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CONTRIBUTING WRITER

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FREQUENT LIB STUDIER

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World Turns Towards Israel, Palestine After Hamas Militant Group Launches Attack

SAVANNAH BROOKS '26
MANAGING EDITOR

On Oct. 7, Hamas, a militant group classified as an Islamic terrorist group by the U.S., executed a planned attack on the Israeli border, tearing holes in the border fence and taking Israeli lives and hostages. This incident catapulted the Israel-Palestine conflict into the public consciousness across the world, spurring numerous social media infographics that covered Instagram feeds and garnering responses from world leaders, including President Joe Biden. Landmarks like the White House and the Empire State Building lit up in blue and white (the colors of the Israel flag) to demonstrate their support to the country.

The state of Israel was established on May 14, 1948 after hundreds of thousands of Jewish Europeans immigrated to what was then Palestine following World War II, leading to increased religious tensions and a civil war in 1947-48. Due to the war, about 750,000 Palestinians were displaced. Since then, the land has been divided into three: the state of Israel, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. Since the state of Israel was established, the territory has changed several times, leading to Israel occupying the vast majority of the territory Palestine once held the entirety of.

Since 2014, violence between Israel and Palestine has been rising steadily. The recent streak of violence is a product of years of unrest that led to deaths on both sides. However, Palestinians have been killed at a much higher rate than Israelis, largely due to Israel's nearly complete occupation of Palestinian land and their much more robust military. Israel's military is made up of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), which boasts about 169,500 troops. Palestine has no army in a more typical sense, but it does have the Palestinian National Authority, which serves more as law enforcement.

Since the Hamas attack on Oct. 7 that took the world by surprise, Israel has launched staunch defenses that have turned aggressive. The Israeli government reportedly instruc-



PHOTO COURTESY OF AL JAZEERA

ted citizens of Gaza (including those in hospitals) to flee to the South to avoid military action, a move that is nearly impossible in such a densely populated area that Israel has declared to be under "full siege," meaning that no humanitarian aid like fuel, food or medicine are allowed to enter. As of Sunday, Oct. 15, over 1 million Gazans have been displaced. According to videos verified by the Human Rights Watch, Israel has fired white phosphorus, a chemical capable of burning through bone, on Gaza. White phosphorus is a prohibited substance to use near civilians under Protocol III of the United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. All in all, as of Monday, Oct. 16, 1,400 Israelis and 2,208 Palestinians have been confirmed dead.

As the conflict has continued to unfold, both the Trinity and Hartford community have responded in several ways. On Tuesday, Oct. 10, Trinity President Joanne Berger-Sweeney sent an email to the Trinity community, expressing support to "everyone who is part of our community and is touched by the events in Israel and Gaza." She held that "violence—particularly against unarmed civilians—can never be condoned and will never produce a world of human flourishing," directing students in need to the Counseling and Wellness Center as well as the Office of Spiritual and Religious Life. The following day, the Chapel, led by Reverend Marcus Halley, held a Candlelight Vigil to honor the lives lost and hold space for students to grieve. At the event, Reverend Hailey referenced Trinity's "global community"

and referenced both the Israeli and Palestinian lives lost.

Last Tuesday, an "All Out for Palestine" event was held in Hartford, organized by the American Muslims for Palestine Connecticut and the University of Connecticut's Students for Justice in Palestine. AMPC representatives urged the American people to pay attention to the news sources they were using, warning that, without the proper context of the decades of Israeli occupation, news stories can be misleading.

Connecticut senior senator Richard Blumenthal has continued pushing for the U.S. to provide aid to Israel while junior senator Chris Murphy has begun to speak out against Israel's aggressive military actions, posting on X that "accountability for Hamas can be achieved without unnecessary harm to civilians." Blumenthal, along with the Senate Armed Services Committee, is currently writing legislation to send military aid to Israel that includes artillery and missiles among other items. As the American public has begun to be more sympathetic towards Palestinians, congressional Democrats such as Senator Murphy have been providing more and more verbal support for Gaza, while congressional Republicans have raised worries over members of Hamas infiltrating the United States through the Mexican border. These comments come during an increase of border-related fears along with mass criticism of President Biden's border policies by Republicans.

Late Monday night, President Biden announced that he will be visiting Israel after being invited by Israeli Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Netanyahu has recently met with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and spoke with Russian President Vladimir Putin. In his meeting with Secretary Blinken, both were forced to shelter in a bunker among air raid sirens in Tel Aviv. According to the State Department, Prime Minister Netanyahu and Secretary Blinken discussed the swift release of Hamas' hostages as well as reaffirming "U.S. determination to provide the Israeli government with what it needs to protect its citizens." In his meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu, President Putin reportedly asserted that he was ready to assist in stopping the conflict, according to the Kremlin.

Biden's visit comes among calls for more U.S. congresspeople and celebrities to speak out on behalf of the people of Palestine. Gigi Hadid, a half-Palestinian supermodel, reposted an infographic that read "There is nothing Jewish about the Israeli government's treatment of Palestinians. Condemning the Israeli government is not anti-Semitic and supporting Palestinians is not supporting Hamas." The state of Israel's Instagram account responded to her post with a caption that reads "Have you been sleeping the past week? Or are you just fine turning a blind eye to Jewish babies being butchered in their homes? Your silence has been very clear about where you stand. We see you." The caption is referring to reports that Hamas beheaded 40 Israeli babies that were largely unsubstantiated and could not be confirmed by the Israeli government.

This is an ongoing story.

The Trinity Tripod

Established in 1904
“Now then- Trinity!”

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The *Trinity Tripod* has been published by the students of Trinity College since 1904. Its staff members are committed to the reporting and distribution of news and ideas that are relevant to the College community. The *Tripod* is published weekly on Tuesdays during the academic year. Student subscription is included in the Student Activities Fee (SAF). For non-students looking to subscribe, a one-semester subscription costs \$10.00 and a one-year subscription costs \$20.00. Please address all correspondence to:

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CORRECTIONS

Letter From the Editors

Israel and Palestine: Split Editorial

We write to you today, together, but conflicted. On Oct. 7, the decades-long tension between Israel and Palestine escalated when HAMAS groups entered southern Israel, near Gaza. Thousands of lives have been lost in battle on both sides of the conflict. This is an incredibly difficult situation, spanning beyond our lifetimes. People have very complex feelings and that creates a tense, often divided political and social environment. Though we typically tend to agree, we do not see eye to eye on this. Rather than ignoring this awkwardness and refusing to address a topic that deserves to be addressed, our editorial this week expresses both of our opinions. Though we disagree on some things, we remain united.

SAMMI:

My first-year seminar—and the seminar I later mentored—was focused on Israeli culture. Through this experience, I came to know the importance of being able to be critical of the Israeli government while still being sympathetic and compassionate towards the real people on both sides of the conflict. I will not pretend that I understand it perfectly, that I know all the answers. But ultimately, what happened last week is terrifying to me and any act of violence is disturbing. Women and children should not be the victims of violence, regardless of their identity. I have been sickened and heartbroken by the acts of violence I have seen and read and learned about by both Israelis and Palestinians. I cannot condone any of this behavior. But, I see how this situation is far more complex than that. My ideal solution is a two-state solution, but I know this is easier said than done. I understand that it is bigger than me, than us, than a conflict over land. At the end of the day, I want peace, safety and security for all people. The anti-Semitism and Islamophobia that spreads around these events is also unacceptable. We are no closer to a solution, equality or peace when we become even further divided.

OLIVIA:

On Oct. 7, I woke up to the news of a horrific terrorist attack in Israel. After frantically reading more about what happened, I was surprised to see that right away people were conflating Palestinian identity with this attack from Hamas. Suddenly,

the years of oppression by the Israeli government fell by the wayside, and the conflict became starkly black and white: if you support the movement to Free Palestine, you support terrorism, and if you express grief for the civilians of Israel, you support Zionism.

A few days after the Hamas siege on Israel, and the subsequent retaliation by Israel which now includes the inhumane use of white phosphorus on Gaza, I posted something that encouraged people to be wary of how this conflict is painted by the Western media, especially in the United States. Much of the world has seemed to forget the decades of oppressive dominance that Israel has exerted over Palestinians, especially in the Gaza Strip, but the world has also forgotten how the U.S. benefits from this struggle.

Israel and the U.S. have been longtime allies for many military and economic reasons. The U.S. has provided over \$150 billion in aid to Israel since World War II and helped build up Israel's military. The countries exchange and develop weapons and war strategies. An Israel-U.S. alliance also helps ensure that the U.S. continues to have access to oil.

So, it makes sense that facts have been distorted, narratives carefully cultivated and certain words used over others. On Oct. 9, *BBC* reported that “500 people have died in Gaza after Israel launched massive retaliatory air strikes... more than 700 people have been killed in Israel.” The use of “died” implies less responsibility on the ones doing the killing—the Israeli government's air strikes—versus the use of “killed” evokes more intense emotions and implies a clear instigator. In journalism, every word is purposeful.

Beyond word choice, misinformation runs rampant in the media we are all consuming about the conflict. For days, reports that Hamas, the Palestinian militant group, was beheading babies and raping women in the streets circulated everywhere. These reports were, and still are, weaponized against people speaking out in support of the Palestinian people and their fight for freedom—if someone said Free Palestine, that now meant they supported beheading and rape. While, first and foremost, conflating

the fight for the decolonization of Palestinian land and the aggression by Hamas is incredibly irresponsible, the White House and the Israeli government have now admitted that these allegations are completely unverified. That's not how the media works, though; once a story is out, regardless of whether it is true or not, it's very difficult to retract it. The damage has been done, and this just makes it easier for people to condone the attempted ethnic cleansing that has been happening in Gaza for a long time.

