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NEWS EDITOR

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CONTRIBUTING WRITER

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If you'd like to submit work for publication, either in *Bits&Pieces* or the regular paper, send your submission to tripod@trincoll.edu.

Title IX Coordinator Search Committee Holds Virtual Forums for Two Finalists

JACK P. CARROLL '24
MANAGING EDITOR

Shannon Lynch and Erika Pichardo have been announced as finalists for Trinity's vacant Title IX Coordinator position. Both candidates had the opportunity to engage with and meet students, faculty, and staff through virtual forums held by the Title IX Coordinator Search Committee on Monday, Sept. 20 and Wednesday, Sept. 22.

Lynch is currently a Law Clerk at Raipher, P.C. in Springfield, Massachusetts. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications with a minor in Law and Justice from Rowan University. Lynch also earned a Juris Doctor degree from Western New England University School of Law in 2019. As a law student, she served in student government as well as the General Counsel and Title IX Coordinator's office.

While working in the

law school's Title IX Office, Lynch worked with students, faculty, and staff to discuss certain issues and events that occurred at the school. She also informed the Coordinator about any incidents that arose to a Title IX allegation level. Lynch's work in the office dealt with undergraduate life at Western New England University, and she helped facilitate various protective measures including classroom and dorm switches.

As Title IX Coordinator, Lynch indicated that she would maintain an open-door policy and prioritize communication with the campus community. In addition to interacting with students, she would implement social media channels to promote preventative education online, Title IX facts, and the history of civil rights law. Lynch also emphasized the importance of maintaining equity for both complainants and respondents involved in Title IX cases.

Trinity College:
Committed to Addressing
the Issue of Sexual Harassment

Your Rights, Your Options

A Guide for Victims, Survivors, and Accused Persons

TRINITY COLLEGE

Two finalists for the vacant Title IX Coordinator position have been announced: Shannon Lynch and Erika Pichardo. The Search Committee held virtual forums for students, faculty, and staff to meet and engage with the candidates.

nants and respondents involved in Title IX cases.

According to her LinkedIn profile, Pichardo is the Prevention Education Program Coordinator and Adjunct Professor at the College of Mount Saint Vincent in the Bronx, New York. She conducts trainings and workshops related to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating

violence, and stalking on college campuses. Pichardo is also an Adjunct Lecturer at Pace University where she teaches an upper-level English class.

Pichardo earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at the College of Mount Saint Vincent, a Master's degree in Criminology and Justice

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SGA Election Results: Five Vacancies Remain, Special Election to be Held to Fill Senate Seats

TIA WURZRAINER '24
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Student Government Association (SGA) election results for 2021-2022 are in, but with several vacancies for both the class of 2022 and 2023. The results were announced by the SGA in full on Wednesday, Sept. 22.

Fadhil Ahmed '25 was elected the Class of 2025 President. When asked about goals for the academic year he stated that he would like to "build a sense of responsibility and accountability between and towards one another... People need to feel that they have the power to change things to make them more proactive than reactive." Ahmed would also like to foster a community that builds "a culture of care" as a "first step of a long-term community-building framework."

The Senators for the class of 2025 are, Ava Alioto '25, Momo Djebli '25, James Maciel '25, and Sydney Yu '25. Djebli stated that he would like to focus on, "integrating gender-neutral bathrooms within Trinity buildings, with the focus on the dormitory buildings. I want to make sure that non-binary and genderqueer folk feel safe in the dorms; a big part of that is eliminating gendered spaces within the co-ed floors." Senator Maciel's goal is to prioritize the wants and needs of the student body, to have "a perceptible shift in the campus community and school spirit," and to increase student involvement both on- and off-campus, highlighting Trinity's history of distancing itself from Hartford. Yu stated that she would like to see an improvement in dormitory management, a re-



TRINITY COLLEGE, SGA WEBSITE

Pictured: The 2019-2020 SGA
The SGA election for class senators and class of 2025 president were decided on Wednesday, Sept. 22, but a total of five positions remain unfilled and require a special election.

duction in the amount of "disposable tableware" at Mather, and a more concise payment system for Bantam Bucks and Dining Dollars.

The class of 2024 Sen-

ators are Tony Ortega '24, Gabi Seguinot '24, Ayoub Swaray '24, and Daniel White '24. When asked about his policy plans and goals, Ortega stated that

see SGA on page 4

The Trinity Tripod

Established in 1904
"Now then-*Trinity!*"

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DANIEL J. NESBITT '22

MANAGING EDITOR

JACK P. CARROLL '24

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300 Summit St. Box 702582
Hartford, CT 06106-3100
Phone: (860) 297-2584

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Trinity College

HARTFORD CONNECTICUT

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CORRECTIONS

Tripod Editorial

Banned Book Week: Freedom of Expression at Trinity

This week, Sept. 26 through Oct. 2, marks Banned Books Week 2021. Per the Banned Books Week website, the annual event "was launched in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores, and libraries," and it has come to be an event celebrating and supporting "the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular."

One may wonder whether book banning even happens anymore – to many, it feels like the banning of books is a thing of the past. However, as it turns out, attempts at book banning have never really stopped. Across the country, in fact, this tendency to ban books and ideas remains ubiquitous as ever. Perhaps the most clear and obvious example is the increasing tendency of state and local governments to ban the teaching of critical race theory (CRT) in public primary education. A number of states, including Texas, Idaho, and Tennessee, have already signed CRT bans into law, while there have been bills introduced in at least 17 other legislatures as of June 2021. Proponents of these bans argue that CRT is itself racist and discriminatory, even Anti-American to an extent. Regardless of their rationale, those seeking to ban CRT are committing egregious Anti-American acts themselves through their attempts to ban a particular set of ideas: banning ideas we dislike runs counter to fundamental aspects of both the US Constitution and free society in general. Worryingly, this central tenet of free society – free expression of ideas – has begun to lose its vigor and prominence in our society. This is a dangerous trend that must be reversed.

There is no question that freedom of speech remains, and will continue to be, heavily protected under the US Constitution. This is not the issue though; The issue is that we are losing a "culture of free speech" –

a general societal attitude that free speech is, in fact, a good thing that should be exercised forthrightly and frequently. This loss of a culture of free speech has been observed by many others as well. For example, the famous *Harper's Letter*, signed by 153 scholars and writers such as Noam Chomsky, Margaret Atwood, Cornel West, and Malcolm Gladwell, observed that "censoriousness is also spreading more widely in our culture: an intolerance of opposing views, a vogue for public shaming and ostracism, and the tendency to dissolve complex policy issues in a blinding moral certainty." The letter continues, firmly arguing that "the restriction of debate, whether by a repressive government or an intolerant society, invariably hurts those who lack power and makes everyone less capable of democratic participation. The way to defeat bad ideas is by exposure, argument, and persuasion, not by trying to silence or wish them away." The signatories of the letter are spot-on: ever-increasingly, controversial opposing ideas are simply banned or silenced rather than defeated through free debate and inquiry.

This increasing censoriousness in our society is heightened even further among today's college students, including Trinity. The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), a 501(c)(3) non-profit, recently conducted an extensive survey of college students at 159 colleges concerning student experiences with and attitudes towards freedom of speech on campus. This extensive survey found some worrying results. The survey found that "more than 80% of students reported self-censoring their viewpoints at their colleges at least some of the time, with 21% saying they censor themselves often." In college, the environment in which students are supposed to develop critical thinking and pursue intellectual growth, a significant proportion of students re-

frain from expressing their viewpoints – this alone is deeply disconcerting. In addition, the survey found that two-thirds of respondents deem it "acceptable to shout down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus." Rather than "exposure, argument, and persuasion" in the face of bad ideas, college students, generally speaking, tend to favor prohibition of the speech at issue. Some college students, approximately 23% of students, would go so far as to deem violence acceptable to stop a campus speech. An additional noteworthy consideration is that college administrations often fail to make their policies about free speech clear, with little to no mention of them at any point.

Are these illiberal tendencies present at Trinity? One could certainly make a strong case for the affirmative, however more data is needed to effectively evaluate this conclusion. That's why Trinity should engage in specific efforts aimed at understanding student attitudes on freedom of expression and inquiry within the College community.

Firstly, assuming the College actually does value freedom of expression and inquiry for all viewpoints, the College should actively and extensively promote Banned Books Week as an important event of unique importance. Second and more importantly, the College should evaluate Trinity student and faculty attitudes on freedom of expression and inquiry. Fortunately for the College, a number of organizations, such as FIRE and Heterodox Academy, have already developed and validated surveys designed for this express purpose. If Trinity can actively promote a culture of free speech at Trinity then perhaps the division and tension that has continued to plague our campus community could be alleviated and reduced.

