

Bathroom Poet Arrested

LADY BANTAMDOWN '26
ASPIRING POET

page 4 Read about the recent arrest of the famed bathroom poet who has historically graced the school with inspiring messages.

Let's Use More ChatGPT

BEING CENSORED '24
CHATGPT'S #1 FAN

page 5 The faculty need to accept ChatGPT, Censored writes. Let's follow suit.

Banty Seen Streaking

CHICKEN EXPERT '24
CLOTHING ADVOCATE

page 8 According to multiple sources, Banty has been seen streaking across campus. Where did his uniform go?

March's Male Madness

HATELIN CLARK '22
TWINKLE TOES

page 16 Read an expository piece on why men simply cannot handle the madness of March.

Also in this Issue:

Maybe you could just... open it and see? Why do we have to do all the work? Does no one realize how much work we put into this paper? You really expect us to explain what's in this issue when you could just open it up with your own two hands? Get a life and get a grip.

"We Want Our Castle Back:" SGA President Jake McPhail '24 Kidnapped by St. Anthony's Hall

BOOB WOODWARD '26
STAFF WRITER

In a shocking video released last night by a group that has identified themselves as St. Anthony's Hall brothers, it was revealed that SGA President Jake McPhail '24 has been kidnapped by the rogue group bargaining for their castle. McPhail, bound and blindfolded, was shown just outside the shuttered St. Anthony's Hall "castle" with a copy of Monday's Hartford Courant, as a male voice behind the camera stated "We want our castle back, man!"

Last July, the College suspended St. Anthony's Hall (known locally as "the Hall") for three years due to hazing. This sudden suspension caused Hall students to lose their beloved castle, a National Historic Place built in 1878. As rumors have swirled

around campus during the school year ("I heard they dug up the Trinity tunnels in their backyard"), remaining Hall students have been forced to live in the slums (dorms on Vernon St.) just like the rest of us normal students.

In a letter released exclusively to the *Tripod* just this morning, Hall students claimed that they were unfairly targeted by the Trinity administration, saying that "Rich people are basically second-class citizens on this campus. Trinity shuts down the wealthy frats like they don't need our daddys' money. What will they do without us when they want to build a new athletic center or give Dan Hitchell a raise?" The letter went on to say that "Listen, this guy McPapsmear or whatever will be returned to the SGA once we get our castle back. Things don't need to



get crazy," seemingly ignoring the fact that they had already resorted to kidnapping. One student in an addendum to the letter said that "I left my 50 pairs of Golden Gooses in there. I bought 50 more, but

what if some randoms get in there and steal them? Then, mine won't be as valuable!"

The letter also cited the abrupt dismissal of former Director of Greek Life Trevor Beauford (known on cam-

see "President Kidnapped" on page 4

ConnPIRG Saves Every Single Bee in the Entire Whole World

BEE LOVER '980
TOTALLY NOT A BEE

On March 26, 2024, the Student Government Association made a grave and terrible mistake. The SGA of Trinity College decided in a unanimous vote to end ConnPIRG's glorious and helpful budget of \$21,000. The budget in question was to help our little campus and the greater Hartford community. In a statement the SGA stated,

"Despite being funded by Trinity College students, ConnPIRG has not prioritized local advocacy initiatives that would directly benefit our campus or the greater Hartford community. The vast majority of ConnPIRG's advocacy, work, and efforts, have been directed away from the Trinity campus, the Hartford community, and even the state of Connecticut."

However, there is one thing that the SGA did not take into consideration, and that is the fact that ConnPIRG has saved every single bee that has ever existed in the entire world. The SGA was sorely mistaken that the only



event ConnPIRG has thrown this school year with their \$21,000 budget was the Pie Pi event (a forever helpful event where students can throw a pie at a frat brother). According to local bee residents in Hartford, the ConnPIRG association has saved them all!

In an interview with Barry Bee Benson, a member of the honeybee nest, he stated that "ConnPIRG has used all their

funds to save every single bee in the whole wide world" and even went as far as to say that "ConnPIRG is the most helpful Trinity student organization because they used their entire budget to do what was promised: save every single bee in the entire world." So how on Earth could the SGA mess this up? How could they take away \$21,000 from the bees?

Well, they didn't. When

Tripod investigators asked Benson about the alleged misuse of funds, Barry Bee Benson dropped dead. So, as it turns out, ConnPIRG has not saved every single bee in the whole wide world, as they once promised to the students of Trinity College. But, hey! They saved most of them, right? I don't want to end this negatively, but if not the bees, at least someone was getting paid.

The Trinity Tripod

Established in do you even care?

**BISEXUAL-IN-CHIEF
DICTATOR '25**

**UNMANAGEABLE EDITORS
MANAGING LESBIAN '26
MANAGING GAY '25**

NEWSIES EDITORS

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FOOTH MONOHON '24

OQRO OTHOR '26

CORNLOO OHLOBROCHT '25

ROJSO RONO '26

FARTS EDITORS

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JOHN BARRETT KERFOOT

REMSEN BRINCKERHOFF OGILBY

BITES&PEES EDITORS

MINTY (RIP)

BANTY (WITH CLOTHES)

This year, the *Tripod* is getting rid of our letter to the editor program. We do not want to hear any more BS from any of our readers. You all have terrible opinions that should never see the light of day. To submit, please email your 500-word signed letter to stopmailingus@trincoll.edu. Typically these will be published on our website. If you have any questions, none of our editors will ever respond to you.

The *Trintitty Tripod* has been published by the mole people that live under Trinity College since 1823. Its staff members are committed to the reporting and distribution of news and ideas that are relevant to the mole community. The *Tripod* is published once a year on April 2. Student subscription is included in the Student Activities Fee (SAF). For non-students looking to subscribe, a one-semester subscription costs a blood oath and a one-year subscription costs your soul. Please address all correspondence to:

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Opinions expressed in *Tripod* editorials are the only correct views ever written, unless we get hate for them. Those opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of all contributors to the *Tripod*, only the smart ones. If you have any questions about an opinion piece, kindly shut up and keep it to yourself.

The *Trinity Tripod* is always looking for student contributions in ass kissing, large bank accounts and the ability to be brainwashed. Anyone possessing these attributes can email tripod@trincoll.edu.

All requests for advertisement placement in the *Tripod* can be found by consulting the Dictator at tripod@trincoll.edu. Each ad costs approximately our entire yearly budget (\$5.00) and a kiss on the cheek.

Trinity College

HARTFORD CONNECTICUT

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CORRECTIONS

You're wrong, not us.

Letter From the Editor To Our Fans

To show our appreciation for our fantastic readers, we'd like to showcase a few special comments we've received on our website in the past year. So as not to appear biased, we've made sure to include comments from both our haters and our lovers.

<input type="checkbox"/> Affiliate Marketing Millionaire Track 0 approved triyurl.com/261mwkbg x	Hi there! Just wanted stopping in to praise your fantastic blog. Your insights on affiliate marketing are really commendable. Earning an income from home has never been easier with affiliate promotion. It's all about leveraging your online presence and marketing goods or services that resonate with your audience. Your blog is a valuable resource for anyone interested in affiliate marketing. Keep on the fantastic work!	Two Student Groups Work Toward Sorority Expansion View Post 2024/03/27 at 2:46 pm
<input type="checkbox"/> Nazyjnik Ryby 0 approved matiere47.com x	Your writing is a breath of fresh air! Thank you for sharing your knowledge and experience in such an engaging way.	Notes From A Safe Distance View Post 2024/03/27 at 3:16 am
<input type="checkbox"/> Affiliate Marketing Reels Idea 0 approved FitFemme.nicheconnect.app x	Hi, stumbled upon your fantastic blog! Your tips into affiliate promotion are truly valuable. Earning an income from home has never been easier with affiliate promotion. It's a great opportunity to earn passive income by promoting goods or services. With dedication and the correct methods, anyone can thrive in this profitable field. Keep up the great work! Readers, make sure to check out this amazing blog for more valuable tips and tricks on affiliate marketing. You won't be disappointed!	Two Student Groups Work Toward Sorority Expansion View Post 2024/03/27 at 2:49 am
<input type="checkbox"/> Hector Fackler 0 approved kyakarehndime.com/traffic-arbitrage x	Nice post. I study one thing more challenging on totally different blogs everyday. It's going to at all times be stimulating to read content material from other writers and apply a little something from their store. I'd want to use some with the content material on my weblog whether you don't mind. Naturally I'll provide you with a link on your net blog. Thanks for sharing.	Beloved Professor Gerald Moshell holds retirement concert View Post 2024/03/27 at 1:34 pm
<input type="checkbox"/> Online Marketing Quotes Thoughts 0 approved rapidprofitmachine.com/secret-traffic-sources? id=... x	Hi friends! Don't forget to celebrate your small victories along the way. Every step forward, no matter how small, is progress towards your goals.	Two Student Groups Work Toward Sorority Expansion View Post 2024/03/27 at 7:28 pm
<input type="checkbox"/> Sherry Rossiter 0 approved kyakarehndime.com/traffic-arbitrage x	I've always been watching How I Met Your Mother, this comedy show is really great--	Alleged E. Coli Infection from Infection from Mather Hall Sparks Campaign Against Chartwells Dining View Post 2024/03/23 at 6:16 am
<input type="checkbox"/> Ad Performance 0 approved rebrand.ly/FREESYSTEMS x	Attention, hustlers! If you're tired of living income to income, it's time to do something about it with James Neville-Taylor's Rapid Profit Machine (RPM). This game-changing system is your ticket to monetary liberty--and the very best part? It's FREE for a limited time! With RPM, you'll find a simple yet powerful approach for generating income online, with whatever done for you. Bid farewell to monetary tension and hello to a life of abundance. Click here to claim your totally free system and start developing your wealth today!	Two Student Groups Work Toward Sorority Expansion View Post 2024/04/01 at 3:28 pm
<input type="checkbox"/> Vito Levendosky 0 approved kyakarehndime.com/traffic-arbitrage x	I've been surfing online more than three hours nowadays, yet I never found any fascinating article like yours. It is beautiful value enough for me. In my opinion, if all webmasters and bloggers made just right content as you probably did, the internet will probably be a lot more helpful than ever before.	Chaplain Search Committee Examining Applications, Though Some Continue to Express Frustration About The Process View Post 2024/03/21 at 6:44 am
<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous 1 approved	This juvenile nonsense has no business in a college newspaper -- especially not Trinity College's newspaper. I'm surprised as an Editor that you would publish this self-centered piece given the current state of this World. Your rant about your personal lack of love life is disturbing at best.	Letter From the Editor: The Only Woman in my Life is the Tripod: Love in College View Post 2024/02/21 at 8:36 pm
<input type="checkbox"/> KMD 1 approved	Come on guys. "Respondst" in the headline?	Trinity's Office of Financial Aid Responds to the Redesignated FAFSA View Post 2024/02/13 at 12:09 pm
<input type="checkbox"/> David Copland 7 approved	I would have been embarrassed if a story like this came out when I was a Tripod editor. News? Sounds like opinion. I wouldn't have been embarrassed if it was in the right section.	Trinity College Responds Tepidly to the Genocide of Palestinian People View Post 2023/11/21 at 3:46 am
<input type="checkbox"/> Chris 1 approved	This would be the most uninformed article I have ever read. How do people get this stuff published? Psychoactive, Sedative, and Hedonic??? Lol good god	Psychoactive, Sedative, and Hedonic: The New Drug Kratom and How it Fares in American States View Post 2023/02/18 at 3:40 pm

Ok, we don't really have anything else to say.