This attempt is also connected to the danger of the media's conflation of Judaism and Zionism. Being Jewish does not mean that someone is Zionist, which is typically heralded as a nationalist ideology that advocates for the establishment of a Jewish state in historic Palestine. This idea of a Jewish state became much more popular during the mass genocide of Jewish people during the 1930s and 1940s, and while most Jewish people support the fact that Israel exists as a Jewish state, many others (Jewish and not) ultimately believe Zionism is founded on a settler-colonialist mentality; the mentality that groups of people (Zionists) can push another group of people (Palestinians) out of their land because they deserve to.

It is not difficult to make this distinction, yet this historical context has gotten lost amongst much more attention-grabbing headlines. It is impossible and irresponsible to separate the recent horrors from the context of their history. All of this is to say: be critical of your news. Be critical of your initial reaction to stories and facts. Do your research and look outside Western media (*New York Times*, *Fox News*, *BBC*). These sources can be Arabic publications (a simple Google search can help) and primary source accounts online from people who are directly involved in the crisis. Understand what colonization means, and what decolonization requires. For those not already doing so, step up to have conversations about freedom struggles that might make your heart beat faster, your stomach cramp and your hands sweat; go beyond the Instagram infographics. It is time to step up for our brothers, sisters and siblings—Palestinian, Israeli and others—under siege across the world.

NEWS

House Without a Speaker: Republicans Nominate Jim Jordan in Ongoing Power Struggle

IQRA ATHAR '26
NEWS EDITOR

In a turbulent week for the House of Representatives, the search for a new Speaker of the House continues with Republicans nominating Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio, marking the latest twist in a power struggle that began when Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Florida, moved to oust former Speaker Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-California.

The ousting of McCarthy, the first speaker to be ousted in the history of the United States, last week was a pivotal moment in this unfolding drama. McCarthy was removed from his position primarily due to internal strife within the GOP. His leadership was challenged by a faction of Republicans who

felt he was not aligned with the hardline conservative principles that have gained prominence within the party. The ideological clashes and divisions within the GOP left McCarthy unable to maintain control over his caucus, leading to his ousting.

Now, as the House stands leaderless, it is imperative that a new Speaker is chosen swiftly. The role of the Speaker is critical in the functioning of the House of Representatives as they wield significant power in controlling the legislative agenda, presiding over debates, and influencing the direction of congressional action. Without a Speaker, the House is paralyzed, unable to consider and pass vital legislation. This impasse not only jeopardizes

the ability to address urgent issues, such as funding for the government and support for international allies like Israel but also undermines the core principles of a functioning democracy.

The choices for a new Speaker are limited and underscore the deeply fractured state of the GOP. Rep. Jim Jordan, put forth by Republicans, is known for his hardline conservative attitude and has close ties to former President Donald Trump. He represents a shift towards a more combative and ideologically driven leadership, which has become increasingly prevalent within the Republican party and something that Democrats are particularly wary of. This is highlighted by House

Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, D-New York, backed by the Democrats, who criticized Jordan as “the chairman of the chaos caucus” and an “extremist extraordinaire.”

Conversely, Rep. Steve Scalise, who initially threw his hat in the ring for Speaker but later withdrew, was viewed as the more traditional candidate who could bridge the gap between the various factions within the GOP. However, his inability to secure enough support within his own party led to his withdrawal from the race.

With these divisions within the GOP, the situation remains uncertain and complex. The turmoil within the Republican party has exposed deep divisions and ideological rifts, gripping many in fear.

Meanwhile, President Biden has chosen not to intervene forcefully in the House crisis, instead opting to highlight his administration’s achievements as a stark contrast to the Republican infighting.

The House desperately needs a leader to unite its members and facilitate the legislative process. The ongoing power struggle and the need for the necessary 217 votes for the Speaker position underscores the importance of stable leadership in one of the most critical institutions of the American government. With the government’s ability to function effectively in jeopardy, the nation is left waiting for a resolution to this crisis as the House reaches yet another day without a Speaker.

Poland’s Ruling Party Set to Lose Parliamentary Majority

FAITH MONAHAN '24
NEWS EDITOR

On Sunday, Oct. 15, Poland held parliamentary elections with exit polls showing that the ruling Law and Justice Party is expected to have lost the parliamentary majority that its maintained over the last eight years. The election saw the highest turn out at 72.9% according to exit polling. The previous record was set at 62.7% in 1989 when Poland first became a democracy. Results will likely be confirmed on Oct. 17. The party is estimated to receive 200 out of 460 seats in the lower house of parliament. The far-right party Confederation won an estimated 12 seats.

The opposition coalition consisting of centrist and center-left parties is estimated to have won a majority of 248 seats combined setting it up to be able to propose and form the government.

The Law and Justice Party has received criticism after rising to power in 2015 due to its populist right-wing stances. The party has encroached on the judiciary and women’s rights in Poland. The party has made efforts to restrict Poland’s ban on abortion, succeeding in 2020 through a decision by Poland’s Constitutional Tribunal ruling that abortion in the case of fatal fetal abnormality was unconstitutional under Polish law. Several women have been ex-

pected to have died from sepsis and other complications due to the ban. All judges on the Constitutional Tribunal were appointed by Law and Justice. The European Court of Human Rights has ruled against the Law and Justice’s Party appointment of judges to the Supreme Court, a separate judiciary chamber from the Constitutional Tribunal, stating that it does not consist of an “independent and impartial tribunal established by law.” The party has also increasingly stated that it will withdraw some of its support for Ukraine. Many supporters of the party live in rural areas of Poland, and many of its economic policies provided transfer payments to families with

children. Critics have pointed to the party’s encroachment of the judiciary branch.

Referendums were also held on Poland’s election day. Many Poles did not vote in the referendum, potentially invalidating its results. Questions on the ballot included “Do you support the selling off of state assets to foreign entities, leading to the loss of Poles’ control over strategic sectors of the economy?” and “Do you support the admission of thousands of illegal immigrants from the Middle East and Africa, in accordance with the forced relocation mechanism imposed by the European bureaucracy?” The opposition parties have accused Law

and Justice of intending to evoke EU skepticism and anti-immigrant sentiments amongst Poles when casting their parliamentary ballots.

Polish has become politically polarized over the past decade. Previous Prime Minister and leader of the Civic Coalition Party Donald Tusk announced the exit poll results as a victory for Poland’s democracy. However, some supporters of the Law and Justice Party view the results differently. Current President Andrzej Duda was a former member and current ally of the Law and Justice Party, and any legislation passed through parliament will require the president’s signature.

JULES BOURBEAU '25
MANAGING EDITOR

Intercollegiate Updates: Bowdoin and Tufts

Bowdoin College

On Oct. 14, Bowdoin College inaugurated their 16th president, Safa R. Zaki. While the Board of Trustees unanimously voted her into office in March 2023, and she officially began the position in July 2023, her acceptance of the role especially calls for a proper celebration; Zaki is the first woman president in all of Bowdoin’s 229 year history. Before Bowdoin, Zaki served as the dean of faculty at Williams College as well as the John B. McCoy and John T. McCoy professor of psychology.

The occasion was met with a weekend full of events, beginning with a host of dance and music performances on Thursday. Zaki then decided to show her commitment to relevant issues in the academic world by including a panel on the use of AI in the liberal arts as part of the wider celebration on Friday. The weekend ended with the inauguration ceremony proper on Saturday morning, followed by lunch and a community-wide flower bulb planting to usher forth the continued growth of the college under its new leadership.

Tufts University

On Oct. 6, Sunil Kumar was officially welcomed as Tufts’ first person of color to hold the position of university president. Much of the celebrating occurred in the previous academic year, when the plans to accept Kumar as president were solidified, but the official inauguration ceremony waited until after his appointment. Members of the Board of Trustees that nominated him as well as a former colleague at John Hopkins University introduced him before he took to the stage.

The inauguration was complicated by a protest immediately preceding the ceremony. Members of the Tufts University Graduate Workers Union and their supporters staged a walkout. The group has been protesting for higher wages and better working conditions for graduate workers, a problem relevant to all universities, but especially so for Tufts, with costs of living in Somerville and the wider Metro Boston area rising. Despite the proximity, none of the speakers at the inauguration ceremony addressed the protest, but it was no doubt on many of their minds. Regardless of the outcome, as Kumar steps into his new role as Tufts’ 14th president, it undoubtedly marks a new era for the institution.

Draft of Indigenous Land Acknowledgement for Trinity's Campus Released

CAITLIN DOHERTY '26
NEWS EDITOR

On Oct. 9 2023, recognized widely as Indigenous Peoples' Day, President Berger-Sweeney released a draft of a land acknowledgement for Trinity's campus, which will recognize the previously indigenous regions that the college now occupies. Land acknowledgments have become a common step that U.S. colleges have taken to recognize their histories, and a number of Trinity's peer institutions, including Bowdoin, Middlebury, Tufts and Williams, have released land acknowledgements throughout recent years. "At Trinity, we have a natural connection to the Indigenous communities of our

region. Situated just west of the Connecticut River, Trinity sits on land that has sustained countless generations of Indigenous people. Native faculty, staff and students have been integral members of the community, though not always in ways that have been fully recognized," she wrote in an email to the campus community.

The land acknowledgment begins by recognizing the Wagnuck native land, called Suckiag, that the college and much of the current city of Hartford was built upon. "The word 'Hartford' is an English term. The traditional... and the real name of Hartford would be Suckiag" said Chenille Jake '24, a native member of the Navajo Nation, in an interview with the Tripod. "We put these

places into a very sacred place if we call it by its 'real' name... And that's why we have the term Suckiag in the statement." The draft additionally recognizes its role in the colonization and disenfranchisement of Pequonock, Wangunk, Podunk, Tunxis, Wappinger, Nehantic, Nipmuck and Mahican peoples. Jake reflected that during her first-year, she quickly realized that "Trinity College didn't have a place for native students... There were no student organizations, there was no form of anything for native students or indigenous students." However, she is encouraged by the commitment Trinity makes within the acknowledgment to welcome and uplift indigenous members of the college community and hopes

that this announcement will provide needed momentum to institute further support systems on campus.

