

The Trinity Tripod

-ESTABLISHED 1904-

Now then-Trinity!

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

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Number XV

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SHAWN OLSTEIN '22
NEWS EDITOR

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BRENDAN W. CLARK '21
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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Tripod Investigates Clery Act Compliance

DANIEL NESBITT '22
NEWS EDITOR

The *Tripod* has taken a deep dive into Campus Safety crime reporting and Trinity's legal obligations under the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, the guiding federal law on the matter. According to the Clery Center, the Clery Act, signed into law in 1990 by President George H. W. Bush, functions as "a consumer protection law that aims to provide transparency around campus crime policy and statistics."

The main requirement of the Clery Act is that all institutions receiving federal funding must publish and distribute a public annual security report (ASR) to students and employees on Oct. 1 of each year. Most importantly, the Clery Act requires that this ASR contains campus crime statistics for the previous three

calendar years classified by both the nature of the offense and the location at which the offense took place.

The *Tripod*, in investigating Trinity's most recent Clery Report, questioned the College on its reporting of study abroad data, which is reportable under the Act's provisions. The *Tripod* found that limitations in the scope of the Clery Act's geography may impact the accuracy of potentially reportable data. For example, in February 2018, the *Tripod* reported that three Trinity students abroad in Barcelona were mugged in early January of the same year. However, the ASR stated that the Office of Study Away reported zero incidents of any category. When asked about this discrepancy, Heavren clarified that "in this case, there was a Clery reportable crime but

see CLERY ACT on page 3

Greek Life Talks Overcrowding at SGA

KIP LYNCH '22
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The student government met on Sunday, Mar. 8 in order to discuss changes in social life on campus after fraternity suspensions and how the coronavirus (COVID-19) has affected, and how it may further affect, student life. The Student Government Association (SGA) also heard presentations by Justin Landry from ConnPIRG and Matin Yaqubi '23 from the International House (iHouse). The SGA also heard updates from several committees and discussed the possibility of creating the position of Social Media Liaison. The meeting initially took place outside on the main quad, but later moved to the Smith House.

The Sustainability Committee discussed possible activities for the SGA table

at GREENFest, with the idea of a drive for turning t-shirts into dog toys being the most popular. The Student Organization Oversight Committee revealed that it has been having trouble meeting as the backlog on approving clubs increases. The Women & Gender Resource Action Center (WGRAC) Liaison discussed upcoming events for Women's Herstory Month, such as the screening of Knock Down the House on Tuesday Mar. 10 and the Women at the Summit Herstory Trivia Night on Thursday, Mar. 12. The Housing Committee discussed its plans for meeting this week in order to review appeals. The plans for the Soapbox Derby have progressed with the event now poised to include

see GREEK LIFE on page 4

Celebrating Women's Herstory Month



ERIC ZHANG '22

The first week of March kicked off Women's Herstory Month, a celebration of women's advances throughout the year.

This month, members of the community can look forward to events including a "Faith and Politics" speaker panel, Women at the Summit trivia night, "Art, Feminism, and Wikipedia," and "Women in Hip-Hop."

Trinity Addresses COVID Quarantine

GILLIAN REINHARD '20
FEATURES EDITOR

In an email to the campus community Sunday afternoon, Dean of Campus Life Joe DiChristina informed the community that seven Trinity students left campus to self-quarantine off-campus after possible exposure to the coronavirus. "The possible exposure did not occur on or near campus," said DiChristina, "and all of the students have been examined at the Health Center and are not displaying symptoms consistent with the virus." Those students will return after spring break following a 14-day self-quarantine. DiChristina further indicated that the College's "COVID-19 response team is working at all levels to safeguard the health of our community."

Though Trinity has coun-

seled that the threat of coronavirus remains low, other schools across the country and in Connecticut have acted to prevent the spread of the disease in recent days.

WFSB reported that after a student at the University of New Haven attended an out-of-state event where exposure to coronavirus was possible, the institution moved classes online until Mar. 24, with most students leaving campus. At Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, classes were moved online until Mar. 29, as reported by *NBC Connecticut*. With spring break next week, students are expected to widely travel, though students have been cautioned not to travel to any CDC Level 3 warning countries and have been urged to not travel to those states which have declared states of emergency.

The Trinity Tripod

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"Now then-Trinity!"

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Trinity College

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CORRECTIONS

Tripod Editorial

When Are We All Going Home?

At a recent SGA meeting, Dean of Campus Life Joe DiChristina stated that, according to an article submitted to the *Tripod*, "the college intends to finish the spring semester." This statement is vastly different from what is portrayed by some members of the faculty. Tomorrow, a class I am in will be conducted in a "trial run" completely online, to prepare for the event of a campus closure. Students have been advised to bring all their books with them if they are headed home over the spring break.

In the wake of the coronavirus, it is, of course, difficult to convey information in a constantly changing world. States, such as next door New York, have declared a state of emergency. There is a great deal of uncertainty on campus, and even fear, as a recent letter to the community suggested. Trinity has taken significant and important steps to address concerns.

Over the weekend, the

University of New Haven has canceled all classes and midterm exams and mandated that all students must vacate dorms until Mar. 24. According to University of New Haven President Steven Kaplan, as reported by *WFSB*, one or more students attended an out-of-state conference where a participant was tested positive for the coronavirus. This statement from the University of New Haven reads similarly to the one Dean DiChristina recently released to students, detailing that seven students had been quarantined after possible exposure to the coronavirus after attending an off-campus event.

In Connecticut, the second case of Coronavirus has been confirmed. In Hartford, the Connecticut Capitol's Legislative Building has canceled all non-legislative functions (as reported by the *CT Mirror*) and has begun an intensive, four-day cleaning of the building. Trinity maintains a popular legisla-

tive internship program for students that utilizes the resources of the Capitol each semester. How will Trinity address this relationship in light of the closure?

Coronavirus is a polarizing topic at Trinity and around the world. Is Trump doing enough? Is the media over-hyping everything? But the real question on everyone's mind seems to be are we ending the semester early? Will Commencement and other large gatherings still be on Trinity's calendar? Knowledge surrounding coronavirus and the rules of quarantine, particularly at Trinity, are spotty. For all the advancements the College has made toward informing the community regarding the virus, with the SGA being informed that the semester would continue as planned, the fundamental question of what exactly to pack home for spring break must be answered.

-GMR

Tripod Editorial

Celebrating International Women's Day at Trinity

Sunday was International Women's Day and the *Tripod* has spent the past year covering and enjoying the festivities that have marked the 50th anniversary of coeducation at Trinity. Certainly, no institution on Trinity's campus has remained untouched by the important work and contributions that women have made since their arrival in 1969 and the *Tripod* is among those organizations that has been improved by their important work.

The *Tripod* saw its first female editor-in-chief, Su-

sannah Heschel, in 1973, and has since had a series of female leaders hold one of the most important roles on campus, the arbiter of information to the student body. For the 69 years before 1973, the *Tripod's* lead editor was only a man. Indeed, how far we have come but how far we still have to go.

There is no doubt that important work remains to be done. Even as we have reached parity in Trinity's class by gender, there are doubtless other under-represented groups and identities which remain

to be fully included. And, without question, women remain disadvantaged globally in management positions and executive roles.

The *Tripod* is proud of the work that Trinity has undertaken thus far and is proud of the many female leaders that have steered it through the first decades of the twenty-first century. The *Tripod* looks forward to producing other female leaders and witnessing the immense change they can have on our community and the world.

-The Trinity Tripod

Want to write for the *Tripod*?

Join the conversation by
emailing tripod@trincoll.edu

Clery Study Abroad Data Considered, Limitations of Geography Examined

Criminal Offenses	2018			
	On Campus	Student Housing	Non-Campus	Public Property
Aggravated Assault	1	1	0	5
Arson	1	0	0	0
Burglary	8	3	3	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	1
Sex Offenses (Forcible)				
Forcible Rape	12	12	4	0
Fondling	3	0	1	0
Domestic Violence				
Dating Violence	2	2	0	0
Stalking	1	0	2	0
Disciplinary Actions				
Alcohol	46	44	0	0
Drugs	71	71	0	0

Trinity Announces ED Class of 2024

SHAWN OLSTEIN '22
NEWS EDITOR

The college announced the students admitted for Trinity College's class of 2024 through early decision on Feb. 14, 2020. The number of students admitted early decision is up ten percent from last year's enrolled class of 2023. This increased acceptance of early decision students was "due to the strength and size of the applicant pool," according to Trinity's Office of Admissions. The total number accepted of early decision students for Trinity's incoming class is 314, however, they will be joined by 16 students who were admitted in prior years but deferred their admission until 2020.

