

COVID Boosters

ALEXANDRA BOURSICAN '23
NEWS EDITOR

page 3 News Editor Alexandra Boursican '23 looks at Trinity's potential plans to hold a COVID booster vaccine clinic on campus.

Abolishing Prisons

OLIVIA PAPP '23
FEATURES EDITOR

page 8 Features Editor Olivia Papp '23 recounts the Social Justice Initiative Lecture featuring Rachel Herzing on abolishing prisons.

Music Hangovers

CAROLINE RICHARDS '22
A&E EDITOR

page 9 A&E Editor Caroline Richards '22 breaks down the four songs you need to cure your Midterm music hangover.

Football's First Loss

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

page 12 The Bantam Football team suffered their first loss of the season to Williams College by a score of 42-3.

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.

President Berger-Sweeney Holds Remote Town Hall; Discusses Gender Inequity, External Evaluation of Employee Compensation by Segal

MELINA KORFONTA '25
STAFF WRITER

and
OLIVIA SILVEY '25
STAFF WRITER

President of the College Joanne Berger-Sweeney addressed questions on gender inequity in athletic facilities, the use of Vernon Social, and efforts to evaluate employee compensation in a virtual Town Hall held on Tuesday, Oct. 26. Much of this meeting reinforced the information stated in October's Board of Trustees meeting, though Berger-Sweeney did touch on other issues during the question-and-answer (Q&A) period. This year's Town Hall was titled "Bringing Our Strategies to Life."

Though much of Berger-Sweeney's comments were reiterations of her October Board of Trustees meeting, many new addi-



WGBH NEWS
President of the College Joanne Berger-Sweeney held a remote town hall on Tuesday, Oct. 26. She re-iterated information announced following the October Board of Trustees meeting, but there was also a Q&A period during which she discussed gender inequity, among other topics.

tions were added. During the Q&A portion of the presentation, Berger-Sweeney

was asked to speak about any upcoming plans to address the gender in-

equity in the athletic facilities, which was a topic of
see TOWN HALL on page 4

Campus Climate Incident Response Team Announces 2020-2021 Academic Year Incident Report: Ten Incidents of Intolerance

JACK P. CARROLL '24
MANAGING EDITOR

There were 10 incidents of intolerance on campus for the 2020-2021 academic year, according to the incident report released by the

Campus Climate Incident Response Team (CCIRT) in an email addressed to faculty, staff, and students on Monday, Oct. 25. The email noted that this total refers to the number of incidents

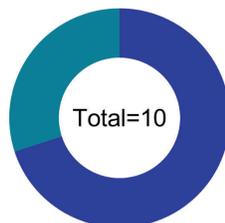
reported to the CCIRT "via the CCIRT reporting form or other methods such as Campus Safety Reports."

"The Campus Climate Incident Response Team (CCIRT) was created as

part of a comprehensive response to incidents of intolerance in our campus community. We represent each of the constituencies on campus: students,

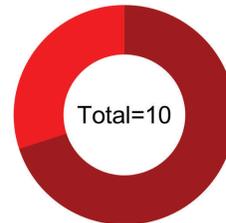
see INCIDENTS on page 3

Incident Classification



- 7 Bias/Uncivil Behavior
- 3 Vandalism: Hostile Environment

Outcome



- 7 Responsible Person(s) Identified
- 3 Responsible Person(s) Not Identified

The graphs above show the classification of the incident of intolerance (left) and the outcome of the incident of intolerance (right) for the ten incidents reported to the Campus Climate Incident Response Team.

The Trinity Tripod

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

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Trinity College
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CORRECTIONS

Tripod Editorial

The Dangers of Anonymous Libel Online

As of Thursday, Oct. 28, Facebook changed its corporate name to Meta. This felt like a relevant topic to touch on since the bulk of our *Tripod* editorials this semester have focused on the shortcomings of social media and the internet. According to a *Washington Post* article, the change was made by the company in an effort to "distance itself from a social-media business embroiled in crisis" and to "rebrand itself as a forward-looking creator of a new digital world known as the 'metaverse.'" CEO Mark Zuckerberg urged Facebook users to adjust their thinking about the company, and even acknowledged that the app had been "ubiquitous and problematic," but that they have somehow outgrown these labels in a rather short period of time. The change was obviously prompted by the controversial allegations that the company tracked real-world harms that the platform served to exacerbate and exposed vulnerable communities across the globe to a plethora of dangerous content. As we stated in the Sept. 14 issue editorial, the company showed little to no remorse during the hearings regarding such allegations. The move to improve their reputation through a name-change was surely not motivated by any sort of moral obligation to those they ill-affected, but rather to save face and continue to reign as a social media powerhouse. In a similar vein, at Trinity we have recently seen a resurgence of use of the app called Yik Yak, a platform where students can anonymously post funny quotes or witty banter, but often things get taken a bit too far, as is common

when anonymity is paired with internet platforms. Yik Yak can be exceptionally entertaining, with common sentiments shared by students we don't necessarily know, or may in fact know well. However, it is incredibly easy for this platform to be abused and so it has been time and time again, getting banned from many schools. It has popped up over time, and I'm sure many of us can recall a time in high school when Yik Yak was all the rage, ending in trips to the principal's office or calls home to parents because of cyberbullying allegations. The app is a digitized version of writing on the bathroom wall, permanently cementing sentiments that could even constitute slander into the fabric of the metaverse. Written defamation, or libel, is a civil wrong and can warrant a lawsuit. Not to mention, some of the things written about students that are referenced by name can yield long term psychological issues, damage to confidence, and mental health issues. In 2017, the *New York Times* explored some notorious incidents involving the app, which included graphic messages promoting sexual assault and violence at the University of Mary Washington in Virginia. In March 2014, a school in Massachusetts evacuated its students twice after Yik-Yak-based bomb threats, and during the same month, a high school in California was put on lockdown for a similar reason. In October of the same year, a student at Middlebury College posted an open letter about being targeted on the app for her weight, relaying that she felt "exposed, betrayed, and mostly embarrassed." The app's privacy pol-

icy, at least back in 2014, did not allow institutions to identify users who posed a risk without a subpoena, court order, search warrant, or an emergency request from a law enforcement official with a compelling claim of imminent harm. In response to complaints at around this point in time, Yik Yak created filters to recognize certain keywords that qualified as threatening language. What makes Yik Yak particularly exasperating for users is its hyper-localization, since it generates a feed for whoever is using it by their location and who is posting nearby. Thus, when students use the app, they're aware that the people who are posting the sentiments are as close as one door over from them in the dorm, or even across the room in Mather.

It's a common trend that apps like these will disappear and reappear again on campuses, from high schools to colleges and universities. So why then, if they were once banned from use, are they allowed to resurface a few years later? Sure, the app may have some benefits like a strange sense of bonding amongst those that choose to post on it, and some funny, relatable content. But the app is essentially designed to foster a space that users can hide behind, giving them free reign to target whomever they feel compelled to target without any repercussions because of the convenience of anonymity. We urge you to refrain from engaging.

-KJN

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NEWS

CCIRT Reports Ten Incidents of Intolerance for 2020-2021; Conducted Student Events with IGC, MAC, and SGA

continued from page one

faculty, exempt and non-exempt staff, and administration,” said the email. “The CCIRT does not investigate or adjudicate incidents” (emphasis original).

In addition, the team meets regularly to devise strategies of response to incidents of intolerance; develop networks of relationships across campus; collaborate with campus partners while responding to incidents; and anticipate campus needs and concerns. The committee also advises college personnel and offices regarding their responses to incidents; collects, records, and reports campus incidents and provides an annual report to the campus community each fall semester; and evaluates responses to improve college practices and shared life in community with a focus on restorative purpose.

Among the 10 incidents of intolerance cited in the report, seven were acts of bias or uncivil behavior that involved offensive comments being made

about or directed towards a person(s). Three of the 10 incidents were separate acts of vandalism that created a hostile environment in various residential halls. The responsible person(s) were identified in seven of the ten incidents; staff from the Office of Student and Community Life followed up with the responsible persons through the college disciplinary process and employed restorative justice practices when it was possible to address the harm within a community.