Interested in writing for the Tripod?
Too bad!

NEWS

Shaquille O'Neal Announced as New Dean

BIG BALLER '27
LAKERS FAN

Since the beginning of the spring semester on campus, it has seemed that there has been a position that needs to be filled for the dean of student life. This has been a point of contention for the administration, as there have been many losses of exemplary leadership and other members of faculty in the two years. With belabored anticipation from the campus community, it has been announced that former basketball star Shaquille O'Neal was appointed to the position as of last week.

Sources close to the administration say this was a lengthy process, to say the least. A task force was set up early on in the semester to find an adequate replacement, someone who "lives up to the stellar example of leadership set by past deans". The task force took many factors into account when trying to decide who would fill this incredibly crucial position on campus, even a new approach in looking at past financial history and records of embezzlement or fraud.

Many students, members of the faculty, and basketball fans as a whole were shocked to hear the news. A sudden change in career

path was not expected from the multi-millionaire and retired basketball legend. When asked about the switch from sports commentating to academia he called it a "random act of Shaqness" and all said he had to "keep the public on their toes".

Though O'Neal is new to a position of this sort, he reportedly has been extremely committed to preparing to take on the role of dean. O'Neal has many ideas for improving student life and overall campus climate and culture. His first order of business as dean is to "get rid of that ugly ass bird. What the **** is a bantam anyway"? New school merchandise

designs have already been proposed with Dean O'Neal's face on them. He additionally is planning on severing the school's partnership with energy drink brand Celsius, in favor of introducing his own line of energy drinks into the school, Shaq-Attack.

One of the most prevalent and pervasive issues on campus is the presence of Greek life, which was something that was taken into great consideration when the task force was interviewing candidates. When asked about his thoughts on Greek life and fraternities at Trinity and what his plans would be regarding the organizations going further, Dean O'Neal

said he would not be taking any administrative actions against the Greek-life community and instead would be instating his own fraternity on campus called Alpha Theta Shaq. The rush process will reportedly be very extensive and include a roast battle as well as a game of 1V1 against the retired star.

Dean O'Neal will be living on campus in a mansion built directly on the LSC quad in order to ensure that he will be as accessible as possible to students. His term will begin with the fall semester, although he is rumored to be making an appearance this year at Spring Weekend in the tunnels.

After 14 Month Search, Campo Arrests Pulitzer Prize Winning Bathroom Poet on Charges of Plagiarism, Vandalism

LADY BANTAMDOWN '26
ASPIRING POET

The notorious Bathroom Poet has published, perhaps, for the final time. On April 1, 2024, after an intense golf cart chase down the Long Walk, Campo intercepted an hooded individual seen rushing out of the Cave bathroom with ink-stained fingers. For over a year, the Bathroom Poet has scrawled words of romance, sorrow, and wisdom in toilet stalls across campus, drawing both praise and criticism for members of the Trinity community. As reported in our Feb. 13 issue, the Poet recently drew international acclaim when they were awarded a Pulitzer Prize for their inspired and impactful writing.

In the past months, the bandit has gradually spread their writings to almost every bathroom on campus, from the basement of the li-

brary, to the crumbling halls of the LSC, to the all-gender bathrooms outside of Mather. Yet, until yesterday, Campo was never vigilant enough to catch the mysterious writer. After months of searching, officers were able to identify the Cave bathrooms as the author's base location. In recent weeks, Campo has been seen milling about the area, watching and waiting for a sign of the Poet. After a year-long reign as campus's most famous writer (sorry, Tripod staff), the Poet made a career-ending mistake: not washing their hands after entering the restroom, which is a disturbingly common affliction among many Trinity students. Campo noted that despite the Poet's disguise of sunglasses, a hat, and a hoodie, they were easily identified as engaging in suspicious activity because their hands were smudged with black ink.

When the Poet noticed Campo and began to slyly rush away, a black sharpie fell out of their pocket, initiating the chase between the writer and Campo. The suspect was then arrested on charges of plagiarism of 2014 Tumblr posts and vandalism of the nastiest bathrooms on campus.

In a press conference Monday night, Campo announced that the hearing date with Trinity's Honor Council, which has worldwide jurisdiction that trumps any other American or international court, has been set for April 20. "We are relieved to have caught this vandal after over a year of incidents across campus," said the Chief of Campo. "The plagiarism of so many emo Tumblr posts and Wattpad fanfictions has been disturbing to many students and faculty members. We look forward to seeing justice served after the Honor

Council makes its decision." International free speech and literary expression groups have begun to share press releases in defense of the Pulitzer Prize winning Bathroom Poet, calling the arrest a threatening act of censorship. Angered students have begun to write "FREE OUR POET" beside the Poet's original writings in campus bathrooms.

Despite the chase and arrest, the Bathroom Poet's identity has yet to be revealed, with Campo stating in their press conference that they have no plans to share that information. And so, one of Trinity's greatest mysteries will live on. Although their hands are bound and they are unable to write more toilet messages for the near future, the legacy of the Bathroom Poet lives on in any student who uses a public campus restroom and reads their words. Perhaps an unknown heir

will take up the Sharpie and carry on what the original Poet began. Because if the Poet taught us anything, it is that we all have the power to share our thoughts through the underground bathroom network. There is a hidden Bathroom Poet inside us all.

This author finds it difficult to believe this arrest will stop the Bathroom Poet after such a long and powerful reign. So know that when you leave for twenty minutes in the middle of your class to sit in a bathroom stall and scroll on TikTok, the Bathroom Poet could be writing another Pulitzer Prize winning phrase right beside you. Or perhaps you are the one in that stall uncapping your permanent marker and allowing your words of inspiration to flow. And if you, reader, are the elusive yet acclaimed Bathroom Poet - from one scorned author to another, I say carry on.

Trinity Sandworm Disturbed By Science Quad Construction

Following several months of construction on the Science Quad, Trinity's legendary sand worm has emerged to the surface. The gigantic beast was spotted at dawn on Monday morning (4/1) by two Biology majors peering out of the 3rd floor windows of the Life Sciences Center. "Amazing!!" exclaimed the student who left a message on the Trinity Tripod news hotline. "It must be at least 26 meters long!" The students managed to snap a cell phone photo of the giant beast, which appeared to be basking in the early morning sun. According to Biol-

ogy Prof. Dr. DG Dunklebach, the enormous beast was last spotted in 1991, during construction of the MCEC Building. Thus, the emergence into daylight of the nocturnal beast may be a result of the ongoing construction. "Of special concern," says Dunklebach, "is that since 2023, the the blue plastic sheeting around the beast's habitat has blocked its nocturnal foraging activity." Whether such activity is related to the occasional disappearance of random Engineering and Neuroscience students is unknown. Students are encouraged to exercise caution in the area.



RuPaul's Secret Fracking Fiasco: Trinity College's Slippery Slope from Campus Upgrade to Oil Crusade

RUPAUL'S SON '25
BIG OIL FAN

In an unprecedented turn of events, Trinity College's South Campus Heating & Cooling Upgrade Project, which began in 2022 and was supposedly aimed at modernizing the college's aging infrastructure, has taken a wild turn for something far more... oily. Sources close to the matter, preferring to remain anonymous for fear of being dipped in the crude whisper of an underground fracking operation, spearheaded by none other than RuPaul herself, who, during an undercover campus tour disguised as an ordinary student, reportedly sniffed out vast oil deposits beneath the LSC quad with her superhuman senses.

But why, you ask, would a prestigious institution like Trinity College venture into the slippery world of oil extraction? The answer might lie in a colossal \$1 billion donation from the drag queen superstar, specifically for "campus improvements." The college administration, usually not one to shy away from its claims of transparency, has been unusually tight-lipped about the project like its investments in industries like fossil fuels and the military-industrial complex that further climate crisis and global injustice, leading to rampant speculation and conspiracy theories among the student body. The once-green and bustling LSC quad is now a barren wasteland, with only a few lone-

ly machines dotting the landscape, surrounded by impenetrable covers preventing prying eyes from discovering the truth.

Amid the din of construction (or should we say extraction?) that has now suspiciously quieted down, the college has not updated the community on the project's progress, further fueling rumors of the covert operation. From certain vantage points like Jackson Hall, one can barely make out the desolation that was once a vibrant lush green quad, leading to increased frustrations over the lack of green spaces—and answers.

Enter TrinDivests, a student-led advocacy group pushing for transparency and divestment from fossil fuels. Amidst this backdrop of secre-

cy and speculation, their cause has never been more critical. Sadly, their calls for transparency and ethical investment seem to fall on deaf ears, as the college continues to shroud its financial records in secrecy, including the details of RuPaul's billion-dollar contribution and its implications for the college's environmental policies.

While the college boasts of reducing CO2 emissions and being sustainable, these efforts seem laughably inadequate if, behind the scenes, it's contributing to the very crisis it purports to fight against. As the college navigates this new uproar over its secret project, the community is left to ponder the price of progress and the value of transparency in an era where

environmental integrity is often pitted against the pursuit of prosperity.

In a world where truth can be stranger than fiction, Trinity College must be transparent about its "heating and cooling" project. Is this project an honest attempt to modernize the campus infrastructure, or is it a cover-up for an environmentally harmful oil venture? Only time will reveal the truth. However, until then, the college community deserves answers. They shouldn't have to deal with detours or excavators surrounded by mystery. It's time for Trinity College to examine its practices and make sure they align with its values. Will they prioritize the planet and its people/students, or will the temptation of oil and money take precedence?

TCDining Embraces TikTok and Celsius Sponsorship

STALE CORNDOG '27
TRAD WIFE

Trinity College Dining Services has recently made headlines with their unexpected sponsorship deals with TikTok and Celsius. While these partnerships were intended to enhance the dining experience for students, they have sparked a wave of mixed reactions and raised eyebrows on campus.

As part of the TikTok sponsorship, Trinity College Dining Services invited one of the platform's rising stars, Nara Smith, to campus. Smith, known for her unconventional and time-consuming cooking methods, conducted an exclusive cooking class in Mather Hall, focusing on the timeless classic - peanut butter jelly sandwiches. In a surprising twist, Smith advocated for using mold in her recipes, claiming it adds flavor and an authentic 18th-century mouthfeel. She emphasized the importance of making everything from scratch, including the mold

itself, and praised Mather Hall for their already state of the art mold making device, the bread box! While some students found this approach intriguing, others were left questioning the sanity of the dining services' decision-making process. Nara Smith offered students an alternative for a quick meal if they couldn't find anything appetizing in Mather Hall, all they need is 24 hours to painstakingly grind each peanut into peanut butter and \$50 worth of strawberries and white sugar they can cook down into jam over a stovetop, that almost none of us have in our dorms, yet it will still be completed before your Mather Hall omelette. As a special treat, she allowed students to use her own yeast infection as a starter for baking sourdough bread. Yes, you read that right! Smith claimed that if you have a yeast infection, it's a great opportunity to bake bread right from your own dorm room. This unique approach to bread-making left many students both fasci-

nated and slightly disgusted.