-DJN

Interested in Writing for *The Tripod*?
Let Us Know at tripod@trincoll.edu

NEWS

Trinity Reports First Student COVID Case; *Tripod* Examines NESCAC Testing Protocols, Active Cases

FAITH MONAHAN '24
NEWS EDITOR

The first student case of COVID-19 at Trinity College for the fall semester has been identified as of Monday, Sept. 27. This update follows last week's test results which recorded the College's first case among employees and affiliates.

Trinity conducted a total of 324 tests during the week of Sept. 20. None of these results were positive and 3 were invalid, according to the College's COVID-19 Dashboard results by week. It remains unclear how the positive case has been identified though no positive test results have been

reported as of Sept. 27. Trinity College continues to report the lowest number of cumulative cases (two) in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) up to this point in the fall semester. It is extremely important to note that each NESCAC school has a different testing proto-

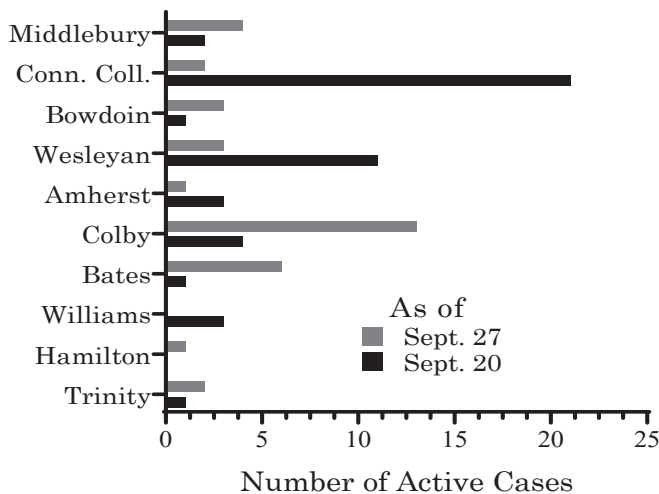
col in place which could have a great effect on the total number of positive cases identified. Though all NESCAC schools require vaccination and indoor mask-wearing, the testing protocols vary. Seven of the eleven NESCAC schools continue to test all students twice a week, regardless of vaccination status, while Hamilton and Williams are testing students once a week. Middlebury is only testing unvaccinated students once a week and is not performing regular tests for vaccinated students. Meanwhile, Trinity is testing all unvaccinated students weekly, as well conducting weekly surveillance testing on 10-15% of the vaccinated student population.

Several NESCAC institutions have experienced significant increases in the number of active cases, including both students and employees, this past week. Colby College's COVID-19 Dashboard reported 13 active positive cases in isolation as of Sept. 26, an increase of four cases in isolation compared last week. In

addition, Bates currently has six active cases (three students, three employees) up from a single case a week prior. Middlebury's active case count has also risen from two last week to four this week. Furthermore, Bowdoin's active case count recently rose from one to three cases over the course of the past week.

Other NESCAC institutions have seen cases either remain stable or decrease. For example, Hamilton College reported zero new cases and one active case for the week of Sept. 26. These findings mirror Hamilton's testing results for the week of Sept. 18. Wesleyan, Williams, and Amherst all saw their case counts drop from last week. Wesleyan went from eleven to three, Williams two to zero, and Amherst three to one.

The *Tripod* compiled COVID data from all the NESCAC schools to compare the change in total active cases from Monday, Sept. 20 to Monday, Sept. 27. Tufts was excluded as it much larger than the other NESCACs.



Trinity is faring well with respect to COVID when compared to the rest of the NESCAC, though there is some degree of uncertainty in comparison due to different testing protocols.

Intercollegiate Update: News on Nearby Campuses

Quinnipiac University	Bowdoin College	University of Connecticut
<p>Quinnipiac University will be charging parents and alumni \$50-100 Bobcat Weekend on Oct. 29-31, according to a recent article in <i>The Quinnipiac Chronicle</i>. Bobcat Weekend includes a series of events, including sports, speeches, and food, as well as presentations over a long weekend. For families of four, the cost of attendance is \$50; the cost for families of five more than doubles. These price increases evoked disappointment and frustration from parents of current students. "I made my travel arrangements back in May, which includes Airbnb, car, and flights," said a parent to the <i>Chronicle</i>. Associate Vice President for University Events and Community Partnerships Karla Natale indicated that Quinnipiac is not trying to earn money but rather offset expenses. Responding to these criticisms, Chief Experience Officer Tom Ellett recently announced that the University would launch the Parents Advisory Board which would provide a platform for parents to raise concerns alongside the Parent Council.</p>	<p>Middlebury College recently renamed its Mead Memorial Chapel, according to a Sept. 27 article in the <i>Bowdoin Orient</i>. Named after John Mead, the 53rd Governor of Vermont and member of the class of 1864, the chapel lost its name in acknowledgement of his role in promoting eugenics in Vermont during the early 1900s. The chapel will now be referred to as "The Middlebury Chapel" and "the chapel." Two years before donating \$74,000 to the college to create the chapel in 1914, Mead delivered a farewell address to the Vermont legislature advocating for the use of eugenic theory in governance. A Middlebury working group met in May to determine the future of the chapel following the Vermont legislature's apology for the "state's role in the eugenic movement, including the forced sterilization of 250 Vermonters." Following the working group's recommendation, the Trustees' Prudential Committee voted unanimously to remove Mead's name. voted unanimously to remove Mead's name.</p>	<p>Three students at the University of Connecticut's East Campus dormitories are demanding access to clean water and drinking fountains, according to a Sept. 27 article in <i>The Daily Campus</i>. The affected students created a petition earlier this month after experiencing side effects from dormitory water. Some East Campus residents reported developing acne due to the poor water quality of the showers. Others reported a dirty and black filter in their Brita's. A water station in Grange Halls was described as having a red filter. Many students are now purchasing large quantities of plastic water bottles so that they can have something to drink. "I'm constantly dehydrated and when I need water I can't always get it, and the sink water has a horrible taste," said fifth-semester illustration major Alexis Cariddi. The petitioning students received a total of 97 signatures the night of creating the petition, and they anticipate that they felt confident that they could quickly reach 500 signatures.</p>

College Campus Safety Report: Sept. 19 - Sept. 27

Sunday, Sept. 19
Clement Chemistry Building

Vandalism - Property
This case remains open.

Tuesday, Sept. 21
Crescent Street South Lot

Larceny, Theft from Vehicle
This case remains open.

Saturday, Sept. 25
Jackson Hall

Liquor Law Violation
4 Students received disciplinary referrals

SGA Elections for Class Senators, Class of 2025 President Finalized; 2 Vacancies for Class of 2023 and 3 for Class of 2022

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he wants to unite the class of 2024 after a COVID-altered first year, and focus "more funding for cultural organizations" which will create a shared learning "about different types of cultures and make it feel like home for POC." Fellow sophomore Swaray's main goal "lies in bringing the campus together and making Trinity students feel like they belong here, even if the school wasn't structured for people like them. It's time for Trinity to start heading into a more progressive direction in respects to what 'Makes a Bantam.'" Swaray would also like to facilitate "building better bonds within dorms so that more unconventional friendships are made and the divide is closed," as well as "curating events that cross social lines on campus so that the social scene on campus isn't so segregated."

Only two Senate positions for the class of 2023 were filled. The senators are Charlotte Bond '23, Reagan Flynn '23, and Alison Rau '23. Rau and Flynn will be splitting semesters as sena-

tor with the former serving for the fall semester and the latter serving for the spring semester. Bond is "passionate about enforcing the ideals of justice within our community," emphasizing her believe on how vaguely justice is discussed by administration and students. She would like to address the "never-ending cycle of injustice." She emphasized the importance of "The ones involved who can't forget [and] haven't forgotten. And I think it's time to start making our campus - our home away from home - a place where people can understand why something is wrong, and why it should never happen." Rau hopes to make the Class of 2023 feel welcome and comfortable, and "to improve variety and nutrition in dining options for students on campus."

Finally, there remain three vacant Senate seats for the class of 2022. Alexis Porto '22 is the lone Senator for the class. She explained that she would like to build a strong relationship between SGA and the student body to incite active changes. Further, she

would like "to help improve the student body's resources and agency." "I would like for every student to feel heard, well represented, safe, and comfortable on campus," she continued.