In November 2022, Chief of Staff and Associate Vice President for External Affairs Jason Rojas, sent out an invitation to students, faculty and staff to serve on the Land Acknowledgement Committee. Chenille, alongside three other students, eight members of the faculty and staff, and alumnus Mixashawn Rozie '12, met numerous times throughout the past year to discuss and draft this land acknowledgement with care and attention. The committee has left the draft open to comments until Dec. 1, following which final revisions will be made and the official acknowledgement will be released publicly.

The release of this draft aligns significantly with Trinity's bicentennial year. "Knowing that this is the 200th year and we're thinking about the future... We also need to think about the past," said Chenille Jake '24. The work to make Trinity's campus a more safe and welcoming space for indigenous and native peoples will continue through the Land Acknowledgement Committee and other efforts. As President Berger-Sweeney reflected, "Issuing a land acknowledgment is but a first step in recognizing and supporting Indigenous communities. A necessary next step is to develop and articulate commitments beyond a land acknowledgment that will serve as an action plan to support Indigenous communities."

Wesleyan University Announces Decision to Remove Loans from Financial Aid Packages

RHIJU CHAKRABORTY '27
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Sept. 28, 2023, President Michael Roth of Wesleyan University released a statement announcing that loans would be removed from all student financial aid packages, beginning in the Fall 2024 semester. "Having already eliminated loans for highly aided students, this should help middle-income families eligible for financial aid find Wesleyan more affordable," wrote the Editorial Staff of the Wesleyan Connection. The university joins Yale as the second institution of higher education in Connecticut to completely remove loans from financial-aid packages. Similar to Wesleyan before this decision, Connecticut College offers loan-free financial aid packages to students from low-income families.

Wesleyan's no-loans policy will affect both institutional loans that come directly from the university, and federal loans that are allotted after filing out the FAFSA. Previously, the university only gave institutional loans to international and undocumented students, while domestic students depended on federal loans as a means to finance their education. The new policy will end this prac-

tice and instead offer students institutional grants, which are not paid back, to finance their education. Over twenty colleges, including many of Trinity's NESCAC peers, have already committed to meeting students' full-estimated financial need without loans, instead offering grants, scholarships and other support. Amherst, Bowdoin, Colby, Vassar, Williams and now Wesleyan offer completely loan-free financial aid for all students.

The announcement

comes as colleges and incoming students across the United States continue to grapple with nationwide rising student-loan debt. The cost of tuition for higher education has nearly tripled in the last 50 years, with over 43.5 million Americans still paying off their student loans. Their debt totals to almost \$1.7 trillion. Wesleyan's decision also comes after the Supreme Court recently struck down President Joe Biden's ambitious student-loan forgiveness plan over the sum-

mer, which planned to erase over \$400 billion in debt. Earlier this month, President Biden also canceled an additional \$9 billion in student-loan debt as federal student-loan repayments restarted after a three-year pause due to the pandemic.

Although Trinity College does commit to meeting student's full financial need as calculated by FAFSA, the college does include loans in its financial aid packages for both domestic and international students. It is

currently unclear whether Wesleyan's change in financial aid practices, alongside decisions made at other institutions, will spur similar changes to the loan policies at Trinity College. Amin Abdul-Malik Gonzalez, Wesleyan's vice president and dean of admission and financial aid, reflected, "When students complete Wesleyan degrees, their career and life choices should be guided by their passions and talents, and not by the necessity of paying off loans."



PHOTO COURTESY OF WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

OPINION

Trinity's Failure to Condemn Terrorism Hurts Jewish Students

SAM BURG '24
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Every year, on the anniversary of the horrific terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Trinity College makes a statement condemning terrorism. This year, the email read, "This week marks the 22nd anniversary of the September 11 Terror Attacks. On the morning of September 11, 2001, 19 individuals associated with Al-Qaeda, an extremist terror organization, hijacked four commercial airlines." Based on Trinity's history of condemning terrorism, I expected to hear a condemnation of the massacre of innocent Israeli citizens orchestrated by the terrorist organization, Hamas. Yet,

when I opened the email sent from the school that began by stating, "Our hearts break at the horrifying events that began

of it on college campuses often causes controversy, but the brutality and evilness of the terrorist attack by Hamas on Satur-

"The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one with a complex historical background, and discussion of it on college campuses often causes controversy, but the brutality and evilness of the terrorist attack by Hamas on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023, should be fully condemned regardless of the context."

over the weekend in Israel and Gaza and that continue to unfold," I was hit with dismay that the "events" were not defined.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one with a complex historical background, and discussion

day, Oct. 7, 2023, should be fully condemned regardless of the context. A group of 260 innocent concertgoers my age were indiscriminately killed by Hamas; children were killed in their beds; women were raped, 150 peo-

ple were taken hostage and the innocent were massacred in droves by a terrorist organization that has openly called for the death of all of the Jewish people. Jewish people across the world watched the dehumanization and massacre of innocent people in horror. The world has not seen violence against Jews on this scale since the Holocaust.

It is unimaginable that Trinity cannot call the murder of children, rape of women and killing of the innocent people an act of terrorism or name Hamas by name. Condemning terrorism as an institution of higher learning is not difficult. Ben Sasse, a former United States senator and the current president of the University of Florida, sent an email to

his student body with a basic but bold condemnation of the terroristic violence of Hamas: "I will not tiptoe around this simple fact: What Hamas did is evil, and there is no defense for terrorism. This shouldn't be hard." Sasse is right in his assertion that "This shouldn't be hard." Trinity College, as an institution, must condemn Hamas and its indiscriminate killings of Israelis and its use of innocent Palestinians as tools to create headlines. The Jewish community on this campus need to hear words of support from our school that directly address what is going on. Trinity needs to be better in using honest and specific when addressing these inhumane acts of terrorism.

Trinity Supports White Hegemony by Employing Dangerous 9/11 Rhetoric that Harms its Students

The Tripod's policy on anonymous opinion pieces states, "The Tripod will permit anonymous opinions under a very limited set of circumstances, determined on a case-by-case basis. Simply not wishing to subscribe your name to an opinion for political purposes or for fear of ridicule from students are not sufficient grounds for anonymity. This is consistent with the anonymity policies of major newspapers across the country, among them the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post. Such anonymous articles will be published when the veracity of their content is believed to be of significant importance or value to the public interest and when the health, safety or welfare of the author are determined to be in serious danger. Questions or concerns regarding the Tripod's anonymous opinion policy may be directed to tripod@trincoll.edu."

Trinity College held an anti-Semitism training early this year, as a response to a dreadful anti-Semitic attack on campus during the fall of 2022. The presentation included a crucial distinction between Zionism and Semitism, with the former defined as a political movement that is now Israel and the latter relating to Judaism. However, Trinity's 'Community Vigil' has elided this distinction in the recent attacks on Palestine and Israel, treating criticisms of Zionism to be anti-Semitism. Trinity claims to "prepare students to be bold, independent thinkers who lead transformative lives." Yet, it has failed to challenge white hegemony and mainstream media when addressing the recent attacks on Palestine and Israel.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, unequivocally stated that "moving more than 1 million people across a densely populated war zone to a place with no food, water or accommodation is extremely dangerous" and is in violation of international law. Many analysts and reporters argue that these Israeli demands pave the way for the genocide of the Palestinian people. The humanitarian situation in Gaza was dire before Israel's most

recent aggressions in Gaza, adds Guterres. The United Nations stated that Gaza would be unlivable in 2020. Yet, politicians, media outlets and academic institutions in the United States still insistent on portraying the most recent attacks on Gaza as unprovoked. Trinity's administration and chapel have not questioned that. Instead, the chaplain's speech started with "these [Hamas] attacks occur amid a backdrop of rising anti-Semitism across the globe," thereby contextualizing the attacks as part of a rise in global anti-Semitism rather than a sieged population seeking its independence.

Those subject to violence are most aware of its infectivity and cyclical nature. This is why in 2018 Gaza organized a peaceful march of return in which Israel killed hundreds of Palestinians and injured over 8000 children. Gaza, a small strip of land south of the Mediterranean, has been under complete blockade since 2007 and has lived through seven major bombardment campaigns since 2009. Some argue that Israel uses the siege of Gaza as a "laboratory" to test weapons before they export them internationally. Neve Gordon, an Israeli politics professor at Ben-Gurion University says that "the lab-

oratory of the occupied territories is where things can be fine-tuned, they can be tested, they can be retested." Reports say that after a major Israeli attack on Gaza in May 2021, Israel sold \$11.3 billion worth of arms, in addition to a \$200 million deal between Israel Aerospace Industries and a non-disclosed Asian Country. When Shlomo Brom, a retired

"To portray the attacks as anti-Semitic decontextualizes Gaza from its reality under settler colonialism and harms the Jewish population."

brigadier general, who now works at the Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv, was asked about whether Israel advertises its arms using the fact that they have been tested on Palestinians, "Of course," he replied. "Why not? Marketing [professionals] try to use any advantage and if they can use the advantage that this system was tested operationally and it worked, they will of course use it for marketing." Israel consistently violates its international obligations as an occupant. The Fourth Geneva Convention provides a humanitarian agenda, to protect the occupied population and work for the

welfare of occupied civilians. For example, the occupant is obliged to provide maximum supply of food and medicine to the occupied population. Gazans live in constant deprivation of food, water and medicine, with heavy restrictions on their movement. For such a status the United Nations Resolution 3246 regarding the "importance of the universal

realization of the right of peoples to self-determination" reaffirms "the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples for their independence, territorial integrity, national unity and liberation from colonial domination, apartheid and foreign occupation by all available means, including armed struggle."

Comparing what started on Oct. 7 to the tragic events of the Holocaust or 9/11 is rooted in anti-Arab and Islamophobic rhetoric, mostly developed during the "wholly unjustified and brutal invasion of Iraq." Lies spread by major news outlets about Hamas beheading babies and raping women, which were

retracted by the media and even the White House on behalf of President Biden, are a classic case of propaganda and colonial dehumanization that aims to justify the genocide of Gazans and has already endangered members of the Trinity community. On Oct. 14, hundreds of Jewish New Yorkers went to the street, refusing the collective punishment Israel is imposing on Gaza to be done with their names. The chants were "not in our name, not in our name." To portray the attacks as anti-Semitic decontextualizes Gaza from its reality under settler colonialism and harms the Jewish population which refuses to be associated with Zionism.

