Inside the New ELS: See page 9 for photos and descriptions

Hill Card Clearly in Business Off-Campus
by Kerry Q. Coughlin ‘11 News Writer

Since its inception in 2008, the Hill Card has evolved from a simple ID and key card to a form of payment compatible with several off-campus businesses, such as Subway, Pizza Place, CVS, Tex Mex, Clinton Cider Mill, Altester’s, Dunkin Donuts, McHarris Gifts, and Park Row Espresso.

Since 2009, students and employees have used the Hill Card in Clinton for 3,800 purchases, spending a total of $44,000 through March 31 of this year.

Restaurants and other food establishments do better than other types of businesses that accept the card,” said Mike DeBraggio, executive director of communications.

Businesses that accepted the Hill Card most recently are the College Street Café and Minar Indian Café. Raj Kumar, owner of the Minar Indian Café, has seen a lot of usage of the Hill Card since he began accepting it the first week of April. “Yes, some customers are now looking to use the Hill Card. About $100 per day have been paid on the Hill Card,” said Kumar. He anticipates that even more people will use the Hill Card at the Indian Café next semester.

Many students said that Tex Mex was the most popular option for Hill Card use. “I’ve never used it in town, but I have used it in store Tex Mex, and I would say half my dorm has at some point,” said Rachel Slivken ’13. Some students use the Hill Card as a back-up form of payment. Foxfire Buck ‘12 said that she has only used her Hill Card in town once. “I used it to pay at Subway because I didn’t have any other money with me.” Other students prefer using cash or credit card in town and keeping their Hill Card just for laundry or the occasional Opus cookie. “I have never used my Hill Card in town because I never have any money on it,” said Christina Clark ’10.

Still, the numbers don’t lie. In just over a year, students have made a large number of purchases in town on their Hill Cards as more businesses accept it. “Several new businesses have approached us and asked for the details, but so far only The College Street Café and the Indian Café have signed up since the fall,” said DeBraggio.

Survey Shows Minority Students Discontent with Campus Diversity
by Dan Steinman ‘12 News Writer

Hamilton students of minority backgrounds are, on average, significantly less satisfied with social life at Hamilton when compared to minority students at similar schools. By contrast, Hamilton’s white students are, on average, happier with their social experiences at college than are white students at peer institutions.

Assistant Dean of Faculty for Institutional Research Gordon Hewitt presented these and other findings at a community forum on Friday, April 9. The Consortium of High Achievement and Success (CHAS), an organization including Hamilton and 29 other private liberal arts colleges and universities, conducted a survey of students to assess the campus climate at Hamilton and 16 other schools, including Bates, Dartmouth, Vassar and Clark University. The

see Forum, page 4

Professor Steve Yao (left) and Assistant Dean of Faculty for Institutional Research Gordon Hewitt discuss the findings of the CHAS survey on April 9, in the KJ Aud.
Relationship Conference Raises Concern Among Student Groups

It’s an interesting conversation to have, and the people who were hosting it partially did want to have a “conversation” about the structure of our relationships in the ‘modern world,’” said Laura Mattison ’10, who attended the entire conference. “But by starting the conversation with speakers who proposed to know—varying degrees—the correct answer to these questions, it was inherently alienating, and shut down the conversation.”

“By making it an all-day series, by making it cost $5, by setting it up as a series of lectures—creating an authority to whom we could ‘ask questions’ but not really engage in a dialogue with, I believe any real ability to have a conversation was undermined.” Megan Bolger ’11 attended the final workshop. “I was surprised to hear so much anti-feminist rhetoric,” she said.

“The talk was not as much anti-gay, or explicitly anti-gay, as much as it was anti-sexual equality—some of us would call that anti-feminist—anti-divorce, anti-secular, anti-pornography and anti-sexual.” Chibiya Obale ’13 thought the conference was beneficial.

“Laura Mattison ’10, who attended the entire conference, Amy Tannenbaum ’10 and other students placed flyers on Commons tables saying that love is about more than heterosexual marriage. She emphasized that “Rather than putting out a negative message about this group, we wanted to add a positive statement into the discourse, so that some members of the Hamilton community who may feel hurt by this event would know that others on campus supported them.”

The hosting association, the Christopher Dawson Society, “meets monthly to discuss texts that illuminate the ways in which persons of faith have sought to engage the intellectual world of the ancient, medieval, early modern, modern, and postmodern West,” according to its mission statement. While the CDS organized the event, funding came partly from Student Assembly, the Dean of Students, and the Chaplaincy.

A mathematically adept young man who first became interested in marine life when he “started work at age 15 at an aquarium in Syracusa,” Fedrizzi remembers that “all of the animals entering the store were being collected from reefs halfway around the world.” This realization sparked Fedrizzi’s interest in conservation, a concern which pushed him to apply for the Bristol Fellowship. The Fellowship will allow him to travel and explore Portugal, Vietnam, Malay-
sia, Cambodia, Panama and Hong Kong. His research and travel, he hopes, will lead to a seahorse in the wild—a prospect he describes as “thrilling.”

“The generosity of the Bristol family, in truly remarkable, and reflects the commitment to the support of adventure and innovation that I’ve experienced throughout my four years at Hamilton.”

Nathan Fedrizzi ’10 Awarded William M. Bristol Fellowship by Evan Klondar ’11

Nate Fedrizzi ’10 is being kicked out of America for a year. He has been forced out by the Bristol Fellowship, a grant that allows stu-
dents to do academic work in a field of their choice if they live outside the United States. In his travels, he will be researching sustainability of the seahorse populations and how trade affects their survival.

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by Amanda Jordan ’10

NESCAC NEWS

Connecticut College

On Monday, April 5, Connecticut College celebrated its 50th birth-
day. The College was officially chartered on April 5, 1911. A student performance and a Founder’s Day Tea with emeriti faculty were held to celebrate this anniversary. The new design for Connecticut’s camel mascot was also revealed. Designer Eric Rickabaugh of Ohio-based Rickabaugh Graphics created a new camel design meant to strengthen Connecticut College’s aesthetic identity. Additionally, a new seal was introduced designed by the College’s traditional seal, which has been used since 1911. Founders Day marked the countdown to the centennial in 2011.

Williams College

A mathematics professor at Williams College, Susan R. Loope, has received the Massachusetts Section Teaching Award from the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). This award is given annually to an “extraordinarily successful” professor. The MAA is the largest professional society to emphasize a mathematics sciences education at the undergraduate level. Loope graduated from Bethel College in Kansas with a B.A. and B.S. She went on to receive a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Texas at Austin. Loope has been teaching courses at Williams since 1996 and her work has been published in journals such as the Journal of Algebra and the Journal of Pure and Applied Algebra. In 2001, she received the Faculty of the Year Award at Williams. Frank Morgan, Colin Adams, and Ed Burger are other Williams professors who have also been awarded the MAA’s Northeastern Section Teaching Award in past years.

Bowdoin College

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) awarded Bowdoin College with a $3.5 million grant to conduct re-
sarch on climate change in the Gulf of Maine. Bowdoin was se-
lected, along with 24 other research institutions, from a pool of 112 applicants nationwide. This grant will fund a team to use NASA satellite imagery to evaluate the change and progression of dissolved organic carbon and nutrients from three river systems that drain into the Gulf of Maine. The team will include Bowdoin scientists, along with researchers at Michigan Tech, U.S. Geological Survey, Yale, and the University of New Brunswick. The findings of this research will be incorporated into NASA’s ongoing climate change analysis.

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by Amanda Jordan ’10
How Do Clubs Pay for Speakers, Events?

Event Type, Guideline Compliance Affect Funding Decisions

by Emily Gerston ’11
News Writer

Club-sponsored speakers and events are frequent occurrences at Hamilton, but what happens behind the scenes to make these events possible? One of the main obstacles clubs must face before putting on events is obtaining funding.

Often, that funding comes from the Student Assembly, which distributes a portion of the funds from the Student Activities fee to registered student groups. The Student Activities fee is set at 1 percent of tuition and will be $410 for the 2010-2011 school year. The fee pays for the Student Assembly funds, all student media publications, and the Campus Activities Board, according to Assistant Dean of Students for Campus Life and Director of Student Activities Lisa Magnarelli ’96. Slightly less than half of the money available from the Student Activities fee is set aside for the Student Assembly funds.