The report also indicated that the CCIRT held two conversations for the community in the spring. The team, along with the Inter-Greek Council (IGC) and Student Government Association (SGA), met with close to 90 students to discuss Trinity’s campus climate and ways to implement positive change. “Students shared experiences of unconscious bias and discussed ways to address them,” said the email.

The CCIRT includes of the following members: Joe DiChristina, Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Manage-

ment (Chair); Anita Davis, Vice President Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Vice Chair); Elizabeth Landell-Simon, Academic Administrative Assistant (Secretary); Trevor Beauford, Assistant Dean of Students; Jason Farrell ’23; Jody Goodman, Dean of Student Life and Director of the Bantam Network; Reverend Marcus Halley, Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life; Michelle Kovarik, Associate Professor of Chemistry; Rob Lukaskiewicz, Dean of Community Life and Standards/Interim Director of Campus Safety; Jim McLaren III, Chemistry Technician and Assistant Chemical Hygiene Officer; Takunari Miyazaki, Associate Dean for Faculty Development, Associate Professor of Computer Science; Irene Papoulis, Principal Lecturer in the Allan K. Smith Center for Writing and Rhetoric; Ayanina Platt ’22; Josef Riccio, Information Services Assistant; John Selders, Assistant Dean of Students; and Joelle Thomas, User Engagement Librarian.

Trinity Announces Potential COVID Booster Clinic

ALEXANDRA BOURSICAN ’23
NEWS EDITOR

Trinity announced its plans to potentially offer an on-campus clinic for COVID-19 booster shots in conjunction with Hartford Healthcare, according to an email from Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Management Joe DiChristina and Chief of Staff Jason. Their announcement follows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) expansion of the booster shot eligibility requirements on Thursday, Oct. 21.

DiChristina and Rojas indicated that booster shots are not required to work, attend class, or live on campus at this time. However, Rojas told the *Tripod* via email in October that, “Our goal is to be able to provide boosters to students and others as allowed before the thanksgiving holiday.” Their email also contained a survey for members of the Trinity community to complete; the College will then use student responses to gauge interest in an on-campus vaccine clinic.

Referring to guidelines from the CDC, DiChristina and Rojas indicated that the following groups who

received the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines are eligible for booster shots at six months or more after their initial series: age 65 years or older, age 18+ who live in long-term care settings, age 18+ who have underlying medical conditions, and age 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings which include institutions of higher education. Those who are 18 years of age or older and received the Johnson and Johnson vaccine are advised to obtain a booster shot two months after their first vaccination date.

Trinity’s COVID-19 vaccination campaign dates back to March when Rojas informed the *Tripod* that the College was hoping to have “students return either vaccinated or with a first dose” after the summer. The following month, Trinity announced that it would require students on-campus to be vaccinated along with plans to relax COVID-19 restrictions. Before the start of the new academic year in August, Trinity announced that 94% of students, faculty, and staff had been fully vaccinated — a figure which has since increased to 98%.

Intercollegiate Update: News on Nearby Campuses

Amherst College

Amherst College will end its legacy admission preference, according to an Oct. 20 article in the *Amherst Student*. The legacy admission preference, “which confers an admissions advantage to children of alumni,” has been somewhat controversial at Amherst, though the article the *Student* noted that “nationally, the majority of selective private universities and most liberal arts colleges still practice legacy admissions.” This change in admission practices, which will take effect for the 2022-23 academic year, will render Amherst “one of the only institutions of its kind to abandon the practice.”

The changes were announced in an email by Amherst President Biddy Martin, in which she explained that the changes were part of efforts to make Amherst “the college we want to be — the created community that stands for opportunity and academic excellence.” Per the *Student*, approximately 11% of each class year at Amherst consists of legacy students.

In addition to the cessation of legacy admissions, Amherst also announced “an expanded and simplified financial aid program.”

Bates College

The *Bates Student* reported on attempts by Bates adjunct faculty and staff to unionize, but staff members of the *Student* indicated that the article was altered “at the behest of Bates’s media relations specialist Mary Pols and the administration the same day it was posted,” according to *The Intercept*. The altered article, per *The Intercept* saw “pro-union information and worker quotes” be “replaced with anti-union talking points and comments from Bates administration.”

Following a student petition “Against Censorship at Bates,” in addition to subsequent articles in *The Intercept* and *News Center Maine*, the *Student*’s Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor issued a statement addressing the censorship concerns. They clarified that “The *Bates Student* was not coerced or censored by any member of the Bates administration,” and that the alterations were to “correct inaccuracies that were misleading or confusing” and to represent both the union and administration sides of the story. The statement did clarify that Pols “asked *The Student* to temporarily take down the original article, pointing to several misleading statements and reporting inaccuracies.”

Wesleyan University

Wesleyan University “will require all students to receive a flu vaccination by Jan. 20, 2022,” according to an article in the *Wesleyan Argus*. Wesleyan’s pandemic planning team chose to keep the influenza vaccine mandate, which was in effect last year too, to ensure that increased flu cases, in addition to COVID cases, do not “overwhelm campus health resources.” In addition, Wesleyan’s Medical Director Dr. Thomas McLarney wrote that the cold weather and increase in time spent indoors could exacerbate the spread of both COVID and influenza.

Per the *Argus*, Wesleyan has secured 1,200 doses of the flu vaccine, which is believed to be sufficient to “immunize at least 1/3 of the student body,” according to an email from Director of University Health Center Joyce Walter. The on-campus appointments filled quickly, forcing many students to get the flu vaccine off-campus instead. McLarney indicated to the *Argus* that the flu vaccine mandate’s future is unknown: “If we are still being challenged by this pandemic, I can foresee this mandate continuing.”

SGA Discusses Transcript Privacy Concerns, Gender Categorization in Course Evaluations, Meeting with COVID-19 Steering Committee on COVID Restrictions

FAITH MONAHAN '24
NEWS EDITOR

Trinity College's Student Government Association (SGA) discussed student transcript privacy, gender categorization in course evaluations, and the SGA executive board's upcoming meeting with the COVID-19 Steering Committee in its weekly meeting, held virtually this week, on Sunday, Oct. 31. The meeting with the COVID-19 Steering Committee will take place this Tuesday, Nov. 2, to discuss student concerns over COVID regulations, particularly regarding the regulation of social events in the coming colder weather.

The Academic Affairs Committee began an ongoing discussion with the College on the privacy of student transcripts. Currently, all professors have access to any student's transcript, in-

cluding their course history and grades. Some students have expressed discomfort with the level of access given to professors, and the conversation was prompted by concerns of potential bias when students are removed from waitlists for classes. Because professors have access to a student's transcript, a professor has the ability to pick and choose who is added to their class based off of grades. Alternatively, some students noted that access to a student's transcript can have other important academic effects, and a professor may utilize this information to assist a student in their academic affairs. The conversation remains ongoing still, but an opt-out policy or a policy permitting access to only professors relevant to a student's major may provide potential solutions for students uncomfortable with profes-

sors accessing their grades. The Curriculum Committee discussed the question of gender in course evaluation sheets completed by students at the end of the term. Currently, the form contains a question asking for students to select their gender from three options, "male, female, and transgender." The Curriculum Committee suggested a "fill-in-the-blank" style of questioning that would allow students to self-identify their gender rather than pick one of the three options from a drop-down menu. The college collects gender-based data to evaluate gender dynamics in classrooms, but some students have expressed concerns of privacy and anonymity over professors reviewing this data in the course feedback received by students. The SGA members serving on the curriculum committee — Jason Farrell Jr. '23,

Joshua Jacoves '23, and Maja Peszko '23 — encouraged students to contact them if they are interested in sharing their thoughts on the matter.

Following up on discussions which took place at SGA's prior meeting, the SGA executive board and Greek Life student leaders will meet with the COVID-19 Steering Committee this Tuesday during common hour to discuss COVID restrictions for the upcoming winter months. One main concern is the issue of heating and making sure students can have events while staying warm. SGA hopes that they can achieve an appropriate solution that may allowed for more detailed planning and understanding of COVID restrictions for student events in the future. There was also a discussion of potential student happiness reports that would seek to gather data

on the happiness of Trinity students and potentially use this data in comparison to NESCAC schools. By understanding where we rank in comparison, Trinity's community will be able to utilize this data to improve student quality of life.

