

trinity in the news

“It happens all across the country: the freshman freakout.

They arrive on campus—often at their dream school—and they are faced with so many unknowns and differences that they begin to question why they wanted to go to college Is this sort of meltdown happening more often with this generation? And how should parents respond? Randolph Lee, a psychologist and director of the counseling center at Trinity College, doesn't think he's seeing more homesickness than he did a decade or two ago, but 'I think you do see more of a knee-jerk reaction: Parents tend to get more alarmist about it more quickly than they used to. 'We see so many more calls from parents.' In their well-meaning desire to be responsive, Lee says, 'parents jump too quickly. Parents need to lay back a little: This is a new adventure; it's exciting. Kids are going to feel like they don't have friends at first. They are going to feel lonely. They may think they will never make friends.' If left alone, Lee says, kids usually find friends and feel much more at home by about mid-October The good news is, experts say, that most freshman relax into college life sometime during that first semester. At Trinity, Lee says, they have tried to start group therapy for kids who are trying to adjust. But by the time they assemble a group, the kids are over the homesickness.”

THE FRESHMAN FREAKOUT: I HATE IT HERE. I WANT TO COME HOME' NOT TO WORRY, PARENTS. THIS, TOO, SHALL PASS

Hartford Courant, September 22, 2006

“The Congressional Research Service reported this year that congressional earmarks have more than tripled since 1994. The service reported there were 4,126 earmarks worth \$29.6 billion in 1994. By fiscal year 2006, that figure jumped to 12,852 earmarks worth \$67 billion, an increase of about 126 percent in value, according to the service. Experts say that's more than a coincidence. Diana Evans, author of the 2004 book *Greasing the Wheels: Using Pork Barrel Projects to Build Majority Coalitions in Congress*, said leaders of powerful congressional committees started doling out earmarks in the late 1980s to buy loyalty from other lawmakers. In return for funding a pet project in one district, a lawmaker was expected to support congressional leaders on other issues. 'In a sense, they have become the prisoners of earmarks. Members expect them and the more they get them, the more they expect,' said Evans, a political-science professor at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. The

jump in earmarks 'may be as simple as demand rising to meet what is apparently a never-ending supply,'" she said.

SPENDING AS A WAY OF LIFE IN CONGRESS: PROFESSIONAL "INFLUENCERS" WORK FOR LOCAL INTERESTS, ENDURE WASHINGTON SCANDALS

The Press-Enterprise (CA), September 22, 2006

“Trinity College has received pledges totaling \$39.5 million from three anonymous donors, officials have announced.

The money, which is about equal to the largest single gift in the college's history, will be used to support endowed faculty positions, financial aid for international students and the general endowment at the private liberal arts college in Hartford. 'It's a wonderful vote of confidence in the future of the college from three very generous alumni who are dedicated to paying back part of what they believe Trinity gave them, said Trinity President James F. Jones Jr. The gifts, part of a \$300 million fundraising campaign announced in May by college trustees, will 'enable us to bolster our commitment to attracting and retaining the brightest and most talented students and the highest-caliber faculty,' he said. Under Jones, the college has sought to bolster fundraising and cut costs. Over the past two years, Trinity has reduced some part-time faculty jobs and imposed other cost-savings measures. The latest pledges will allow the school, with an enrollment of 2,300 students, to increase its endowment, which is estimated at between \$380 million and \$390 million.”

DONORS PLEDGE \$39.5 MILLION TO TRINITY COLLEGE
Newsday, October 20, 2006

Samples of the abundant seaweed from the Sargasso Sea that has washed up on Bermuda's shores in recent weeks is to be analysed by US-based seaweed expert Dr. Craig Schneider of Trinity College in Connecticut. As reported in yesterday's *Royal Gazette* Dr. Martin Thomas, who works closely with the Aquarium is also looking at the various examples of the seaweed that has broken off from the Gulf Stream and drifted into the Island's coastal waters. But it is Dr. Schneider who is the lead expert in the field. Commonly referred to simply as Sargasso seaweed, the Aquarium's collector of species Chris Flook points out the official name of the species is *Sargassum* seaweed. An unusual type of the

seaweed, thought to be an as yet undocumented “flowering” phase of the seaweed, has been discovered during research of the seaweed that has reached Bermuda this year and examples of this are being sent to Dr. Schneider in the US to exam.