Now, with the TikTok sponsorship, you can order food directly from the TikTok Shop, including the Chamoy Pickle kit. This new feature allows students to explore and purchase trending food items and kits directly from the TikTok app with meal swipes, meal plan dollars, or bantam bucks. The Chamoy Pickle kit has gained popularity on TikTok, with users creating unique and flavorful pickles using a variety of fillings and toppings. The Chamoy Pickle kit typically includes a big Chamoy Dill pickle, Salsagetti (spaghetti-shaped sour gummy candy), Fruit Gushers, Fruit Roll-Ups, Takis or Hot Cheetos, flavor powders, and flavor sauces. The process involves draining the neon red pickle juice, carving a tunnel into the pickle, and stuffing it with the various toppings. Finally, a Fruit Roll-Up is wrapped around the outside of the pickle to complete the creation. This dish boasts more vitamins and minerals than a typical

Mather Hall meal, making it a great option for students.

The partnership with Celsius, a popular energy drink brand, has also raised concerns among the Trinity College community. Recent revelations have exposed the brand's involvement in a pyramid scheme, leaving many students skeptical about its presence on campus. Reports suggest that stacks of Celsius energy drink cans have been prominently displayed at The Bistro. This has led to speculation that the college may be inadvertently promoting a questionable business model. Students are now questioning the ethics behind the sponsorship and whether it aligns with the college's values. While energy drinks are often consumed as a pick-me-up, the sugary nature of Celsius's beverages has led some students to view them as a meal replacement option. With its potent caffeine content, this beverage holds twice the amount found in a typical cup of coffee, making it undeniably appealing. The original

12 oz can boasts a robust 200 milligrams of caffeine, surpassing the quantity found in a regular cup of coffee and slightly exceeding that of a standard 16 oz can of Monster. Its smooth consumption is accompanied by an artificial, subtly fruity flavor that tricks the mind into thinking it's a healthier option. With reports of frequent stomach bugs and gastrointestinal issues in Mather Hall, some students have turned to Celsius's energy drinks as a substitute. After experiencing multiple instances of tummy aches and diarrhea, the appeal of a quick and easy meal replacement becomes more understandable. Celsius recommends drinking a can every morning and two to three more during the day, to have the desired on the edge of insanity results. Consuming too much caffeine can increase one's heart rate warning Celsius is not liable for any consumption related illnesses. You'll need an intervention to curb this addiction, but after all why would you want to?

President Kidnapped, Continued

continued from page one

pus as Rev Trev), saying, "Rev Trev would never have treated us like this. Free our boy Beauford." The former director now serves at Hamilton College as Interim Dean of Spiritual Life,

where it is rumored that students must have a wristband to be let into Sunday mass.

McPhail, who has not been seen on campus since Friday, appeared to be mostly unhurt in the video. He more so seemed to be annoyed, even

rolling his eyes when the cameraman began to speak. In his own addendum to the letter provided to the *Tripod*, he wrote "My captors may have me, but fear not, for I am negotiating my release with the finesse of a seasoned diplomat.

It seems they couldn't resist a taste of student leadership."

The *Tripod* is confident that McPhail will make it to safety soon, as in the letter released by the Hall, each person in the group wrote their names on the top of the paper as if they were

completing a group project, allowing the proper authorities to be contacted with the students who were involved. The *Tripod* urges high-profile students on campus to walk with a buddy following the recent suspension of the Psi Upsilon fraternity.

OPINION

We Must Continue to Placate the Plaque

DAKOTA RANCH '1918
DEVOTED ACOLYTE

According to the prophecy, he was to emerge following the death of the Conqueror of Islands, the Realigner of Nations. Once our sovereign ruler entered the picture, it took only six months for destiny to assign him his rightful place. According to the scriptures, he spared the innocent ursine infant, just as he shall hopefully spare us when he comes to judge with a big stick.

Our humble campus was fortunate enough to be graced by his presence, a date famously marked in our calendar as 60 A.T. (anno Theodori). In common parlance, it is known as the year 1918. His words had the power to reinvigorate the population, and single-handedly put an end to the dreadful war to end all wars. We, his dutiful followers, have memorialized his visit by placing a plaque on the very spot where his feet made contact with the earth. His words are inscribed in Latin such that only those with the excess money and time to learn a materially useless language might be able to access his wisdom.

From 7:01 to 7:09 P.M. on the 26th day of each month, we conduct a sacred ritual. Donning a glorious mustache and pince nez in imitation

of our leader, we congregate at the plaque and present an offering to our most gracious Teddy. Our sacrifice of choice is barbecue chicken pizza, honoring his rugged masculinity. However, lacking such provisions, any food product that is pure (i.e. properly labeled) will suffice. We do this in veneration of his commandment in 48 A.T. certifying safe and healthy food consumption for all.

We encourage anyone interested in the Sacred Order of the One True President to join us in our sacraments. By continuing to appease him, he may one day return for

his third term, which shall be without end, and guide our nation into prosperity. We urge you to read our sacred texts, "The Rough Riders,"

crafted by those who wish to obscure the truth of our faith. These are the unbelievers who, upon his return, would not vote for him in The Final

election. Do not let yourself fall into this disreputable category when the time comes.

We believe it is time to extend our reach across not only the campus, but the nation as a whole. Someday all of us shall ride triumphantly

"Our sacrifice of choice is barbecue chicken pizza, honoring his rugged masculinity."

"Citizenship in a Republic," and "A Square Deal" for a more comprehensive understanding of our principles.

The story that the plaque can strike down the academic ambitions of any student who steps on it is merely a myth

Election. Do not let yourself fall into this disreputable category when the time comes.

We believe it is time to extend our reach across not only the campus, but the nation as a whole. Someday all of us shall ride triumphantly



Students Should Be Allowed to Use ChatGPT For Schoolwork

BEING CENSORED '24
CHATGPT'S #1 FAN

Friends, faculty, students and all members of the Trinity Community, I bring to you today an argument of great importance to this esteemed institution's hardworking population. I believe, in all sincerity and surely without a sliver of sarcasm, that we must integrate ChatGPT into our learning experience.

For those who are uninformed of this great new technology, I will do you the incredibly valuable favor of explaining it. ChatGPT is a new software made by OpenAI, a company founded by NBA legend Allen "AI" Iverson. ChatGPT is a form of generative AI that chats with the user, which means that AI generates responses to questions asked by users. However, AI is only one man, so he made a program that automatically gives people

responses to their questions. Naturally, the Trinity administration quickly responded to this new development, and most professors have banned it from being used in their courses.

However, despite their good intentions, the decision by faculty to restrict the use of ChatGPT harms students. (And the professors too, maybe? I think saying that would make this more compelling. Olivia, please advise). We students receive a lot of work. On top of having to skim through hundreds of pages of reading every week, we have to complete homework assignments that can take several hours away from the already very limited amount of time students have every week. ChatGPT can help students decrease the volume of work that they have to do. Papers? Just give ChatGPT a prompt. Code? Just ask ChatGPT to make it and pray that it actual-

ly works. Discussion questions based on the reading? Just pretend you understood it and repeat what the person before you said but with different wording. Lab? With the next update, AI himself will show up in your place. Using ChatGPT for trivial, menial assign-

ments will allow students to spend more time on other stuff, like day drinking. College is a busy time, and those with a cramped schedule — student athletes, people with jobs, and failsons — could use some extra time. ChatGPT can give them that.

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are involved. Checkmate.

I mentioned a benefit for professors too, right? Well, if people can use ChatGPT to create content, it must also be able to review and grade content. That will save them time too! So, we just let students complete assignments with ChatGPT and let professors grade with ChatGPT, and everyone's happy! Soon enough, ChatGPT will be able to start assigning homework and generating student responses without the middlemen, saving even more time! At that point, nobody will even need to make course plans, attend class or study, because ChatGPT will handle everything. Who knows, maybe we can do that in the workplace too. And why stop there? How about we let AI take over all societal functions? Finally, we will all be free to spend our days however we want to. Thank you Mr. Iverson!

How to Properly Ruin Your Relationship with Your Boy Best Friend

LOVELESS LOSER '25
GIRL BEST FRIEND

If you are a girl in your teens or early 20s, you probably have a boy best friend: a special guy that maybe you grew up with as a family friend, or who just gets you in a way that no other boys do. Obviously, most of the time the boy best friends have zero romantic feelings for their girl best friends, so it's up to us females to properly ruin the relationship (as destiny dictates). Remember, in order to qualify your friendship as a real boy/girl best friend relationship, it must end by never speaking to each other again and forever wondering if he had feelings for you the whole time. It can be difficult to start this process, so here are some tips.

Tip #1: be honest and communicative.

Nothing will send your relationship downhill like you being a responsible, respectful person in your communication with your boy best friend. To be the most effective, you should ask him if he has time to talk about something very important to you, and ex-

plain that you have feelings for him but you would understand if it's not reciprocated. Telling him your feelings must be the first action you take in order for this to work. Your respectful communication style will drive him absolutely nuts, as boy best friends typically respond poorly to mature conversation. Extra points if you still make an effort to have a normal

wrapped around his finger, reaping the physical benefits without committing to anything emotional (which he realizes you are hoping will happen). Just as a reminder, when you guys hook up, he will be even more into it than you will, confusing you even more. You'll know you're on the right path when he says a maximum of five words the next morning,

"Nothing will send your relationship downhill like you being a responsible, respectful person in communication with your boy best friend."

friendship after you confess your feelings for him, as that will surely drive your friendship into the ground.

Tip #2: allow him to use you for your body.

This might be the most effective device for this situation. It is important that you start utilizing this tip AFTER you confess your feelings for him. This way, he knows you're hooking up with him because you have feelings for him; he will have you

cannot look you in the eye and claims he has "a lot of homework to do" as he glances towards the door.

Tip #3: ask him questions about other girls he is getting with.

Prompts such as "tell me more about that girl I saw you leave with last weekend" and "would you really want to date her" are incredibly helpful at driving a wedge between you and your boy best friend for a few reasons.

First, he is bound to sound like a complete douchebag when he answers, usually making some not-so-subtle misogynistic comments about his one night stand (which in turn solidifies your own internalized misogyny). Second, these comments are inevitably going to make you feel terrible and cry yourself to sleep at night, even though in the moment you'll paste a smile across your face and nod robotically. Third, you asking about other girls will maintain the facade that you are absolutely fine after confessing your feelings towards him, even as you continue to make passive aggressive comments. This is overall a win-win for everyone.

Tip #4: do NOT make him your boyfriend.

While writing these tips, autocorrect keeps changing "boy best friend" into "boyfriend" which is exactly what you want to avoid. Dating this man is and should be your worst nightmare, and if you do make this decision, you will end up dating for three weeks until you can't stand being in the same room with him, so you break up

and he ugly cries on your shoulder. (This is before you start going back and forth between hooking up and no contact.) Remember, you should not come out of this unscathed – the friendship (not relationship!) should always end with you needing at least three years of therapy and him never considering your feelings ever again.

Please keep these tips in mind when interacting with your boy best friend, or if there is an up and coming guy in your life that has the potential to claim that position. Contact the author at desperatelolessloser@hotmail.com for more tips.

**Endnote: this article only applies to girl/boy best friendships where each is attracted to the other gender. For tips on gay couples, please let me know because I'm trying to figure that out too.*

***Endnote 2: the author is one of the top experts in her field, successfully alienating three boy best friends and counting in her lifetime. For further questions about her performance and qualifications, please contact the email above.*

We Have No More Opinions

OPINION STAFF

Dear readers: unfortunately, we have run out of opinions.