While Gazan civilians are currently starved, deprived of their basic needs and bombed with the internationally banned white phosphorus, Western superpowers are equipping Israel with even more arms. Many activists are asking for an immediate ceasefire and an end to the blockade of Gaza that will stop the death toll on both sides. During this time, Trinity's duty is to challenge white hegemony, the spread of dehumanizing lies and protect all of its student populations. This will not be achieved through flawed comparisons.

CT Must Stop Enabling Fraudulent Anti-Abortion Clinics

JAMES CALABRESI '20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Connecticut representatives have proudly voiced their support for the protection of abortion rights in our state. When a conservative federal judge threatened to prohibit Mifepristone, one of two medicines used in medication abortion, Attorney General William Tong promised to “fight tooth and nail with everything we have” to protect access. Commenting on the 2023 legislative priorities of the Connecticut Reproductive Rights Caucus, chair Rep. Jillian Gilchrest declared: “We want to ensure that in the state of Connecticut, whether someone decides to have a child or not to have a child, they have access to the information and services they need to fulfill that decision.” But while CT lawmakers loudly promote CT as a safe-haven for abortion rights, a quiet but powerful tactic continues to push an anti-abortion agenda across the state.

Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs), also known as limited service pregnancy centers, disguise themselves as non-profit organizations that provide support services to women who are facing unplanned pregnancies. In fact, they are operated by anti-abortion groups and aim to discourage women (especially low-income women of

color) from seeking abortions by providing misleading and inaccurate information about abortion, contraception, and other reproductive healthcare options. CPCs have been denounced by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and in the American Medical Association Journal of Ethics as unethical violators of patient autonomy and confidentiality.

Despite the fact that CPCs do not align with professional healthcare standards, the state-sponsored 2-1-1 social services referral program includes them as resources for pregnant people in need. At least 20 CPCs are listed on 2-1-1’s resources database in CT as “pregnancy counseling” resources. The Connecticut 2-1-1 directory is a primary resource for people seeking reproductive healthcare and other social services in our state. However, those using 2-1-1 to find medical or psychological support for their personal reproductive decision may be unaware that many services listed under “pregnancy counseling” are not legitimate medical centers, nor do they usually employ licensed counselors or medical professionals. “This is a troubling situation,” says Sen. Matt Lesser. “It’s bizarre that Connecticut taxpayer funds are being used to refer people to organizations whose primary purpose is anti-abortion advocacy and which

have had a troubling history of providing pregnant people with medically inaccurate and misleading information.”

Indeed, many of the crisis pregnancy centers listed on 2-1-1 advertise unscientific services and peddle false information. For instance, St. Gianna Pregnancy Resource Center in New Haven promises to provide “abortion pill rescue,” a procedure which the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists states is “not based on science and do[es] not meet clinical standards.” Hope Pregnancy Center in Cheshire, also listed as a provider of pregnancy counseling by Connecticut 2-1-1, provides misleading information on its website about “post-abortion syndrome,” a term with no scientific basis that is rejected by the American Psychological Association (APA). In fact, longitudinal research has indicated that “there is no evidence of emerging negative emotions over 5 years post abortion” and the APA concluded that the relative risk to mental health is no greater for a woman having a single, elective first-trimester abortion than for a woman who delivers that pregnancy.

CPCs use predatory tactics to reel in vulnerable people with offers of free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, and counseling, or promises to provide material assistance, such as baby clothes, dia-

pers, and formula, to encourage people to continue their pregnancies. Promising these services is part of the toolkit of deceptive practices used to dissuade pregnant people from considering abortion care. For example, Hope Pregnancy Center encourages people to confirm their pregnancy by getting an ultrasound before scheduling an abortion procedure—even though an ultrasound is not needed to confirm a pregnancy. This is an emotionally manipulative tactic used to confront clients with an ultrasound picture in hopes of pressuring them into continuing the pregnancy. Additionally, CPCs have been documented to give inaccurate estimates of the gestational age and to show ultrasound images of a fetus that is further along in gestation to convince people that the time limit to get an abortion has passed. The American Public Health Association encouraged enforcing consumer protection against such deceptive practices, and advocated regulation, public education, and the cessation of public funding for CPCs.

In deceptively positioning themselves as legitimate medical providers, these facilities pose a threat to the health of pregnant people by misrepresenting the degree of medical knowledge and care they are qualified to administer. Doctors, nurses, therapists, and other health professionals

are bound to certain medical and ethical standards that CPCs do not have to adhere to, including the Hippocratic Oath, which states “First, do no harm,” and HIPAA confidentiality standards. In one documented case, a Kentucky CPC used an expired disinfectant to sanitize equipment used for ultrasounds. The brand of disinfectant used does not kill the human papillomavirus, a widespread sexually transmitted infection responsible for more than 90% of cervical cancers.

It is unacceptable that state funds are supporting the advertisement of crisis pregnancy centers peddling fake treatments and using predatory tactics to bully pregnant women out of abortions. I would like to urge students and leaders in the community to contact our representatives asking them to consider the risks that United Way of Connecticut and its service 2-1-1 poses to people seeking care. Connecticut wants to be an abortion safe haven— but we won’t be until we stop funding the advertisement of deceptive, religiously-based organizations seeking to prevent Connecticut residents from getting abortion care.

This piece has been modified, with the alumni author’s consent, from its original publication as a Letter to the Editor in the *Wesleyan Argus*.

The Red Sox And Yankees Are Out - Real Baseball Is In!

SAVANNAH BROOKS '26
MANAGING EDITOR

The 2023 Major League Baseball season is almost over, and we’ve learned a lot. At the time I’m writing this article, both number one seeds in the playoffs have been eliminated. By the way; those number one seeds were not, in fact, the New York Yankees and the Boston Red Sox or even the Los Angeles Dodgers. They were the Atlanta Braves and the Baltimore Orioles. The Orioles had not won their division, the American League East, since 2014 (before that, they hadn’t won since 1997). They share this division with the Yankees and the Red Sox, two teams that are particularly popular on Trinity’s campus.

Those of you who aren’t baseball fans may be wondering why it’s such a big deal that the Orioles

won the AL East and the Yankees and the Red Sox didn’t make the playoffs. Well, going to school in Connecticut provides you an excellent opportunity to research the Yankees-Red Sox phenomenon. As you walk through campus and even around Hartford, you will notice a plethora of hats sporting a red B or the iconic NYY. In any given High Rise quad populated by men, there’s about a 50% chance that they have some form of Yankees memorabilia. This is true all throughout the Northeast. Yes, the Yankees and Red Sox are iconic teams who have been around for over a century, but the culture surrounding these teams also points to just how much their dominant nature is part of the problem.

The Yankees and the Red Sox both spend above the league average on their players - the Red

Sox are currently spending almost \$183 million and the Yankees’ payroll adds up to over \$279 million. This is \$208 million more than the Orioles payroll and demonstrates the deep disparities between the teams (also, how spending hundreds

“Going to school in Connecticut provides you an excellent opportunity to research the Yankees-Red Sox phenomenon. As you walk through campus and even around Hartford, you will notice a plethora of hats sporting a red B or the iconic NYY.”

of millions of dollars on star players isn’t always the answer). Payroll isn’t the only difference between these two teams and my precious Orioles (if you can’t tell, I’m from Maryland). The culture can also be problematic, particularly when it

comes to Yankees fans. Physical altercation between Yankee fans and the opposition is common, sometimes to the point of murder. In 2008, a Yankees fan ran over a Red Sox fan with her car in New Hampshire and in 2010, a Yankees fan

stabbed a Red Sox fan in the neck at a Connecticut restaurant. Admittedly, as an opposing fan who has attended a game at Fenway and Yankee Stadium, this is certainly much more of a problem with Yankees fans.

This year’s Yankees

and Red Sox-free playoffs demonstrates that baseball doesn’t need either team to be exciting. The underdog Diamondbacks and scrappy Phillies are far more entertaining than two tired franchises that spend a ridiculous amount of money and seem to have at least one abhorrent racist incident every year (Adam Jones, one of the most well-known Orioles of the last few decades, was the subject of a myriad of racist taunts at Fenway in 2017).

If the 2023 MLB season has shown us one thing, it’s that the fat payrolls and abrasive fans of the Bronx and Boston aren’t the future; the young farm stars and loving atmospheres of Baltimore are. For the plethora of Yankees and Sox fans of Connecticut, consider the benefits of shifting your patronage to a team that makes baseball more accessible (and fun)!

FEATURES

The Kelter Leadership Program: Nurturers of Tomorrow's Leaders

FRIEDA SEO '26
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Kelter Leadership Program is a thorough program designed to develop leadership qualities in undergraduate students. The program, offered to a selected number of first years, helps students develop the fundamental qualities of leadership, service and community. The Kelter Leadership Program offers a well-rounded education, stressing the significance of "design thinking," that goes beyond textbooks and lectures by fusing academic excellence with practical learning. The program is largely based on the bestseller "Designing Your Life: How to Build a Well-Lived, Joyful Life" by Bill Burnett and Dave Evans, which is based on "Designing Your Life," a course taught at Stanford University by the authors themselves.

The program's emphasis on experiential learning is one of its defining characteristics. Students have access to internships, research opportunities, and community service projects that enable them to

apply what they learn in the classroom to real-world settings. In the spring, the first years selected for the program are paired up with a Hartford-based company and they intern there for six weeks. At their internships, students gain leadership qualities, problem-solving skills, and a thorough understanding of the topics they are passionate about thanks to the taught Life Design.

The program covers a variety of leadership topics that are designed to enhance important abilities. The subjects covered in the bi-weekly meetings range widely, from moral decision-making to effective communication. Through acquiring these skills, first-years develop a solid foundation in leadership principles that will help them succeed in their future careers.