There are currently openings to the whole student body to participate in the Multicultural Affairs Committee, the Communications Committee, and the Student Quality of Life Committee. The deadline to sign up is Wednesday, Nov. 3. SGA President Jderick Estrella '22 remarked on the value of incorporating students from the larger Trinity community outside of just SGA. He expressed the sentiment that these students add value to these committees as "more bodies in an army that are fighting for the quality of life of students is never a bad thing."

Berger-Sweeney Town Hall Focuses on Summit Plan

continued from page one

interest among the student body earlier in the semester. Berger-Sweeney revealed that she had attended a meeting that morning regarding the athletics situation, and the meeting also addressed other ways that the College can improve gender equity across campus. Berger-Sweeney noted that the student body should expect a specific announcement about those plans within the next few weeks, as they are hiring professionals to conduct a facilities assessment. This comes after a coalition of women's athletes formed the Trinity College Women's Athletic League and petitioned for equity in stadium renovation projects, as well as requesting a full assessment of Trinity's Title IX compliance, as the *Tripod* previously reported. She emphasized the need to bring up the standards for both male and female facilities, as well as the need for

gender balance in committees that are in charge of making decisions such as ones involving athletics. Berger-Sweeney stated she would like to see more progress in this area and offered the idea of naming a building after a woman, as there is only one on campus at the moment.

During the Q&A portion, Berger-Sweeney also discussed the process for the decision to utilize the space in Vernon Social differently than in the past. An attendee asked if there will be a loss of social activities now that the space will be re-dedicated into something else, and if there will be other spaces available for students to use as a social area. Berger-Sweeney did not have any specifics to that question, stating that the process through which the decision was made came from many demographics on campus, including multiple student groups and career development services. These groups held discussions

and analyzed how the space could best be used, even with some trade-offs made; Berger-Sweeney noted that many groups do not have their own dedicated space, such as the Student Government Association, and this was an opportunity to grant them that.

Other questions addressed the effects of COVID-19 on faculty and how the College plans to encourage faculty to stay. Berger-Sweeney cited the strategic plan that includes increased employee input and the evaluation of remote work and employee compensation. Berger-Sweeney also noted that the College's bicentennial celebration is coming up in 2023, with plans for that are slowly starting to begin.

In the first section of the presentation, Berger-Sweeney reviewed much of what was covered in her presentation to the Board of Trustees last week. Berger-Sweeney started her presentation by stating that, "Planning

is not linear — particularly when you're in a continually learning environment," adding that the Administration is constantly communicating progress as well as failures.

Berger-Sweeney highlighted the College's mission statement, newly adopted in 2016: "Engage. Connect. Transform. As the preeminent liberal arts college in an urban setting, Trinity College prepares students to be bold, independent thinkers who lead transformative lives." Showing how this equates to the College's strategies, Berger-Sweeney went into further detail regarding each plan. The 2017 Summit Strategic Plan's goals were to make Trinity "a first choice destination for students, faculty, and staff"; to "connect the Trinity College community" with Hartford and "the world beyond"; and to create a sustainable future, both environmentally and financially. Berger-Sweeney and her team have been

documenting strategic plan progress, providing a published update in Spring 2021.

The town hall also touched on enrollment retention and graduation rates. This included a 91.4% retention rate for sophomores this year and during the pandemic. Regarding employees, faculty, and staff, the focus is to compensate employees fairly, have an inclusive environment, a changed mindset, as well as assessing remote work, and including professional development opportunities. Segal, a company specializing in HR consulting and benefits consulting, is currently conducting an employee compensation study, examining how salary and benefits compare to peer institutions, including helping with evaluating remote work. Berger-Sweeney also touched on the Comprehensive Campaign, noting that the current campaign total is approximately half-way towards the overall \$500 million goal.

Trinity College Campus Safety Report: Oct. 25 - Nov. 1

Sunday, Oct. 31. 2:32 a.m.
122 Vernon Street

Assault (Simple).
Disciplinary referral issued.

OPINION

Why the Freedom to Vote Act Will Never Pass Congress

SKYLER SIMPKINS '23
OPINION EDITOR

It looks as if the Freedom to Vote Act will not be able to successfully pass the congressional chambers and make it to the President's desk for approval. This bill substantially changes our voting rights in America. In case you are not aware of this bill, some of the provisions of the bill include a ban on partisan gerrymandering, an increase in automatic voter registration, and ensuring that every election is audited by the local or state governments where the election was held. This bill, then, covers many facets of voter protection wanted by both sides of the aisle. So why then is this bill having so much difficulty becoming law? I, unfortunately, believe this answer lies in the strategic party planning for the 2024 presidential election.

Usually issues with congressional approval stem from bitter partisan divides. The rival conservative and liberal agendas meet in a firestorm of press coverage and informal ne-

gotiations, yet this bill I think is different. Many may argue — and have an apt point — that this bill's provisions are more

rather egalitarian basis of this bill makes the difficult passage much more difficult to understand. If polarization is not the

years of Trumpian politics. He could easily manage to sweep the primaries, and he seems quite eager to do so. Due to this possibility that is growing more and more likely with each Trump rally, Republican lawmakers must begin to plan what their platform will become if he is once again the nominee. After all, in our current political situation, it is better to win than to promote the best outcome. And this is true for both parties, but this situation is about to play out right before our eyes with the Republicans:

different spheres of society, but politics is one carrying the most significant and harmful consequences. In this case, the result is the inability to pass the Freedom to Vote Act, a bipartisan bill supporting secure and free elections.

The power of a candidate over the entire party is a more modern development, but something that we should all watch out for in years to come. Political parties are beginning to betray their devotions for the sake of a future presidential or major legislative victory.

“So why then is this bill having so much difficulty becoming law? ...strategic party planning for the 2024 presidential election.”

fitting with a Democratic lawmaker. I have to agree. Increase in voting registration and restrictions on partisan gerrymandering are key platforms for a Democrat, but they too have a potential loss in this bill. Restrictions on partisan gerrymandering are going to hurt both parties and it might end up having little to no effect, with independent commissions embodying the political preferences of their respective legislators. With this, I think we can put considerations aside that point to this bill following the platform of one party over the other. It might more closely resemble liberal ideals, but the bill has provisions that will equally hurt and help both parties. The

basis for the squabbles of this bill, what is? Instead of polarization, this bill represents an internal battle in the Republican party — a battle between their platform calling for integrity in elections and the possibility of another Trump nomination on the 2024 presidential ticket.

Donald Trump has been very politically active, harping on his stolen election and basing his pride on the cries of his devout followers who proclaim him as their President. Whether we like it or not, Trump has retained a devoted fan base on the right side of the aisle, a fact that is potentially troubling for a Republican party who would like to move past the tumultuous last four

“Instead of polarization, this bill represents an internal battle in the Republican party — a battle between their platform calling for integrity in elections and the possibility of another Trump nomination on the 2024 presidential ticket.”

A disregard for moral victories in order to prepare yourself for a “bigger” win down the line. This phenomenon happens in many

Parties are slowly folding to match the contours of their candidate, blood-letting the intangible party's body of integrity.

Divorcing the Film Studies Department from the English Department: Film Needs More Emphasis on Production

LUC BRYANT '22
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Over my time at Trinity, I have had the pleasure of taking fourteen classes within Trinity's English department. As an English major, I can never shake the feeling that this statistic is a bit low in terms of committal investment, but numerically speaking it is almost half of my current credits attempted. I owe the other half of my credits to my love for Film Studies, which on their own have taken thirteen credits of my time here. The thing is, there is an overlap between some of those credits: I may have counted some classes I have taken towards both English and Film Studies. This makes sense when you are from Trinity and know the Film department exists with one foot stuck inside 115 Vernon Street, and it has been this way for some time now. Here is my case for the separation of the two departments.

Just writing this, I can already hear the outcries of English and Film students alike. On paper

it seems like a perfect merging of disciplines. One would analyze and study film much the same

that most Film majors at Trinity have some desire, whether being acted upon or not, to do some work

“But there is more to the study of film than just analyzing what has already been made. I would hazard a guess that most Film majors at Trinity have some desire, whether being acted upon or not, to do some work in the field of film production or media.”

way one would study literature: through context, history, background, devices, style, story, emotion, affection, etc. until the first story was ever told on this Earth. But there is more to the study of film than just analyzing what

in the field of film production or media. I would also hazard a guess that the alumni of the Film Studies program all wish the production side of the major to be much larger.