These 16 students bring the total enrolled students for the Class of 2024 to 330, before regular decision admissions. The 330 early decision students include 169 student-athletes and 10 Posse Scholars from Chicago. Fifty-six percent of the admitted ED students will receive financial aid, totaling approximately \$8 million during the 2020-2021 academic year. For this year's admitted ED students, 46 percent are women and 54 percent are men. Thirteen percent of the ED students are first-generation college students, and 11.5 percent are international students. American students of color, including multiethnic students, constitute 20 percent of the ED admits. A notice

from the Office of Admissions also reported that fifty-three percent are from outside of the New England area. Trinity holds two separate rounds of early decision applications. Of these two groups, the first round of applicants learned of their acceptance in December and the second round of applicants were informed on Feb. 14. In Trinity's fifth year as a test-optional institution, 76 percent of the ED admits chose not to submit standardized test scores.

When asked about the state of Trinity admissions this year, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Success Angel B. Pérez told the *Tripod* that "the Class of 2024 is shaping up to be one of the most intellectually curious and engaged classes in Trinity history," Pérez continued, "in addition to their academic strength, students coming to Trinity this year through our Early Decision program impressed us with their accomplishments outside of the classroom. We've been moved by the desire these students have to serve as change agents to improve the communities in which they live and work and we can't wait for them to bring their excitement and enthusiasm to Trinity and to Hartford."

Regular decision applications were due on Jan. 15, and regular decision acceptances will be sent out by mid-March.

Trinity Innovation Center Opens

BRENDAN W. CLARK '21
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Trinity College has opened a new innovation center in Hartford, described by a Mar. 4 press release from the Office of Communications as a "space for boundary-crossing collaborations and creativity." The center is located adjacent to the College's Liberal Arts Action Lab in Constitution Plaza in downtown Hartford and has been designed to house "Trinity's partnership with Infosys," among other programs.

The center has been funded by a \$2.5 million grant from the State of Connecticut, according to the release, and will offer "innovation and entrepreneurship programming for students." Interim Dean of the Faculty

and Vice President for Academic Affairs Sonia Cardenas indicated that "institutions of higher education, including Trinity, are essential to these initiatives."

Among those other programs that will utilize the innovation center are Digital Health CT, a business acceleration program. The center will also be open for use by Trinity students and organizations in their pursuance of collaborative projects and initiatives. Cardenas also indicated that the college hopes to "introduce student programming around innovation and entrepreneurship open to all majors."

It is expected that a grand opening ceremony will be held later this spring to celebrate the new facility.

Trinity College 2018 Disclosure of Crimes Reported to Campus Safety and Other Administrative Entities for the Office of Study Away

Type of Incidents Reported to Campus Safety	Total 2016	Total 2017	Total 2018
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0
Hate Crime	0	0	0
Murder Manslaughter (Non-Negligent)	0	0	0
Murder Manslaughter (Negligent)	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0
Sex Offenses: (Forcible)	0	0	0
Sex Offenses: (Non-Forcible)	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0
Dating Violence	1	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0

TRINITY COLLEGE

Top: 2018 data for three categories of crimes reported under the Clery Act at Trinity's campus. Bottom: 2018 Disclosure of Crimes for the Office of Study Away.

continued from page one

it did not occur in the Clery geography," thus it was not included in the full report.

However, as the *Tripod* found, due to the language of the Clery Act, it is possible that those incidents, particularly those that affect students studying abroad, may go unreported in the ASR. For students interested in studying abroad, or for parents concerned for their children's safety while studying abroad, other alternatives to the ASR do exist, indicated Heavren.

"Parents and prospective students," Heavren remarked, "should speak directly with the Office of Study Away or the department sponsoring the travel to get the most accurate and current information regarding the health and safety of the area they are planning to travel to." The *Tripod* inquired with Trinity regarding foreign institutions legal obligations under the Clery Act to report the data they collect to the College, however, the *Tripod* did not receive an answer to that specific question.

Heavren did clarify that "crimes in Hartford and abroad are included in the Annual Security Report if they are Clery Crimes and

if they occur within the defined Clery geography."

Under the terms of the Clery Act, there are a myriad of different types of offenses. The first category of offenses is Criminal Offenses which includes, criminal homicide, sexual assault (rape, fondling, incest, and statutory rape), robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The second category of offenses is Hate Crimes, which can consist of any of the offenses listed under Criminal Offenses in addition to larceny-theft, simple assault, intimidation, and destruction of property. The third category of offenses includes domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, all of which were added to the Clery Act in 2014. Finally, the fourth offense category includes weapons law violations, drug abuse violations, and liquor law violations.

There also exist four different geographic categories under the Clery Act: On-Campus, Residence Halls, Non-Campus, and Public Property. The On-Campus category simply refers to an institution's main campus and facilities, while the Residence Halls category is a subsection of the On-Campus category.

The Non-Campus category, according to the Clery Center, "refers to specific properties owned or controlled by the campus or by a student organization officially recognized by the campus. Non-Campus does not automatically refer to all surrounding neighborhoods of a college campus, nor does it include all properties that students happen to rent." Finally, the Public Property category includes "public property immediately adjacent to, within, or surrounding one's on-campus geography."

Campus Safety is required by law to collect and report the relevant crime data. "Reports, domestically or internationally," Director of Campus Safety Brian Heavren explained, "are collected through direct reporting from those involved or having knowledge of the incident to Campus Safety, reports made to other college departments and forwarded to Campus Safety, or reports made directly to law enforcement."

These data are compiled and reported in Campus Safety's ASR. The most recent report, published Oct. 1, 2019, provides detailed crime statistics for 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Greek Life Congestion, COVID Preparedness Discussed

continued from page one

a concert in front of High Rise and food trucks on Vernon Street.

Justin Landry described ConnPIRG to student government representatives as an organization funded and led by students. It receives \$5 from every student per semester through the Student Activity Fee. Landry discussed how its funding goes towards hiring professional staff, campus organizers, lawyers, and lobbyists. With the intention of remaining accountable to students, a vote will be held in order to reaffirm student support for ConnPIRG in the coming weeks.

Representing the iHouse, Matin Yaqubi '23 sought funding and sponsorship from the student government for the Inter-

national Show, which will be held on Friday, Apr. 17. Aiming to showcase student diversity through a series of performances, this will be the show's 10th anniversary. In a unanimous decision, SGA approved \$200 in funds for the event.

Many members of Greek Life made an appearance at the recent SGA Town Hall with concerns about overcrowding after the censure of St. Anthony Hall and suspension of Alpha Delta Phi this past January. Director of Campus Life Kathryn Wojcik and Inter-Greek Council President Case van der Velde heard SGA concerns and suggestions on how to ease the pressure of overcrowding at Greek houses. They discussed their progress on hiring more security and patrol staff. Wojcik and van der Velde also

discussed their work with the Office of Student Activities, Involvement & Leadership (S.A.I.L.) on hosting more events on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. SGA suggestions varied from hosting a roller skating or ice-skating event to holding alcohol-free parties at cultural houses.

The SGA also discussed recent developments in the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak with Dean of Campus Life & Vice President for Student Affairs Joseph DiChristina. With seven students in self-quarantine after coming back from a conference where an attendee was later diagnosed with the disease, DiChristina fielded a number of questions from SGA representatives on how COVID-19 could potentially affect students. DiChristina emphasized that

none of the seven students exhibited any symptoms of the disease when examined at the Health Center.

The SGA also expressed concerns around finances and how Trinity would respond if the campus were shut down. In the event of a campus shutdown, DiChristina stated that students from areas with a Level 3 Warning from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the U.S. Department of State would not be forced to return home and that the college is open to housing students through the summer at little to no cost. SGA representatives also expressed interest in being included in administrative meetings on COVID-19.

Despite the Curriculum Committee's preparation of a memorandum on moving college courses online,

DiChristina indicated to the SGA that the College intends to finish the spring semester. DiChristina also emphasized the importance of students filling out the travel registry form so that the administration can better understand the comings and goings of students. The form is available on Trinity's advisories webpage.

Finally, the SGA discussed the creation of the position of Social Media Liaison in an effort to address student concerns over the inaccessibility of SGA. The position would increase the social media presence of the SGA by posting photographs of meetings and events. The SGA debated whether the position should be open only to SGA members and whether candidates would have to be nominated and confirmed by an SGA vote.

The College Campus Safety Report: Feb. 29- Mar. 9

Saturday, Feb. 29

Jackson Hall

Liquor Law Violation involving three students. Disciplinary referrals were made.

Sunday, Mar. 1

81 Vernon Street

Simple Assault and Disorderly Conduct involving two students. Disciplinary referrals were made.

