St. Anthony Hall Censured for Spring, AD Suspended To 2022

GILLIAN M. REINHARD ’20
FEATURES EDITOR

Following an administrative resolution hearing held Jan. 23, preceded by a two-month college investigation, St. Anthony Hall was placed on a one-semester censure and Alpha Delta Phi (AD) was placed on a four-quarter suspension. The disciplinary actions differ significantly. While the Hall will not be permitted to recruit pledges nor hold socials until the beginning of the fall 2020 semester, AD will not be able to undertake any “Fraternity-related activities” (including recruitment and socials). Additionally, the AD dining hall will be closed until Jan. 5, 2022, meaning that all of AD’s current members, aside from its fall 2019 pledge class, will not be able to participate in fraternity activities while students at Trinity College. The Tripod obtained a letter from Dean of Students Joe DiChristina to the Board of Trustees detailing the incident, which, according to the letter, stemmed from a Nov. 9, 2019, physical altercation at 4:30 a.m. involving 24 Trinity students, nearly all of whom belonged to AD or the Hall. The documents do not provide details of the incident or of the circumstances behind the incident. As DiChristina explained in the letter, AD received a more severe sanction due to its "significant conduct violations" over the past four years. DiChristina further indicated that "both organizations have been found responsible for the altercation." The Tripod also obtained the decision letter sent to St. Anthony Hall from Dean of Students Joe DiChristina and Associate Dean of Students Joe DiChristina.

What is "Alumni for a Better Trinity?"

GILLIAN M. REINHARD ’20
FEATURES EDITOR

Maybe one of the last remnants of Jimmy Jones’ presidency, “Alumni for a Better Trinity” exists as one of the College’s most controversial and active forums. According to Bob Babcock ’90, a former moderator of the Facebook group, as well as Douglas Kim ’87, vice president of his class, a former National Alumni Association member, and current moderator of the Facebook group, “Alumni for a Better Trinity” was first formed in 2012 by Robert Bibo, a graduate of the late 80s, in response to President Jones’ avid Greek mandate. This mandate, no longer within the immediate memory of Trinity’s undergraduates, required that each Greek Life organization accept both male and female students. This proposal, pulled off successfully by peer school Wesleyan, was met with widespread backlash from alumni at Trinity. Kim explained that the Facebook group is well known for its active debate, adding that “Alumni for a Better Trinity” is unique in its size, consistency, and diversity of opinion. It is believed to be the largest group of its kind on Facebook among NESCAC schools.”

“I think it’s probably safe to say the members of the group are on the younger side. I may be on the older end,” commented Bill Yelenak ’75, a participating member of the forum. “I think it’s a great mix of alumni,” he added. Though the group boasts about 2,000 members (both current students and alumni), it is typically a much smaller group of alumni that carry conversation. Hundreds of group members rarely like posts or comment at all. Of a relatively small pool of participants, debate and discussion run rampant. After a very non-scholarly analysis (and input from Babcock), the topics most likely to incite 100+ comments (both for and against) on a post include:

(1) Greek Life
(2) President Berger-Sweeney and Vice President Angel Perez
(3) Professor of Sociology Johnny Williams
(4) Tuition Increases
(5) “The Rankings”

(“Some members) advocate for Western Civilization and mock minority and identity groups that protest,” continued Babcock. Out of perceived frustrations with the group, Babcock and a group of members of the Trinity community created a second forum, titled “Trinity Alumni, Faculty, Students, and Friends.” Its purpose, as Babcock explained, is to “provide a space where people didn’t need to see Trinity as an extension of Tucker Carlson’s America.” The group hosts about 450 members and sees some what less frequent postings and discussion as a result.