Though the winners of the 2021-2022 SGA election have been finalized, there are several vacant senator positions: two for the class of 2023 and three for the class of 2022. In a statement to the *Tripod*, SGA President Jederick Estrella '22 emphasized the importance of filling those vacancies. "As a student who goes to Trinity I can resonate with the feelings of loneliness and the lack of community we have as a campus. I also resonate a little harder with the first-gen, low-income, Gay Black experience that I deal with everyday going to a predominantly white, higher-income school. I say this not to lament on my difference, but to point out how daunting it is to try to build something from the ground up."

Estrella continued, "This school is a reflection of the society we inhabit, and we aren't all going to see eye to eye, but the

least we can do is to give the effort to TRY! We as Students are 1/3 of the governing power of this campus: Us, Administration, and Trustees." Lamenting students' general apathy, he continued, "Our lack of advocacy for the things we want and require as students is being sidelined by our own refusal to partake in our campus community. It's easy to point fingers at the structures that be, but if you aren't agitating said structures to move in the ways you want them to, we will continue to feed our cyclical unhappiness as a student body. So become a senator and represent the wants of not only your class but your larger community! If you can't put in those hours, at least come by to our student-wide meetings in McCook Auditorium Sundays, 7:00PM - 8:30PM and speak up for the things that need change on our campus!"

A Vacant Position Election for the classes of 2022 and 2023 will be held on Monday, Oct. 4. Candidate forms must be submitted by Thursday, Sept. 30 at 11:59 pm.

Catalytic Converter Thefts at Trinity

DANIEL J. NESBITT '22
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Several instances of catalytic converters being stolen from Trinity students' cars have been reported to the *Tripod* in recent weeks. This uptick in catalytic converter thefts at Trinity has followed the increase in catalytic converter thefts across the region. For example, there have been reports of catalytic converter thefts in both West Hartford, CT and Farmington, CT nearby.

According to a Sept. 22 email to the campus community from Jorge Lugo on behalf of Campus Safety, the thefts are being driven by rising prices of precious heavy metals that are found in the catalytic converters.

In speaking with Campus Safety officers, the *Tripod* learned that the thefts at Trinity have not been exclusive to a specific street or lot but have been widespread. In addition, the officers indicated that Campus Safety has increased patrols since Lugo's Sept. 22 email, and there have been no reported incidents since then.

Michael "Mikey" Bankston III '18

MELINA P. KORFONTA '25
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Trinity alumnus Michael "Mikey" Bankston III '18 has passed away earlier this month, according to an email sent out on Tuesday Sept. 21 by College Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life Marcus Halley.

Mikey attended Rauner College Prep in Chicago, Illinois. After graduating, he enrolled at Trinity College as a Posse Scholar in the fall of 2013. Mikey and his fellow Posse Scholars were supported by Associate Professor of Philosophy Dr. Donna-Dale Marcano, according to a statement circulated within the Posse community. Through guidance, opportunities, and hard work, he was able to find his passion for philosophy and took this passion beyond Trinity. Mikey also had aspirations of pursuing a career in medicine.

Throughout his time at Trinity, Mikey displayed a passion for his Latinx heritage and music. "He was heavily engaged in Trinity's Temple of Hip Hop, a four-day annual international hip hop festival, as an organizer and radio show host. He was also a member of the Samba Ensemble, a Brazilian drumming and singing group," per Halley's email. Mikey further pursued his interests as the Community Engagement Chair of La Voz Latina at Trinity in which he brought attention to Latin American culture, politics, and social issues within the Trinity community and beyond. Mikey also served as one of the first ten Trinity students to mentor 5th grade students at Hartford's Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan School, a public school serving a predominantly Latino population.

Halley announced that

help is available for those who need it in this time of mourning. The Office of Spiritual and Religious Life, Counseling and Wellness Center, and the Office of Student and Community Life at Trinity are resources available to all Trinity students. Contact information for these offices can be found on the Trinity College website under Health and Wellness in the Student Life section.

"Death is always a challenge to navigate...Death becomes increasingly more challenging to navigate when the deceased is a young person and when the death is the result of a tragedy. Please know that whatever you feel right now is valid. Please reach out for the help you need," said Halley. He also announced that the Chapel is open for prayer, and details regarding a formal remembrance of Mikey's life are forthcoming.

Title IX Search Committee Holds Forums for Finalists

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from St. John's University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice/Law and Public Policy from Walden University.

The *Tripod* was unable to obtain coverage of Pichardo's forum; Professor of Public Policy and Law Adrienne Fulco, as a member of the search committee, declined to provide details of the group's discussion with Pichardo as it would require her to "characterize the candidate's responses to questions."

Last week's forums are the College's second round of interviews for the position within the last year. In Sept. 2020, the committee held virtual forums for then-finalists Sophia Brevi and Kelly Yough. The search for a Title IX

Coordinator and Assistant Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion was suspended just months later in November.

Rojas told the *Tripod* via email that last year's search was unsuccessful, and the College decided not to hire either of the candidates that were under consideration at the time. Additionally, he did not explain why neither Brevi nor Kelly was not selected. Rojas also confirmed that the Title IX Coordinator and VP position were split into two full-time positions in the spring after receiving feedback from students and other members of the community. He also indicated that Trinity hired an individual to serve as a deputy Title IX coordinator throughout the summer.

OPINION

Life Without a Social Media Presence: How and Why We Should Rebuke Social Media's Sense of "Perfection"

SKYLER SIMPKINS '23
OPINION EDITOR

One of the major cornerstones of our lives today is social media. We worship this software that allows us to judge other people behind the protection of a username and a profile image of our favorite celebrity. Indeed, cyberbullying has experienced a proliferation due to the ability social media has given us to de-individuate ourselves from a decent human being to the most critical, omnipotent being that has ever existed. These issues social media breeds between relationships on the internet are a major problem of today, but what about the relationship malfunction produced by social media regarding our relationship to ourselves?

Scrolling through your Instagram page, you will be bombarded with images of your peers having the most fun of their lives, images of celebrities glorifying their wealth, and images of influencers reminding you that they have the most perfect body. All of this imagery does a disservice to our mental health by creating a false image

of perfection. We envision the perfect body, the perfect amount of money, the

media. So why do we keep devoting so much time to it? Surely if it affected

to feel helplessly inadequate. The unattainable model of perfection is proliferated throughout social media platforms, and I truly believe we will never be able to stop the growth of this imagery, but there are a few ways that we could make the individual choice to stand up against it.

Body positivity has represented one option of combating the "perfect" imagery, but this trend actively

major motion picture. This movement has been empowering to the creators, yet it still leaves viewers discombobulated by their never-ending need to become someone different.

The answer to ending the reign of terror that social media has over our mental health is not to combat with more media creation but rather to boycott all social platforms that propagate unattain-

"These issues social media breeds between relationships on the internet are a major problem of today, but what about the relationship malfunction produced by social media regarding our relationship to ourselves?"

perfect house, the perfect friends, and, once we pop out of this daydream, we are tossed into a black hole of despair for a "perfect" life that is unattainable, and we are consciously aware.

Social media causes us to learn helplessness and continually feel inadequate about living our lives because they are

our mental health this much, we would willingly step away from it. Right?

Unfortunately, that is not the reality behind any kind of addiction. Scrolling through our daily feeds and observing all those "perfect" lives generates an almost euphoric feeling in us as we are imagining ourselves in that position.

"Social media causes us to learn helplessness and continually feel inadequate about living our lives because they are worlds apart from the glorified life we see on social

worlds apart from the glorified life we see on social

It is when we fall off that high horse that we begin

garners popularity. With popularity comes lust and covetousness. Body positivity has declared that all bodies are beautiful, but in so doing, it has added confusion to the learned helplessness phenomenon that we all experience because we begin to want to embody every internet personality: a conglomeration that is too much to even be encapsulated into a ma-

able standards. We must stand up to these media magnets and show that popularizing physical conformity does not have a place in the modern world. We must support our individual beauty, both physical and mental. This prioritization of our own being can only be done when we cut out all the negative influence calling for us to become someone else.

"We must stand up to these media magnets and show that popularizing physical conformity does not have a place in the modern world. We must support our individual beauty, both physical and mental."

Dormitory Perspectives from a First-Year Student: How First-Years are Integrated into the Trinity Community

SAMMI BRAY '25
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I never went to sleep-away camp growing up; I adored theatre camp and the YMCA's programs, but sleepaway camp was where I drew the line.

