

The Trinity Tripod

ESTABLISHED 1904

Now then-Trinity!

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Volume CXX
Number V

COVID Update

MELINA KORFONTA '25
STAFF WRITER

page 4 Staff Writer Melina Korfonta '25 looks at the increase in COVID-19 cases on campus; a total of seven as of Oct. 12.

Crescent Compost

KATIE CERULLE '22
FEATURES EDITOR

page 7 Features Editor Katie Cerulle '22 discusses the new composting initiative Crescent Street Townhouses have taken on.

Squid Game

LIZ FOSTER '22
BITS&PIECES EDITOR

page 9 Bits&Pieces Editor Liz Foster '22 reviews the Netflix show Squid Game that is taking the country by storm.

Football Victorious

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

page 12 The Bantam Football team continues winning streak with an easy win against Bates.

To Our Readers:

Keep your eye out for the *Tripod's* humor section: *Bits&Pieces*. Find *Bits&Pieces* in the back of next week's issue!

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

Trinity Appoints Shannon Lynch as Title IX Coordinator, Ends Two-Year Position Vacancy

FAITH MONAHAN '24
NEWS EDITOR

Shannon Lynch has been appointed as Trinity's Title IX Coordinator, according to an email from Assistant Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Compliance Pamela Whitey Friday afternoon. Lynch's appointment marks the end of a two-year vacancy for the position after former Associate Director of Human Resources Venice Ross, who also served as Trinity IX Coordinator for over a year, left Trinity for SOHO Health in Aug. 2019. Lynch will arrive at Trinity to begin her work in November.

"Shannon will support Trinity's ongoing work to create a campus culture that is welcoming and inclusive for students, faculty, and staff. She will serve as the primary contact to coordinate the college's response to all Title IX allegations through consistent



Shannon Lynch has been appointed as Trinity's Title IX Coordinator and will begin working in November. Her appointment marks the end of a two-year vacancy for the Title IX Coordinator position which has been vacant since Aug. 2019.

practices and standards that are fair and equitable," said Whitley in her email. "Those who interviewed her noted her strong communication skills, her experiences conducting interviews and preparing

witness statements, and her knowledge of Title IX." Lynch received a B.A. in Communications from Howard University and a J.D. from Western New England University School of Law. Lynch previous-

ly served as a Law Clerk and Litigation Specialist at Raipher P.C. in Springfield, Massachusetts. Before her time at Raipher, Lynch worked as a Law Clerk to the Title IX

see TITLE IX on page 4

Campus Safety Releases Annual Security Report: Crime and Disciplinary Actions Slightly Decline for 2020 Compared to 2019

JACK P. CARROLL '24
MANAGING EDITOR

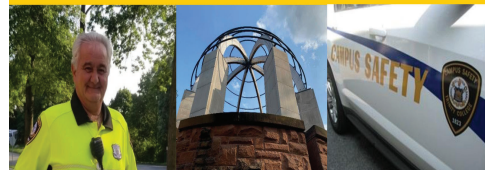
Trinity released the College's Annual Security Report and Annual Fire Safety Report for 2020 on Thursday, Sept. 30 according to an email sent by Interim Director of Campus Safety and Dean of Community Life and Standards Robert P. Lukaskiewicz to the Trinity College community.

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crimes Statistics Act requires colleges and universities to disclose "statistics concerning the occurrence of certain criminal offenses reported to local law enforcement agencies or any official of the institution who is defined as 'Campus Security Authority.'" These

criminal offenses include: murder, sex offenses (forcible/non-forcible), burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, larceny-theft, vandalism, intimidation, simple assault, and destruction of property. Schools are required to disclose statistics for biased-related (hate) crimes as well.

Trinity's crime statistics for 2020 slightly declined from previous years. There were 13 instances of aggravated assault on public property, two off campus, and one on campus. These figures are lower than those reported in 2019 (17 public property, three off campus), although higher than the 2018 numbers (one on campus, one in student housing, five on public property). The report notes that 11 of the 13 aggravated assaults on

ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT Statistics for 2018, 2019, and 2020



Trinity released the College's Annual Security Report and Annual Fire Safety Report on Thursday, Sept. 30.

public property last year were "paintball instances that resulted in no serious injuries."

The total number of reported burglaries also dropped from previous years. In 2020, there were five burglaries on campus,

four in student housing, and four off campus. In 2019, these figures were six, five, and four respectively; the year prior, Trinity reported eight burglaries on campus, three in student housing, and three

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The Trinity Tripod

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DANIEL J. NESBITT '22

MANAGING EDITOR
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NEWS EDITOR
FAITH MONAHAN '24

OPINION EDITORS
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KASH JAIN '24

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SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
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**BUSINESS
MANAGER**
ALEXANDRA BOURSICAN '23

STAFF WRITERS
SAMMI BRAY '25
MELINA KORFONTA '25

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

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CORRECTIONS

Tripod Editorial The Power of Good Conversation

In today's world, the value of a good, engaging, and insightful conversation with a peer, professor, family member, or mere acquaintance is often taken for granted or overlooked. We are so consumed by a million different stimuli that taking time out of one's day to engage with another eye-to-eye feels boring compared to the multitude of other digital interactions we could be having. At the risk of sounding decades older than we actually are, attention spans are steadily decreasing amongst people of our generation and younger. However, the medium of podcasting serves as one way in which conversations are resurfacing as influential and captivating amongst younger populations. The popularity of this kind of broadcasting may be due to the ability it provides broadcasters to edit their content after broadcasting, while radio shows often take the form of live broadcasts. Though podcasting is arguably a more doctored and manicured form of entertainment and news casting, these episodes are often more laser focused on the topics hosts discuss, and thus serve to engage the audience on another level that may be unattainable through radio-coverage of more general topics. Last Thursday, Oct. 14, CNN Chief Medical Correspondent Dr. Sanjay Gupta sat down with podcast host and comedian Joe Rogan for a three hour long discussion. For anyone who does not know anything about either of these two men, they hold views that are fairly at odds with one another. Back in April of this year, Rogan released an episode in which he suggested anti-vaccination opinions, stating that "If you're like 21 years old, and you say to me, should I get vaccinated? I'll go no." During the Ap. 23 episode, Rogan spoke with comedian Dave Smith

about their relative experiences in having children who contracted COVID-19, and how both families saw their children only show minor symptoms. However, Rogan himself nearly agreed to get vaccinated, and offered this to Gupta as proof that he is not necessarily "anti-vaccine" regardless of how often he questions their legitimacy. Rogan invited Gupta onto his show, knowing that Gupta is known to advocate for widespread vaccination, and Gupta relayed that he had been cautioned against accepting this invitation, with friends warning him that "he is a brawler and doesn't play fair," and that "there is little room for reasonable conversations anymore." Gupta even acknowledged how exceptionally immersive their conversation was, noting that he did not think he had "ever had a conversation that long with anyone." In a recap of the conversation, Gupta also complimented Rogan's ability to feature conversations on his podcast, one of the most popular in the country, that "last exceptionally long and go particularly deep."

Gupta did not seem to agree to do the interview to convince Rogan of his perspective, although he would have liked to. He instead agreed to sit down to speak with the man on his widely popular podcast because of how people today are isolated in "silos" and only hear what they want to hear. People either choose Fox, CNN, MSNBC, or other even more biased and lopsided sources of news. Because of how we now get our news and information, and because of the algorithms used by online media sources including Facebook, we can stay isolated in our views and certain of our conclusions simply because we rarely or never hear alternative points of view. That is dangerous and is part of the reason so many people do

not believe in COVID-19, do not trust vaccines, and why we are still in the midst of the pandemic. Gupta had an opportunity to talk to the other side, to the people who would otherwise never hear his opinions and normally only listen to people spouting anti-vaccine rhetoric and COVID-19 misinformation, and he took this opportunity with an open mind.

He knew that Rogan had his mind made up, but seized a chance to perhaps influence those who would listen to the podcast, saying that "my three-hour conversation wasn't just with Rogan. If just a few of his listeners were convinced, it will have been well worth it."

Gupta tried to educate that part of the population and convince even a few of those indoctrinated in the right wind paranoia and conspiracy theories and hopefully save a few lives and maybe shorten the duration of the pandemic by getting more people vaccinated.

Gupta and Rogan, regardless of their differences in political affiliation, showed that two people with different points of view can sit down and have an intelligent discussion even if no one comes away convinced that the other side is actually right. At least they can talk; that is a start and a step in the right direction. And maybe someone who listened will actually learn something real.