The requirements for Film Studies major speci-

production: FILM 201 (Basic Filmmaking) and two electives of your choice. The electives offered usually concern the three pillars of film: creativity, script, and sound and editing. This list is functional, but it is my opinion, and most likely the opinion of many a Film Studies major, that this list be as expansive as can be for the resources of a liberal arts institution.

While on one hand it is true the school is wanting for more professionals within the filmmaking space to be able

the hungry Film department, Film has nowhere to grow but in the shadow of English. I say this as an avid appreciator of all things cinematic and literary — the Film department cannot be what I and the rest of its students have hopes for. Criticism and theory can continue to be an important factor in the Film major, and indeed there should still be classes that bridge the gap between departments, in the same way American Studies bridges the gap between History

“Growing the Film department's production studies is a must for any Film Studies program in the modern age”

to facilitate this growth, I will say the ones I have encountered are more than capable of doing so if only it be requested of them by the school.

But why does this warrant a separation of the Film and English departments? By having the English department being the overbearing parent to

and English. Growing the Film department's production studies is a must for any Film Studies program in the modern age, where we so heavily rely on concepts of film creation in industry, art, and advertisement, but alas it will never be a priority as long as it remains a subsidiary of English.

“By having the English department being the overbearing parent to the hungry Film department, Film has nowhere to grow but in the shadow of English.”

has already been made. I would hazard a guess

fy three courses to be taken in the discipline of film

Desensitization: The Potential Dangers of Our Overconsumption of Crime-Centric Entertainment

KASH JAIN '24
OPINION EDITOR

As we pass Halloween and the horrors that accompany it, it's time to have a serious conversa-

der on exploitation of the victim and the possible trauma felt by their loved ones. Even when the murders being considered and solved are those of fictional characters, this impacts

go beyond impacting how we view crime and the victims of it; it can also impact our own thoughts and health in a deeply damaging way. Dr. Chivonna Childs, a psychologist with the Cleveland Clinic, says that some people watch true crime to learn how to avoid being a victim. However, this can unnecessarily stoke fear and paranoia and even lead to depression and anxiety, says psychologist Dr. Erica Rojas. Dr. Jessica Micono, a forensic psychology professor at Regis University, says that persistent hypervigilance can lead to increased overall stress and stress-related illnesses.

Part of the issue here is that crime content is not a good educational tool be-

These two factors lead to an era where the number of shows, movies, and podcasts in these genres has become innumerable. Still, it is a solution worth pursuing, especially at the individual level. If you find yourself feeling unsafe, scared, or anxious, reduce your consumption and consider reaching out to someone for help. Creators of content centered on violent crime should also be sure to make it clear that the content they are making or covering is not representative of reality — they need to make it clear that what they show on screen is extremely uncommon in real life. Producers and entertainers should also attempt to combat desensitization in the content they create by showing that, when these crimes do occur, they leave a deep and terrible impact. The protagonists and victims in fictional shows need to be seen productively addressing the stress and trauma of whatever events occur so that the audience, too, can identify and come to terms with what they consume. The creators of true crime content, especially content that focuses on unsolved cases or cases with certain unclear elements need to be aware of how their viewers and listeners may react. When they discuss and cover real cases and real people, their audience may want to investigate independently, potentially leading them to intrude on others' right to privacy. Accordingly, creators should offer disclaimers cautioning their audiences from conducting their own investigations.

Violence is by no means constrained to crime-related media. Shows like *Game of Thrones* and *American Horror Story* have become known for their graphic depictions of violence. While content such as this may also desensitize people to violence, its effects likely do not mirror some that are produced by crime-related content, especially when it comes to amateur investigators disrupting victims' personal lives. Additionally, content that can easily be identified as being fantastical is less likely to fuel paranoia or general fear. Shows about serial killers may increase concerns over similar violent crimes. But, when it comes to depictions of knights, dragons, and ghosts, people generally understand

"The trouble with the amalgamation of crime with entertainment is that this may impact how we react to real crimes. Desensitization may lead us to fail to fully process a terrible crime and the person or persons that it may impact."

tion about our massive consumption of true crime and crime fiction TV shows, movies, and podcasts.

The popularity of true crime and crime fiction — particularly police procedurals — has risen significantly over the past few years. The rise of streaming services and podcasts has created more crime entertainment than ever seen before. With this has come a growing concern: Is our fascination with terrible crimes, whether real or fictional, damaging?

Let's address the elephant in the room first: the "video games cause violence" theory. The idea that playing violent video games leads people to act more violently has little support from researchers, and the same can be said about consuming violent, crime-centric content.

While seeing violence on screen may desensitize us to it, it does not cause us to act violently. However, desensitization truly is a major issue.

The trouble with the amalgamation of crime with entertainment is that this may impact how we react to real crimes. Desensitization may lead us to fail to fully process a terrible crime and the person or persons that it may impact. While some fans of true crime content may be inclined to conduct their own investigation into a crime, be it a famous one or otherwise, this can have serious negative impacts on the families and friends of victims. This can be enabled by desensitization and its concomitant reduction of empathy. Podcasts and movies that focus on a specific criminal or unsolved case can also bor-

our perceptions of real victims and how we view horrific crimes themselves.

The concerns of desensitization and what we

"Overconsumption can go beyond impacting how we view crime and the victims of it; it can also impact our own thoughts and health in a deeply damaging way."

show on screen have been echoed by the actors themselves. This includes Mandy Patinkin, one of the original leads of *Criminal Minds*, a police procedural following the FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit, a team of criminal profilers that attempt to identify and catch criminals using behavioral analysis. In 2007, before the show's third season, Patinkin left, citing creative differences. Five years later, in an interview with *New York Magazine*, he explained that his reasons were slightly different from what had been stated. Patinkin said that he had envisioned the show as being something very different, not an endless string of serial killers that "was very destructive to [his] soul." He added that he was concerned about the popularity of police procedurals and "the effect it has. Audiences all over the world use this programming as their bedtime story. This isn't what you need to be dreaming about."

Patinkin may be right, especially about the commonality and ease with which consumption of this content grows, even to the point where it negatively impacts the health of the consumer.

Overconsumption can

cause this content does not accurately represent reality. Even true crime content poorly portrays reality. True crime writers do not necessarily abide by journalistic norms, often

"The point here is that not all violent content is equal — the context of the violence and how it is situated in the overall story can lead to different effects on the people consuming said content."

choosing to omit or include certain information to construct a certain narrative. Plus, most crimes covered by true crime content are serious outliers. They may often be horrific, but these incidents are very rare. Over the past few decades, violent crime, including murder, has fallen, yet the amount of focus on specific, tragic cases seems to have grown.

Crime fiction TV shows are also fairly inaccurate. They provide a poor representation of what FBI agents, for example, do on a day-to-day basis. The nonstop chases and direct confrontations with criminals are rare, if they happen at all. These shows may also create a perception that violent crime is much more common than it actually is.

that this is fictional and does not represent reality.

The point here is that not all violent content is equal — the context of the violence and how it is situated in the overall

"Creators of content centered on violent crime should also be sure to make it clear that the content they are making or covering is not representative of reality — they need to make it clear that what they show on screen is extremely uncommon in real life."

story can lead to different effects on the people consuming said content.

So, what do we do?

Dr. Micono offers a solution: reduced consumption. This may be easier said than done in

an era where the number of shows, movies, and podcasts in these genres has become innumerable. Still, it is a solution worth pursuing, especially at the individual level. If you find yourself feeling unsafe, scared, or anxious, reduce your consumption and consider reaching out to someone for help.

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"Creators of content centered on violent crime should also be sure to make it clear that the content they are making or covering is not representative of reality — they need to make it clear that what they show on screen is extremely uncommon in real life."

True crime and crime fiction are popular and interesting to many, but we must work to ensure that negative effects from their consumption are mitigated so that this content can be safely enjoyed by all.

FEATURES

Alumni Student Spotlight: Jamie Bianca '21 on Her Candidacy for the Bristol, CT Board of Education

SAMMI BRAY '25
STAFF WRITER

Last fall, Jaymie Bianca '21 was preparing to graduate. Now, she is a candidate for the Bristol Board of Education. Bianca thought about running for some time but was not sure if it was right, questioning her age. "I thought I would need more skills and life experience," she said. But it was in her Trinity College dorm room that Bianca realized she could run and she could do it now.