Before groups can apply for funding, a group representative must attend a Group Leader Basic Training, held once every semester. However, groups may not apply for funding right after being approved. “The first semester of a club’s existence is considered a probationary period where the organization of the group is tested to determine that they are responsible enough to obtain and use allocated funds,” said Student Assembly President Cobus Van Der Ven. “If the group is still in existence after that period, they are eligible for funding.”

Funding is granted based on budget proposals submitted by groups. “Money is only allocated for specific costs that are explained in the budget proposals submitted to the SA funding committee,” said Van Der Ven. “Money is only granted after requests are reviewed [or] approved by the Funding Committee, then voted on by the Student Assembly as a whole at weekly meetings.”

The amount of money groups receive depends on the sort of event they put on. “Student Assembly’s policy is to give every organization a fair chance and to allow it to grow slowly over the years,” said Van Der Ven. “Groups are allowed to grow slowly over time to give them a chance to establish themselves on campus and to prove that they can handle allocated funds responsibly.”

There are new organizations that have already sought out funding from other offices and departments if their allocation from Student Assembly doesn’t cover the cost of their programming,” said Magnarelli.

If an event is expected to be expensive, groups may seek out other groups as well as Student Assembly for funding to share the cost. Brodsky said, “Recognized student groups may, however, seek funding from other offices and departments if their request is denied. Groups are not allowed to exceed their budget.”

Although student groups are encouraged to apply to Student Assembly for funding, they have other options to fund their events as well. “Money is only allocated to the SA funding committee,” said Van Der Ven. “Money is only allocated to the SA funding committee, then voted on by the Student Assembly as a whole at weekly meetings.”

In the April 8, 2010 issue, in a feature entitled “Need-Blind By the Numbers,” we reported that 41.13 applicants were affected by Hamilton’s then-current need-aware policy in 2009. The actual number was 120 applicants. We regret the error.

Correction:

Students Assembly Update

by Eve Denton ’12
Student Assembly Correspondent

Debating How to Handle Class and Charter Day

The Student Assembly meeting on April 12 focused largely on a discussion surrounding how to make Class and Charter Day a safer experience for everyone involved. The Alcohol Coalition came to SA for ideas on how to have fun and stay safe on Class and Charter Day.

One of the biggest changes discussed was the addition of a Kid’s Pit concert that will begin at 2 p.m. It will provide a controlled area with an outside agency hired to patrol the area, which means students will have trouble getting alcohol into the event. Several assembly members felt this was a move in the right direction since it will encourage a cut back on drinking in order to enjoy the concert. One member raised the point that not allowing alcohol in the concert area could create a serious pregaming problem.

One member suggested that if fun things are happening throughout the day, students will only become somewhat inebriated, instead of incredibly drunk. Several activities were brainstormed during the meeting as alternatives to drinking, including a food tent on the Darkside, field games throughout the day, more participation in Hamtrek, or a dance at the end of the day on the football field.

Other members took a harsher stance towards the drinking that occurs. One mentioned that greater supervision should take place at locations such as Minor Field, where early morning drinking often happens. Another student suggested that professors with classes on Friday mornings should be encouraged to take roll call.

Student Assembly’s suggestions will be discussed with the Alcohol Coalition, and the Class and Charter Day discussion will continue in upcoming weeks.

Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) Summit Schedule Highlights

Friday, April 16

4:30 p.m. Panel Discussion: What does it really mean to network? KJ 102, Kirner-Johnson
5:30 p.m. Reception with Members of the Class of 2010 Kirner-Johnson Commons
9 p.m. An Evening with Paul Lieberstein ’89 Wellin Hall, Schambach Center*
11 p.m. GOLD Pub Night (casual) The Little Pub

Saturday, April 17

12:15 p.m. GOLD Summit Kick-Off and Luncheon “A User’s Guide to the Hamilton Network” Kirner-Johnson Commons
2:30 p.m. Career Sessions: Selling the Value of the Liberal Arts Panel discussion geared toward the many layers of GOLD, with an array of alumni presenters.
Various locations in Kirner-Johnson
6:15 p.m. Saranacac and Networking Reception Kirner-Johnson Commons
7:15 p.m. GOLD Alumni Leaders Recognition Dinner Filius Events Barn
Lafley Made Special Partner at Clayton, Dubilier & Rice

by Nick Stagliano ’11
News Contributor

A.G. Lafley ’69, chairman of the Hamilton College Board of Trustees, has a new job. On Thursday, April 8, the New York-based private equity firm Clayton, Dubilier & Rice announced that Lafley has joined the firm as a Special Partner.

“A.G. has proven himself to be one of the most effective corporate leaders of the 21st century, and we are very pleased to welcome him to Clayton, Dubilier & Rice,” said the firm’s President and Chief Executive Officer, Donald J. Gogel.

Lafley recently left Procter & Gamble (P&G) after a 32-year-long career with the company. He had been Chief Executive Officer since 2000 and Chairman of the Board since 2002. During his tenure, the number of P&G’s billion-dollar brands grew from 10 to 24, and sales more than doubled from $38 billion in 1999 to $79 billion in 2009.

In addition to his service on Hamilton’s Board of Trustees, Lafley serves on the Board of Directors of the General Electric Company and is currently working on his second book.

Survey Gauges Attitudes Towards Campus Diversity

from Forum, page 1

6,858 respondents were divided into two groups: white and nonwhite. Survey questions addressed academics, college services, and various aspects of campus life.

Hewitt showed how Hamilton students’ survey results compare to the aggregated results from all 17 participating colleges’ surveys. He identified the data that was statistically significant and drew several conclusions.

Hamilton’s minority student population is less satisfied in the areas of ethnic/racial diversity and community climate than the comparison group. Nonwhite students at Hamilton are less satisfied with extracurricular activities and cultural opportunities than are white students. Nonwhite students are also less satisfied with curricular offerings than white students, but they are more engaged with the faculty.

Forty percent of nonwhite Hamilton students surveyed said they had “witnessed” racial/ethnic discrimination on campus, which is significantly greater than the 26 percent of nonwhite students in the aggregate group of colleges who reported witnessing such incidents.

Associate Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives Steven Yao said that none of the results were “especially new” to him. “It supports the anecdotal evidence that we’ve been hearing,” he said. Yao stressed that no single survey could provide a comprehensive picture of the campus climate. “This is just a snapshot,” he said. Yao said that a number of data-collecting instruments should be used for more informed decisions in creating “a more inclusive and welcoming environment at [Hamilton].”

Allen Harrison, associate dean of students for diversity and accessibility, agreed. “There weren’t any huge surprises,” he said, given what he has heard of students’ experiences.

“I would say that [the CHAS survey] would be an instrumental document in our plans to come up with a more formalized strategy for the campus [diversity initiatives].”

A.G. Lafley ’69 accepted a new position with a private equity firm following 32 years with Procter & Gamble.
Open Minds for an Open Dialogue

A comprehensive college education extends beyond the classroom. Students learn from a number of outside events and activities, including guest speakers. By attending Hamilton, we trust in the College’s ability to provide us with exposure to a variety of perspectives on a wide range of issues. While healthy debate over the direction of our education and the ideas presented by speakers is beneficial, we ultimately agree to trust the College’s decision on who speaks. Any disagreement can be respectfully expressed in a constructive conversation, but it is only through this exposure that Hamilton can truly promote intellectual diversity.

The Relationship 101 Conference held this past weekend serves as a perfect example of Hamilton’s efforts to bring differing viewpoints to campus. Upon learning about the workshop, some students were upset because it was sponsored in part by the Love and Fidelity Network, an organization that claims to uphold family values and the institution of marriage. However, like all speakers who come to campus, the three individuals who conducted the Relationship 101 Conference do not serve exclusively as spokesmen for the many organizations co-sponsored the event. It is detrimental to prematurely assume that these people represent those groups or the perspectives of those groups.