-KJN

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NEWS

Campus Safety Annual Security Report: Most Crimes Declined or Held Constant for 2020 Compared to 2019

continued from page one
 off campus. Other declines in the Criminal Offenses section include: non-negligent murder / manslaughter (0), motor vehicle theft (0), robbery (0), and forcible rape (6 on campus, 6 in student housing). There were also four cases of fondling on campus and three in student housing last year. This number is lower than the figures from 2019 (eight on campus, five in student housing, four off campus) but higher than 2018 (three on campus, one off campus). Several categories in the criminal offense section remained the same from 2018-2020. Trinity reported 0 cases in the following offense categories for the second year in a row: murder / manslaughter (negligent), statutory rape, incest, and domestic violence. The report indicated that marijuana was not included in the Criminal Offenses section stating: "Connecticut has decriminalized marijuana where possession of a small amount of marijuana is no longer a criminal offense. Referrals that occur for this decriminalized conduct are not counted for Clery Act purposes." Under the Arrests section of the report, 0 alcohol-related arrests were reported last year which is consistent with the results from 2019 and 2018. There was a decline in drug ar-

rests on public property from seven in 2019 to three in 2020. Trinity also reported one arrest for weapons possession on campus, in student housing, and on public property which is up from previous years. Disciplinary action for alcohol and drugs also dropped in 2020. Last year on campus, 60 students were disciplined for alcohol and 7 for drugs. In 2019, these numbers were 61 and 15 respectively; in 2018, 46 students on campus (44 in student housing) were disciplined for alcohol and 71 for drugs. One individual was disciplined for weapons possession in 2020 which is an increase from the previous two years. There was one hate in-

cident reported on campus in 2020 cited as "Destruction Damage Vandalism to Property based on Sexuality." These numbers are consistent with the figures from 2019 ("Destruction Vandalism to Property based on Race") and 2018 ("Destruction Vandalism to Property based on Race that occurred On Campus in Student Housing"). The Office of Study Away reported 0 incidents of crime (e.g., aggravated assault, arson, burglary, etc.) in study abroad programs for 2020. Two forcible sex offenses were reported in 2019 and 0 in 2018. However, a *Tripod* investigation into the Office's Clery Act reporting found the 2018 figure to be

inaccurate after publishing an article about an incident in which three Trinity students in Barcelona were mugged in January that year. Former Director of Campus Safety Brian Heavren told the *Tripod* in Mar. 2020 that "in this case, there was a Clery reportable crime, but it did not occur in the Clery geography, thus it was not included in the full report." The report indicated that no fires occurred in on-campus student housing in 2020. In Sept. 2019, a fire was unintentionally caused by a cooking stove in the East Summit Residential Community. There were no reported fires in on-campus student housing in 2018.

Intercollegiate Update: News on Nearby Campuses

Amherst College	Bates College	Williams College
<p>The Council of Amherst College Student-Athletes of Color (CAC SAC) held a walk out protest on Wednesday, Oct. 6, according to a recent article in <i>The Amherst Student</i>. The walkout, which included over 200 people, was staged in response to the administration's reported lack of transparency when addressing the concerns of student athletes of color. "Over the past ten years, and especially recently, the number of incidents in which the college has failed to protect its students is distressing and frustrating," CAC SAC President Aidan Park '22 said. The protesting students had three specific demands: (1) eliminating the "pay to play" barriers, (2) ensuring a CAC SAC E-Board is present at all head coach hirings, and (3) scheduling a meeting between the E-Board and President of the College Bidy Martin. The CAC SAC E-Board met with Martin on Wednesday, Oct. 13; she was reportedly receptive to the students and emphasized her commitment to helping the community before stepping down from her position at the end of the year. "Fulfillment of what we are asking for is only one step on a continuous mission to make this campus the best it possibly can be," said Park.</p>	<p>The Bates Educators and Staff Organization (BESO), a union of adjunct faculty and staff members on campus, has recently formed to improve labor conditions according to an Oct. 6 article in <i>The Bates Student</i>. The organization is composed of "non-tenure faculty, custodial, dining, athletics, student affairs, library staff, and many more – who have been working over a year to form a union," according to flyers that have been posted around campus. The flyers explained that the union would grant its members "the right to democratically and collectively negotiate with the College to determine our wages, benefits, hours and working conditions." In order to form a union, employees must have a formal opportunity to discuss and take a vote on its approval. The union filed with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to hold an election, according to Bangor Daily News. Bates' Media Relations Specialist Mary Pols confirmed to the community that the College had received notification from the NLRB, stating: "Bates will protect the rights of every eligible employee to organize and to vote in a secret ballot election." "The college's goal is to support individuals in making an informed decision about whether or not they wish to be represented by a union," she added.</p>	<p>Members of the Dining Services staff say that they are overburdened, lack confidence in the quality of their work, and are experiencing low morale, according to an article in <i>The Williams Record</i> from earlier this month. Dining Services has experienced a staff shortage that has placed additional strains on the College's dining program which has already suffered from the pandemic and a greater student population. On Aug. 19, just days before students arrived on campus, Director of Dining Temesgen Araya sent an email to students announcing the Lee Snack Bar and '82 Grill would not serve late-night food options for the time being. Araya cited the nationwide labor shortage as the cause of the reduced food offerings. He also indicated that Dining Services would be working with 20 percent fewer staff than usual. The lack of dining staff has also been attributed to the benefits – such as paid medical and family leave – that many employees are receiving due to the pandemic. "Employees are going to rightly use those benefits, but we have to acknowledge that [that] also puts a strain on the folks who are here working," said Chief Human Resources Officer Danielle Gonzalez in an email to the <i>Record</i>.</p>

College Campus Safety Report: Oct. 4 - Oct. 18

Monday, Oct. 4
 105-107 Allen Place

Larceny - Theft from Motor Vehicle.
 This case remains open.

Reported Oct. 7 - Occurred Aug. 2021
 On-Campus Residence Hall

Sexual Offense - Rape
 Referred to Title IX Coordinator.

Reported Oct. 7 - Occurred Oct. 2020
 On-Campus Residence Hall

Harassment - Sexual
 Referred to Title IX Coordinator.

Sunday, Oct. 10
 On-Campus Residence Hall

Burlary: Attempted - Residential Hall
 Two students received disciplinary referrals.

Tuesday, Oct. 12
 340 Summit Street (Non-Campus)

Larceny - Theft from building, non-campus
 This case remains open.

Eight Students Test Positive for COVID; Campus Remains at “Green” Alert Level

MELINA KORFONTA '25
STAFF WRITER

Eight cases of COVID-19 have been identified from Trinity's student population along with three employees who have reported a positive test result, according to an email from Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Management Joe DiChristina and Chief of Staff Jason Rojas Thursday afternoon.

“Of the eight student cases, four elected to isolate at home and four are being cared for in our campus isolation locations” DiChristina and Rojas said. “In each case we have activated our contact tracing protocol to mitigate spread and identify and inform close contacts. Additional information can be reviewed on our dashboard.”

Rojas told the *Tripod* via email Monday that seven of the eight students who tested positive last week contracted the virus from roommates. For the remaining case, a student tested positive while visiting home and chose to isolate at home instead of returning to campus. Rojas also confirmed that all but one of these students were vaccinated.

Responding to questions about the College's Dashboard reporting practices, Rojas told the *Tripod* that

“We don't have plans at this time to update the dashboard more frequently.” “Again we will report data when we receive it and we receive the majority of our data after tests have been conducted on Monday and Tuesday and when needed following Thursday tests for any student who miss [sic] their scheduled test on Monday or Tuesday,” he added. Rojas told the *Tripod* in August that the College would “adjust the frequency of updates to the dashboard based on conditions on campus.”

The dashboard indicates that Trinity remains at a “Green” COVID-19 Alert Level with a total of nine active cases (six students, 3 employees) as of Monday, Oct. 18. A Green Alert Level signifies that classes remain in-person; in addition, on-campus events are allowed as long as they operate at a reduced capacity and attendees practice social distancing. Furthermore, faculty and staff may continue to participate in college-sponsored travel in accordance with CDC travel guidance; visitors are welcomed on campus so long as they wear face coverings and show proof of vaccination for indoor events.

Currently, a similar COVID-19 Testing Protocol from the beginning of the year remains. For 10-

15% fully vaccinated students who are living and/or studying on campus will be randomly selected and tested each week with PCR tests. Unvaccinated students living and/or studying on campus will in turn be tested once per week with PCR tests while unvaccinated employees and Affiliates working on campus will be tested once per week with PCR test.

Students continue to be scheduled based on the last digit of their Trinity ID number and the first letter of their last name. Students also continue to be notified of their test date via email a week in advance. PCR test result turnaround times typically take less than 36 hours as the testing center is currently reported to be on schedule.

Many COVID isolation protocols remain from the beginning of the year. Fully vaccinated students who test positive are still required to wear masks for 10 days and will continue to undergo an additional medical evaluation in the Health Center. These evaluations continue to determine if isolation or quarantine is the next step. Fully vaccinated students who are exposed to individuals with positive test results as “close contacts” will not need to quarantine after exposure

if they are asymptomatic and have no immunocompromised medical issues.

Individuals who come into contact with a positive individual must continue to wear masks for 14 days and obtain a COVID-19 test in the Health Center five days after exposure. If their test returns negative and they remain asymptomatic, fully vaccinated students will not have to quarantine, however, if positive, a 10-day isolation period will be mandatory.