Annual Spring Involvement Fair

TRINITYTRIPOD.COM
The outbreak of the coronavirus has rocked the global community to its core, not only inspiring fear and hesitation among billions of people but also in prompting instances of racism around the world. We here at Trinity are not immune to the dangers posed by the December outbreak of the virus, despite the apparent bubble that surrounds our campus and keeps us detached from the larger world. Contrary to the popular opinion on campus, the virus does not require a lime nor does it pose a threat to Bud-Light fans. Here is what you need to know about the global health crisis. The coronavirus was first detected in the Chinese city of Wuhan, and since December has been confirmed in more than 25 countries and territories. Almost 60 million people in China are under lockdown as international researchers attempt to create a vaccine and hinder the spread of the virus. The outbreak has killed at least 305 people across the globe and infected 14,300 people so far. Only one person outside of mainland China, a man from the Philippines, has died. As of this past Sunday, the Department of Homeland Security announced that it will enforce restrictions for all passenger flights carrying people who have recently traveled from China. Eight cases of the virus have been confirmed in the U.S., and the latest is not far from home, as a University of Massachusetts-Boston student was recently confirmed as having been infected. Connecticut residents faced a scare when reports of an infected Wesleyan student spread across the state just last week. The student had recently been in an area where there were confirmed cases of the virus, but upon being monitored, the student tested negative for the disease. Although this was a false alarm, a confirmed case still remains a state over, and a patient at Bel- air Animal Hospital in New London and City is being tested as well.

Scare of the virus have been occurring daily on college campuses across the country, with administrators canceling sporting events and launching petitions to cancel classes out of fear. Colleges and universities are breeding grounds for bacteria and illness, so no wonder people are losing their minds after a global health concern was declared for an untreatable virus. However, there is no case in which it is a bad idea to remain calm and prevent stigmatization across campuses worldwide.

What people fail to acknowledge is the prevalent racist stereotypes and diseases like the common influenza which kills anywhere from thirty to eighty thousand people a year, according to the CDC. Diseases only become harmful when people feel that diseases are endemic and undeniably associated with the average American. The dramatics surrounding the coronavirus only further exacerbate racist stereotypes that coincide with foreign born illnesses. When the Ebola virus broke out in 2014, the infection was rampant with concerns about “catching Ebola.” Many misconstrued the symptoms of the disease, painting Ebola as something that plagued the entirety of Africa rather than just a few countries, namely Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea. Only four cases were reported in the United States with three of the infected surviving and one passing away. Ebola was homogenized as a genuine, widespread threat to the American student, thus cultivated the racist stereotype of a disease-ridden Africa.

Just as Ebola enabled a racist attitude towards Africa, the coronavirus has encouraged xenophobic comments targeting Asian people as a whole. Further fear mongering can be found on social media sites like Twitter, where videos have appeared showing a man throwing a backpack of Chinese produce, falsely claiming the episode as a symptom of coronavirus.

The man was actually a victim of late stage liver cancer, but this information is hidden among a sea of replies. Spreading false information to a worldwide audience encourages a culture that not only dramatizes the risk of infection, but also alienates people with whom the virus is associated in Japan’s case, those of Asian descent.

The coronavirus is not currently a devastating threat to the well-being of Trine students, but should the disease spread further, the correct response is not panic but self-care. Wash your hands and wear a face mask. Don’t perpetuate racist stereotypes that the international student is a carrier that could infect you with corona.

Several years ago, the Tripod made the decision to adopt a new motto, “Scribere Aude,” drawing on the Enlightenment philos-opher Immanuel Kant’s “saper aude!” (which itself was taken from Horace). The Tripod “dared to write” about controversy and the issues that impact our beloved college just as Kant “dared to know.” However, we felt that a new decade perhaps demanded a change and thus we have revived the Tripod’s original motto from more than a century ago: “Now then-Trinity!” This motto appeared in the Tripod’s first issue of Sep. 23, 1894 and is drawn from the words of then-President Flavel Sweeten Luther on the occasion of his inauguration, who remarked to undergraduates “now then, Trinity.” The Tripod included the motto beginning from its third issue of Sep. 30, 1904 and it appeared as the paper’s motto at various points through subsequent decades.