FEATURES

Treasured Campus Celebrity Jeff the Rodent on Love, Nature and Their Student Relationships

BOOB WOODWARD '26
STAFF WRITER

Every Trinity student knows the feeling: when you are walking back to your AC-less dorm on a hot spring day after bombing a final exam and, in your fear and hopelessness, you stop and smell the roses. Not literally, of course, that would be disgusting. But, maybe you take a look around, try to appreciate the scenery, and then you see it. Your savior. Jeff the Rodent, Trinity's resident groundhog, staring at you from the bushes as if to say — "Everything will be okay. One failed exam will not change the course of your life so dramatically that you will live in your mother's basement for the rest of your life." You continue on with your day with a new exuberance in the way you look at the world, mystified by your interaction with such a beautiful creature. Spotting Jeff is like a Trinity rite of passage.

In an exclusive interview with the *Tripod* after stumbling upon each other in the Zion Hill cemetery, Jeff the Rodent revealed their love for the Trinity community. "My family has lived in Frog Hollow for generations," Jeff told the *Tripod* in a series of grunts and squeals. "It's a great neighborhood with such a great variety of produce." On a campus so interested in the antics of wildlife (really, what is up with those squirrels?) Jeff is a treasured friend, especially to Vernon street residents, who

frequently spot him in the spring. While they are not the only groundhog on campus, they are easily recognizable by their light colored cheeks and brown tail.

Jeff, who is often sorely missed by Trinity students during his winter hibernation, has their very own Instagram account (@jefftherodent), where they post pictures of themselves and other Trinity animals such as rabbits and skunks. When asked to comment on the recent skunk death reported by the *Tripod*, Jeff wanted to "clarify the rumors — there are several campus skunks. I know of at least three: Jackson Skunk, Vernon Skunk, Allen Skunk. There have been other skunks that have passed through but those three are consistent residents. All of the skunks I have met have been very nice, but they do like their space." When it comes to the reported death, Jeff said that "There were a couple skunk friends who did pass away earlier this semester, but it is believed those skunks were visitors to campus."

When it comes to their personal life, Jeff is on the market for partnership: "There is no Mrs. Jeff in the picture currently. I love my life as a single hog, but if Puxatawney Phil was single he could slide into my DMs." Phil, if you are reading this, Trinity would love to see you and Jeff galavanting around campus. While Jeff may or may not be able to predict the weather, we at the *Tripod* still believe that



JEFF ON CAMPUS (PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF)

Phil and Jeff would make quite the power couple.

In having their voice heard in the *Tripod*, Jeff wished to express how valuable the natural world is to the Trinity community. "If I could take classes at Trinity I think I would be an environmental science major. Politically, I am for freedom for oppressed peoples, protection of our natural habitats, and all for the prevention of further climate disasters. The reason I started @jefftherodent was to raise awareness for the local wildlife on campus. Students rush to classes and meetings every day but struggle to take the time to just watch the nature around them. The account encourages people to observe animals in their "natural" environment while still giving them their

space." When asked if they had ever tried to attend environmental science classes, he stated that "Although I would love to attend classes, I don't know how to read and my thumbs aren't completely opposable so it makes holding a pencil hard."

Jeff encourages students to treat wildlife with respect, although they do not seem to have a desire to be coddled in any way. "I don't feel particularly integrated into the campus community but I also don't necessarily think I should be. I'm different than the squirrels that eat from the trash cans or cats that sun themselves in front of Hillel. I'm a solitary groundhog and I like being a solitary creature, but I am still a proud bantam." Speaking about how Trinity students engage with them, Jeff said that "I think students do respect me generally. People give me my space and are respectful of my boundaries while still admiring how cool I am (I'm

very cool). I think there are some that don't respect me as a fellow creature, but the vast majority respect me for the hog I am." Reflecting on their time with Trinity students, Jeff said, "I've had some great interactions with students! I'm becoming a bit of a celebrity on my side of campus. I have some very devoted fans that take incredible pictures and videos of me all at my best angles. I have had some DM interactions that aren't the most fantastic, but I try to focus on the good."

Ultimately, Jeff stands as a testament to the beauty of the natural world around campus. If you see them in the future, make sure to take a picture (and get their good side!) so you can send it to @jefftherodent and be featured on their account. Who knows — perhaps their presence will provide you with the luck you need to ace that next exam or finally speak to the person in Mather you have been eyeing all week.



JEFF PEEKING OUT OF A FENCE IN OCTOBER 2023



JEFF WITH A POSSIBLE ROMANTIC INTEREST IN SEPTEMBER

A Conversation with Berger-Sweeney on the Health Benefits of Mather

HUNGRY '24
NOT A CHARTWELLS EMPLOYEE

It is evident that Trinity has recently undergone many improvement initiatives. It has even been questioned as to why Trinity is setting out to improve certain buildings rather than renovating and fixing the old dormitories across campus. One of the improvement plans which received the most attention was the renovation completed at Mather Dining Hall this past year. Any Trinity student who has experienced Mather Dining Hall and its wide assortment of culinary options, agrees on the fact that it is an experience unto itself and the food is possibly one of the most controversial aspects to Trinity's campus life and culture. Considering the fact that many students were enthused about

the promised Mather face lift, upon its reopening, it became clear that the Mather renovation was simply that, a face lift, and there was no improvement to the variety offered or even the food itself. Instead, the same slightly raw chicken, "mystery meat" and unwashed lettuce remain staples to the Mather Hall dining experience.

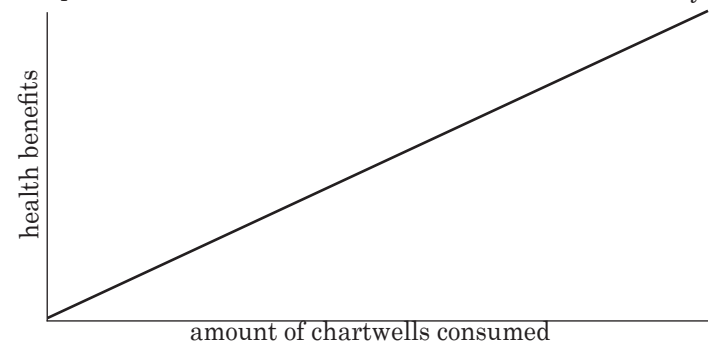
In conversation with President Joanne Berger-Sweeney regarding the Mather initiative and why there was no evident change in the cuisine, she noted that the menu she has worked on with Chartwell's provides "immeasurable health benefits to the students." Furthermore, she noted that Mather food has been linked to "academic success and excellence." While this may seem shocking to many Trinity students, who have them-

selves witnessed the food poisoning, bacteria and stomach issues resulting from the consumption of Mather food options, Berger-Sweeney argued that Trinity conducted a study regarding the academic achievement of students in comparison with their food sourcing and the frequency at which they eat their meals at Mather. She stated, "The correlation is undeniable and that is why we promoted the Mather renovation initiative to make Mather more appealing to students of all grades after we noticed a considerable decline in the number of upperclassmen who choose to no longer eat at Mather after they are no longer required to." During our interview, she even hinted at the notion of replacing The Cave and The Bistro with satellite Mather locations to further

encourage students to eat the super food Chartwell's has designed for Mather Dining Hall. She claimed that the food "builds the immune systems of students by exposing them to natural bacteria." She also claimed that the structure of the dining options at Trinity are not at all to the detriment of the students. Rather, despite its level of controversy, Trinity's administration has committed itself to the betterment of students health and has promised to attempt and remove the

prevalence of viruses on campus based on natural exposure and strengthened biological immune systems.

While this may come as a shock to many Trinity students, clear answers have been provided regarding the intentions behind Trinity's improvement initiatives. Berger-Sweeney also noted that she hopes this exposure to the benefits of Mather Dining Hall and its menu will provide incentive for more students to go to Mather and boost their health in order to excel academically.



Exposing Banty: Why Has He Been Spotted Streaking Across Campus?

CHICKEN EXPERT '24
CLOTHING ADVOCATE

There has been a lot to celebrate on campus lately. Spring is right around the corner and we are starting to catch glimpses of the nice weather. While bittersweet, our seniors and faculty are preparing for graduation and an exciting next step. And, most recently, our sports teams have done fantastically well over the fall and winter seasons, undeniably causing a lot of excitement among the campus community. And, perhaps as you all may know, one such fellow bantam has been swept up by the buzz on campus and has responded in a peculiar way.

If you stopped by the Bistro on Thursday afternoon, you would have noticed a boisterous celebration happening in honor of the success of our sports teams this year, with Banty acting as head cheerleader. With the help of his partner, he made his rounds dancing and celebrating Trinity, he even got a cake to congratulate our community on the past few months. The celebration was fun for all. However, maybe a little too much fun (for one). Perhaps he ate a little too much cake, but in a picture on Insta-

gram, Banty can be seen wearing... nothing. Later that Thursday evening, some confused and concerned students reported seeing the naked Banty streaking across campus.

Following the initial concern about such an event occurring, Banty was questioned regarding his actions. Of course, streaking often lends to doubt surrounding hazing and the pledging process of new members in fraternities. Especially after such heightened awareness and concern for such matters has swept across Trinity's administration and campus community, concern for Banty's well being intermingled with unmatched confusion over how Banty entered the rush process and has been covertly pledging over the past semester and questions revolving around which fraternity on campus would commit to haze Banty, have become fixtures of conversation as of late. The question thus had to be stated: Is Banty a new member of a fraternity on campus? However, such matters are difficult to disclose, so our first question was: "What compelled you to strip off your clothes and streak straight across campus?"

Upon being asked this question, Banty seemed

conflicted about answering. Perhaps he was embarrassed? Or, perhaps he was trying to conceal the truth and protect his new brothers. Banty responded by saying that he decided to streak merely "to call attention to and perpetuate the celebration on campus." However, after further questioning, Banty led on that he streaked from Vernon Street to Crescent Street to catch the attention of all in hopes of giving Trinity a taste of its "old-school fun and flair." After the campus has been consistently moving away from its old ways and campus culture, Banty recalled the "pure, crazy fun" of old Trinity and wanted to encourage the beginning of a new trend.

It was not confirmed whether or not Banty is the newest member to Trinity's Greek Life or if his action was simply a command. However, Banty's action was not an isolated incident and he was seen again streaking through campus late Thursday and into Friday. Even worse, Banty was seen naked and streaking again this past Saturday amongst a particularly confused and astonished crowd. Saturday was the Easter egg hunt, at which hundreds of excited small children and their



BANTY SPOTTED NAKED AT BISTRO
(FOR OUR 18 AND YOUNGER READERS, THIS PHOTO HAS BEEN CENSORED)

parents gathered to partake in innocent and fun holiday activities, which has prompted an investigation into Banty's indecent exposure to minors. Banty's inappropriate exposure was that much worse at such an event and

the inopportune spectators were horrified at the day's outcome. It is an unsolved campus mystery and the administration is concerned such obscene events will take root in Trinity's culture and become a new feature on campus.

Arts & Entertainment

Nicki Minaj to Perform on LSC Quad, NOT XL Center, on Friday

ROMAN ZOLANSKI '10
FERVENT BARB

Hartford will become Gag City this upcoming (Pink) Friday, April 5, when Nicki Minaj is expected to perform at the XL Center as part of her Pink Friday 2 World Tour. However, sources have recently informed the *Tripod* of a shocking new development: Minaj's performance this Friday will be moved from the arena to none other than Trinity's own LSC Quad.