"I talked to one of my mentors and I realized that I was qualified and that this was a path that was possible for me... life experience isn't measured by age, but rather how much we have maximized the years we have lived on earth," Bianca shared. She also identified the importance of passion, drive, and zest for life and community as what really matters in campaigning.

Bianca says the journey has not been easy, explaining, "It was definitely difficult reading some negative comments on social media. While there were more positive comments than negative, the hurtful ones tended to impact my confidence."

The age of social media has certainly influenced

campaigns. While more candidates have utilized the tool to connect with voters, the public has also weaponized social media to share false information or hateful messages about candidates, while others direct comments to voters with opposing views. "It became hard at times to retain confidence and faith in myself and my abilities. However, I had such a wonderful team working with me, which truly made all the difference," Bianca shared, emphasizing the importance of never doubting yourself.

Quoting Winnie the Pooh, Bianca remembers, "You are braver than you believe, smarter than you seem, and stronger than you think." She kept this in mind when campaigning. Bianca learned the importance of politics and the way that she could possibly be affecting others. "I learned that politics may include facts and figures, but we are representatives of our community. In order to do our jobs effectively, we need to understand and care for our community, as well as participate in community events."

Bianca has been a strong participant in her communities for years. A seasoned performer, Bi-

anca has shared her baton twirling talents with local towns and has been involved in Miss America pageants. At Trinity, Bianca was a student mentor, class senator, writing associate, research assistant, and teaching assistant. She was also the president of Ignite and an outspoken advocate for women's issues. Bianca also advocates for individuals with different abilities, inspired by her brother's diagnosis of autism at the age of two.

The time Bianca spent at Trinity prepared her for politics in several ways. As an Educational Studies major, Bianca learned about education from multiple different angles. She was also able to volunteer at local Hartford schools, giving her insight into the classroom. "My professors were extremely helpful in guiding me and fostering my passion for education and human rights," Bianca explained. She also worked at the Women & Gender Resource Action Center (WGRAC), allowing her to experience leading a political leadership organization. "Laura Lockwood was always open to my ideas and helped foster my passion for female empowerment as political leadership,"

she remarked of her time working with WGRAC.

When asked to share her advice for current students, she encouraged students to look beyond their comfort zone. Trying new things on campus and taking a variety of classes showed Bianca interests she never knew she had.

For female students

inspired to run, Bianca says "Never lose faith in yourself. Politics may be a male-dominated field, but you are smart, capable, strong, and confident. You are fully qualified to run for office because of the experiences you've had, the struggles you may have faced, and your heart and passion for your role."



Photo courtesy of Jamie Bianca '21

Series of Female Revolutionaries: Simone De Beauvoir

TY DEERY '22
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"To emancipate a woman is to refuse to confine her to the relations she bears to man, not to deny them to her." Simone de Beauvoir's 1949 treatise *The Second Sex* is littered with quotable lines and has served as a blueprint for any feminist movement following its publication. Born in 1908, de Beauvoir grew up in a lower-middle class Parisian household. She had a ferocious intellect from a young age, and at 21, was the youngest person to ever pass the agrégation in philosophy (a highly competitive post graduate exam in France). Beauvoir placed second in the entire examination, behind only Jean-Paul Sartre, who would later become her philosophical companion and life-long partner, though they did not marry. Beauvoir began her career as a teacher, until she could support herself off her writings alone. She did not consider herself a

philosopher, however her influence on existentialism, particularly feminist existentialism, is undeniable.

Simone de Beauvoir's contemporaries, including Sartre, allotted much of their work to the exploration of freedom. Beauvoir exposed an entirely unexplored landscape in the field by looking at the issue of freedom and existentialism through a female perspective. Her work was radical at the time and was met with hostility, partially due to the fact that it revealed the ridiculous fact that most Western philosophers had not even thought about what it meant to achieve radical freedom for a woman. Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* is premised upon her observation that male is treated as the "default sex" whereas female is considered an "other". This observation informs perhaps her most famous quote from the book: "One is not born, but rather becomes, a woman." Beauvoir purports that

the roles women occupy in society are thrust upon them rather than given to them by virtue of their biological sex. Womanhood is essentially a construct, one that confines women and relegates them to being second class citizens.

This premise monumentally complicated the already complicated work of existentialist philosophers. Gender's relationship with freedom had been explored by authors such as the Brontë sisters and Jane Austen, yet the lens of scientific analysis which took off during the mid-20th century had not been applied to this topic. Following the publication of *The Second Sex* in French, it was rapidly translated into English at the behest of Blanche Knopf, wife of publisher Alfred A. Knopf. However, the translator's French was imperfect, and his understanding of philosophy minimal, so the English version was drastically different from the original. Despite

many philosophers pleading with Knopf, the publisher blocked all attempts to publish an accurate version of the novel. It took until 2009 for a complete and accurate version of *The Second Sex* to be translated into English.

It is immediately clear when reading any of Simone De Beauvoir's works that you are reading the words of a generational intellect.

However, what is almost even more incredible is the fact that the points she raises seem to almost be common sense. The fact that women's quest for radical freedom had been and continues to be ignored is a disgrace to the Western academic tradition. "What would Prince Charming have for occupation if he had not to awaken the Sleeping Beauty?"



Herzing and Professor Camp on Abolishing Prisons

OLIVIA PAPP '23
FEATURES EDITOR

On Oct. 27, 2021, the Austin Arts Center hosted a guest speaker event entitled, "How to Abolish Prisons: Lessons from the Movement Against Imprisonment." This event was a talk between activist Rachel Herzing and Trinity American Studies Professor Jordan Camp. This was the second lecture to take place in the Social Justice Initiative, which was founded by Professor Camp and Professor Christina Heather-ton. Herzing is a co-founder of the organization called Critical Resistance which is a national grassroots organization created with the intent to abolish the Prison Industrial Complex (PIC) once and for all on an international scale. According to its mission statement, the organization upholds the belief that prisons do not make communities safe, rather "basic necessities such as food, shelter, and freedom, are what really make our communities secure."

Aside from Herzing's work with Critical Resistance, she is also widely known as a grant maker and researcher who works on projects ranging from community-based interventions to violence. Once the Critical Resistance organization became national, Herzing moved out to California to help with the West Coast Critical Resistance branch. Herzing is also an author whose writing is focused primarily on anthologies, academic journals, and

magazines. As demonstrated through her eye-opening lecture at Trinity, Herzing is a practiced speaker. During her talk, Herzing ultimately focused her words on topics relating to the systemic issues surrounding the United States PIC.

To begin the conversation, Herzing spoke about the way in which she had been surveilled all her life, particularly due to her skin color. She found herself becoming a very angry person because of this and noted that she was lucky when she got to college and was able to find a great group of mentors and peers who helped her understand social movements better and help her think more critically about the world.

Herzing remarked that she had been following through with the idea of abolishing prisons by running an education program for people in New York state who had recently come home from prisons. Herzing then referred to the United States PIC as a machine. With this metaphor, Herzing then said her goal was to begin taking this well-run, refined machine apart piece-by-piece.

Herzing frequently noted during her conversation with Camp that "policing and prisons are about social control, not public safety." With this powerful statement, Herzing was trying to remind the audience of the true purpose of the prison system. At the end of the day, the real reason why surveillance of the popula-

tion plays such a substantial role in everyday life is due to the fact that society needs to be in order so that there are relatively few instances of social deviance.

Herzing continued with this idea of social surveillance and policing, as she pointed out to the audience that as the years have gone on, the police have become more and more violent and repressive. She pointed to the brutal death of George Floyd as an apt example of a recent escalation in levels of violence seen in recent years. Thinking about this concept of surveillance and repression, Herzing told the audience that the United States does, in fact, exploit blueprints of prisons and police tactics as well as the apparatus of how we understand the PIC. Herzing shared with the crowd that the United States is an exemplar to the world in terms of social control. Other countries look up to the United States PIC, particularly the geography of prisons and how they have been established.