At the time, the Tripod did not endeavour to explain Luther’s remarks, as they were no doubt aware of their meaning. However, we do not have the benefit of attending Luther’s inauguration and thus we can only speculate on his intentions. The Tripod likes to view the phrase not as an incidental remark encouraging the onward momentum of the College under its leader’s ship. Rather, we would aver that the phrase indicates something greater - a positive esprit de corps that would endure the future, with a reverential nod to tradition. Whatever the true motivation, however, the Tripod is steeped in the traditions of this small liberal arts college. We are proud to recall our own heritage as we, together, embark upon the next decade, and so are bold to declare “Now then-Trinity!”
Data Show Trinity Has Most VPs in NESCAC, Compares Salaries

**DANIEL NESBITT ’22** NEWS EDITOR

The Tripod conducted a survey of New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) schools and examined the financials behind each school’s administrative personnel. Utilizing the publicly available Form 990, an IRS form filed by all tax-exempt non-profit organizations, financial data were gathered on college administrators for all the NESCAC schools. Data from Tufts University was not included as its large graduate student population could greatly affect its administrative structure relative to other NESCAC schools. There are some limitations to the data used. First, the compensatory figures of various administrators are limited to “Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees,” so some administrative officials may not be reported. In addition, the most recent data comes from the fiscal year ending in 2018, but the data and administrative structure could have changed at institutions since then.

As shown in Figure 1 above, Trinity College has eight vice presidents, the most of any NESCAC school, followed by Wesleyan University and Furman College, each with seven vice presidents. Data from Amherst College was not included as Amherst uses different nomenclature in their administrative organization. In addition to the largest absolute number of administrators, Trinity also has the largest ratio of vice presidents to undergraduate students, nearly double that of Williams College and Middlebury College. Trinity’s eight vice presidents received an average total compensation of just under $325,000.

The Tripod also compared the salaries of NESCAC schools’ highest-ranking admissions official in both absolute and relative terms. Trinity Vice President of Enrollment and Student Success Angel B. Perez was the second-highest paid admissions official in the NESCAC, earning $280,753 in total compensation, behind Hamilton College’s Vice President of Enrollment Management Monica Inzer who earned $295,635 in compensation. In addition, Perez’s salary proportional to the school’s endowment is the third largest behind only Connecticut College and Bates College.

Admissions data available through US News & World Report were also examined. Compared to the rest of the NESCAC, Trinity is average when it comes to the percentage of first-generation undergraduate students, with 18% compared to the average of 17.2% for the conference. In addition, Trinity has the second-highest acceptance rate in the NESCAC at 34%, eclipsed only by Connecticut College’s 38%. Trinity’s acceptance rate is also double that of rivals Wesleyan University and more than triple that of Bowdoin College.

Trinity’s early decision (ED) acceptance rate is also second-highest in the NESCAC at 58%, again behind Connecticut College at 62%. These relatively high acceptance rates, coupled with Trinity’s high tuition of $59,050 for 2019-2020, have corresponded with Trinity’s US News ranking of 46, tied for last in the NESCAC. Though rankings are not perfect, they are still important. These data indicate that the size of Trinity’s administration is larger than that of our NESCAC peer institutions. It is important to note that this data set is limited and further, more detailed data is necessary to more accurately evaluate the size of Trinity College’s administration.

