years ago and will really not have a direct impact on safe legal gun owners, which I can attest to.

The second part of these bills will make it mandatory that all firearm purchases go through the FBI

catch. In this case it is that legal gun owners are now going to be responsible for paying a fine if they want to take their friend to the shooting range. And that fine is the cost of a FBI background check, which is essentially a sub-

"When it comes to members of the Democratic caucus there is always some conniving catch. In this case, it is that legal gun owners are now going to be responsible for paying a fine."

background check, regard- tle slap across the face less of if it is bought at a to all legal gun owners. gun show, via the internet or done as a private sale. This too is a great shift from how things are now, because many of the men and women who have committed some of the most heinous mass shootings have obtained their firearms from gun shows or from private sellers, which never required any form background checks.

So far this bill seems great, however, when it comes to members of the Democratic caucus, there is always some conniving

Regardless of what any one thinks of the bill, it is unlikely that it will pass the Republican Senate majority, and the President has already said he will veto the bill if it lands on his desk. The only way to fix gun violence in America is by starting small to combat this issue. We need to understand that no bill will be passed if it jeopardizes our Second Amendment right. Democrats need to understand that and tailor their desires to do so accordingly.

# FEATURES

# Support American Troops with Hands Touching Hearts

AMANDA SCOPELLITI '20
FEATURES EDITOR

On Thursday, Mar. 7 from 5 pm until 8 pm in the Mather Hall lobby, Trinity students can support our troops by decorating a medal ribbon and writing a thankyou note through a global outreach effort called Hands Touching Hearts. There's a five-dollar donation fee to cover supplies and postage (so make sure to bring cash, a check, or your credit card), and the medals are given to active-duty members of the military at military bases and healthcare facilities.

Hands Touching Hearts was brought to life in 2017 by Ann M. Cosgrove, an artist based in Rockville, Connecticut, with the goal of showing appreciation for the men and women who serve our country through art. Cosgrove says that "we all have the power to join together and let our service members know that we are grateful for the sacrifices they make on our behalf."

Both of Cosgrove's parents contributed to the war effort during World War II, and they are honored through the design on the medallion. Her father, William J. Cosgrove, was a member of the United States Air Force and flew 34 missions over Europe as a radio operator/gunner on a B-17. Her mother, Anna Cosgrove, worked as a civilian in the aircraft industry on American soil.

Ann says her late

parents taught her that "a compassionate heart manifests itself through the work of loving hands." The medallions include tracings of their hands, her father's on the left and mother's on the right, along with an American flag background and the words "made for you by loving hands."

Cosgrove says that her mother "had the ultimate loving hands, always reaching out to family, friends, neighbors, and strangers," and when she passed away in 2013, Ann knew that she "wanted to keep the spirit of giving alive by doing something with a hands theme." She and her father worked together to design and handcraft a

medal of appreciation for service members prior to his passing in 2017. Ann says that she has "faith" that her parents know about the success of Hands Touching Hearts, and she hopes they are "proud of what's being accomplished through their loving hands."

Cosgrove emphasizes that this is an effort that people of all ages can participate in and that no specialized artistic skills are required. In the past two years, she has introduced the program in a variety of communal spaces including schools, senior centers, retail stores, libraries, restaurants, and more, and thousands of medals have been decorated by individuals aged 2 to 102.

why it's important to support members of the American military, Ann says, "I am very fortunate and proud to be an American. I did nothing to deserve or earn the freedom and opportunities I enjoy in this country. Every day, there are men and women serving in the U.S. military, voluntarily risking their own lives for mine. Why is it important to support our troops? How can we not?"

To participate in Ann's effort to show gratitude to active-duty members of the military, make sure to stop by the Mather Hall Lobby on Thursday, Mar. 7 between 5 and 8 pm. For more information on Ann and her work, visit www.ann-spirations.ecrater.com.

