

Election
Opinions

This week, two contributing writers, a staffer and an editor reflect on the 2024 election results.

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Veterans Day
Alum Feature

DONALD M. BISHOP '67
ALUM CONTRIBUTOR

Alum contributor Donald M. Bishop '67 delves into the rich history of Trinity WWI alumni, the first of a new Trinity veteran series.

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LINNEA MAYO '26
EXEC. A&E EDITOR

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ANNIKA HALEY '26
STAFF WRITER

Staff writer Annika Haley '26 speaks with guard Henry Vetter '26 on the team's upcoming season.

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Trinity College Lights Up with Diwali
Celebrations Hosted by SASA

IQRA ATHAR '26
NEWS EDITOR

On Nov. 9, Trinity College's South Asian Student Association (SASA) hosted its annual Diwali celebration in the Washington Room, adorned with floral decorations featuring marigolds, diyas (oil lamps), candles and a front-stage display of rangoli — an Indian art form. Approximately 200 attendees, including students and faculty, gathered for an evening that highlighted the Hindu festival of lights with traditional performances, culinary delights and a new puppet show narrating the Ramayana, an Indian epic.

The evening began at 5:30 p.m. with a puppet show performed by freshmen representatives who



SASA EBOARD MEMBERS AT DIWALI, NOV. 9
PHOTO BY LILLY SUPPLES '26

also handled scriptwriting and voice acting. The show narrated the tale of Ramayana, the story behind Diwali. Following the puppet show, attendees were treated to a variety of South Asian foods, ranging from appetizers like momos to main dishes such

as butter chicken, vegetable biryani and channa masala. Desserts included gulab jamun and drinks like mango lassi were served. This was followed by a Diwali-themed Kahoot and performances showcasing South Indian

and Nepali dances and Bengali songs, highlighting the diversity within the South Asian community. During the event, SASA also collected donations for Doctors Without Borders to support aid efforts in Lebanon.

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Political Science Department Discusses the
Election and Next Four Years Under Trump

LUCY SHELDON '27
STAFF WRITER

In the early hours of Wednesday, Nov. 6, major news outlets had called the presidential election results, declaring former president Donald Trump as the winner. Later that same day, the Political Science department held an event in McCook Auditorium with an estimated 20-plus students and faculty audience to discuss the results and anticipate what the next four years had in store for Americans. The panelists for the event included Serena Laws, Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Law; Sam Hayes, Visiting Professor of Political Science and Public Policy and Law; Dang Do, Assistant Professor of Political Science; and Kevin J. McMahon, Jorn R. Reitemeyer, Professor of Political Science.

To open the panel, Laws began with a few preliminary thoughts on the 2024 election, expressing what

she found to be unique about this presidential race. The first aspect of the election she highlighted was the sheer volume of money involved. There were large numbers of donors that generated well over a billion dollars for both Harris and Trump. Another element that Laws touched upon was how American democracy was heavily emphasized throughout this campaign and, in many respects, framed to be on the ballot for this election.

Hayes approached this election from a different lens. He centered his remarks on a few different election laws and amendments made to them that he found to be "helpful or [at least] help us understand what happened during this election." Honing in on two battleground states, Georgia and North Carolina, Hayes emphasized the alterations made to their election laws after 2020 to expedite the process of counting the results. Exam-

ples of some of the election law amendments include the Senate Bill 202 which was passed in 2021. Of the many obstacles it created for Georgia voters, it drastically reduced the window to request a mail-in ballot for citizens. In North Carolina, there is now a strict deadline for when mail-in ballots can be received in order to be considered: by Election Day at 7:30 p.m. instead of extending it to 72 hours after Election Day. Another change in North Carolina's voting laws, is they can reject a mail-in ballot where the address notification verification appeared undeliverable.

Beyond Hayes' discussion of voter laws, he also focused on the disruptions that took place throughout the country as people were casting their votes in person. Despite the numerous bomb threats, none seemed to have any merit and ultimately posed no danger to humans or the electoral process.

He rounded off his opening remarks by mentioning the changes made to the number of congressional seats each state had after 2020 and, thus, the amount of electoral college votes each state was allocated. The states that had been reapportioned, either in gaining or losing electoral college votes, included California, Oregon, Montana, Colorado, Texas, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Florida. Hayes explained that part of the reason Trump gained such a substantial lead early on in the night was that many states he initially won, like Texas and Florida, counted for more in the 2024 election than they did in the 2020 election.

After each panelist gave a brief summary of their thoughts on this presidential election cycle, the moderator and audience could direct questions towards them about what a second

see "Discussion, Continued" on page 3

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“Now then-*Trinity!*”

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CORRECTIONS

Letter From the Editor

A Few Points on Election 2024

Since Nov. 5 I have been struggling to articulate my multifaceted reaction to the 2024 election results naming Donald Trump as our 47th president. In this editorial I want to discuss three main points with y'all: Democratic Party messaging, alienation of young men and the 4B movement.

Democratic Party's Message

I begrudgingly voted for Kamala Harris this year. I based this vote on what marginalized groups in the United States were asking of voters – overwhelmingly, I saw Black, queer, disabled, Indigenous groups maintain the urgency of voting for Harris. Not because she had striking policy or clear goals, but because we needed to protect rights for certain groups across America in order to continue fighting the fight.

My vote never sat right with me for many reasons – first and foremost, the Democrats' funding of the genocide in Palestine. But, as the election came and went, it became embarrassingly clear how weak the Democratic Party is beyond its murderous policies abroad. The party identifies no concrete problems and offers no concrete solutions. I'm typically no fan of the Democrats (too much white liberalism for my taste), but the inability to send a clear message and identify clear goals during allegedly the most important election of our lifetime is just humiliating. On the other hand, the Republican Party knows how to brand themselves. Even as someone who voted for Harris, I know exactly what issues Trump identified and what his solutions are. Even though many (most?) of his talking points are simply false, he speaks to voters' insecurities, fears and weaknesses while promising a tangible solution.

Harris never did that.

The 2024 election is a turning point for the Democrats; the Scooby Doo villain mask is off. Will the party start listening, talking to and working with the people it claims to represent?

Male alienation

Since Election Day, I have been seeing people posting something along these lines: “if you voted for Donald Trump, unfollow me and never speak to me again.” My first reaction was agreement – I'm a woman, concerned for other women in this country, especially queer women of color. Trump does not seem

interested in protecting these people. However, as I saw more of these posts, the message just didn't sit right with me. Why is our first instinct to vilify Trump voters? I know that sounds like an incredibly tone deaf question to those most at risk under a Trump presidency. But this reaction only intensifies a phenomenon that helped Trump get elected: the increasing amount of young men feeling alienated from society and therefore turning to alt-right messaging.

In sociology, we talk a lot about the dangerous effects of social isolation. Without other humans, we become less human. In recent years, American culture (especially... yes... white liberals) love telling people that they should cut off those closest to them if they disagree politically. At first glance this sounds empowering – but in the end, it seems to repeat a cycle of social isolation that pushes certain groups to seek validation from personalities like Trump, Joe Rogan and Theo Von. I am not necessarily espousing the idea of “let's be friends regardless of our politics,” but why is cutting people off our first instinct when confronted with differences? However, I don't think it's fair to ask marginalized groups to do the work to “get back” voters who are seemingly against their very existence. Whose responsibility is it to hear these young men? How do we make a more cohesive society while protecting the most at-risk people? It becomes increasingly clear that it is white folks, with the ears of white family members and young male cousins, who hold this responsibility. It's time to do the work instead of sitting back and cutting people off.

The 4B movement

If you are a young woman on social media, you've probably heard of the 4B movement. Essentially, it encourages women to say no to four things: heterosexual dating, sex, marriage and childbirth. While it originated in South Korea in the 2010s, with Trump's reelection many American women have been discussing it online. I have mixed feelings about it (most of them negative).

In my research on the 4B movement, it seems that many women partake in it with the goal of decentering men in their lives. As a young woman myself, I've seen and experienced what it's like to have men at the center of

one's life – it's exhausting. However, the way in which I've seen 4B discourse pop up online does not seem to have the intention of decentering men in order to re-center women. Instead, women have suggested it as a bargaining technique: ‘don't have sex with men until they give us our rights back.’ This tactic feels like we are centering our lives around men even more – it's reactionary, rather than proactive. It's a punishment (like we're disciplining a son...) rather than a step towards liberation.

Furthermore, it doesn't seem like feminists withholding sex is going to make misogynistic men suddenly respect women. There are plenty of women out there who aren't bothered by conservative men: 53% of white women voted for Trump in 2024 (so let's stop blaming Trump's election on Latinx voters, thanks). Additionally, with the surge of men proudly telling women “your body, my choice” both online and IRL, consensual sex does not seem to be their concern. (Yes, that's dark, and yes, that's our reality.)

Just to drive my point home, the 4B movement originated on the South Korean website Womad, which is known for furthering homophobic and transphobic rhetoric – the group is founded on TERF (trans exclusionary radical feminist) ideals, excluding non-biological women from this alleged female liberation movement. We cannot let ourselves descend into transphobia under the guise of decentering men.

Instead of leveraging our bodies, let's reclaim them alongside other aspects of our life that go beyond dating, sex, marriage and childbirth. Hold the people around you accountable for their actions – regardless of if they are men or not. Most importantly (in my opinion), surround yourselves with women of multiple identities to build power and community.

Final thoughts

I hope these words make you engage with these ideas in your own way. Again, we are only one week after Election Day – we are all still processing, preparing, questioning. I would love to hear your reaction to my reflections and continue this dialogue.

With peace,

OPS

Diwali, Continued

continued from page one

Daniya Ali '25, co-president of SASA, in conversation with the *Tripod*, shared the importance of Diwali: “Celebrating Diwali at Trinity College is essential for creating a sense of community for our international students, particularly those who are far from home during such a significant festival. It’s about making Trinity a home away from home.” Ali highlighted that the event received overwhelmingly positive feedback, with turnout exceeding expectations. “The energy was so high that nobody wanted the

event to end,” she added. The henna stall was especially popular, with the artist extending her hours to accommodate the high demand. The venue also featured a designed photo area with a Diwali balloon banner and colorful umbrellas, attracting many attendees for group photos.

Tulsi Patel '25, another co-president of SASA, reflected on the personal significance of the event: “Hosting Diwali is about celebrating my American Indian identity and sharing our rich culture with the campus community. It’s vital for South Asian stu-

dents to feel seen and for others to learn about and engage with our traditions.” She noted the excitement the event generates among the student body: “People are always looking forward to it, asking me when it is going to be. I have my non-South Asian friends asking me for outfits to dress up in; it’s very anticipated, which makes it so special.”