I had a handful of sleepovers in elementary

rollercoaster of highs and lows—excited to go and then planning out how many times I could possibly come home in a week.

I moved into Trinity Hall (formerly Wheaton), on a sunny – which means boiling hot – Monday morning. The school had a system in place to check people

meet people, including Trinity's staff. Most of my best friends on campus are people I met during those first few days.

As regular orientation wrapped up, campus began to fill. After the past year and a half, seeing so many people was a bit overwhelming. Slowly, the wait for Mather got longer and longer, finding a table became a hunt. For first-years, it felt like our worlds were being shaken up again.

The feeling didn't last long though, and even in the moments of pure dining hall chaos, we all still felt like we were a part of the community, even if we didn't quite un-

In the bathroom, everyone said "hi," sharing room numbers, class schedules, and Instagram handles.

ers, who had been virtual since last March, it was a harder adjustment.

As we continue to set-

"I still don't know everyone's name on my floor, and I toss in turn in the dorm bed that still doesn't feel quite like mine yet, but being at Trinity is becoming home."

Most people leave their doors open, inviting others to stop in. One roommate has a sign to knock for candy, while others send messages in our GroupMe inviting others to come over and grab a snack.

At first, we all wore our masks in the halls and in the bathroom – some-

tle in and get more comfortable with each other, mask-wearing has certainly been reduced. Most people feel comfortable walking down the hall to brush their teeth without one, while a handful have decided to keep them on. I've noticed a difference in dress too, with more girls on my floor feeling comfortable in their bathrobes on the walk to the bathroom. I still don't know everyone's name on my floor, and I toss in turn in the dorm bed that still doesn't feel quite like mine yet, but being at Trinity is becoming home.

school and middle school but limited them as much as possible. I loved being with people, but I needed to be in my own bed at night.

The thought of living in a college dorm loomed over my head for years leading up to August 2021. I knew I had to do it, for the experience and independence of it that I've always craved. After graduation, I was a

in, but for pre-orientation students, that was mostly it. Most of us were a little lost, but perhaps Trinity intentionally made this our first bonding experience?

The first week or two were hardest, with no classes yet to give us structure. Pre-orientation kept us busy but lasted only two days. Still, the events served as a great way to

derstand what we were supposed to be doing.

In my dorm, I adjusted in new ways each day.

thing that most of us were used to after returning to school for the 2020-2021 academic year. For oth-

"Most of us were a little lost, but perhaps Trinity intentionally made this our first bonding experience?"

Bipartisan or Not, Congress Must Raise the Debt Ceiling to Avoid Potential Economic Consequences

KASH JAIN '24
OPINION EDITOR

Time is running out for Congress to lift the debt ceiling as the federal government inches closer to defaulting.

We have been here before. Congress has raised the debt ceiling 78 times since 1960 alone, each time allowing our government to borrow money to cover its obligations, including critical services for tens of millions of Americans. The U.S. reaching the debt ceiling would render the Treasury unable to pay for existing obligations, forcing it to default on the country's debt and likely creating a global economic crisis. Despite disputes over raising the debt ceiling over the years, Congress has always managed to come to an agreement and the federal government has avoided defaulting on its debt.

50-50 Senate with a 60-vote threshold to end a filibuster, any legislation supported by only one party is exceedingly difficult to pass, even if all members of the majority are in agreement—but the complete unwillingness of Republicans to come to the table on this issue will make it even more difficult for Congress to lift the ceiling, putting the United States at serious risk of defaulting.

Defaulting would undoubtedly have dire consequences. Last week, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen wrote that the U.S. defaulting “could trigger a spike in interest rates, a steep drop in stock prices, and other financial turmoil. Our current economic recovery would reverse into recession, with billions of dollars of growth and millions of jobs lost.” In a 2011 letter to then-Senate Majority Leader Harry

Reid, then-Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner outlined three significant impacts that could result from the U.S. defaulting. Firstly, there would be a considerable rise in interest rates, negatively impacting state and local governments as well as consumers. Additionally, the U.S. would be unable to continue paying for benefits, including Social Security, Medicare, and salaries for federal employees and military personnel. Most devastatingly, the U.S. dollar would drop in value, reducing international trust and interest in investing in the United States as well as sending shockwaves through global markets.

All of this would be avoided by simply raising the debt ceiling. This is not an issue where policy preferences or ideologies should come into play; it is not one where the right course of action is unclear. It is about preventing an economic disaster that would likely impact us for decades to come. Despite this, Republicans have been adamant in their refusal to support raising the ceiling, instead insisting that Democrats do it alone while also fully intending to use the filibuster to block them from doing so. Florida Senator Rick Scott, Chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC), suggested that the NRSC may use Democrats choosing to raise the debt ceiling in campaigning during midterm elections next fall.

It is clear that Republicans are prioritizing political gain over avoiding a disaster, which is indefensible.

Some Senators, including McConnell, have suggested that they are opposed to raising the debt ceiling because they do not want to allow Democrats to increase spending, par-

Responsibility for creating the debt is bipartisan, and responsibility for meeting the Nation's obligations must be shared by both parties.” Both parties have contributed to the debt, so they both should support increasing the debt ceiling.

However, Democrats — particularly those in Sen-

“Surely Republicans also have an obligation to allow for the repayment of debt they incurred through partisan legislation.”

ticularly through the infrastructure package that Congressional Democrats intend to pass through reconciliation. However, this is an illogical argument given that raising the debt ceiling does not increase spending — it simply allows the government to meet its existing obligations. Plus, Republicans added nearly \$2 trillion to the deficit in 2017 through the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act while the debt ceiling was suspended, which policy analysts estimate will continue to be paid off through 2026 or 2027. Surely Republicans also have an obligation to allow for the repayment of debt they incurred through partisan legislation?

Geithner's letter put it best: “these are legal obligations, incurred under the laws of the United States.

ate leadership or those who have continuously voiced opposition to filibuster reform — cannot be complicated and cannot allow the minority party to block an increase to the debt ceiling. Regardless of the possible political fallout from a partisan increase to the debt ceiling, the crisis that would be caused by failing to act must be averted. Democrats certainly have the power to ensure that it is by either using reconciliation to avoid the 60-vote threshold or by reforming the filibuster so that they are not reliant on Republican support to pass an increase.

Congress needs to raise the debt ceiling, and if Democrats have to do that without the support of Republicans and by reforming the filibuster, they must.

“This is not an issue where policy preferences or ideologies should come into play; it is not one where the right course of action is unclear. It is about preventing an economic disaster that would likely impact us for decades to come.”

However, Senate Minority Leader McConnell has been adamant that Republicans will not support any effort to raise the debt ceiling. In a

Reid, then-Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner outlined three significant impacts that could result from the U.S. defaulting. Firstly,

How to Improve Trinity's Student Involvement Fair

LUC BRYANT '22
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This article is intended to be one part quiet culmination, another part running list of ideas, and dash of trivial newspaper page filler. Trinity's Student Involvement Fair is held every year (with the exception of last year, obviously) in the early weeks of the first semester of the academic year. This year's fair took place on the main quad last Tuesday, Sept. 21, inviting students new and old to engage with the school's ever-expansive list of resume builders. Admittedly I had forgotten that the school kept up with this event until the day of. Nonetheless, I took a gander to see how it held up.

I think the fair does what it needs to do well. Every organization has its own place to self-advertise, and appearances are reliant on the

cooperation of those groups to showcase themselves adequately. Less utilitarian is the fair's importance to new students at building the community they know nothing about. Seeing all the members involved in student groups can and will spark inspiration for involvement and, down the line, creation of new student groups which in turn bolster the Trinity community. It's a self-improving cycle.

The fair is not an infallible system, however. I know

“The fair is not an infallible system, however. I know certain groups had trouble getting a table set up to advertise their involvement.”

certain groups had trouble getting a table set up to advertise their involvement. I also know, having attended a couple fairs in

my college career, how congested the setup was this year; not very conducive to get the attention of prospective students when all visibility for your table is blocked by visitors of someone else's table, let alone a potential COVID hypocrisy. I remember feeling overwhelmed as a new student at my freshman year involvement fair, seeing as many groups as there were but with very little information to help parse which ones were worth getting

better: fewer tables. This helps minimize the confusion and the clutter of people. How groups get select-

gives students the ability to make a plan and go find the tables and groups they really seem interested on,

“I feel the involvement fair in some ways echoes the S.A.I.L. system at the school; it's a bit of a clumsy mess.”

ed to have a table should be based on standing with the school, communication with S.A.I.L., and size of the group. Next idea: better organization for the tables. I have a hard time understanding whether or not the setups are organized by groups or at random, but having arranged clusters of tables, perhaps organized by discipline or alphabetically, will help students know where to look for their next venture. Third: flyers. Receiving a physical program upon arriving at the fair

spending less time wandering and overwhelmed.

