

# The Trinity Tripod

-ESTABLISHED 1904-

“Scribere Aude!”

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Volume CXV  
Number VIII

## Women’s Task Force

KAT NAMON ’22  
NEWS EDITOR

page 4 Berger-Sweeney’s Task Force revisits the status of women more than a decade after the last committee disbanded.

## Secret Society Reviews

TRIPOD STAFF

page 8 The *Tripod* reviews secret societies: Elm and Key, Cerberus losers while Bishop’s pulls a surprise victory.

## Mock Trial Takes Third

SHAWN OLSTEIN ’21  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

page 8 Trinity’s mock trial team took third place at a tournament over the weekend in New London.

## Taco Bell: A Review

HUNTER SAVERY ’20 &  
LIZ FOSTER ’22  
A&E EDITORS

page 9 The dynamic duo returns to review the culinary delicacy of Flatbush Avenue: Taco Bell.

Also in this week’s issue....

Opinion: Student Leaders should Disavow Elm and Key, page 5

“I Speak Louder Than Stigma” to Address Mental Health, page 8

*Tripod* Recaps Field Hockey Season, page 11

## Campaign Continues; \$118 Mil. Raised So Far

BRENDAN CLARK ’21  
MANAGING EDITOR

Trinity College’s comprehensive campaign continues to progress in the “nucleus phase,” with approximately \$118 million having been raised toward a total goal of \$435 million. The campaign, which counts all monetary donations made between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2023, includes donations to the Trinity College Fund, to the College’s endowment, to support annual athletics operations, to support the restoration of the Chapel, and to support the parent’s fund, among others. The total campaign objective of \$435 million consists of \$360 million in current gifts and \$75 million in bequest intentions.

Comparative institutions which recently ran campaigns have set higher objectives than Trinity: Colby set a goal of \$750 million for their “Dare Northward” campaign, which had raised \$485 million by November 2019, while Williams set an objective of \$650 million and ultimately raised \$707.5 million by 2015. Colby had more than 32 contributors giving more than \$1 million, while

Williams achieved 74.3% alumni participation. Institutional comprehensive campaigns within our peer group have focused on highlighting major areas of need similar to Trinity’s: Colby’s “Dare Northward” campaign addressed financial aid, multidisciplinary programs under the aegis of “Colby Labs,” and revitalizing Colby’s athletic center. Williams campaign, “Teach It Forward,” also addressed alumni engagement and faculty recruitment, two categories distinct from Colby’s and Trinity’s campaign.

The last comprehensive campaign at Trinity, the “Cornerstone Campaign,” took place from 2006 to 2012 and raised \$281.1 million toward a \$300 million goal, while a concurrent Legacy Campaign raised \$87.9 million toward a \$75 million goal.

The *Tripod* spoke with Assistant Vice President for Advancement Christina Posniak and

see CAMPAIGN on page 3

## Quest-athon: 52 Miles, 24 Hours on the AT



TRINITY TRIPOD

Quest leader Will Tjeltveit ’20 spoke to the *Tripod* about the pre-orientation program and its fundraising efforts. Story on page 7.

## Edges: A Song Cycle Opens at Austin Arts



ALEXANDRA FISCHBEIN

Over the weekend, the Department of Music presented *Edges*, a song cycle.

Sharp and witty, performances of *Edges* ran from Nov. 7 to Nov. 9 at Austin Arts Center.

**Congratulations to the Cast and Crew:** Nina Pinchin (director), Kevin Scott (music director), Julianna Brown ’23 (cho-

reographer, cast), Catherine Sweet ’22 (assistant choreographer, cast), Anibal Gomez Contreras ’21, Ansel Burn ’20, Keaney Correia ’23, Julianne Freeman ’22, Elayna Harrison ’22, Abigail Lambert ’23, Jasmine Morgan ’23, Elisabeth Perler ’23, Simi Schreiber ’23, and Samuel Taishoff ’22.

## Composting Arrives on Crescent Street

GILLIAN M. REINHARD ’20  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Compost bins will be distributed to the 45 Crescent townhouses on campus. Starting this week, students living on Crescent Street will be serviced by Blue Earth Compost, which also handles composting in Mather. Two kick-off events held Monday, Nov. 11 and Thursday, Nov. 14 during common hour at 69 Crescent are designed to educate at least one member of each townhouse on how to compost efficiently.

The *Tripod* spoke with Trinity Sustainability Coordinator Roseangelica Rodriguez ’15, who shed light on the recent initiative. Starting at the beginning of the week, students living in Crescent will be able to compost food scraps as well as paper towels, napkins, and specific, biodegradable brands

of paper plates. Specifically, smoothie cups from either Mather or the Bistrotro cannot be composted. Each house will receive one Blue Earth Compost bin, and residents will be responsible for leaving their compost bins out on their porches during a designated time each week. If houses do not make an appearance at the kick-off events, members of Blue Earth will visit the townhouses on Crescent Street individually to ensure that composting is successful.

Efforts to bring composting to Crescent Street was first sparked by a project in the course “Global Perspectives in Biodiversity and Conservation.” Max Fertik ’19, Oscar Dial ’19, Jackson Ruprecht ’19, Rafal Szacilowski ’19

see COMPOSTING on page 4



# The Trinity Tripod

Established in 1904  
"Scribere Aude!"

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The *Trinity Tripod* has been published by the students of Trinity College since 1904. Its staff members are committed to the reporting and distribution of news and ideas that are relevant to the College community. The *Tripod* is published weekly on Tuesdays during the academic year. Student subscription is included in the Student Activities Fee (SAF). For non-students looking to subscribe, a one-semester subscription costs \$10.00 and a one-year subscription costs \$20.00. Please address all correspondence to:

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The *Trinity Tripod* is always looking for student contributions in photography, writing, and graphic design. Anyone interested in joining the *Tripod* can email [tripod@trincoll.edu](mailto:tripod@trincoll.edu). Additionally, all members of the community are invited to our meetings, which are held **Sundays at 7 p.m.** at our office in the basement of Jackson

All requests for advertisement placement in the *Tripod* can be found by consulting the newspaper's business manager at [tripodads@trincoll.edu](mailto:tripodads@trincoll.edu). Additionally, our website holds information regarding standard rates for advertisements.

# Trinity College

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## CORRECTIONS

## Tripod Editorial

### This is a Boring Issue of the *Tripod*

If you are an avid follower of my editorials, I apologize, because this editorial will sound quite repetitive. If you are not an avid follower of my editorials (which, I assume is most of you), I hope this article can shed some light on Trinity's student-run newspaper.

This is a boring issue of the *Tripod*. There are no secret societies to expose, there are no legal allegations against the school to report on, and there are no comedic mentions of "Chads" or "Beckys." For that, I apologize. I probably dropped the ball this week.

I have been the editor-in-chief of the *Tripod* since the fall of my sophomore year. This is my second to last issue of the *Tripod* as editor-in-chief. And I'll agree, some of our issues are boring. I don't blame our audience for leafing through our pages.

Why is this a boring issue of the *Tripod*? I feel I am qualified to shed light on this issue. This is a boring issue of the *Tripod* because members of our community are afraid to speak out, and other members of our community are hesitant to contribute in the first place. This is a boring issue because I'm not better at managing my own time, and I struggle to lead an editorial staff, and we mostly get

our work done on Mondays instead of spreading out this intensive workload throughout the week.

To find exciting news stories, we work extensively to contact people. Most are hesitant to speak out and serve as witnesses to injustices they may find on campus. One of our big stories of the semester, the story of the secret society Elm and Key, quite literally fell into my lap. It was less an investigative news piece than an opportunity for me to express my (extremely biased) feelings on elitism at Trinity

So, if this is a boring issue of the *Tripod*, why do I continue to work on the student newspaper, and how can I (or we) make things better? These are questions I have asked myself since arriving in the fall of 2016, and taking on an executive leadership role less than a year later.

To members of the community, I encourage you to speak out and report things to the *Tripod*, even if you would prefer to be anonymous. You won't get in trouble, take it from me. To members of the community (students, faculty, staff, alumni, etc.), I encourage you to contribute to the *Tripod*. Sometimes I am bad at responding to my emails, but I promise if you remain persistent, I will respond and help you contribute to student

journalism, the facet of campus life I consider the most transformative of my time in college.

So yes, this is a boring issue of the *Tripod*. I have exhausted every resource in my arsenal to make it better. Visually and intellectually, I feel the *Tripod* has improved. I always wonder, however, how much of that difference is visible to our audience, if we have one at all. To everyone on-campus, I encourage you to get involved. Not every issue is perfect, but every issue means something to the institutional history of Trinity College. We must have a student-run newspaper produced each week.