# Kicking off Women's History Month with Men of Color Alliance (MOCA): Women's Appreciation Dinner

NANCY SAAD '22 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Women's Appreciation dinner held by the Men of Color Alliance, (MOCA) on the night of Saturday, Mar. 2 served as a great way to kick off the month of March, otherwise known women's history month. MOCA's co-presidents, Brian Nshimirimana '21 and Matthew Rivera '20, greeted and welcomed every guest individually, providing only the best experience for all those who attended. The effort and time put into the event was apparent; from delicate table decorations to flower pieces and colcoordinated chairs. there was not one detail left unattended. The dinner included impressive performances from Trinity's own acapella group, The Quirks, with solos from freshmen Heyssis Castillo and Clare Donohoe. Esdras Javier's '22 violin rendition of a Kehlani song, a woman musician that inspires him, and a spoken word performance from Diante Dancy '21.

The dinner also included guest speaker, Tia Long, co-founder of Power of CT (POC), which gives opportunities for Connecticut's millennial people of col-

or creators to get networking experience and advancement in their work. Long presented her emotional story of how she achieved her goal of working in the entertainment busi ness by being herself and staying true to who she is throughout the process. She inspired many young women of color, as she came from a small town in Connecticut as one of the only

females in her field. Long explained how her perseverance and risk-taking was worth it to get where she is now. Her charisma and confidence took the audience by storm and inspired those hesitant about their future to take that leap of faith. MOCA also presented awards to both Tia Long and women of Trinity, including Muffin, a dining service employ-

ee at Trinity, often seen at Mather and known for her breakfast food. The presentation of this award had a great reaction from the crowd, as employees in the hospitality industry tend to be overlooked when it comes to recognition. The awards honored these women for their dedication and passion to uplifting their surrounding communities. The dinner highlight-

ed all women and their contributions, such as those in culinary arts, medicine/law, education as well as simply being a mother, daughter, or student. MOCA did a fantastic job of not limiting their recognition to Trinity students only, as they reached out to the greater Hartford area, with the best intentions of showing their gratitude to all women of our community.







NANCY SAAD '2

The Women's Appreciation Dinner, hosted by MOCA, celebrated the beginning of March, which is designated as women's history month.

### Club Spotlight: Trinity's Doctors Without Borders

SUZANNE CARPE '22 STAFF WRITER

**Doctors Without Borders** (DWB), also known as Médecins Sans Frontières, is a non-profit international organization focused in humanitarian work and dedicated to providing medical care to people in places lacking in healthcare facilities, resources, infrastructure, education, and professionals. In 2017, the overarching DWB/MSF group created a student chapter program for universities to take action in involving themselves more into the surroundcollege community.

When Erin Evangelista '20 heard about this last semester, she knew she needed to work towards making a student chapter here at Trinity College. Now serving as president of the DWB Club here on campus, Erin expressed that their goal is to form intentional relationships with all the people in associations such as the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery, American Lung Association, American Red Cross, and the Opioid Education Program through Trinity's Health

Center and to educate people on the importance of "caring and empathizing with the people around us."

The club has had quite a couple of projects this past year. For example, one recent project was a charity ball with Lea's Foundation, which was established to raise money for leukemia research and to increase public awareness of these cancers. A group of nine people from the Trinity DWB team spend six hours of their Saturday night to facilitate the flow of the evening and connect with doctors there. Another project they are currently working on is offering CPR/Narcan lessons on campus to students who would like to be certified and prepared for the possible situation of needing to save someone's life. Also, they have partnered with Psi U and the American Red Cross to organize the Blood Drive that will happen on Mar. 5.

Grateful for all of these accomplishments, Erin stated that nothing could have happened without the support of the club members. She mentioned that she is grateful that everyone in the club "has a pas-

sion towards appreciating the people in Hartford and improving health".

In a conversation about their opinions on the club, members Vanessa Ross '21, Nikola Mizgier '19 and Tulsi Sumukadas '20, mentioned the personal importance that the club has to them.