When Camp asked about the role policing has played over the years, Herzing said that at this point parents are begging the police to shoot their kids: "Now, we are seeing uprisings like Ferguson and Floyd. We are seeing rebellions. Since these rebellions, policing has become the thing." However, Herzing still remains hopeful because the work we do now is what will make the vision for a safe society, one rid of prisons and extreme

surveillance, attainable.

Herzing next talked about race in context with the PIC. "Black people have to fight to live and must fight for civil liberation. In order to fight, you must understand the terrain of the fight. You must understand who you're fighting against and why you're fighting," remarked Herzing. The policing and prison system in the United States has historically targeted minorities. At this point, she explained, the only way to fight against this form of racism is to begin dismantling the prison state.

Camp posed the question: "How can abolitionist movements aid us?" Herzing responded by saying that the "abolitionist perspective is crucial because it allows us to imagine a future on the horizon that we have always been struggling for." The work which Herzing has done thus far is a step in the right direction.

Herzing spoke on the crucial role of education for this generation and the next. "People need to be ed-

ucated in such a way where they have the critical thinking skills to contribute in remaking the world. How can we ensure more equality for the next generation?" By posing this question, Herzing gave the audience an invitation to think about what the world would look like if everyone contributed to making this world fair and just. Overall, this intellectual discussion was fascinating to watch and be part of. Camp and Herzing were speaking on relevant and important topics for the public to dissect and consider. This conversation was ultimately an effort to open up the discussion regarding ways to debunk the PIC.

The next lecture sponsored by Trinity's Social Justice Initiative at the Austin Arts Center will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 3, at 2:55-3:40 p.m. during which both Jordan Camp and Senior Research Associate at the Vera Institute of Justice Jack Norton will present a lecture entitled, "No One is Watching: Jail Expansion in Upstate New York."

Halloween Festivities at the Crescent Street Townhouses

BAILEY MCKEON '22
FEATURES EDITOR

This past Sunday, Oct. 21, the Crescent Street Townhouses hosted Halloween events and trick-or-treating for Hartford youth. The event was initially planned to be held by the Student Government Association (SGA), Bantam Network, the Office of Student Activities, Involvement, and Leadership (S.A.I.L.), and Barnyard on Saturday afternoon; However, because of inclement weather, the festivities were moved to Halloween day, which proved to be wonderful weather for the trick-or-treaters.

Families from the Hartford area gathered on Crescent Street to partake in

various arts and crafts booths. The children were able to stuff Halloween dolls, decorate pumpkins, tie dye, and make bracelets. Additionally, the kids were able to get their faces painted and enjoy music. Members of SGA, the Bantam Network, S.A.I.L., and Barnyard were in attendance handing out t-shirts, stickers, and baked goods to students and campus guests too.

Children also trick-or-treated from house to house on Crescent Street as students residing in the townhouses gave out candy. When asked about her experience at the event, senior Crescent-dweller Olivia Hampton recounted, "it was so much fun to give out

candy to the kids on Crescent Street! It's always nice to reaffirm our connection with the Hartford community and spread positivity on campus." Kids came dressed as everything from Little-Bo-Peep to "Scream" from the 1996 horror film. Popular costumes included Black Panther, Spiderman, different princesses, witches, vampires, and Minions from Despicable Me. SGA and Barnyard awarded prizes for the best costume and the best decorated Crescent house.

Many students partook in the activities alongside the children. Overall, it was an enjoyable way to celebrate Halloween both for children and Trinity students alike!

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Arts & Entertainment

Midterm Music Hangovers and Their Respective Cures

CAROLINE RICHARDS '22
A&E EDITOR

I always come out of midterms in a music rut. I think the sheer amount of time I spend listening to music as I'm working runs me off the cliff (there's only so many times you can listen to "Patience" by Tame Impala in the library at 1 a.m. after all). And usually by the time midterms are over you've exercised it all: your favorite oldies are old once more, all the new songs you'd just discovered are haggard, you've overworked the few EDM songs you actually like, Bach and Mozart aren't bringing the energy they once did, maybe you'd incorporated a Disney soundtrack or two and are now questioning the sanity of that choice (though if it's the Brother Bear score you're exempt from this. God I love Phil Collins). Regardless, you're in a music hangover, so to speak, and you need a good iced coffee/bagel pairing, some Advil, and a nap. Those are what I'd call the Holy Trinity of hangover cures, and they are also representative of the kind of music you'll need to revive yourself and get back on track. Here are four good songs to listen to while you're resting, recovering, and recuperating.

1. THE COFFEE; "Heavy Hearted" by The Jungle Giants

First you need to wake the hell up. At this point, hopefully, you've slept off the majority of the hangover. Now you need to rise and greet the day! Veni vidi vici etc.. Whatever your preference for caffeination is, go forth and conquer while listening to this song. It's not EDM per se, it's not pop either. Spotify characterizes Jungle Giants as "Indie dance" and I'd say that's pretty close. Either way it will definitely wake you up. The rhythm is fun and funky but it's not overwhelming in the way that dance music tends to be. You don't want to over-caffeinate, but you definitely don't want to decaffeinate either. This song is the perfect in-between. Honorable Mention to their other hit song you might already know and love: "Send Me Ur Loving".

2. THE BAGEL; "Trouble" by Cage The Elephant

You need sustenance, you need something to fill you up and assuage your angry stomach lining (which is likely in shambles at this point). Bagels are a universal favorite because they're familiar and filling: they aren't going to upset your stomach more, they're simple (and hard to get wrong), and they're warm and delicious. "Trouble" by Cage The Elephant is exactly that. It's a familiar favorite and it never gets old. Everyone knows this song, everyone's had a coming-of-age moment to this song, it's a classic. It's nostalgic, it's warming, it's familiar and maybe dredges up memories; it'll help with both hangxiety and nausea. It's relaxing but also edged with meaning. Arguably, a very important song within our culture as a whole. Honorable Mention to their other foundational song, "Cigarette Daydreams", which makes me want to cry every time I listen to it.

3. THE ADVIL; "Daiquiri" by Mako Road

Now you need to get rid of that headache and your sore dancing-feet. Some prefer Ibuprofen or Tylenol, some like liquid IV, some dabble in Pedialyte. Regardless, you have sh*t to do and you can't go through your day feeling like you've been hit by a freight train. Thus, we enter part three of our healing process. "Daiquiri" by the New Zealand band Mako Road is musical medicine. It's auditorally detoxifying and soul soothing. Mako Road has a really unique sound where it's somehow both indie-rock and borderline surf-reggae? The product is a familiar calming effect that puts essential oil diffusers and candles to shame. They have the most reassuring lyrics: very positive and accepting. I'd recommend looking at their other stuff if you like "Daiquiri". Honorable Mention to their dreamy song "The Sun Comes Up".

4. THE NAP; "White Ferrari" by Frank Ocean

The coffee, bagel, and Advil are all fine and good until 3 p.m. hits, ie. hangover witching hour. It's that awkward time between morning and dinner when nothing's really going on, maybe you've achieved all you needed to for the day but it's too early for dinner and it's too late to get anything else done. This is prime napping hour. Or for all the non-nappers (of which I am a member; waking up from a nap makes me feel like I've slept through a world war. What year is it?) maybe this time consists of simply laying low for a while: journaling, scrolling aimlessly on Pinterest, taking extremely specific BuzzFeed quizzes, making even more extremely specific Spotify playlists. There's really no better person to listen to while doing such a thing than Frank Ocean, the prophet of our generation (aside from Future of course. I am not open to arguing about this). "White Ferrari" is such an incredible song. It's calming and, as is characteristic of Frank, it's full of dreamlike images that'll make you sleepy and reflective. Honorable Mention to "Pink Matter" off of *Channel Orange*. There are few songs as perfect as that one.

Quickie Horror Review: *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*

LIZ FOSTER '22
BITS&PIECES EDITOR

Halloween has come and gone, leaving discounted candy and rotting pumpkins in its wake. Horror, however, is eternal. Beginning in 1974, The Texas Chainsaw Massacre franchise maintains an air tight grip on the genre. The original film expanded, as a successful horror film does, into a nine-part franchise consisting of sequels, prequels, remakes, and spin-offs. Though the 2003 *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* is a charming remake, none of the series' entries quite

compare to Tobe Hooper's original film.