Intercollegiate Update: How Other College Campuses Are Addressing the COVID-19 Outbreak

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

This Monday and Tuesday, Columbia University will cancel classes and shift to remote classes after a student was possibly exposed to the coronavirus. While the school is not shutting down, all classes will be held remotely for the remainder of the week. The individual who was quarantined has not officially been diagnosed with the virus at this time. All non-classroom activities at the university, including research, will continue. The school has published COVID-19 guidance for the University online and has informed students to stay alert for further developments regarding the school's response to the virus. Prior to this announcement, faculty had received a notice from Executive Vice President and Dean of the Arts and Sciences Amy Hungerford about preparations for a potential move to online classes that included the incorporation of Zoom, a virtual classroom application. Zoom is also being considered at Trinity. Columbia also released a series of announcements canceling events, the most recent of which discouraged "nonessential" gatherings of more than 25 people.

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Wesleyan University announced an advisory to all students regarding international travel following the spread of the coronavirus in recent weeks. Wesleyan has recommended that students, faculty, and staff not travel internationally over spring break or for the immediate future. "The U.S. Department of State has made the decision not to allow re-entry into the U.S. for travelers returning from mainland China who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents," an email from Wesleyan cautioned. "As the threat of COVID-19 expands, these restrictions could very well extend to other countries." With the United States now suspending entry for foreign nationals from China and Iran, international students may face problems with re-entering the country if travel restrictions are extended to other countries, which has raised concerns for many institutions. *The Wesleyan Argus* reported students studying abroad in Bologna, Italy, have been brought home by the Office of Study Abroad due to concerns regarding the recent spread of the virus to Northern Italy and that countries quarantine practices in recent days.

BOSTON COLLEGE

Boston College closed its Italy and South Korea study abroad programs on Mar. 3 due to the coronavirus outbreak, citing guidelines from the U.S. Department of State and the Center for Disease Control. Returning students were advised to self-quarantine for 14 days following their return to the United States. According to the *Heights*, students returning from Italy are completing their semester coursework online while students planning to study in South Korea, where classes had not yet begun, are working with their academic deans to determine the next steps. While only programs in Italy, South Korea, and China have been closed due to the coronavirus, students who feel uncomfortable continuing in their programs will be allowed to return to the United States. Boston College has encouraged abroad students to refrain from unnecessary travel at the moment. BC also had six students planning to study abroad in China, the epicenter of the outbreak in January, but two students returned to BC to enroll in classes, and the other four enrolled in other abroad programs.

OPINION

It's Not Worth It: Don't Bother Studying Abroad

GILLIAN REINHARD '20
FEATURES EDITOR

Do not bother studying abroad for a semester of your time at Trinity. Stay in Hartford. My opinion on this matter was gathered during my fall 2018 semester in Shanghai, but my perspective on this issue has also been molded by hearing about the experiences of my fellow classmates as they studied abroad around the world (and by “world,” I mean almost exclusively Western Europe, and maybe Australia or New Zealand).

I don't believe every semester abroad is a waste of time. My argument does not apply to those who spend a semester at an English-language school (like Oxford, Cambridge, or St. Andrew's, to name a few) or another school where they speak the predominant language of the university. I've also heard wonderful things about domestic programs in New York City or Washington, D.C.

I studied abroad on a program called “Trini-

ty-in-Shanghai.” Though the name seems to promise a Trinity-like experience, it was anything but. I took four classes (Chinese film, Chinese language, Chinese business, Shanghai history) all designed for English-speaking students spending one semester abroad, which means the academics offered were subpar. None of my classes had required homework, and each class culminated in a ten-page paper comparing my hometown (Cheshire, Connecticut) to Shanghai. There was almost no intellectual value in these classes. No one, students or professors, took anything seriously. Studying abroad for me was a pointless exercise, at least from an intellectual standpoint. This academic experience was not equitable in any sense to the classes I take at Trinity. In fact, I passed up several challenging classes offered in Hartford that I would have found both rewarding and intellectually engaging in favor of those fourteen weeks abroad.

When students study

abroad for one semester in a country where they don't speak (or are still learning) the language, they remain trapped in an unsatisfying purgatory—not quite tourist, but certainly not expat.

When I studied abroad in Shanghai, I quickly found the Western restaurants near me and stuck to them. I sought out the Chinese-nightclub equivalents to AD or Kappa Sig. and spent my weekends there—and my Tuesdays, and my Wednesdays, and my Thursdays. I didn't make one Chinese friend organically. My friends who studied abroad in continental Europe (Spain, France, Italy) report extremely similar experiences. Many of them took the opportunity to travel to a new city in Europe each weekend. This simply would not be possible for a typical student at Trinity's campus in Hartford. The coursework at Trinity is too rigorous to allow that much vacation time—but that's entirely okay! That's why we're here, in college.

Students at Trinity often spend a semester abroad in

places like Rome, Paris, Barcelona, or Shanghai for an “academic break.” Because of this, Trinity (and other colleges) must stop referring to these semester-long reprieves as “study abroad” and call them what they truly are, extended vacations. My time abroad junior year was the most exciting four months of my life. I truly thank Trinity for the opportunity I had to climb the Great Wall, visit the Shaolin Temple, and see the pandas in the Sichuan Province. However, I could have had enjoyed all these experiences over a three-week vacation during the summer, without sacrificing the academic challenge and rigor Trinity College, in Hartford, provides. Studying abroad is the epitome of privilege—I blew through thousands of dollars on food and alcohol while actively neglecting the true reason we are all in college, to undertake serious coursework and intellectual growth.

This article is not written in opposition to traveling the world or experiencing new cultures. In fact, I

would argue that those are the two most important ingredients to a well-lived life. I absolutely loved my time in China and hope that I can go back someday to see the amazing sites I had the opportunity to visit. But, there's no good reason to spend an entire semester of your already limited time at Trinity in pointless classes designed for temporary, international students, when you could be in Hartford reaping the benefits of caring professors and the mission of our small, liberal arts college.

If you would like to experience a different culture and travel, by all means, go for it! Of course there is immense value in spending a prolonged period abroad, beyond the three-week summer vacation I previously described. Spend a gap year volunteering in France, teaching English in Taiwan, or enjoying the beauty of the Caribbean, but don't waste the valuable academic resources that Trinity offers to spend an entire semester in a European party destination.

Commonalities Between Capitalism and Marxism

ETHAN YANG '20
STAFF WRITER

About a week ago, I had the great privilege of being able to attend a faculty luncheon featuring a famous economist who happen to be delivering a guest lecture at Trinity. At the table there was a diverse set of departments present ranging from political science professors, to language, to economists from a variety of traditions. The topic at hand was the ideas of Karl Marx and how they happen to intersect with a major school of libertarian-capitalist thought, a very contradictory discovery indeed. Although some of the professors in the room hated to admit it and some certainly tried their best to disagree, it was quite obvious that everyone was basically coming to the same conclusion just phrased differently. This affirmed a suspicion of mine that differing political camps have far more in common than they think. If we move past the petty partisanship, we will arrive at a common truth.

One of the core topics of discussion that arose was the sustainability of a capitalist market in a democracy, the major threat to

democracy, and capitalism being monopolies enforced by a government controlled by corporations or vice versa. Karl Marx wrote about the contradictory tendencies of capitalism to create such monopolies despite the need for a free and competitive market for capitalism to survive. Generally speaking, he wrote that the natural tendencies for profit maximizing entities is to preserve said profit. Because of the natural tendency for profit to decrease in a competitive market, capitalist actors will employ monopolistic practices to quash competition and preserve profits. This is accomplished by lobbying the government to enact protectionist policies and barriers to entry for new firms or products to the market place. As a result, the capitalist system grinds to a halt, production slows, quality degenerates, and all sorts of negative ramifications start to occur. This is presumably one of the key contradictions Marx points out in capitalism. As much as people like to make fun of Marxists for not having a grasp of economics, this is actually Econ 101.

Curiously enough, advocates for free markets and

capitalism would say basically the same thing with a couple changes. They would all agree that competition and market forces tend to drive profit downwards. Companies who wish to do what is natural and preserve their profits have two options: innovate or run to the government for help. For example, Toyota can't keep making the same car if it wishes to stay profitable, therefore it comes up with new models with attractive features like higher fuel efficiency and safety instruments. However, companies can't help but to solicit the hand of government. Energy companies are but one example.

Whether its fading coal companies or flawed green energy projects, regulatory favors and massive injections of tax payer dollars are handed out to countless corporations in return for political favors. This relationship is incredibly toxic and Marxist and Capitalists can agree on that. It is only natural when you have a system of private property and accumulation combined with the coercive abilities of government. In a democracy, since there is a need to constantly curry votes and raise money for

campaigns, this is not ideal.