It's a vital part of our campus life.

-GMR

## Want to write for the *Tripod*?

Join the conversation by  
emailing [tripod@trincoll.edu](mailto:tripod@trincoll.edu)  
or  
visiting our website,  
[trinitytripod.com](http://trinitytripod.com).

# NEWS

## Trinity Comprehensive Campaign Goal \$435 Million

continued from page one

Associate Director of Gift Planning and 50th Reunion Caitlin Gasiorski to discuss the campaign's progress and objectives. Posniak indicated that this campaign follows what is "an industry standard: you run a quiet phase until you have roughly 65% to 75% (between \$282.75 to \$326.25 million) in hand and then enter the public campaign." Posniak added that keeping the public period of the campaign brief was important, as "if the campaign progresses publicly for too many years, you will lose momentum and energy." According to Posniak, it is likely that the campaign will remain in this quiet phase for two to three more years. This is also within the industry standard: Posniak stated that most comprehensive campaigns last 6 to 8 years, while capital campaigns for particular projects continue for 2 to 3 years.

As to objectives, Posniak stated that we are "looking to increase our volunteer cohort by about 100 to 150 volunteers per year," focusing especially on building interest in the College's Long Walk Societies, which focus on giving in the range of \$2,000 or above. The focus on the Long Walk Societies also includes outreach to current students and recent alumni, who "make the comprehensive campaign real," added Posniak. Further, said Posniak, those who give significantly are generally "those who start giving very early."

The campaign also includes as one focus endowing the Chapel and raising funds for its repair: that effort is being spearheaded by a "vibrant committee led by Bill Reynolds '71," together with support from the Class of 1963, which according to Posniak is looking to "restore and name the Friendship Chapel." The campaign also seeks to address financial aid, with an objective of \$100 million in that category. Gasiorski added that, among givers to

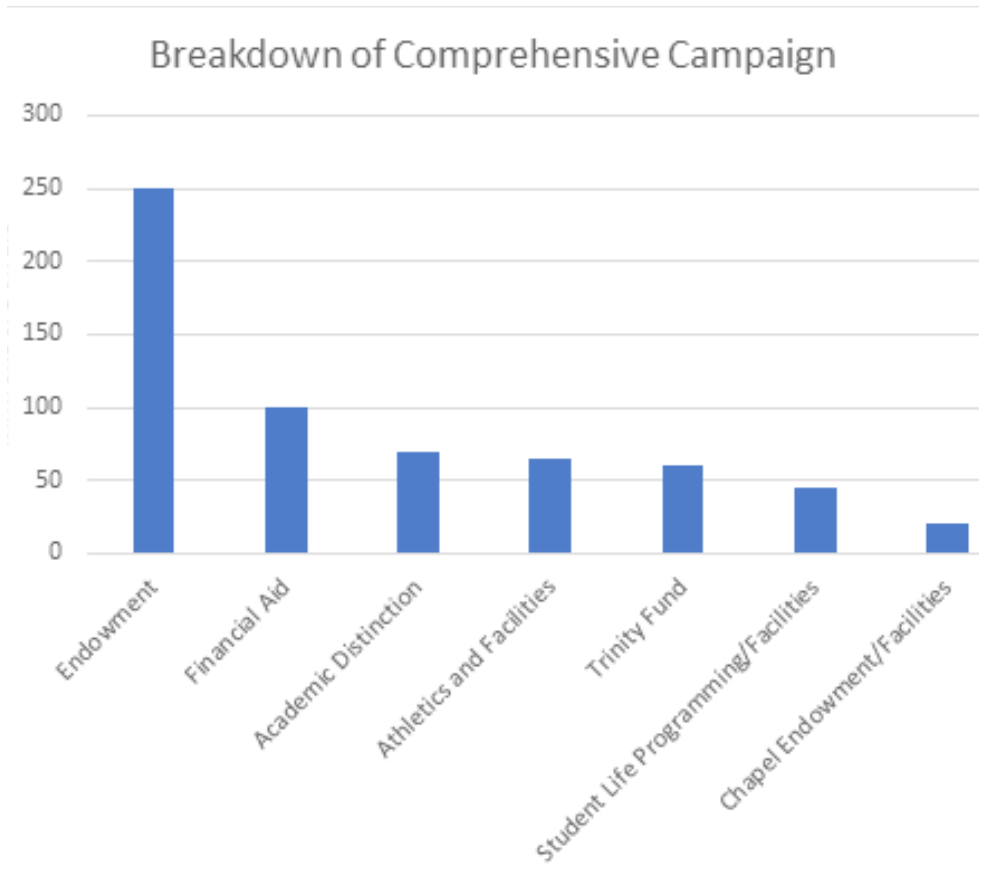
the financial aid category, "there is a mix"; "those who really care about access to the institution and also many who were former recipients of financial aid themselves." Posniak continued, noting that many donors in this category are very interested in "making a real difference for middle income students."

Once the project enters the public phase, Posniak added that the "bicentennial events will dovetail nicely with the campaign objectives." The promotion of the event publicly will include a campaign microsite, where community members can "track the progress of the campaign publicly" and utilize as a resource for "information on the progress of the campaign's objectives."

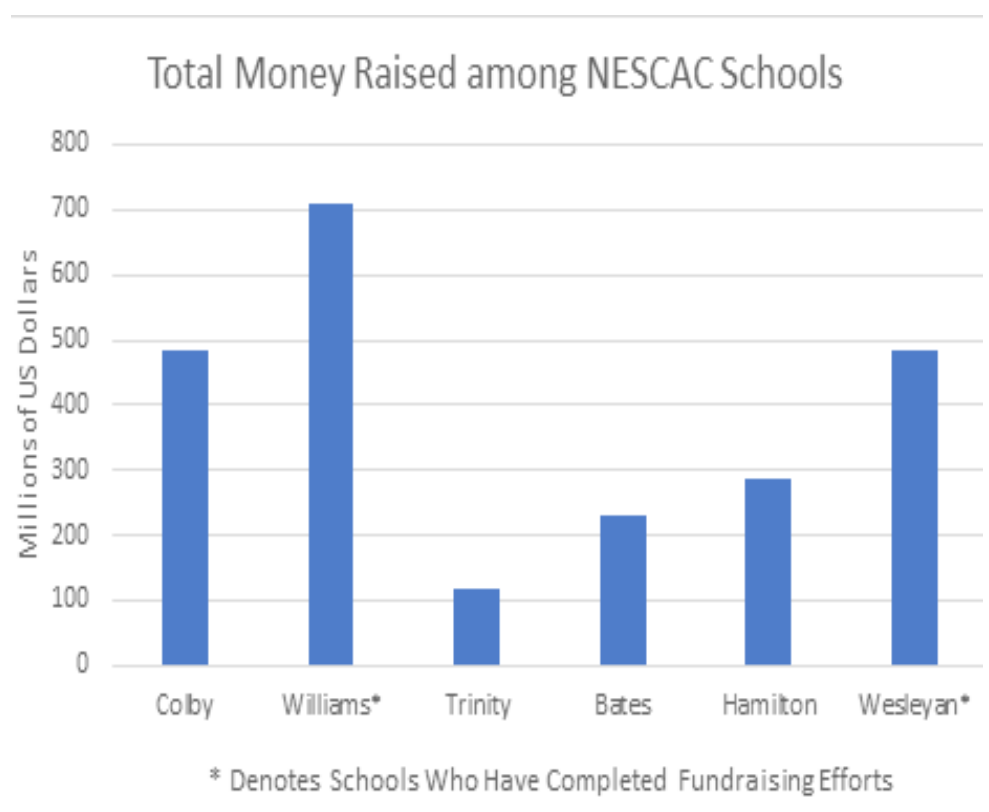
As the *Tripod* previously reported, \$435 million in campaign funds will be ultimately allocated for different purposes on campus: \$100 million will be directed toward "financial aid," \$70 million to "academic distinction," \$65 million to "endowing athletics and facilities," \$60 million to the "Trinity Fund," \$45 million to "student life programming and facilities," and \$20 million to the "Chapel endowment and facilities." The *Tripod* also spoke with Chair of the Board of Trustees Cornelia P. Thornburgh '80, who added that "as with any campaign, you don't get all the money at once." Thornburgh continued, adding that the campaign is a "critical one" for the College and that the "Board is excited to oversee it." Trinity's board had previously appointed two trustees, Kathryn G. Tyree '86 and Jeffery E. Kelter '76, P '18 as co-chairs in October of 2018.