Mar. 24, 2020, current mem- bership participates in edu- cational workshops through Dec. 2020, and members engage in participation with “stakeholders on campus to cultivate new relationships that support the college’s mission and strategic plan.” In neither case [AD or the Hall], has [Trinity College] chosen to “derecognize the frater- nity” read the letter sent by DiChristina to the Board of Trustees. The letter continu- ed, noting that the college believes “that Greek life is a positive and integral part of our community.” The Dean of Students Office also noted that the college will work closely with AD to help continue the fraternity’s existence following the two-year sus- pension. DiChristina further stated that she is “extremely fortunate that the “allevia- tion did not result in any se- rious or lasting physical harm to the students involved.” Following the administra- tive decision of Jan. 28, the executive boards of AD and the Hall have five business days to decide to appeal the sanctions. An announcement from the administration to the wider Trinity community is expected to follow. President of AD Court- land Boyle ’20 spoke to the Tripod and indicated that “AD is seeking an appeal and has no further comment.” Following the article’s publication, DiChristina declined to discuss the matter with the Tripod, indicating that “if and when the time is appro- priate, then the College will make an official statement.” Director of Campus Life and Social Houses Kathryn Wojcik also declined to speak with the Tripod The President of the Inter-Greek Council and the President of the Hall did not return requests for comment.

A version of this arti- cle originally appeared as a special report on the Tripod’s website on Jan. 30.
Trinity College VITA Tax Clinic Opens for Second Year of Prep Services at the Trinfo Cafe on Broad St.

SHAWN OLSTEIN ’22
NEWS EDITOR

This past week, the Trinfo Café VITA site opened for the tax season. This is the site’s second year following its “pilot year” last year. Founded by Senior Lecturer in Political Science Serena Laws, the site is a part of the IRS’s VITA program which provides free tax preparation services to low-income individuals. The site is staffed by Trinity students who received tax preparation certification through the VITA program. Students in POLS 310: Tax Policy and Inequality in Hartford in POLS 310: Tax Policy and Inequality in Hartford and Hartford residents, especially around Hartford Public Park, the Hartford Public Library, Capital Commu-

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TRINITY REPORTER

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The Dungeons and Dangers of Trinity’s North Campus

LIZ FOSTER '22
MANAGING EDITOR

As a sophomore, I’ve only experienced two living spaces on campus, but both have been abysmal. Given the fact that students pay almost $10,000 to live on campus, I find the quality of many residential dorms unacceptable. Freshman year I lived in Bradley North, and this year in Wilbur North. North is notorious for being the worst freshman dorm, given that it’s the only dorm not in the ‘concrete jungle’ on the south side of campus next to Mather. Living on Vernon Street, the closest available food options are the Bistro and Steve’s Bagels. The Bistro operates on a significantly more inconveni- ent schedule than Mather, and the other is the more expen- sive of the two dining halls.

Imagine waking from a good night’s sleep on a Friday, hungry for some tasty ‘stro food. Well, too bad, because after 3:00 p.m. the Bistro is closed and doesn’t reopen until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday. Steve’s Bagels, while open earli- er than the Bistro which doesn’t crack its doors un- til a rifle 11:45 a.m., is not on the meal plan and can- not be paid for with meal swipes or flex dollars. The focus of this piece is to cri- tique housing, not Chart- wise Dining. I am more than content with the con- venience of living on Vernon Street when you want a simple meal and not a trek to Mather is unnecessary and being on food desert, North Campus had showers whose drains would constantly clog, leaving the floor slippery and a terrifying basement.

The kitchen constantly reeked and mysterious stains were everywhere. The horrible conditions of North then encouraged students, both those who did and did not live in the dorm, to move out. The dorm was noth- ing more than a smelly, unmonitored (albeit very, very fun) playground un- til Campus Safety officers were implemented in the late spring. Even after this addition, the facilities in North remained abysmal.

Despite its flaws and lack of quad-style rooms, I would argue that North may have been a more suit- able living space than High Rise. I currently live in High Rise, and I do believe this is a building deemed acceptable for students to live in. When I moved into the dorm, the room with a bathroom that had no toilet seat or lid, a missing desk chair, a broken window, and a bed frame that was always unmade and with the slightest of movement. The walls of my single were covered in a mysteri- ous yellow stain from last year’s resident that was so unappealing I had to rearrange the entire room to cover the indecency. I soon discovered the light on my ceiling did not work.