To develop a constructive conversation with the speakers that come to campus, we cannot make these assumptions before hearing what they have to say, and we should take the time to think about the ideas a speaker presents before jumping to conclusions. While some members of the community may feel uncomfortable with a certain person or group visiting campus, as a student body we should not drown out opposing views or form our opinions too rashly.

It is important to respect the right of guest lecturers to voice their opinions and concerns. Doing so is in line with the contract of trust we have established – if Hamilton brings speakers to campus, we should be confident that those speakers are coming to enhance our understanding of the world in some way. As long as the speakers in no way violate the respectful tone of the conversation, we should listen and contribute to the dialogue in order to expand our understanding of the issues at hand. Interrupting or disrupting speakers reflects poorly on the student body and prevents interested students from participating in and learning from the dialogue.

We recognize that many students feel very strongly about the issues addressed in Saturday’s workshop. That said, we applaud them for keeping an open mind and listening to the speakers’ ideas and values while constructively contributing to the discussion. As Hamilton students, we must continue to demonstrate tolerance toward the views of others, even if we encounter these views infrequently or disagree with them entirely.
FACE
OFF

Does Registration Clash with the Open Curriculum?

An examination of the fairness of class registration

It’s the best we have

By Elizabeth Scholz ’13

OPINION WRITER

and Anna Zahm ’13

OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

The excitement of new classes for a new year is instantly dashed when looking at a registration time of 1:30 p.m. on the last day of registration. Letting a computer randomly assign my time suddenly seems impractical and deterministic. As I start to panic slightly, realizing that as I actually have to declare a major and that the classes I take now are going to have an impact on this declaration. It’s frustrating to know that a few classes I want to take loom somewhere in the unattainable distance. Come April 19, I imagine I’ll feel justified in blaming WebAdvisor for ruining my academic future.

Despite my resentment, however, Hamilton’s registration system functions well. It would be impossible to find a system that would suit everyone’s wishes. There will always be limitations on courses based on class size, scheduling conflicts, caps on the number of students per grade, and so on. Taking these limitations into account, there is really no fair system other than a lottery to assign registration times based on class year. The lottery may be frustrating, but in the end, it is really the only fair method.

Another aspect of registration that is debatable are the limitations put on the number of students in a course per grade. I am sure there are classes that we really want, but does it make it any better to know that as upperclassmen we are closed out of classes forever? Considering the large number of students in a course, it is debatable are the limitations put on the number of students in a course per grade at all. Hamilton’s registration system functions well.

We can do better

by Evan Klonard ’11

EDITOR-A-LARGE

April is the hardest month on people with bad luck -- it’s when both the housing lottery numbers and fall course registration times are assigned. While the housing lottery may seem unattainable distance. Come April 19, I imagine I’ll feel justified in blaming WebAdvisor for ruining my academic future.

Despite my resentment, however, Hamilton’s registration system operates. The College should keep the system as it stands no system of class registration will be perfect, but the current system has clear and obvious flaws that could be easily remedied. The College should consider addressing these problems as soon as possible.

No system of class registration will be perfect, but the current system has clear and obvious flaws that could be easily remedied. The College should consider addressing these problems as soon as possible -- if not for the Spring ‘11 registration session, than certainly for the Fall ‘11 session a year from now. Keeping the system as it stands represents an irresponsible devotion to the status quo.

It’s the best we have

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I took Psychology 101 during my first year at Hamilton with the hopes of continuing my psychology studies at some later point in my college career. Although I am not a psychology major or minor, I loved my experience in the introductory class, and I have always planned to continue learning about the brain after I finished some of my major requirements.

Unfortunately, the Psychology Department has changed their prerequisites for all of the upper-level psychology classes. Now, students need to take a semester of Psychology Statistics in order to take most other psychology classes. Most students who aren’t considering a major or minor in psychology do not want to take Psych Stats because it is geared toward research design and data collection. Therefore, it seems as though the Psychology Department is trying to weed out non-majors by instituting these new requirements.

However, what about the students who are interested in the psychological theories, but don’t necessarily feel the need to conduct original research? Taking Psych Stats would not necessarily benefit these students, so they will probably have to abandon their psychology studies. In addition, forcing non-majors to take Psych Stats in preparation for more interesting psychology courses might result in classes full of unenthused students.

The only classes that are guaranteed to be offered every semester and do not require Psych Stats as a prerequisite are:
- Brain and Behavior—a class that is heavy on neuroscience at the synapse level;
- Psychology of Prejudice—a class about the psychology of stereotyping and prejudice;
- Psychology and Detective Fiction—the exploration of human behavior in detective stories.

Although these classes sound interesting, they leave out a huge portion of the study of psychology, like psychopathology, attention and performance, memory and cognition, visual perception, learning and child development, counseling, psychopharmacology and personality psychology. All of these topics are taught in classes that require a semester of Psych Stats.

Students who want to learn about these interesting topics, but can’t afford to take Psych 101 and Psych 201 in order to get into the higher-level class, are out of luck with the rearrangement of the department’s new requirement system.

If Hamilton College truly wants to give students a liberal arts education, then students should be able to take courses in many different departments outside of their major. This, of course, is impossible if each department does not have a selection of classes in their repertoire aimed at non-majors.

If the Psychology Department only allows majors and minors to take their classes on counseling, psychopathology and cognitive psychology, then a majority of the campus misses out on the opportunity to expand their horizons into the subject of psychology.

Perhaps another B.F. Skinner exists in the ranks of those who are trying to get into an intriguing psych class, but that person has been rejected because of the strict prerequisites. On behalf of all the students interested in psychology but not majoring, I urge the Psychology Department to rethink their exclusivity and create more 200-level psychology courses that deal with a greater scope of psychological issues.


Paul Liberman coming to campus: First Matt & Kim, now Toby. I have almost heard of these people!

Back to dreary Clinton weather. Maybe now you can actually get some work done. Nope? Well its still the weather’s fault, this time for depressing you instead of causing you to break out the slip n slide.

Indian Cafe accepting Hill Card: Allowing parents to continue paying twice for all their students meals when they forgo Commons for takeout.

Lack of food in Commons and McEwen: Starvation will not make me more likely to start my research papers more than 48 hours before the due date (24 if there is room for revision).

More Emergency Tests: Didn’t we already establish that text messages and phone calls at 7am are not enough to awaken us? But the alarms at 4? That’s prime naptime!

Can’t use darkside windows as doors: Entering through the door is just too easy. Where’s the challenge?

Housing Lottery Numbers: Who knew a three-digit number could produce so many angry Freshmen? You’re living in Bundy. Just accept it.

New Spam Filters on HillConnect: If Google thinks the library newsletter is Spain, who am I to disagree?

Covergirl/boy of the Continental: It might be more of an accomplishment to never be nominated in the first place.

The Weather: Watching girls try to fit into summer clothes over three months of winter weight is more entertaining than making fun of fat chicks...oh, wait.

ELS renovation: Since there have been no more ELS basement parties the Sexual assault hotline has had to cut back on the number of its employees. The school is blaming the economy, but we know what’s up.

Womyn’s Center talent show: I wonder if I have any friends who can iron a shirt and make a sandwich at the same time.

Parking tickets: “I told you officer, I only parked this close to my dorm so that I could unload all this booze without being written up for violating the bulk alcohol policy.

Dean Urgo leaving: It’s going to be no fun walking to class knowing there is absolutely no chance I will get run off the sidewalk by a dude on a scooter.

Ice rink put away for the summer: How am I supposed to drink evenly reenact scenes from 300 without any yellow noodles to use as swords?!

Almost Naked exhibit in the Emerson Gallery: Almost gave me a boner.

Silent disco: The concept of a concentrated group of silent hipsters is a step in the right direction, but the real achievement will be when we have an “invisible disco.”

No Great Names Speaker: After John Stewart and Aretha Franklin I think the school is better off spending their money on something more useful. How about we rent a giant helicopter to dry off the baseball field after it rains?

Thumbs Up

Want Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down to be funny next year?

Watch for an e-mail in your inbox from The Spectator to vote

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of The Spectator editorial board.

#3 Thumbs Up

DBK opening for Matt and Kim. Now I have hope for the future worth of my Hamilton degree.

We are recovering nicely after Matt and Kim hit Saturday night scattering high schoolers and hipster douchebags all over campus.