Other NESCAC schools which ran recent campaigns include Bates, which set a goal of \$300 million in 2017 (raising \$229 million thus far), Hamilton, which set a goal of \$400 million in 2018 (raising \$235 million thus far), and Wesleyan, which set a goal of \$400 million and ultimately raised \$482 million by the end of 2016.

## Trinity Campaign By Category



## Campaigns Across NESCAC Peers



## The College Campus Safety Report Nov. 6- Nov. 11

Saturday, Nov. 9  
340 Summit Street

Six counts of vehicle vandalism. This case is open.

Sunday, Nov. 10  
Crescent Street

Drug use violation. One student received disciplinary action.

Sunday, Nov. 10  
North Campus

Vandalism to property. This case is open.



## College Plans For Task Force for Women to Continue to Develop into Spring of 2020

KAT NAMON '22  
NEWS EDITOR

This fall, President of the College Joanne Berger-Sweeney created a Task Force on the Status of Women at Trinity as a part of the college's "Women at the Summit" initiative. This initiative spans 18 months, and features thematic content over the course of the next three semesters having to do with the fiftieth anniversary of co-education at Trinity. The initiative is intended to commemorate this historic milestone by creating content and events that everyone on campus and within the Trinity community can participate in. The framework of the theme revolves around the idea of "yesterday, today, and tomorrow." These themes will be and have been featured in many all school events, including Convocation/Matriculation, Commencement, Homecoming, and Reunion.

On Oct. 17, an open conversation with Berger-Sweeney and Chair of the Board of Trustees Cornelia P. Thornburgh '80, Trinity's first female in that position, took place during common hour as

part of this Women at the Summit initiative. Special Assistant to the President Karolina Kwiecinska spoke with the *Tripod* about the event, adding that "the October 17th common hour event featuring Chair of the Board, Cornelia Thornburgh was planned as part of the college's ongoing celebration of the 50th anniversary of co-education by the Women at the Summit steering committee. The event celebrated the two highest leadership positions at Trinity—simultaneously held by women—highlighting a significant anniversary in our school's history." Kwiecinska continued, adding that while the event is independent from the Task Force, it "underscores the work of the Task Force, highlighting that more needs to be done to close the gender gap in leadership positions, both at Trinity and in the broader context of society."

The new task force, which Berger-Sweeney is co-chairing, looks specifically at the status of women at Trinity today. Berger-Sweeney, when asked how she sees the current status of women at the college, said

that it is "good, on a trajectory to being better."

Kwiecinska also spoke to Berger-Sweeney's objective in creating this task force, adding that "she created the Task Force on the Status of Women at Trinity to examine the college's progress in the last 50 years, since the beginning of co-education. The President's Special Council for Women dissolved in 2006, and this task force provides us with an opportunity to reconnect, determine the slate of unfinished business and reestablish a vision of welcome and equitable learning for all genders. Over the course of the semester, the Task Force has worked to identify these issues with the goal of sharing their findings with the campus community in the spring of 2020."

The Women at the Summit Steering Committee has many other events planned for the upcoming spring 2020 semester, as the college continues its celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of co-education. The next event will take place on Jan. 11, with launch parties that will occur both on campus and across the world.

## Composting Comes to Crescent Street

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and Jake Fredo '19 spoke with the *Tripod* in the spring of 2019 to express their hopes for the project. According to Fertik, the group aimed to begin composting in the dorms on Crescent Street, to inspire the graduating class to maintain sustainable habits as they prepare to leave Trinity.

Into the 2019-2020 school year, the project has been continued with support by Will Tjeltveit '20, Brigitte Vossler '20, and TREEHouse co-presidents Chuck Rogers '20 and Jake McBride '20. Additionally, Rodriguez highlighted the work of the student organization Green Campus as well as Trinna Larsen '20, who helped to spearhead the project from its

initial stages. "This project has really been driven by the townhouse residents," said Rodriguez.

"The expansion to Crescent Street has had the support of many students. Crescent Street residents have been extremely helpful with volunteering and making this introduction to composting possible."

To bring compost to Crescent Street, student volunteers presented a proposal to SGA for financial backing, which was granted.

For now, composting on Crescent is expected to last for the duration of the 2019-2020 academic year. Once data is in for the current year, a pitch will be made to continue support the program going forward. As Rodriguez commented, "it will take the efforts of everyone to be successful."



TRINITY TRIPOD

Composting at Crescent will continue for the 2019-2020 academic year

## Intercollegiate Update: News on Nearby Campuses

### Hamilton College

On Oct. 24, the Hamilton College community received an email from Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Jeff Landry, communicating that a student had tested positive for hepatitis A, a highly contagious liver infection. After experiencing symptoms of the illness, the student was treated at a local emergency room and had blood work done. Once the ER determined that they had contracted hepatitis A, the Oneida County Health Department was notified; they subsequently notified Hamilton's Health Center. This sequence of events occurred on the same day as Landry's email to the community.

According to Landry, decisions about relaying information on incidents like this to campus are made on a case-by-case basis. To ensure that the virus did not spread, Facilities Management and Bon Appetit immediately initiated their respective protocols to address the presence of a contagious illness on campus. This includes a deep-clean of all surface areas with a bleach-based cleaning agent in places where the infected student reported spending time.

### Tufts University

Activist and founder of the #MeToo movement Tarana Burke spoke in Tuft University's Cohen Auditorium Thursday. In a discussion moderated by Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion Nandi Bynoe, Burke spoke about her history of organizing work, the challenges of her work, the explosion of the #MeToo movement in 2017, and how it affected her navigating boundaries in self-care through her work. Burke contrasted the challenges of organizing work about sexual violence to that which focuses on gun violence. She explained that in situations involving gun violence, parents of affected children often organize immediately. "Nobody addressed sexual violence even though it was around us in all kinds of ways. I had several experiences where sexual violence came up as an issue, and I was at a loss for what to do about it," Burke said. Burke called for sexual violence to be addressed as an issue of equal magnitude to gun violence. "Because people don't understand what sexual violence really does to a person, they don't understand that it's another kind of death," she added.

### Colby College

Over 100 students from a dozen schools across the state gathered in the Diamond Building for Colby's Maine College Climate Action Summit on Nov. 9, united by their commitment to combat climate change. The full-day summit was organized by the Environmental Studies Program and the Buck Lab for Climate and Environment. Throughout the day, participants listened to speakers, connected over lunch, attended workshops, and discussed ways to continue their work in collaboration. In a video message to the conference, environmentalist and cofounder of 350.org, Bill McKibben—who was Colby's 2015-2016 Mellon Distinguished Fellowship in Environmental Studies—urged all to come together to become a big enough group to enact change globally. "The most important thing an individual can do is be a little less of an individual," he said. Students planned ways to create a "support and solidarity platform" for each other, and stay engaged going forward.



# OPINION

## Nuclear Energy: The Best Solution for Climate Change

SAM TAISHOFF '22  
STAFF WRITER

As the world feels the dire effects of climate change, many prominent scientists are working to provide safe, efficient, and clean alternative fuels and energies. As they scramble to find ways to make solar and wind farms cheaper and more efficient, there are others who know that a safe, relatively cheap, efficient, and clean energy already exists: nuclear power.

Since its first uses in weaponry during the Second World War, nuclear energy has always been a boogeyman. People fear nuclear power because they don't understand it and they don't bother to learn about it. This fear is reinforced by fossil fuel companies, George W. Bush, and modern media that depict nuclear energy as a wholly destructive, weaponized, radioactive, unsafe, and expensive form of energy. In addition, every time there is an incident involving a nuclear power plant, such as Chernobyl, Three-Mile Island, or Fukushima, the media uses them to monger fear and opposition

against nuclear energy.

In reality, every one of those "disasters" was caused by human error or a lack of foresight. If one looks towards a country like France, which derives nearly 80% of its power from nuclear plants, one would see that there is no danger presented by nuclear power plants so long as they are built and operated properly. In the total history of nuclear energy, there has only ever been four nuclear reactor meltdowns: Chernobyl and three at Fukushima. Compare this to the 700+ nuclear reactors throughout history and across the world and one will notice that the chances of a meltdown are very slim. In addition, as we learn more about the technology behind these plants and how to make them safer, the chance of an incident goes down significantly.

When it comes to the efficiency of these nuclear reactors, one should note that only 10% of the world's energy needs are currently met by nuclear power. This is also important to note that there are only about 450 nuclear reactors in operation. By these numbers, with about

5,000 nuclear reactors, we could meet and exceed the world's energy needs for generations to come.