There are a few commonly cited solutions. One is to abolish capitalism, not only is that impossible but even Marx admitted that markets were an incredibly productive mechanism. We've also tried Communism, which wasn't the best

if we are going to have a democracy that a smaller state, with plenty of constitutional restrictions on power, is necessary. If we are to fight the natural cronyism inherent to capitalism noted by Marx, we must ensure that the government cannot be used

“Both a Marxist and a Capitalist should agree that if we are going to have a democracy, a smaller state with plenty of constitutional restrictions on power is necessary.”

idea. The other is some sort of ultra-principled dictatorship where the government with absolute power can do what's best for the people and keep the markets open and free. This is also impossible and horrifying. The last idea is another stroke of irony. A republican system of limited government based on what the American Founders intended to create. They placed restrictions on the size and capabilities of government because they knew that forces such as greed can and will lead to abuses of power. Both a Marxist and a Capitalist should agree

to further the profit maximizing agendas of corporations. In order to preserve a free and prosperous market that can provide the abundance that society needs, we must ensure the government is restrained by a more expansive constitution and has less capabilities to regulate our lives. We should force government to restrict itself to the duty prescribed by the Founders: preserve our rights to life, liberty, and property. Only then can we ensure that the blessings of our liberal democracy are conserved for generations to come.

The Case for Pursuing Real Diversity at Trinity

ARCHANA ADHIKARI '23
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It was Friday during lunch when I went to Mather dining hall, hungry and tired from four classes in a row. I swiped my card at the door and went inside straight to the table in front of the smoothie station, which is where I usually sit for all three meals of the day. My regular friends were having lunch there. I put my bag down, sat in the chair and started listening to their discussion. Meanwhile, a Latinx friend of ours waved at us and passed by our table. One of my friends at the table said that she does not like to sit with us anymore as she has found friends with whom she shares many commonalities. My eyes followed her, and she sat two tables next to us with other three Latinx students. I looked over our table: out of sev-

en people at our table, five of us were born in Asia and the other two in the U.S. Clearly, our table was mostly people who share similar cultural and national backgrounds with

Chinese students having lunch together by attaching two round tables together. I looked at the high stools in front of our table. That long row of highchairs was full of African-Americans.

“Our table was mostly people who shared similar cultural and national backgrounds... those scenes of self-segregation disturbed me.”

each other, and we all sit at the same table every day.

After observing our table, I was curious to know the situation of other tables in Mather. I stood up to get some food, but this time I not only wanted to get food, but also looked around the group of people sitting in Mather. As I walked around the dining hall with pizza in my hand, I noticed nine to ten

Those scenes of self-segregation disturbed me during lunch, but I forgot them after I left Mather and ran to my research lab.

Later that night, I revisited that memory. I googled “Demographics in Trinity College” and a website popped up which showed that Trinity College represents seventy countries across the world. But what one can observe

at the dining hall does not show that we are benefiting from those diverse experiences, perspectives, and backgrounds of people from all corners of the world. People who share a nationality are more likely to befriend each other. Now I am not saying that people who share national or cultural backgrounds are only friends with each other, but I am saying that there is more to learn from this diverse group of people in our college than we do.

I wondered how my own table has a majority of Asian nationals when I so much wanted to experience, explore, and learn from different cultures and peoples before coming to Trinity. The only thing that answered this question was the creation of a “comfort zone.” Even though I want to learn from the new people, I end up in a group of people like myself as I share many similar interests

with the people who share a common background with me and, subconsciously, I feel more comfortable around those people.

I want to break this comfort zone and be a part of the change, but here I am sitting as if someone else would initiate the change for me, as if someone else would invite me for lunch at their table, as if someone else would drag my chair and move it to the different tables. By this time, I should know that if I want change, I need to take the initiative by myself to talk to people different from me, to show enthusiasm in learning from their experiences, and appreciate their culture. Next time I am in Mather, I want to feel comfortable to join someone else’s table or invite someone else to our table for lunch. And I hope this initiative will be helpful to other people who feel the same way as I do.

The Life and Death of the Classic American Western

AIDAN TUREK '20
OPINION EDITOR

I love Westerns. The combination of majestic mesas, of gun-toting cowboys, the drama and tragedy of the Amerindian experience, the problematic duality of ‘civilization’ and the violence inherent in that term, all of it appeals to me. That genre, up until the 1970s, comprised close to a third of annual movies and defined an era in the American conscious. But the era of the Western is long over; indeed, the romantic flame of the American West has been almost totally extinguished. The American Western died on the cross of the frontier myth. The quintessential notion of ‘Americanness,’ defined by the frontier myth as the rugged individual who balances personal morality with the weight of ‘civilizing’ progress, was born in the repressed tyrannies of the European Enlightenment; in New England, that ideal of life began to prosper, but it was in the West that that wholly American ideal realized its full potential. It was there that the cowboy became the symbol for the American imagination, where Annie Oakley’s famed antics, or Sitting Bull’s renowned riding skills, all came together in the extravagant

shows of ‘Buffalo Bill.’

American Exceptionalism, too, was tied to the dogged belief in the potential for progress and improvement. In other words, we became ‘American’ in the West because of the West; as the famous line reads, “go West, young man, and grow up with the nation.”

The mythos of the West is defined by dualities. There is the battle of civilization against nature, of progress against barbarism, of industry and centralization against nature and local autonomy. Just beneath the surface lies the paradoxical combination of ‘civility’ with the heinous massacres at Wounded Knee and elsewhere. The Western, as a genre, represented, this duality. That quality was unique; upon the death of Westerns, the same hero narratives so popular in the earlier Westerns easily transposed the plot but not the meaning. The sci-fi thriller overtook, and then completely eclipsed, the Western, despite hitting upon many of the same characteristics. Star Wars in 1977 bore the same cinematic DNA as the countless heroic Western that came before. But sci-fi by its nature abstracts reality. The debates over morality, history, and the Amer-

ican identity were made obsolete in worlds of dark emperors and magical orphans; in the fantasy realm of sci-fi, any ethical debate is rendered solely theoretical, and thus immaterial.

But what explains this shift from Western to sci-fi? After a material and moral victory in the wake of 1945, the Western, and the attendant belief in American Exceptionalism, ceased to be an ideal and became, in the minds of many Americans, a law. It was self-evident that America was the moral right, and that Communism was the great evil in the world. Ethical quandaries became unnecessary given the evident weight of our victories. The substance of American Exceptionalism became utterly superfluous. We had armed forces across the globe because the law of history mandated our bringing of freedom and justice. This created a certain ideological brittleness as the belief in exceptionalism moved from a self-consciousness that our ideas must be improved upon, that progress came only from self-reflection, and morphed into a blind faith that America could do no wrong. In Vietnam, the illusions of the American law came home; not only could Americans not solve the problems of occupied nations, but the very promises—democracy, freedom,

equality—were thrown back at Rangers in Phu Bai and Marines at Khe Sanh.

The crisis in Vietnam and the Culture Wars of the 1960s ended merely in a wholesale rejection of the frontier myth and in American Exceptionalism; the law of American democracy, taken as a given, had been incorrect in one place and thus had to be thrown out in its entirety. Along went the Western. People turned away from the Western because they had expected moral certainty, when what that genre did best was link real problems with a historical tapestry, making abstract geopolitical dramas understandable miniatures in our great Shakespearean backdrop of the West. The death of the Western meant that ‘Americanness’ no longer existed in any one place.

The loss of the Western has reflected a crisis in American identity. The founding myth of the West is exactly that—a myth. And yet that myth is deceptively capable of reshaping and reforming our shared identity, able to reflect modern concerns across an unmistakably familiar backdrop. The Americanness of the West—the hope and blood and cowboy and Indian—are symbolically and literally our history. There is no other genre that carries these signifi-

ers; there is no one to take up the mantle of what it means to be American. The loss of the West has precluded our ability to comment on, for instance, the genocide of Native Americans, the maltreatment of the Latinx population in the Southwest, the corruption of our natural resources, the thieving hands of business tycoons and railroad monopolies. All are historical threads of the American West’s tapestry, and all are modern problems. In this current era of cultural pessimism and rampant cynicism, it is imperative to reconsider the mythical heritage of the American ethos.

“Myth is not only something given but something made,” wrote historian of the Western Richard Slotkin. “By our way of remembering, retelling, and reimagining ‘America,’ we too engage myths with history and thus initiate the process by which our culture is steadily revised and transformed.” I believe it is there in the drama of the untamed American West that we can rediscover an American identity worth fighting for, a place where the eternal ideas espoused in the Declaration—democracy, freedom, and equality—might be resurrected, and Americans might have something to fight for again.

FEATURES

Women's Herstory: Empowering Women "Against All Odds"



ERIC ZHANG '22

(Above) Chef and entrepreneur Naseba AlKesh and her son, Dr. Amjad AlKesh, came to Trinity from Israel this week to discuss a panel entitled, "Against All Odds: Empowering Women in the Golan Heights."



ERIC ZHANG '22

(Above) AlKesh's visit also included a Druze Israeli Feast prepared by Alkesh and Chef Robert Kalmar, held on Wednesday. A Shabbat dinner followed Friday night at Zachs Hillel House. The event, inspired by the Fresh Perspectives trip to Israel, was a collaboration with WGRAC, Trinity Hillel, and many other organizations.