Patel further emphasized the inclusivity of the event: “This year’s Diwali celebration not only introduced new elements like the puppet show but also reinforced our commitment to cultural

inclusivity through various performances that integrated people of different groups. We also want to make sure that we are showcasing as many cultures and traditions within South Asia, so having our henna stall is one way to do that, which is a very anticipated aspect of Diwali. All of the new additions that we had this year, such as the after-party, the UG sip and paint and the puppet show, were all possible due to the amazing ideas of our E-board members.” She continued, “Looking ahead, we are excited about hosting our next cul-

tural events such as Eid and Holi, which we believe will continue to foster this spirit of inclusivity and celebration within our community.”

The festivities concluded with a Diwali After Party at The Mill, featuring DJ Diz-zie who played Bollywood beats well into the night. Earlier in the week, SASA also hosted diya decorating sessions and introduced special drinks centric to south asian culture at the TrinUG Coffee, available from Nov. 4 to Nov. 9, including flavors like pistachio, rose chai, rooh afza and nimbu paani.

Discussion, Continued

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term for Trump might entail. The moderator posed a question to the panelists: “considering the Republicans already have control over the executive, judiciary, and will likely take control over the Senate and the House of Representatives, what’s next for policy over the next four years?”

While this elicited some laughter from panelists, due to the lofty, imposing question, Lawes was the first to jump in with her thoughts, stating “there were many things keeping Trump from doing a lot of the things he was interested in doing during the first term. Some of it was from his own inexperience, some of it was from the

guardrails coming from the more established republicans that were a much bigger force then and are really not in the mainstream party anymore.” She added that in all likelihood, Trump will be far better organized and intentional with the issues he tackles during his second term.

While Do acknowledged Lawes’ view that Trump will likely be more organized and capable of executing many of the policies and acts he put forth during his campaign, he placed his ability to seamlessly complete them on the size of the majority Republicans will likely have over Democrats in the House. However, Do added that nonetheless “there will be a lot of structural chang-

es that have long-lasting implications, like appointing federal judges to benches is going to be a major priority, reformatting the executive branch and all of the agencies that are there too. You will see a lot of appointments.”

McMahon speculated that given the election results — beyond just the presidential race but also the outcome for the Senate and likely the House — it is not a question of whether Trump’s policies will be passed but where he might begin. One initiative that McMahon speculated we might see passed under Trump early on is the deportation of 15 million immigrants.

In light of some concerns expressed by audience members that Trump can reshape

American democracy and policy without stint, Lawes reminded everyone that there still remain some barriers in place that could hinder Trump’s ability to complete his entire agenda. In 2016, when Trump threatened to repeal Obamacare, there was a popular movement mobilized by citizens to express their objections and prevent him from carrying it out. Laws emphasized to Trinity students that there is a role for citizens to play to prevent unpopular policies from being enacted. A similar view was shared by McMahon, as well as the other panelists stating that “Democratic governors will play an important role in resisting some Trump policies. Whether or

not they are Executive Orders or not, a lot of times you have to rely on state authorities to actually implement the idea, so I am sure Democratic governors will play a role in that.” He added that the seat for senate positions is only a two year period, and the 2026 midterm elections can play a crucial role in redistributing power between Democrats and Republicans.

In response to how students should walk away from this election and what they can do if these results were disappointing to them, Do seemed to encapsulate a shared sentiment that it is their hope that students get more involved and refuse to become disengaged from politics.

Professor Hernán Flom Gives Lecture on Latin American Police Violence

NICK CIMILLO '26
FEATURES EDITOR

Each semester, the Faculty Research Committee invites three faculty members to present their findings on research projects they’ve conducted to the Trinity community, intended to “showcase faculty excellence in specific areas of study.” As the third and final installment in this semester’s Faculty Lecture Series, Professor Hernán Flom, Senior Lecturer of Political Science, gave a lecture on his research on police violence in Latin America. The lecture was delivered during common hour on Nov. 7 in Dangremond Family Commons before an audience of around 20 attendees, mostly faculty. Flom specifically delved into his findings from fieldwork conducted in

the city of Cali, Colombia.

Professor Flom began the lecture with some background on what drew him to this topic. “What drew me to this case originally,” he began, “is looking into this idea of the politics of police violence in Latin America. I have studied this concept of police violence [for] my first book (“The Informal Regulation of Criminal Markets in Latin America”), which was centered on the regulation of drug trafficking in Latin America, but looked at police violence as a mechanism of such regulation.” The work compiled in Professor Flom’s first book was focused on the countries of Argentina and Brazil, and for his future work, he aimed to “expand the range of countries that I was considering.”

There were also some specific factors that led to

his focus on Colombia, and specifically the city of Cali. “[Colombia] has, I would say, an unexpectedly low level of lethal police violence,” he explained. “I say ‘unexpectedly’ because Colombia has a lot of factors that would make it a case of high [levels] of conflict and police violence; it has been in a civil war for more than 60 years.” Alongside this armed conflict between the state and many guerilla groups, Flom also cited drug trafficking, specifically Colombia’s status as the world’s largest exporter of cocaine, as a major contributing factor for police intervention. Cali specifically had features that stood out to Flom: it is a dense urban center of 2.3 million people and also has Colombia’s largest Black population. He was also curious to inspect a city that wasn’t

the capital city of Bogotá.

All of this culminated into three combined months of fieldwork in Cali, conducted in March and August in 2023 and March of this year, centered around the question: “When, how, why, and by whom is police violence legitimized?” Across 40 semi-structured interviews, ethnographic immersions from three neighborhoods and information collected from secondary sources like newspapers and government and NGO reports, Flom narrowed his answer down to a few key factors. Chief among them was the perception of police authority, or lack thereof; according to Flom, many interviewed police officers claimed that citizens didn’t seem to acknowledge their authority, and when this led to the assertion of authori-

ty from officers, encounters were more likely to escalate. “I found that this was a good encapsulat[ion of] most of the interactions I saw between citizens and police,” he said, “and also said a lot about police and other actors throughout the city, from politicians to sometimes the citizens themselves, justified police’s use of force and, in some cases, violence.” Flom also observed a kind of “othering” towards some of Cali’s neighborhoods; Flom specifically noted that police viewed residents of Cali’s eastern zone as having “no respect for the law.”

Flom aims to refine his research even further going forward. After an upcoming round of fieldwork in the spring of 2025, he aims to compile all his findings from Cali into a second book to be published in 2026.

Trinity Sophomores Coach HMTCA Middle School Soccer Team to League Championships

CAITLIN DOHERTY '26
EXEC. NEWS EDITOR

Breanna Pitta '27 and Eulalia Esquenet '27 have been playing soccer for sixteen years and have both competed on successful international teams. Although they do not play on Trinity's women's soccer team, they both felt a desire to stay involved in the sport they love when they started college and began to seek out ways to do that in the Hartford community. Over the summer, Pitta applied for the position of head coach of the Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy (HMTCA) middle school soccer team, which competes in a league with other Hartford middle schools. When she got the job, she asked Esquenet to join her, knowing that having a partner would only strengthen the training and support the team would receive. While both have previously served as assistant coaches of teams before coming to college, this was the first time they would take on the responsibility of serving as head coaches. In taking on this role, they would accept the challenge of coaching a team that had won only a single game during the previous season.

After a tryout period in early September 2024, they selected 20 students from HMTCA's sixth, seventh and

eighth grades for their team. Because of a lack of resources for formal athletics training programs in Hartford Public Schools, many of the early practices were focused on building fundamental soccer skills and creating a team atmosphere. "It's not only coaching soccer, but it's coaching life skills," said Esquenet in an interview with *Tripod*. In the first few practices, both coaches noticed that many of the players struggled to work together as a team and would often take the ball for themselves to try to make a goal. "They weren't able to succeed without playing together as a group," said Pitta to the *Tripod*. After the first practice, the coaches drafted a team handbook to create expectations for how players should treat their teammates, their coaches and themselves. They established five main pillars for their team atmosphere: respect, effort, coachability, positivity and tenacity. "They all approved as soccer players tremendously," said Pitta as she discussed how players developed throughout the season. "But ultimately I think the bigger win for us was watching them become better people and better teammates."

While they tied or lost their first few games, the players improved as a team more as the season went on. As the season finals began in October, the team made

it to the semifinals, where they faced the team that had gone undefeated and won the championship in the previous season. "We were tied 1-1 at the end of regulation, and we went into overtime," said Pitta as she described the semifinal game. "We ended up scoring and winning the game in overtime. It was so electric out on that field." The team then went on to play in the championship game. Pitta and Esquenet described the nervous energy that surrounded their team. Although they ended up losing 1-2, "We were so proud of them for even getting there because that was something that I don't think anyone thought was possible," said Pitta. "We were two young female college coaches coaching a largely boys soccer team... I think getting as far as we did was a true testament to [the players'] tenacity and their char-

acter and effort that they put in throughout the season."

The loss came with widespread disappointment from the team, but their coaches reminded them of how far they had come. "I remember going around and asking all of them, 'I'm proud of you, are you proud of yourself?'" said Esquenet. "Eventually they were like 'Yes, I am proud of myself.' Because we went from last season having one win to going to the championship game. That is something to be proud of." The team completed the season with an overall record of six wins, two losses and three ties. Throughout the season, a strong community was built between the players, coaches and parents. Pitta and Esquenet organized an eighth grade night for graduating players, and Trinity's Center for Hartford Engagement and Research (CHER)

hosted a pizza party for the team at the end of the season in late October. "They've come to mean so much to both of us," said Pitta.

"I think if more people here got involved in the community and found something that was passionate to them that they could share with these kids, we could make such a difference as a school," said Pitta. Both Pitta and Esquenet have cherished this experience and hope that more Trinity students will use their talents to serve kids in Hartford. The students noted that HMTCA and other Hartford schools have very understaffed athletics programs and are always looking for coaches. "Trinity students feel like they need to stay on campus, stay in this bubble," said Esquenet. "We want to be a part of the community. This [Hartford] is where we choose to be."



HMTCA SOCCER TEAM (ESQUENET, LEFT; PITTA, RIGHT)
PHOTO COURTESY OF ESQUENET AND PITTA

On Sex and Intimacy with Sex Therapist Soribel Martinez

LILY MELLITZ '26
EXEC. FEATURES EDITOR

On Nov. 5, 2024, Trinity College welcomed author, licensed clinical social worker, sex therapist, business owner and CEO Soribel Martinez for an engaging talk titled "Between the Sheets: Exploring How Your Surroundings Shape Your Intimate Connections."

"There are many different types of intimacy," Martinez began. "Emotional, physical, intellectual and experiential."