The Kelter Leadership Program is a wonderful way to make connections. First years are assigned to an intern, a past Kelter scholar, who helps their mentees in anything imaginable. These former Kelter first years, assist current first years in navigating the challenges

of the working world and Trinity College by serving as both mentors and role models. As students transition past their first year, the connections made through the Kelter Leadership Program remain. Students not only get to know their fellow Kelter scholars but also get personal with the career coaches that guide the Kelter Program, International Student Program Coordinator and Career & Life Design Coach Maria Dyane and Executive Director of Career and Life

Design Joseph Catrino. They also connect with their fellow interns at their paired company, as well as their supervisors and other staff members at such company.

Numerous success stories have emerged from the program. To reference an article written by Andrew Concatelli, some success stories include Makayla Cervantes '26 who interned at the Hartford Office of U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal; Peter Haddad '26 who interned at Charter Oak Boxing Acad-

emy; Lillian McDonald '26 who interned at Theater-Works. In addition, Jorge Espinoza-Gonzalez '26 who interned at The Office of the Secretary of the State and myself, Frieda Seo, who interned at the Office of Equity and Opportunity at Hartford's City Hall.

The Kelter Leadership Program is a great resource to grow as a person. It offers opportunities seldom found elsewhere and leads its scholars towards the path of success.



KELTER CAREER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM "MEET AND GREET" FALL 2022. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRINITY COLLEGE CAREER AND LIFE DESIGN CENTER.

Unlocking Your Future Through the Career and Life Design Center

GABRIELA FLORES '26
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I recently discovered one of Trinity College's best-kept secrets: the Career and Life Design Center (CLDC), a cluster of services and counseling that is essential in helping students in any form of success. My friend is an intern there and although I was always encouraged by him to go, I did not think that I was missing out on significant opportunities. But now I stress to you, my reader, to make an appointment with a coach today, whether it be for internship guidance or general support, for it truly does make a significant impact.

A college education may initially appear to be a solitary journey towards knowledge and self-discovery, but with the help of the Career and Life Design Center, education becomes a potent steppingstone towards a bright future. Trinity appears to believe that education is a lifelong journey rather than a destination that may be reached with

a simple diploma, which one can conclude by the existence of the Career and Life Design Center. In case you do not know, the CLDC gives students access to a wide range of programs aimed at assisting them in exploring and navigating their career options as well as preparing them for life after college.

The CLDC's dedication to individualized assistance is one of its most distinguishing qualities. At Trinity, every student gets the chance to work one-on-one with a committed career advisor/coach that is an expert at a specific field. With the help of this personalized method, coaches may help students recognize their specific abilities, passions, and objectives so they can decide what path to choose in the future and how to best get there. For instance, the center offers a way for students to investigate numerous disciplines and sectors through the "What Can I Do with this Major" resource, giving students a wider view on possible career choices. The center also helps

students improve vital abilities like resume creation and revision (which the interns help with), interview practice, and job search techniques. The CLDC customizes its support to match each student's unique needs, whether they are planning for graduate studies, a distinguished internship, or their first job after graduation.

Trinity is aware that developing one's career involves more than just finding employment; it also entails developing the life skills necessary for success and fulfillment. The CLDC directs students toward fulfilling career choices by assisting them in identifying their passions and interests. They also provide one-on-one skill development, such as time organization. Workshops on career development, networking occasions, and internship chances also contribute to this idea of the renewed Trinity experience.

The Career and Life Design Center is an asset for all undergraduates and has significance be-

yond just those preparing to graduate. Students can progressively lay a solid basis for future success by starting early in their academic careers. I

must implore you to give the center a try. They are open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m to 5 p.m. What are you waiting for? Give yourself a chance!



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRINITY COLLEGE CAREER AND LIFE DESIGN CENTER.

Trinity College Annual Security Report Reminds Us College Campuses are not Immune to Crimes

JORGE ESPINOZA-GONZALEZ '26
FEATURES EDITOR

On Sept. 29, 2023, Dean of Community Life and Standards and Interim Director of Campus Safety Robert Luskaskiewicz shared the “Trinity College Annual Security Report.” The report begins with a restatement of policies, all of which are on the school’s student handbook. Generally speaking, the policies are your traditional run-of-the-mill. It is lengthy, but rather thorough—especially in its adherence to federal and state statutes relating to sexual offenses. It specifies that the statistics shared in the report were shared with the Campus Safety Department between 2020 and 2022. Trinity College also stressed its comprehensive security system that is anchored by the collaboration of campus police and municipal law enforcement. Within the walls, campus police officers are the first line of defense, managing daily situations and assuring immediate safety. However, when dealing with

more serious or off-campus crimes, their cooperation with local police becomes essential. Most interesting is their statistic of the types of crime committed on different forms of property: campus, housing, non-campus and public property. Just some clear statistics and trends: overall, it seems that arrests have decreased and a similar trend appearing regarding disciplinary actions. According to the graph, no arrests for alcohol, drugs, or weapon possession have been issued on-campus or in student housing since 2020. Most disciplinary actions were taken due to possession of alcohol and though less commonly, drugs. 2022 is the only year out of the three in which disciplinary action was not taken for weapon possession. To the untrained eye, this report seems to be a clear win for the college. After all, one could claim that overall crime has decreased since although arrests have remained consistently low or nonexistent, disciplinary actions

have dramatically decreased. But those are just for three types of crimes. Not included in this statistic are the arrests and/or disciplinary actions for crimes such as aggravated assault (which, for some peculiar reason, was very common in 2020) and rape. How did the school/local police deal with these crimes? Yet, one should remember that all of the data from this statistic comes from willing reporters. Just because a crime happens does not mean it will get reported—especially drug and alcohol-related crimes. I mean, when was the last time you asked someone’s age before handing them a drink? Plus, one should think about the intensity of the situation. Most are hesitant to call for help, even if we are given immunity unless the situation is rather dire. So how reliable can this statistic, in at least measuring crime at Trinity, really be? Crime is rampant, even if we do not acknowledge it. Think about it this way: Trinity has a tremendous reputation

for partying, of course. Its students know how to have a good time, that’s for sure, and we have normalized the party scene. The problem is not with college kids having a good time, it’s that most of the time we fail to remember that crime is occurring amidst our laughter and dancing. Have you ever been carded, bouncer-style, in front of a frat? Of course not! Wouldn’t it be silly to do so? And wouldn’t it be silly to assume that everyone in there is over 21? Possession of alcohol and distribution to minors should skyrocket high in the statistics, after all, the law is being broken. Campus safety is just down the block, if not, outside. Trust me, when they see you stumbling out of Pike with messy eyeliner and a popped collar, they know you’ve had a taste of Hennessy. Yet, they never seem to even stop you. So one must consider at what point should they get involved. At what point does Hartford police get involved? In September 2023, it seemed that every

freshman on YikYak was complaining about Trinity’s urban surroundings. Somehow, people forgot that they were not at Colgate and were in fact, in a city. Sure, an urban environment has tremendous opportunities, but it can also come with negatives, negatives that are often overlooked. It’s just a trade-off. Higher criminal activities just happen to be a negative. In such a case, we should be on the lookout—we cannot rely solely on campus safety. For all that they may try, they won’t always be there. It will be up to us. Campus security is a complex subject that needs constant attention. The dedication to safety includes not only lowering crime but also fostering an atmosphere that is favorable to learning and individual development. We will get closer to our common goal of a safer, more secure campus where all students may succeed without unwarranted anxieties when we realize that we still need to be proactive. Not alarmed, yet alert.

Criminal Offenses	2020				2021				2022			
	On Campus	Student Housing	Non-Campus	Public Property	On Campus	Student Housing	Non-Campus	Public Property	On Campus	Student Housing	Non-Campus	Public Property
Aggravated Assault	1	0	2	13	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
Arson	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	5	4	4	0	1	1	2	0	3	2	1	0
Murder / Manslaughter (Non-Negligent)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Murder / Manslaughter (Negligent)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	3	0	1	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses: (Forcible)												
Forcible Rape	6	6	0	0	5	4	0	0	1	1	0	0
Fondling	4	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Sex Offenses: (Non-Forcible)												
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
Dating Violence	2	1	0	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	4	3	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	0
Arrests	2020				2021				2022			
	On Campus	Student Housing	Non-Campus	Public Property	On Campus	Student Housing	Non-Campus	Public Property	On Campus	Student Housing	Non-Campus	Public Property
Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Weapons Possession	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disciplinary Actions												
Alcohol	60	60	0	0	28	28	0	0	26	26	0	0
Drugs	7	7	0	0	4	4	0	0	7	7	0	0
Weapons Possession	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

GRAPH COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF CAMPUS SAFETY

Arts & Entertainment

Embracing Diverse Identities at Trinity College: The Tradition of the Flag Project Celebration

LILY MELLITZ '26
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

One wet and rainy afternoon, I braved the damp trek to Mather Dining Hall to partake in Trinity's annual Flag Project. The Flag Project, for those who don't know, is as explained in the following statement: "The Flag Project, initiated by students in 2018, followed incidents of bias targeting students' flags on campus. Working with the Women & Gender Resource Action Center (WGRAC), students created The Flag Project as a celebration of visible identity and pride; a counter to bias and bigotry; and, as a promotion of respect and welcome to all students, faculty and staff. Campus members are professionally photographed with flag(s) they feel best represent their identity and intersecting identities. The flags span the globe and include Native-American Nations and those that represent sexuality and gender identity."

This year marked my second year participating in The Flag Project. I can still recall the excitement and anticipation I felt as I made the journey as a bright-eyed freshman. During check-in, I was asked for my choice of flag to pose with. It was here when I paused. You see, before Trinity, I didn't give much thought to being a bi-racial adoptee straddling two cultures. Born in Xi'an, China and adopted as a child by "a nice white couple who adopted me" (inside joke between my parents and me), I have spent my childhood in a predominantly white neighborhood in Connecticut. Although my friends, family and I knew that I was Chinese, growing up, I was simply "Lily" to everyone, including myself.