I feel the involvement fair in some ways echoes the Student Activities, Leadership, and Involvement (S.A.I.L.) system at the school: it's a bit of a clumsy mess. I understand student involvement is reliant on the students' motivation to get themselves involved, I mean it's literally in the name, but helping grow the organizations and granting due respect to the leaders and groups on campus is a cooperative effort.

FEATURES

Breaking Down the Peter B's Menu: Top 10 Drinks

BAILEY MCKEON '22
FEATURES EDITOR

Peter B's Espresso, a popular coffee shop on campus, located on the ground floor of the Raether Library and Information Technology Center, is a one stop shop for all of your caffeine and pastry needs throughout the day. Since 1988, Peter B's has been serving students and faculty alike an array of drinks and snacks while simultaneously fostering a comfortable and convenient place to meet or study. Below is a listing of Peter B's most popular drinks and snacks, along with recommendations from two current baristas, Izzy Defilippo '22 and Erin DeMarco '23. The café is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 A.M. to midnight, Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 P.M., Saturday from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M., and Sunday from 10 A.M. to midnight. Be sure to stop by and try a delicious drink or baked good for yourself!

1. Iced Coffee

One of the most popular Peter B's drink. Brewed coffee beans with your choice of milk. You may also add syrup (suggested: vanilla or caramel) and/or extra shots of espresso if you choose. Iced coffee is a strong drink that allows you to be creative with your choices. Also available as a hot option.

2. Iced Matcha

Green tea powder with your choice of milk (suggested: oat milk). This herbal drink has a beautiful green color and not much caffeine. The matcha can also be a nice milky sweetener in combination with an iced coffee or shot of espresso. Also available as a hot option.

3. Iced Latte

Also a favorite Peter B's option. Two or three shots of espresso served over your choice of milk. This drink satisfies that coffee flavor craving. You may also add other flavoring to the drink (suggested: vanilla). Also available as a hot option.

4. Iced Mocha

Iced latte with pumps of chocolate sauce. Also available with white chocolate. Also available as a hot option.

5. Iced Caramel Macchiato

Iced latte with pumps of vanilla and caramel sauce drizzle. Also available as a hot option.

6. Cappuccino

Latte but is topped with foam. Can be served hot or cold.

7. Iced Chai

This very sweet drink is served with your choice of milk with chai concentrate. Also available as a hot option.

8. Chai Charger

Chai with a shot or two of espresso. Can be served hot or cold.

9. Iced Tea

A light and refreshing black or green tea with your choice of flavor if you wish (suggested: peach).

10. Hot Tea

Your choice between a variety of black or green tea. Honey available to add if you choose.



Photo courtesy of the Peter B's Facebook page

Liberal Arts Action Lab Gives Students the Valuable Opportunity to Engage with Hartford Community

OLIVIA PAPP '23
FEATURES EDITOR

The Liberal Arts Action Lab is a project which thrives on student and faculty collaboration from both Trinity College and Capital Community College and lasts the length of a full semester. Students apply to the Action Lab each semester and are given the opportunity to enroll in classes which strengthen their research and digital skills. The goal of the Liberal Arts Action Lab is to strengthen the city and its role in the region, create social innovation, uplift civic engagement, and sustainability. This fall, the projects in the Liberal Arts Action Lab are Community Ownership, Frog Hollow Storytelling, Neighborhood Investment, and Energy Efficiency. Each of these Projects are helping to support the surrounding Hartford community in ways that improve the conditions of the community.

The Action Lab is located in downtown Hartford. According to Erica Desmond '23, a student taking part in the current Liberal Arts Action Lab, "I am working in the neighborhood investment action lab this semester." This particular lab typically meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 9 P.M.

The Community Partner for this initiative is James Boucher, who serves on the board of Southwest and Behind the Rocks NRZ. Desmond offered that she feels the lab allows students to "have more of a say in the city of Hartford. In the lab, students meet to discuss possible ways that they can impact the local community."

Desmond also noted that being part of the neighborhood through the Liberal Arts Action Lab has complimented her studies and career goals. As part of the Liberal Arts Action lab, her "job is to study United States census's, previous statistics, and also conduct interviews with local Hartford residents. After doing this extensive research and data collecting, my group and I makes a comprehensive report which we will then present to our community partner, James Boucher. He will be the person to then present our findings to the local government to hopefully perpetuate change."

Unfortunately, Hartford is one of the four poorest cities in the United States of America. The city of Hartford suffers daily from food insecurity, unequally funded schools, poor housing, homelessness, all while in such close proximity to thriving towns

such as West Hartford.

Desmond detailed the work her group has done to examine the wealth distribution in the surrounding area. "Recently, my group has only done research involving studying statistics and reading articles. As we are studying the change in development and wealth distribution in Hartford, over the past fifty years, these articles and findings are critical for contextualizing some of the issues we see today in Hartford."

While there are many issues in Hartford that must be addressed, the Hartford education system is a sub-

stantial issue that Desmond is passionate about and would like to help solve. As an Education Major, Desmond has "focused a lot on the unequal funding in the school system and the uncertainty of the magnet school lottery." The city of Hartford has both public schools and magnet schools to try and level the playing field for Hartford local students. Magnet schools tend to be better funded with better resources and better programs. The magnet school lottery selects students to receive the opportunity to go to the magnet school for free.

While there are many

different avenues to take with this project, the path which this year's group settles on will certainly make an impact on the Hartford community, and Desmond hopes that they will "see some investments in the public-school systems, potentially some scholarship programs to help students achieve a college education."

If interested in participating in the Liberal Arts Action Lab next semester, contact Director of the Liberal Arts Action Lab and Lecturer in Urban Studies Emily Cummins. From there, students will be asked to fill out an application.



JCI.COM

Student Clubs and Organizations Are Set to Resume In-Person Meetings for the 2021-2022 Academic Year

SAMMI BRAY '25
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With the COVID-19 pandemic running its course for the entire academic calendar of 2020, discussing campus involvement with a first-year student was a short conversation. Slowly returning from nearly an entire semester off, student organizations were mostly non-existent.

However, on Tuesday, Sept. 21, the main quad was lined with tables, drawing students in from 4 to 6 P.M. Prepared with plans for the return of clubs, club leaders and their sign-up sheets welcomed students to a new year of possibilities.

After collecting student information, most club leaders sent out detailed messages with plans to meet Thursday, September 23rd, to further discuss plans for the year. Trinity's improv group,

Moveable Joints, hosted two rounds of auditions at The Fred, including students from all grade levels. The current leaders, juniors Jane Fantozzi '23 and Jill Schuck '23, led the introductory meeting.

Fantozzi and Schuck shared plans to meet twice a week to rehearse, then worked with groups of students in introductory improv activities, like making up story lines or creating captions for imaginary images. Interested members also had to fill out a paper application, asking for a self-portrait, the funniest word they could think of, and what they thought the worst smelling part of campus is (most answers included the trees by Mather and the football locker).

Fantozzi expressed the difficulties of trying to perform with COVID-19. "Honestly, I barely had one normal semester while in Moveable Joints so

far," she said. Typically, the group would try to do multiple shows a semester, but with COVID-19, it became impossible.

"Last year, we had on-line shows that were fun, but we are really eager to be back in person and performing again," Fantozzi said. The group is planning to get a bigger space to perform, allowing for social distancing and are "hoping to have a good year with lots of laughs."

Mock Trial also hosted an information session last Thursday afternoon. Students interested in being on the team are required to audition, read their own work, provide a one-minute speech without notes, and discuss a given topic. Thursday served as an opportunity to learn more, alongside pizza, before students decided if they would like to try out.

The Trinity College Philosophy Club, which focus-

es on topics that are student picked and often not discussed in a classroom environment, began meeting Friday, Sept. 24, in the Washington Room above Mather. Club president Charlotte Bond '23, ran a casual meeting, describing the club's plans and some introductory topics. Bond stressed that members are welcome to come and go as they please, with the option to only join the club when the topic interests them.