Emotional intimacy refers to the connection fostered by sharing one's thoughts, vulnerabilities and dreams, creating a deep sense of trust between partners. When partners communicate openly about their feelings and life experiences, they form a strong emotional bond. Physical intimacy, while it includes sexuality, is not confined to it. Holding hands,

gentle touches and simple acts of affection are also ways to express physical closeness.

Meanwhile, intellectual intimacy develops through stimulating discussions and shared curiosity about life's questions. Whether it's through engaging conversations or learning together, intellectual intimacy fosters mutual respect and understanding. Experiential intimacy, perhaps less commonly discussed, grows from shared memories and activities that enrich a couple's life together. Engaging in mutual interests, like cooking or hiking, strengthens the bond as partners create lasting memories and experiences.

Martinez also highlighted personal intimacy, an often-overlooked but crucial part of any relationship. "If you are not in tune with yourself, you will get lost in a relationship with someone else." Knowing

our preferences, boundaries and passions fosters self-respect, helping us build connections with others.

Intimacy in a partnership is ultimately about understanding the needs and perspectives of the other person. Martinez stressed that, for women, intimacy often involves emotional connection and thoughtful communication, while men may approach intimacy differently. She encouraged partners to discuss their needs openly and to view intimacy as an ongoing conversation rather than a single act. Small gestures, such as a caring text, a shared meal or a listening ear, can create a sense of intimacy that transcends the physical and enriches relationships over time.

Martinez also addressed the often-taboo topic of sexuality, emphasizing that a healthy view of sex includes a respectful approach to in-

timacy that acknowledges consent, openness and communication. In many cultures, there are myths and restrictions surrounding sexuality that make conversations about intimacy difficult. According to Martinez, overcoming these myths involves open communication within the relationship and within one's community, allowing individuals to explore their personal needs without fear of judgment or shame.

Lastly, Martinez underscored that building a rela-

tionship grounded in trust requires a commitment to personal growth and a willingness to explore beyond cultural expectations. Cultural norms often shape how people approach intimacy, which can sometimes limit the freedom to explore authentic connections. By questioning outdated standards and fostering environments that encourage healthy discussions about intimacy and sexuality, Martinez believes couples can build a bond that goes beyond societal expectations.



SORIBEL MARTINEZ
PHOTO BY SABRINA CODRINGTON '25

OPINION

Money Talks: What Harris's Loss Teaches Us About Democrats and Trin's Administration

KEVIN ROGERS '26
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Kamala Harris lost this election just as much as Donald Trump won it — and she lost it swimming in the pockets of the pro-Israel lobby. In her 2024 campaign, Harris received \$387,766 from pro-Israel lobbying groups, second only to Nikki Haley. In her 2020 vice presidential bid, the Biden/Harris campaign received \$3.75 million, more than four times as much as the second largest recipient, Donald Trump. Also taking into consideration the \$570,379 she received during her time as a senator, nearly \$5 million from pro-Israel interests line Harris's pockets.

If Harris climbed up her coconut tree to peer over the money she has received from these lobbyists, she would see a voter base that is deeply divided with her administration on the issue of Palestine. A poll from June, almost two months before President Biden dropped out of the race, shows that 86% of Democrats, and 64% of voters overall, supported the most recent ceasefire deal, proposed by Joe Biden. The

same poll showed that 53% of voters and 70% of Democrats supported withdrawing military aid to Israel if they did not accept that ceasefire deal. They did not, and United States aid continued to flow to Israel. Harris knew all of this for the entirety of her campaign, and weeks before, but I guess the money outweighed the concerns of over two-thirds of her own base.

Harris instead decided to embrace endorsements from the likes of Dick Cheney, attempting to appeal to Republicans instead of unifying her own base behind her. The shameful arrogance of the Democratic Party in assuming they had the vote of a base they abandoned, by virtue of not being Trump cost them this election. In swing states such as Pennsylvania, Arizona and Georgia, an August poll showed that over 30% of voters in each of those states would be more likely to vote for the Democratic nominee if that candidate vowed to withhold weapons from Israel, while numbers of respondents in the single digits said this would make them less likely to vote for such a candidate. Meanwhile,

out of the other side of her mouth, Harris claims it is time for an immediate ceasefire. Her empty placation of the pro-Palestinian movement could be seen as a nod towards popular dissent, a tacit embrace of First Amendment rights. Or it could be seen for what it is — empty. A freedom of speech which does not move the concerns of the people into legitimate political discourse is a form of political theater utterly devoid of meaning.

Perhaps Trinity's administration has been taking pages out of the Harris playbook on free speech, a strategy best summed up in "Sleep Now in the Fire," a 1999 song by rock band Rage Against the Machine: "Raise your fists and march around, just don't take what you need." Trinity has vowed to protect its students' rights to "assemble and voice their concerns" — a questionable claim in itself, but even granting that claim begs the question of what Trinity means by protecting our free speech. Those exercising it hope our voices will be heard and change will be created. Administration seems satisfied to let us raise our fists

and march around, but as for our demands, they and the Trustees continue to wring their hands noncommittally. Following the Board of Trustees' Oct. 17 meeting with representatives of the Trinity College Student Coalition for Justice in Palestine, Trustees told Coalition members in an email that they would need more time to hold "fuller conversations" regarding the arguments for and against divesting from the genocide. Additionally, in response to an Oct.

Lisa Bisaccia, chair of the Board of Trustees, "assures you that the divestment request will be discussed at the next meeting of the Investment Committee." May 8 was over five months before the Trustees returned to campus to meet.

While the genocide in Gaza is certainly not the only issue on which Democrats ignored their base in pursuit of the Republican vote (see climate and border policies under Biden/Harris), the visibility of the massive protests make it

"Administration seems satisfied to let us raise our fists and march around, but as for our demands, they and the Trustees continue to wring their hands noncommittally."

25 email from a member of the Coalition, President Berger-Sweeney claimed that the meeting between Coalition representatives and the Investment subcommittee of the Board of Trustees was "not a formal part of the planned agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting." On May 8, Vice President Joe DiChristina shared a memo informing Coalition members that

the perfect issue to highlight the failure of the party to listen to its base. Like Trinity's administration, which continues filibustering its protesting student body, they offer a meaningless freedom of speech allowing the people to be heard, but not listened to. Although we have freedom of speech nominally, when money talks, it is louder than the voice of the people.

The Perfect Candidate and Other Lies Social Media Has Been Feeding You

TALIA CUTLER '27
EXEC. OPINION EDITOR

"I think of being on an airplane. The flight attendant comes down the aisle with her food cart and, eventually, parks it beside my seat. "Can I interest you in the chicken?" she asks. "Or would you prefer the platter of shit with bits of broken glass in it?" To be undecided in this election is to pause for a moment and then ask how the chicken is cooked."

David Sedaris wrote this metaphor in the 2008 New Yorker article titled "Undecided" less than a month before the presidential election. He criticized thoughtless political involvement and the expectation of flawless options. Sixteen years later, it still rings true. Notably, Gen Z's chronic online-ness has caused them to fall into this trap.

Despite the politically active nature of this generation, 32% of those aged 18-24 identified as "Undecided" in 2024. Political journalist John Holbein has found that "Although young people are the biggest group of citizens who are eligible to vote, they turn out at significantly lower rates than older Americans."

Young people have cited a myriad of reasons as to why they teetered faithfully between the two candidates. They essentially boil down to "both candidates

crimes, systemic oppression, etc. Noam Chomsky famously said that "if the Nuremberg laws were applied, then every post-war American president would have been hanged." So why would it suddenly matter now? What god-send candidate would make our generation vote?

I saw a plethora of videos online leading up to the election (each with tens/hundreds of thousands of likes) engaging in Instagram activism — spreading biased rhetoric with very

"It is okay to not understand policy. The harm lies in claiming that you do when your education is social media and your teachers are equally clueless influencers."

are terrible," a gross oversimplification. Every pair of candidates in recent history have been laden with war

little fact or critical thinking attached. The videos (mostly on Tik Tok) encouraged people not to vote,

speaking on the fact that both candidates have flaws, so thus choosing one way or another in the 2024 election is some act of betrayal to the American people.

I resent this quest for a "perfect" candidate. Call it pessimism, call it realism or brashness or privilege, call it whatever buzzword you choose. The honest-to-God reality of this country is that we aren't getting a perfect candidate. Wail, cry, stamp your feet. No politician who is qualified enough to run for president has an unblemished career. The problem arises when we begin to compare a prosecutor to a rapist and claim there is no lesser of two evils.

It also alarms me how politically uneducated Gen Z truly is. It is okay to not understand policy. The harm lies in claiming that you do when your education is social media and your teachers are equally clue-

less influencers. Let me be clear: this is no dystopian fanfiction. When the stewardess offers the chicken and the shit, there is no uprising from the passengers demanding a better menu — that simply isn't how this works. A vote against the Democratic party is a vote for the Republican Party, and vice versa. So do not think for a second that if you abstained from voting that you did not make a decision. You did.

I am all for following your morals. However, I fear that Instagram and Tik Tok activism is reinforcing unrealistic political expectations. At the end of the day, it is not the candidate you blindly adore, but the one that will do less harm. Is this disappointing? Of course. But there is no alternative. To suggest otherwise is impractically idealistic and harmful to the mechanics of our political system.

I Feel Betrayed By My People

ISABELLA REYNOSO '28
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Today is a day of mourning; not only for me but for the entire Hispanic community. I fear there is no one to blame besides ourselves for there are people in our community who celebrate this year's election results.

Just four years ago my Hispanic mother and I sat on our ottoman inches away from the TV screen hugging each other as the elected Vice President, Kamala Harris, addressed the nation the night of her victory. We both felt a relief we hadn't felt in four years. I thought the darkest days for my community were over. Unfortunately, I was wrong.

My community has been blinded by years of colorism and colonialism and the veil has yet to come off. We seem to lack the resilience to rip the veil that has held us captive for so long. We search for a way to uplift each other yet in the process we leave some behind. The truth is no one wins unless we all win. We have turned

against one another, for we no longer look for peace but for self interest. Fortunately and unfortunately, that's what democracy is for, to vote for those who represent you. But, when you are not a white male, you don't have the privilege to vote for your own self interest. To my Hispanics who have the privilege

unity. It prides itself in upholding tradition and closeness, yet it seems as though that pride wore off in the voting booth. Does Catholic sin not apply to politics? We turned our backs on God as we stepped into the city hall to vote for a man who does not see our community as an equal. How can the members of my community

“We turned our backs on God as we stepped into the city hall to vote for a man who does not see our community as an equal.”

of voting; our civic duty is not just serving ourselves but our community. *NBC News* reported that 45% of Hispanic voters voted for Trump. If you were one of them you have betrayed your people. You failed to uphold the responsibility of being your peoples' voice.