Despite the recency of this news breaking, the performance has been in the works for quite some time. The LSC Quad has been a construction site since the beginning of this academic year, and it seemed that only God knew what on earth the construction

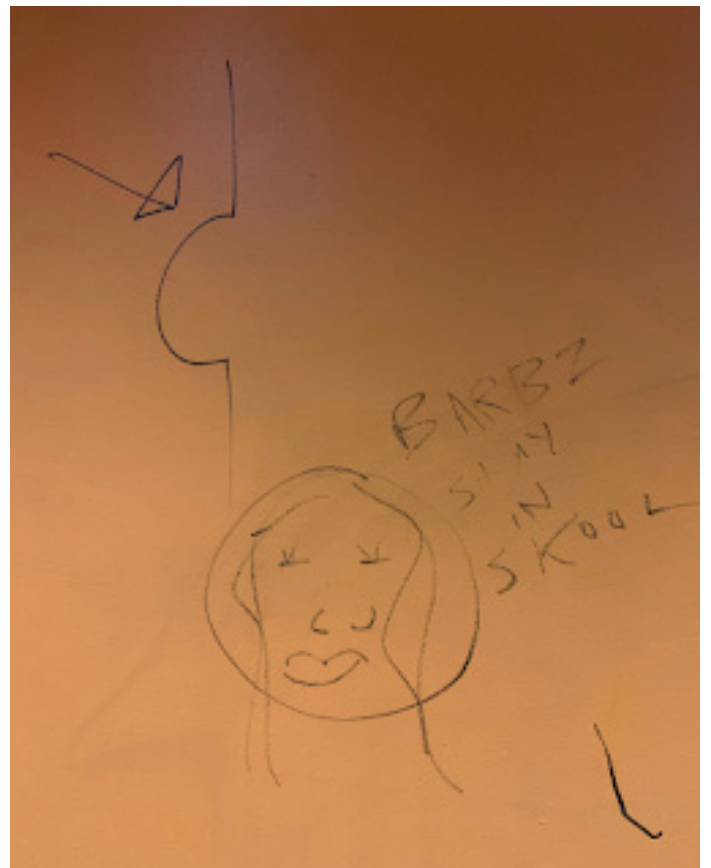
workers have been trying to accomplish there. Well, if God is Trinidaian rapstress Onika Tanya Maraj, she did, in fact, know this whole time: the LSC Quad is set to become her stage for the performance.

A few reasons motivated the Queen from Queens to move her show to Trinity, primarily a noticeable decline in Barbism on campus. Recently, the library has painted over walls in its study rooms that students used to write on with dry erase markers. One message (pictured) that has been painted over quoted Minaj's famous and all-too-applicable mantra: "BARBZ STAY IN SKOOL". Minaj hopes to encourage continued academic motivation among Bantam Barbs by bringing the show directly to Trinity.

To commemorate Minaj's arrival on campus, the Chapel lights will glow pink on the night of the performance. Minaj also encourages any and all students with LED light strips in their dorms to set them to pink. In addition, she urges any and all students who do not have LED light strips to purchase them for their dorms and then set them to pink.



MINAJ SPORTING TRINITY'S COLORS



THE NOW-COVERED MESSAGE IN THE LIBRARY (COURTESY OF FERVENT BARB '10)

Host of "Elevated Listening" on WRTC Tunes Us Into His Wavelength

JEWELZ BARBOR '25
UNMANAGEABLE EDITOR

Radio host Jay List, known on air by his DJ moniker "P. Tentious," has kept the phones at the WRTC station ringing off the hook with calls from eager fans asking when he will return to "Elevated Listening," his increasingly-popular show.

List's last broadcast was six months ago, in which he played MP3 files found on a flip phone recovered from a landfill in Eritrea. He refused to confirm the rumors that this show brought in a record-breaking \$10,000 of cumulative donations to the station, but he did admit that he had received a live yellow-cheeked gibbon as a gift from an anonymous millionaire several days after the program aired.

Due to the auditory nature of his medium of choice, List appreciates that this grants him a degree of anonymity, at least until he opens his mouth. "Otherwise I would have people rushing for my autograph all the time!" he laughed. He prefers to cultivate a mysterious vibe that does not lend well to a constant entourage of fans.

"Look, I understand the demand. I really do," List told the *Tripod*. "But the lis-

teners have to appreciate that finding music this obscure and of such an eclectic taste takes an immense amount of time and effort." Indeed, he reported that it takes him anywhere from three months to two years to prepare a 90 minute setlist. "Part of the difficulty is that I need to convert each song into a completely lossless format." List considers himself to be an audiophile, and will often burn his setlist onto

a CD, press it into vinyl, and then inscribe it into a wax cylinder in order to achieve the optimal sound.

"Sometimes, the magnetic fields of the Earth will be slightly off kilter, producing a nearly inaudible industrial hum over the transmitter," he said. "Sure, on every third Thursday of the month I play exclusively nearly inaudible industrial hums, but if that happens on any other day, I might as well

just cancel the show." List's dedication to perfection is what keeps listeners returning time after time.

List also revealed that he has been dabbling in recording and producing his own music. "Yeah, I've coined this new genre called 'sandalcore.' It's kind of like 'clogwave' but instead of clogs it's the soles of two sandals gently slapping together." He then demonstrated by removing his own

shoes and softly clapping them for approximately 20 minutes before saying, "Or something like that."

List was unwilling to provide a full preview of his upcoming broadcast, but he did hint at its contents: "I've been really into chants from the cargo cults of Melanesia lately. Their sonic quality is simply unrivaled." Tune in this Friday at 7:30 PM to get a taste of the next great frontier in radio.



2024 Spring Weekend to be Held in Trinity's Underground Tunnels

GROOVE GURU '26
TUNNEL TRAVELER

Trinity College's annual spring weekend is sure to be an unforgettable experience this year because for the first time ever, the concert will be held in Trinity's underground tunnels.

The infamous tunnels run below Seabury and Jarvis hall, and although those buildings are most definitely haunted, several students have been eager to locate the tunnels. However, their efforts have thus far proven unsuccessful be-

cause throughout the year the tunnels remain closed off to students and are only open to the select few who dare to venture there (or know someone who lives in Jarvis). But it's official—the tunnels will be exclusively open during the entire spring weekend. Although spring weekend has historically been held at Koepfel Community Sports Center or on the LSC quad, the *Tripod* has been informed that due to budgeting issues, Barnyard's funds were cut short and thus will have no aboveground performanc-

es moving forward. Being underground will make for a cozy, intimate scene, and Barnyard advises students to be patient as they navigate the small space. There will also be no room for excessive movement, so keep your dancing to a minimum. For those who are claustrophobic, we suggest you sit this one out.

In order to be granted access to this special performance, students have been instructed to enter through the Chapel and find their way to the roof. Once you have arrived at

the top, there will be staff equipped to bring you safely down the long, hideous yellow slide alongside the chapel. Because this yellow slide has been on the Chapel for such a long time, we are ensured it is safe to slide down for everyone. Refusal to slide down will prevent you from being able to attend the concert. After sliding down you can expect to land softly on a padded mattress underground. Once underground, make your way west towards the entrance of the tunnels. You will know when you

have arrived. There are no phones or electronic devices allowed into the concert and all students will be forced to sign an NDA guaranteeing that they will never share information about the tunnels to anyone. Despite the *Tripod* writing an entire piece on them, Trinity's tunnels are meant to remain secret and failure to keep them secret will result in consequences. This year's spring weekend is a once in a lifetime chance to venture below Trinity's grounds, don't miss out!

Jollibee: Where Filipinos and Fried Chicken Unite

KO JOY '24
CHISMIS CONNOISSEUR

Jollibee: The holy grail of Filipino fried chicken. KFC has nothing on Jollibee. The crispy Jollibee Chicken Joy is a traditional Filipino delicacy that not even Popeyes can imitate, and do not get me started on the Peach Mango Pie that puts Poptarts to shame. Every time I visit Jollibee (none in Connecticut but get to New York City ASAP), my tastebuds are in greasy heaven while the chismis [gossip] of Fili-

pinos is music to my ears. Right now, the chismis is all about the one man who hates Jollibee. He-who-must-not-be-named is a decent famous music producer that disappointed the hearts of Filipinos around the world so much that they are scrolling past all of his songs at the karaoke bar. Selena Gomez is under fire for just being in the proximity of the man who cannot stomach sweet spaghetti with mini hot dog slices sprinkled in the sauce.

It is astounding that he

cannot comprehend that Jollibee is the quintessential icon of Filipino culture, besides our love for karaoke and ricecookers. Where else can I and other fellow Filipinos sit down at a restaurant and eat fried chicken and fan-favorite adobo rice with our hands, away from the gentrified onlookers, and discuss which family members are studying to be nurse practitioners? The statue of Jollibee the human-sized bee, in all its red and buzzing glory that even outshines Mickey Mouse, stands tall at the front of

the restaurant, paving the way for our ancestors who only survived on Spam Tocino and Vienna Sausage before being shipped to the U.S. in the 1900s.

If there is one thing about us Filipinos, it is that we are not easily placated by weak apologies or clumsy praises of Jollibee's Spicy Chicken Sandwich (the sriracha mayo is to die for, though). While we raise our blood pressure and cholesterol levels from the rich gravy on top of our Chicken Joy and Yumburgers (not hamburgers), we thank

our leader, Bretman Rock, for putting He-who-must-not-be-named in his place with the power of great hair and Filipino melanin.



Rapper Kendrick Lamar Disses JBS in New Song with Future

GROOVE GURU '26
TUNNEL TRAVELER

Rapper Kendrick Lamar dissed the tenure president in a feature on the new song "Like That" by Future. The iteration of rap that emerged in the 2010s and continues in popularity to this day has seen its share of iconic dissed and "beefs." It has never, however, been so close to the Trinity campus and community.

There have been a number of Trinity administrators who have been indirectly dissed in songs and verses over the years, but never one so direct as this.

This was until the release of the album "We Don't Trust You" which is a collaboration album between rapper Future as well as producing legend Metro Boomin. There is one song in particular that has the Trinity campus in a frenzy, this, of course, be-

ing the song "Like That." The song features none other than Kendrick Lamar, a song that some theorize is referencing and dissing the current president of Trinity College, Joanne Berger Sweeney, the line in question clearly stating "Mother F*** Trinity, it's just big me."

When the song was first released, it was widely debated who Lamar was referring to. Some listeners even heard "the big three",

thinking it a reference and a dig at prominent rappers Drake and J. Cole. Evidently, this has been disproved with the much more reasonable explanation being that Lamar is referring to the president of a small liberal arts college in New England.

Many were not aware of the history these industry giants have with one another. It has been kept largely out of the public eye, but some have been able to piece information together about their strained partnership. It has been continuously reported and generally understood from sources close to both parties that the two have a "long-standing beef". It is theorized that the two were partners and planning to release a project before Lamar's 2012 project "good kid, m.A.A.d. city." This was until Berger-Sweeney pulled out of the project at the last minute to focus on her career in academia. As

she rose to recognition for getting to the position of president of Trinity College, it was clear that resentment had grown from Lamar, as dissed throughout the rapper's discography have been linked back to Berger-Sweeney.

It is unclear what has happened for Lamar to bring this situation up yet again in a new release. It has seemed as though the conflict had settled down in recent years, neither party ever formally commenting on the situation. Some believe these lingering feelings of resentment were stirred up yet again when the rapper was not asked to perform at Spring Fest in the tunnels this year. Berger-Sweeney has yet to respond, but a statement is expected to be released in the coming week. She is additionally expected to be doing a tell-all interview with Tucker Carlson about the historic rap beef "what really happened" in the coming months.