When the heat was fi- nally turned on in the build- ing, the common room was stuffy and a few of the windows were toasty, and the bathroom was roasting. My room? Stone fucking cold. Without a working heating unit, I literal- ly live in a dungeon.

The worst part of it all is that I can’t even sleep in the common room to stay warm because it’s a windy day, the draft through the windows shakes our tap- estries on the farthest wall and the blinds bare- ly work against the sun. Even more so, I believe this is a certifiable death trap. When it chooses to work, the elevator shafts and elevators are noisy, and one day, the door didn’t close all the way, causing a ter- rifying banging noise ev- ery time it passed a floor. Every time one attempts to take the elevator it presents a new challenge.

Some days, the elevator doors won’t work, unless you wait for the doors to close all of the way and then remain perfectly still, waiting for it to close. Other days it will stop and open on floors where no one awaits to step in. An- other charming feature of the elevator is its tendency to force you to go up a floor or two even if you’d like to go down to the ground floor.

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“Whether it be a bathroom, damaged walls, rocky bed frames, or a general aura of unclear- lines, housing at Trinity con- stantly disapprots its students.”

Debate and Civility at Trinity and Beyond the Campus

ANDRE CURTIS ’20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past year for me was filled with moments of tremendous growth and unfortunate failures. I have been drawn into the world of social justice, investing and giving in to the many me- dia outlets buzzing about day trading and higher interest gains from in- vesting with apps such as Acorn and Robinhood.

I had the fantastic op- portunity of serving as a Quest leader over the past year. This经历呢? does not have anything to do with the housing situation that I will present in this paper. When I moved into the dorm, the room with a bathroom that had no toilet seat or lid, a missing desk chair, a broken window, and a bed frame that was always unmade and with the slightest of movement. The walls of my single were covered in a mysteri- ous yellow stain from last year’s resident that was so unappealing I had to rearrange the entire room to cover the indecency. I soon discovered the light on my ceiling did not work.

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debate in the year 2020 can be a time of reckoning for many to realize that stress can be good, and that the ons- e may either bene- fit his or her life through vol- untarily entering uncom- fortable situations and be- ing willing to be molded by such experiences. Just as there is a popular con- sensus regarding vaccina- tions that minor stressors on our immune system can ac- tivate it for greater attacks, we should embrace con- flicting ideas on campus which will allow for a better life for our students. In doing so, we are guaranteed a much more educated population with the resil- ience to triumph over the great conflicts of our time.
What, Exactly, is “Alumni for a Better Trinity?”

continued from page one

May 5, 1970

Erin Poskocil ’84 agreed with the comments of Babcock, explaining that she began to pull away from the “Alumni for a Better Trinity” Facebook group after vigorous debate surrounding the Charlotteville/Unite the Right rally protests of 2017. “One of the things about Trinity is that even people who criticize the school criticize because they are passionate about Trinity...there are a lot of alumni who care a great deal,” she explained. Last summer, “for a Better Trinity” reached the attention of both the Trinity administration and The Hartford Courant, which reported on campus controversy within the framework of consensus-leaning Professor of Political Science Greg Smith and liberal-leaning Professor of Sociology John- ny Williams. “Alumni for a Better Trinity” featured prominently in the Courant’s reporting on outrage surrounding the incidents.

In a special to the Courant, President Berger-Sweeney pointed out that the Facebook group was a “small number of alumni” as well and was not representative of the “diverse opinions of (Trinity’s) 27,000 alumni.”

Despite this, “Alumni for a Better Trinity” and other Facebook groups remain an active and at least somewhat relevant forum for alumni and other members of the community. I do like the Trinity Facebook group for staying abreast of some of the serious issues affecting the school...more recently, though, alumni are posting more fun things about Trinity,” said Yelenak. “It’s also a good way to keep up with Trinity sports,” he added.

Discussion on the forum seems to have reached its zenith in spring 2019, when the SGA debated the merits of acknowledging the controversial Churchill Club. Since then, however, Yelenak’s depiction of the forum seems accurate. Recent posts have centered around squash and Concert Studio, generating mostly positive content.