Today I mourn for immigrants. For the parents and children of immigrants. I mourn for women. For my queer friends. I mourn for my family. The Hispanic community has lost sight of

look my parents in the eye when they voted for a man who thinks they are sub par, savages and animals? How can members of my community tell the females in their life that they love them and care for them when they voted for a man who raped one of us? Clearly, it is not only colonialism and colorism that blinds us, but misogyny as well. The women who voted for this man seem to forget the females who rely on them for safety and for representation.

No child should fear being torn away from their parents. No immigrant should be afraid of being pulled over. No immigrant should have to watch local news to see the recent ICE raid that happened in our area. Yet our community has chosen this for themselves.

My community seeks validation from the white man as we run away from the only other communities who share our fear and anger; the Black community, the South Asian community, the LGBTQ community. We turn our backs on them in order to stand closer to white Americans who do not want to hear our stories at the dinner table. It is important we keep our culture and our morale at the forefront for that is what has kept us together for so long.

My community has voted against their own interest. Against their own mothers, fathers and daughters. They come from mothers and fathers who created America — an America who has now turned their backs on them. An America who now rewards their work

with deception and fear. My community we must not forget the terror our members suffered under a Trump administration; when leaving your own house was a danger and turning on the news was distressing. When images and videos of 5,500 children being separated from their families played in the background as families prayed for safety and security before every meal. For this reason, I have a heavy heart today.

I've done what I could and it wasn't enough. I turn to my community in hopes that one day we learn to use our voice to fight for our culture. We must resist leaders who do not see for how we are; the backbone of the nation they claim to love. Loving your country is loving the people who keep it moving. To my Hispanic community; learn to observe the struggles our community continues to experience and vote for leaders who elevate our community, not demoralize it. Today I mourn for my people who deserve better; for it is a sad day for America.

ALEX GERVAIS '28
DESIGN STAFFER

On Nov. 5, we saw the culmination of two campaigns. One was grounded in levity; in the belief that our nation truly could reach its full potential and remain the idol of democracy for the rest of our world. It was led by an inspiring and qualified leader who simply wanted Americans to be able to live freely and justly. The other was a geriatric, repugnant exercise in fear, tethered together only by fascist ideas and unbounded charisma. It was headed by a tottering and insane old man whose only vision for America was a corporatist hellscape that benefited him and his cronies. The charismatic fascist won.

In the end, this entire campaign season was futile. From the Biden dropout, to being coconut-pilled, to a dominating debate, to Ann Selzer's Iowa poll, to Gallup's reported enthusiasm gap, to unprecedented canvassing and donation numbers, none of it mattered. The historic unpopularity of the Biden-Harris economy, notably the strongest in

the G7 post-Covid, dug this race's grave long before it ever began. Millions of Americans gave up their time, their money, their sanity to try to delay what we didn't yet know was inevitable. It's this meaninglessness that makes the outcome even more poignantly painful.

“At so many points over the last four years, Democrats could have run from destiny and embraced competent strategy, yet time and time again, they failed.”

This inevitability didn't always exist; it didn't have to. At so many points over the last four years, Democrats could have run from destiny and embraced competent strategy, yet time and time again, they failed. This loss is squarely on the inaction of Joe Biden, ignoring his left flank on the genocide in Gaza and waiting to drop out until it was too late. It's on the back of Jamie Harrison, an incompetent DNC chair who couldn't recognize a focused message if it bit him in his ass. It's on the shoulders of the out of touch Democratic campaign organizers, who

instead of being forceful and righteous in their anti-Republican messaging, chose to make the warmongering Cheney family “brat.” It's on the Democratic donor base, entertaining and bankrolling this electoral hilarity even as it spiraled towards doom. Now, because

of the party's acceptance of futility, millions of Americans will suffer. Democrats have blood on their hands.

We also must internalize that this could've been so much worse. America still hates Donald Trump. Throughout this whole mess, that idea must not be misconstrued. Doug Burgum or Nikki Haley or any other competent Republican would've won a supermajority in a terrifying blowout this election. On 538's generic ballot, voters supported Republicans 46% of the time, a mark 3 points higher than Trump's 43% approval rating. A three point swing

in this election would have meant every single swing Senate seat going to the Republicans, bringing them ever closer to the 60 votes needed to bypass cloture. It would have meant Republicans winning Democratic strongholds like Virginia and New Jersey on the presidential level. 81 million Americans voted against Trump last election and 65 million did in 2016. Our nation has said time and time again that they want somebody else. According to a 538 polling aggregate, in January of 2023 his support was hovering at 45% in the Republican party, only his extremist base coming to his aid. Yet, on Jan. 20 at 12 p.m., he'll become the 47th President of the United States. And not only will he be the next president, but he'll be doing it with a popular mandate — and if current House results hold, a Republican trifecta.

This race and its ensuing fallout will fundamentally alter the way politics can be studied and quantified. Clearly, material conditions, identity or rational interests have no place in the souls of the American electorate. According to CNN exit polling,

Trump won Latino men by 12 points, he tied in voters who believed that abortion should be “legal in most cases,” he won back suburban voters. Most astoundingly, he won voters making under \$50,000 a year, the very people who will have their lives decimated by his policies, by one point. Rarely do we see social cleavages fall apart on this wide of a scale.

The next four years will be perilously hard times for many across this nation. Trump and his Republican trifecta will create a terrifying moment of path dependency, passing and enforcing legislation that will fundamentally alter the nature of American democracy. Democrats must not forget the passiveness that stabbed them this election day. For every woman who bleeds out being forced to deliver a stillborn baby, for every child who starves because of ill-conceived tariffs, for every person of color who is assaulted without consequence by an unchecked police state, their pain will not solely be because of the demagoguery of Donald Trump and his allies, but because of the futility of today's Democratic party.

Futility is a Knife

FEATURES

Trinity and World War I, Part 1: Early Bantams Decide

DONALD M. BISHOP '67
ALUM CONTRIBUTOR

In September, I attended the “First Illumination” of the National World War I Memorial in Washington, a short distance from the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue. The entire Memorial includes a pool and a fountain, trees and landscaping, a statue of General John J. Pershing and memorial inscriptions, but the powerful centerpiece is a long wall of bronze figures entitled “A Soldier’s Story,” sculpted by Sabin Howard. Of the 38 figures most are doughboys, with some nurses among them. The two ends of the long wall show one soldier leaving – and at the end, returning – home.

It’s now been 106 years since the end of the “Great War,” and we can add to the dedication of the memorial by recalling the Trinity students and alumni who participated in the struggle from 1914 to 1918. The United States formally entered the war on April 6, 1917, but some Trinity men were already in the fight, and some were preparing to do so. This first article recalls those forerunners.

Some Who Joined the War Early

Brooke Bonnel had graduated in 1912, and he was selling stocks on Wall Street in the then-famous brokerage firm of Hornblower, Weeks. He left the firm, traveled to France, and joined the French Foreign Legion. Fighting in Champagne in early 1915, German machine gunfire nearly severed his leg at the hip. He used two rifles as crutches to make his way to an aid station, and the leg was amputated. He left the French Army wearing the Médaille Militaire and the Croix de Guerre (War Cross) recognizing his bravery in action. (He would return to France to drive for the American Red Cross later.)

When the war began in Europe, Charles Hurd Howell of the Class of 1912 (pictured, left) was a Rhodes Scholar studying at Oxford. He left to join the Royal Flying Corps. A pilot, he joined the defense of England against German air raids and supported the Somme drive of 1916. He was “mentioned in despatches” for “splendid service during the war.”

Robert Glenney of the Class of 1904 was born in Ireland, but his family immigrated to the U.S., and he attended Manchester

High School in Connecticut before entering Trinity. He left the College early for railroad work in South Africa. When the war began, he enlisted in the 5th Regiment of the South African Infantry Brigade. Sergeant Glenney died of wounds in the Third Battle of Ypres on Sept. 23, 1917. He walked “neath the elms,” and is buried at the Nine Elms Military Cemetery in Belgium.

Samuel N. Watson, Class of 1882, had served as a chaplain in the Iowa National Guard after he graduated from Trinity and was ordained in the Episcopal Church. By 1914 he was the new rector of Holy Trinity Church in Paris. Helping Americans stranded in Paris became a larger mission, organizing the American Ambulance Committee and the American Relief Clearing House.

Ambulance Drivers

Many Trinity men eager to join the war were wary that serving under a foreign flag might jeopardize their citizenship under the law of that time, so they were reluctant to join the French, British or Canadian forces. They instead became ambulance drivers for the Red Cross, the American Field

Service, or other organizations (Ernest Hemingway, Walt Disney, John Dos Passos and e. e. cummings were ambulance drivers as well). This was hazardous work, which involved driving to the front lines over blasted roads crowded with men, horses, vehicles, downed telephone lines and unexploded ordnance, sometimes under fire. They picked up wounded soldiers and took them to casualty clearing stations and hospitals.

Edward N. Scott of the Class of 1889 (pictured, right), then in his 50s, left Switzerland for France in 1915. He drove his own car for six months as a member of the American Volunteer Motor Ambulance Corps – including the battle of Champagne in 1915.

John H. Townsend, Jr. of the Class of 1916, a member of the Bible and Mission Study Committee of Trinity’s YMCA, drove ambulances for the French and then the American Red Cross for three years.

Archer Platt Sayres of the Class of 1913 traveled to Canada before the U.S. entered the war and served in France with the 10th Canadian Field Ambulance Company. Trinity’s Honor Rolls list at least 21 alum-

ni who drove ambulances; there were surely more.

Deciding Early: the Plattsburg Camps

As the war began in 1914, most Americans favored neutrality and non-involvement in the European war. In 1916, Woodrow Wilson was re-elected; his campaign slogan was “He Kept Us Out of War.” Many sensed the U.S. would be drawn in and, viewing the numbers of troops mobilized by the warring powers, knew that the U.S. was woefully unprepared. The warring nations each had millions of soldiers – British (3.8 million), French (2.8 million) and German (6.6 million). The authorized strength of the U.S. Army in 1914 was less than 100,000 troops, and if federalized the National Guard could add another 112,000.

Among the ardent voices for “preparedness” were former President Theodore Roosevelt and former Army Chief of Staff Leonard Wood. They were leaders in the “Preparedness Movement,” which in turn fostered a “Plattsburg Movement” of privately funded summer military training camps, some for students and some for “business men.” The largest was in Plattsburg, NY. In 1915 and 1916, some forty thousand men, Trinity alumni among them, took time off from their occupations for military training that could qualify them for reserve commissions. These Trinity men count among those who “decided early.” In 1917 most would be called up in the tumultuous expansion of the U.S. Army.