The club also posted to their Instagram about Friday's meeting and plans for their next meetings, which will continue to be on Fridays, 3 to 6 P.M. The Instagram's manager, Chris Chiasera '24, reiterated the club's flexibility, mentioning that staying for the entirety of a meeting is neither required nor expected.

The school's Amnesty Club is also back on for this year, under the guidance of Sara Lambert '22.

Last year, Lambert hosted biweekly, virtual meetings. "Because of the nature of what we do, it was not too difficult to transition online," Lambert shared.

"It was very challenging to get information out to the freshman class about who we are and what we do, when so little could happen in person last year," she continued. The club focused on remote letter-writing and educational talks online for the first half of last year, but during the spring semester of 2021, they were able to meet in person again.

"I could tell people were more enthusiastic about meetings in the spring than in the fall," Lambert said, hopeful that the new school year will bring continued engagement.

For those still interested in joining school organizations, more information can be found on Bantam Link.

A Series of Female Revolutionaries: Joy Mangano

KATIE CERULLE '22
FEATURES EDITOR

This past Tuesday evening, I was sitting on my newly used couch from Facebook marketplace in my common room trolling Amazon Prime to find a movie to watch while I ate my bistro sandwich. I landed on one called *Joy*, starring Jennifer Lawrence about a woman who invents a new type of mop with continuous, self-wringing and detachable mop heads. Seems pretty simple, I know, but at the time this was a revolutionary concept.

In the movie, *Joy Mangano* is a newly divorced, single mother with two children just trying to make ends meet. In the summer of 1989, after cutting her hand on a bloody mop on her friend's boat, she had an epiphany: a mop that can wring itself. In addition to this, she adds continuous loops and a detachable feature so one can just throw the head in the washing machine without touching it. She continues to make them out of her father's garage in Long Island, enduring many obstacles along the way to patent her product and drive them to a national success. After years of creating prototypes, developing relationships

and selling the product on her own, she landed a gig with QVC. On QVC, or the Home Shopping Television Network, she is very excited to present her product, but keeps freezing on set. She mentions that due to the immense pressure of selling her product on live TV in front of millions, she can't seem to get a word out. After a phone call to her close friend, she gets back on stage and tries again, selling over 50,000 mops in three minutes. One obstacle she faces is, someone tries to steal her design for the mops while she is trying to get a patent for the product. Another is running out of money to fund her project. Despite this, she ultimately becomes a wild success and runs her business herself for years.

Upon investigation of the real life of Joy Mangano, while some of the facts of the movie lie in the creative passions of director David O. Russell, the story of Mangano makes her more than qualified to be deemed one of my revolutionary women.

Throughout the movie, there were many scenes of misogyny as Mangano was a young, female entrepreneur. The men closest to her continuously advise her to give up her entrepreneurial pursuits due to her lack of experience.

In addition to being in the working class, society's stigma of women's capabilities left their options limited. Working in business and running a company were usually not in the realm of possibilities. Even though numerous people did not believe in her, after her small stutter on the QVC stage, she managed to sell her mop to hundreds of thousands of other housewives while simultaneously breaking through gender barriers. After years of running her company and patenting

hundreds of products, including the Miracle Mop and one of QVC's best-selling products to date, the Huggable Hanger, she sold the company to the home shopping network in 1999 for an undisclosed amount. Her net worth is reportedly over 50 million dollars.

As I previously mentioned in this article, along with my previous two articles about revolutionary women, these seem like stories that may not be that significant. Who cares, really, about a mop, right? WRONG. It's not

about the mop. Well, it is about the mop. But it's also about Mangano's constant battle and determination to do more. She strove to drive her products to success in a way that changed the face of entrepreneurial figures. While she was by no means the first woman to run a successful business, I find her story to be inspiring in her defying all obstacles and finding a way to success no matter what. That is the lesson that I took from her story: success is created by constant persistence and drive.



Arts & Entertainment

The Rise and the Fall of “Esskeetit”: Revisiting Lil Pump

LIZ FOSTER '22
BITS&PIECES EDITOR

“Yeah, I sell crack in the halls,” brags a then-17-year-old Gazy Garcia, better known by his rap moniker Lil Pump, on his track “Boss.” The single would be one of many that skyrocketed Lil Pump to the limelight of SoundCloud and “mumble rap” at the end of the 2010s. The infectious trap sound that emerged out of Atlanta migrated to South Florida as rappers like Ski Mask the Slump God, XXXTentacion, and Lil Pump spun their own versions of the genre.

On a personal-parasocial level, the Broward county rapper repeatedly served as enthralling material for a trifecta of articles: a review on his full length albums, a diagram of his most frequently employed ad libs, and a critique of rap’s drug culture that has since claimed the lives of Lil Peep, Juice Wrld, and Mac Miller. I find myself searching for an industry figure equivalent, or even similar to, Mr. Garcia but all have paled in comparison.

Lil Pump emerged at the prime time for a persona of his nature to ascend into mainstream stardom. From posting tracks detailing both selling and doing drugs with the elderly on skeletal

streaming platforms to a Saturday Night Live performance with Kanye West, Mr. Garcia solidified himself as a keystone of pop culture. His 2017 release “Gucci Gang” officially-unofficially contributed to the titular brand doubling their sales in the following year; his self-titled debut scored a solid 6.9 from Pitchfork and an impressive 7/10 from popular internet figure, critic, and self-professed “internet’s biggest music nerd” Anthony Fantano. The tastemakers with the power to make and break careers and establish the public opinion granted Lil Pump access to the upper echelon of contemporary rap, handing him the keys to a kingdom dominated by giants like Lil Uzi Vert, Drake, and the Migos.

The rapper’s first full length release, Lil Pump, offered features from contemporaries like Smokepurpp and more established artists like Chief Keef, Lil Yachty, and 2 Chainz; the latter notably sings “Ice, ice freezing; ice, ice sneezing!” on “Iced Out.” The album featured few sleepers and, even when it bordered on repetitive, showcased the power of producer Diablo’s skills. There was a charming, comedic quality to Lil Pump’s lines as he spit

heavy bars over aggressive, car-rattling songs. The bass on tracks like “D Rose” was strong enough to kill a small animal and give your grandparents a heart attack. In a word, Lil Pump was riveting.

In 2019, I argued that Harvard Dropout had an “irresistible quality,” but three years later I’d like to retract that statement. It is Lil Pump himself who possessed the irresistible quality—not his mediocre sophomore album. His bars about money, drugs, and women had lost their fresh, fun quality from his 2016-2018 career cycle. The antics that earned him virality, such as live streaming a girl performing a not-so-PG act and his pissing on a stack of cash, lost their charm. The raucous shout of “ESKETTIT!” just didn’t hit the same; his droning repeats of lines like “everybody wanna be like me” or “I don’t know the bitch, but I know her stripper name.” What had won over critics and the everyman alike had lost its shiny new charm.

A 2019 article from Buzzfeed on Lil Pump begins with the simple sentence: “Lil Pump can’t find his weed.” This would mark the beginning of the end. He was an overgrown child facing the sophomore slump, a teenager with no one to tell

him “no.” With no real goal, a presumably misunderstood contract, and increasingly more drab releases, Lil Pump was inching towards a freefall into musical despondency. Yet, one has to wonder if the potential for longevity was ever even there. Did Lil Pump have any real chance at lasting stardom, or was he a contemporary caricature of what rap had become?

The rapper “quit” his music career in early 2020 in a dramatic Instagram story, but later returned to the scene in a considerably bizarre way—in support of then-President Donald Trump. He paid homage to the Donald with the song “Lil Pimp Big MAGA Steppin’”; however, the single was only released after the incumbent candidate lost the 2020 election. Since then, Lil Pump developed into a sell out, now plugging shady cryptocurrency and sacrificing his integrity in the name of attention from one of the country’s most controversial political characters. Gazy Garcia, following the rhetoric established by Mr. Trump and his cohorts, waged war on mask-wearing and earned himself a ban from JetBlue in December of 2020. Lil Pump’s desperate attempts

to cling to relevancy of years past failed in epic proportions. The bizarre charisma that wooed the people had worn away to reveal nothing more than a washed-up, tatted-up artist breaching the end of his career.