Gottlieb to Speak on Spirituality and the Environmental Crisis

BRENDAN W. CLARK '21
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Professor Roger S. Gottlieb will lecture on spirituality in the environmental crisis this Wednesday, Mar. 11. Gottlieb, a philosophy professor at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, is this year's distinguished visiting fellow at the Leonard Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life. The lecture will take place at 4:30 p.m. in the Terrace Rooms of Mather Hall.

Gottlieb spoke with the *Tripod* about his upcoming lecture, characterizing his approach to the environmental crisis as a "non-eclectic, non-denominational form of spirituality." Gottlieb described his own path to understanding his philosophical position, self-identifying himself as a "Marxist and a socialist." Gottlieb added that his experiences as a "hippie and a radical" in the 1960s deeply informed his outlook on religion and its place in public life.

As to his own struggles with faith, Gottlieb notes the difficulty of maintaining the tranquility of faith amidst the chaos of the environmental crisis, add-

ing a comprehensive textbook on the environmental crisis entitled *This Sacred Earth: Religion, Nature, Environment*. At first, he was "scared to face the truth" of climate change, though eventually he became invested in the book and its mission. Gottlieb is also the "editor of twenty books and more than 150 articles," according to his biography on WPI's website, with one of his most recent being *Morality and the Environmental Crisis*.

As to his outlook on religion, Gottlieb encourages a dual approach, noting that we must "appreciate the wisdom of religion and its stupidity at the same time." Gottlieb noted that, even so, "religion has a fundamental place in life to play." Gottlieb continued, understanding the truth of religion as being one subject to constant change. "All religions are true and false at the same time," he added. Gottlieb told the *Tripod* that if all could understand this, civil discourse may be in a better place.

Further, because he was "not theologically wedded to any one religion," Gottlieb added that he felt he could "better understand religion

"Gottlieb encourages a dual approach, noting that we must 'appreciate the wisdom of religion and its stupidity at the same time.'"

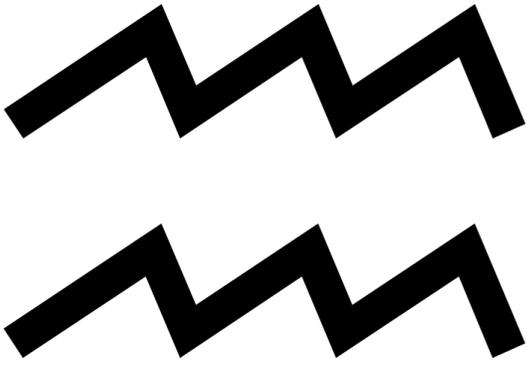
ing "how am I supposed to achieve calm when the conditions for life on Earth are being destroyed?" Gottlieb's lecture is titled "What's Truth Got to Do With It? Fascism, Honesty and Religious Environmentalism." To best understand the environmental crisis, Gottlieb encourages an understanding of "Marxism as well as capitalism," to fully grasp the breadth of issues.

Speaking to his own faith background, Gottlieb acknowledged that he was "raised almost as a reformed Jew," although noted that religion in the 1950s "didn't have much of anything to offer." His interest in environmentalism began in the early 1990s, when he was asked to prepare a compre-

in its totality." As a distinguished fellow this spring at Trinity, Gottlieb will spend the week "engaging with faculty, students, and members of the community in a variety of settings." Among the events Gottlieb will undertake are a Wednesday lecture and dinner.

Director of the Leonard Greenberg for the Study of Religion in Public Life Mark Silk told the *Tripod* that he "couldn't be more delighted to have Roger Gottlieb on campus this week. The country's leading environmental philosopher, he brings a unique moral and spiritual sensitivity to the analysis of what has become the greatest challenge to human civilization in history."

Trinity Horscopes: Your Spring Break Forecast



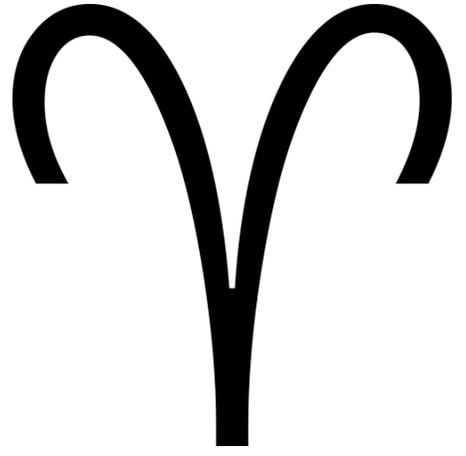
Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

Don't take any chances next week.
Wear your sunscreen in Cabo.



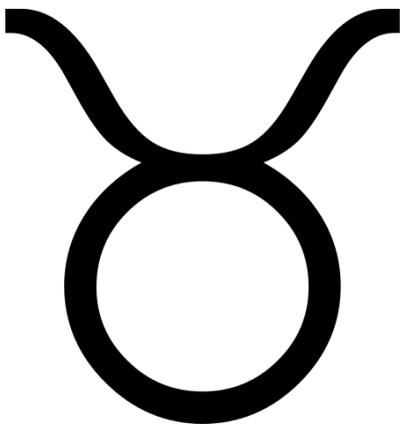
Pisces (Feb. 20- Mar. 20)

Take some time to plan for your future:
that might just entail picking out darty
outfits, but that's okay.



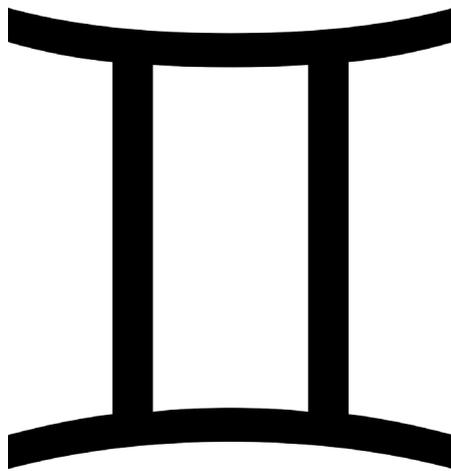
Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)

Aries signs are known for their ambition.
Don't let a Wednesday midterm stop you
from Tap Tuesday.



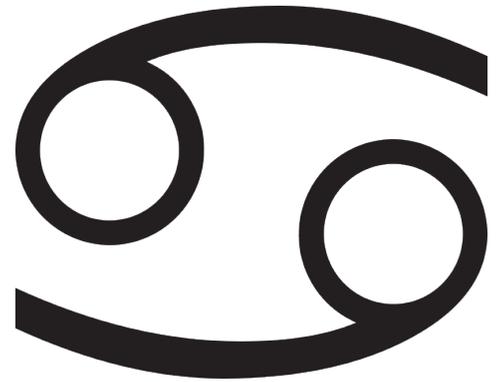
Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)

Venus is in Taurus this March. You
will meet a dreamy Yale student in Punta
Cana over spring break.



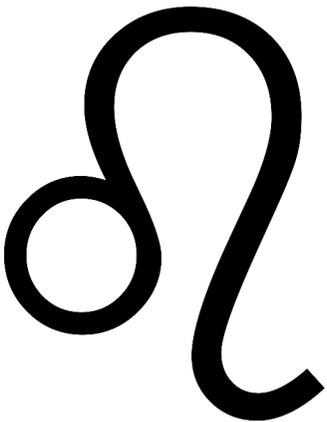
Gemini (May 21- June 21)

Today is your day, Gemini! Treat your-
self to the Hungry Major at Steve's and
then hate yourself afterward.



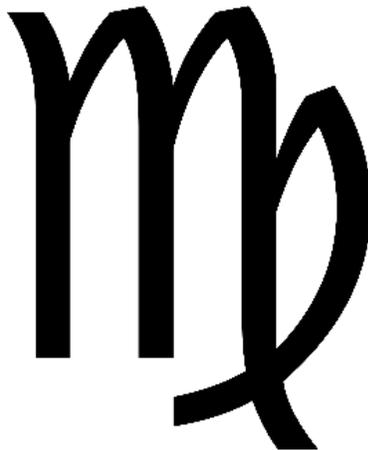
Cancer (June 22- July 23)

With the stock market falling, you
might not be able to get that Rolex Day-
Date for your Hall initiation, bro.



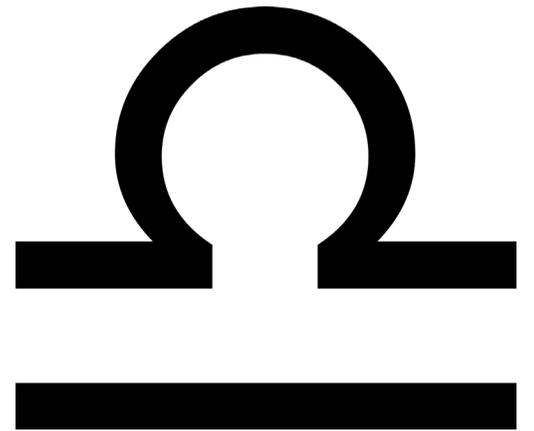
Leo (July 24- Aug.23)

Embrace spring cleaning this week. It's
time to throw away your empty Juul pods.