FEATURES

Cinestudio’s Success Belongs to Students

by Rick Markovitz

Cinestudio first premiered in 1970 and the Triidop kept close tabs on its success.

Future of Cinestudio Brought Into Question by Stires Firing

by Megan Winer and Alan Leekat

The recent dismissal of Lawrence R. Stires as Film Coordinator for the college by Stephen F. Nye has cast a shadow over the Cinestudio staff. Though the use of publicity and a series of meetings with student advisors, the staff is hopeful to promote a reversal of public perception. A directional change to that end is already afoot with the release of “The Tripod” this spring.

The Foundation of Cinestudio

It all began with a small, non-profit movie theater opened in 1970 by students who were interested in showing films on college campuses. "The idea was to create a space where students could come together and enjoy a variety of films," says Erin Poskocil ’84, a member of Cinestudio’s first generation. After much debate and careful planning, Cinestudio was born.

Cinestudio’s Growth

Over the years, Cinestudio has grown exponentially. In the 1980s, Cinestudio began to attract more students and faculty, leading to the expansion of their programming. They began to host more events and screenings, becoming a place for students to gather and discuss film.

Challenges and Changes

As Cinestudio has grown, it has faced many challenges, both internal and external. In the 1990s, Cinestudio had to adapt to changing technologies and shifting tastes in film. They had to find ways to stay relevant and continue to attract students.

Recent Developments

More recently, Cinestudio has faced challenges with its funding and management. They have had to find new ways to raise money and attract more students to their screenings. Despite these challenges, Cinestudio has continued to thrive and grow.

Conclusion

Cinestudio has come a long way since its founding in 1970. It has faced many challenges, but has continued to grow and adapt to changing times. With its dedication to promoting film and encouraging discussion, Cinestudio remains a valuable resource for students and faculty alike.
The Tripod Highlights
TrinCycle: Crescent Street
76H’s Fun and Healthy Tradition

OLIVIA CAIME '23
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Voluntary dietary restrictions, fitness classes, juice cleanses, and intermediate fasting are only a handful of some of today’s crazes. More and more people are diving into the world of healthy eating and working out. Attending college presents students with many complications when attempting to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Finding better options in Mother can be difficult for sure, however, Trinity has been taking steps to help students to sustain their healthy lifestyle.

With activities such as yoga, Zumba, and rock climbing, students can find an activity that best suits them. Among student favorites is TrinCycle, a cycling class. The classes are held in Crescent 76H Monday through Friday from 5-6 p.m. To make each class different and as exciting as the first, there are multiple student instructors.

Some instructors conduct their class to throw back music or hip-hop, while others play the hits of today. The intensity of the class varies as well. Each instructor has their own cycling routine and encouraging words to keep you going. Due to its popularity, students should arrive at least ten minutes early to ensure they can get a bike—the class fills up extremely fast.

While TrinCycle is known on-campus for its high intensity, cycling also allows students to undertake an individualized workout. Students can adjust the bike resistance as well as the weight of the dumbbells used for the arms. “I love TrinCycle because of the good energy and how everyone is working out together but you aren’t competing with each other, just yourself,” stated Alexandra Boursican ’23.

According to an article posted by Time, spinning is high on the list of high-intensity workouts. There is a laundry list of benefits; it has been proven to improve body composition, decrease fat mass, and lower blood pressure and cholesterol. Cycling and spin classes have been proven to have several benefits, including decreased stress and body fat levels as well as increased cardiovascular fitness and joint mobility.

Last Saturday, students participated in Tri-Cycle for Science. While TrinCycle is usually offered for free, this event charged participants to help Tri-Beta (Trinity’s Biology Honor Society) send local students to a science camp this upcoming summer. Prizes were awarded to the participant who rode the furthest in the competition as well as the best team theme.