The only by-product of nuclear energy is nuclear waste, which means there are no greenhouse gases being emitted by the plants. I'm sure anyone who has seen *The Simpsons* has an image of nuclear waste in their mind, some sort of radioactive green sludge, perhaps contained in a large yellow barrel. The truth is that most nuclear waste is in the form of spent fuel rods that can be stored relatively easily.

There have been many suggestions as to what to do with the waste, including storing it in a mountain and letting it naturally decay in underground bunkers. A new theory, however, could provide an easy way to produce significantly less nuclear waste. A fast reactor can be used to destroy the longest-lived nuclear waste, transforming it from waste that can take millennia to decay into waste that only requires a few centuries to completely decay. It also produces far less radioactive waste altogether. This means that the waste

produced can be easily stored underground and will be gone in a few hundred years. Compared to the nasty byproducts of fossil fuels and even the toxic chemicals from producing solar panels, the

world population continues to skyrocket, we need as much room for people as possible, which means wind and solar are practically useless in the future.

As time passes and more research is done,

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*"As time passes and more research is done, we will continue to see nuclear energy become safer, cleaner, and more efficient than it already is."*

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nuclear waste is nothing.

In addition to all these benefits of nuclear power, nuclear power plants also take up significantly less space than a solar or wind farm. For a solar farm to produce the same amount of energy as a nuclear plant, about 1,000 megawatts per year, it would need about 75 square miles; A nuclear plant requires only 1.3 square miles per 1,000 MW, while a wind farm would require about 350 square miles to even come close to producing the same amount. Of course, these studies assume prime conditions for wind and solar, so in reality, these farms may need to be even larger. As the

we will continue to see nuclear energy become safer, cleaner, and more efficient than it already is. However, this will require the people to join together to fight big fossil fuel companies. I encourage anyone reading to explore the alternative energy that is nuclear power, especially those of you who believe in climate change and want to see the world become a safer, cleaner place for future generations. To quote an ancient Native American proverb, "We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children." It is on us to demand the green energy that is nuclear power.

## SGA Represents Students; Must Denounce Elm and Key

DANIEL NESBITT '22  
OPINION EDITOR

In last week's edition of the *Tripod*, editor-in-chief Gillian Reinhard '20 detailed her brief dive into the realm of Elm and Key, one of Trinity's very own secret societies. Her detailed account traced an initiation process that seemed relatively mundane, though peculiar,

members of the organization wear large key necklaces at graduation each year, rendering useless any prior attempts to conceal members' identities.

Having garnered a reputation for recruiting student leaders, Elm and Key seems to be attempting to unite student leaders to accomplish its mission, however nefarious that may be. After being kicked out

a whole host of reasons. For starters, the anonymity raises concerns about the goals of the students of Elm and Key. If community leaders cannot publicly advocate for their goals and instead sequester into the shadows, then the value of these goals is called into question. If their work is truly good and in the best interest of Trinity, why can it not be done in the public sphere?

As Elm and Key is now known to consist of Trinity community leaders, it is very likely that members of the Student Government Association (SGA) are involved in the organization. If our duly elected SGA representatives seek to enact change through secret means rather than through the democratic means for which they were specifically chosen, then they can claim no proper respect for the office and should immediately resign or be recalled. There is still another troubling aspect to SGA members' role in Elm and Key. The secret

society actively sought to recruit the editor-in-chief of the *Tripod*, the free and independent student press. This Putin-esque, authoritarian tactic of controlling the press and

tempting to use student funds from SGA's discretionary fund to fund their activities? Doing so would show a complete disregard for SGA's policy's, though that hasn't stopped them

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*"If community leaders cannot publicly advocate for their goals and instead sequester into the shadows, then the value of these goals is called into question."*

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including letters with biblical quotations and anachronistic language. Despite this relatively benign front, something more disconcerting could very well lie beneath.

Elm and Key lacks something integral to all secret societies: secrecy.

It is a well-known tradition that all graduating

of the Greenberg Center, Gillian writes that, "members berated me for undermining the important work the group does to make Trinity a better place."

That these students believe they have to dress up and meet in secret to accomplish their goals is extremely disconcerting for

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*"Following the controversy of the Churchill Club last spring, the SGA has actively sought to reform their policies regarding registered student organizations at Trinity."*

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meaningful channels of dissent reeks of malfeasance, and those involved should be publicly reprimanded for their actions.

Following the controversy of the Churchill Club last spring, the SGA has actively sought to reform their policies regarding registered student organizations at Trinity. Among other things, one key issue was about the use of SGA funds. As there are almost certainly members of SGA within Elm and Key, are they also at-

before. In addition, there could be no way for students to ensure that Elm and Key is not using student funds without permission as the very people who control student funds could also be in the organization itself.

There are myriad dangers posed by the Elm and Key society to our free student body and the integrity of the SGA. As such, I implore all student leaders and SGA members to denounce the Elm and Key Society.

# Constitutional Consideration of the Death Penalty

ETHAN YANG '20  
STAFF WRITER

In 1535, Sir Thomas More was on trial to be executed and he was asked the following question: If the Earth was round, can the king flatten it, and if it was flat can an act of parliament make it round?

The question was profound because it was suggesting a radical idea that there are natural and just limits on the powers of government. Start from the basic assumption that the state cannot make the world flat and logically arrive at more substantial things such as the state cannot legitimately violate your rights. Fast forward to earlier this month, Nov. 9, 2019, a large protest surrounded the governor's mansion in Texas demanding Greg Abbott cancel the scheduled execution of Rodney Reed. Reed, an African American male, is scheduled for a lethal injection on Nov. 20 and was convicted in 1996 of raping and killing a 19 year woman named Stacy Stites. However, according to a recent report by CBS Austin "Reed has long maintained that Stites was killed by her fiance, for-

mer police officer Jimmy Fennell. Reed says Fennell was angry because Stites, who was white, was having an affair with Reed, who is black. In recent weeks, Reed's attorneys have presented affidavits that support his claims, including one by a former prison inmate who claims Fennell bragged about killing Stites and referred to Reed by a racial slur." Now, this is absolutely horrifying and obviously the evidence must be weighed with a steady hand. However, this also showcases the horrific reality that is the death penalty and makes the case that maybe the government shouldn't have the power to murder its citizens.

I think it is important to preface that the death penalty should not be abolished on the grounds of the eighth Amendment, cruel and unusual punishment. The late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia explains that if we wish to interpret the Constitution based on original public meaning, the death penalty was certainly permissible at the time of the ratification of the eighth. I think it is dangerous

simply to assert that we as a society have matured past the death penalty, and therefore it is unconstitutional. If that is the case, the rights of minorities are simply at the mercy of the majority. Under this logic, we can assert that the first Amendment doesn't protect "racist" speech because we as a society are far less racist, whatever that means. Or post 9/11: the privacy

grounds of morality, its practical application has been abhorrent at best.

According to "The Balance," in my home state of California, those sentenced to death can wait up to 20 years and in Louisiana, it cost seven times more to hold someone on death row than in minimum security. Furthermore, the most popular form of execution is lethal injection. Not only do we

*"Even if you're not inclined to vote against the death penalty on the grounds of morality, its practical application has been abhorrent at best."*

rights of Muslim Americans are a hindrance to our safety therefore, they are not protected under the fourth Amendment. Rather, to abolish the death penalty, we should simply remove it with an act of legislation or even a Constitutional Amendment. This will enshrine protections against government sanctioned murder in our laws.

Even if you're not inclined to vote against the death penalty on the

not fully understand if the chemicals lead to a quick and painless death, (which some would describe as the equivalent of setting your arteries on fire) but the companies that produce them are refusing to supply them. Lastly, the most horrifying statistic is the number of people exonerated from death row, that is the people found not guilty after being sentenced. According to a report by the Proceedings of

the National Academy of Sciences, one in 25 death row inmates are innocent. This number can be backed up by the fact that, from 1973-2015, 156 people have been exonerated. However, that means that prior to the work of the many organizations that carry out exonerations via DNA testing, people were and still are executed for crimes they did not commit. The system is a mess and we are all paying for it with our tax dollars.

Imagine how frustrated you would feel if someone accused you of something you didn't do. Now imagine that you now had to sit in prison for 15 years and then face an execution for a crime you didn't commit. The mere possibility that this is possible in our criminal justice system is a disgrace and it happens far too often than it should. As a nation that values limited government and freedom, it is unjust and immoral for the state to have the jurisdiction over the very lives of its citizens. We should abolish the death penalty because the stakes of life and death is an inappropriate game to be playing in our court system.