Unvaccinated and not fully vaccinated individuals who test positive will still be required to be isolated for 10 days. These students also must quarantine if they are exposed to someone with COVID-19 as “close contacts.” Unvaccinated students living in a single-occupancy residence can still do so there, however, those in a multi-occupancy residential space will need to move to campus quarantine housing.

They also remain concerned about the “transmissibility of the COVID-19 virus and the impact of variants within the wider community” as recent information from the CDC shows that the COVID-19 Delta variant has continued to be transmitted across vaccinated individuals who are residing in highly dense social settings.

Title IX Vacancy Filled

continued from page one

Coordinator and General Counsel at Western New England University. In this position, Lynch prepared witness statements for issues—concerning equity and discrimination—referred to the university by the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination and the Office for Civil Rights. Lynch also volunteers as a Legal Representative on the Human Rights Committee for the May Institute.

Prior to Lynch's appointment, Trinity's Title IX Coordinator position had lacked a permanent appointee to fill the position for over two years since September of 2019. Originally, the College's goal for appointing a new Title IX Coordinator was last fall, but as with most plans for 2020, this deadline was pushed back by a significant amount of time. Last fall, the search committee narrowed down their search to two candidates, but neither candidate was ultimately selected. Notably, last year's search was for a joint position of Associate Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Title IX Coordinator. The college had not provided any specific reasons for the lack of appointment.

During the open student forums held for the Title IX candidates in September, Lynch focused on the importance of having an open-door policy and utilizing social media for communication, education, and prevention across the Trinity community. The Title IX Coordinator search committee, which hosted the forums, included: Adrienne Fulco, Associate Professor of Legal and Policy Studies and Director of the Public Policy and Law Program; Jorge Lugo, Office Assistant for Campus Safety; and students Deion Kelly '23 and Luz Cumpa Gomez '24.

Prior to Lynch's appointment, Renita Kelly served as Interim Title IX Coordinator from Sept. 2019 until earlier this month. Amanda Brahm, who recently assumed the position, will remain Interim Title IX Coordinator until Lynch's arrival.

SGA Finalizes Committee Assignments

OLIVIA SILVEY '25
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Student Government Association (SGA) held their first meeting of the fall semester on Sunday, Oct. 17. The meeting was held in person at the McCook Auditorium; student representatives established SGA committee assignments, introduced new members, and finalized meeting times and functions. Also on the agenda was the approval of the Judicial Commission and the upcoming Halloween event on Crescent Street. “After the recent elections, SGA now has a full Senate, which will allow for more structure and progress,” said SGA President Jederick Estrella '22. Student representatives received their committee assignments. There are a total of 10 committees which include: Academic Affairs (Char-

lotte Bond '23, Ahamed Fadhil '25), Budget (Tony Ortega '24, Maja Peszko '23), Curriculum (Peszko, Jason Farrell '23), Communications (Alexis Porto '22, Evan Oluabunwa '22, Joshua Jacob '23, Ayoub Swaray '24, Ava Alioto '25, Sydney Yu '25), Multicultural Affairs Council (Gaby Gomez '22, Daniel White '24, Momo Djebli '25), Programming (Farran Brown '22, Brianna Andrade '24, Ortega, Gomez), Sustainability (Alioto, Fadhil), Student Quality of Life (Allison Rau '23, Brown, Farrell, Andrade, James Maciel '25, Jacob, Djebli, Swaray), Student Organization Oversight Committee (Gabi Seguinot '24, Shawn Olstein '22, Maciel, Brown, Rau, Jacob, Sydney, White) and the Judicial Commission (Renita Washington '22, Porto, Bond, and Yu). The Student Quality of Life Committee and the Judicial Commis-

sion are the newest SGA committees to be formed.

The Student Quality of Life Committee is a combination of the Housing, Food, and Facilities committees. As the *Tripod* previously reported, the Judicial Commission serves as a “fact-checker” and provides procedural guidance during all SGA meetings. The Commission, which is chaired by Parliamentarian Joshua Jacques '23, is also responsible for reviewing violations of procedures after they occur. After making a “binding decision”—which is agreed upon by a (3/5ths) majority of the members of the commission—regarding the interpretation of a procedure or rule that was violated in a previous meeting, it would then be presented to the SGA through the Executive Board.

The Judicial Commission, which was created last November after the SGA

passed a new constitution, is overseen by a Parliamentarian which is chosen by the entire SGA. It is also composed of four general SGA members—two of which are elected by the Executive Board and the other two by the Senate. Each member of the Commission possesses one vote when deciding on a binding decision and serves a term length of one full academic year.

SGA also discussed the upcoming event Halloween on Crescent, scheduled for Oct. 30. This new event will be similar to Halloween on Vernon, where children can trick-or-treat at the Crescent houses. There will be food and activities as well. Estrella clarified that soon he will be knocking on doors of Crescent houses to gauge interest, and asks that when the event is in motion for students to be cognizant of the presence of children on Trinity's campus.

OPINION

What Should Come Next for the James Bond Franchise?

KASH JAIN '24
OPINION EDITOR

Disclaimer: this article contains spoilers for Skyfall and No Time to Die.

With the release of Daniel Craig's final escapade as James Bond, many are left wondering what the future of the character — and the franchise — looks like.

An important consideration going forward is representation. In the near-60 years and 25 movies made by Eon Productions, all six Bond actors have been white men, leading many to ask whether a woman or person of color should play Bond.

Craig himself recently shared his thoughts, saying that “there should simply be better parts for women and actors of color. Why should a woman play James Bond when there should be a part just as good as James Bond, but for a woman?”

With the introduction of Lashana Lynch's Nomi and Ana de Armas's Paloma in *No Time to Die*, there are at least two existing spies who could have their own movies, both of which could also involve other

existing characters such as Money Penny, Q, or Felix Leiter. The universe of the Craig Bond has room left to explore and stories to tell that do not need to

Some fans prefer the more action-oriented, relatively unchanging Bonds of the past, but the simple truth is that the character must change. The version of

“Though the Craig era did pull Bond away from the misogyny of Fleming's character, Bond still has a ways to go — and someone who is not a white man in the starring role could help accomplish this.”

center on Bond. With the massive success of franchises such as the Marvel Cinematic Universe, it is clear that there is an appetite for having a world with multiple, deep characters. Taking this route could help grow the franchise's audience substantially.

However, as stated by *No Time to Die*'s post-credit line, “James Bond Will Return,” the titular character must continue in one way or another, regardless of whether other characters get their own movies.

If there is one takeaway from the Craig era, it is that James Bond can change. Bond morphed from a stony killer into a man with emotion and depth.

James Bond that reflects an antiquated, romanticized view of the world is not what the modern era needs. The era of a Bond that lacks significant development is over — and it should stay that way, because the audience needs a character that can grow.

If an evolving Bond means the character being played by someone who is not a white man, then that is the direction the producers should go in. Though the Craig era did pull Bond away from the misogyny of Fleming's character, Bond still has a ways to go — and someone who is not a white man in the starring role could help accomplish this.

Either way, continuing with movies that have major connections that facilitate Bond's growth as a character or, at the very least, continuous growth across unconnected films is a better option than the alternative. Stand-alone adventures focused on flashy gadgets, daring stunts, and occasionally ridiculous henchmen without Bond developing much may be entertaining, but the modern Bond needs more than that. The newfound seriousness and character development of *Casino Royale*, *Skyfall*, and now *No Time to Die* made these films great, and Eon should continue that.

Perhaps the most outside-the-box option would be to travel back in time, exploring a younger James Bond and the character's origins. While *Skyfall* offered viewers an origin story for Bond, there is still much about the character's early days that has been left unexplored. A younger Bond — and a younger actor, such as someone like Tom Holland who said in March that playing the character would be a “dream

come true” — could help attract a new audience.

If Eon decided to reboot the series, starting with a younger Bond could be a viable option, as this would allow room for the character to grow even more than he did during the Craig years. Also, given that the franchise has moved beyond Fleming's works, there is room to create new stories with a pre-007 Bond. Even if this is a bit far-fetched, it is an interesting option.

It is clear Eon has several directions that they can bring Bond and the franchise as a whole in. Regardless of what direction they choose, the future of the franchise holds much to look forward to.

However, there is one option that I would caution against: continuing the Craig Bond with another actor. This iteration of James Bond has come to an end with Craig's departure, and it should stay that way — with a character who has grown and completed his arc.

As Nomi said, “the world's moved on, Commander Bond,” — and, now, so should he.

Office Hours: Are They Worth It? Advice for Introverts on How to Decide Whether to Attend Office Hours

SKYLAR SIMPKINS '23
OPINION EDITOR

Office hours never cease to exist in the consciousness of college students. At the beginning of every semester, our professors give us the elusive offer of talking to them in a more personal setting. While this is meant to promote a relationship between the professor and the student and provide a means for discussion beyond pleasantries between two people separated by occupation and prestige, office hours often represent a greater dilemma in the minds of students. Am I a teacher's pet if I go to office hours? I never have a question to ask, so how can I go to office hours? All these thoughts continuously circle in our minds, culminating in the Shakespearean conflict: To go or not to go?