Trinity was a new chapter of self-discovery. It was the first place where I was seen as a POC (Person of Color), and where I began to recognize that identity within myself. I felt like my identity was laid bare for all to see, including myself, and I was both urged and empowered to claim it as I have never done before. I took pride in my Chinese heritage. I joined AASA (Asian American Student Association), attended DEI

(Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) events and when asked where I was from, I replaced my usual answer of "Connecticut" with, "I was born in China but have lived in Connecticut for most of my life." This seemingly small change in wording held profound significance for me.

So, when confronted with the choice of which flag to hold, I found myself pausing to consider my response. Did I choose the flag of China, my birthplace, even though I felt as foreign to its culture as any tourist? On the other hand, everything dear to me—my friends, my family, my life—resided on American soil. In the end, I opted to pose with both flags, and I walked away feeling that my identity had been authentically represented.

This year I jumped at the chance to participate in The Flag Project once again. My friends and I took a collective photograph, proudly representing Finland, China, India, Bangladesh, the U.K. and the U.S. It was an impressive feat, considering the event's popularity and

the high demand for photographs and flags. I patiently waited in line for a good 20 minutes before my turn, and there were still many participants eager for photographs even after the event had concluded.

The bustling crowd prompted me to wonder why and what made this event so special. I had my own theories, but my curiosity led me to seek the perspectives of others as well.

I first reached out to the coordinators of The Flag Project. Mya White '25, Flag Project Assistant said, "I think The Flag Project is such a hit because it gives students an opportunity to really embrace the multitude of their identities, whether that is through their national identity or their gender identity[ies]. The main focus of The Flag Project is to give people that space to showcase who they are unabashedly, and I think people really relish that chance."

Laura R. Lockwood, M'95, director of the Women & Gender Resource Action Center (WGRAC), commented, "I believe it is the message that it sends

to student and non-student participants. They are seen, heard, recognized. They belong here. The Flag Project is about celebrating and making visible one's identity in a world where identity is often hatefully targeted."

Next, I asked my fellow students for their thoughts.

Anupam Khargharia '26 shared, "This was my first time doing The Flag Project. My girlfriend suggested we go, and we went with our friends. It turned out to be a lot of fun. I felt such a strong sense of pride for my country as we all held up our flags. Looking back, I'm really glad I went."

"I decided to participate because the majority of my friends are international students, and so cultural exchange and discussions of national and ethnic identity have been greatly integrated into our relationships with one another," said Gabbie Marcuccio '26. "My own perspectives on these topics as they pertain to me have continued to shift and evolve over the years, as I consider what my own national and ethnic identities are. This is complicated by the fact that upon com-

ing to Trinity, I have been frequently perceived as ethnically ambiguous for the first time in my life."

Saisha Uttamchandai '26, a participant and former WGRAC employee, remarked, "Witnessing entire friend groups wearing their traditional clothes for group photos was heartwarming. It was also so interesting to see students from rival nations coming together to share these moments."

Community, identity, inclusion, self celebration. These are the pillars on which The Flag Project stands. In the midst of busy lives and academic pursuits, it provides a space to celebrate and embrace the rich tapestry of identities that make up the Trinity College community. The Flag Project teaches us that flags are more than a piece of fabric; they are our history, our identity and our spirit.

Everyone is invited to attend The Flag Project Reception on Nov. 8 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Rittenberg Lounge and Mather Art Space. Refreshments, music, a photo slideshow and flag photos will be displayed.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LILY MELLITZ '26

Trinity College Announces Spring Production: “Cinderella”

BELLA CHIRKIS '27
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This spring will be Trinity’s production of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s “Cinderella.” In an interview with Visiting Assistant Professor of Theater and Dance Michelle Hendrick, I was able to learn about the background works that go into creating such elaborate works of art, and the outside research that compels a production. The spark of curiosity of how a story like “Cinderella” lives all throughout the world led to more research on the story itself. “Cinderella” has been viewed by many generations, from the early ’90s Whitney Houston’s “Cinderella” to Billy Porter playing the fairy godmother in 2021. “This story is always revisited and there is a reason why we do. I want to find out why,” Hendrick said, elaborating on how “Cinderella” can easily be seen as just a Disney story when it is so much more than that. The fairytale is written in children’s books in many different formats and cultures, such as “The Turkey Girl: A Zuni Cinderella Story,” “The Golden Sandal: A Middle Eastern Cinderella Story” and “Yeh- Shen: A Cinderella

Story from China.” Truth be told, this story is known everywhere, and when creating a show, Hendrick is “trying to figure out why this story lives so deeply in the human collective.” In the beginning stages of the design, Hendrick started by brainstorming a lot of questions she has both for herself and for the things she wants to portray in the story, as there is a lot of information in a simple question. Some questions are short and straight to the point like “what is magic?” or “how do objects channel power?” While other questions convey a greater theme to the story, like “is imagination and possibility a way to reclaim power?” This introduces the strong social justice component to the script, which brings up aspects of classism, people’s relationship to monarchy and what happens when one body has all of the power and influence. These questions help brainstorming for the visual aspect of the production. Hendrick will be looking at the space she is given, determining how to change the locations quickly between the kingdoms of the royalty and cottages, which do not interact much in other productions. The carriage is

the vehicle that will show the characters transporting between the landscapes, but still, Hendrick wonders why these two realms are secluded from one another in other productions, as it creates an “abrupt feeling and jumping from place to place.” Even though she is still in

the process of building, she wants to emphasize location and how there tends to be empty space in between the places, working on how characters will get from each place emotionally, physically and spiritually. Auditions for the production will take place towards the end of the fall semester,

and students should keep their eyes open for promotions on social media. The show is looking for 9-15 principal roles and a core ensemble as well as an additional ensemble. Anyone with questions about auditions or the show itself, email Michelle Hendrick at Michelle.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JANE RAY

Chappell Roan’s “Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess” Cements Her as a “Super Graphic Ultra Modern Girl”

SAVANNAH BROOKS '26
MANAGING EDITOR

In her debut album, Chappell Roan (pronounced “chapel”) is coming in hot. The 25-year-old from Willard, Missouri has been floating around the music scene with well-received singles and EPs since 2017, but this is her first full album. Roan, who has the same co-writer as Olivia Rodrigo (Daniel Nigro), released “Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess” on Sept. 22, 2023. It has been (deservedly) generating a large amount of press; Roan was featured on Elton John’s “Rocket Hour” and has been called a “queer pop superstar in the making” by the *LA Times*. From the opening rocker “Feminominon” to the closing erotic pop piece “Guilty Pleasure,” “Rise and Fall” is a head-bopping masterpiece that may even see its listeners shed a few tears. “Rise and Fall” encapsulates and, ultimately, celebrates the queer female experience. “Casual,” a repurposed sin-

gle from 2022, is a slow ode to the frustration of a queer situationship while “Super Graphic Ultra Modern Girl” is a high-intensity club hit that proposes a new planet of girls like her with no men. Roan’s album is clearly inspired by decades of queer culture – her over-the-top concert outfits and the absurdity of her songs echo prime Elton John and she references The Mamas and The Papas as well as Lana Del Rey directly in “California” and “Naked in Manhattan” respectively (while neither Cass Elliot or Del Rey are LGBTQ+ themselves, throughout their careers they have been celebrated as gay icons and have heavy influence on modern queer culture). Roan’s powerful and unique voice can speak for itself, but her creative and thoughtfully-crafted lyrics carry “Rise and Fall” to another level. Her unapologetic eroticism is a refreshing comfort in a society that either rejects or fetishizes female sexuality. “Red Wine Super-

nova” contains a reference to the female orgasm right in the title and celebrates a female love affair throughout the song. Several of her songs also contain call-and-response verses that allow for Roan’s favorite aspect of live performances: audience participation! “HOT TO GO,” another anthem about love and sex, even has its own dance as well as a section that imitates high school cheerleaders (in a loving way) by spelling out the title of the song. The high-energy pop anthems of “Rise and Fall” dominate the album and are perhaps Roan’s signature style, but her slow ballads pack their own punch. “Kaleidoscope” evokes the desolation of a lost relationship, “Coffee” describes the frustration of a surface-level toxic relationship, and “California” serves as a love song to the South. Roan’s identity as a Southerner is a theme that comes up again and again in her music. “Pink Pony Club” tells us about the loss of family pride after coming out while “California” ex-

presses the regret of a girl who misses her childhood and the “seasons in Missouri.” All in all, “Rise and Fall” is an intimate, loving, and extraordinarily strong debut that puts Roan’s songwriting chops on display for all to view.

On her upcoming “Rise and Fall” tour, Roan will be visiting the College Street Music Hall in New Haven on April 3, 2024. She will also be opening for Olivia Rodrigo’s “Guts” tour from Feb. 23, 2024 to April 2, 2024.



COURTESY OF VANITY FAIR

Bits & Pieces

Facing the Firing Squad (your friends)

*WALK OF SHAME WARRIOR '24
BEEN THERE, DONE THAT*

We've all been there in one way or another. A thirsty Thursday gone too far only to be turned into a walk of shame past a Friday morning tour. No matter what the outcome is, it's inevitable that the judgmental looks from prospective student parents won't be the only side-eye you will be getting. That's right, just as you swing open your common room door, relieved to be out of sight from long-walk go-ers, you will be forced to face the firing squad (aka

your roommates). Granted, they all knew exactly what was happening when they noticed your snapmap was off, yet find-my-friends showed your last location to be at a certain Allen Place address (they know the drill by now). Thus, as you sit down on the stained-slip-covered-sofa, an interrogation-style-series of hangxiety-inducing-questions are soon to come. So spare the secrecy and spill...everyone knows it was your ex. So what if he hasn't changed, but you still think you can fix him.

Your Bantam Bucks balance after ordering a Chai Charger from Peter B's:



Overheard at Trinity: Yik Yak Edition

“Feel fly like a G6 today.”