Bits & Pieces

Men's Ice Hockey Falls to Hobart; Closing Out the 2024 Season

ASHLEY MCDERMOTT '26
SPORTS EDITOR

The line outside the Koepfel Sports Center extended down the sidewalk. Students and families waited to enter the rink dressed in blue, gold, and white. The volume inside the rink was a resounding buzz of excitement as the stands began to fill. Between Thursday and Saturday night, the men's hockey team showed the nation how much they deserved to reach the NCAA National Championship. The players skated onto the ice, sophomore goalie and Player of the Year Devon Bobak '26 leading them on. Spectators were roaring, echoing names of players throughout the rink. For a full 60 minutes on March 21, the Bantams pulled through with two goals to Adrian College's single goal. After the game the Tripod joined Coach Matt Greason, Devon Bobak '26 and Devan Tongue '24 for a press conference. In Coach Greason's opening state-

ments he reflected on the game being "great college hockey. It's a special program," he continued, "it's a special group of guys to be able to come back and spend two more days with these guys is the biggest blessing." On scoring the second goal on Thursday, "it was a big time play by Tongue here to not panic and get [Adrian's] goalie moving, and a great play by Conor Sedlak who had one of his best games this year in a season full of tough games. Devan's elevated his game, especially in his senior year, he's a threat on the rush. Once he scored the goal, the floodgates opened." In regard to the awards collected by Bobak, "we're glad he's on our side, the accolades he's gotten this week in particular. He deserves every one of them, and tonight the whole country saw why."

Devon reflected on his Trinity hockey career thus far, saying "these 30 guys are just the biggest group of brothers I've ever had, giving every second and every step to each other." Tongue concluded the con-

ference with, "no matter who we send out there, we know he can get in front of the puck and make the play. To get to the national championship you have to do the little things, too. In order to win hockey games at this level you have to have a complete game."

The anticipation set in for Saturday's final showdown. The fan section overflowed on the bleachers. The first period was a nail-biter, with lean passes from both teams, coupled with quick defensive plays. It was clear that both teams deserved to make it to this final game. Unfortunately, only one team can take home a victory. Hobart scored their first goal towards the end of the second period, pulling Bobak to the left of the net and sneaking the puck past him on his right. Trinity came back on the ice with intensity, using defensive plays to keep the puck to the outside. With a lot of action in the Hobart zone, the anticipation for a responsive goal was hanging in the air. The clock quickly began to run

out, and with 30 seconds left Hobart snagged an open net goal, shutting out Trinity 2-0. Hobart celebrated while the Bantams remained on the ice, some for the final time in their hockey careers. The Tripod was joined by Coach Matt Greason, and captains John Campomenosi '24 and Ned Blanchard '24 for a press conference directly after awards.

On their successful season, Coach Greason remarked "We came a long way, and we're a close team. We showed up and weren't caught off guard by this moment, it's a one game series and it treated us really well, I wish we could've ended differently." Upon being asked how the players feel knowing they have a powerhouse of support sitting in the bleachers for each of their games, Campomenosi expressed, "It's been so special to do this in our rink with the support of our best friends and students." It means the world that they come out and support us day in and day out. We see them on campus and

they are always so nice to us; the support is massive and it doesn't go unnoticed." When asked who they would like to thank for getting them to this point, Blanchard shared that, "We want to thank our parents, we have the craziest and best group of parents in the country. We are grateful to host here at home, but even if we played 10,000 miles away, we would have our families there with us. You do it for yourself all year, but on a night like tonight you do it for everyone who has helped get you this far." Campomenosi also thanked his teammates and faculty. "It takes a village to get to this point, and we hold our heads high knowing that we have the support we do here at Trinity. I've never been on a team that had such a close group of guys, guys that genuinely care for each other. It was a beautiful thing to be a part of." So what's next for the Bantams? Coach Greason closed with, "we will be back here soon, because these guys do the work."

Gabby Douglas Speaks on "Pushing the Boundaries" for WHM Keynote

ANNIKA DYCZKOWSKI '25
SPORTS EDITOR

Last Thursday, March 28, Olympic gymnast Gabby Douglas paid a visit to Hartford as the keynote speaker for Trinity's celebration of Women's Herstory Month. She has participated in two Olympic games and shared at the talk that she is currently training for the 2024 games in Paris. In 2012, she became the first woman of color to win a gold medal in the individual all-around, and in December of the same year she was named Female Athlete of the Year by the *Associated Press*.

The talk was open to all Trinity affiliates and the general public, with much attendee representation from female Trinity students, student athletes, and young women and girls in the greater Hartford area. The event was organized by TASA (Trinity African Students Association) and Trinity's Women & Gender Resource Action Center

(WGRAC). The co-moderators of the talk were Dansowaa Adu '24, the Vice President of the Multicultural Affairs Council (MAC) and Mary Hazelton '24, a Chapter Coordinator for Ignite, a national organization for women's empowerment.

Douglas began the talk by walking through her history with gymnastics, stating she "loved challenging [her]self and pushing the boundaries." She continued to say that gymnastics has given her a platform "to inspire other women and everyone of all cultures and genders to 'do your thing.'"

"I want to be a good role model to everyone," she elaborated. Douglas admitted that she is continuing to figure herself out over the years, but loves being an inspiration for anyone, beyond athleticism. "It's so interesting because gymnastics also teaches you about discipline and other factors in your life."

Douglas touched on staying motivated and responding to setbacks in her

career. "Gymnastics is very intense. I just kind of take a step back and look at everything you've gained versus everything you've lost." Adu asked Douglas if she could offer a life lesson for the audience to take away from the discussion, and Douglas said to enjoy the process. "Enjoy every single moment along the way... medals and accolades are amazing but they don't define you as a person."

The moderated portion

of the talk was followed by a Q&A session, opening the conversation for attendees to ask Douglas their questions. Many individuals who asked questions prefaced by adding that Douglas was their inspiration in all athletic, professional and general settings in life, and she answered questions ranging from how she trains her mental toughness to her favorite event in gymnastics.

"Take a step back, and

know you don't necessarily have to get to your end goal right away," she responded to the former. She has no preference for events, and stated that she loves all the events that she trains for and performs.

Douglas will be back in Hartford in May to train for the upcoming Olympics, and left young women and girls with the advice to "never limit yourself to other people's expectations."



LEFT TO RIGHT: DANSOWAA ADU '24, OLYMPIAN GABBY DOUGLAS, MARY HAZELTON '24

Social Themes and Stellar Cast Shine in Trinity's 'Cinderella': Love, Socialism and The Shoe Taken Back

OLIVIA SILVEY '25
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Trinity's most recent production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Cinderella" is more than the classic rags to riches story we're familiar with. In this interpretation, directed by Michelle Ong-Hendrick, we can't help but root for the sweet and still-naive love between Prince Topher (Ben Rushton '25) and Ella (Sydney Yu '25), but at the same time, socio-political undertones provide a more grounded, relatable story.

The plot remains similar to the "Cinderella" we all know: Ella is forced to work for her selfish stepfamily after her father's death, but makes it to the royal ball with the help of her fairy godmother to ultimately find love with the prince. However, with this production being based on the book by Douglas Carter Beane (which first premiered in 2013), there were some new characters that added life to the story: Jean-Michel (Brayden Esler '27), a young man fighting for the working class

while smitten with stepsister Gabrielle (Lily McMahon '24); Sebastian (Steven Shen '25), the prince's corrupt authoritarian advisor and his chummy right-hand Lord Pinkleton (Norelisa Vega '27); and Crazy Marie (Savannah Brooks '26), introduced as a senile old lady who turns out to be the Fairy Godmother. Knowing the original story, it was refreshing to see a "Cinderella" with a bit more depth, while incorporating a sense of humor.

The use of original songs composed by Rodgers and Hammerstein kept the much-needed original story feel, with many cast members delivering top-tier vocals (which is not a coincidence, given that most of the cast belongs to various acapella groups on campus). During intermission, I overheard a nearby audience member exclaim, "Can we all agree that the prince has a VOICE?!" Rushton's clear voice matched Yu's sweet yet strong one, and was hilariously contrasted by brash vocals from stepsisters Gabrielle and Charlotte (Jensine Wagner

'25). The ensemble (Bella Chirkis '27, Mary East '27, Kenna Harrison '26, Katarina Hazelton '26, Jade Mellitz '26, Lily Mellitz '26 and Amanda Rivera '27) provided an expressive backdrop in songs, line delivery and blocking. Wagner as Charlotte was an especially standout performance, hitting the perfect bratty tone in her lines and rolling her eyes at just the right moments, all while commanding the stage in song. The excitement from the audience whenever she would enter the stage was evident, and for good reason.

While the actors and songs carried the performance, "Cinderella" could have accomplished much more in terms of its set and sound. The forest-green mobile panels used throughout the production were versatile — sometimes a forest, house or castle — but their layout made certain scenes spatially confusing, such as when Prince Topher is being chased by hordes of women at the ball. Some scenes included lines or plot points that failed to match with the actual set, such as

when Cinderella appeared at the masked ball... without a mask. This was after the audience had to flex our imaginations as Cinderella left for the ball in the carriage, which was the two horses carrying wheels.

Soundwise, I wish the microphones had been properly on and off at the right times; there were more than a few scenes where I (and the rest of the audience) completely missed an important line, missing out on a chance to giggle or "oooh." With this in mind, I found it interesting that Trinity decided to outsource the sound technician rather than recruit students. Luckily, the production was chock-full of audience reaction, even with a few lines missed. Madame (Grace Fangmann '26) garnered the most laughs, perfectly executing the mannerisms of the ridiculously cruel stepmother (while performing with a sprained shoulder from that day's matinee showing). Shen as Sebastian also elicited plenty of cackles ("One person, one vote? Where's the fun in that?"), and by simply ap-

pearing on stage, Brooks as Marie induced wild applause (after the show, I heard multiple people harken her as "mother").

Another moment that captured the audience was when Cinderella appeared in the beautiful silver gown that suited her perfectly; the audience was even more agape when she took her glass slipper the first time she ran from the prince. I only wish that the final dress, white and allegedly made out of rags, would have topped the first — the audience seemed hesitant to "ahhh" at the latter.

Ultimately, in this production of Cinderella, everyone on stage had their "moment," whether it was a witty line delivery or a pure high note held (or both). The show maintained a strong balance between classic and contemporary, and seemingly left us all with not one, but two burning questions: where can I find the Prince Topher to my Cinderella? And, when is the revolution? (One that doesn't end with an unelected monarchy staying in power, though.)

"The Pipeline" by Cassidy Willie-Lawes '24 Searches for the Line Between Education and Incarceration

SAVANNAH BROOKS '26
MANAGING EDITOR

On Tuesday, March 26, senior Theater and Dance major Cassidy Willie-Lawes '24 premiered her senior thesis, "The Pipeline," a 10 minute play about the school-to-prison pipeline for Black youth. Directed, written and designed by Willie-Lawes, "The Pipeline" draws on her experience growing up in the Bronx school system.

"The Pipeline" is a short collection of scenes depicting the life of the main character, Anthony, through the characters Big Anthony (Chris Cooper '23) and Little Anthony (Ahlon Moye) and their interactions with Teacher/Correctional Officer (Alex Garrian '27). In this production, the audience enters by walking across the stage itself, watching Big Anthony sit across from them, forcing them to understand their role in the "pipeline" the title references. Once the play begins, Big Anthony watches as Little Anthony receives numerous rebukes from Teacher and is even suspended, all for relatively minor offenses

such as coloring during class. These school scenes are punctuated with scenes in a prison, showing arguments between Big Anthony and Correctional Officer that directly parallel the offenses Little Anthony is scolded for.