As I am now a junior, I have experienced both extremes relating to office hours. My freshman year, I went as often as I could. Last year, I did not go to a single office hour.

So, which is better? Unfortunately, this conflict cannot be solved with an arithmetic equation considering free time and office hour availability. It simply depends on the professor. Some professors are

able dilemma requiring a constant evaluation of the professor's attitude, willingness to have a conversation, and overall friendliness. This is, however, tough to do in a classroom setting. Some professors

“My advice for this constant tick on the college consciousness: begin speaking to your professor after class and, if you can gauge a positive connection, attend an office hour with that professor.”

incredibly approachable and can quickly become your friends when you visit them a couple of times a month, other professors seem to use office hours as a sort of intimidation: come to show that you are unprepared and cannot understand the material instead of coming to have a deep conversation about the course material. And some professors, never respond to you — and probably will never from my experience. Deciding to go to office hours is, then, a siz-

able dilemma requiring a constant evaluation of the professor's attitude, willingness to have a conversation, and overall friendliness. This is, however, tough to do in a classroom setting. Some professors can seem rather intimidating in class but are the greatest conversationalists in their office and, vice versa, some professors are very laid back in front of a full classroom but quite tense in more private settings. My advice for this constant tick on the college consciousness: begin speaking to your professor after class and, if you can gauge a positive connection, attend an office hour with that professor.

After class is a time where a student can ask

a quick question, but more importantly, a student can catch a glimpse of the professor in a less professional context. A student can easily sense an annoyance or happiness when approached for a one-on-one conversation, and this can give you a pretty good insight into how your long conversations would proceed during office hours. This approach is not always accurate, however, as a professor could be stressed after class and respond with a slightly negative attitude yet, during office hours, the professor could be very approachable. Regardless, this is the best option for gauging your success during office hours if you, like me, are very introverted.

Unfortunately for me and all my fellow introverts, the best way to understand if office hours are a positive addition to your relationship with the professor and understanding of the class is to attend one. If you would like to quickly put an end to the cognitive dissonance trig-

gered by the elusiveness of office hours, simply attend a meeting. Make up a quick question clarifying something you are studying in class and maybe ask a question about the professor's academic career, with this, you have engaged with the course material and shown an interest in your professor's academic accomplishments. These are two big positives that should boast you in the right direction in regard to a positive relationship with your professor. And if this task results in a snarky, unappreciative response from your professor, simply stand up, thank them for listening to you, and leave. Always remember, going to office hours one time does not mean you have to go at every single opportunity. So get out there and go to a few office hours with those two questions readied in your holster, you might just build the most important relationship of your college career.

If Colds Ruin your College Existence, Get the Flu Shot

KENDALL DORSEY '25
OPINION EDITOR

If you're anything like me, one of your friends coughed on you in the dining hall, and a few days later, you felt like your brain was coming out of your sinuses. Stumbling into the Mather bookstore right after it opened in my slippers and being immediately told that they were out of cough drops and Emergen-C was, in a word, shitty. My lectures felt very quiet last week, but they still managed to sound like a Victorian-era tuberculosis ward with everyone's coughs and sniffles.

What makes this depressing viral cold remarkable to me is that during the year we were under strict distancing and masking protocol, cold and flu rates plummeted from their typical high. According to the CDC's estimation of 2018-2019 statistics, the last year of flu data before the pandemic began, there were an estimated 29 million diagnosed cases of the flu and 28,000 flu-related deaths. The pandemic year lowered flu rates to an estimated 2,000 cases, an astonishingly low number compared to years before.

The flu season typically begins in October and ends in May, the coldest time of

year in most American climates. There are typically multiple strains of the flu circulating at once, and these change from year

"My lectures felt very quiet last week, but they still managed to sound like a Victorian-era tuberculosis ward with everyone's coughs and sniffles."

to year. Flu symptoms include fever, cough, chills, and fatigue; hence why it's considered more serious than the common cold. Flu deaths are noticeably much higher than other viral respiratory illnesses because it has the capacity to cause complications such as a bacterial infection that can result in death. People with chronic illnesses may have a higher risk of developing these complications.

While it's great that mask-wearing and social distancing helped lower flu cases so drastically, this is hardly a practical option to limit flu cases in the years to come. The reason the recent viral cold spread so quickly among Trinity students is because we live in remarkably close quarters – I imagine I got the cold from eating lunch with my sick friends in the dining hall or sharing someone's drink. I can only imagine

the additional burden a bout of flu could bring to exhausted and stressed students at Trinity, and it may even put the lives of vul-

nerable students at risk.

The CDC's strongest recommendation for avoiding the flu is getting the influenza vaccine. According to an article published by the National Institute of Health, early flu vaccines were created in the 1930s, with widespread vaccination campaigns beginning in 1945. This technology continued to develop through the end of the 20th century, and today there are several different types of flu vaccines circulating, all of which are available to read about on the CDC flu portal and other reputable sources. The most common type of vaccine is the Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccines, which protect against the four most common strains of the flu, which change every season. It still undergoes modification every year.

According to the CDC, the flu vaccine reduces the

risk of contracting influenza by 40 to 60 percent. These numbers vary from year to year and are affected by the most common strains of flu circulating that year and by personal susceptibility to the flu. The CDC strongly posits that the benefit of receiving the flu vaccine outweighs the hypothesis that one may get the flu anyway, as it can reduce the severity of symptoms, the likelihood of hospitalization, and the possibility of complications resulting in death.

The most concerning aspect of viral disease on college campuses is the speed with which it spreads from person to person. A widely vaccinated population

"The most concerning aspect of viral disease on college campuses is the speed with which it spreads from person to person. A widely vaccinated population might help curb the spread of flu..."

might help curb the spread of flu in the cramped quarters in which we live. I've only attended Trinity for two months, but I can tell you firsthand how miserable it is to be sick in college. At home, you might have your parents make you chicken noodle soup and hold your hair back when you throw up. At

school, Mucinex costs an absurd amount of money and Mather food doesn't exactly scream "comfort." Catching the flu is an experience I'd definitely like to avoid, and I can hopefully decrease my chances thanks to the flu vaccine.

I strongly encourage the student population at Trinity to seek out a flu vaccine, whether it be from a school-run vaccination campaign, a local hospital, or a drugstore. There is a wealth of information online about the benefits of the flu shot as well as the potential risks of contracting the flu that I highly encourage everyone to look into – it's only

a few clicks away. I want to stress the importance of making the decision you feel is best for your health and is informed by proper research. Other than that, be responsible, cover your mouth when you cough, and please bring tissues to class, no one wants to hear your gross sniffles during lectures.

Trinity Needs to Step Up Their COVID Testing Game

OLIVIA SILVEY '25
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last Thursday, I sat down for my afternoon lecture, and my friend next to me started the conversation with: "Did you hear about the new COVID cases on campus?" I had not, and my stomach dropped. I felt that specific wave of COVID anxiety I haven't felt since last school year, since Trinity has not had more than a few cases since the beginning of the semester. On Thursday morning, Chief of Staff and Associate Vice President for External Relations Jason Rojas sent an email explaining that there were eight positive student cases and three positive staff cases identified that week at Trinity. These recent cases were documented as students returning from Trinity Days, where everyone who was off campus for more than 24 hours was required to show a negative COVID test in

order to return. While it was an annoying hoop to jump through, the College was able to identify the cases before school went back into full swing. This acted as a catch-all, which begs the question: why aren't we testing regularly? Trinity should be testing all their students and staff on a weekly basis in order to catch COVID at the source just as they did after Trinity Days.

Currently, Trinity's testing policy requires a random sampling of 10-15% of the vaccinated population to be tested every week, and the small percentage of unvaccinated students must be tested weekly. I've heard many complaints by students about the inconvenient times and long lines that the random testing brings. Sometimes, students don't even come on their assigned date. If there was consistent testing, it would be easier for students to plan their schedules around their

test, and the facilities would not be limited to a single trailer by Ferris.

Last year, Trinity required student testing twice a week, which now seems excessive with most of the population vaccinated; however, even testing everyone once a week would lift plenty of that COVID anxiety and act as a preventative measure, since college students will continue to hang out

especially when we are all on campus together.

Trinity has somewhat cracked down on large indoor social gatherings, like at Greek houses, and implemented mask wearing in public spaces like classrooms, dining halls, and the library. However, the damage is already done, even when Dean Trevor knocks on the door and tells everyone to disperse. It's Trinity's job to under-

"...Even testing everyone once a week would lift plenty of that COVID anxiety and act as a preventative measure, since college students will continue to hang out with friends and go to parties, obviously leaving masks at home."

stand that at this point, one of the most effective ways of preventing the spread of COVID on campus is to make sure there aren't any positive cases roaming Vernon Street on

Saturday nights, since students will continue to find ways to socialize. COVID doesn't evaporate because Campo shows up. Other NESAC schools such as Bowdoin, Colby and Bates have upped their testing game, and while they have more reported cases, their weekly testing is giving them the information they need to carry on safely. COVID is still a threat, but it's not the same monster as it was last year – if we implement the right policies. Students and staff should be able to see their friends, go to class, and eat at Mather without the nervous voice in the back of their head asking, "am I putting myself at risk right now?" Trinity is lucky to still be on alert level green, and while we still have a low case rate, we need to be testing weekly to ensure that the school year stays as normal as possible. Trinity did it last year, and Trinity can do it again.