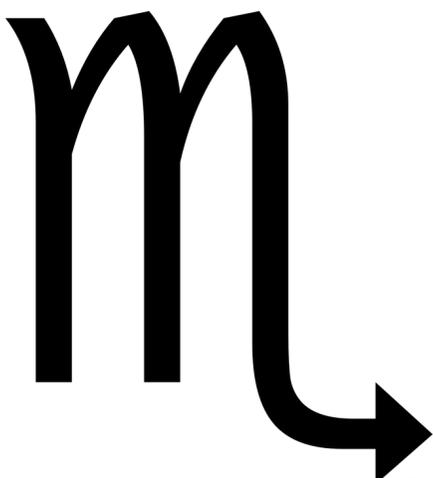
Virgo (Aug. 24- Sept. 22)

Put aside your jealousies. There's no
way your long-distance girlfriend is going
to leave you for an Italian now that the
Rome program is closed.



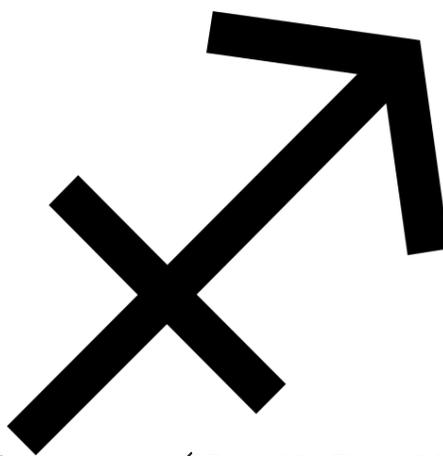
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Practice self-care by going on a
PBR-detox.



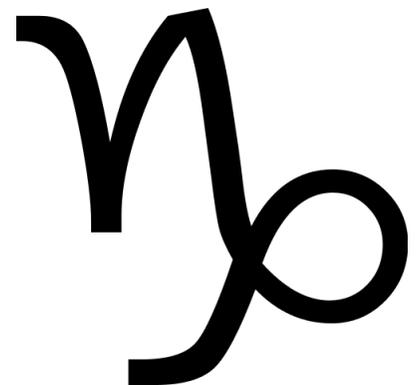
Scorpio (Oct. 23- Nov. 22)

With Late Night Hall gone, you know
what you need to give up for Lent this
year.



Sagittarius (Nov. 23- Dec. 20)

Now is a good time to be cautious.
Don't go too hard in Cancun next week.



Capricorn (Dec. 22- Jan. 20)

Mercury is in retrograde. Your midterm
results will cause you to finally make the
switch to political science.

Arts & Entertainment

The Best Reality TV From Someone Who Hates Reality TV

CAROLINE RICHARDS '22
A&E EDITOR

Reality TV: what a concept. Honestly, when I hear someone say “reality TV,” I

visibly cringe. I’ve never been a reality TV watcher, despite the seemingly endless array of people who keep giving me reasons why I should. For those of you out there who have

ever recommended reality TV to a friend, you’ll be happy to know that it worked. Here I am, writing about reality TV. I hope you’re happy.

For these reviews, I did

some “research” and found a few reality TV shows that might actually have potential. I tried to steer clear of the “basic” reality TV in search of some of the more unpop-

ular or underrated shows.

So, if you’re considering taking the deep-dive into reality TV, or are an avid reality TV watcher already, this one’s for you.

1. AMERICAN PICKERS

This show is the modern equivalent of hunting for buried treasure, but the treasure is discarded trash and the hunting ground is the continental United States. For the life of me I cannot seem to pin down why this show is so entertaining. First of all, who the fuck came up with this one? Two guys who travel around to different places collecting often weird, yet somehow really expensive, antiques? Yes. Amazing the things we didn’t know we needed in our life. *Ameri-*

can Pickers follows two guys around, pickers Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz (which, I know, sound like made-up names from an erotic novel), as they buy various collectors items or antiques from people in the Midwest.

They usually end up reselling them for profit, but sometimes if it’s a really good find, they’ll add it to their own personal collections. What makes the show exciting is the thrill of seeing all the places they go and people they meet to collect from. Oftentimes, it’s people with hoards of antiques laying

around in their barn or garage, or it’s people who have inherited a bunch of junk and don’t know what to do with it.

Either way, there is something undeniably thrilling about seeing one of them pull a treasure up from the depths of these junk-yards and bringing it back to life. From old Coca-Cola signs to vintage bicycles and centuries-old pottery, the hosts find the most random stuff you could imagine. Plus, the history of antiques can actually be interesting? Worth the watch: you might just learn something.



WILLITNEWS.COM



TVOVERMIND.COM

From left to right: Jack Hoffman, Todd Hoffman, Tony Beets, and Parker Shnabel.

2. GOLD RUSH

Gold Rush is the American Dream revamped wearing a camouflage Carhartt jacket and smoking a cig in a 500 horsepower mining tractor. It is, in essence, a must watch. My dad is obsessed with this show and once made me watch an episode with him despite my outspoken complaints about reality television. Needless to say, we ended up binge watching five or six episodes because it is wildly entertaining. Undoubtedly, humanity has an obsession with the

strange and exotic, and this show reveals the most strange and insane lifestyle you didn’t even know existed. I was on the edge of my seat the entire time because the stakes are real stakes.

It’s not like *The Bachelor*, where the stakes are made mostly for dramatic effect; this show has real people’s lives and livelihoods on the line. The basic premise of the show is to narrate the gold mining efforts of multiple family-run mining companies in the Klondike region of Dawson City, Yukon in Canada. It showcases

the people who live in the middle of nowhere with just their families, mining for gold and using the most sophisticated, sensitive construction equipment and technology out there. There are always internal feuds, family-against-family fights, the machinery is guaranteed to break down pretty much every episode, and the need to meet certain quotas is a constant stressor. There is so much money on the line, it’s hard to fathom. And, the people involved are always the most interesting cast of characters from all over.

3. DEADLIEST CATCH

This Discovery Channel show will have you watching gritty fishermen haul up nets of mean-looking crabs from the depths of the Bering Sea in climates that look so cold you will feel cold despite the comfort of your position on the couch. *Deadliest Catch* follows a series of fishermen during their two different seasons of commercial fishing: October for the king crab and January for the snow crab. Over the course of a single episode, you watch them dodge flying crab pots, navigate the uneven boat

terrain, and deal with pieces of things breaking for one reason or another, all while battling some of the worst and most dangerous sea conditions on the planet. Everyone is always yelling over the wind, the waves are always soaking the crew-members with salt water, and someone always falls and hurts themselves. It’s thrilling, I say!

Alaskan Crab Fishing is considered to be one of the most dangerous jobs in the world. In multiple episodes, a boat will sink and everyone will have to be rescued by the Coast Guard, including the cameramen on the boat who

are filming. On top of all that stress, there are also feuds among the fisherman and between boats concerning who can bring in the most crab in the least amount of time. A key component to the drama is the “greenhorns,” the new, rookie fishermen who have just recently joined the crew. They’re constantly running into issues and it’s so satisfying to see them finally gain their footing over the course of a season. Danger! Sudden Doom! Crab Claws! Lots of Swearing! This show breeds anxiety like no other. Stay warm when watching and don’t be afraid of the water.



GODISCOVERY.COM



LOVEISLAND.FANDOM.COM

4. LOVE ISLAND

Love Island is a stupid, yet frustratingly addictive series about people with British accents living in a villa and wearing bathing suits while competing in what might be called “the dating Olympics.” It took me so long to watch this show out of a sheer need to maintain my sense of self-respect. However, I have come to understand that self-respect is an illusion and, ironically, this stupid show is what taught me that. What makes it so goddamn fun to watch is that shit ALWAYS hits the fan.

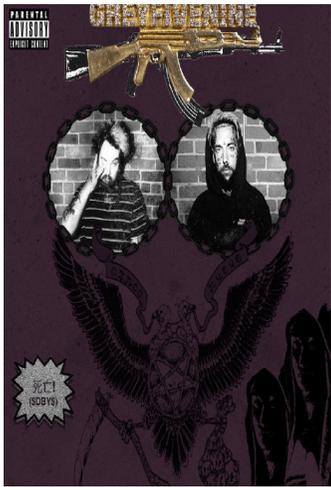
In the second season of the show, two girls are kicked out of the villa for literally assaulting each other because one of them accidentally spilled wine on the other.