The Large Contributions of a Small College

A few months before the war began in Europe, 43 members of the Class of 1914 received degrees in course. The “guns of August” thundered just before the 78 new students in the Class of 1918 donned their freshman beanies. In 1915, there were about 2000 living alumni. The Honor Rolls published after the war record that alumni who served in uniform numbered 527, and 110 more supported the war in various ways. Carved on a wall in the Trinity Chapel are the names of 20 who gave their lives; articles that follow will tell many of their stories.



LEFT: CHARLES HERD HOWELL '12, ROYAL FLYING CORPS / RIGHT: EDWARD N. SCOTT '89, AMBULANCE DRIVER
(PHOTOS COURTESY OF DONALD BISHOP '67)

Visiting Political Science Professor Lucia Green-Weiskel Brings Global Perspectives to Climate Action

SARA ZAHOOOR '26
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the world of international relations, where shifting alliances and diplomatic tensions create a realm difficult to navigate, few scholars stand out like Professor Lucia Green-Weiskel, a visiting political science professor at Trinity. With an academic career shaped by immersive global experiences and a deep commitment to climate action, she brings a unique perspective to the dynamics between two of the world's most powerful nations, the United States and China. From her work on cooperative climate policies to her mission of decolonizing the classroom, Green-Weiskel's contributions underscore a vision of international relations centered on both diplomatic strength and empathy.

After earning her B.A. from Hampshire College, Lucia pursued an MSc in Asian Politics from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London, where her interest in China's political landscape took root. Her focus solidified during her Ph.D. in International Relations at CUNY's Graduate Center in New York City, where she developed an understanding of the U.S.-China relations shaped by the nations' complex history and mutual economic dependencies. She has spent over a quarter of a century dedicated to these issues,

believing that fostering cooperation between the U.S. and China on climate change is essential for the world and its preservation.

Lucia's professional journey reflects her commitment to applying academic insights to real-world challenges. She began her career as a Project Manager at the U.S.-China Clean Tech Center and later became a Special Advisor at the Innovation Center for Energy and Transportation, both based in Beijing. This experience allowed her to contribute directly to climate change and energy policy efforts, providing her with an invaluable perspective on the intersection of policy, technology and environmental needs. During her tenure, Lucia co-created the Energy and Climate Registry, a tool for corporations in China to manage and report greenhouse gas emissions, a foundational step in the country's commitment to addressing climate change.

Lucia's policy work has always emphasized cooperation over confrontation. While many view the U.S.-China relationship as a battle for influence and power, Green-Weiskel advocates for a different approach. She believes that the climate crisis necessitates a collaboration, where both countries move beyond rivalry to find common ground on shared threats like global warming. Her dedication to this cause is evident not only in

her work but in her writing, which has been featured in *The Nation*, *The Huffington Post*, *Grist*, *Alternet*, *The Brooklyn Rail* and the *New York Times*. Her interviews on platforms like *Democracy Now!*, WNYC's Brian Lehrer Show and This American Life further illustrate her influence as a public intellectual committed to advancing dialogue on global cooperation. Furthermore, her six-year position as a term member on the Council of Foreign Relations solidifies the expertise and knowledge she brings to the classroom.

In addition to her policy work, Lucia brings a unique approach to her teaching. She emphasizes the importance of "decolonizing the classroom," challenging students to question preconceived notions and examine perspectives from a global lens. "My goal is to inspire students to push their ideas beyond what they're familiar with," she explained. "I encourage students to approach issues with an open mind, pushing aside preconceived biases to make room for deeper analyses."

At Queens College and Vermont State University, where Lucia has also taught, her classes are designed to cultivate serious, open-minded thinkers. In courses such as U.S. Foreign Policy and Introduction to International Relations, she encourages students to view topics like American exception-

alism, state-building and climate justice as interwoven with global policy, making the complex material relatable through real-world applications and peer discussions. Inspired by the diverse scholarship in political science, she frequently integrates publications by her peers to demonstrate varied approaches to policy and political theory, fostering a dynamic and inclusive classroom environment.

Today, Lucia continues her work in the U.S.-China relations with a focus on the intersection of climate policy and social justice. She's currently writing a book on the obstacles to cooperation between the U.S. and China, a topic she believes is critical to understanding the broader challenges facing global cooperation. One of the most pressing issues she addresses is the way in which China is often used as a "tool" in U.S. domestic political disputes — a practice she argues hinders meaningful dialogue on global issues like climate change, where collaborative efforts could drive real progress.

Her academic and professional journeys illustrate the value of cross-cultural understanding and collaboration. Her time spent in cities like London, Beijing and New York has shaped her unique view on the world, fostering a sense of responsibility to both her students and the field of international relations. She encourages

students and colleagues alike to remain committed to values of openness and empathy, believing that a more peaceful, cooperative world is not only possible but essential. Through her research, teaching and writing, Lucia exemplifies the power of bridging divides, be they geographical, ideological or generational. Her work serves as a reminder that the challenges of today's world require solutions that are as complex and nuanced as the issues themselves.

A Massachusetts native, Green-Weiskel graduated from Amherst High School. Then and now, she spends much of her time library-hopping with her daughters. Lucia mentioned that she often re-reads old books because there is always something new to learn or a new perspective to take. She's particularly fond of Ann Patchett, Sebastian Younger and Christopher Hitchens, all renowned authors and journalists. Lucia also mentioned that she's an enthusiastic skier, having taught her 1-year-old how to handle the slopes. She also enjoys hiking, figure skating and farm life. Since teaching at Trinity, Lucia has moved back to Amherst where she lives on a farm with her family, surrounded by the sweet life of sheep and chickens. In addition to writing her book, she processes wool in New Hampshire and makes blankets which she then gifts to friends and family.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Godfrey Simmons and Sydney Yu '25 Reflect on Their Directorial Work on “Baltimore”

LINNEA MAYO '26
EXEC. A&E EDITOR

“Baltimore,” directed by Visiting Lecturer of Theater and Dance Godfrey Simmons and assistant directed by Sydney Yu '25, is written by Kirsten Greenidge. The play follows Shelby, a Black residential advisor, as she navigates the challenges that arise after a racially charged incident occurs in her dorm building, and how the community is dealing with how to move forward.

Simmons is a Visiting Lecturer in Theater and Dance at Trinity as well as the Artistic Director of HartBeat Ensemble, Hartford's Public Theatre company. Simmons has a diverse background in theater, beginning with his studies at the College of William & Mary and expanding to professional roles in D.C., New York, and Pennsylvania. He was a company member of People's Light Theater Company and has worked as a teaching artist. His work has spanned a variety of age groups, from elementary to high school students, and includes working with incarcerated teens and formerly incarcerated adults. A “citizen artist,” Simmons's work is deeply politically engaged and often addresses social issues, as reflected in his desire to direct “Baltimore,” a play that resonates with previous incidents at Trinity.

Simmons told Tripod, “Baltimore” is about how you navigate this situation and what is the way forward. It's about how to have conversations when something goes wrong. It's not about someone doing something racist or sexist, it's about how we deal with it. How do we have the conversation? So, the audience will see people engaged in conversation about it, including the perpetrator, about what it takes to have those conversations and to see each other when we are having those conversations.”

Yu, a double major in Theater and Dance and Music, is highly involved in both performing arts and campus leadership. She serves as the music director

for Quirks A Cappella, sectional leader for Chapel Singers, a student library assistant at Watkinson Library, and a program ambassador for Trinity/La MaMa. In addition to these roles, she has been deeply engaged in acting and has participated in several departmental productions. This includes playing Ella in Trinity's recent adaptation of Cinderella, being Chorus Leader and Head of the Society of “Futurity,” Laertes in “Hamlet,” and Emily/Soldier 2 in “And If You Lose Your Way, or A Food Odyssey.” Yu has also appeared in student thesis projects, playing Percy in “Hank, Percy, Eloise & Sal Have a Bad Day” and Amelia in “Vision.”

This is Yu's first time assistant directing a departmental production. Yu's passion for theater began in high school when she founded a drama club at her international school in Beijing. During the fall of 2023, Yu was part of the Trinity/La MaMa Performing Arts Program, where she created and devised various original pieces. “That experience showed me the power of forming something from scratch and using a group effort to tell a story,” she reflected. At Trinity, her interest in directing deepened after taking a directing class with Dr. Incampo, prompting her to get involved in assistant directing in “Baltimore.”

When speaking with the Tripod, Yu said, “This play brings up the question of where we are right now. Shelby, the main character, isn't alone. There are so many people like her who struggle with these conversations about race and identity. The story forces us to see what stage we are standing on and how we are going to talk about this because it's everywhere, it's never going to be gone.”

Simmons and Yu emphasized their efforts to build a strong sense of community among the cast, crew, and designers, to create a team to tackle the heavy topics and stories within the script. “I think it's acknowledging the work that the cast is doing by embodying these characters. There are people playing people who

are doing hurtful things. There are people who are suffering under the weight of hurtful things. And some people do both and everyone in between. That is a lot to carry,” said Simmons.

Through activities like story circles, engaging in these conversations as a collective, and checking in on where people are coming from, the group has prioritized ensuring that everyone feels heard and cared for throughout the process. Simmons said, “You can't do a play like this unless you're actually engaging in conversations as a collective, as a cast, or at least check-in. I think a deep acknowledgement of that along the way is really important. We are trying to make sure that the cast are feeling taken care of, have resources to draw on, and support from each other and us to be able to tell this story.”

In bringing this storyline to Trinity, Simmons and Yu have also worked deliberately to keep the events of the play connected to the Trinity community. “We have been trying to engage the audience by connecting the show with Trinity somehow. We are trying to add nuance and details of sound to get the audience to realize this is not detached from them, this is actually so close to them,” said Yu.

When working with

young actors, Simmons explained that it's critical to encourage their agency, know when to step back and motivate them to push themselves. “It's about knowing when to get out of the way and when to push. Sometimes you need to push and encourage students to try something new,” he said. “There is stuff that I don't know, and stuff I find out about an actor through their experience to help understand how the show or character exists in their body and how it lands on them.”

When speaking with the Tripod, Yu expressed that this experience had allowed her to navigate guiding a diverse cast with varying levels of experience and skills. “Using the same method of conveying my idea won't work with every single person, and that's something I really learned from Professor Simmons. I tried to use tools like drawing upon personal stories of the cast, applying physical gestures, or, for more experienced actors, just letting them try it. And for those who really relate to the role, just to be themselves,” she said.