FEATURES

Visiting Professor Spotlight: Classical Studies Kelly P. Dugan Advocates for Disabled Students, Staff, Faculty

SAMMI BRAY '25
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Kelly P. Dugan, Visiting Assistant Professor of Classical Studies at Trinity College, begins each class every semester by sharing with her students that she is physically disabled and neurodivergent. At thirty-eight years old and in her second year of teaching at Trinity, Dugan is unafraid to be who she really is, though it was not always that easy.

Every course Dugan teaches begins with an open, honest dialogue with students. She chooses her words carefully, aware of the stigma surrounding labeling certain conditions. "When you label things or share details right away, it increases the chances of someone treating you inhumanely and you get boxed into the stereotypes of your conditions," Dugan says. She explains that utilizing general words of identity like "neurodivergent" can help protect people like her in higher education that have mental health conditions that are often interpreted as detrimental to teaching and learning. However, she chooses to be more detailed about her physical disabilities in order to raise awareness about chronic and so-called invisible physical disabilities that require fluctuating treatments and on-and-off use of assistive technolo-

gies, like canes, as needed.

In her twenties, Dugan began noticing pain in her hips. She was still able to partake in activities that she loved such as judo and working on archaeological digs in Greece, but the pain continued to increase. Several times she sought help and several times she was ultimately dismissed, told to take ibuprofen. Slowly, her ability to participate fully in activities decreased further. Active since a young age—Dugan danced (she admits not well), was a cheerleader in high school, and was on the sailing team in grad school—Dugan was losing something that had always been a source of joy, sharing that her childhood had not been easy, either.

"It was very hard for my self-confidence... I couldn't do the things I loved anymore," she says. Despite the pain she lived through every day, Dugan finished two master's degrees (one in Classics at University of Kansas and then in linguistics at The University of Georgia) and prepared to begin a PhD program at The Ohio State University.

In October 2012, Dugan went to a doctor and finally had an MRI done. Via email, she learned she has idiopathic chronic avascular necrosis—also known as osteonecrosis—a lack of blood supply that causes bone death. It is very rare, and in her case, there is no known cause, some-

thing that took her time to come to terms with. Also in the email, Dugan learned she would be needing a hip replacement, which she wanted to put off for as long as possible.

In 2013, she woke up in extreme pain—her hip had collapsed. At the beginning of the spring semester and four days after surgery, she was given a list of nursing homes, where she would go to live for the next six weeks.

"It was a very hard time, mostly lonely," Dugan shares, mentioning that she received little help in trying to keep up with her courses. "I didn't want to fail at school," she says. She found comfort in watching March Madness and a Fiona Apple album that came out around the same time—not too different from Trinity students today.

"It's never just the disability—a lot is always happening," Dugan says, continuing to open up about her life. While adjusting to living life in a whole new way, she also had to adjust to the poor discord around disability of the time—which lingers on today. Students would make jokes and ultimately did not understand. As she tried to get back on track with her work, few professors understood or gave her leeway. This experience shaped her teaching style today.

Eventually, Dugan de-

cidated to leave the program with a third master's degree, instead of a PhD. It was "devastating" for her, but ultimately the best decision. She joined a friend on a road trip, leading her to a job teaching Latin and Irish history to middle school and high school students in Rhode Island, and as a writing coach at Brown University. She loved these roles—but the spark and passion to be a professor lived on. Dugan emailed professors looking for scholarship in anti-racist teaching and one month later, she applied to a PhD program at the University of Georgia in language and literacy education.

At Georgia, Dugan found a community of people open about disability and received the proper therapy she needed—which she recommends to everyone. "I was accommodated for. I got to be a whole and complete person," she says. "It felt natural, surrounded by professors, friends, and advisors." With such a positive experience, Dugan applies the expectations given to her to her students now, with a flexible attendance policy, alternate assignments, and second chances. "I wouldn't have succeeded without it and my previous education would have been so much more valuable with this," she explains.

Now, five weeks into her first year physically on campus at Trinity, Du-

gan wants to bring positive change and discourse. "I needed a classroom change (the elevator in her previously assigned classroom was broken), and I was able to get it thankfully," she says, still in the early stages of creating a relationship with the community.

Dugan is looking forward to helping our Trinity community strengthen our support for disabled students, staff, and faculty. Excited about the possibilities and positive Trinity is a school that can make this happen, she believes new directions in anti-ableism will help the longevity of the school and could open up fantastic mentorship opportunities for students with disabilities. "Living with disabilities can be like a rollercoaster... establishing more structures for supporting disabled people on campus will only help even out the rollercoaster," she states. "You matter more than grades and classes ever will," is the message she wants everyone to know.

Next semester, Dugan will be teaching Intermediate Latin and a course on Ethiopia & the Ancient Mediterranean. "Even if you take just one class with me, I'll love it and welcome you!" Dugan says, encouraging all students to explore the ancient world and their passions no matter their major may be.

Crescent Street Composting Initiative for a Green Trin

KATIE CERULLE '22
FEATURES EDITOR

On one warm Tuesday night at the end of September, my Crescent house got a knock at the door. Curious to know who could be stopping over for a visit at 8:30 P.M., my four roommates and I watched intently as my other roommate walked over to open the door.

"Hello!" said the friendly face at the door, "We are from Green Campus starting our opt-in compost initiative this semester. Would you like to participate?"

Being the environmental gurus that we in our house are, of course we said yes. With that, the two lovely Green Campus representatives left us with a green compost bin and a sheet of directions. This helpful cardstock sheet

resides happily on our refrigerator and provides a helpful list of what to put in our compost bucket. Acceptable items include: meat and bones, shellfish and fish products, food soiled papers (i.e. napkins, paper towels), parchment paper, household plants and herbs, and so many more food waste products. Not acceptable items include: metal of any kind, plastic of any kind, Styrofoam, twist ties and rubber bands, and other items that cannot decompose on their own. The goal of composting, according to my prior knowledge, is to collect food items out of landfills where they take up a large amount of space and produce harmful amounts of greenhouse gasses. By separating them and putting the items into

their own compost bucket, we are able to create fertilizer that revitalizes soil and reduces one's individual carbon footprint.

The card also mentions that pickup for our house is on Tuesdays, so the bucket has to be put on the front porch at 8:30 A.M., and by 6 P.M. or earlier, the contents is disposed of and the empty bucket is put back onto the porch. Easy!

These new green compost buckets can be seen on numerous Crescent Street doorsteps, blending in beautifully with the fall pumpkins. In order to learn more about these buckets and their presence on campus, The *Tripod* spoke with Amelia Huba '22, e-board member of Green Campus.

Huba explained that Green Campus, the stu-

dent collective dedicated to climate preservation, is in charge of Crescent Composting and has been since its beginning in 2019. "Crescent Street Composting began in 2019 through a group of students in an environmental science class who collaborated with Green Campus to bring composting to the townhouses." She also mentioned that the Townhouses use the same composting company as Mather Dining Hall, and the cardstock card on my refrigerator says the company is called Blue Earth Composting located here in Hartford.

According to Huba, what is different this year than in years past is that the composting initiative is totally voluntary, meaning Townhouses can opt-

in or out as they please.

"This semester is different because it is the first which is opt-in at any time! So people can join any week in the semester, it's not just a one-time signup."

At this moment, the program has 20 houses involved and are hoping to get more participation in the upcoming weeks.

Finally, Green Campus is looking forward to their largest sustainability event of the school year coming this spring; Greenfest.

"Green Campus is looking forward to having our GreenFest in the spring, a huge sustainability festival in the spring which we haven't had since 2019!"

If your Crescent house is interested in composting, email trinitycollege.greencampus@gmail.com.

Recap: “Trying to Speak Woman in Woke Tongues”

OLIVIA PAPP '23
FEATURES EDITOR

This past Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021, WGRAC sponsored a panel and book signing that took place in the Terrace Rooms, Mather Hall, as well as online. The event, entitled Trying to Speak Woman in Woke Tongues: Black Girlhood and Black Womanhood featured Renita Washington '22 who introduced each of the panelists, including, Shanta Lee Gander '01, Dr. Donna-Dale Marcano, Taniqua Huguley '17, and Michaela Rufus '23. The speakers reflected on how being a black woman has shaped their lives and other girl's lives.

The first speaker, Michaela Rufus, prefaced her talk by saying that black womanhood is birthed through collective memory. A long time ago, when Rufus was a child, she felt as though she had no safe place to discuss the adversity which young black girls go through. A few years ago, there were no safe places to grapple with being black and reflect on that with others.