In another episode a couple has sex on camera because they assumed it would never be aired and guess what? It was aired! Another time, Miss. Great Britain Zara Holland was stripped of her title because of her behaviour in the villa. Absolute craziness. Whether it be the trashy outfits, the comically dramatic ends these people will go to in order to achieve their goals, or the sheer

amount of alcohol that’s consumed on screen, this show’s hilarity is never-ending. The unpredictability is unmatched, in my opinion, by any other dating show. You never know what’s going to happen, and the parameters are so loose that you find out quickly that anything can and does happen. The way the islanders interact with each other is so raw and blunt, some of the things they do and say simply cannot be legal things to do and say. If you’re looking for something light and simultaneously absurd, watch this show. Don’t say I didn’t warn you!

Liz's Weekly Bangers: March's Hottest Musical Hits

"MEGAZEPH"
by \$uicideboy\$
STOP STARING AT ME



\$uicideboy\$ returns to the scene with their mixtape *STOP STARING AT ME*. "MEGA ZEPH" is a stand out from the album, with its rattly snares and the muffled growls and throaty yells of Ruby da Cherry and \$lick \$loth making this one of the best bangers of the week.

"RINGTON (REMIX) [feat. Charli XCX, Rico Nasty, Kero Kero Bonito]"
by 100 Geecs, Charli XCX, Rico Nasty
1000 GECS



The power duo of Dylan Brady and Laura Les (100 geecs) combines Charli XCX's futurist robo-pop, Kero Kero Bonito's synth filled indie-dance-rock, and Rico Nasty's sugary sweet trap sound to raise their already catchy pop to the next level. The song attacks the notion of "genre."

"WHATEVER"
by Student 1
WHATEVER



Student 1's conversational bars mix with moments of impressive word play, but the real kick behind this song is the lack of caring in the rapper's voice. A clever switch up midway through the song shifts the production to a lo-fi grumble backed up by sparing percussion and light guitar twinges. Think of Frank Ocean's "Nights" without as much heartache.

"THAT WAY"
by Lil Uzi Vert
SINGLE



Lil Uzi Vert finally released another single, presumably from his hotly anticipated *Eternal Atake*. Interpolating the Backstreet Boys' "I Want It That Way" to create a sappy, trappy banger slick with Uzi's autotuned raps, the song plays to the rapper's strengths. "That Way" is worth a listen if not just to hear Uzi proudly rap "They laugh at me because I'm emo (Yeah)."

"YOU'LL MISS ME WHEN I'M NOT AROUND"
by Grimes
MISS ANTHROPOCENE



One of many gems from the latest full length album from Canada's Claire Boucher, better known as Grimes. The song's production echoes that of her 2015 album *Art Angels* while maintaining the eerie, trippy sound that propelled Grimes to her status as an odd-pop cult icon.

The Question on Everyone's Minds: What, Exactly, is Missing from the 2020-2021 Met Opera Season?

GILLIAN REINHARD '20
FEATURES EDITOR

There can hardly be an art form less accessible or less interesting to young people than opera. Just the word conjures images amongst Millennials of long nights at the theater (true), and snooty people (only somewhat true).

The home base of American opera lies at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City, one of the largest and most famous houses in the world. Until very recently, the "Met" (not to be confused with the Metropolitan Museum of Art), was dominated by two old, white men—James Levine, the Met's principal conductor for 40 years, and Placido Domingo, the Met's leading male singer for nearly as long. In the past few years, however, both men have resigned in scandal and shame from their positions amidst serious accusations of sexual harassment. It is no surprise that the Met has long been regarded as a straight, white, "boys' club," where the most predictable operas are performed.

This image, however, does not represent what opera is today, or even what the Metropolitan

Opera can and should be. Opera is a continuously expanding and inclusive art form, that stretches well-beyond the works of Mozart, Wagner, or Verdi. At the Met, change comes in the form of Yannick Nezet-Seguin, who is young, French-Canadian, and openly gay. Nezet-Seguin replaced Levine in the position of music director, which puts him in charge of choosing which 25 or so operas the Met will perform in a given season.

Since being announced as music director, Nezet-Seguin has helped plan four fantastic seasons at the Met, each more exciting and groundbreaking than the next. Some highlights include—*L'amour de Loïen* (only the second opera at the Met ever composed by a woman), *Porgy and Bess* (one of the few operas to feature African-American characters, previously not performed at the Met in decades), and the modern opera *Akhnat-en* by Philip Glass. Although I fear change, particularly in the realm of classical music, *Akhnat-en*, absolutely blew me away.

For some reason, however, this upcoming 2020-2021 season at the Met has not interested me. It seems that Nezet-Seguin has lost

some of his magic in crafting those perfect seasons to draw new audiences.

Nezet-Seguin heavily features the Russian soprano Anna Netrebko this year at the Met. She is performing in *Aida* and *Nabucco*, two operas set in the Middle East that embrace the colonialist tropes of the opera composer Verdi's era. In the past few years, Netrebko has performed in the Egyptian-themed *Aida* in other opera houses around the world, and has fallen under intense criticism for using skin-darkening makeup to portray a Middle Eastern character. Additionally, at the height of sexual harassment allegations against Met Opera star Placido Domingo, Netrebko leaped to defend him, remarking that she was excited to perform alongside him in a Met production *Macbeth*, a role Domingo was subsequently fired from. "Star power" in the world of opera can become problematic, as evidenced by Levine or Domingo himself. Nezet-Seguin and the Met shouldn't rely on Netrebko, or any one person, to headline a season at the Met.

In terms of modern opera, the Met will be presenting Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* and

Prokofiev's *The Fiery Angel*. Modern opera, for most audiences, straddles the line between weird and enlightening versus weird and unappealing. I'm not extremely well-versed in Prokofiev's opera, but Met stagings of Soviet-era operas usually veer toward the former. The modern composer Jake Heggie seems interesting, but he does not have the captivating renown and prestige of a composer such as Philip Glass. Glass' name alone likely inspired droves of audiences to the Met. Last year, the 1983 *Akhnat-en* introduced opera-goers to the mysterious and enchanting world of Ancient Egypt, devoid of uncomfortable imperialist overtones perpetuated by the 1871 *Aida*. Also, the cast was led by the countertenor Anthony Roth Costanzo and the "Beyonce of Opera" J'Nai Bridges. This year, there doesn't seem to be an equivalent.

For many, opera serves as an escapable, even more grand of a spectacle than movies, TV, or books. The Met, and other opera houses like it, bank on this spectacle by creating new productions of old works at various intervals. This year, the Met is premiering a new production (meaning: new costumes, new

sets, and new direction of an old work) of Mozart's *Magic Flute*. *The Magic Flute* is Mozart's quaintest and most entertaining opera. Previously, the Met's staging of *The Magic Flute* was presented as a shortened, English-language opera geared for children, in a beautiful and colorful production by Julie Taymor. This year, the Met is scrapping that production for a dark, brutalist interpretation by James McBurney, perhaps more appropriate for a Prokofiev, Soviet-era opera and not a beloved Mozart classic.

I'll be looking forward to Beethoven's *Fidelio*, Handel's *Giulio Cesare*, and Britten's *Billy Budd*. Franco Zeffirelli's production of *La Boheme*, however, is still the ultimate recommendation for any newcomer.

While, unfortunately, this season does not impress me as much as the last, I still have high hopes for Nezet-Seguin and his era of championing inclusion and new works at the Met. Now is the time for new audiences to discover what makes opera so engaging, or, why a writer at a college newspaper would dedicate an 800-word long manifesto to it.

SPORTS

Men's Hockey Falls to Cardinals in the Finals

The Trinity College men's ice hockey team faced off against Wesleyan for the final game of the NESCAC Championship. The Bantams were ranked no. 2 going into the game and would be entering their fifth NESCAC Championship. However, this was the first time that they will be coming up short handed for the championship in awhile. The match was very high scoring and the Bantams had an early lead in the match against Wesleyan. Within the first few minutes, the Bantams fired off multiple shots on goal. There was a sense of urgency as Wesleyan attempted to make a shot on the goal. However, the second period saw the atmosphere and pace of the game change rapidly, with Wesleyan controlling the puck. Trinity's grasp of the game began to slip and Wesleyan took a much more controlling lead in the game. The defense shut down many shots on the goal, but the offense was able to obtain a quick turn around and apply pressure on the Bantams. Later in the match, the Bantams fell behind and Wesleyan took the opportunity to seal the lead. The match ended with a final score of 7-2 and a loss for the Bantams, however, it was an accomplishment to make it this far in the season, and coming back is something to look forward to for next year.

Men's Baseball Starts the Season Off Strong in Maine

The men's baseball team started their season with a game against Laser College and Southern Maine, which is the number six ranked team. In retrospect, the Bantams dominated the game for quite some time. However, they were not looking like they were going to win the game until the 5th inning when they got quite a few runs in and absolutely dominated the rest of the afternoon. The game ended with a final score of 16-3 and was a great demonstration of what the program has to offer so early in the season. The Southern Maine game did not see as many points for the Bantams despite another great demonstration. The Bantams were able to pop off a few singles and doubles early on, however, the game was not off to any incredible high stakes rounds. Then, as the 6th inning approached, the Bantams were able to secure their stride and truly dominate the game as there were quite a few strikeouts that occurred and they were able to put some more points on the board. Unfortunately, their upcoming match against Southern Maine was cancelled, but they have a lot of competition ahead before they start facing off against those within the NESCAC. We wish them the best of luck moving forward as they prepare for the upcoming games over the break.