Yu shared how her involvement with “Baltimore” has changed her perspective on leadership and how to address critical conversations as they arise with the help of Simmons. “Professor

Simmons has helped me address things with the cast and group that I did not feel comfortable doing in the beginning,” she said. “This semester, doing this play while also taking Dr. Brown's Shakespeare and Other Race Plays course forced me to think about the questions related to race and notice the things I need to unlearn. It has helped me understand why I think this way and how, as a leader and a director, to address it with my peers and this community. I think that has been a huge step for me, and I'm really grateful for that.”

When asked what her most rewarding moment has been, Yu said “It was really rewarding when what I tried to convey actually happened on stage. It was quite intimidating in the beginning, but the actors' willingness to give it a try, along with the opportunity to express what I envisioned, made the process feel truly special.”

“Baltimore” will premiere at the Goodwin Theater in the Austin Arts Center the weekend of Nov. 21 to Nov. 23, and you can find more information on the Austin Arts website. “If you come, we are going to have this conversation about race and the students are not going to shy away from having a conversation about how we see each other,” said Simmons.



GODFREY SIMMONS DIRECTING “BALTIMORE” CAST AT REHEARSAL NOV. 10
PHOTO BY SABRINA CODRINGTON '25

November Cinestudio Must-Watch List, Ranked

HANNAH SMITH '26
A&E EDITOR

Cinestudio’s November 2024 schedule is filled to the brim with new releases and three films playing as part of a Palestinian film series supported by the Trinity Arts Initiative. The following is my personal ranking of the must-see movies for this month.

The film I’m most looking forward to watching is A24’s “We Live in Time” starring Florence Pugh and Andrew Garfield. I’m sure you’ve seen it all over your Instagram feed, and it is so deserving of all the hype it has gotten. Pugh and Garfield unexpectedly meet, fall in love and start a family, but their time together is threatened when Pugh’s character is diagnosed with cancer, and they must learn to cherish the time they have left together, hence the title. If you decide to watch this movie at Cinestudio, and I hope you do, I recommend coming prepared with at

least two boxes of tissues.

Up next is “Lee,” a film about Elizabeth “Lee” Miller, a former fashion model turned photographer who becomes a war correspondent for Vogue magazine during World War II. This film stars Kate Winslet, Andy Samberg, Alexander Skarsgård (“The Northman”) and Marion Cotillard (“The Dark Knight Rises”) and is directed by Ellen Kuras, the cinematographer for “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind,” making this the second collaboration between Kuras and Winslet. “Lee” is also one of the first serious roles for comedic actor Andy Samberg.

“The TimethatRemains” is a semi-autobiographical Palestinian film from 2009 about the lives of families living in Palestine and Israel from 1948 to present day. It revolves around a Palestinian family labeled as “Israeli-Arab” who live as minorities in

their own homeland. This film has a very similar visual aesthetic as a Wes Anderson movie, which is really interesting to see in such a serious context.

“Conclave” tells the story of the process of choosing a new pope while uncovering deeply hidden secrets that could threaten the legitimacy of the Roman Catholic Church. Directed by Edward Berger (“All Quiet on the Western Front”), “Conclave” has a star-studded cast of Ralph Fiennes (“The Grand Budapest Hotel”), Isabella Rossellini (“Blue Velvet”), Stanley Tucci (“The Hunger Games” franchise) and John Lithgow (“Shrek”).

“The Critic” stars Ian McKellen (“The Lord of the Ring” franchise) as a theater critic who puts himself and others in a deadly situation when he decides to start a blackmail scheme. The cast also consists of Ben Barnes (“The Chronicles of Narnia”), Mark

Strong (“Kingsman: The Secret Service”), Alfred Enoch (Dean Thomas in the “Harry Potter” franchise), Lesley Manville (“Phantom Thread”) and Gemma Arterton (“Prince of Persia”).

“Divine Intervention” is the second film of the November Palestinian film series. This 2002 war comedy follows two lovers from different cities that meet at an Israeli checkpoint and witness historic events as they unfold. This film is rather slow, but it is a truly beautiful piece of art.

“Bonhoeffer: Pastor. Spy. Assassin.” tells the true story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a man who preached love while plotting the assassination of Hitler. It is directed by Todd Komarnicki, the writer for films like “Sully” and “The Professor and the Madman” and one of the producers of “Elf,” and stars Jonas Dassler, August Diehl

(“Inglourious Basterds”), Moritz Bleibtreu (“Run Lola Run”) and Flula Borg (“Pitch Perfect 2”).

The final film of November and the first Christmas movie of the year is “Christmas Eve in Miller’s Point.” The film’s tagline could easily be if “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” was filled with nepo-babies. The cast includes Maria Dizzia (“Agatha All Along”), Ben Shenkman (“The Trial of the Chicago 7”), Francesca Scorsese (Martin Scorsese’s daughter), Elsie Fisher (“8th Grade”), Michael Cera, Gregg Turkington (“Ant-Man”), Sawyer Spielberg (Steven Spielberg’s son) and a couple teenage TikTokers. The film is about a family’s Christmas Eve party that may be their last in their ancestral home. One of the teenagers sneaks out with her friends and hijinks ensues. I’m honestly not sure why Michael Cera is in this movie — but the more the merrier.

Trinity’s Student-Run Literary Magazine *The Vernacular* Uplifts Creative Voices

HANNAH SMITH '26
A&E EDITOR

The Vernacular is the literary magazine at Trinity College, run entirely by students for students. Their goal is to foster a writing community at Trinity and to provide students with an opportunity to share their creative work with an audience. It is a place for creative people to flourish and work their creative muscles amongst like minded people in ways that aren’t necessarily easy to find in other places on campus. Students are invited to submit to the following categories: poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, academic nonfiction, plays and screenplays. There are two issues of the magazine each year, one published at the end of the fall semester and another published at the end of the spring. The *Tripod* spoke to four of the current editors in chief of *The Vernacular*: Maggie Ondrey '25, Reese San Diego '25, Juan Garcia '25 and Paulina Campanella '27. They discussed the magazine, their experiences and what

they want people to know about their publication. The submissions process begins by sending your work to *The Vernacular*’s email. From there, a panel of blind readers go through each piece completely anonymously and a select few are chosen for publication. Every writer whose work is selected for *The Vernacular* is invited to a launch party to celebrate at the end of the semester. The launch party is an uplifting, supportive gathering filled with friends and faculty who are happy to welcome more students into the big and beautiful writing community on Trinity’s campus. At last year’s party, they quickly ran out of chairs for everyone to sit in because they weren’t expecting such an influx of interest and support, but were more than happy to see all the love they were getting. Throughout this semester, *The Vernacular* team ran a write-in event and an open mic event. The write-in took place from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. in the Writing Center, where people came and went to

write in groups with both friends and new faces, in a room filled with people encouraging one another to create. San Diego, one of the editors in chief, said, “Before *The Vernacular*, there’s been a lack of a writing community on campus. There aren’t a lot of clubs... Creative writing was kind of underrepresented on campus. It’s fun because there were a lot of familiar faces at the write-in... It’s a face space where all the writers gather, similar to the open mic night.” The open mic night gave writers the opportunity to share their work before the submission deadline, allowing them to read their work aloud. San Diego said that the open mic night “encourages people to be brave. It’s vulnerable to get up and share your writing, but I think, once people see each other get up, it encourages other people to go.” If you can read your personal work to a room full of people, you can do anything. I asked the group what they wanted to say to people who might be considering sending in their work to *The Vernacular* to be considered

for publication. Ondrey said, “It takes a lot to put your work out there. It’s a very vulnerable — it’s an act of bravery, it’s really scary... The idea of there being a yes or no aspect is really scary... It’s very human, but there’s something so satisfying about something you worked so hard on being solidified into existence.” Ondrey emphasized that the launch party is as much a celebration of the art as much as it is about celebrating the fact that everyone did something really scary and made it out on the other side. For *The Vernacular* magazines of the future, the current E-board is emphasizing consistency and sustainability. Since most of them are graduating at the end of next semester, they’re working hard to keep interest in *The Vernacular* high so that it survives for future generations of Trinity students. Garcia talked about “having a structure that future classes can follow quite easily,” but the group feels confident in leaving it in the hands of the next generation, including younger students

involved in the magazine right now, like the fourth editor in chief, Campanella, who plans to continue her work with *The Vernacular* for the remainder of her time at Trinity. *The Vernacular* is focused on uplifting students’ voices. They read a lot of submissions about activism and social justice. Global issues have become especially important in recent issues, including last fall’s magazine. Ondrey said, “We sold bookmarks at our launch party last year and did readings from Palestinian poets and donated to Save the Children in Palestine... What we’re about isn’t just protecting our voices as students, but protecting other people’s voices too.” It may be too late to submit your work for the fall issue, but every Trinity student is more than welcome to submit their writing for the spring addition! Keep an eye out for all the amazing work published in *The Vernacular* this December, and don’t forget to take one of the free copies you find around campus.

BITS & PIECES

Democrats Plot to Air Fry MAGA Superstar Moo Deng

ANGELICA GAJEWSKI '26
STAFF WRITER

Moo Deng, mammal influencer and political intellectual is facing backlash from American democrats after her prediction that Donald J. Trump will win the 2024 election. After last Wednesday's prediction that Trump will win the electoral college, liberal Americans have been divided on who is

to blame. Soon after, a scathing report has surfaced linking Deng to the campaign. A substantial group of Americans on the left have since come together to prevent what Trump himself has called MAGAs Einstein from reaching the white house.

Released by Jimmy Carter's nurse, the report states that Deng quietly served as the

Trump campaign's head social media manager. The thirty page report begins with a message from former president Carter that reads,

"To my fellow Americans, I told y'all not to trust that damn hippo..."

This is followed by clarification that he is not referring to Vice President elect JD Vance, but rather, to Deng herself.

Despite being a non-citizen from Thailand, Deng's political relationship with Trump has been ongoing since her 2024 birth and sparked from their shared love of McDonald's quarter pounders. Since his projected win Trump has tweeted, "THANK YOU MOO DENG!" followed by three American flag emojis and an AI generated picture of the

young hippo etched into the sky, looking upon the nation's capital.

Fear amongst democrats comes from rumors speculating that Trump intends to appoint Deng as his Attorney General. These claims have yet to be verified by a member of the campaign. Still, Democrats are already taking action gearing up with air fryers and beginning talks with local crocodile families.