Either the nice weather is motivating freshmen to shed their winter pounds or it is hell week on the Hill!

The smell of burning flesh coming from the lacrosse field.

Congratulations Ping pong club! You have usurped the throne of most annoying club on campus from Knit Happens…at least they try with catchy email subjects.

Accepted Student’s day is on 4-19… I am guessing that the strange skunky smell that was experienced last year won’t be a factor in selling the school to the fresh blood.

Brown Bag lunch emails: I only want your bag for when I get drunk and take home a husker from bundy this weekend.

Freshmen freaking out over the housing lottery…accept your destiny and grab some asbestos in Bundy.

Model EU hosts Eurotrash Disco in the Events Barn- wasn’t there something like this last weekend? Oh yea, but that one had people and was fun

Humans Vs Zombies: The only time when it’s excusable to throw your dirty socks at complete strangers.

The Annex: In addition to being a place on campus, The Annex is also where Paul Lieberstein works on The Office. Coincidence? You decide.

The Weather: Clinton is the only place where you can experience the climates of the planets霍th and Endor in a single month.

The Housing Lottery: Yes, it is a bad sign if you have a higher housing lottery number than there are students at Hamilton.

Snapple fact: the giant cesspool of sweaty dancing at Matt & Kim was the REAL source of Sunday’s zombie apocalypse (among many other diseases).

No more cups in Commons: I don’t mind, I have like 30 in my room anyway.

Matt & Kim concert: I mean, the “Lessons Learned” video was cool and all, but we’ve been doing that shit since 2002!
Hamilton’s student union is coming soon. The new Emerson Hall, more commonly known as ELS, is on schedule to open for the 2010-2011 academic year.

The building will house numerous lounge areas for all students and office spaces for student organizations. Other attractions will include a new bookstore, a café and a glass porch with a functioning gas fireplace. The basement will still serve as a social space, but without the graffiti that currently covers its walls.

Associate Director of Physical Plant Bill Huggins has been overseeing the construction. He said that the building was designed to be both “comfortable and functional.”

The new ELS will be almost triple the size of the original structure. Huggins anticipates it will be among the most energy efficient buildings on campus.

Almost every space inside will incorporate some natural light and the building will have an open feel between floors, similar to that of the Kirner-Johnson Building.

The new entrance to ELS will be right off Martin’s Way to make it more accessible than the old entrance that faces College Hill Road. Huggins hopes this will encourage students to stop in as they walk by. When finished, the $10.7 million project will have taken about a year to complete.

A view from the third floor lounge shows the entrance to the student organizations suite. The suite will function as an area for student groups to hold meetings, work on projects and store supplies.

The basement of ELS, shown here, will continue to serve as a space for parties. New additions will include a coat room, a kitchenette and a small stage at the back to accommodate performance groups such as student bands. The graffiti that covers the walls, however, will be removed.
Fight Back with Words
by Mikayla Irle ’12
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Empty chairs sat in a semi-circle under the warm Events Barn lights at the beginning of the performance “Fight Back with Words: Women Speak (Out).” Twelve women interspersed throughout the audience informally left their places at the coffee tables and took a chair on stage. Their casual entrance serves as a reminder that these women, though on Tuesday they spoke words on stage, are not performers; they are our friends and peers, representatives of the many, deeply personal women’s issues often left unrelated, and oratoros of the stories carried by women universally. One at a time, each speaker took a place at the microphone and read a self-authored piece, speaking to some important story or mental experience she had. The colorful performance included poems, fictionalized stories, gritty recollections and one dance break. The variety of stories elicited tears, laughter, and horror on stage with the women and in the highly responsive audience.

“I wanted to give voice to Hamilton women to talk about their personal experiences and speak for themselves,” says Amy Tannenbaum ’10, initiator of the project.

This performance stems from the positive feelings I always get out of the Vagina Monologues, and from my own experience of hearing all of these stories. In my opinion,” Tannenbaum commented in interview, “it is political to bring together a group of women to share these stories, and then to share it with other people and make this conversation public.”

I wanted to give voice to Hamilton women to talk about their personal experiences and speak for themselves,” says Amy Tannenbaum ’10, initiator of the project.

By contrast, the other performance echoed Tannenbaum’s refrain. When did it become taboo to overcome? The women on stage pleaded with the audience not to categorize their feelings, ignore their stories, or trivialize their experiences. Francesca Villa, said (with an overtone of humor) she often took it upon herself to educate the masses in social literacy and stated succinctly to the audience, “Not everyone is just like you.”

“An eating disorder is something you can never turn into a generalized statement,” said another woman, who came to love her body after six years long years of self-inflicted abuse. Recollections of rape, incest, and “carefully calculated starvation” the night, though at once heart-wrenching and horrific, often ended with statements of hope: testaments to the victims’ strength. I am “like a phoenix reborn from the ashes of my despair,” said one young woman recovering from the trauma of violent rape.

The performance lasted about an hour (minus a quick fire-alarm intermission) and the wide spectrum of readings reflected the diversity of emotional and mental experiences of its performers: Fatima Amador ’11, Beth Brotheron who is taking classes part time and works in the library, Ashley Chang ’10, Geo Custodio ’10, Kyra Dahaine ’12, Sonya Garcia ’11, Rosie Haroutunian ’10, Caitlin O’Dowd ’11, Mallory Reed ’10, Shannon Stanfield ’07, Francesca Villa ’10 and Amy Tannenbaum ’10.

“I believe deeply in the power of theatre as an instrument of social change, and it means a lot to me to be able to give women a space to write and tell their stories,” She hopes using theater as an outlet in this way can inspire further conversation that will lead towards action or change.
What is SAVES?

by Jessie Brown ’12  
FEATURES  
Winter

Hamilton SAVES (Sexual Assault and Violence Education and Support) is a small group aiming for a huge impact on campus. According to the group’s Facebook page, the student-run organization is derived from “the 2009 Coalition Against Sexual Violence group” at Hamilton. Despite not being particularly well known, the group is quickly gaining notice for their methods of informing the campus on the issue of sexual assault and violence.

Thus far, this has included colorful flyers seen across campus, notable because they state facts taken from recent Hamilton surveys rather than blaming perceived culprits. Beyond mere advertising, the group is responsible for two upcoming events The first of these is the Clothesline Project. Victims of sexual assault create shirts as an artistic way to convey their personal experiences and donate them to the local YWCA, which circulates them to different locations such as college campuses. The shirts will hang on clotheslines in multiple places on campus from April 26-29 and act as a kind of silent protest.

The second event is a panel discussion that will take place on Wednesday, April 28 at 7 p.m. in the Red Pit. Participants range from survivors of sexual violence to counselors and a representative from campus safety and will discuss their perspectives on the topic from their various standpoints. The event will conclude with a question and answer session.

Though these are the only concrete activities planned for this school year, “the group is working on other projects in various states of development,” said David Walden, a counselor in the Counseling and Psychological Services. Perspective projects include a peer advocate program, in which trained students assist and support the victims of sexual violence in seeking help and, if so desired, pursuing legal action. The group hopes to have a preliminary training program at the end of this month. Another possibility is an escort program similar to the one campus safety already has in place. This option provides an alternative to riding with officers in marked campus safety vehicles that some may find more comfortable.

Top 5 Myths about Reporting an Assault

1. If I report my assault, I’ll have to make it public and everyone will know.

Falsely. Even if you pursue a formal complaint and that complaint requires investigation, the confidentiality of those proceedings must be strictly observed by the Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Board (HSMB).

2. I just want to talk to someone, and if I report my assault I’ll have to “prosecute”.

Not true! You can talk to any member of the HSMB to get information and discuss options. The board member you talk with can only tell the Chair of the Board that someone asked for information-your identity must remain confidential and no records would be kept.

3. I don’t want to have to take classes or live next to my assailant after they found out I reported them.

You don’t have to. Even if you do not file a complaint, you have the right to request taking an incomplete in a class, transferring to a different class section, temporarily withdrawing, or having access to alternative course completion options in addition to changes in housing if that is necessary and these accommodations are reasonably possible.