The next speaker was Associate Professor of Philosophy Dr. Donna-Dale Marcano. Marcano reflected upon revolutionary women who both faced and overcame much adversity. She used the example of Pauli Murray, a civil rights activist born in 1910. Murray was a middle-class woman who was raised by her independent, educated aunt. Murray was an underrated figure

regarding social justice and civil rights. For example, it has been found Murray was jailed for not sitting in the back of the bus ten years before Rosa Parks. Murray wrote to President Roosevelt many times to fight for and uplift racial equality. She graduated from Howard University Law School. Marcano made a point to address how, during Murray's time, black women were dependent upon black men when fighting for civil rights. It was a common notion that black men must take precedence over black women. In the early 1900s, black women were subject to working different divisions of labor with no protections while black men were working better jobs. Even with these setbacks, Murray managed to live a life filled with accomplishments.

Another speaker was Taniqua Huguley '17, who is the founder of an organization called Black Girls Achieve. This organization aims to empower Black girls around the world. Huguley used her time to speak profoundly about different stories highlighting the struggles of black women, and created a safe space for black women and young girls to tell their stories. The first story she shared was about a twelve-year-old black girl who was raped. When she reported the crimes, the judges simply did nothing and the perpetrator was released. The young girl acted out and then had to go to Saint Jude's Hospital due to her trauma.

However, the experience was healing and helped her get back on the right path. She was able to go to nursing school. However, after her seventeenth birthday, the girl was found dead with stab wounds. As a result, she was stripped of her accolades and failed by the system.

Another story Huguley told was about a black girl who struggled with her own identity, as she attended a white private school in the Upper East Side. Huguley said the girl identified more with white girls than black girls. This young girl was always reprimanded because of how tight her pants were and how her body looked in certain clothes. Therefore, the girl needed to change into sweatpants and change her outfits to conform to society's wants rather than her own. Her parents advised her to stop talking and fighting against the teachers who wanted her to change and instead focus on her education. This is an example of this girl's voice and authenticity being suppressed. Additionally, in school, her classmates and teachers constantly asked about her hair and the Black Lives Black Matter movement, expecting and assuming her to be an expert due to her skin color.

The last story which Huguley shared was about a girl from Hartford. When asking the girl what she was passionate about, the girl said she was interested in housing and jobs. The girl's mom lost her job and they were both at

a shelter for some time. However, they needed to leave the shelter once the employees began harassing the daughter. At this time, the mother and daughter had nowhere left to go. The daughter changed her appearance. She felt her body was the reason why men assaulted her. To fix the situation, she began to wear baggy clothes. As a result, girls her own age made fun of her for not dressing in clothes that hugged her shape. Huguley mentions that these three stories each depict the ways in which black girls have internalized stereotypes. These stories portray how black girls believe bad things that happen are their fault, when in fact the blame falls on society.

Gander '01 graduated with an undergraduate degree in Women, Gender, and Sexuality from Trinity College. She then earned an MBA from the University of Hartford. Gander is a creative soul who writes prose, poetry, and journalism. She has a multi-faceted profes-

sional life including leadership and community engagement. She spoke about the things that shape all of us. She asks the audience what we are ashamed of in terms of our identity. She spoke on the difficulties and struggles of navigating a culture where society does not see black women. Throughout her life, was waiting upon black women to be featured in Hollywood. Her entire life, she asked herself, “where are all the black people, and why are they unseen?” reflected upon this sense of invisibility amongst the black women as she grew up in Hartford. She spent her years growing up ready and excited to get out and break free from her childhood.

Overall, each panelist was brilliant and spoke eloquently about difficult topics in today's society. The panelists made the audience reflect on what work has been done in terms of racial equality while also highlighting the work that still needs to be done.

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Album Review: Lil Nas X's Highly Anticipated *Montero*

BAILEY MCKEON '22
FEATURES EDITOR

Lil Nas X released his highly anticipated album, MONTERO, just about a month ago. Reaching #2 on the U.S. Billboard Top 200, MONTERO has been well received by fans and critics alike, despite the controversy surrounding Lil Nas X's discussion and depictions of homosexuality within the album.

Aside from the beautiful album cover, MONTERO contains 15 tracks, four of which were singles released by Lil Nas X prior to the release of his album. The lead track of the album, “MONTERO (Call Me By Your Name),” was released back in March of 2021 and topped the U.S. Billboard Hot 100.

Lil Nas X has been in the spotlight after dropping the music video accompanying the captivating song. Other catchy singles supporting the album are “SUN GOES DOWN,” “INDUSTRY BABY,” and “THAT'S WHAT I WANT.”

The pop rap record features appearances from Jack Harlow, Doja Cat, Elton John, Megan Thee Stallion, and Miley Cyrus. Inspired by Megan Thee Stallion's verse on his song “DOLLA SIGN SLIME,” Lil Nas X promoted his work with fake pregnancy photos, setting up a “baby registry” to gather donations for LGBT charities.

His bold exploration of homosexuality in the album is accompanied by assertive leaps from pop to rap. Rich with catchy

tunes, MONTERO puts Lil Nas X's sexuality front and center, and is likewise considered by Variety to “give voice to the fears and longings of a generation of queer kids.” Variety notes that MONTERO centrally focuses on the loneliness of growing up gay and features reference to Lil Nas X's own journey of self-acceptance. Appropriately, MONTERO happens to be Lil Nas X's birth name.

Clash Magazine considers the album to be “one of 2021's most daring, riveting, and honest pop statement[s].” In fact, even Strength and Conditioning Coach at Trinity College Bill Delongis, of the Trinity College wholeheartedly admits MONTERO was simply “the best playlist I've ever heard.”

Arts & Entertainment

Show Review: It's Finally Time to Talk About Squid Game

LIZ FOSTER '22
BITS&PIECES EDITOR

For over ten years, Hwang Dong-hyuk's *Squid Game* stewed in rewrites, pre-production, and countless shopping to various networks and services in a seemingly never-ending, yet always hopeful, pursuit of a small screen debut. In a mere few days, *Squid Game* quickly sprinted to the top of Netflix's daily Most Watched list. In less than three weeks, the show garnered approximately 111 million viewers and earned the title of the most watched Netflix debut of all time. Dong-hyuk's passion project waited over a decade to see the success that the director knew was inevitable.

In brevity, *Squid Game* follows protagonist Gi-Hun as he attempts to eradicate his debt of over 400 million Korean won (approximately \$340,000) through a series of deadly children's games. Persuaded into a simple game of *ddakji* (comparable to Pogs in the United States) by a stranger with a briefcase-played by the charming Train to Busan actor Gong Yoo-Gi-Hun feverishly tries to best his opponent in pursuit of 100,000 won. With every lost round, he receives a slap in the face in exchange for not paying up 100,000 won of his own; eventually, Gi-Hun wins a singular round and his prize money. The anonymous man then hands Gi-Hun a business card marked with a triangle, square, and circle and entices him with the idea of clearing his debts through playing similar children's games. One thing leads to another and before Gi-Hun knows it, he's a part of a twisted game for rich onlookers

where he must survive six different games and outlast his 455 opponents in order to win a grand prize of 45.6 billion won.

Squid Game distinguishes itself from similar fight-to-the-death media like *The Hunger Games* or *Battle Royale* with its element of "choice." These franchises have distinct villains responsible for hapless victims being forced into an area. Be it by shady company kidnapping or a tyrannical government's agenda, there exists a system where snatching up citizens to challenge each other in brutal, violent manners is completely passive on the receiving end. Conversely, the participants of *Squid Game* dial up their captors, announcing that they're ready to take a chance on whatever may save them from their crippling debt. Protagonist Gi-Hun's debt of 400 million looks like pennies and dimes when considering the billions some of his opponents owe.

Yet, to call the decision to participate in *Squid Game* a "choice" neglects Dong-hyuk's goal of creating a masterful critique on late stage capitalism. Each player is tested by Gong Woo's train station lackey to determine their willingness to face physical abuse for a few extra dollars. It's not that each character is a money-grubbling, weak-willed scrub, but rather that they're victims to a system that limits social mobility and entraps the poor. The game's mysterious Host, comically caricatured V.I.P.s, and surprise-twist showrunner (I'll leave them unnamed to save you one of the series' biggest spoilers) are all able to dole out their fortunes to the suffering debt-riddled individuals

but choose to risk the lives of desperate strangers as a cure to their boredom. The money is always there, looming above the players' sleeping quarters in a massive pig-shaped bank but it is only after countless bloodshed, and a large amount of trauma, that a singular person reaps the reward. The choice is never truly a player's to make.