In a way, the loss of Lil Pump shows the failure of his subgenre to create long-lasting stars. The category of “Soundcloud rap” encompassed sounds from the gothier-punk influenced \$uicideboy\$, to the trappier Ski Mask the Slump God, but the origin of these artists from the free streaming site linked them into a pseudo-genre: the pseudo-genre represented by the grinning grills and colorful tattoos on Lil Pump’s face. Artists Lil Peep, XXXTentacion, and Juice Wrld stood alongside Pump as the essential figures; following the death of the three, the failure of Lil Pump’s career shows the ending of an era that was. Years down the line, we will reflect upon the end of the 2010s and wonder what was the final nail in the coffin of South Florida-ruled underground rap. More likely than not, this nail will sport colorful dreads and a dusted MAGA hat, triumphantly fading into oblivion with one final shout of “ESKETTIT!”

Alternative Songs You Can Run To, But Only If You Want

CAROLINE RICHARDS '22
A&E EDITOR

We are entering ideal outdoor running weather, ladies and gentlemen. It’s the three weeks of Fall (if we’re lucky) when the weather balances precariously between the low seventies and high sixties. It’s when no one knows whether to dress for summer or fall anymore and no one owns enough long-sleeved t-shirts so everyone gets creative. It’s also when Ferris, that godforsaken place, starts to finally cool off so you can run a little longer on the treadmill without feeling as though you’re trekking across the Gobi desert in cargo pants and a ski jacket. Anyways, even though I’m a terrible runner I’m excited and I hope you are too. Here’s some music to try out or add to your running playlists if you feel inclined. Listen to them as you fast walk between classes, or to coffee runs at Peter B’s. If you’re running late I hope they put an extra pep in your step.

Social Cues by Cage the Elephant

Underrated song from their most recent album that has both excellent vocals and headbanging drums. Very drama.

Dope on a Rope by The Growlers

I love The Growlers and this is one of my favorite songs by them. I get fixing a car vibes?

Suckers Prayer by The Decemberists

The Decemberists were really made for this weather, it’s funky by lyrically reticent of Tom Petty. Physically you’re running but mentally you’re singing along at a tailgate.

Medicine by Dayglow

Every member of Dayglow is a maincharacter, and they’ll make you feel like one too. Soul-soothing-pause-to-dance-in-crescent-parking-lot energy.

Valentine by DIIV

DIIV is one of my favorite bands right now. Put this one at the beginning of your playlist and you will ascend. You won’t be able to run without it. Alien car chase? It’ll make sense.

Whiteout by Warpaint

Just really f***ing good. There’s nothing else quite like it. Also a good breakup song?

Knee Socks by Arctic Monkeys

Loud electric guitar and Alex Turner roaring in your ears. You’ll run faster, and you’ll feel hot doing it, I promise.

It’s Real by Real Estate

Real Estate is very good, and very rarely misses. Yes, we all might die eventually but this song will remind you that the sun is shining and you’re happy to be alive.

OK by Wallows

I love Wallows, we all love Wallows. If you don’t love Wallows, you should probably start loving Wallows. I sometimes involuntarily start to sing this song mid-run and then ruin my pacing, but alas.

L.I.N.E by Beach Fossils

I could harp on the subject of Beach Fossils and their greatness all day. Listen to this song and you will understand. Will prompt an intense romanticism for anyone you pass.

Weekly Skylights: The *Tripod* Looks to the Clouds

JOEY CIFELLI '23
A&E EDITOR



September 21, 2021, part 1. 8.2/10.

(Left) The procession trailed along the carved winding path through the mountains. A hundred or so carts, cargo flats filled to the edges with boxes and barrels of various shape and size. All empty. One cart driver, bored, chewed on a piece of straw and glanced toward the top of the mountain beside them. He followed the rock higher and higher as it curved away until his head and neck aligned, and even so the very peak of the mountain lay out of reach, obscured by a swirling disk of clouds. A noise at the front of the caravan caught his ear. A barrage of “hold!”s and “woah, now!”s came by as drivers turned and shouted behind them. The procession ground to a halt. He was too far back to make out anything distinct at the front. But likely the crew leader was involved. And perhaps the Hunter. And maybe even the Killer. The young cart driver shuffled back in his hard wooden seat and sighed, wondering what in the world concerned people like that.

(Right) “Well, this is concerning.” Three people stood before a boulder in the path. A boulder, they called it, although if someone had identified the obstacle as a fledgling mountain, recently hatched, well, no one would come forward and say otherwise. The three of them stood in front of it: the Hunter, called Nital, the crew deputy, and the crew leader, who had just outlined the troubling nature of their circumstance. “This wasn’t on the map, Sir, any of them,” said the deputy, shuffling through papers as she did. Nital held his hands on his hips, above the many scabbards that rested there. The crew leader turned to him and said, “might be best if you got comfortable, we’ll be here awhile.”



September 21, 2021, part 2. 7.8/10.



September 21, 2021, part 3. 7.4/10.

(Left) A voice came from a carriage close by, clear and soft at the same time, saying “what’s the matter? We’ve stopped.” No one said anything, and then Nital walked over to the carriage door and leaned in. “Boulder on the path. Big one.” A figure poked his head out from the shadows deep in the plush interior. “Might I help? It shouldn’t be a problem, really,” said the Killer, named Errain. Nital scratched his head. He turned around and beckoned for Errain to come out of the carriage. Small leather boots followed larger ones down the steps and the pair stood together gazing at the boulder once more. “It is rather large,” said the Killer, “but a large rock is still a rock. Give me one second.” Errain walked forward and placed his hands on the rockface. The deputy and leader and other crew members stopped what they were doing and retreated behind carts or rocks as he passed by. They had a faint idea what was about to take place. The air was still. A bird floated by overhead, unaware.

(Right) Errain took a deep breath, and then another, and then strained his entire body to the point where every vein, muscle, and bone was visible against his outstretched skin, but his movements remained calm. He raised an arm, slowly, and simply walked forward. As he moved the boulder seemed to melt away around him without any noise or heat, heaps of rock pulling away from the main body and oozing onto the ground like honey. After ten steps he reached the other side, and where he had walked remained a tunnel, of perfect size for a caravan. The Killer walked back through the tunnel, past the still-silent faces, nodded to Nital, and hopped into the carriage. “Onward, then,” came a soft voice from inside, “the harvest waits for no one!”



September 21, 2021, part 4. 9.2/10.

SPORTS

Breaking: Lewis Hamilton Makes Formula 1 History

PATRICK GRIMES '23
SPORTS EDITOR

Mercedes-AMG Petronas driver Lewis Hamilton has taken the racing world along for a wild ride since he began his career at the ripe age of 23 in 2007. On Sept. 26, 2021, in Sochi, Russia, Lewis Hamilton became the first Formula One driver to collect 100 wins. He did so in dramatic comeback fashion that barely edged out his rival Max Verstappen. Lewis Hamilton's 100th win is so remarkable because Lewis

has only appeared in 282 races since his debut. This means Hamilton has placed first in just under one in every three races he drives, an absolutely staggering win percentage. Hamilton's 100th win is not only significant to his career and legacy but was critical to his 2021 season. This win allowed him to retake the top spot in the driver's championship standings. The one he surpassed, promising young star and fierce rival Max Verstappen of Red Bull Racing. Hamilton began the race

in Sochi on Saturday with a rough start unusually far back on the grid. After gaining momentum, he overtook Fernando Alonso of Alpine on the outside. Max Verstappen and Red Bull began the race in last due to a penalty caused by an engine change. Verstappen, like Hamilton, quickly found his way through the field and towards the front of the pack. Like other sports, weather plays a significant role in Formula One. In the last few laps, rain began to downpour. This can cause

traction issues quickly for drivers that are not wise. Verstappen changed his tires immediately to account for the track's slickness and gained a podium finish with his agile thinking. Lando Norris, fan favorite driver of McLaren, had the lead until the rain began. His gamble to not head to the pit for a tire change resulted in his car careening off the track after taking a corner too quickly. His lead was taken by Lewis Hamilton.

Lewis finished about 56 seconds ahead of sec-

ond-place rival Max Verstappen, claiming a two-point lead over Verstappen in the driver's championship standings as a bonus. Carlos Sainz Jr. rounded out the podium at third for Ferrari. The 2021 Formula One season is about halfway through and viewership in the United States is skyrocketing. The action unfolds on Saturday mornings at 8 am at tracks across the world. Tune in because Lewis Hamilton now has win number 100 and shows no sign of slowing down.