4. I think that it was partially my fault, so there’s no use in reporting.

Hamilton College defines sexual misconduct as “non-consensual” touching, intercourse or sexual exploitation. If someone does not have your consent, you are not at fault no matter what other circumstances are involved. The reporting procedures at the College are here to protect the rights of all parties involved in the process of pursuing a formal complaint of sexual misconduct.

5. I will have to go through this alone.

You never have to be alone. Whether you just need information or you are pursuing a formal complaint, you have the right to bring a friend, supporter, or advocate with you throughout the entire process. And, as always, you have access to confidential mental health counseling through the Counseling Center.

The statistics on this page are the results of a survey conducted by the Coalition Against Sexual Violence last spring, which was completed by 381 Hamilton students.

Male students who have experienced:

- verbal or visual harassment: 43%  
- stalking/personal space violations: 25%  
- unwanted touching of genitals: 35%  
- legal definition of rape: 6%

Female students who have experienced:

- verbal or visual harassment: 43%  
- stalking/personal space violations: 25%  
- unwanted touching of genitals: 35%  
- legal definition of rape: 6%

Upcoming SAVES events

4/26-29 “Clothesline Project” on display, Opus 1, 2 and Beinecke

4/28 Panel Discussion on Sexual Assault at 7pm, Location: TBD

The project we are considering is forming a peer advocacy program, which would anonymously assist any students who choose to go through the campus reporting process. Anyone interested in this program should contact Kyra Duhaime (kduhaime@hamilton.edu).

MEN SPEAK OUT against sexual violence

While we intellectually know that sexual assault happens in college, we often comfort ourselves by thinking it doesn’t happen at Hamilton. Unfortunately it is all too common. While it’s important to look after yourself and try to avoid situations in which you could either be the perpetrator or victim of a sexually-charged assault, it’s just as important to look after your friends and strangers. Groups of friends, and in particular freshman girls who are statistically most vulnerable, could maybe band together and have a “Designated Buddy.” This individual could choose to remain sober for the night and make sure that their friends don’t get into a bad situation. And I know that it’s all too common to ignore the plights of others just because we don’t know them. But be brave and intervene. If your concern was wrong all you’ve done is embarrass yourself for one moment, but if you’re right then you have made a huge, positive impact on the lives of others.

-Patrick Landers, class of 2012

I think that one of the most important things for men to realize is that sexual contact without verbal consent can be considered sexual assault. Rape and sexual assault are very often not what we usually think (a strange person jumping out from behind a bush and using extreme physical force)- assault is often much more subtle and something that we can commit if we do not seek consent. Respect your partner and ask.

- David Walden, Ph.D., Counseling and Psychological Services

Having participated in events like Take Back the Night and having close female friends who work on this issue, I know that Hamilton’s general attitude towards and recognition of this issue is poor. There are many men on campus who should be ashamed of their treatment of women.

- Ezra Rosenberg, Class of 2010

This article is for general information only. Please consult the Student Handbook for official details and information. If anyone is interested in learning more about Hamilton SAVES, they can contact either David Walden (dwalden@hamilton.edu) or Noelle Niznik (mniznik@hamilton.edu).
I owe my Kenyan community and continue that spirit of support. Naturally, I want to be a member of Hamilton College, helping other students in Kenya gain access to an education more urgently than ever before. The 2008 political upheaval in Kenya has created instability and has also deprived the unique fund raising system in Kenya called “Harambee.”

Throughout my life I have been a beneficiary of several educational programs. As a member of Hamilton College, where giving back to the community is part of the school’s tradition, naturally I want to continue that spirit of support. I owe my Kenyan community and stay students—some of whom came in and out over the course of the day,” remarked Thickstun. Despite her passion for Milton, Thickstun had never attended this type of marathon reading before, although she already is considering having another reading in the future. “I have been thinking about scheduling such a reading earlier in the semester because it would be useful to read through the poem before people write about it, but I’m not sure people would be ready to perform the language,” she said. Indeed, some of the poem can be difficult to read aloud (especially the numerous allusions to historical figures and locations which were abundant in my section), but this didn’t seem to pose too big of a challenge to most of the students.

Some even took the time to rehearse beforehand so that their delivery of the text was more of a performance than a reading. Thickstun noted in particular the quality of the presentation of Book 9. Molly Haughey ’12, Ryan Park ’12, Ian Wayne ’12 and Lauren Magaziner ’12 read the parts of the narrator, Satan, Adam and Eve, respectively. They even used a prop apple, which Satan offered covetingly to Eve. For those lucky enough to catch a book or two of the presentation, it was a worthwhile and tempting distraction from Sunday studying.

Sufficient to Have Stood, but Free to Sit

Lydia Rono ’11 is an international student from Kenya. Rono is the recipient of the Davis Peace Fellowship. Davis Projects for Peace is an initiative for students on more than 90 U.S. campuses to design their own grassroots projects for peace that they themselves will implement anywhere in the world.

The selected projects receive $10,000 each.

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The Career Center:
Job Interviews for Dummies

by Alicia Wright '10

An interview serves as one of the most important interactions between you and your potential employer. Like after a first date, if you screw up an interview, do not expect the employer to call you back. You are a confident Hamilton student, though, so you will not make mistakes.

Wrong. Even the best actor can make some fatal flaws in his or her personal presentation. In an interview, you stand in the spotlight. That means the interviewers are listening to every word you say to catch any blunders.

Erik Kibbe ‘06 works as Campus Recruiting Senior Associate for PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP. Kibbe notes some major turn-offs he has witnessed in an interview. Students who come over-prepared with canned responses do not impress employers. Interviewers want to hire you for the knowledge you will contribute to the company, not what you memorize about the company.

At the conclusion of an interview, if a student does not have any questions to ask, the employer will not want to hire the candidate. Kibbe pointed out that the student should not bring the questions written on paper. Many employers strongly advise against bringing notes to an interview.

“The best interview,” Kibbe said, “is a conversation with questions and answers passed back and forth.” Finally, a student should never talk about future career plans that do not include the company.

Reiterating Kibbe’s point, Tom Jasinski ’81, Vice President of Talent and Organization Effectiveness for Merrill, sees students interview with too much rehears- al. Rather than selling themselves to the company for what they will bring to the table, students tend to focus too much on presenting what they have done.

An interview works much like a sale pitch, Jasinski describes. A sale occurs when the needs of the consumer are filled by the product or service, so an interview candidate should know the goals of the organization, why the job is available, and with whom in particular the student will interview. Use all the resources possible to find out as much about the company as possible so that you can find how you will be a good fit and prove to your interviewer that you are ready to join the company.

Jasinski notes that in hiring a new employee, he looks for three initial things in the candidate: a good education, a purpose in the college studies the candidate pursued, and some sort of experience that the candidate has gained. This does not necessarily mean constant internship experience, Jasinski simply suggests that the candidate spent his or her time doing something significant or at least kept learning.

At the conclusion of an interview, Jasinski recommends taking a “highly focused, action-oriented approach.” Do your homework. Know yourself and the business.

A candidate must also display a high degree of emotional intelligence—self-awareness, self-control, awareness of others, social astuteness—in order for Jasinski to consider the candidate for a position.

Jasinski credits Hamilton for providing much of these facets in the comprehensive nature of its education, but students should not act overzealous about their abilities. Hamilton prepares students to approach the starting line of the rest of their lives, Jasinski said. He added, “Now it really begins.”

“The employer wants to hire you for you,” noted Kibbe. Jasinski suggested practice to become more comfortable in the interview setting. Do as many interviews as you can. The Career Center suggests that students practice conducting informational interviews with professionals in an area of your interest. These settings provide the pressure of an interview and can help you develop the skills of a back and forth conversation in an interview setting.

Career Center Director Kino Ruth works with a student on key interviewing skills.

Petitions on the Hill, winning both the McKinney and Clarke Prizes. After attending law school at the Catholic University of America, Baker worked for the Department of Energy during what he calls “the last great gas crisis,” from 1977 to 1980. On St. Patrick’s Day of 1980, Baker joined Williams and Jen- sen, the Washington, D.C. law firm, where he has been ever since. Baker focuses on legislative policy dealing with natural resources, agriculture, the environment, energy, commodity trading and conservation.