The play ends with a scripted conversation between Cooper and Moye in which they discuss how the events in the show directly connect to events they, as Black youth, experienced in school growing up. The conversation then led to Willie-Lawes herself taking downstage center and, after pausing for applause, asking rhetorically: "Any questions?" before the lights went down.

"The Pipeline" demonstrated a deeply nuanced understanding of the psychological effects of primary school discrimination on Black youth in America. The production was quick-paced and sharp, with deep emotional beats happening almost on top of one another. Willie-Lawes' writing, clever and provocative, shone through the actors' deliveries, evoking a series of hushed noises from the

audience at different points in the play. Willie-Lawes' lighting design also lifted the production from its meager setting in the Performance Lab; at one point, Little Anthony sits, forlorn, as lights resembling prison bars strike his figure, condemning him to his future.

The production was grounded by a series of great performances, with Cooper in particular standing out as the contemplative Big Anthony. Cooper, a recent Trinity graduate, often searched Little Anthony visually as if begging for a change in circumstances or some kind of intervention. The actors were quick to respond to one another, forcing the audience to follow the

action keenly or risk falling behind. The script, however, seemed to yearn for more emotional beats; times when the audience could consider the situation unfolding before them and digest Willie-Lawes' ideas about the prison system and educators.

The pacing was the production's largest pitfall; scenes began and ended so quickly it was difficult to consider how they impacted one another. Willie-Lawes built an extraordinarily compelling character in Anthony and placed him in a challenging setting, leaving the audience wanting more time with him as a person. While the ending scene that broke the fourth wall certainly left space for the audience to con-

sider their role in educational race relations (especially considering the amount of white educators in the room), it seemed to take time away from Anthony's life.

"The Pipeline" stands as a testament not only to Willie-Lawes' immense skills as a writer and creator, but as a reminder of the criminalization of Black boys at a young age that ultimately pulls opportunities away from youth. Even while fighting against a technologically subpar space in the Performance Lab, Willie-Lawes was able to build an immersive, tender production that seemed to beg the audience to hear the Black youth who are so often left (or, perhaps, pushed) behind.

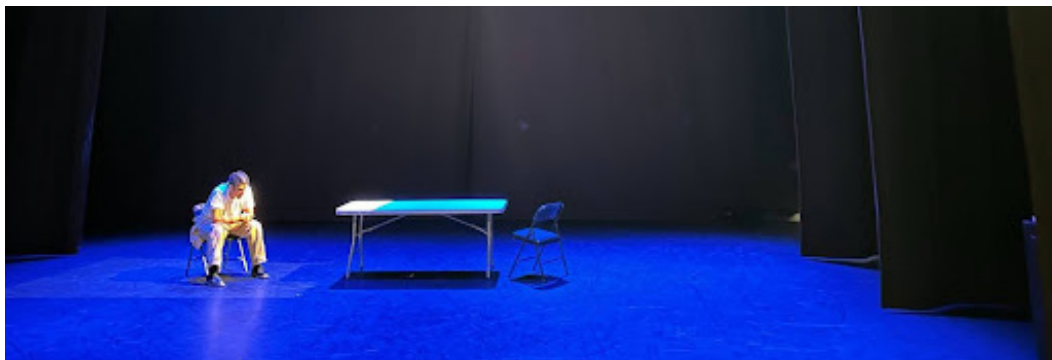


PHOTO COURTESY OF LILY MCMAHON '24

Student Government Association Votes Unanimously to Oppose Reaffirmation of ConnPIRG

CAITLIN DOHERTY '26
NEWS EDITOR

On Sunday, March 24, members of Trinity's Student Government Association voted on the reaffirmation of Trinity's Chapter of ConnPIRG (Connecticut Public Interest Research Group). The decision to oppose their reaffirmation was nearly unanimous, with 19 members opposed and one who abstained. Trinity's chapter of ConnPIRG is a student organization that aims to provide training and support to students interested in advocating for issues that are important to them. "We work with professional staff at colleges and universities to make sure our peers have the skills, opportunities, and training they need to create a better, more sustainable future for all of us. Our chapters provide the training, professional support, and resources students need to tackle climate change, protect public health, revitalize our democracy, feed the hungry, and more," according to their mission statement. ConnPIRG leaders declined the *Tripod's* request for comment.

This SGA decision does not stop ConnPIRG from remaining as an organization on campus or from receiving funding through the SGA Budget Committee if they become SGA recognized. Rather, this vote will suspend the "ConnPIRG Fee," a \$5 per semester charge added to every Trinity student's tuition that the organization decides how to budget and spend throughout the academic year. For the 2023-24 school year, the Trinity chapter of ConnPIRG received \$21,000 from the ConnPIRG Fee,

approximately 90% of which it used to pay external and student staff. Once a year, Trinity ConnPIRG members vote on what the budget will be for the following year. Of their \$21,000 budget, \$8,400 went to paying an external ConnPIRG employee, who has no affiliation with Trinity but comes to campus to offer guidance and conduct advocacy training with Trinity student ConnPIRG members. \$3,600 went to a Trinity student who leads the on-campus organization, and another \$4,100 was paid to a ConnPIRG Students State House Advocate staffer for his services in allegedly helping students lobby in the Connecticut State Capitol Building.

In the March 24 SGA meeting, Trinity's ConnPIRG student leaders and the two paid external staffers were in attendance to advocate for their organization's reaffirmation. SGA's Vice President of Finance Cam Nielsen '24 shared concerns that so much of their budget was going to paying staff when all other student organizations under the SGA are strictly prohibited from using funding to pay any student or outside staff. Rather, other student organizations must use their funding to hold events and support other organization-wide initiatives. Vice President of Multicultural Affairs Dansowaa Adu '24 questioned how SGA representatives could justify allowing \$21,000 of student tuition fees to go to student and external employees. "We have student organizations who do that for free," she noted. "They do the work for free. They talk to advisors for free. And none of that is coming from a \$21,000 pool... What about our students who are also doing active things for free, and don't

have to involve an external person to come in that is getting paid out of this pool?"

Traditionally, Trinity's Chapter of ConnPIRG applies for reaffirmation every three years. If the SGA approves, the decision to include the \$5 per semester fee for ConnPIRG is then put before the entire student body for a vote. The last ConnPIRG reaffirmation vote was in 2021, during which they received an 80% approval rate from students, according to ConnPIRG. SGA President Jake McPhail '24 noted to the *Tripod*, "During their last reaffirmation, they had full faith and support of the SGA." This year is the first time that the SGA did not reaffirm ConnPIRG, a decision which was largely

guided by the organization's lack of impact and presence on Trinity's campus and in Hartford, alongside concerns that student tuition money was being used to pay staff members from an external organization. While he acknowledged the ConnPIRG student leaders' explanations that Covid has made it very difficult for them to stay active, he noted, "A lot of other groups, keep in mind, have bounced from Covid and have done a lot, especially without \$21,000." McPhail asked Trinity ConnPIRG members and the paid State House Advocate, who has worked with Trinity's ConnPIRG for decades, "What have you done in the Hartford community, Trinity, Connecticut, the past ten or twenty-five years?"

I couldn't get an answer."

If they wish to receive funding from Trinity, ConnPIRG will have to become formally registered as an SGA-recognized organization and submit a request to the SGA Budget Committee rather than receiving funding automatically through the ConnPIRG Fee. "We encouraged them to apply for SGA recognition," McPhail said to the *Tripod*. "We welcome that kind of [student] activism... We would love to have them continue an operation doing the kind of stuff they used to and are doing now. That would also open them up to funding the traditional way as any other student organization. The only thing that's changing is their funding structure."



Professional Staff		Notes (from CONNPIRG)
Advocate	\$4,100	Contract Services
Regional Organizer	\$8,400	35758*26% benefits for 9 months for 25% of time
Campus Organizer	\$3,600	Ave 10 hrs week for 16 weeks * \$15
Support services (HR, Legal, Web, USP)	\$2,900	Contract Services
Operating (travel, materials, bank fees, state fees, payroll processing)	\$2,000	
Total:	\$21,000	

BlackOut: Enchanted Gala Transforms Trinity College into a Magical Night

CORNELIA EHLEBRACHT '25
NEWS EDITOR

Trinity College's Imani Black Student Union (BSU) took center stage on Friday, March 22, 2024, as they hosted their highly anticipated event, the "BlackOut: Enchanted Gala." The BlackOut: Enchanted Gala was a black-tie affair that aimed to celebrate and uplift Black culture, while also providing a space for students to come together and create lasting memories. The event created a space for students to showcase their fashion and style, as the black-tie dress code added an air of sophistication to the event and attendees arrived in their finest attire. As guests entered the Washington Room, they were transported into a fairytale. The night was nothing short of magical, and meticulous attention to detail was evident in every aspect of the event ensuring that attendees felt immersed in a truly enchanting experience. The venue was adorned with stunning floral arrangements tastefully intertwined throughout the room. The lighting was deliberately subdued, casting a soft glow and creating an intimate ambiance that perfectly complemented the theme, enriched by a color palette of pink, emerald, blues and greens.

The highlight of the evening was a captivating performance by the renowned and accomplished artist, Frank E. Brady. Brady is not only an award-winning poet, but also an esteemed educational consultant and a passionate mental health advocate. According to his website, frankebrady.com, his talent has been recognized and showcased on various esteemed platforms such as BET, Soultrain.com, The Source Hip-Hop Magazine and most recently ABC Networks. In addition to his impressive artistic endeavors, Brady has an unwavering commitment to the growth and development of young individuals. As a former high school teacher, he possesses a deep passion for promoting literacy and nurturing social-emotional development among students. His mission is to "use his God-given gifts to inspire & impact ple dealing with adversity."

During an in-person interview at the event, Frank E. Brady shared his personal journey, highlighting his transition from a former high school teacher to fully im-



MRS. BLACKOUT BRIANNA ANDRADE '24 (LEFT) AND INDIA BRACEY '24
(PHOTO BY SABRINA CODRINGTON '25)

mersing himself in the realm of poetry and music. Reflecting on his early exposure to the art form, he revealed, "I got into poetry and performance when I was 17. My mother is a poet, and I grew up watching her practice her craft. As I grew older, I realized that poetry is a language that people can understand and communicate with."

For Brady, poetry and performance hold profound significance. He emphasized that poetry serves as a vehicle for connecting with others. He firmly believes that everyone possesses a unique story, and sharing that story can have a positive impact on yourself and those around you. "It's about self-expression, being able to connect with people," Brady said. "Everybody has a story, and when you tell your story, it's great for mental health and overall wellness." To ensure his performances remain relevant and engaging, Brady incorporates popular songs from artists such as Sexy Redd and Ella Mai. By infusing these well-known tracks into his work, he maintains a dynamic and captivating presence that resonates with his audience. In addition to his performances, Brady actively conducts workshops and showcases his talents at colleges and works closely with younger children and teenagers. He expressed that

the work he does keeps him connected to the community, allowing him to engage and interact with individuals from diverse backgrounds. He perceives these workshops and performances as opportunities to bridge cultural gaps and translate the essence of experiences. Using the medium of poetry, he translates cultural experiences into relatable narratives, inviting individuals from all walks of life to engage, appreciate, and celebrate the diverse tapestry of human existence.