USWNT: Showing Out the Competition Post-Olympics

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

The United States Women's National Soccer Team has shown out with two wins, post their Olympic competition. The team won bronze in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics this past summer, unable to make it into the contention for gold or silver. After finishing the tournament, Carli Lloyd has decided to retire after their U.S. victory tour, which includes four "friendly" games in four different cities. Carli Lloyd, 39, an American soccer icon, is a two-time FIFA Women's World Cup champion, two-time Olympic gold medalist, and two-time FIFA Player of the Year. Winning 9-0 and then 8-0 against Paraguay, the USWNT have shown their dominance and proven their reputation as number one in the world. In their first matchup, Lloyd led an offensive explosion, tying a

team record with five goals in a single match in the USWNT's first match after the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. Lloyd moved up to third on the U.S. all-time goal-scoring list. She now has 133 career international goals, passing Kristine Lilly (130 goals), and is only behind Mia Hamm (158) and Abby Wambach (184). Lloyd becomes the 10th player in USWNT history to score five goals in a game. The USWNT's home unbeaten streak now stands at 59 games, which includes 54 wins and five draws. During that stretch, the U.S. has outscored its opponents 213-27, including an 83-3 margin during its last 20 matches at home, all of which have been wins. It's the USA's 21st-straight home victory, dating back to head coach Vlatko Andonovski's first match in charge of the team in November of 2019. In their next matchup against

Paraguay, the USWNT came out strong again, beating them by one less than the last matchup. The 8-0 rout saw a hattrick by another American soccer icon, Alex Morgan. Morgan took over the spotlight, scoring a header goal of her own off a perfect cross from Lavelle in the eighth minute. Morgan tallied her second of the night in the 14th minute after crushing a volley off a poor clearance from a Paraguayan defender. Morgan struck again in the 53rd minute after Smith received the ball high up the right flank and sent in a cross which she finished near-post to record her fifth career international hat trick and 114th career goal. With her three goals on the night, Morgan has now scored seven goals since becoming a mother and ranks second in that category behind only Joy Fawcett, who scored 13 goals for the USA as a mom. After coming on

as a substitute in the 61st minute, midfielder Carli Lloyd, playing in her third to the last match for the USA, continued to add to her prolific career total after scoring off a rebound following a set

piece in the 78th minute. Lloyd has now scored eight in the team's last three matches. Lloyd will play her final two games with the USWNT against South Korea.



This Week in Sports at Trincoll...

Women's Volleyball v. United States Coast Guard Academy	L, 1-3	Football v. Bowdoin College	W, 38-14
Women's Volleyball v. Smith College	W, 3-2	Women's Volleyball v. Mass. Maritime Academy	W, 3-0
Women's Field Hockey v. Williams College	W, 1-0	Women's Volleyball v. Mass. College of Liberal Arts	W, 3-0
Men's Soccer v. Wesleyan University	L, 0-1	Men's Soccer vs. Williams College	L, 1-2
Women's Soccer vs. Williams College	W, 1-0	Women's Soccer v. Clark University	W, 1-0

This Week in Sports At Trincoll...

Weekend Game Recap: Highlights Include Men's Golf

PATRICK GRIMES '23
SPORTS EDITOR

It was a fantastic weekend for Trinity athletics as many of the fall teams took their talents on the road. Trinity showcased its athletic talent all over New England with contests near and far from the Ferris Athletic Center. One hotspot of Bantam talent this weekend, however, was Brunswick, Maine. Trinity's hosts, the conference opponent Bowdoin polar bears, could not best the Bantams despite their home-field advantage. Trinity's football, men's tennis, and men's golf teams shipped up north on Saturday Sept. 25 for a weekend of com-

petition. Football found a routine W against Bowdoin on the gridiron, taking a 24-point victory (Final score 38-14). Men's Tennis sent Henry Bilicic '24 and Ross DeRose '22 to compete in the ITA Men's Tennis Regionals hosted by Bowdoin. Finally, men's golf was led by Jack Godin's '24 three-under performance to first place after day one of the Bowdoin College Invitational.

Football showed-off the Fetter-Reid connection in back-to-back competitions. Quarterback Spencer Fetter '23 threw for 355 yards, 205 of which were caught by Devante Reid '22. Trinity Football now boasts a 2-0 record and 21 straight wins over Bowdoin. Trin-

ity built a 17-0 lead before halftime courtesy of an opening Matt James '25 field goal and two Fetter passing touchdowns caught by TE Jack Barrett '22 and WR Jonathan Girard '22. Trinity's running game was successful this Saturday as well. William Kirby, class of '24 running back, finished with 74 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns, including the Bantams' third quarter opening touchdown to extend their lead to 24-0. Shortly after, Bowdoin's Andre Eden planted a 13-yard rushing touchdown as a polar bears' retaliation. Regardless, Bowdoin's efforts were not enough, as Trinity would stomp two more touch-

downs in the second half, voiding Bowdoin's chance at victory. Trinity's 38-14 victory over the polar bears will surely contribute to their momentum, as they look to continue their success at Middlebury next Saturday, Oct. 2 at 1 P.M.

Men's tennis saw Henry Bilicic '24 and Ross DeRose '22 compete at the ITA Men's Tennis Regionals and succeed. The two logged a doubles victory in the tournament's first round, toppling Wheaton college's pair of Tracy and Anschuetz 8-3. Unfortunately, after a second-round battle with host, Bowdoin, they fell 8-6. Individually, Henry Bilicic '24 took down Springfield College's Zach

Taub in two sets before falling to Damien Ruparel of Amherst, 6-3, 6-1. Senior Ross DeRose lost a tight match to Conn. College's Julian Tien 6-4, 7-6.

Men's golf enjoyed success on Saturday as well, but they will continue their fight as the weekend wraps up. Jack Godin '24 shot a 69 and finished the day atop the leaderboard at the Bowdoin College Invitational. Godin's three-under round left him with a one-shot lead over the field at Brunswick Golf Club. The Bantams combined for a score of six over par, which was good enough for a first-place spot with a three-stroke lead.

Field Hockey Triumphs Twice; Maintains Strong Start

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

The Trinity Women's field hockey team rarely ceases to amaze Bantam students and fans alike, with a dominant performance against Springfield College on Tuesday, Sept. 21. India Shay '22, Caelin Flaherty '22, and Jackie Frank '24 combined for a total of seven goals. This rout is not uncommon for the women as they have scored a total of 26 goals in their first five games, with only two goals scored against. This win over Springfield College makes the women the current winningest team on campus. This winning streak has improved the Bantam to 13th in the nation. Senior captain India Shay '22 had a standout performance, with three goals in multiple quarters. Fan favorite and scoring machine Caelin Flaherty

'22 scored twice, once on an individual breakaway that had Springfield defenders reeling. Another exceptional performance came from senior captain Christine Taylor '22, who was recently named Bantam of the week for her performance against Smith College. She has started all five games this season and will continue to be a force the Bantams rely on to make plays in the midfield, on offense, and defense. The Bantams showed their strength quickly, scoring the first goal in 32 seconds of the starting whistle. Frank '24 put away a rebound from Flaherty '22 and from then on, the two starting forwards were electric, assisting each other and making plays to move the ball up the middle towards goal. Shay '22 scored a hattrick, the first time in her college career, giving the Bantams a defi-

nite lead relatively early in the game. Goalie Olivia McMichael '24, in her first career start, made a total of five saves, shutting out Springfield in the first half. Goalie Emma Cropper '23 took over in the second half to end the game, with no goals scored against. The Bantams outshot the pride 30-9, showing off their dynamic offense. Riley Nichols '23, starting wing and skillful playmaker, commented after the game, "The field hockey team is a really close-knit group this year. It's such a great environment to be both on and off the field. We have started strong this season and I am extremely excited and confident about the rest of the season." With the best start to the season on record, the Bantams have a great chance to make a scene in the NESCAC this upcoming season. The matchups to look out

for are against Williams, Tufts, and Middlebury. With a good enough record, or with a third-place finish or better within the NESCAC conference, the women will face a competitive post-season. The team faces Williams away, their second NESCAC game,

Saturday, Sept. 25. With such a good showing of fans at home games, the women have been excited by the buzz surrounding their exceptional season start. Bantam fans are hungry for another win, and so is the team.



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First-Year Ashley Zigler '25 scored the Bantam's only goal in their game against No. 7 ranked Williams College this past Saturday, Sept. 25. The team came out victorious with a score of 1-0. The team will take on Wesleyan University tonight at 6 P.M.

Coming Up for Bantam Sports:

Tue.

Field Hockey at Wesleyan University
@ 6 p.m.

Women's Volleyball v. Northern Vermont University-Johnson @ 6 p.m.

Men's Soccer v. Western New England University @ 7 p.m.

Wed.

Women's Soccer v. Union College
@ 7 p.m.