Vanessa expressed that she greatly appreciates the club's mission and the focus completely on patients and helping others, a sentiment she thinks gets "often lost in medicine". She recommends anyone who wants to be a part of "a giving, medicine-based, community service-focused community" to join the club.

Nikola talked about joining the club because her professional goal is to pursue an MD/PhD in oncology and she wants to "work in communities who may not have the resources necessary to help its residents". She believes that the ultimate goal of the club closely resonates with what she thinks is important and "what other aspiring medical students should be strongly aware of before making a choice of becoming a doctor".

Tulsi shared that she joined this chapter of DWB because she wanted the chance to be part of a club that raises awareness of the good that organizations such as those in the Hartford community can do for humanity. She mentioned how she has always felt so fortunate for the opportunities in life simply due to where she lives and what

we have access to in this country, which have inspired her to work for others who might not enjoy such luck. Additionally, she also hopes that being part of this club will help her volunteer for the real DWB organization in the future.

At this moment, the club has a total of around 45 members and they meet every two weeks on Thursdays, where they actively discuss what the next steps and events should be. Because it is pertaining to healthcare, the club is catered more for the interests of pre-medicine students and those interested in community health. However, anyone who is interested in being part of the club and its humanitarian projects is welcome to do so.



TRINITY COLLEGE DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

Logo for Doctors Without Borders Club.



# Arts & Entertainment

### Chapel Singers Album Displays Musical Talent

BEN GAMBUZZA '20 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past week, I really had a craving to hear the Trinity College Chapel Singers. They are Trinity's crowning musical fixture and brighten even the bleakest Sundays. And in Scotland, there are many bleak Sundays.

But this past weekend, I unfortunately could not get to the chapel. Luckily, there was a solution: The Chapel Singers' new album on Spotify. With one listen through the 13-minute album, I was brought back to the jubilation and community that all Bantams feel at the December Lessons and Carols.

The album, released Feb. 11 on iTunes and Spotify features choral works from the 2018 Lessons and Carols,

including Adam Lay aren't already sharp. Re- nies and a nice feature Ybounden by Trinity's Composer-in-Residence Robert Edward Smith. The program also features Director of Chapel Music Prof. Christopher Houlihan's new arrangement of Trinity's alma mater. According to Prof. Houlihan, all proceeds from purchases of the album will go toward the Chapel Singers' next tour.

The album starts with Mr. Smith's new piece, which begins with a mournful and simple, single voice melody from the organ. Zachary Schurman '22 handles himself with steady hands and calm tempo. Though Smith's vocal writing is straightforward, the melody is memorable and the singers' voices are rendered quite sharp and clear by the recording. Not that the chappies

throat, his voice adds au-

finishes up with Prof. from our old Trinity.' Houlihan's arrangement he completed over the summer. He says of the work, "Our alma mater has existed in many arrangements in its nearly 140-year history, and of course it first would have been sung by only tenors and basses. I think this few interesting harmo-

cording just makes an moment for the sopranos." gels sound more angelic. Indeed, in the third verse Another highlight of the sopranos are featured the album is Elijah Her- above a distant murmur nandez's '19 singular from the lower parts, percommand of the solo in haps in a nod to 50 years In Dulci Jubilo. Though of women at the College. one can hear he might The whole arrangement have been battling a sore is made much more sentimental at the end than thenticity to a sometimes earlier versions. With riartificial-sounding album. tardandi and fermata, it After A Hymn to the concludes in melancholy Virgin and How Far Is It and nostalgia, evocations to Bethlehem, the album of the words "far away

The Chapel Singers of 'Neath the Elms, which have made albums in the past, available on CD, but this is their first recording project available online. Prof. Houlihan told the Tripod, "I suspect this album will be very meaningful not only to the hundreds of annual attendees of our college's Lessons new arrangement has a and Carols, but also as to alumni and friends of the college who cannot return to campus as often as they would like."

Chapel singer Kira Eidson '19 commented: "The process of recording is always both exhausting and exciting. Sometimes you have to sing a piece over and over again, but the final product is always worth it. I'm particularly fond of our recording of 'Neath the Elms because, as a senior, it's especially rewarding and sentimental to have the alma mater, sung by myself and people I've grown especially close to, as something I can always go back and listen to."