## Hope and Progress: Why the Democrats Keep Losing

A.P. TUREK '20  
OPINION EDITOR

"Someday, long after this convention, long after the signs come down and the crowds stop cheering, may it be said of our campaign that we kept the faith. May it be said of our Party in 1980 that we found our faith again... For me a few hours ago, this campaign came to an end. For all those whose cares have been our concern, the work goes on, the cause endures, the hope still lives, and the dream shall never die."

*"The Democratic Party stands for a process... it means 'hope.'"*

With these choice words, Senator Ted Kennedy, who had seen his brothers slaughtered in horrific assassinations, and who had just lost the Democratic nomination to Jimmy Carter, ended his bid for the Presidency. These sentences, however much we may dismiss them as

mere platitudes, speak to me, speak through me. I'll be honest with my personal prejudices, and I hope you'll be forgiving—I'm a deeply dissatisfied liberal who votes Democratic with a sentiment between resentment and covert shame. I, like many of my cohort, am filled with ideals that seem higher than those held by the many representatives who label themselves 'Democrats,' a feeling that often engenders severe disappointment, even in our party's successes, rather than

joy. My basic dissatisfaction stems from Ted Kennedy's words. For me, the Democratic Party stands for a process—again, forgive the sappiness—it means 'hope.' Rather than some concrete set of policies like socialized health care, or hard quantitative goals like ending pover-

ty, the Democratic Party stands for the feeling, and process, of hope. It's the party that stands for those left behind, the forgotten and underserved, common Americans of every creed who earnestly look towards the corrupt, bloated, festering white dome in the swamp that is Washington for hope. For that is what keeps the Democrats alive. It's not results—that's a Republican specialty. Regularly, our conservatives deliver on the basic premise of the Republican party—stability. Keep the ship that protects us sailing, and all problems work themselves out. It's a promising prospect, one that plays on regular experience for insights. We all know successful people, and voting for stability is voting to one day, possibly, be like them. Democrats peddle in a far more obscure commodity, an undefinable substance that is as quickly lost as found. For 'hope' draws not on our experience, but on something deeper, closer to the hu-

man conscious. Stability wears proudly its acumen. Hope's more speculative. It's faith in what can be, what we can be, a human desire for progress. But its more than simply the possibility of societal improvement. It's faith in the Party, in the institution of democracy itself, to deliver on these earnest desires of betterment. I don't vote Democratic because I know what I'm doing, because I know what's best for me. It's a far deeper desire, almost irrational, to put faith in my fellow citizens and representatives to deliver on that singular premise so eloquently presented by Senator Kennedy—"the work goes on, the cause endures, the hope still lives, and the dream shall never die." I'm unhappy with my party because it fails to believe in itself, to find faith in the democratic process to deliver on the biggest pitch of all—hope. Democrats don't hope anymore. They're caught up criticizing their compatriots, inventing ambi-

tious schemes and click-bait personal stories, and belittling the party that once produces the movers and shakers of American history. There's a good reason people vote Republican: the smaller lie is easier to believe, especially if both parties are spouting platitudes. What is really necessary isn't some technocrat who can spout figures and plans better than any other candidate. What the Democratic Party needs is the best ideologue we've had yet, someone to rekindle that sacred flame of our nation's oldest party, to speak not to the condition of the American people, but to their deepest desires. What we need is more 'hope,' because it's that currency that keeps the Party afloat. "The hope still lives and the dream shall never die" because we as Democrats must never give up the promise of progress. As a party, the Democrats must keep alive that faith in the party, in the promise, lest we die in darkness.



# FEATURES

## Quest-a-thon: 52 Miles in 24 Hours on the Appalachian Trail

GILLIAN REINHARD '20  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For about a sixth of each incoming first-year class, students will find comradery through Quest, Trinity's outdoor, backpacking pre-orientation program. The *Tripod* spoke with longtime Quest leader Will Tjeltveit '20, as a group of almost 50 Quest participants, leaders, and alumni prepares over the coming weekend to hike the 52 mile length of Connecticut's portion of the Appalachian Trail (referred to fondly by participants as the "AT") over the course of 24 hours.

The purpose of this event, called Quest-a-thon, is to fundraise for the pre-orientation program. Currently, Quest is entirely self-funded through fundraising efforts and participant fees. Each year requires about \$40,000 for the entire program, which includes the purchase of new gear, transportation, and food. Additionally, the Perrin Scholarship fund offers fee waivers for interested students who express demonstrated need. For Quest-a-thon, the goal for each participant of this intensive hike

is to raise \$100 for the benefit of the program.

Tjeltveit spoke fondly about his own experience with Quest, as both a first-year participant and upperclassmen leader. The program offers four and 10 day programs for students. Typically, groups are composed of six first-years and two upperclassmen leaders who facilitate conversations and connections in the group as well as the health and safety of participants on the trail. Students learn the ins-and-outs of undertaking a challenging hike through the Appalachian Trail. Tjeltveit participated in the 10 day trip, which is "a little different than what most participants do on the four day trips. You're out there for twice the amount of time, but you really make strong connections with the people you're with." He commented that he is still friends with many of those he hiked with as a first-year student.

According to Tjeltveit, Quest began as an initiative from the early 2000s to allow first-year students to find a community before classes even begin. Originally, the program was a

20-day backpacking and canoeing trip in Canada, but has since relocated to the Connecticut portion of the Appalachian Trail. Three alumni from that pilot program will be joining the team for Quest-a-thon.

The sense of community for Quest participants, leaders, and alumni is strong. Tjeltveit spoke especially highly of the bonds that are formed between Quest leaders, who complete a training process each year to ensure that the groups are prepared for the Appalachian Trail. To maintain the bonds formed by Quest, the leaders design activities throughout the school year. This upcoming Thursday (Nov. 14), a Quest reunion will be held in Hamlin.

"I've met so many wonderful people through Quest," commented Tjeltveit. "The program is based around hiking, but is also about the people and connections you make."

Those interested in Quest-a-thon can check out the program's Instagram page (@trinitycollquest) for live updates throughout the weekend as well as a link to a donation page.



@trinitycollquest

The Connecticut portion of the "AP" is the focus of this week's "Quest-a-thon," an event where Trinity students hike a significant portion of the trail.

## History Feature: Editor Suspended

### Editor of *Tripod* is Suspended for Month

Malcolm L. Stephenson Suspended by Dean Troxell for Comment on Dean's Chapel Address

(Hartford Times, Nov. 2.)

"For criticising Dean Edward Lefingwell Troxell's recent Trinity chapel address, in which the Dean was quoted as saying that, 'It is our duty in college to disregard the individual and to turn out a Trinity type,' Malcolm Stephenson, editor of 'The Tripod,' the weekly college paper, has been suspended from Trinity for one month.

"In commenting in a footnote on a letter published in 'The Tripod,' in which Dean Troxell's statement was criticised, the editor stated that 'Better

recently-revived 'Tripod' published by the undergraduates, was yesterday suspended from college for one month by Dean Edward L. Troxell for publication of editorial comment on a recent address in the chapel by the Dean.

"Resolutions asking the faculty to reinstate Stephenson, asserting that he was upholding a tradition of the college against an attempt to tear it down, were drafted at a meeting of about fifteen undergraduates last night at the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity house and will be presented before a meeting of the student body

## November 7, 1925

In 1925, *Tripod* editor-in-chief Malcolm L. Stephenson was suspended after writing a critical editorial against then-Dean Troxell, under President Ogilby. The suspension was covered by *The New York Times*, *The Hartford Courant*, and *The Hartford Times*.

"The Tripod,' is forced to acknowledge the charges preferred against its action of dodging the issue in the case mentioned. True, we were astounded at the tenure of Dean Troxell's talk. Due to the recent creation of the office, and the benefits likely to be derived from its efficient administration, we chose to table the issue, and watch further developments. Perhaps the statement was not intended to be so interpreted.

"But, if Dean Troxell's words correctly expressed his views, we are at a loss as to what to do. We have always thought of college as a spawning ground for individuals—for men who think. Better a radical with a beard and a bomb than a type—a goose-stepper—a man without brains enough or courage enough to declare himself. There must be some explanation, and 'The Tripod' will endeavor to gain an interview with the Dean before the next issue."



## “I Speak Louder than Stigma” Addresses Mental Health

AMANDA SCOPELLITI '20  
FEATURES EDITOR

On Thursday, Nov. 14 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. in Hallden Hall, Trinity will be hosting an event organized by the senior students enrolled in Professor Molly Helt's Developmental Psychopathology class called “I Speak Louder Than Stigma.”

Inspired by “Take Back the Night” which focuses on survivors of sexual assault, the purpose of this event is to put an end to the stigma surrounding mental illness on campus by discussing various mental health issues that members of the Trinity community face. The goal is to have an open and honest conversation about mental illness in order to fight the isolation that silence perpetuates.