Baker’s post-graduate involvement with Hamilton began in the early 80’s with hosting phonathons in his law office—but, he said, “we really only needed a phone booth because there were so few of us.” Baker joined the Alumni Council in the 1990s and was a member of its Executive Committee for nine years, during which time he created and developed the College’s regional alumni association initiative.

“We were doing our own program of interesting, effective and creative local alumni events in Washington, and the College took note of that as it became more evident that we needed special efforts to meaningfully extend the College beyond the Hill. So it was only natural for me to be responsible for that when I joined the Alumni Council.”

Then, as President of the Alumni Association and Chair- man of the Alumni Council’s Executive Committee, Baker continued to modernize and ex- pand the Alumni Association in response to the evolving needs of the alumni, which included, for the first time, creation of a Multicultural Alumni Commit- tee, focused on reaching out to the needs of Hamilton’s increas- ingly diverse alumni body.

After over a dozen years on the Alumni Council, Baker was elected an alumni trustee in 2007, and he brings his years of experience on the Alumni Council to that work. “My whole per- spective is to be educated and formed by the experience of so many years on the Alumni Council. Every question that I’ve had to wrestle with on the Board of Trustees, I’ve viewed it primarily—or at least ini- tially—through the lens of the alumni, and I’ve always been an activist for alumni interests on the board.”

During his first two years on the board, Baker chaired the Annual Fund. During his tenure at the helm, the An- nual Fund set new records for alumni giving and reversed a downward trend in alumni par- ticipation. In Baker’s second year as Chairman, the Annual Fund set the most aggressive goal in its history of $6 million for the year—in the midst of the global economic crisis. They exceeded their goal, and new records were set for alumni giving and participation.

Baker has had the unique privilege among his fellow Hamilton trustees of spending a considerable amount of time with Hamilton students in the classroom. In the fall of 2009, which coincided with the last presidential election, Baker taught a government seminar on lobbying with his law partner and fellow alumni Frank Vloosak ’89.

Baker described the ex- perience as “one of the most rewarding things that I’ve done in my post-graduate years.” He added that, “while the students were enormously enthusiastic about the subject matter of lob- bying, the course was really important in that it helped tran- sition the seniors from their academic studies to the real world that was awaiting them after Commencement. It’s a valuable transitional experi- ence that can and should be brought into every discipline at the College.”

April 13, 2010

FEATURES

GEORGE BAKER '74

The Trustee Corner: George Baker

by Nick Stagliano ’11

George Baker ’74 learned about Hamilton from his fa- ther, a financial printer on Wall Street who had not at- tended college. “He was im- pressed with the way the guys who graduated from Hamilton spoke about the place,” Baker recalled. “He was very im- pressed that not only did they love it, but that it was such a high-caliber institution. So, my father actually discovered Hamilton.” Baker took his first-ever airplane ride to visit the College and applied Early Decision. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Baker originally planned on majoring in economics at Hamilton, but “[the late Professor of Economics] Sid Wertimer personally—but af- fectionately ‘uninvited’ me from the economics Depart- ment and steered me toward government,” which became Baker’s major. He was exposed to public policy and politics first-hand through the Col- leges program in Washington, D.C., as well as a January Term spent in the Soviet Union.

In addition to his course work, Baker wrote for The Spectator and played junior varsity, lacrosse and soccer, along with “all kinds of extra- curricular things.” After taking a public speaking class with the late Professor of Rhetoric Warren Wright, Baker got involved with the public speaking com-
All is Fair in Love & Blackmail
by Lily Gillespie '12
Arts and Entertainment Editor

What do Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen and Hamilton College have in common? Why, A Doll’s House of course! Ibsen’s masterpiece will be the next play staged by the Hamilton Theatre Department. Although Ibsen’s play is set in Norway at the end of the 19th century, Hamilton has chosen to set its production in the 1960s following the assassination of John F. Kennedy and the publication of Betty Friedan’s famous feminist manifesto, The Feminine Mystique.

The play tells the story of Nora and Torvald Helmer, a seemingly happy couple enjoying their comfortable bourgeois existence. The arrival of several characters brings revelations throughout the piece, including Nora’s seemingly benign admission to her old school friend Mrs. Linde about a trip the former took to Italy with Torvald when his health was failing. Yet, the arrival of Krogstad, a low-level employee at the bank where Torvald works, puts Nora’s happy home at risk when it is revealed that he bears incriminating evidence on the young woman and will resort to blackmail to get what he wants. Nora must then choose between revealing the truth to her husband or finagling her way out of a sticky situation. Much of the play examines the facades we build, be they those of happiness, wealth, or love. Although the piece is over a century old, it addresses very modern concerns and dilemmas, particularly the role of women in society and their relationships with the men in their lives.

For anyone who is familiar with theater, A Doll’s House is structured according to the rules of classical tragedy, but Hamilton’s own adaptation will bring fresh life to a traditional style.

The Voices of Color Lecture Series Presents
Harold Ford, Jr.

Wednesday, April 21
at 7:30 p.m.
Chapel

“A Harold Ford, Jr. served Tennessee in the United States Congress for 10 years. Described by President Bill Clinton as ‘the walking, living embodiment of where America ought to go in the 21st century,’ Ford is now Chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council, a news analyst for NBC and MSNBC ‘the walking, living embodiment of where America ought to go in the 21st century,’ Ford is now Chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council, a news analyst for NBC and MSNBC and a visiting Professor at the NYU Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.”

–Courtesy of Greater Talent Network.

Paul Lieberstein ’89
“Toby” of NBC’s The Office

Friday, April 16
9 p.m., Wellin

The Theatre Department presents
A Doll’s House
Directed by Professor Craig Latrell

April 15-17 at 8:00 pm
April 17 at 2:00 pm
April 21-24 at 8:00 pm
Minor Theater
Admission: $3, students & seniors $5, general

The Hamilton College Democrats present
Baratunde Thurston
Web/Politics Editor of The Onion

Tuesday, April 20
at 7:00 pm
Red Pit

Weekly Charts

MUSIC
(hollywood.com)

Top Songs
1. Rihanna—“Rude Boy”
2. B.o.B. feat. Bruno Mars—“Nothin’ On You”
3. Train—“Hey, Soul Sister”
4. Lady Antebellum—“Need You Now”
5. Lady Gaga feat. Beyonce—“Telephone”

Top Albums
1. Usher—Raymond V Raymond
2. Justin Bieber—My World 2.0
3. Various Artists—Now 33
5. Lady Antebellum—Need You Now

MOVIES
(imdb.com)

1. Clash of the Titans
2. Date Night
3. How to Train Your Dragon
4. Why Did I Get Married Too?
5. The Last Song

BOOKS
(New York Times “Best Sellers”)

PAPERBACK FICTION
1. The Last Song, by Nicholas Sparks
2. The Girl Who Played With Fire, by Stieg Larsson
3. The Girl Who Played With Fire, by Stieg Larsson
4. Little Bee, by Chris Cleave
5. A Reliable Wife, by Robert Goolrick

NON-FICTION
1. Conservative Victory, by Sean Hannity
2. Are You There Vodka? It’s Me, Chelsea, by Chelsea Handler
3. The Blind Side, by Michael Lewis
4. Eat, Pray Love, by Elizabeth Gilbert
5. My Horizontal Life, by Chelsea Handler

A&E upcoming events

Theatre Department presents
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April 15-17 at 8:00 pm
April 17 at 2:00 pm
April 21-24 at 8:00 pm
Minor Theater
Admission: $3, students & seniors $5, general

CAB presents
Joe Purdy & Amber Rubarth

Thursday, April 15
8:00 p.m.
Events Barn

The Office
by Lily Gillespie ’12
Arts and Entertainment Editor

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5. My Horizontal Life, by Chelsea Handler
Misfortune would have it that the maximum occupancy of the Annex is 675 people—by Matt and Kim’s final song Saturday night, the room was filled to that number even as a line of unlucky, ticketless individuals still waited outside the doors. The CAB-sponsored show managed to sell out its preliminary allotment of 600 tickets before the show on Saturday night, saving 75 tickets to be sold at the door. The doors opened at 7:30, but eager concert-goers began showing up as early as an hour beforehand.