For the casual listener, the album can be a respite, even study music. For the critical ear, it is a pleasant reminder of the surging quality of Trinity's chapel music.

### Slayyyter and the Future of Pop

LIZ FOSTER '22 A&E EDITOR

The year is 2019 and pop music is shapeshifting in time with the culture. Slayyyter, a superstar to-be, is more than a key piece in the puzzle. growing pop The twenty two year old has more fingers on two hands than singles in her discography, yet has managed to establish an incredibly promising online presence. Slayyyter has become a figure for the, mostly queer, subsection of Twitter known as "stan Twitter," a title coined from Eminem's "Stan." Her fanbase proudly paraded "Stream Mine by Slayyyter" in their tweets, headers, and bios when the singer dropped a Valentine's Day single. Slayyyter fever has struck.

Slayyyter's well-packprofessionalism separates her from other rising artists. Even in her miniscule discography and comparatively small follower count, she feels like a real pop star. Twitter user @ glitchmood also known as Josh, crafts her single covers that are equal parts pink and polished. This duo, combined with high tech production from LA-based musician Ayesha Erotica, manage to create an illusion

that Slayyyter is more famous than her 78,000 Spotify monthly listeners. Slayyyter has captured the idea of what a pop star looks and behaves like in 2019 with remarkable precision.

Beyond mastering the social media game with the ability only a twenty two year old could, Slayyyter's music speaks for itself. Her music, a self described sound, "Myspace-core" fits in line with artists like Charli XCX, Kim Petras, and SOPHIE, while maintaining a pop integrity to the likes of Britney Spears. Her work ranges from sounding mechanical ("Alone") to house-esque ("Mine") to syrupy sweet PC pop ("Ghost".) Within her multifacetedmusic, there remains an integral "Slayyyter" sound that bounces between Britney Spears-autotuned belts and tastefully sultry murmured vocals. "Mine" has quickly become Slayyyter's most popular single thanks to promotions from alternative press outlets like PAPER and The Fader and her dedicatstans' missionary work. The charming track blends house music with subtle pop, creating a track equal parts bubbly and relaxed. Her

vocals shine as she belts

"got me feelin' so high, I'm high" on the aptly named "I'm High," dancing over a bubbly, industrial pop

The song that marked Slayyyter as more than just a new face in the pop game is the explosive "Alone." I could speak on this song for a thousand words in itself. The production, featuring roaring drums and chattering claps, sounds like a cacophony of pop perfection when combined with Slayyyter's angry, powerhouse voice. As a collective, Slayyyter's music a combination of advanced post-production pop that echoes artists like Hannah Diamond with the same sonic enthusiasm for the 2000's as Mad Decent's LIZ.

Slayyyter is shaping herself into the pop icon the 2020's will mark as a figure of the times. Her ability to combine old and new sounds together to form a sexy, feminine, and consumable body of work is admirable. Beyond her abilities as an artist, Slayyyter is gifted in the branding department. By creating a sound, look, and generalized aesthetic that feels ultimately "Slayyyter," the self proclaimed "wh\*re from the 314" is a pop princess in the making.

### What's at Cinestudio?

If Beale Street Could **Talk** March 5 to March 6

Spider Man: Into the

Spider-verse March 7 to March 9

Cold War (Zimna Wojna)

March 10 to March 13

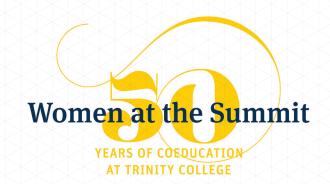
The Happy Prince March 14

Vice March 14 to March 16

# WGRAC SPRING PROGRAMS



Women's Herstory Month



1<sup>ST</sup>@ 12PM
WASHINGTON ROOM

**Chris Evert: Keynote: Women at the Summit, Women's Herstory Month** Sponsored by the President's Office

7<sup>TH</sup>@8PM Vernon Social

Women's Herstory Trivia Night, Trinity and Beyond!