The students organizing “hope this event will

bring our community together and allow mental health survivors to feel heard and supported.” One of Professor Helt's students, Maddie Kane '20, added that “this is such an important discussion to have, and I'm so excited to be a part of this event.”

Students, professors, administrators, and other members of the Trinity community are encouraged to share their experiences with mental illness by contacting members of the class for a link.

Stories can be shared anonymously and, in that case, will be read aloud by one of Professor Helt's students. However, there is also the option to include an email address along with the story if one wishes to read it in their own voice. There will also be a submission box at the event for the individ-

uals who wish to share their stories, but were unable to do so beforehand.

Sponsors of “I Speak Louder Than Stigma” who made the event possible include Alpha Chi Omega, the Trinity College Psychology Department, and the Trinity College Health Center. The Health Center will also have a table at the event to provide additional information and resources to students.

The students organizing the event encourage everyone to attend, bring friends, and participate in this discussion about mental health. They believe that attending “I Speak Louder Than Stigma” is “an important way for students to recognize the prevalence of stigma and the pressure to be silent about mental illness in their communities and to realize that it can happen to anyone.”



TRINITY DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

(Left):  
Students in the  
Developmental  
Psychology  
course  
organized the  
event “I Speak  
Louder than  
Stigma.”

## Mock Trial Team Takes Third Place

SHAWN OLSTEIN '21  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Trinity College Mock trial team won third place out of fifteen teams at their tournament over the weekend. The tournament took place over Nov. 2 and 3 at the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. Each day of the tournament consisted of two trials, one beginning at 9:00am and the other at 2:00pm. Each trial contained two judges, each of which would score the teams and determine a winner by awarding them a ballot. Trinity's prosecution and defense went to trial once a day either in the morning or afternoon. Of the eight total ballots available, Trinity won five, lost two, and tied one. The prosecution consisted of three lawyers: Amber Montalvo '20, John Lawson '20, and Aidan Arnold '21, along with three witnesses: Shawn Olstein '21, Julia Lee '21, and Charlotte Noedlinger '23. The defense lawyers were Olivia Louthen '22, Aidan Arnold '21, and Allison Rau '23, along with Shawn Olstein '21, Olivia Zeiner-Morrish '22, and Reagan Flynn '23 as witnesses.

As one of their first tournaments of the year, Trinity's mock trial team hopes to continue their momentum into further victories. In response to the team's victory coach Professor of Public Policy Glenn Falk stated, “Forget law school. Forget the bar exam. This team is

already a great law firm. I am so proud to be associated with it.” Team Captain Amber Montalvo '20 told the *Tripod*, “The past three years on this team have been fundamental to my growth. I am incredibly grateful to be leading this year. This past weekend particularly has demonstrated our grit and potential. We are coming hard for regionals!”

The court case used for the tournament is the fictional *Ryder v. Midlands*. Jordan Ryder, played by Olivia Zeiner-Morrish '22, stands accused of being responsible for the death of her “daughter” Parker Paige on a camping trip. The trial consist of a host of characters including a detective played by Shawn Olstein '21, a café owner played by Charlotte Noedlinger '23, a social worker played by Reagan Flynn '23, and two Doctors played by Julia Lee '21 and Shawn Olstein '21. The prosecution is given the choice to charge the defendant with either murder or manslaughter, Trinity chose to prosecute a charge of murder, arguing the defendant pushed her daughter off a cliff with a hiking staff. Trinity's defense argues the death of the daughter was accidental as the girl had a severe form of osteogenesis imperfecta, a genetic bone disease commonly known and brittle bone disease. Trinity's mock trial team has an upcoming trial at Fordham University and hopes to continue in their courtroom success.

## *Tripod* Reviews the Best Secret Societies at Trinity

### Elm and Key

“Crypt Chapel is no cooler than Greenberg.”



### Bishop's

“You guys are really keeping it under wraps.  
Great job!”



### Cerberus

“Tried to recruit Liz Foster '22, Hunter Savery '20, and Alex Dahlem '20. Failed.”



### Medusa

“We love the social media presence.”





# Arts & Entertainment

## It Takes Two to Tango Bell: Another Liz and Hunter Joint

LIZ FOSTER '22  
and HUNTER SAVERY '20  
A&E EDITORS

Four score and seven tacos ago, our forefathers set out to discover the most grotesque and obscure offerings within the greater Trinity bubble. The coastal elites are going to hate this, but for all the good, vest-wearing, taco-eating folk, this one is for you. We thank you for your service and expect you to thank us for ours.

### Liz's Crunchwrap Supreme:

Taco Bell is arguably one of my dietary staples. Consequently when the idea came to me to scrap a proposed Cave review in favor of an article about Taco Bell, I realized Hunter Savery '20 and I were tasked with no small feat. Having ordered the exact same meal from Taco Bell for the better half of the past decade, I knew I had to switch it up for this review. I could describe Taco Bell's objectively best products, the Crunchwrap Supreme and Doritos Locos Tacos, five hundred times over in my sleep and probably in other languages. Oui, oui, les tacos!

Scrolling through the DoorDash menu, I repeatedly attempted to shaft the responsibility onto Hunter, but he failed to provide adequate assistance. Eventually, we settled on the ominous "Mexican Pizza" and a "Quesarito," which I imagined would be a burrito and quesadilla combo. The Mexican pizza seemed like it would be an insult to both Mexican and Italian cuisine, and for that reason alone, it was quickly thrown into the cart.

Though Hunter and I initially set out to review the cave this fine Friday evening, we assumed these interesting, albeit potentially disgusting, dishes were sure to make for fascinating content for our dedicated readers.

A key feature of Taco Bell's combo orders is that each combo features multiple dishes and a drink. As the word combo implies, it is a combination of food. Our order of a Mexican Pizza combo and a Quesarito combo were missing at least once taco each and there was not a Mountain Dew Baja Blast to be seen anywhere despite our ordering not one, but two of

the delicious blue beverages. With only a Mexican Pizza, a Quesarito, and allegedly a taco according to one of two A&E editors, a measly order of chips and guacamole, and two packets of mild sauce to work with, we knew that this was no easy task.

Visually, the food was disgusting, but to expect anything more from Taco Bell would be to ask too much. Sorry Brendan Clark, this is not Max Downtown. The Mexican Pizza was essentially an order of nachos on steroids. The pizza was comprised of four "slices" that were more like nacho sandwiches. Two chips sandwiched together a gross layer of refried beans as a layer of salsa and cheese sat atop the upper chip. Needless to say, I was confused, upset, and a bit scared. Were it not for the beans, this pseudo-pizza might have been alright, but the texture of the chips was soon destroyed by the overwhelming combination of sort-of wet ingredients. The quesarito was significantly more satisfying, but it would have been a more pleasant experience had there been more sauces to choose from. When it comes to Taco Bell sauces, I know exactly what I need: hot and fire. The diablo sauce is a bit too much for my precious taste buds, but the mild doesn't quite satiate on its own. Drizzling hot and fire sauces all over my half of our shared quesarito would certainly have improved the tortilla heavy dish's taste. However, the Mexican pizza's shortcomings were enough to allow the quesarito to shine. The chips and guacamole were a mere one dollar and sixty nine (1.69) cents, so it feels unfair to complain too much given the amount I paid for the product. Regardless, the guacamole was just a bit wrong. I couldn't identify exactly what element was stopping the guacamole from being guac-amazing, but I'm inclined to think the texture and unneeded sweetness were the main offenders. However, like a toxic relationship, I kept getting pulled in by the brief moments of satisfaction the avocado mush brought me. Unfortunately, Chipotle's guac really is worth those extra few dollars.

Overall, this Taco Bell

experience was one for the ages. Despite the inclement weather that terrorized Vernon Street, Hunter and I were able to acquire a meal that was just as confusing and disappointing as a meal from the Cave would have been. Tune in next week to see what food our laziness brings us to. **1.5/5**

### Hunter's Firey Chalupa:

In the wake of our Steve's Bagels review, Liz Foster '22 and I have been inundated with emails, phone calls, letters, Venmo requests, etc. clamoring for more high caliber Trinity culinary reviews. Thus, we set our sights on one of the two great hubs of gastronomic acceptability on campus: The Cave. It was a dark frigid November afternoon and the wind was howling across the grassy knoll between Vernon and North as I stood before the imposing concrete monolith known as High Rise. Making it across campus in this weather would be a Herculean feat, but for you dear readers, we would have no choice but to seriously consider it. Recalling the terror of being asked what kind of bagel we wanted at Steve's, we were wary of the dangers presented by going to restaurants. We quickly came to the realization that we wouldn't make it out of the building. Not in this climate. For this I apologize, it was our sincerest desire to bring you a Cave review and one is on the way, however this is something entirely different.