Marketed as a terrifying true story, *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* boasts wide images of Texan roads and the sweet air of being a young person in the 1970s in its opening shots. We meet our vaguely charming rag-tag bunch of pals: siblings Sally and Franklin and their buddies Jerry, Kirk, and Pam on a trip to visit an old family property. A frantic hitchhiker joins, flaunting his Polaroids of the animals he's slaughtered and cutting open his hand before next attacking

Franklin. After far too long of a wait, the group throw their hitchhiker from hell out of their van and head off to the gas station for a refill. But, remember, this is a horror movie, so there is no gas.

The group eventually ends up at a house deep in the boonies of Texas, leaving them vulnerable to whoever may be there. The homeowners are revealed to include one of horror's biggest names: Leatherface. Like Jason, Freddy, and Michael Meyers to follow, Leatherface is a headlining feature in film history's unofficial

Murderer Hall of Fame. Swinging his chainsaw about, Leatherface is a bull in a china shop with a taste for flesh. Whether cut by a saw, bludgeoned by a hammer, or impaled by a meat hook, Leatherface's victims find themselves in the most unpleasant of ends. Add in his family of cannibals and our story's protagonists have found themselves in between a saw and hard place. Leatherface's chaotic chases sometimes border on comical, but most often send a shivering chill down your back.

The film's final shots of

Leatherface swinging his chainsaw have become a haunting snapshot now iconic among movie buffs. Tasteful gore allows for a more squeamish viewer to enjoy the bloody story, and moments of less-than-perfect acting portrayals turn the film towards camp. For even the uneducated horror fan, *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* offers an enthralling, tight, 83-minute of madness. Next time you're wondering what to watch for your scarefest, head down South for a real taste of fear with *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*.

Weekly Skylights: The *Tripod* Looks to the Clouds

JOEY CIFELLI '23
A&E EDITOR



October 31, 2021, The First. 8.2/10.

(Right) They were made of hardwood. Slightly glowing hardwood, emitting a dusty blue halo. In certain places in the luminescent logs the cut revealed a lacquered streak of translucent material. It gave the impression of molten glass, caught at a moment in time. A girl walked out of a home, rubbing her eyes. She looked like us, though her skin was green, softly green. In the state of half-sleep she stepped toward a bin of dark earth leaning against the side of the house. Pieces of rotting wood and curdling fruits and vegetables lay breaching the surface of the soil like jewels. The girl sniffed and set her hand inches above the mixture. Then, from somewhere in her hand, from many different points, threads, a twisting structure of almost invisible threads descended into the bin.

(Left) On a planet distant from this one, though not as far as it might appear, on the edge of a continent, in a dark place, a forest, there was a village. The sun, because there was a sun, much like here, sat on the edge of the horizon, seeming not very fond of moving in any particular direction, sort of wobbling, and the light it gave off which was already quite dim was further strained by the thick forest, leaving the village in a comfortable twilight. A few buildings lay scattered around the clearing. Houses in between the buildings. The less definable structures of any village, with vague purpose to an outside observer, nestled in the cracks between houses and in the open spaces where there remained the feeling of a nook.



October 31, 2021, The Second. 8.3/10.



October 31, 2021, The Third. 7.9/10.

(Right) He stirred the fluid with a wood spoon, dipped his middle finger into it and tasted it. He added a drop of a red liquid from a corked glass bottle on a shelf above the oven. Nothing seemed to change, but he nodded to himself. The second ingredient was tossed into the pan, a handful of large scales which iridized like pearls. They made a sound like rain falling against a window as they smacked the surface of the oil. In went a piece of fruit, or a vegetable. The outside of the strange plant was distinctly fruit-like, while the inside appeared to be, equally, a vegetable. In went a blend of grated and finely minced herbs, smelling like the least evening of autumn. Then a square piece of meat, red. And then, lastly, a dash of salt and a crack of pepper. He gazed into the pan, his creation, and had to admit he had no idea what he was doing.

(Left) A flash in the dark. Three clicks. Underneath the heavy cast iron, blue flames poked their heads between the slats of the antique oven. He turned the dial. The flames licked the lip of the pan, now organ at the tips. Sparks of green fire blitzed through the streams every so often. He smelled ash and spice, the familiar scents of the pan coming to temperature. The ingredients lay on the carved table behind him, thoughtfully prepared and arranged. The first was a brown sort of nut, which he grabbed and with a quick clench crushed over the cast iron. The pieces sat on the surface of the metal for a moment before melting into a thick, opaque fluid.



October 31, 2021, The Fourth and Final. 7.7/10.

SPORTS

World Series Game 4: Braves Beat Astros in Comeback

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

The Atlanta Braves mounted a late comeback against the Houston Astros on Saturday to take Game 4 of the World Series by a score of 3-2. The Braves now lead the best-of-seven series 3-1, which means they are only one win away from their first World Series title since 1995. Led by a strong start from 38-year-old pitcher Zack Greinke, and yet another postseason home run from Jose Altuve, the Astros held a 2-0 lead going into the sixth inning. At that point, though, the Braves began

taking advantage of the Houston bullpen. A two-out single by Austin Riley plated Eddie Rosario, but the Braves weren't able to do any additional damage. In the bottom of the seventh Dansby Swanson and Jorge Soler each hit solo home runs off Cristian Javier to give the Braves a 3-2 lead. Per Elias Sports Bureau, Swanson and Soler are the No. 8 and No. 9 hitters to hit back-to-back home runs in World Series history. The Braves managed the victory even though their starting pitcher, Dylan Lee, was able to retire only one of the four batters he faced. Kyle Wright followed him and

did the heavy lifting, as he allowed only one run, by Altuve, in almost 5 innings of work. From that point, four Atlanta relievers combined for four shutout innings. Will Smith worked in the ninth for his sixth save of the 2021 postseason. Eddie Rosario also aided the cause with a ranging catch at the left field wall to rob Altuve of extra bases in the eighth. Astros hitters in Game 4 left 11 runners on base and went 0 for 8 with runners in scoring position. Going into Game 4, Astros relievers had allowed just two earned runs in their previous six games. They then allowed three runs in the span of

10 batters in the sixth and seventh innings to turn a 2-0 lead into a 3-2 deficit. Austin Riley got Atlanta on the board with an RBI single against Phil Maton in the sixth inning. In the seventh, Dansby Swanson and Jorge Soler hit back-to-back solo home runs against Cristian Javier to give the Braves the lead. It was the first lead change of the series and those are the first back-to-back homers in Brave's postseason history. Swanson's home run came in an 0-2 count, the first 0-2 homer Javier allowed all season. Game 5 is scheduled for Sunday evening back at Truist Park. A

Braves win in Game 5 will make them the first team to clinch the World Series on its home field since the Red Sox in 2013. The series is not over yet, but the Braves are in excellent position. Historically, teams that take a 3-1 lead in the World Series have gone on to win the series 87 percent of the time. For all best-of-seven series, the win rate is 84 percent. Atlanta has three chances to win one game to clinch its first championship since 1995. The Astros must win three straight games against a Braves team that has not lost three straight games to a single opponent since late August.

NFL News Week 7: Giants, Cowboys, Browns, Falcons

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

The New York Giants will again be without two of their top weapons. Saquon Barkley and Kenny Golladay have been ruled out for Monday Night Football against the Kansas City Chiefs. It's the third consecutive game the duo will miss after each star went down in New York's Week 5 loss to the Cowboys. Coach Joe Judge told reporters earlier Saturday that it was more likely Barkley and Golladay return for next week's meeting with the Raiders. The availability of two other notable skill players is to be determined. Wide receivers Sterling Shepard and Kadarius Toney are listed as questionable. Toney has been limited in practice the past two days after sitting

out Thursday. The emerging rookie missed the first game of his career last week. Shepard was also sidelined a week ago and has been limited in practice all week. Tight end Kaden Smith did not practice Saturday and is questionable as well. Quarterback Daniel Jones proved in Week 7's 25-3 win over the Panthers that he can adapt without a full complement of receivers, though beating the Chiefs will likely require more offensive firepower. Cleveland Browns quarterback Baker Mayfield will have a crucial weapon against Pittsburgh on Sunday. Cleveland wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. who has been dealing with a shoulder sprain, should be good to go. However, defensive end Jadeveon Clowney is a game-time decision. In five games this season, Beck-

ham has 16 receptions for 223 yards and is still looking for his first TD. The Browns, currently 4-3, play host to the Steelers who are 3-3 in a crucial AFC North battle. Cordarrelle Patterson's ground campaign has been one of the more pleasantly surprising developments of the 2021 season. The Atlanta Falcons will not be expected to ease up on the former All-Pro returner's carries anytime soon. Patterson's increased workload in recent weeks should continue this week and beyond. After averaging 22.75 snaps per game over the Falcons' first four contests, the 30-year-old athlete has played 90 offensive snaps over Atlanta's last two games, both of which were wins. Acting not only as a returner and receiver, Patterson also carried the ball a career-high 14 times in both