8<sup>TH</sup>@4:30PM
Terrace Rooms

**International Women's Day Celebration and Dinner** 

**12<sup>TH</sup> @ 5PM** Terrace B

**Masculinity: A Global Lens. Panel and Dinner** 

14<sup>TH</sup>@6-9PM Washington Room Fearless Women's Summit, sponsor: One Woman https://onewoman.ca/product/fearless-womens-summit-hartford-ct
First 50 Trinity campus members with IDS admitted free at door

**26<sup>TH</sup> @ 7PM** Admissions and Career Development Center, Grand Room

**50th Anniversary of Co-Education: Robin Sheppard** Sponsored by the Women's Leadership Council

**28<sup>TH</sup> @ 6:30PM** Admissions and Career Development Center, Grand Room

"Out" in the Workplace" Panel
Sponsors: Alumni Office, Queer Resource Center (QRC)

Contact Laura.lockwood@trincoll.edu; Monique.daley@trincoll.edu | Women & Gender Resource Action Center (WGRAC)



# **SPORTS**

# Men's Hockey Wins NESCAC's on a Buzzer-Beater

continued from page one

and loud screams, celebrating the advancement to the NESCAC finals the next day. The next day, the Bantams came in ready to beat the Amherst College Mammoths and even more ready to take home another NESCAC championship right here in Hartford. With another packed rink, Trinity fans helped keep the energy up for the Bantams during this exciting match-up. The first period was hard fought, but both teams struggled to find the back of the net and the game remained scoreless as they went into the second period. However, Junior Nick Fiorentino capitalized on a fast break and flicked the puck past the Amherst goalie, making the game 1-0 in the second period and putting the Bantams on the board. Trinity fans cel-

ebrated and added even the end of the period, with more elctricity to the rink. The third period was filled with even more exciting action. Amherst managed to tie the game shortly after the beginning of the third period, but the Bantams took back the lead just seconds later. Freshman Nicholas Polsinelli scored for the Bantams after receiving an assist from junior Dylan Healy and senior captain Ryan Pfeffer. Once again, Koeppel erupted in applause. The Mammoths found another opportunity to tie the game late in the second period. Both teams stood at a stalemate at 2-2 and it was time for the Bantams to fire up the intensity. As the game went into overtime, both teams had a flurry of shots on net, but both goalies defended their nets in survival-esque fashion. The overtime tension built all the way through to

both teams coming very close to capturing a championship title. But finally, with ten seconds left to go in overtime, Trinity controlled the puck in the opposing zone, however it seemed like a second overtime was in order. But in a flash, freshman Lucas Michaud swiped the puck from the corner and dished it to junior Taggert Corriveau as the clock wound down to just 1.4 seconds. By the time the puck reached Corriveau, time was running out, but his one-timmiracuous er lodged in the back of the net with just 0.1 seconds left on the

clock. The rink erupted with cheers as the team stormed the ice to celebrate their triumphant NESCAC championship title. A "0.1 miracle," Trinity hosts University of New England next weekend here in Hartford. Come cheer on your Bantams next weekend!



The Men's Hockey team pose for their NESCAC Championship picture.

# Women's History Month: Tennis Legend Chris Evert

**JOE LADD '19** SPORTS EDITOR

Last Friday, tennis legend Chris Evert arrived at Trinity for an hourlong discussion with field hockey head coach Anne Parmenter in celebration of 50 years of coeducation here at Trinity. Students, faculty, and visitors filled the Washington Room in full-capacity as the community gathered to hear the legendary women's tennis player speak about her career, her challenges, and what advice she has for aspiring athletes. Trinity President Joanne Berger-Sweeney introduced Evert by placing an emphasis on female student-athletes at Trinity and listing her incredible accomplishments, which include eighteen Grand Slam titles and a world number one ranking. Alongside her introduction of Evert, Berger-Sweeney also introduced women's field hockey coach Anne Parmenter by listing some of her own accomplishments, which include multiple NESCAC championships as well as a successful ascent of Mount Everest. Evert started off the discussion by congratulating Parmenter on successfully climbing Mount