Brace yourself, this is a Taco Bell review.

I'm a lot of things, but decisive when ordering on DoorDash isn't one of them. So after much deliberation we ordered a veritable smorgasbord of Taco Bell offerings. Taco Bell is a strange beast. It is vaguely Mexican inspired, but makes no genuine attempts to imitate Mexican cuisine. Cultural appropriation? Maybe. Culinary abomination? Certainly. Taco Bell is consistently gross and I feel gross after eating it, yet I still want it. Maybe there's nicotine in the Baja Blast because though I may go months without eating Taco Bell, I always come back. It seemed like eons before our "food" arrived and in the meantime I gathered information for an upcoming exposé on life in High Rise 604. As our



TRINITY TRIPOD

High Rise a.k.a the Trinity College equivalent of Taco Bell.

driver approached, Liz and I excitedly made our way to the parking lot. As with ordering bagels, we soon realized we were entirely out of our element. In the Siberian parking lot, there were three cars idling, none of which had our food, though we spent a great deal of time zigzagging through the parking lot peering into the vehicles of innocent bystanders. Finally, our driver pulled up alongside the curb in a Honda with windows tinted so dark I suspect they might have been painted black. Having secured the proverbial bag, we returned to the safety of High Rise.

Surveying our harvest, it became clear that a significant portion of our order was missing. Whether lost in transit or never made in the first place, we would be doing without the large spread we had ordered. What did survive the voyage was a Quesarito, chips and guac, a lone taco, and the coup de grâce: a "Mexican Pizza." We divided the haul and dug in, noting our impressions and discussing the idiosyncrasies that make Taco Bell so unique. The Mexican Pizza is the most conversation worthy, so let's dive right in. Have you ever had a pizza and thought to yourself: what

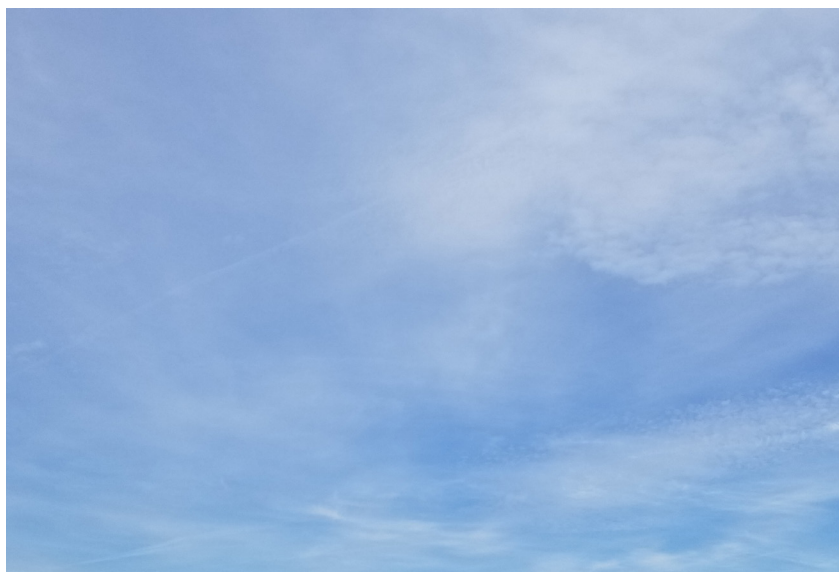
if the sauce were beans? Someone at Taco Bell did, because the sauce here is indeed refried beans. The taste is not the offender here, not nearly as much as the triad of appearance, concept, and form.

A war crime by any other name, we ate the whole thing. The chips were perfectly good, but ordering guacamole from Taco Bell was not the brightest idea. There was hardly any flavor and the texture made it seem that this guac had spent some time in a freezer. The Quesarito was the tastiest offering, but it was chewier than I expected, I found myself fixated on the act of chewing, the yin to the Steve's MPD yang.

This was no Michelin star meal. Gordon Ramsey would have obliterated us for engaging in this kind of behavior, and yet I thoroughly enjoyed it. Taco Bell is always the wrong idea, but that's the point. If we ate good food all of the time, it would lose all meaning. There are enough yuppie foodie snobs shaming the proletariat for our Taco Bell pleasures. No I don't want to eat a Beyond Burger, I want to eat a taco with a shell made of Doritos and meat that came out of a hose. My rating? **4/20.**



## Weekly Skylights: The *Tripod* Looks to the Clouds



(Left) I didn't know wet canvases existed until I saw my first episode of *The Joy of Painting* with Bob Ross a year or two ago. They really are something. They give you great whooshes and whorls with the paint and everything blends nice and smooth. Look at today's sky for example—that's a wet canvas. Brushstrokes and dapples of pleasant blue in the liquid-white atmosphere. Life imitates art imitates life. **7.4/10.**

(Right) You walk on the surface of a cloud, feel your feet give slightly in on the carpet of ice crystals, water droplets, and other floatacious particles. It's soft, you think, like a pillow that's been sliced fine like cabbage for coleslaw. And it's cold, too, so you call it coleslaw. Around you drift other bits and pieces of cloud, totally not bothered at all by your intrusion into their domain. I mean, it's not like they come down to the ground and stand on humans or anything, that would be ridiculous. Except for fog, that deviant. **8.4/10**



(Left) Ever tried hunting basilisks? It's a hassle, I'll tell you. They're clever, mean, and turn you to stone if you look in their eyes. You might be thinking, well, that doesn't sound so unusual, I know a few people who can do that. And you might, don't get me wrong, but basilisks are also giant snakes, and that poses its own set of problems. Number one, what do you wear to a giant snake fight? How do I get a basilisk to laugh? Will a basilisk ever truly be capable of empathizing with its fellow man? If you can figure any of that out, please let me know. This time of year I'm always running low on scales **7.5/10.**

(Right) My throat is currently severely raw due to a sickness of unknown origin and intent. I desire for nothing more than to take a crystal chalice and plunge it into the cool Autumn sky, fill it to the brim with sloshing blue and cotton, and quench my thirst. Perhaps that is how angels drink, ladling bliss out of the punch bowl. It's an elixir for the taste buds, and the soul. **Zero calories. 8.6/10.**



JOEY CIFELLI '23  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

## Trinity College 2019 Automobile Inquiries: What Connor Struyk '20 Says Your Car Says About You

CONNOR STRUYK '20  
STAFF WRITER

So apparently, the only time anyone actually pays attention to these articles is when I am trashing on the Trinity Jeep owner's association. Because of this, my boss, being the intelligent and savvy person that he is, required that this week's article be an investigation into what is the suckiest car on campus.

Similar to how the old *Top Gear* tried to find the worst car in the world, I was not to base this "competition" off of the oldest or rattiest car on campus. Instead after about an hour conversation and many beers, we decided to base our decision on what car would be the most damaging to your

ego if you were seen in it. And my readers (all five of you), we have reached a decision. The most cringe-worthy car on campus is... not in this week's article.

Yes, I know, I am a despicable and cruel writer. But hey, look at it from my perspective. Now, if you want to find out what the smarmiest, most repugnant car on campus is, you will have to actually go through the effort of picking up next week's edition of the *Tripod*.

In the meantime, however, and because I know you all are so hungry for more of my writing, I came up with something to hold everyone over. Don't say I never did anything nice for you. This week's article is actually the five worst types of car people on campus. Apparently,

it wasn't enough for all the Jeep owners to hate me.

Anyway, coming in at number five is...The new age hippie in their VW Beetle. While flower power hasn't exactly been in vogue for several decades, the VW beetle and the people who drive them live on. Well, kind of, because Volkswagen finally wised up after seventy years and stopped making them. But anyway, before the next time you step into your half circle of autobahn goodness, I want you to look up the two guys who invented it. Happy motoring, you peace-loving hippies, you.

In fourth place we have... faux middle management in their BMWs. The worst thing about these people isn't their car per se as anyone who is really

into cars will tell you that a BMW is basically the standard by which all other cars are judged. Instead, it is a fleshy meatbag sitting in the driver's seat who thinks every stretch of road belongs exclusively to them because they pay taxes and wouldn't be able to find the turn signal if their life depended on it.

In third place we have... The Range Rover trust fund baby. Basically, see above except add more money and less car buying sense. These individuals own a Range Rover simply because it says Range Rover on the front. Who cares that it leaks oil and never works? It is British class on wheels, dammit. Ignore the fact that anyone who drives in an actual Land Rover looks at Range Rover drivers

as the awkward step children who really don't fit in.