“The day JBS sends another email is the day I drop out.”

“Me making eye contact with you in mather IS flirting”

“How do I get into the Jones basement poker game?”

“I’m planting zyn trees all over campus.”

“Caveflation is real.”

BREAKING NEWS

Small talk sucks and “how was your summer” is even worse. It’s OCTOBER people, time to talk about something new. We’re all guilty of it. Starting a conversation with the low lying fruit, but if you’re still opting to discuss the details of your summer spent in a family office, it’s time you seek help.

Bants after eating at Mather for the past month and a half:



How to Study in the Library: A Step-by-Step and Detailed Guide for Every Trin Student in the Form of a Play

MAGGIE ONDREY '25
FREQUENT LIB. STUDIER

Cast: You (you)
Your friend (insert your friend's name)

Your afternoon class is over, two forty-five, you're strolling back from your classroom. Maybe it's Seabury, maybe it's McCook. You bought a planner this year, in hopes of your academic journey progressing upward. While you're in this class, (we're backpedaling now) you took the class time of a lecture to actually just write down your assignments for this week which honestly feels super good, who knew it was this easy?! After you write these assignments down and you're pushing that silver rectangle that makes those doors feel so heavy, you're out of class and heading to your dorm (readers, we are back to where we started). You maybe have headphones on (let's assume, for the sake of the plot, you are wearing headphones) listening to the Cranberries. It's so fall and so college, maybe you'll get asked what you're listening to (you won't). It's a Wednes-

day, maybe you've been brought back to those times in middle school where boys with Reeboks and neon "performance legging" would screech "HUMP DAY" against the shrill of seafoam gray lockers. Maybe you're not, but either way, it is fine because it is Wednesday which to you (please, reader, for the sake of the plot, assume this applies) means that you have so many assignments due tonight and for the rest of the end of the week (ugh, but at least they look so nice in your planner). Text your friend (insert friend's name) and say "Library tonight * insert the eyes emoji. *" It's three by now (you're a scenic walker and that chapel looked so photogenic in that prime afternoon light!) Back in your room, and man, you are tired, but your friend has texted you back "I really don't want to but I know I should," you've got them! This is great, solidarity in suffering gives you some hope! You're in your bed, a little nap to get your brain rested for the library, right? Yes please! (reader, this is going to make you so much more tired

and you're going to regret it)! Okay, so you wake up around five-thirty, oops (you set your alarm for thirty minutes) and you grab dinner with your friend and your dazzling plate of gold fuels you up for the library (your plate consists of buttered noodles) and you two discuss matters of how your day was and how much you have to get done and maybe that one person in your class that mouth breathes. You're off to the library which is exciting (it's actually dreadful but tell yourself it's exciting) and you two spend over twenty minutes trying to find a table, the air is heavy in there and the more you move the more you sweat. It's humbling having to pass the same people who are at tables as you search corner to corner for a spot that doesn't have one person sitting at a five person table (you are enraged over this). You settle for the back tables that sit on the awning over the reading room and sprawl out. Now you connect your headphones to your computer and pull up the first assignment (I will not assume your major so insert assignment here)

and you then open Spotify and look up the word "Studying" and decide to take a chance on a curated study playlist for you (if you use Apple Music, I'm sorry this part of the story is not for you). This playlist honestly sucks but you manage to finish your first assignment and you turn to your friend who has actually taken the time to go through their emails and say you need a walkabout. Obviously, you deserve it and you decide you also deserve a Peter B's cookie as well. You tell your friend you will split it which is good because it sucks the moisture from your mouth, so you don't have to deal with it alone. Now you stumble back upstairs, the journey to Peter B's is concluded which is disappointing because now you don't have anything to look forward to. Back at your butt aching wooden chair you decide maybe you should study for that exam on Friday, you decide that the best course of action is to make a study guide that you focus way too much time on the alignment on your bullet points (this is a handwritten study guide). You're feeling good, your friend is actually doing

their work too now and all is well. You feel like you're balancing on the line of what it feels like to get your work done without procrastination; annoying but worth it. Maybe you should never stop doing this? (you will proceed to procrastinate all weekend). Okay, so, your friend texts you when they're sitting right across from you and asks what time you're leaving, check the clock and it's 10:45, wow! You've been working for so long (you have taken many breaks and actually taken the time to learn your friend's art history assignment). So, then you look up at them and give them the eyes, the eyes of if you wanna go I'll go, and they raise their eyebrows at you in a mirroring of comedic relief. In your mind you two are bankers closing a deal and you reach across the table to shake hands (your friend would never do this; they have very sweaty hands). The night has come to an end and your time at the library is over and you should feel proud of yourself (that is what you tell yourself).



Do you find yourself relating to Khloe Kardashian's love life a little too often?

PICKS THE WORST ONES '24
EVEN FRIENDS ARE SHOCKED

Granted, you may have grown up in the 'burbs of Boston, and your stay at home mother doesn't have a collection of pantsuits, but at times you may feel as if Khloe Kardashian's love life hits a little too close to home. Sure the closest you've gotten to dating an NBA player is hooking up with a D3

athlete, but nevermind the details. Like Khloe, it's very possible you thought you had finally found the one (after a rocky past relationship), only to be once again proven wrong...when photos emerged of him making out with your little (sister's best friend). These days, neither Khloe nor you can catch a break. But, we would all be lying if we said there wasn't a little spark between Kh-

loe and Scott. And for you, your big's ex boyfriend. Sure you may have always thought of him as being like an older brother, but he did stare at you for a little too long when you wore that red dress to laxmas, and plus she already graduated (and is dating a 5th year). So, I'll cut to the chase, retire the roster and turn to what has been staring at you (literally) all along.

Ask a Twenty-Something: Friend Group Worries

VIRGINA PEACHES '26
TWENTY-SOMETHING

Question: "Freshman – I feel like everyone's already in groups of friends and I'm not – is that a bad thing?"

Dear Reader,
Freshman friend groups are fake news, ESPECIALLY first semester. Trust me, I know it feels like everyone went to the same boarding school or grew up as neighbors in New Canaan or their town "just outside of Boston". But you are not alone in feeling this way.

First off, friend groups always change, people either grow apart or grow together, it's a part of life and a hard part to say the least. Personally, I had a "set" friend group first semester, but things changed (no bad

blood) and I branched out to meet new people. Even then I still didn't feel like I had found my "bridesmaids". And that's ok. It's freshman year, you have your whole life to find your best friends.

It's good to have a bunch of different friends to hang out with because if one group is doing something (or isn't) that you don't (or do) want to do you can reach out to your other friends and hang out with them. Not having a "set" friend group means that you don't have to feel pressured to do everything they do and gives you some freedom. With this said, college can be very lonely sometimes and freshman year is probably one of the biggest adjustments you'll have in your life (if you didn't go to boarding school).

So, here's my advice,

you can never have too many friends. Be nice to everyone, it will get you so far in life, not just college. And most importantly, march to the beat of your own drum. While this can be easier said than done, if you do the things you enjoy doing, I guarantee you will find people to enjoy doing the same thing. Not only that, but others will have respect for you in your confidence of being yourself.

You'll find your people,
A Twenty-Something
Year Old

A Few Olivia Rodrigo Quotes (that hit a little too close to home)

"He had an ego and a temper and a wandering eye, he said he's six-foot-two and I'm like dude nice try"

"I told my friends I was asleep but I never said where or in whose sheets"

"So I miss him some nights when I'm feeling depressed 'til I remember every time he made a pass on my friend"

"Oh, yes, I know that he's my ex, but can't two people reconnect?"



Trinity's First Advice Column...Dating, Friendship, & More!

To submit a question or ask for advice, DM us on Instagram @trinitytripod
(We will keep your question anonymous)

Parents disappointed you're not
more involved on campus?

To impress them with B&P, email
submit.bandp@gmail.com
For all other sections, email tripod@trincoll.edu

TRINITY COLLEGE APPROVAL MATRIX



SPORTS

1823 Series: A Look into the Great History of Sports at Trinity College Over the Past 200 Years

CECE HAMPTON '24
SPORTS EDITOR

Oct. 13, 2023, through Oct. 15, 2023 was fall Bicentennial weekend, and the Trinity community welcomed family and alumni to campus for a number of events and celebrations in honor of the school's 200th year. One of the ways that Trinity athletics is honoring the special year is through its 1823 Series of athletic contests and receptions. Each sports team will host a Bicentennial match at some point during the year to commemorate the legacy of Bantam sportsmanship over the past two centuries. Over the weekend, the Bantam football squad, as well as the men's and women's soccer teams, volleyball, and field hockey, all hosted their Bicentennial matches. Earlier this fall season at the beginning of September, the men's and women's cross country teams hosted their 1823 competitions, while the men's and women's rowing teams had theirs at the start of October.

Since its founding in 1823, Trinity has a long history of sportsmanship on its campus. The first sports teams at Trinity emerged in the 1850s, with rowing being the first competitive intercollegiate sport, and baseball and football coming shortly after. Rowing was one of the top five most popular sports in the U.S. in the second half of the 19th century. In 1856, Trinity students created the school's very first sports club, the Minehaha Club, which was also the first rowing club established in the Hartford area. In its early stages of athletic competition, Trinity took on schools like Harvard, Brown, Dartmouth and Yale. A couple years after the Minehaha Club was started, Trinity, along with these other schools, founded the College Regatta Association, and they hosted one of the first regattas in the nation, located in Springfield, Massachusetts. Between 10,000 and 20,000 spectators attended the event, which Harvard ultimately won. Press surrounding the sport had increased exceptionally during this time, and col-

leges began to recognize the importance of sports as an important factor in growing the reputation of their institutions.