Everest, which resulted in a round of applause, as well as a few laughs. The discussion began with-Parmenter asking Evert about the differences between professional tennis in the seventies and professional tennis now, to which Evert responded by adding "there was no money in tennis in the seventies." She told stories of staying in hotels, practicing with Martina Navratilova before matches, and reflected

on how she accomplished her dreams in professional tennis. She also emphasized that female tennis players had a lot of comradery while competing on the road. From there, she elaborated on her lifelong rivalry with Navratilova, in which she cited their different playing styles as well as attitudes on the court. She focused on the fact that Navratilova was a very "emotional player," which contrasted against the "cool, calm, and collected"

Evert on the other side of the net. When giving advice to aspiring athletes, she added that the "mental and emotional part is as important, if not more important" than the physical aspect of competitive tennis. Towards the end, students and visitors got the opportunity to ask Evert questions. Here, she mentioned her life-long friendship with the Bush family and noted that "Barbara Bush was the loveliest and strongest woman I've ever met." She concluded the panel by encouraging to always "get your first serve in!" Perhaps her advice of tennis fundamentals can be applied to everyday life. Overall, the Trinity community got an incredible opportunity to hear from one of the most successful and iconic female athletes amidst a year-long celebration of 50 years of coeducation here at Trinity College.



TRINITY TWITTER

# Trinity College

### This Week in Sports...

Men's Basketball

No games to report

Women's Ice Hockey

No games to report

Men's Squash Singles Matches

Women's Squash

Singles Matches

Men's Ice Hockey

v. Wesleyan

v. Amherst

W, 2-1 W, 3-2

Women's Basketball

No games to report

# Tripod Looks Ahead at the Upcoming Spring Season

**JOE LADD '19** SPORTS EDITOR

As we transition from the winter sports season into the spring, Trinity athletics is hoping to capitalize on off-season training and preparation in order for a successful-and dominant-spring season. Strength coach-Bill DeLongis, Anastasia Gaudreau, and Conal Koppisch have led off-season student athletes in the gym in order to keep our athletes fit. As we witnessed last weekend, the men's hockey team will compete in NCAA DIII nationals first round after their miraculous NESCAC championship trophy, and they will host University of New England right here at the Koeppel Center. This is a must-go event. Bantam teams that have spring seasons include men's golf, softball, baseball, men's and women's track and field, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's rowing, and men's and women's tennis. Believe me, this is one of Trinity's busiest seasons, so there are plently of sports to watch as the year winds



One of Trinity's busiest athletic seasons is the spring.

down. Men's golf comes from the off-season looking to secure their second straight NES-CAC championship title after having a suc-Bantams will compete pionships at Middlehosts their first regular tennis team hosts Tufts

season match-up this Saturday against Southern Maine, followed by a game on Sunday against Brockport. Men's lacrosse competes in their first NEScessful fall season. The CAC match-up against Williams this Saturday at the NESCAC Cham- as well, with the women's team hosting the Ephs on bury College. Baseball the same day. The women's

on Saturday so be sure to cheer on your tennis Bantams! Additionally, the men's team travels up to Babson on Sunday for their first spring match. In a couple of weeks, the softball team travels up to University of Maine Farmington for their first game of the season. Personally, I'm

excited to check out our baseball team as they are competing in their second season in the recently renovated Murren Family Field/DiBenedetto Stadium. Be sure to come out and support the Bantams all season long. Bring your friends and sunscreen because the sun will soon come out!

### Coming Up for Bantam Sports:



Tues.

Men's Lacrosse v. Curry @ 6 PM

#### Sat.

Women's Tennis v. Tufts @ 10:30 AM Women's Lacrosse v. Williams 1:00 PM Baseball v. Southern Maine 4:00 PM