In second place we have... The Prius eco-warrior. Does it use less gas than other vehicles? Sometimes. Does it come in hybrid and fully electric versions? Yep. Will my neighbors in California hate me for destroying the environment by driving one? Nope. Should they? Probably. But hey, Toyota's PR department is excellent at hiding the fact that the area in which they smelt the batteries for these things has been called a dead zone by NASA.

And finally, the moment you've all been waiting for. The worst type of Trinity College car person is... The Jeep bro, because of course it is. You guys are low hanging fruit, what can I say?



# SPORTS

## Tripod Talks with Field Hockey to Recap Fall Season

ERIN KARCZEWSKI '20  
SPORTS EDITOR

Finishing with an overall record of 8-8, the Trinity Bantams were not able to hold onto a consistent winning streak. With wins against Amherst and Williams to end their regular season play, they were able to squeeze into the eighth spot of the NESCAC tournament in hopes of keeping their season alive.

The Trinity Women's Field hockey team ended their 2019 season against Middlebury College in the semifinal round of the NESCAC tournament. Middlebury went on to beat Tufts in the NESCAC finals for their third year in a row.

The *Tripod* had the pleasure of sitting down with a consistent contributor, Christine Taylor '22, to hear a little more about her thoughts from the season.

With hope and confidence fueling the attitudes and work ethic of the Trinity Bantams, the 2020 season is looking to be even brighter than the 2019 season.

**TT: Were you happy with the outcome of the season?**

**CT:** We had a rough start to the beginning of the season, but we managed to rally and turn our season around towards the end. The team started clicking and we ended up making the NESCAC tournament. I was definitely happy we ended up making the tournament, but sad that we didn't make it farther.

**TT: What were your biggest strengths as a team on and off the field?**

**CT:** I would say our strengths as a team are the culture that we have. Our team is very close in general. We share a bond that spreads on and off the field which is really pivotal to the success of our team.

**TT: How is the team looking for next year?**

**CT:** Next year I think we have set the standards even higher and have learned a lot from this past season. I believe next year our team will be very good and has so much potential to go very far in the season, and potentially win it all.



CHRISTINE TAYLOR '23

The field hockey team hopes for an even better fall season in 2020.

## Field Hockey by the Numbers

In the NESCAC Conference: 3-7

Overall Season Wins/Loses: 8-8

## Men's Hockey Preps for Start of the Winter Season

MATEO VAZQUEZ '21  
SPORTS EDITOR

While the fall season for sports is coming to an end, one of Trinity's favorite seasons is upon us.

As winter sports are starting up, it should be noted that the first game of the season for men's hockey starts this Friday versus Connecticut College. The match will be followed by another game versus Tufts on Saturday. Both of the games will be counted towards the NESCAC conference, and are important to the overall ranking this season.

Although the season hasn't begun, men's hockey is already off to a great start.

Just last week, a pre-season ranking poll was released nationally on the United States Hockey website. The results revealed good news for the Bantams.

On a national scale, Trinity is ranked No. 10, and first place within the NESCAC.

Last season the team did quite well with an overall record of 19-4-5,

after several close games throughout the winter.

The 2018-2019 season, however, was even more significant, as the team was able to win the NESCAC championship for the fifth time. The *Tripod* reported on the victory last year. It was a momentous win for the team moving forward.

Not only did the Bantams defeat Tufts, they did so by a 3-0 win, never ceding a goal the entire match.

This demonstrates the depth the Bantams and the recruiting and player development prowess of Head Coach Matt Greason.

Although they did not do particularly well after getting knocked out 2-1 in the first round of the NCAA tournament, reaching that point in the first place is still a tremendous milestone for the 2015 National Champion program. Moving forward into the upcoming season, it will be interesting to follow men's hockey.

Last year, the Bantams set some huge

milestones. They have a long season of work ahead if they are going to improve upon those achievements from last season.

This weekend's game against Tufts will be important in accessing the rest of the season. The game against the NESCAC rival and potential competitor in the conference championship will set the tone for the type of season that the Bantams will have.

This season marks Greason's 9th as Trinity's head coach and the first season for staff addition Zach Badalamenti, a graduate and former player at the University of Wisconsin.

Badalamenti has a pristine reputation in college hockey circles. During his first year as coach at Wisconsin, the team had its first ever undefeated season, going 29-0-2. Additionally, the team came in sixth at the NCAA championship last season.

His contribution to the Bantams this year will no doubt be extremely valuable. We wish the team the best of luck this weekend as they start their season.



TRINITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Trinity men's hockey prepares for the upcoming season.

### Men's Hockey First Four Games

Nov. 15: vs. Conn. College

Nov. 16: vs. Tufts

Nov. 22: at Amherst

Nov. 23: at Hamilton



## Football Ends Lackluster Season with Loss to Wesleyan

ALEX DAHLEM '20  
MANAGING EDITOR

The Trinity College football team lost their final game of the 2019 season this past Saturday against in-state rival Wesleyan University. This weekend's loss brought Trinity's record to 5-4 and a fourth place finish in the NESCAC. This marks the first season since 2015 that the Bantams have not won the NESCAC season title and the first time that Trinity has lost to the Cardinals at Jesse/Miller field since 1998.

Wesleyan got out to a quick start thanks to consecutive touchdown runs from the one-yard line. The Cardinal passing game was on point early on as each of their first two drives sliced up the Bantam secondary with long passing completions. After a lackluster first quarter on the offensive side of the ball, Trinity kicked it up a notch in the second quarter thanks to a 20-yard completion from starting quarterback Seamus Lambert '22 to wide receiver Koby Schofer '20. However, Trinity's drive was thwarted as Wesleyan turned up their defense and forced a turnover on downs that kept the Bantams out of the end zone.

A few minutes later, the Bantams were once again charging down the field before a Lambert interception ended the drive. Wesleyan subsequently marched down the field before Bantam safety Matt McCarthy '21 forced a fumble that was picked up by fellow safety Matt Patry '20. Trinity could not capitalize on the momentum as the stingy Cardinal defense sacked Lambert twice during the next set of downs. Wesleyan's dominance

continued after halftime with a 10-play, 66-yard scoring drive that put them ahead 21-0. Trinity's defense almost prevailed as they blocked the Cardinals attempt at a long field goal, a play that ended in a Trinity penalty and a new lease on life for the Wesleyan scoring drive. Just like that, Trinity, trailing 21-0, was in unfamiliar territory against their cross-state rival.

Looking to mount a second half comeback, Trinity took Lambert out of the game and put in transfer QB Jordan Vazzano '20, a former University of Rhode Island player who came to Hart-

ford at the start of last season. On the very next drive, Vazzano connected with Jonathan Girard '21 for a 21-yard touchdown completion with just over five minutes left in the third quarter.

The Bantam defense picked up, holding Wesleyan at 21 points for the rest of the quarter and freeing up Vazzano and the Bantam offense to mount a fourth quarter comeback. Vazzano did just that by connecting once again with Girard this time on a 71-yard pass that electrified the home team crowd. After a blocked PAT the score was now 21-13 with Trinity charging.

A mid-quarter 47-yard touchdown by the Wesleyan running back quieted the

crowds and put the Cardinals up by 15 with just eight minutes remaining in the game. Not to be outdone in his final game in the Coop, Vazzano responded with a 29-yard touchdown throw that sliced up the Cardinal defense and swung the momentum back to Trinity.

A few minutes later, the Bantams were once again charging down the field, this time looking to tie things up with the Cardinals. Vazzano, although unstoppable to this point in the game, bounced a pass off of a receiver that landed straight into a Wesleyan defender's hands, ending Trinity's epic comeback.

Overall, Wesleyan led the Bantams 350-244 in

passing yards, signifying a potential offensive problem for Trinity moving forward. Lambert, the star from the latter half of the 2018 season when he was named NESCAC rookie of the year, struggled at times this year. Meanwhile, Jordan Vazzano, a steady offensive presence, will be graduating this spring. The Bantams will also be graduating Koby Schofer, a tri-captain and key member of the receiving core. This year's NESCAC title was won by the undefeated Middlebury Panthers, marking their first NESCAC title victory since 2013 and their fourth in the entire history of their program.



TRINITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Football finished the season 5-4 after losing to Wesleyan.

### Coming Up for Bantam Sports:

Fri.

Men's Hockey v. Conn. Coll @ 7:30  
Women's Hoceky v. J&W Uni. @ 4

Sat.

Men's Hockey v. Tufts @4  
Women's Basketball @ 1  
Women's Hockey v. Norwich @ 7  
Women Swim & Dive v. Hamiton @1