Trinity Honors Tucker Carlson's Legacy Amid Controversy

ALEX GERVAIS '28
DESIGN STAFFER

In a private ceremony on Friday afternoon in the Austin Arts Center, Tucker Carlson, co '91, was awarded the John Barrett Kerfoot medal for achievement in jackassery. This award is given out once a year to a Trinity alumnus who truly embodies the school's core ethos of e pluribus anus. Carlson joins fellow conservative pundit Jesse Watters, co '01, in a long line of true and utter dumbasses to be awarded such a low honor. Carlson has been

much lauded by some at Trinity for his brazenly contrarian and racist viewpoints that ascended him through the ranks of conservative media and found him a home at Fox News. In his acceptance speech, Carlson gave brief remarks, lamenting Trinity as a "liberal shithole" and vowing to "never set foot again on this woke campus." He, however, did thank a few friendly campus institutions in his speech, reminiscing on his many late nights leaving floaters in the library bath-

rooms, thanking H&L for their dedicated commitment to legal drinking at the college and wishing the best of luck to the Trinity football team in their much anticipated and very winnable matchup against the Wesleyan Cardinals for the NESCAC title. Carlson's reception of this award is a hopeful first step in reconciling with a college he previously claimed had been "wrecked" by "the left" on his now defunct Fox News show.

Carlson's appearance on campus came with backlash from the stu-

dent body, a group of students and staff holding signs and chanting outside of the award ceremony at the AAC. These actions were met with immense and immediate backlash from administration, the college releasing a statement Friday night reading, "Trinity College respects the rights of the students to use their voice and protest peacefully, however the demonstrations this afternoon were in clear violation of social code #88, warranting a response from the campus safety." Upon further

investigation by the *Tri-pod*, social code #88 was found to be a Mather paper napkin inscribed with "Tucker rulez, liberals drool!" in crayon. The students who allegedly took part in the protest are expected to be questioned and reprimanded this coming Thursday by a tribunal of the one percent of Trinity college staff that have donated to a Republican campaign. Unnamed sources close to administration are projecting the punishment to be from anywhere between academic probation to "spending a night in Jones." When asked about her role in the protest, a Trinity student, who wished to remain anonymous for fear of retribution from Carlson's media empire, said, "I was actually there in support of the award. It's rare that we get to honor someone who's rubbed elbows with the worst people on our planet and played such an outstanding role in creating the right-wing brain slop media machine." She later cited her sign, a blown up image of Carlson's transcript of straight Ds, as her believed reason for being punished by the school.

The *Tripod* will continue to update this story as the fate of the detained students becomes available.



JBS AWARDS TUCKER CARLSON WITH THE JOHN BARRETT KERFOOT MEDAL FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN JACKASSERY

In Other (More Important) News This Week

Course registration went well!

T

Trinity 4h
freaky_fred

Follow ...

TC Online casually crashing my page 3 times so I cant sign up for any of my major reqs and have to take Steel Pan Ensemble at 9pm on a Monday instead



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↑ 53 ↓

T

Trinity 3h

...

me slumbering at 6:59 am before class registration at 7:00 am:



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Trinity 48m

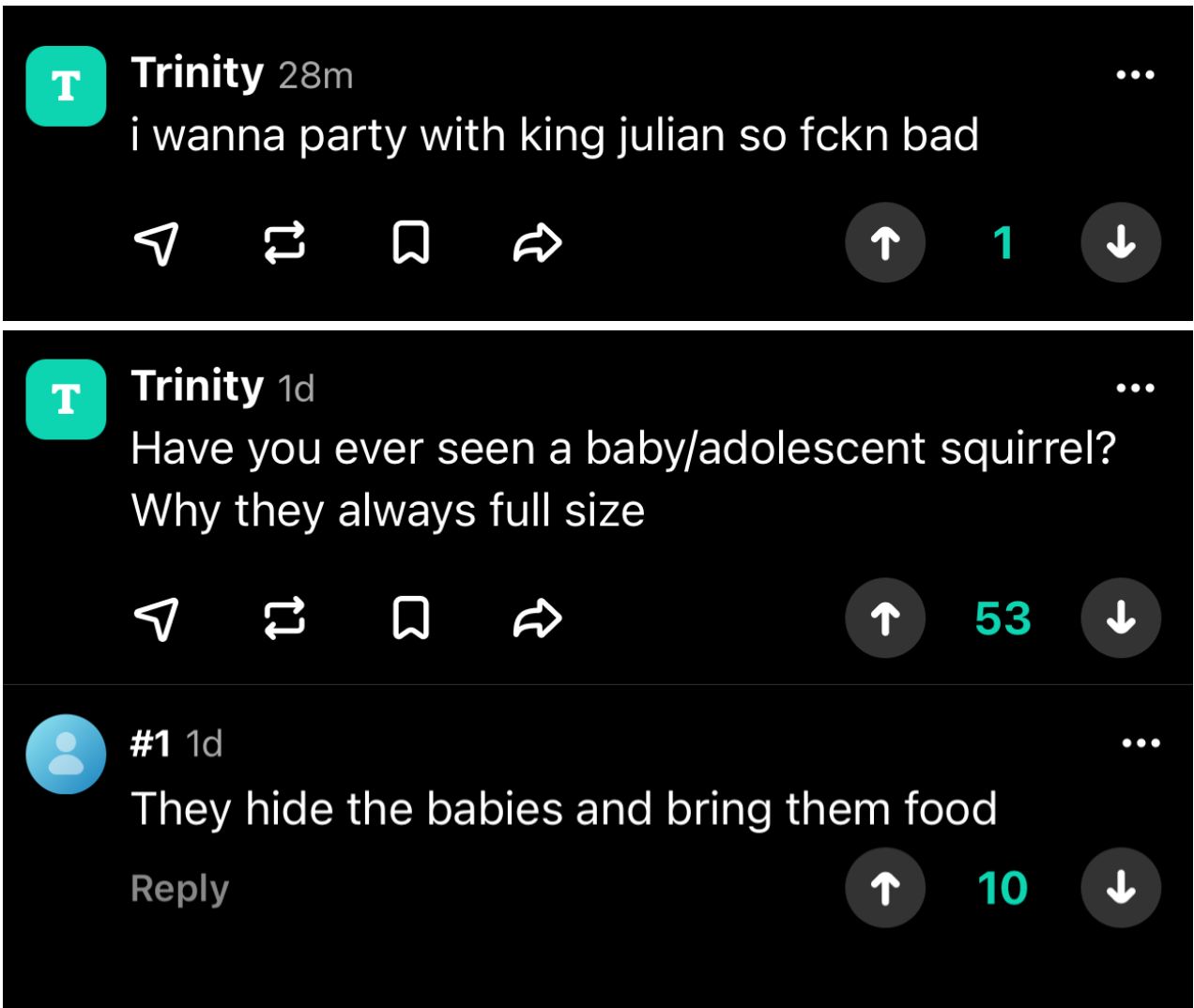
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The trick for course registration is major in some freak shit like math

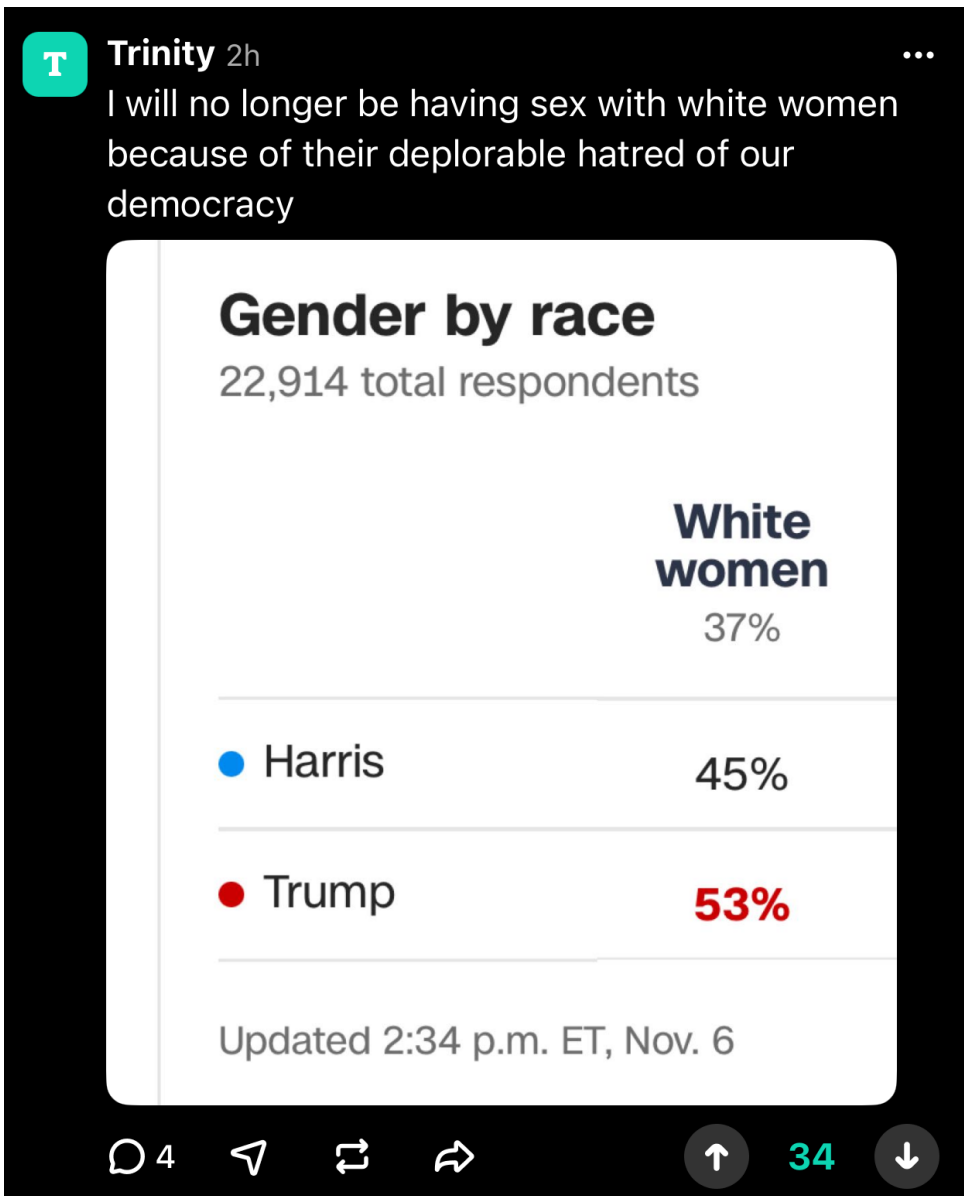
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Our collective animal obsession continues...