Weeks 5 and 7. His 21 touches against the Jets in London were the most he's ever seen. Through six games played, Patterson is Atlanta's leader in yards from scrimmage with a total of 529, already boasting a career-high 233 rushing yards, and with four touches Sunday against the Carolina Panthers would have his most touches ever in season with 86. Stephon Gilmore was activated off the physically unable to perform (PUP) list Saturday, which clears the star cornerback to make his Panthers debut on Sunday against the Falcons. Gilmore will be making his season debut, after being sidelined since last December with a quad injury. He was required to sit out the first six games because of his placement on the PUP list, and he missed one more while getting ac-

climated with his new team. The Panthers acquired Gilmore from the Patriots in early October for a 2023 sixth-round draft pick, a modest price for the 2019 Defensive Player of the Year. Gilmore, an impending free agent, has been seeking a new deal after earning three consecutive Pro Bowl nods in New England. Now, he will try to help the struggling Carolina Panthers with his lights-out defense. After opening the season 3-0 and boasting one of the league's best defenses through September, the Panthers have lost four straight games, losing points on both sides of the ball. Gilmore was added in the wake of first-round rookie Jaycee Horn breaking his foot. Gilmore is ready to get to work, with the same attitude and skill that helped lead the Patriots to their dynasty of Superbowls.

This Week in Sports at Trincoll...

Men's Soccer v. Amherst College	L, 0-3	Football v. Williams College	L, 3-42
Women's Volleyball v. Wesleyan University	L, 1-3	Women's Field Hockey v. Williams College	W, 2-1
Women's Volleyball v. Connecticut College	L, 0-3	Men's Cross Country v. NESCAC Championship Meet	11th of 11 Teams
Women's Soccer v. Amherst College	L, 2-3 2OT	Women's Soccer v. Amherst College	L, 1-2 OT
Women's Cross Country at NESCAC Championship Meet	11th of 11 Teams	Women's Field Hockey v. Amherst College	W, 2-1 2OT

Trinity College

Inside Sports:
Braves v. Astros in
Game 4 and
This Week's NFL
Round-Up

This Week in Sports At Trincoll...

Field Hockey Triumphs in NESCAC Quarterfinals

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior captains Caelin Flaherty and India Shay scored the back-to-back goals in the third quarter to lead the Trinity College Bantams to a 2-1 victory over the visiting Williams College Ephs in the NESCAC Championship Quarterfinals on Shepard Field. No. 4-seeded Trinity improves to 12-4 and will play at top-seeded Middlebury next Saturday in the semifinal round. Trinity trailed 1-0 just after halftime but brought great energy into the second half to propel the Bantams into next week. No. 5-seeded Williams drops to 11-5 and clings to an outside chance at an invitation to the NCAA Tournament next month.

Trailing 1-0 in the third quarter, Flaherty tied the contest with a great individual effort, advancing the ball down the left side on her own and shooting past Eph

goalie Gates Tenerowicz on the first Bantam shot of the game with 10:42 on the clock. Flaherty's ability to accelerate past defensive players is unmatched and keeps opponents on their heels. Just a few minutes later, Shay gave the Bantams the lead on the home team's second and only other shot of the game. Trinity star forward Jackie Frank '24 sent the ball toward the goal from near the top of the circle and it deflected to the left off a Williams stick where Shay dove and knocked it into the cage. Emily Batchelor took the only two shots of the fourth quarter, but both were stopped by Bantam sophomore goalie Olivia McMichael including one on a backhand with three minutes left that she had to leap and knock the ball away with her glove. McMichael shot into the air with a must-make save. McMichael finished with six saves, while neither

Eph goalie had any stops.

The first half had featured a steady rain and very little offense, as the Ephs managed the only three shots on goal before the break. Looking relatively dominant, Williams did their best to overcome the Bantams defense, but with no luck. Williams' Catherine Torres got a shot off from straight-on and 10 yards away but missed wide with five minutes left in the second quarter. Williams opened the scoring just one minute into the third quarter when Elizabeth Welch fed Shea Van den Broek outside the circle and Van den Broek cut through the middle of the Bantam defense before pounding a shot past McMichael. Williams nearly took a 2-0 lead moments later, but a shot by Torres on a defensive save by captain Christine Taylor '22.

The Bantams used this early offset as fuel, showing

fans how well they can play on their home field, and answering with two goals. "I love this team, they never give up. They are young but gutsy and they have had a way of rising to the occasion," said Trinity Head Coach Anne Parmenter. "Our defense has been playing well lately," she continued "just getting better every day, but we needed something to ignite us in the second half and Caelin's goal did that for us. She is a game-changing player and that was a big goal to tie

the game. Shay's goal was a tremendous moment that she has earned through her hard work over four years. To beat Williams College twice in one year is an amazing accomplishment for this team. They are a special group that pulls for each other as much as any team I have coached." The Bantams, while facing a monstrous challenge against Middlebury, have played with heart throughout the whole season. This scrappy team will continue to shine long after this season is over.



BANTAMSPORTS.COM

Football Falls to Williams in First Loss of the Season

BLYTHE HASTINGS '23
SPORTS EDITOR

The Trinity Football team suffered its first loss of the season against Williams. Joel Nicholas rushed for 175 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Williams College Ephs to a 42-3 victory over the visiting Trinity College Bantams this past Saturday afternoon at Farley-Lamb Field. Trinity, ranked No. 1 in New England, lost for the first time this fall and now sits a game behind the undefeated Ephs (7-0) in the conference with a 6-1 record and two games left to play. The Bantams host Amherst next Saturday in their final home game and Williams welcomes Wesleyan, which is tied with Trinity for second place at 6-1.

Trinity's problems started almost immediately when junior star quarterback Spencer Fetter was sacked on third down on the first Bantam drive and a bad snap to punter Nick Mangino '24 sailed over his head. Bantams fans cringed as Mangio was able to ground the ball, but only a few yards from his own endzone. Williams took over at Trinity's six-yard line and scored on a three-yard run by senior quarterback Bobby Maimaron. Williams scored again in the first quarter on a 33-yard pass from Maimaron to Dan Vaughn. The Bantams got on the board in the second quarter on a 24-yard field goal by rookie Matt James '25, set up by an 18-yard pass from Fet-

ter to sophomore RB William Kirby on 3rd-and-9. The home team answered with a late score by Nicholas on a 39-yard run up the middle with less than 5 minutes left until the break.

Both defenses held up in the third quarter, as Trinity DL Joseph Lepore '23 was in on a sack and a tackle for loss to split up a Williams drive, and the Ephs intercepted Fetter on one drive and stopped Kirby on 4th-and-1 for no gain on another. Williams scored its fourth touchdown on another long run by Nicholas, who this time ran right for a 26-yard sprint to the end zone with only three minutes left in the third quarter. Nicholas and Vaughn added two more touchdown

runs in the fourth quarter for Williams, squashing any hope of a Bantam comeback late in the game.

Fetter finished 15-for-28 with 141 yards, while Kirby rushed for a team-high 69 yards on 21 carries, and senior WR Jonathan Girard caught four passes for 51 yards. Williams ran for 313

yards, while Maimaron had just four completions for 62 yards but ran for 58 yards. Bantam LB Brian Casagrande '22 made a team-high 10 tackles with seven solo tackles. The Bantams' chances of finishing first place in the NESCAC conference are now much slimmer after facing the energetic Ephs.



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Coming Up for Bantam Sports:

Sat.

Football v. Amherst, 1 p.m.
Field Hockey @ Middlebury, 11 a.m.

Fri. (Nov. 12)

M Basketball @ Mitchell College, 7 p.m.