The doors opened on schedule in conjunction with the start of a wild set from Hamilton College’s own DownBeat Keys (DBK), energized from the recent release of their second album—Instant Gratification—now available on their website and iTunes. DBK charged through a collection of songs from their first and second releases, including “I Don’t Remember,” a goofy, funk-filled song about a night out.

Following DBK, the second act of the night, the DeathSet, pushed through an even more intense live performance. Transplanted from Australia to Baltimore, the group combines the frenetic pace of punk and Sonic Youth-squall with truly invested live performances. Lead singer/guitarist Johnny Siera and guitarist Dan Walker went through all the usual windmilling and microphone posturing in addition to a few other memorable antics. At one point, Siera planted himself atop drummer Jahphet Landis’s bass drum and let Landis bash out a riff with one stick as Siera fingered the chords.

The only slow moment of the set came when the trio played a song written for co-founder Beau Velasco, who passed away only a few months ago. Not only a principal songwriter for the band, but a figure in the Brooklyn arts community, Velasco’s absence clearly made a mark on the remaining band members, who stilled their corniness for the memorial song. After that lull, the group powered through the remainder of their act, finishing with a powerful rendition of Nirvana’s “Territorial Pissings”—complete with Siera yelling the famed Youngblood’s chorus at the start.

After the DeathSet, there was a fifteen-minute lull during which the Annex filled to bulging capacity. Up towards the stage, there was scarcely room to move among the throng, only a few brave individuals pushing their way determinedly through the crush of limbs and bodies. When the lights went down and Matt and Kim jumped onstage, the crowd went so wild that it seemed as if the duo might not even need to play in order to work the crowd into a dancing frenzy. But Matt sat down at his keyboards and Kim at her drum set, and they ran through a passionate set, hitting key tunes like “I Wanna” and “Good Ol’ Fashioned Nightmare” while throwing in moments like a rousing version of Gary Glitter’s “Rock and Roll, Pt. 2,” briefly turning the venue into a sports arena.

Other highlights of the show included Kim’s short-lived crowd-surfing and her accusation afterward that someone in the audience had tried to pull her shirt off. The guilty party was driven, no doubt, by Matt’s comment that Saturday night would be Kim’s first show of the year without a bra. The duo’s show at Hamilton was, in fact, part of their first week of shows after recording sessions for a third album. After long hours in the studio, “we feel back at home,” Matt announced to the crowd. The duo finished the night with a dynamic version of their song “Daylight,” which saw the entire crowd singing along.
Med School Apps at Hamilton
by Rebecca Shields ’13
Science & Technology Writer

Many students were told when they were younger to aspire to careers that are considered professional, such as accountants, lawyers, business owners and, most importantly, doctors.

Doctors are considered one of the most prestigious career choices for a student to consider. However, the thought of medical school and being in a pre-med program can be daunting, especially when you’re a junior in college with all the different extracurricular activities you may be involved in.

Students often don’t think about what they want to be doing after they graduate. They may only think about what they need to do to get into medical school. That’s where Med School Apps comes in.

Med School Apps is a website that was created to help students in their decision-making process when choosing a medical school. It provides a comprehensive list of medical schools, including the acceptance rates, average GPA, average MCAT scores, and other important factors.

The website allows students to filter their search by location, school type, and school size. Additionally, students can sort the schools based on their rankings, acceptance rates, and other important factors.

The website also provides information on the medical school’s curriculum, faculty, and research opportunities. Students can view the medical school’s website, read reviews from current students, and even connect with current students to ask questions.

Med School Apps is a valuable resource for students who are considering a career in medicine. It provides students with the information they need to make an informed decision about where to apply.

Professor Profile: Systematic Biology
by Ashleigh Smythe Visiting Assistant Professor of Biology

This is part of a series on the research our professors pursue outside of the classroom. It is intended to further the Hamilton Community’s understanding of the scientific and academic community we have on campus.

What is your specialty in your field?
I am a systematic biologist—someone who studies biological diversity and its origins. Systematics aims to understand evolutionary relationships among organisms, how traits and structures evolve, and how organisms are classified and named. The organisms I study are nematodes, commonly called round worms or thread worms. The most well known nematodes are parasites of animals (such as heart worms that can kill your pet dogs or paramecia that children, even in the US, can get) or plants.

While the parasitic nema
todes attract the most attention, the vast majority of nematodes are not parasites but instead are free-living. Free-living nematodes are microscopic worms (usually around a half of a millimeter long) found in virtually every type of soil all over the world. They are in terrestrial soils like the lawns on campus, forests, even deserts, as well as in aquatic sediments like mud in lakes and streams and sand in all marine habitats. My primary research interest is in understanding the evolution and diversity of nematodes.

What research question(s) are you currently interested in?
I have a number of projects currently underway, primarily involving free-living marine nematodes. The greatest diversity of nematodes is found in the marine environment, where at least half of all nematodes live in the ocean.
The Diversity and Evolution of Nematodes

Professor Smythe studies nematodes, or round worms, (pictured) to establish the evolutionary relationships between them. Nematodes are one of the most diverse groups of animals on the planet. They have an endoskeleton, which gives them a rigid, cylindrical shape with a说出来 of structures are intermediate. EVOLUTION OF STRUCTURES IN AND ON THE MOUTH REGION

I am also interested in documenting the diversity of all marine nematodes, both by describing new species and conducting surveys of nematodes from marine habitats, particularly in parts of the Caribbean.

Why are you interested in these questions?

The evolution of nematodes is fascinating because they are one of the most diverse groups of animals on the planet; yet they receive relatively little attention from scientists. No one really knows how many species of nematodes are found on earth, but estimates vary radically from 500,000 to 100,000,000 species. Only 25,000 nematode species have been discovered thus far, so we are only beginning to grasp the diversity that the earth holds.

Nematodes are not only important as some of the largest contributors to the earth’s biodiversity, but are also of great economic importance. Plant parasitic nematodes decrease yields and spread viruses in innumerable crops and animal parasites infect humans and livestock. I think it is important to understand the diversity of life on earth, both for the sake of basic knowledge and for maintaining a healthy environment in which humans and other organisms can live. Finally, much of why I am interested in nematodes is aesthetic – under the microscope nematodes are the most beautiful organisms I know. They have an endless array of interesting and intricate structures and I never tire of looking at them.

What methods are you using to answer these questions in your lab and in the field?

My research combines field and laboratory techniques. I have collected marine nematodes from many parts of the world, including the eastern and western US, Japan, Panama, Belize and Tobago. On beaches I collect by simply scooping sand into a bucket and sieving the nematodes out of the sand. Offshore I sometimes collect sand by a dredge from a boat or in coral reef habitats I collect by SCUBA diving. Back in the lab, I use a microscope to identify nematodes and preserve them for subsequent research.

For species descriptions, I use traditional light microscopy to measure different structures on the nematodes and make line drawings of them, as well as taking digital images. In order to study the evolutionary relationships of nematodes, I use modern molecular techniques. I extract the DNA from the nematodes and isolate several genes from them. Sophisticated computational methods compare the DNA sequences and evaluate evolutionary relationships.

What impact do you hope your work will have?

I hope my work will contribute to our understanding of the diversity of life on earth. I also hope to encourage scientists and the public to appreciate nematodes for their beauty and the important roles they play in nature.
Have you ever complained about not having enough time to finish your paper? Have you ever whined about the day being too short to get work done? If so, you can blame earthquakes for the “loss of time.” Seismologists at NASA have estimated that the Earth’s overall mass distribution has likely been altered due to the recent Chilean earthquake, which has shortened the length of the day by 1.26 microseconds and moved the Earth’s figure axis by 8 cm.

On Feb. 27, a magnitude 8.8 earthquake struck the coast of the Maule Region of Chile. It was the seventh strongest earthquake ever measured, and it was five hundred times more forceful than the magnitude 7.0 earthquake in Haiti in January. The earthquake not only shook the Chilean coast, but tilted the Earth’s rotational axis by a few centimeters, which was the key factor to the change of the length of a day.