Meanwhile, baseball and football were also gaining traction at Trinity. In 1868, Trinity competed with their first organized baseball team, Hartford's Charter Oaks Club. Although it took some time for baseball to become a higher demand, by the end of the Civil War, baseball was the most popular sport at Trinity. Baseball's popularity fluctuated throughout the rest of the 19th century as the college's fields were not being maintained, and games were therefore few and far between. By the end of the century however, its popularity was rising again, as Trinity competed against schools that eventually became part of the NESCAC and the Ivy League. By 1877, Trinity football had also gained a hold on Trinity athletes, and the school became the 12th in the nation to play football. Last year, the Bantam football squad went undefeated the entire season, with a 9-0 record, placing them

at the top of the NESCAC league standings. By the end of the 19th century, basketball, lawn tennis, track and field, and bicycling were all incorporated into the college's athletics as well. At the start of the 20th century, faculty and administrators made up a large part of the spectators for sporting events, and they began dedicating more of the college's funds to supporting student athletics and physical education.

In 1969, Trinity became coeducational, initiating increasing administration of athletics. Within the same year, Ferris Athletic Center was built, and the school started hiring faculty-level sports coaches. In 1971, the school became a part of the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC). Also, during this year, field hockey, which was one of the first women's sports to be played at Trinity, had its first official season. In its early years, the field hockey team played on the LSC Quad, dominating various other schools throughout the 1980s. In 2021, the field hockey squad made it

to the NCAA Division III Final Four competition, which Trinity hosted on its campus at the Robin L. Sheppard Field. The Bantams fell to Johns Hopkins in the semifinal, and NESCAC rival Middlebury ultimately won the national championship after beating Johns Hopkins in the final. Last fall, the Bantams made it to the NCAA Quarterfinals, continuing their streak of championship appearances.

One sport that Trinity is very well-known for nationwide is squash, which was introduced to the campus in 1931, following the construction of the Trowbridge Memorial Pool and Squash Facility. Since squash was established at Trinity, it has grown to be the school's top-ranking sport, competing at the NCAA Division I level, while the rest of the Bantam teams compete at the NCAA Division III level. As of this year, the Trinity squash team ranks no. 2 in the country by the College Squash Association (CSA), second only to Harvard. Between 1998 and 2012, the Trinity men's team won 252 matches in a row.

Under former head men's squash coach Paul Assaiante, the program drew national attention from the media. This mind-boggling number of consecutive wins became popularly known as "The Streak." Assaiante boasts the most wins of any coach in college sports history. In addition to coaching the Bantams, Assaiante coached the Team USA squash team, leading them to place sixth in the 2011 World Championships, their best ever achieved title. Assaiante retired from the position of head coach of the Bantams just last year, after his 29th season with them.

As of today, Trinity boasts 27 varsity teams, as well as intramural and club sports. The history of Trinity's athletic competition, sports teams, and more, can be further explored in the Encyclopedia Trinitania, dedicated to commemorating Trinity's history. As the Bicentennial year goes on, more sports teams will celebrate the 200th year of Trinity and its sportsmanship during their respective competition seasons with an 1823 match.



FERRIS ATHLETIC CENTER AND TROWBRIDGE MEMORIAL POOL AND SQUASH FACILITY, CIRCA 1968. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRINITY COLLEGE ARCHIVES

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year for Bantam Sports with Family, Friends and Alumni

ANNIKA DYCZKOWSKI '25
SPORTS EDITOR

This past Saturday, Oct. 14, every Bantam Sports competition was met with the cheers of parents, alumni, family and friends for the most packed weekend on campus. Saturday marked the celebration of Trinity's Bicentennial, homecoming, parents' weekend and alumni weekend. The Bantams brought the energy with five home games which family, friends and alumni could catch throughout the day.

Women's soccer earned a 2-0 victory over Middlebury, improving to 6-3-3 overall while the Panthers dropped to 5-3-4. The Bantams got on the board early when sophomore forward Elena Lindonen roofed a shot from a corner kick at 12:44, gaining a 1-0 lead over the Panthers. Trinity had many opportunities throughout the game, including junior

Sofia Quijada's long shot with nearly 15 minutes left in the first half and another close attempt by Lindonen just inside the box in the second half. The Bantams were able to secure their lead with 8:41 left in the game when senior Captain Gabby Grattan buried a shot in the bottom right corner following a Panther foul. Trinity hosted out-of-conference Johnson & Wales on Sunday at 1 p.m., which was also a celebration of the team's graduating seniors.

Football faced an unfortunate loss against the Panthers at home, falling 20-15. Prior to Saturday's competition, the Bantams were undefeated at 4-0 with the Panthers at 3-1, where both teams now stand at 4-1 on the season both in close running for the title of NESCAC champions. In years past, Trinity has dominated in-game (and overall) against Middlebury.

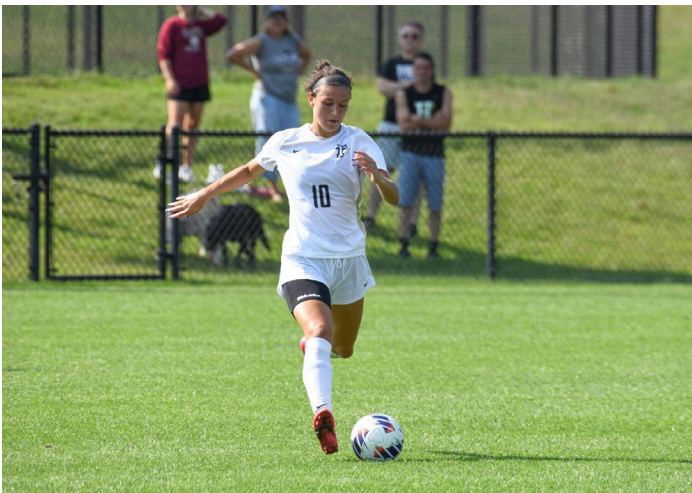
Last season, they defeated the Panthers in Vermont, 27-21. Overall, their history against the Panthers is 32-13, over a 2:1 victory ratio. Prior to Saturday, they outscored Middlebury 232-85 and averaged almost double points per game on average, 43.75 to 22. The Bantams are now 6-2 against the Panthers in their last eight matchups and have close competition in their journey to clinching NESCAC's. Trinity football is looking for a turnaround in their next game away against Williams College on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 1:30 p.m.

Men's soccer fell 2-0 to #3 Middlebury, dropping to 3-6-2 overall while the Panthers remain undefeated at 9-0-3 on the season. At 37:46 into the first half, the Panthers added their first tally off a loose ball in the box from a corner kick; striking again only five minutes into the second

half, the Panthers finalized their scoring with a close-range shot from a pass across the box to finish 2-0. The Bantams next game is Wednesday, Oct. 18 vs. Castleton University at home.

Women's volleyball clinched a victory against Connecticut College in five sets, winning 3-2 to improve 12-5 on the season. The teams were in close com-

petition, with the Camels winning the first and third sets, while the Bantams won the second, fourth, and final set. Each set was especially competitive, but the Bantams dominated with 14 kills compared to the Camels zero, six aces to two, and 50 digs to 31. Volleyball's next home match-up is this Saturday, Oct. 21 vs. Smith College at 1 p.m.



CAPTAIN GABBY GRATTAN '24 BURIES PENALTY SHOT IN SECOND HALF TO BLANK THE PANTHERS 2-0. COURTESY OF BANTAM SPORTS

Senior Day and Looking Forward with Field Hockey Captain Molly King '24

ANNIKA DYCZKOWSKI '25
SPORTS EDITOR

Bantam field hockey competed in their senior game against Middlebury College last Saturday, Oct. 14. The *Tripod* had the opportunity to speak with captain Molly King '24 to discuss the team's competition against Middlebury, the excitement of senior day and joyful reconnections of alumni weekend and how the team is preparing for their last games of the regular season.

In addition to senior day, the team anticipated playing in an alumni game following their Middlebury game. Unfortunately, the alumni game fell through, but King says that it was just as great to see past teammates nonetheless. "A lot of [alumni] were there and they came to support for the Middlebury game, so that was really nice."

In terms of expectations, King says that the team went above and beyond to make the day as special as possible for graduating players. As part of team tradition, the freshmen decorated the locker room, the sophomores decorated the field, and juniors "spearheaded the entire thing with gifts, speeches, and flowers. It was so fun." King recalls the seniors walking in the locker room, which was adorned with locker decorations, posters for the seniors, and "cool hats," King digresses laughing. The sidewalk leading to Robin L. Sheppard Field also featured chalk messages from underclassmen, which "made [the day] super special," King vocalizes. Once they had a brief team celebration, it was "business as usual, with the usual pregame rituals."

The Bantams unfortunately fell to the Panthers, for a final score of 6-2. "The

game was tough, but I don't think the score is indicative of how we played at all," King delineates. She continues, "we are the only team other than Babson to score twice on Midd this year." The Bantams also kept in close competition with the Panthers, having an unlucky penalty stroke that hit the crossbar. "We played really well, and it was a team effort." Middlebury remains undefeated, sitting at 12-0 overall. King remains optimistic and concurs that, "At the end of the day, everyone was having fun, which is really important."

The Bantams last pair of games are both away at Williams College and Amherst College. The Ephs are 4-1 in the conference and the Mammoths are currently ranked #10 overall. King speaks for her team on preparing for their last two games: "If we can play like we did against

[Williams and Amherst] we'll be in a really great spot, it's do or die if we want to make playoffs." The team's next two performances will determine their seeding in the NESCAC tournament, and King has a good feeling about both games. "We've beat Williams and Amherst away before and they're always good games." She conveys the team's high anticipation for their next game against Williams, "If we can flip the switch and keep up the energy into the game then we have it."

Deviating from Saturday's results, King is grateful for her teammates and happy with the team synergy. "This team has the closest bond I've felt since being here." She concludes, "I've had an amazing three years, this is a really special team to graduate with."

The Bantams game at Williams will be streaming online at BantamSports.com, beginning at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21. Tune in to cheer on your Bants on their journey to NESCAC's!



COURTESY OF BANTAM SPORTS



Coming Up

Wednesday
MSOC vs. Castleton University
@ 6:00 p.m.

Saturday
WVB vs. Smith College
@ 1:00 p.m.