In a world ravaged by ever-growing systematic inequality between and within nations, a show like *Squid Game* was destined for worldwide critical acclaim. The struggles of the show's central characters are easily identifiable even removing the aspect of overwhelming financial burdens. Gi-Hun is motivated to return to the games when he sees his mother's healthcare expenses only increasing, a problem reminiscent of the countless Americans who owe a collective of over \$140 billion. Gi-Hun's best friend Sang-Woo achieved academic excellence only to end up worse than he started, *Sae-byook* is a North Korean defector hoping to bring her siblings to

safety, and Abdul Ali is an exploited Pakistani immigrant just trying to keep his family afloat and alive. There's an unmistakable humanness in each individual and an all too familiar understanding of the burdensome pressures of modern capitalism. Even the story's villains borderline on charming

As a television show on its own, without considering its accurate reflection of existing systematic inequities, *Squid Game* is well-paced, rife with charming characters and entrancing aesthetics. Much of the Game's host facility is startlingly colorful, reminding the viewer of the nostalgia rooted in the games themselves. Bright pinks and greens reflect throughout the stairwells, the guards wear shapes reminiscent of the PlayStation logo, and the players' tracksuits call to mind old elementary school gym classes. *Squid Game* is a sanguine childhood dream-scape coupled with reality television and tainted with an irresistible taste of violence and melancholy.

Squid Game master

fully blends excellent story-telling with an impressive cast, both old and new. Defacto breakout star Jung Ho-yeon saw her Instagram followers multiply fortyfold in mere days, propelling her to the position of the most followed South Korean actress on the platform. In an impressively quick 27 days, *Squid Game* has established itself as a media force to be reckoned with and a juggernaut on a streaming platform already boasting several successful titles. That a South Korean show could garner such massive success indicates the closing of an international media bridge, and that English speakers are finally willing to read subtitles. Hwang Dong-hyuk struck gold with his daring, innovative exploration into the horrors of our current economic systems and the drastic measures people will take to stay afloat. Don't miss out on the most hotly received series of the year, give *Squid Game* a stream.



WHATTOWATCH.COM

The Best Songs To Listen To Exclusively on Rainy Days

CAROLINE RICHARDS '22
A&E EDITOR

Rain, like music, has many expressions, themes, and connotations. Happy rain, romantic rain, sad rain, everything's-terrible rain (also known as depression rain), angry or storming rain (may feature thunder and lightning). And because I like to listen to music at all times and as I carry out all my many tasks in this life, I have a rain playlist.

Here are some of my favorite songs from that playlist in all their varying genres/forms. I hope you connect with some.

If Love Is The Drug by The Brian Jonestown Massacre

Stormy rain. Fun fact, in an interview on set for one of their movies almost the entire Harry Potter cast said their favorite band was The Brian Jonestown Massacre... Heed their good opinion.

This entire album is worth listening to. Especially when it's raining.

From The Morning by Nick Drake

Stormy rain. Fun fact, in an interview on set for one of their movies almost the entire Harry Potter cast said their favorite band was The Brian Jonestown Massacre... Heed their good opinion.

For You Too by Yo La

Tengo

From their most recent album which I thoroughly enjoyed, There's A Riot Going On. Can Yo La Tengo do any wrong? In my humble opinion, no. The Patron Saints of Rainy Days.

From The Morning by Nick Drake

Stormy rain. Fun fact, in an interview on set for one of their movies almost the

entire Harry Potter cast said their favorite band was The Brian Jonestown Massacre... Heed their good opinion.

Peggy-O by Grateful Dead (Live at Palladium, New York 4/30/77)

My mom's favorite Dead song and therefore has a special place in my heart. I have devoted many a rainy hour to this dreamy tune. Romantic-rain, does-true-love-exist rain. Slow, and thoughtful.

Weekly Skylights: The *Tripod* Looks to the Clouds

JOEY CIFELLI '23
A&E EDITOR



October 12, 2021. 7.8/10.

(Left) The rain comes down. Nighttime, the end of October. The rain falls into a divot in the asphalt path. The buildings downtown are so close you don't need an umbrella if you're quick. If you are a person that minds the rain. Many do not. They walk on the sidewalk with coats, some of these people who do not mind the rain, and they keep their collars down instead of up. Rain leaves a different mark on the skin than sweat does. Is it less reflective? Is it colder? The people who get wet in the rain pass me by, never knowing I saw them. If they knew would they be glad? Sometimes I can barely restrain myself from throwing open my window and shouting Hello, and inviting them in. Because I can not absolutely not think of anything worse than what I'm doing now.

(Right) Another rainy night. The super called. Three days to the end. That's my limit. Three days to get my dues in. What he's owed. Or I'll regret that. But Sir, I say, real cool, I've never felt better. Why, I can take my friends out to dinner, my treat, and tip real well. I show up to gatherings in nice suits and the people let me know. I come home from a night on the town, kick my feet up on my bed, and I smoke a cigar of such high caliber I pick the smoke out of my teeth with a toothpick three days past. These Benefits, I say, these absolute Benefits you would deprive me of with my dues? My life is bigger than it has ever been, Sir, because of this simple reallocation of funds. My name means something. Maybe, I suggest, maybe you take a few days to think about what you really want to do. Think about what kind of person you really want to be. Or, Sir, you can better believe that you will regret that. I put the phone down



October 13, 2021. 8.9/10.



October 14, 2021. 8.1/10.

(Left) I sit here, in my room. A rain drop collides with another and slides down the glass, gaining speed, until it inevitably intersects another droplet and bursts ahead, hitting drops at an accelerating rhythm, practically exponential leaps in speed, sliding, until the point of no return arrives on the horizon, the sill's edge, where the bloated drop races toward oblivion with the storm at its back, a sliver before the cusp, a speck, an infinitesimal. I blink. An hour passes. Once again my body has deprived me of a transcendental experience. This old thing. It does nothing for me. I feel as though I got it used, at a garage sale, for nothing, and I still paid too much. The rain taps against the window, useless now. I buy furniture to house my wrecked self. I admit that it is comfortable. The sunlight drains into the gutters.

(Right) minutes after the sun comes out. Autumn this time of year, and the light is still cold. I ate my toast and put on my coat and took a step out of my room. I walked down the stairs. The air was sharp and a little bitter. I took a walk to the park. I fed the pigeons. Green and gray and blue pigeons, dozens of them, pecking at stale crusts and my shoes, occasionally. I wonder where they go when it rains. I confess despite everything I like the rain. I stay in my room, wait it out, dry and viscerally clear how close a soak is. It soothes my ears and my eyes, all of them thin and tattered. The weather closes a curtain over the outside that makes it easy to sleep without pain or worry. For a moment every night, one moment as I drift off, I do not know my age. I wonder where they go, these birds. I wonder if they're alone. A shard of glass. My reflection stared back at me. And we laughed. Oh, I had lost my humanity, but what I had gained was far more interesting.



October 15, 2021. 7.2/10.

SPORTS

NLCS Game 1: Braves Beat Dodgers in 3-2 Walk-Off Win

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

The Atlanta Braves squashed the Dodgers' chances at winning Game 1 of the National League Championship Series with a walk-off base hit. The Dodgers, heavily favored to make it to the World Series, successfully countered Atlanta's Max Fried with a mix of relievers to give themselves chances against a weak Atlanta bullpen. All the Dodgers needed to take Game 1 was some life from a lineup with obvious star power. But the offense didn't produce for the final five innings, costing them a 3-2 walk-off loss at Truist Park. Moments

after Dodgers Chris Taylor made mistakes on the base to squash a two-out rally in the top of the ninth inning, Atlanta's Austin Riley went to the plate to face Blake Treinen with one out after Ozzie Albies singled. Albies then stole second base on the first pitch to Riley to get into scoring position, leaving first base open. A year ago, Riley hit a home run off Treinen in the ninth inning in Game 1 of the NLCS in the Texas bubble. On Saturday, Riley, who emerged as a surprise most-valuable-player candidate this season, batted a solo home run in the fourth inning to tie the Braves' first NLCS game at home in 20 years.

After the game, Dodger's manager Dave Roberts said he considered intentionally walking Riley. But he chose to have Treinen pitch to him with former Dodger Joc Pederson, a lefty, on deck because he liked the matchup against Riley better. The decision backfired. Treinen left a slider over the plate, and Riley lined it down the left-field line for a single to give the underdog Braves a 1-0 series lead. Ultimately, despite compiling 10 hits, the Dodgers scored fewer than four runs for the fifth time in seven games in these playoffs. They went one for eight with runners in scoring position and left seven runners on base.

The Braves, who have advanced this far without All-Star Ronald Acuña Jr. since early July, struck out 14 times against eight Dodgers pitchers. Freddie Freeman, the National League MVP, had four of the strikeouts. They put just two runners in scoring position, but both scored. The Dodgers, who rallied from a series 3-1 deficit to beat the Braves last year, squandered their chances to take the lead in the seventh and ninth innings. Taylor led off the seventh with a double and advanced to third base on Austin Barnes' sacrifice bunt for the top of the Dodgers' lineup. But Mookie Betts popped

out in foul territory and Trea Turner struck out against left-hander Tyler Matzek to strand Taylor. Two innings later, Taylor worked a two-out walk against Braves closer Will Smith before Cody Bellinger hit a single to right field. Taylor raced around second base as if he was headed to third base but stopped a third of the way there as Pederson threw to second base. After a brief rundown, shortstop Dansby Swanson tagged out Taylor to end the inning. The Dodgers, obviously frustrated, walked off the field in defeat. But the series is long and LA fans are hoping that they can rally again in the coming games.