Women's Lacrosse Defeats the Bates Bobcats to 3-1

The Trinity College Bantams moved to 2-0 in the NESCAC and 2-1 overall after defeating the Bates College Bobcats by just one goal this past Saturday. The energy was high in the first three minutes of the game headed by goals from sophomore Christine Taylor and junior Marcella Flibotte. The Bobcats evened the score and eventually took the lead 5-3 with just 47 seconds left in the first half. Trinity sophomore Ellie Kirkpatrick found the back of the net with just six seconds left to put the Bantams within one heading into the half. Bates came out in the second half with two quick goals which were quickly answered by junior Bantam Sydney Bell and Lily Ives to cut the deficit down to just one. After trading goals, junior Katrina Angelucci scored two in a row to put the Bantams ahead by one with just ten minutes to play. With just 4:49 left, Angelucci scored her third goal to put the game away and give Trinity their second win of the season. The Bantams will travel to Middlebury College this Saturday, Mar. 14 in hopes of improving their record to 3-1 overall.

Men's Squash Wins Two Titles at CSA Singles

The Trinity College Bantams traveled to the University of Pennsylvania to compete in the CSA National Singles Championship Molloy "B" bracket and finished with victories from senior Andrew Lee and freshman Ali El Toukhy. After defeating Franklin and Marshall's Shamseldeen Abbas and St. Lawrence's Inwoo Lee on Saturday, Lee and El Toukhy prepared for their championship matches with great intensity and vigor. Lee went three for four in victories after losing 11-6 in the first game and coming back to win the next three 11-5, 11-6, and 11-2 in an exhilarating match that demonstrated the outstanding skills of Trinity's squash program. El Toukhy lost his first match 11-4 to Yale's Harrison Gill, but quickly turned it around by winning 11-8 in the second match and 12-10 in the third and fourth games to win the Molloy West Crown in yet another demonstration of the Bantam's prowess. After defeating players from Yale and Columbia, Trinity freshman Miko Aijanen lost in his semi-final match to Harvard's Marwan Tarek. Still, men's squash has proven, again, that they're the leaders in the NESCAC.

A Weekend of Domestic Drama for the Premier League

JOHNNY GILLESPIE '20
STAFF WRITER

In an intense weekend for domestic league competitions across Europe, some tides began to shift while other clubs consolidated their superiority. The Premier League has found a way to excite once again, with a race toward Champions League qualification far from settled, while the La Liga title hangs in the balance and Serie A just might prove to be the same old story for the Old Lady.

Manchester United deservedly beat Manchester City 2-0 at Old Trafford with a first home victory over their crosstown rivals since 2015. Ederson proved disastrous on the night, responsible arguably for both goals but undoubtedly for United's second. United's victory, which included a clever connection between Bruno Fernandes and Anthony Martial that looked fresh from the training ground, brought them to their first league double over City since the

2009-10 season, likely one of few milestones a United Manager has accomplished for the first time since Sir Alex Ferguson's tenure. United now sits fifth in the Premier League, a spot that will grant Champions League qualification if City's 2-year ban holds up, and only 3 points off of Chelsea in fourth. Ole Gunnar Solskjær has inspired the club to a run of ten games without defeat, and is proving his case for occupying the technical area for the Red Devils for the immediate future.

Real Madrid dropped three crucial points in the La Liga title race away at Real Betis, a club whose inconsistency since their managerial shift was not reflected against a complacent Madrid side. This complacency was evident in Casemiro's failure to play on after a non-call against Betis in the box which resulted in the Seville-based club's second goal, and with Barcelona victors at the weekend, Real have given up their



GETTY IMAGES

Juventus celebrates their win against Inter.

slim advantage to their bitter rivals by a margin of two points. Both clubs are anticipating matches against opponents currently sitting in the relegation zone, and will hope to take advantage of a proper opportunity to boost their trophy credentials with 11 matches remaining.

Juventus defeated Inter Milan 2-0 behind closed doors in Turin due to efforts toward containing the spread of the coronavirus, an issue that has floated

uncertainty around the country as to whether or not the domestic league will finish with all teams having played 38 matches this season. Paulo Dybala came on as a substitute to finish the match with a silky move and finish in the 67th minute. Victory over Inter leaves Juventus 9 points above Inter, but with Lazio only one point behind, Juve cannot comfortably expect an eighth straight

Scudetto just yet. All eyes will remain on Italy's coronavirus containment efforts and how the virus will affect the remainder of the season for the nation's top-flight competition.

In other matches around Europe, Chelsea defeated Everton 4-0 at Stamford Bridge and could have beaten them by many more, all beginning with a remarkable goal from young attacker Mason Mount. Liverpool returned to winning ways with a 2-1 win over Bournemouth that bodes well for the upcoming Champions second leg against Atlético Madrid in the midweek. Borussia Dortmund defeated Borussia Mönchengladbach 2-1 with an amazing goal from Thorgan Hazard to leapfrog RB Leipzig, who drew Wolfsburg 0-0, into second place in the Bundesliga.

As mentioned, the Champions League returns this week with crucial second legs for all clubs involved, matches which we look forward to covering next week.

Trinity College

Inside Sports:
Recaps and Men's
Lacrosse

This Week in Sports...

Men's Hockey

v. Hamilton **W, 3-2**
v. Wesleyan **L, 7-2**

Men's Baseball

v. Southern Maine **W, 5-1**
v. Eastern Conn. St. **W, 5-3**
v. Lasell **W, 16-5**

Women's Tennis

v. Smith **W, 9-0**

Women's Lacrosse

v. Bates **W, 12-11**

Men's Lacrosse

v. Bates **W, 16-11**

Men's Squash

v. CSA National Singles Championships

Men's Lacrosse Travels to Maine and is Victorious Over Bates, To Face Clark, Middlebury This Week

CAT MACLENNAN '20
SPORTS EDITOR

The Trinity College men's lacrosse team took a win over the Bates College Bobcats on Saturday in Lewiston, Maine. Sophomore attackman Connor McCulloch led the scoring with five goals, adding three assists and five ground balls. Bates got the first goal of the game on a fast break opportunity, but Trinity sophomore Reid McDonald answered back with 10:34 left in the first quarter. Bates answered, putting them ahead of the Bantams, but McCulloch tied the game with eight minutes left in the first quarter. Trinity finished the quarter with four straight goals, including one from Morty Fearey and Drew Kozub.

At the beginning of the second quarter, Bates closed the gap with two goals making the score 5-4. Trinity came back with an aggressive three goals, first-year Cullen Wolff adding one of those goals on an unassisted shot, making it 8-5. Going into half-time, junior Liam Fitzgerald won the

faceoff and fired a shot into the back of the net.

During the third quarter, Bates closed the score within two goals for the last time in the game. Three minutes later, first-year Thomas Mara had back-to-back assists to both McDonald and McCulloch within minutes of each other. On a man-up situation, McCulloch gave Trinity a 12-7 lead with eight minutes left in the third quarter. Bates scored once before the Bantams brought them back to a five-goal lead. Bates won the next faceoff with seven minutes to go in the quarter, but Trinity stole it back and McCulloch fired a shot from the left post. McDonald had a total of 4 goals, Wolff added two and Mara had four assists against Bates. Bantam goalie Patrick Grimes made 11 saves with Trinity outshooting Bates 48-45. Bates won most of the faceoffs, but the Bantams were fierce in their scoring and turnover abilities. This 16-11 win was their first win over Bates since 2014, mak-



BANTAM SPORTS

The Bantams gather following their victorious game against the Bobcats.

ing the Bantams 2-1 overall and 1-1 in the NESCAC.

The *Tripod* spoke to sophomore Harrison Ike to hear about the victory against the Bobcats and their upcoming games this week. Ike said, "This game was a huge win for our team. The coaches put together a great game plan and the team came together and put together a full 60

minutes." Since Coach Jason Tarnow was hired three years ago, the Bantams have improved their record each season and, in 2017, made an appearance in the post-season for the first time since 2012. Ike added, "We have a couple of tough opponents upcoming this week. The Bates game adds to a good start of the season,

but it is now time to focus on our upcoming game versus Clark." The Bantams will go on to face Clark University at home this Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. Their next NESCAC matchup is Saturday Mar. 14 here at the Jessee/Miller Field against Middlebury College. The Middlebury Panthers are 2-0 this season.

Coming Up for Bantam Sports:

Weds.

Men's Lacrosse v. Clark University @ 7

Sat.

Men's Lacrosse v. Middlebury @ 2