It’s important to comprehend what causes an earthquake in order to understand how an earthquake can actually cause a “loss of time.” According to the Plate Tectonics Theory, the Earth’s outer shell is like a jigsaw puzzle made of giant pieces, or tectonic plates, that fit together. Scientists have identified seven large plates (the North American Plate, the South American Plate, the Eurasian Plate, the African Plate, the Indo-Australian Plate, the Pacific Plate and the Antarctic Plate) and many other smaller plates (the Arabian Plate, the Nazca Plate and the Caribbean Plate, etc.).

Even though people often compare the tectonic plates to pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, the tectonic plates do not always fit together well. In fact, each tectonic plate moves individually, and the plates are always in motion. As a result, two or more tectonic plates may collide, move apart or slip past each other, so the border between two plates can be fraught with volcanoes or earthquakes.

Chile sits on the border of the South American Plate and the Nazca Plate. These two plates have been colliding at an annual rate of about 3.1 inches. It might not seem fast to us, but according to geophysicists, it is one of the fastest plate convergence rates on Earth.

On Feb. 27, two plates slipped past each other by 20 or 30 feet, relieving the stress built up between the two plates and resulting in a devastating earthquake. After the earthquake, a large portion of the Nazca Plate has moved toward the center of the Earth, pulling mass in closer to the center. The rotation of the Earth is affected by its mass distribution because of rotational inertia, much like an ice skater who can spin faster as she brings her arms towards her body.

As tectonic plates move, the mass distribution of the Earth changes, so the planet changes the way it spins as well. Because of the conservation of momentum, when the axis of rotation shifted by a bit, the Earth picked up a different rotational speed. In this case, more mass has moved toward the center of the Earth, so it started spinning faster. The earthquake happened on the Southern Hemisphere, so the earth’s rotational axis tilted.

As the Earth spins faster, days get shorter. But don’t worry — you probably won’t even notice the loss of time. The earthquake shortened a day only by about 1.26 microseconds, not even enough time to blink an eye.
Softball Wins Double-Header At Home
by Brooke Rayder ‘11
Sweats Wetted
With noth Burgundy and Blue, with white ‘99 and blue ‘00, the Hamilton softball team is ready for action. The team is looking forward to its next game at home against SUNY Cobleskill on Saturday, April 17.

The Continentals’ next game is at Morrisville State on April 18, with a doubleheader against Crafton Hills College.

Liz Reid ‘10 has provided some offensive production in Amanda Nardi’s absence so far. The team has found offensive success in Nardi’s absence, with a combined 2-14 overall record for the last two seasons.

With a clean slate, we wanted to set the bar high and the team has been successful so far. The team has scored three of the Continentals’ four runs. In addition to Montgomery’s bat trick, Keating also contributed one try and Jocelyn Bos-Fisher ’10 connected on one post-try kick.

The victory over Salisbury clinched a spot in the tournament semi-final game against Northeastern University. Northeastern’s Lady Maddogs were no competition for the reorganized Continentals. “We just showed up ready to play. They were very physical,” said Ryder. “But we were able to out我们的 speed to our advantage.” Hamilton used that speed to cruise to an easy victory, defeating Northeastern 26-5. In the final game, Hamilton took on the Rocks at Slippery Rock University. En route to the championship game, Slippery Rock defeated the US Naval Academy 10-0.

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April 15, 2010

Golf Finishes First in Home Spring Invitational

by Kendall Weir ’12

Spectator Sports

Nearing the conclusion of their month-long spring season, the Hamilton men’s golf team finds itself looking forward to the 2010 NESCAC Championships.

To begin their abbreviated spring tour, the Continentals spent their spring break in Port St. Lucie, Florida. Led by Captain Phil Press ’10, the team won its first match of the season in Florida, defeating Wesleyan University at The Saints Golf Course. Press led the field of 14 with a 5-over 77.

The team then competed in the Sunshine Invitational over break, finishing second behind Trinity College. Press took the Continentals’ lowest round again, completing the course with a 3-over 75. Trinity won the invitational with a team score of 293, beating Hamilton 307 and Williams’ 313.

“We showed our depth and talent in the fall, and continued to do so in Florida, where we were able to defeat Williams by a hefty margin” said Press.

The two teams, along with Williams and Middlebury, will be joined by nine other teams at the Hamilton Spring Invitational, hosted by Hamilton College. Preiss shot the Continentals’ lowest round again, completing the course with a 3-over 75.

Men’s Lacrosse Eyes Championship Season

by Greg Hyman ’12

Spectator Sports

The Hamilton men’s lacrosse team played their first three Liberty League games last week, losing the first two at home against Rensselaer and Union and winning the third in Poughkeepsie against Vassar. Overall, the Continentals are 7-2 after starting the season undefeated.

Hosting No. 19-ranked RPI (8-1) on April 3, Hamilton kept the game tight into the third quarter until the Engineers erupted for four goals, going on to win 11-5. Paul Armideo ’13 led Hamilton with two goals and one assist. Henry Burchenal ’12 picked up a game-high seven ground balls, and Max Vaikus ’12 played the first 33:57 in goal, recording three saves. The Continentals shutout Rensselaer 31-23.

Four days later, Hamilton hosted Union College (7-1), Union jumped out to an early 3-0 lead and kept the same pace, beating the Continentals by a final score of 10-5. The Continentals had five different players score a goal in the loss. Luke Sadoff ’12 had a goal and an assist, Paul Citarella ’12 won five faceoffs, and Garrett Akie ’12 played all 60 minutes in goal, making nine saves. Again, Hamilton held a slight edge in shots, 32-29.

Attacker Audrey Nebergall ’10 goes for the score, but her shot is caught by the goalie.

Women’s Lacrosse Remains Unbeaten

by Lindsay Getman ’10

Production Editor

The No. 3 ranked Hamilton women’s lacrosse team continued its dominance and improved its record to 11-0 with four wins against in-conference opponents and one out-of-conference win, including a shutout of Liberty League opponent Clarkson University on April 10. Hamilton faced its first in-conference opponent, Rensselaer, on April 2. Tough defense by the Continentals, (forced 20 Engine gers turnovers), as well as a balanced offense were the keys to success in the 17-7 win. Hillary Saverin ’10 had three goals, while six players—Sarah Bray ’11, Anne Grauvel ’11, Rachel Friedmann ’13, Liz Rave ’10, Kate Oleary ’12, Ashley Allen ’12 and Libby Schultz ’12 — each scored two. Bray also contributed a career-high six assists. Kate Fowler ’10 spent most of the game in goal, making four saves, while Sam Ellis ’12 added one.

The following day the team played another game road con tent at Vassar. After a low-scoring first half, Hamilton was able to gain control of the contest. After Schultz’s goal with 15:18 to play in the second half, the Continentals went on a 9-1 run capped by a free position goal by Allen with three seconds remaining. By the end, the Continentals had outshot Rensselaer 45-16 and controlled their 16-5. Fowler finished with eight saves.

After getting off to its best start in school history on the road (the first eight wins all came in away contests), the team finally returned to Steuben Field for their home opener against St. Lawrence. Fans came out in full force to watch the Continentals rout another opponent. The Saints only managed to put in two goals in each half, and the final score—19-4 —proved that they were simply no match for the offensive prowess of the Conti

The morning’s long delay appeared to have a lasting effect on the Continentals, as they allowed the Seagulls to control the tempo, finishing the first half down 10-4. But this lull did not last long. According to Kate Fillion ’10, stirring halftime pep talk from Head Coach Amanda Benoit was all that Hamilton needed to take back control, and with that control, a 22-10 victory.

Club President Lesley Ryder ’11 recalled, “We had a hard time getting started against Salisbury, but in the second half we finally...

W. Rugby Finishes 2nd in Cherry Blossom Tournament

by Erin Hoener ’10

Editor-in-chief Emeritus

Despite delays in the action, the Continentals landed a second place finish at the National Cherry Blossom Rugby Tournament in Washington, D.C.

To begin the tournament, the Continentals arrived at the RoscoeFareway before 8 a.m. on Saturday morning to prepare for their 9 a.m. match against Virginia Commonwealth University; however, VCU never showed up. While VCU’s forfeit put Hamilton one step closer to the championship game, it also forced the Continentals to idle the next two hours until their 11 a.m. game against Salisbury University.

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