AMERICAN EXPERT TO ANALYSE SEAWEED

The Royal Gazette (Bermuda), December 6, 2006

Last year, Nike drew buzz with its campaign that centered on, and celebrated, robust body parts typically shunned by women and advertisers. “My butt is big,” proclaimed one ad. “I have thunder thighs,” said another. In recent weeks, the so-called “skinny model ban” instigated in Madrid has gained steam. Most recently a government agency threatened to pull its annual £620,000 contribution to London Fashion Week if organizers continue to send underweight models down the runway. . . . Strung together, does it spell the beginnings of a beauty backlash of sorts? Or is this doomed to be a passing fad in this culture that proclaims ample-bottomed Jennifer Lopez “hot” one season and a reed-thin Nicole Richie the next? ‘Something bigger is going on,’ says Audrey D. Brashich, a Trinity College graduate and author of the new book *All Made Up: A Girl’s Guide to Seeing Through Celebrity Hype and Celebrating Real Beauty*. ‘There’s some sort of resistance that’s gurgling beneath the surface. I don’t know that I can say it’s full blown,’ says Brashich, who spoke at the college last week for national Love Your Body Day. ‘But these new pieces of pop culture are refocusing a debate that’s been kicking around for some time. And the best action is to build on it.’”

REDEFINING BEAUTY: COULD IT BE THAT A BROADER DEFINITION OF PHYSICAL LOOKS IS EMERGING?

Hartford Courant, October 27, 2006

“Recent world events have put Islam under the microscope. Author Sohaib Sultan is out to change what he calls the negative public perception of the religion. Sultan, the Islamic chaplain at Yale University in New Haven and Trinity College in Hartford, spoke to about two dozen people Wednesday night at St. James’s Episcopal Church. In a wide-ranging conversation that lasted almost two hours, Sultan touched on several issues facing Islam. Sultan, author of *The Koran for Dummies*, took his audience through a primer on Islam, recited a few verses from the Muslim holy book and answered about an hour’s worth of questions in an effort to teach people a little bit about his religion. . . . One of his pet peeves, he explained, is the way the news media, pundits and ‘experts’ discuss Islam without much knowledge

of the religion. . . . Sultan said he hoped people walked away with a new, alternative perspective on one of the world’s largest religions. ‘I would like for the attendants to see the human side of Islam . . . what makes Islam a religion that is worthy of living,’ said Sultan, 26. The Rev. Robert C. Hooper III, rector of St. James’s Episcopal Church in West Hartford center, said he invited Sultan to speak so he could give audience members, most of them parishioners of St. James’s, a better grasp of an often-misinterpreted religion. ‘I have a personal and spiritual interest in the dialogue,’ Hooper said. ‘When we come to understand other people’s religions better, we understand our religion better.’”

ISLAMIC CHAPLAIN EXPLAINS HIS FAITH

Hartford Courant, November 2, 2006

“There were 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. off-campus practices, but not too many players raised a stink. The coach used to carry the puck bucket and hockey laundry in his car back to campus, and that did a raise a big stink. Maybe it always was worth it, but finally, on Friday, all the sacrifices will make sense. Trinity has been playing men’s hockey for 46 years, starting as a club team in 1960, but has never had a home rink. And whether it was the outdoor ice at Colt Park in Hartford or the rink at Kingswood-Oxford School in West Hartford, every practice, every game, has been a road trip of some kind. That ends Friday when the doors of the \$15.5 million Trinity College Community Sports Complex open for the Wesleyan-Trinity women’s game at 4 p.m., followed by the Hamilton-Trinity men’s game at 7:30. Both Trinity teams are opening their seasons. ‘I’ve stopped by the site several times every week since the groundbreaking [Nov. 6, 2005],’ men’s coach John Dunham said. It’s like a dream. I appreciate it so much for the players, former players, the college and everyone who has supported the program. It gives me the feeling that, ‘You know, we did something right.’ No one deserves more accolades than Dunham, who’s No.6 on the all-time Division III wins list. With a 433-293-30 record in 32 varsity seasons, he is Trinity hockey. . . . ‘John has gone above and beyond the call,’ said Mark Cleary, the captain of Trinity’s first varsity team in 1974-75. ‘How does a coach recruit players against Middlebury [eight-time NCAA champion] and Amherst without a campus rink? And to put a team in the Final Four without a rink on campus. Amazing.’”

TRINITY HOCKEY: FINALLY, A HOME RINK

Hartford Courant, November 15, 2006