For students looking to maintain their physical and mental health, TrinCycle is a great option on our small campus.
The Academy Awards have been criticized for their lack of diversity and inclusivity over the past 92 years. What is so staggering about these numbers is that they are hardly believable. The numbers, gathered from a new report from California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, state that only 43 women (7%) have worked as directors in the 1,100 top films of the last decade; only four were women of color. And only five women have been nominated for Best Director in the 92-year history of the Academy Awards. It is totally unacceptable. The next couple of years will be a real determining factor as to whether or not the Academy will succeed in diversifying and unifying their agenda. More and more people are boycotting the Awards simply for the lack of much needed diversity and more people will follow suit if things do not change; they need to adapt to the changing times and political climate.
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Djokovic Victorious Again at the 2020 Australian Open

Novak Djokovic playing in the 2020 Australian Open

Every year, in the city of Melbourne, Australia, 128 men and women duel in the blistering heat to win the honor of being crowned a champion. One of four major tennis tournaments in the world—a Grand Slam—took place each year and is often called the “Grand Slam of Asia/Pacific” for being the only major tournament played in this region of the world.

Taking place over the course of the last two weeks in January, the Grand Slam tournaments—the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon, and US Open—are the most prestigious championships in the sport of tennis. This year, the Australian Open was held in an empty arena due to the coronavirus pandemic.

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Super Bowl LIV: Chiefs Overcome 10-point Deficit

24-year-old quarterback Patrick Mahomes led the Kansas City Chiefs to their first Super Bowl victory in history. Mahomes—who won 26 for 42 for 286 yards, had two passing touchdowns, and had a rushing touchdown—helped spark the Chiefs’ offense in the second half, scoring 21 unanswered points. Already the league MVP of 2018, Mahomes can add the Lombardi trophy and the Super Bowl MVP trophy to his list of accolades. Despite these accomplishments, Mahomes’ performance was not flawless: he threw two interceptions and was, at one point, down by ten points. But, as his previous games have proven, he is not one to shy away from pressure. Mahomes led the Chiefs to overcome an astonishing 24-point deficit to beat the Texans 51-31. The next week, he continued his tear through the American Football Conference’s (AFC) best, beating the Tennessee Titans 35-24.

Coming into the game as 1.5-point underdogs, many newscasters doubted the ability of the explosive Chiefs’ offense to trump, arguably, the best defense in the league. The 13-3 San Francisco 49ers’ offense was spearheaded by Jimmy Garoppolo and George Kittle, while their vaunted defense contained elite level players such as Richard Sherman, Nick Bosa, Dee Ford, and Kwon Alexander (Dee Ford was drafted by the Kansas City Chiefs but was traded for a second-round draft pick). They were coached by Kyle Shanahan, son of Mike Shanahan, who has won multiple Super Bowls in his past. It is interesting to note that Kyle Shanahan was the Offensive Coordinator for the Atlanta Falcons, and is arguably the most to blame for their historic collapse to the New England Patriots in Super Bowl LI, losing a mind-boggling 25-point lead.

But, it seemed as though Kyle Shanahan did not learn his lesson. Instead of aggressively running the ball and relying on the run game (as he had successfully done 13 times in this season in order to come out victorious), he decided to put the game in the hands of Jimmy Garoppolo. It was clear to all that the reason for the 49ers’ success was their reliance on the running game and their staunch defense. Garoppolo went 20 for 31 for 219 yards, leading to one touchdown, and two interceptions. With the offense no longer managing the clock—and, thus, the game—the defense quickly lost steam, and was scorched by the aggressive Chiefs offense.

At the end of the game, one thing remained certain: the future of the NFL is still bright. Young players such as Patrick Mahomes, Nick Bosa, and Jimmy Garoppolo will serve as the torch-bearers for the next generation of football. After so many years, Andy “Sweet and Sour Pork” Reid finally has a Super Bowl championship trophy. And one final word to the wise: always fight to the bitter end or get blown out in two Super Bowls.