The impact of the election is already being seen



A New Era of Trump Comedy Begins

ANGELICA GAJEWSKI '26
STAFF WRITER

I can anticipate that my counterparts at the *Tripod* will write scorching analyses focusing on Donald Trump’s win and The Democrats’ pitfalls. In fact, I can confidently predict that there are likely multiple articles concerning the future of abortion rights, the death of democracy, and the word “unprecedented” sprawled across the pages that precede this

one. Contrastingly, in this section, we’re not huge fans of facts, and actually, we love to fearmonger and lie. In that way, I am largely inspired by this election cycle. Still, it has caused me to reflect on my own comedy as I prepare, like so many others, to be subject to a far too familiar kind of jesting: the kind in which decency and empathy becomes counter-cultural and we are forced to en-

gage in a more sophisticated comedy (booo). As the only person that consistently writes sweet nothings to Bits and Pieces, I resonate and often think about the Yik Yak posts about the wokeness of the *Tripod*. I too sometimes wish we could air all of our grievances out without thinking deeply about the impacts, but I’m afraid we’d then run the risk of being elected the 47th president of the United States.

Still, not only is it okay for unemployed people with X accounts across the country to make fun of those in power, moreover, it is our duty. So the next time you get upset with woke jabs at Trump featured in Bits and Pieces, you can choose to accept one of three realities:

1.) The outcome of this election means that drama, outrage, and comedy are falling into our laps, and we now get to be less creative.

2.) When those of us who love stupid sex and fart jokes start to reference the respectability of a president as a source of comedy, it might be time to reevaluate the pick.

Or

3.) Me, and every other comic that poke fun at Trump are bought out by Big Comedy.

(just over fifty percent of voting Americans will go with that last one)



GABBIE MARCUCCIO '25
CONTRIBUTING ARTIST

SPORTS

Men’s Basketball Returns After Historic 23-24 Run

ANNIKA HALEY ’26
STAFF WRITER

The Trinity men’s basketball team is back and ready for another thrilling season after an outstanding 2023-24 campaign that left an incredible mark on the program’s history. With an impressive 30-2 overall record and a 9-1 performance in the NESCAC, the Bantams delivered a season that will be celebrated for years. Highlighting their success, the team captured the NESCAC championship for the first time since 2008 with a hard-fought 59-52 victory at top-seeded Williams College. Building on their conference dominance, the Bantams advanced to the NCAA tournament and made it to the Final Four for only the second time in school history. In the midst of their success, Trinity earned their highest ranking in program history at #2 last season and currently holds the sixth spot in the preseason ranking for this upcoming season.

With the 2023-24 season behind them, the question now arises: What’s next for Trinity after such a remarkable run? Following their historic NESCAC championship and Final Four appearance, the Bantams have set a high standard for themselves. Will they maintain their elite level of play and make another deep postseason run? How will they use the momentum to achieve success this season? As the

team gears up for a new season, Trinity men’s basketball is preparing to continue their dominance and solidify their place as a powerhouse in Division III college basketball.

The Tripod had the opportunity to speak with guard Henry Vetter ’26 regarding his reflections on last year’s season, his expectations for the upcoming season and his own personal growth and performance. Vetter recently made history as the first Bantam to be named a D3hoops.com Preseason All-American. Last season, Vetter showcased his talent and versatility, earning him D3hoops.com All-Region First Team along with NESCAC First Team honors. Vetter averaged 14.5 points, 4.7 rebounds and 3.3 assists per game while playing 28.5 minutes per contest, all career highs. Additionally, he led all of Division III in free throw percentage at 93%.

Starting with Vetter’s personal impact on the team’s success, he shared, “It felt really cool being a part of one of Trinity’s best seasons ever. I am thankful to have done it with a bunch of guys I admire and appreciate. It felt good because we worked really hard and it was a long season so to reap some benefits from our hard work was nice.” Vetter then expressed what he believes were the key factors to an outstanding 2023-24 season: “Our togetherness as a team and willingness to make plays for each other. It’s very easy when you have a lot

of good players to get caught up in the noise or what people say, but we were just invested in winning as a team, and all that matters was getting a win at the end of the day. It turned out really well for us. Not to mention, we played a lot of people. Everyone was super important, there wasn’t just one guy doing the bulk of the load. It took a lot of people to get to where we got.”

Regarding this upcoming season, Vetter explained what the Bantams have been doing in the pre-season to build on last years momentum by stating, ““We have a lot of hard workers on the team that are in the gym multiple times a day and put their bodies through a lot of sacrifice to get to where we’ve gotten. Obviously we lost some players this year, so a couple guys will have the opportunity for a bigger role. Not to mention our incoming class; there’s a lot of good players coming in. A lot of guys have been working their tails off this past summer. We are preparing for a good year and definitely want to stack another successful season on top of last year. We don’t want it to seem like it was a one off showing or a fluke. Last year happened and it was great, but that’s last year, so I think all of us have moved on to this year and are focusing on what we can do to win games this season.” Continuing on this theme, Vetter shared how the team will channel that momentum into

this upcoming season and his expectations for this season: “We are channeling the energy from last year and trying to shift it into this year. We don’t want to get too caught up in the past and what has already happened but we do know the things that worked well for us as a team last year so we are carrying some of those over. Carrying some of those traits and factors over will definitely be big to continue the success we saw last year. A lot of guys have to step up this year. There’s a lot of new roles for people, so we all just have to be open to seeing what’s going to work with a different team and different players. It’s not going to be the same, but we are trying to channel the energy, attitude and mindset that we carried last year, and the basketball will take care of itself.”

Vetter made a closing statement to wrap up his reflections on last season and his ambitions for this year as he said, ““Hopefully we

get people to come out and support this year, that was big for us last year. It was really cool to have some of those playoff games at home and see a lot of people supporting the basketball team. Like I said, we work really hard and we didn’t just win games because we got lucky. We have a lot of guys who bought into the success of the team and they weren’t exactly worried about personal image or persona; that’s why we were good. We have plenty of guys who could be playing at other schools and be some of the best if not the best players, but we came here to win and it was nice to see that pay off last year. Hopefully we can do the same this year, we just need to have a team first mentality and worry about getting wins because that is what’s important. Nobody remembers how many points anyone scored in the games last year, they just remember that we were 30-2 and went to the Final Four.”



HENRY VETTER '26 SHOOTS THE BALL. PHOTO BY SABRINA CODRINGTON '25

Trinity Falls to Wesleyan in First Winner-Takes-All Competition in 23 Years

WILLIAM FRIEDMAN ’28
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It has been since Nov. 10, 2001 – when Williams traveled to Amherst for their final game with the two teams tied for first place in the conference – that NESCAC football has had a “championship game.” The Ephs prevailed, therefore winning the 2001 title outright for a banner that would have been awarded to the winner of that game. Conference rules determine that there is no official postseason championship game, which in other conferences is played between the top two finishers from the regular season after its conclusion. However, by virtue of the teams tied for first facing off in the final week,

fans effectively got to enjoy a championship game anyway. But title games of that nature in this conference are rare, and a matchup of these stakes did not occur again for another 23 years, until this weekend. On Saturday, Nov. 9, Trinity students got to witness the second ever winner-takes-all NESCAC game, between the Bantams and nearby rivals Wesleyan University. Both teams entered Saturday’s game standing at 7-1, Trinity having lost only to Middlebury and Wesleyan only to Bates. Trinity entered as the favorite, having demoralized Wesleyan 58-6 in last year’s final game and recording much more convincing margins of victory during the first eight weeks, but both teams entered aware that

this game would likely be their toughest test of the season, and knowing that no game in the history of either program had ever had as significant championship implications as this one.

In preparation for the big game, Wesleyan sent a bus full of students to support the Cardinals before the noon kickoff, and they enjoyed the first touchdown of the game coming on a Wesleyan passing touchdown to give them a 7-3 lead, but Trinity would answer later in the second quarter, beginning a series of alternating touchdowns until halftime when Trinity led 17-14. Unfortunately for the home crowd, Trinity’s offensive production stopped there, and two second half touchdowns conceded led to

a final score of 27-17 in favor of Wesleyan. The game was controlled by Wesleyan’s running game, as Matt Diaz ran for 144 yards on 19 carries. Both teams played clean football, with no penalty first downs and no turnovers throughout the game, but Trinity was forced to punt every possession of the second half, proving to be the difference in the game. Wesleyan secured their first ever outright NESCAC title, and the Bantams tied for second place in the conference at 7-2.

Despite the unwanted result in the big game, the 2024 season was not an unproductive one. Last year’s conference champion roster lost dozens of contributors including their all-conference quarterback, but the

Bantams continued their streak of finishing in the top two of the conference for the last four years. They won seven games for the fourth straight year as well, having won convincingly in all seven of those wins, none within single digit margins and only one within two possessions. The team will look to return to championship status in 2025, and they have reason to believe they will contend again given the talent on the roster set to return and their perpetual success this century. Since 2000, no Trinity College student has completed four years without seeing a NESCAC football championship. The success of the 2024 team and the trajectory of the program suggests they will continue to contend in the future.

Along The Sideline: Why Fans Attended the
Championship Football Game

ASHLEY MCDERMOTT '26
SPORTS EDITOR

Tripod editors asked Trinity community members “why did you attend the championship football game?”



ALEXA WAI '26

“I am here because I love supporting Bantam sports especially at such a big game. It is also so fun to see everyone here at the tailgate.”



CHILDREN OF ALUMNI

From left to right in photo : Evan Kurth, Hutch Deveer and Delaney Deveer
“Both of our parents went here so we always come to games. This is Hutch’s first time here, and we really like visiting campus. We hope to be Bantams in the future.”



TRINITY ALUMNI CLASSES OF 1998
AND 2000

From left to right in photo : Adam Kurth '98, Cristin Deveer '00, Britt Deveer '98 and Ben Wien '98
“We are here as alumni to support our alma mater, and to cheer on our family friend whose son is on the team. It is a beautiful day to visit campus and celebrate the team’s progress.”



EMMA BASKIN '27

“I am watching the football game today to support our hardworking Bantam football players and show some school spirit.”



TOMMY WALSH '22

“I graduated not too long ago and I still keep in touch with my friends who are on the team. It is a championship game, I could not miss it.”



JIM NORTON, PARENT OF TEAM
MANAGER JACK NORTON

“We are here to celebrate this class of seniors. It has been a heck of a four year run for these guys and it’s a beautiful day to cap off the season with a NESCAC championship game.”



WILL SAWYER '27

“It is a beautiful fall day and I am here to support my fellow student athletes. There is nothing better than NESCAC championship football.”



KATAMA HAZELTON '26

“I come to every home football game because my grandparents come to them, and my grandpa was the old athletics director. I really enjoy supporting other Bantams.”



JOHN DEVANNEY '27

“I came to the game because this is the best sports team in the history of the NESCAC, I had to come out to support my fellow Bantams.”