During the event, Brady affirmed that "enchantment is about flipping and reversing things," encapsulating the transformative nature of his artistry. He conveyed a powerful message to college students, stating, "You are magical and you are enchanting just as you are," emphasizing the innate value and uniqueness that each individual possesses.

The evening culminated with well-deserved recognition for two outstanding students, the Mr. Blackout and Mrs. Blackout awards. Mrs. Blackout was granted to Bri Andrade '24, celebrated for her contributions to queer, Black students. As a co-captain of the Elemental Dance Crew and a member of the Trinity College Black Women's Organization, she has played a pivotal role in promoting artistic expression

and fostering inclusivity. Her work at the Queer Resource Center has been particularly noteworthy, as she has created safe and welcoming spaces for queer and Black students, ensuring that their voices are heard and their experiences are validated. Andrade has demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication and her contributions have not gone unnoticed.

During an in-person interview at the event, Andrade expressed her joy and appreciation for being acknowledged. "It feels really good to be recognized," Andrade stated. "I've been in Black organizations my whole time at Trinity College, and to be recognized for the queer work that I do is really special." This recognition validates her efforts and dedication to promoting inclusivity and understanding within the Black community.

Looking ahead, Andrade expressed excitement about the future of BlackOut and the impact it can have. She shared, "After this, I'm excited for more people to come to BlackOut and keep recognizing Black organizations for the work that they do."

Mr. Blackout was awarded to Ayoub Swaray '24, honored for his contributions to theater production. His dedication and talent were evident in his work on plays such as "Pillowman" and his

exceptional management of the recent production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Cinderella." In addition, he showcased his creative prowess through his thesis production titled "Tu Colo, Ca Jele Lolu Luh - Through the Woods, and Up to the Stars." Swaray was an active member of the BSU for three years and served as a senator for two of those. Although he could not attend the event due to his attentiveness to managing "Cinderella," Swaray commented on his achievement after the event. "Just a year ago, I was on the BSU committee, actively involved in the process of deliberating who would receive the award. Little did I know that I would soon find myself in the same position," Swaray revealed. This realization added an extra layer of significance to his achievement, as he had firsthand experience in evaluating the exceptional individuals who were considered for the honor. Swaray expressed, "There is nothing more satisfactory than being crowned alongside my best friend, my day 1, Brianna Andrade - another outstanding, selfless pillar of our community who without, I wouldn't have been able to survive these long four years." The bond shared with Andrade underscores the power these organizations have for students.

SPORTS

Sweetgreen to be Installed in Unit D of Ferris

SWEET FEET '25
NEEDS A SALAD ASAP

In a move aimed at promoting healthy eating habits and catering to the evolving needs of students, Trinity College has announced plans to build a Sweetgreen, a build-it-yourself salad bar, in Unit D of Ferris Athletic Center. The decision comes as a part of the college's commitment to enhancing wellness initiatives and providing nutritious options, only for its student athletes.

Scheduled to open following the completion of the state-of-the-art athletic

complex, Sweetgreen promises to offer a diverse array of fresh ingredients and customizable salad options. Because only student athletes will be afforded the opportunity to dine here, Bantam Sports roster cards will be required for entry. President Joanne Berger-Sweeney states, "We firmly believe that our student athletes deserve only the finest dining options for peak performance." From crisp greens to farm-fresh produce and protein-packed toppings, student athletes can look forward to a vibrant selection designed to fuel their active lifestyles.

The addition of a Sweet-

green on campus aligns with Trinity's broader efforts to promote health and wellness across campus, following the newest promotion of Celcius, a 200 milligram energy drink, to NCAA athletes. With an increasing emphasis on nutrition, Trinity's collaboration with Sweetgreen reflects the college's dedication to student athlete well-being.

"We are excited to partner with Sweetgreen and bring their renowned salad and grain bowls to our campus community," remarks President Sweeney. "Providing access to nutritious and delicious meals is essential for supporting our stu-

dent athletes' overall health and academic success."

The inclusion of a Sweetgreen in Unit D emphasizes the college's recognition of the importance of convenient and nutritious dining options for student athletes leading busy lifestyles. Whether refueling after a workout or grabbing a quick meal between classes, Trinity's newest salad bar will offer athletes a convenient dining solution, also accepting Bantam Bucks.

The decision to build a Sweetgreen on campus reflects broader trends in campus dining preferences, with students increasingly seeking out healthier alternatives

to the current on-campus options. This shift points towards Trinity's earnest efforts to improve athletes well-being and academic performance.

As construction progresses on Unit D, anticipation is high among athletes for the arrival of our campus' newest salad spot. "I heard you get a free bowl if you're NESCAC Player of the week," says one athlete. "Someone told me they make you pay more after you lose," says another. With focus on freshness, deliciousness, and fueling our beloved athletes, the addition of Sweetgreen is bound to be a welcome enhancement to the Ferris Athletic Facility.



From Sports to the Stage, the Athletes Can and Will Do it All

DERMO '26
SPORTS EDITOR

The sports editors of the *Tripod* have received an anonymous letter from a coalition of athletes who are making their big break from sports; instead turning to theater. The letter came in just Friday morning, addressed to writers of the sports column to have it prepared for publication.

"Dear Esteemed
Tripod Writers,

It's been fun dominating the fields and courts of Trinity College, however, it is time we found a new outlet. This is why we are proud to announce we will be writing, choreographing and staging our very own musical. This is all we can say on the matter, but we hope students will be on the lookout for this masterpiece."

In a brief correspondence from the editors, we asked about their inspiration. What led them to this sharp turn in their careers? Could they have seen *High School Musical*, and felt that Troy Bolton resonat-



ed with their predicament?

They responded with, "Who's Troy Bolton? Didn't he get drafted last year to UConn? We've never heard of *High School Musical*. This is our own, original idea, we can't imagine it has ever been done before. What the fans don't know is that the games and practices are just excuses to hang out. We get such a kick in the locker room after hearing the fans and faculty cheer. Little do they know, they are victims of the biggest prank ever. It's all been

a side hustle. Trading our cleats, sneakers, and skates for tap shoes, and the white boards that mark our plays have notes written on them. I now know what a Treble Clef is! The stage is calling, and we have to answer."

This performance is set to take place sometime by the end of the semester. The athletes gave a brief synopsis of what we can expect.

"It is going to be a coming of age story. A young athlete from Trinity meets a girl over Christmas break who is transferring to Trin-

ity the following semester. When they return to campus, he is persuaded to audition for the musical with her. It's kind of meta, putting a show about a show together. But in the end, all of the athletes join in. Except everyone is already an athlete outside of the show. We mean outside of our show. So in the show about the show they are athletes turned performers, just like we are athletes turned thespians in real life. Does that make sense? I have a headache just from writing that."

We asked if they are sure that they haven't seen or heard of *High School Musical*, they said, "Clearly we need to focus on branding and copyright, because no one has ever thought of this before. But that title sure is catchy."

As we remain loyal to these athletes/performers, the *Tripod* Sports Column will be shifted to a Theatrical Review Column. The show is called *College School Musical*. It is in rehearsals now, and probably will be forever.

Male Maturity Levels No Match for March Madness Environment

HATELIN CLARK '22
TWINKLE TOES

Now reaching the home stretch of play, the NCAA national championship has once again proved that basketball is a sport reserved for one gender (of the total two). Based on play statistics, audience response and player maturity levels, it continues to be blatantly obvious that men's basketball should not have a spot on the national stage.

"He's just a big guy, I don't really see much skill," said one teenage girl who has never played basketball outside of local pickup games about Purdue star Zach Edey. The girl even went so far as to compare Edey to "Shaquille All'Meal," referencing his immense size and evident inability to stop eating. Other fans have also expressed justified disgust at

Edey's place at the 99th percentile, taunting his recent 40-point game as "not the only 40 piece [he] dropped tonight." In order to compete in this tournament, men's players should be size-conscious – not too big like Edey, but not too small that they will get dominated on the court.

Another obstacle men's players have yet to defeat is their outward disrespect towards other athletes. When men's players win, they have no right to express any sort of pride or competitive nature – even though this is an incredibly competitive environment. For example, when KU's Christian Braun pointed to his ring finger in the face of UNC's Armando Bacot, flexing KU's national championship win in the loser's face. This was completely unacceptable and Braun is still (rightly) getting backlash for it. Many people have

dubbed the KU team, mostly full of white guys, completely "classless." UNC's team, made up mainly of Black players, evidently has much more class in the game. One could only hope for UNC to finesse a win against KU as revenge, and soon.

"Please save us, I hate Christian Braun," said 30 year old Chris Clumsington, who has only ever paid attention to one men's basketball game in his life. "Christian Braun is too ghetto to ever be professionally successful. He is such a [insert trashcan emoji] of a human."

The subject of race has been a large one in this year's men's bracket. Some fans believe that people are hating on certain teams because of their higher numbers of white players. One team that has particularly come under particular fire is Clemson, which has a num-

ber of white players. However, many other fans – who have been quite critical of these whiter teams – dispute these racist allegations, saying that it is only about character, citing other white players who are perfectly fine.

"Grant Nelson [of Alabama] is white and everyone loves him. Your team is just unlikeable," said Duane Doltsworth, a reverse racism scholar. "Alabama's men's team is all white except one guy and no one treats them any differently. The reason Clemson gets treated like they do isare because they act the way they do. It has nothing to do with race whatsoever."

Finally, men's teams simply do not have the numbers to compete on the level of the much more skilled female athletes. "Star" player Caleb Love from Arizona only averages 31.7 points and 8.9 rebounds per game. Compared

to women's numbers, these men simply cannot compete.

"Love gotta be the most overrated men's basketball player ever," said one interviewee, who opted to remain anonymous due to the humiliation of his men's bracket failing after the first round. Many others agree, mostly people who did not do their research before submitting their sports bets on FanDuel.

It is obvious from conduct and analysis that these men cannot handle the national stage. If you are starting to watch men's basketball as it starts to expand, do yourself a favor and stick to the women.

All quotes used are real comments that have appeared on women's basketball posts in the last few weeks, referring to various female athletes such as Audi Crooks (NC State), Angel Reese (LSU) and Juju Watkins (USC).

Winner of Intramural Softball League to Win the Psi U House

WINNER WINNER '26
BANTAM DINNER

Spring is in full swing at Trinity. Like many years before, students have the opportunity to participate in this season's intramural sports, the most popular among them having the highest stakes in its history. Softball, an American pastime, has 14 teams with their eyes on a high-stakes victory.

In his weekly recreational email, recreation director Kevin Johnson states, "Whether you're a seasoned slugger or a rookie ready to learn, our league offers a fun and inclusive environment for players of all skill levels." This statement could not be further from the truth for this season's competition.

As all students are now familiar, Psi U has been suspended until the end of the 2024-2025 academic year. Although the fraternity is highly regarded and known for its fostering of an inclusive and dignified environment, the institution

stands by its suspension and has left students up in arms with one less place to gather for good fun.

Although this news may be upsetting for a variety of reasons, its announcement sparked excitement for recreation-

al sports goers. This season, for the first time in Trinity College Intramural Softball League history, all 14 teams will be competing for the Psi U house, the winners earning all privileges upon reinstatement. Some

teams reportedly have players training during class hours or bringing equipment to class to hit the field right after.

"That house would be the best thing that ever happened to me," says one softball-goer. "I've

always wanted to be on aux," says another. The runner-up team will live in Ogilby Hall for the rest of the spring semester.

Intramural softball scores will be updated on @BantamSports on Instagram and Twitter.