Trinity Women's Soccer Team Falls to Wesleyan; Looks to Redeem Themselves Against Connecticut College

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

The Trinity Women's Soccer team was led by Hannah Storozuk '23 who gave the Bantams a 1-0 lead in minute 25 of the game. This held the Bantams through to the end as that goal was all they needed to defend home turf against Tufts University. The win was Trinity's first against the Jumbos since 2016. This was a great win, especially as the Bantams haven't had the most successful record. The Bantams are now 6-3-1 record with a 2-2-1 record in NESCAC standings. Tufts falls to 5-4 as

the Bantams, after winning, handed the Jumbos their second-straight conference loss. Sophomore Sadie Rudolph '24 sent the ball up-field to Storozuk who missed her first touch but after recovering, was able to spin around to the bouncing ball, firing a shot across her body into the lower left corner of the goal past the outstretched hands of the Tuft's goalie for her second goal of the season. The Bantams and the Jumbos each took seven shots in the game and both put two on target. Trinity's Mariana Cournoyer '24 played all 90 minutes in goal, grabbing two saves and picking up

her second shutout this season. In their next game, the Bantams weren't as fortunate, losing to Wesleyan University 2-1. This moves the Bantams to a 6-4-1 overall record and a NESCAC 2-3-1 record. The Wesleyan Cardinals now move to 7-1 overall and 5-1 in NESCAC and continue to look dangerous to other NESCAC teams. Wesleyan scored in the first two minutes of play when Cardinals team member Grace Devanny initially whiffed on a ball sent into the center of the field but recovered to slam the ball into the net for a 1-0 lead. As the game was ending, sophomore Tori Simas '24

put the equalizing goal past the keeper for her fourth goal of the season. The Cardinals, strong as ever, were able to answer when Devanny knocked in her second goal right as the game was coming to a

close. The Wesleyan University Cardinals stay hot in NESCAC's as the Bantam fans are disappointed with the loss. The Bantams are hoping to close out the season on a positive note.



BANTAM FLICKR

This Week in Sports at Trincoll...

Men's Soccer v. Connecticut College	L, 0-2	Football v. Bates College	W, 45-7
Women's Volleyball v. Colby College	W, 3-2	Men's Soccer v. Hamilton College	L, 1-2
Women's Volleyball v. Bates College	L, 2-3	Women's Volleyball v. Amherst College	L, 0-3
Women's Soccer v. Hamilton College	L, 0-1	Women's Volleyball vs. Massachusetts Institute of Technology	L, 0-3
Men's Cross Country at Connecticut College Invitational	12th place	Women's Field Hockey v. University of New England	W, 3-0

Trinity College

Inside Sports:
Braves v. Dodgers
Recap and
Trinity Women's
Soccer

This Week in Sports At Trincoll...

Football Continues Winning Streak Against Bates

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

The Bantam football team dominated the Bates College Bobcats on Saturday afternoon. The Bantams scored three touchdowns in the first 11 minutes of a 45-7 victory over the visiting Bates College Bobcats in the NESCAC football season on Saturday afternoon on Jesse Miller Field. Trinity, ranked No. 1 in New England and in the NESCAC, remains undefeated this season at 5-0, while the Bobcats drop to 1-4. This record is not going unnoticed as Junior Matthew Almansi '23 reported that the atmosphere of the team is electric, and that they are hungry to continue winning this season. On the first drive of the game, Trinity senior captain LB Brian Casagrande '22 and teammate Noah Glantz '22

helped the Bantams force a 3-and-out with a tackle for loss and Enzi Dabner-Teacher '24 on special teams got a hand on the Bates punt to give Trinity excellent field position on its first offensive possession. Opening on the Bobcat 41-yard line, Trinity quickly marched down the field and scored the game's first touchdown on an eight-yard pass from QB Spencer Fetter '23 to senior captain WR Jonathan Girard '22 less than two minutes into the game. Trinity continued to dominate, adding on two more scores on a six-yard run by sophomore standout RB William Kirby '24 and a 19-yard pass from Fetter to senior captain and star WR DeVante Reid '22 to lead 21-0, with little time left in the first quarter. The Bantam smack down continued in the second

quarter, resulting in a 31-0 halftime lead thanks to a 22-yard field goal by kicker Matt James '24 and an 11-yard touchdown reception by Girard. Kirby added another two touchdown runs early in the third quarter to make the score, 45-0. Bates took advantage of a Trinity fumble to score its lone touchdown on a 28-yard scoring strike from Brendan Costa to Christian Olivieri. George Hawkins recovered the fumble for the Bobcats. Neither team's offense was able to score in the fourth quarter. Fetter finished 20-for-25 passing for 236 yards and three touchdowns, while Kirby rushed for 66 yards with one touchdown and one interception. Kirby rushed for 66 yards with one touchdown and three scores and sophomore Cal Messina '24 added 45 yards on the ground for the Bantams.

Garrett Evans recorded 32 rushing yards for Bates. Girard led all receivers with 108 yards on seven grabs, while Reid added six catches for 65 yards. Sean Bryant caught seven passes for 81 yards for Bates. The Bantam defense was led by senior DB Aidan Kennedy '24 who got three tackles, a sack, and an interception, while Casagrande had four tackles and a sack. Bates

LB Tony Hooks totaled a game-high 14 tackles, while Anthony Costa added six tackles and a pass breakup, and Nolan Potter contributed four tackles and a sack. The Bantam football fanbase couldn't be more excited for the stand-out year that the team is presenting, after a tough 2019 season. The Bantams play three more games and could potentially go undefeated in NESCAC play.



BANTAMSPORTS.COM

Women's Field Hockey Sees One Win and One Loss

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

The Trinity Women's Field Hockey team are now 10-3 this season after a win at home against Connecticut College and a loss away at Hamilton College. Trinity College head field hockey coach Anne Parmenter recorded her 300th career win Tuesday night when the Bantams defeated NESCAC opponent Connecticut College, 4-2. Coach Parmenter was met, after the game, with a cake celebrating her winning record at Trinity. Connecticut College, with an outstanding start, came out with a 2-0 lead early in the second period. However the Bantams prevailed and came storming back with four unanswered

goals. Fans were nervously waiting for the Bantams to get a rhythm as the half was coming to a close. The two goals scored by Connecticut College seemed to jump start the Bantams and they came out firing to tie it just before half time. Sophomore Jackie Frank '24 put Trinity on the board, assisted by junior Riley Nichols '23 with just under five minutes to go before the halftime break. In the third period, senior Caelin Flaherty '22 intercepted a pass and fired a shot on target that was tipped in by Frank to even the game at 2-2. With seven minutes to go in the game's final quarter, the Bantams capitalized on a penalty corner to take the lead. Senior Meghan Ev-

an's '22 initial shot was blocked by Connecticut College's goalie, but it was Frank who brought the ball down out of the air and slammed it into the back of the goal. Fans threw their hats onto the field out of respect for Frank's hat-trick of three goals. Four minutes later, first-year Isabella Deveney '25 helped Trinity pull away with the lead when she slapped a shot off a penalty corner that was redirected into the back of the cage by Flaherty to make the score 4-2. Bantams fans jumped up delighted at the comeback. Trinity out-shot the Camels 23-3 and in penalty corners at 14-3. Frank's three goals were a new single-game best in her career while Deveney picked

up her first-career assist. The newer players on the team showed out, helped by the upperclassmen to end the game strong.

In the following game that weekend against Hamilton, Trinity lost in heartbreaking fashion during a penalty shootout at the end of the game. Frank scored the Trinity goal and the Bantams outshot Hamilton, 25-9 but couldn't hold onto their lead at the end of the game. The game was scoreless through three quarters, as Trinity sophomore goalkeeper Olivia McMichael '24 had to make just one save in front of the lights out Bantam defense. Frank scored off an assist from Flaherty early into the fourth quar-

ter, but Keeley Duran tied it for the Continentals with only a few minutes left to play. Goalie McMichael made another save in the first overtime, while the Trinity offense was dominant against Hamilton goalie Maggie Reville with 11 shots on goal in the two overtimes but to no avail. In the shootout, Tracey Stafford scored for Hamilton on the eighth attempt by the teams to give the home team the win. Unfortunately for the Bantams, Hamilton was a must win game with other harder opponents in the NESCAC. Thankfully the Bantams just recently beat University of New England in an easy 3-0 the next day on Sunday at home with a dominant performance.

Coming Up for Bantam Sports:

Weds.

Men's Soccer v. Western Connecticut
State @ 7 p.m.

Sat.

Men's Soccer v. Middlebury College
@ 11 a.m.

Women's Soccer v. Middlebury College
@ 2 p.m.

Women's Volleyball v. Keene State
@ 2 p.m.

