College Plans to Curb Compsumption

by Emily Delbridge ’13

News Winter

“It’s definitely one of the most anticipated days of the year,” said Andrew Boddorff ‘10 of Hamilton’s Class & Charter Day. Friday, May 7 is the 60th annual Class & Charter Day. This last day of classes is meant to give the campus a chance to celebrate the founding of the College, the completion of the academic year and all student and faculty accomplishments.

The day is typically marked by students drinking heavily from morning through evening and large, raucous parties, which have often led to alcohol-related injuries. Last year, Hamilton’s emergency medical technicians (EMTs) received six calls, four for alcohol-related injuries, resulting in four Clinton ambulances simultaneously arriving on campus in response to emergency calls.

This year, Dannah Lynch, a registered nurse at the Health Center who supervises EMTs, plans to evacuate EMTs across campus. EMTs will use two golf carts to help them get to injured students quickly, despite the roads being blocked off for the HamTrek triathlon. Both the emergency responders and Campus Safety are keeping extra staff on campus to respond to emergencies.

TDX Suspended

An investigation conducted by the Dean of Students Office concluded the fraternity was in violation of the College’s hazing policy.

The first suspension of a Greek organization at Hamilton College in nearly half a decade was announced on Tuesday, April 20. The Theta Delta Chi fraternity (TDX) was suspended for violating the College’s hazing rules, effective immediately. The following traces the story from the hazing incident to the College’s investigation and response.

Playing with fire

The incident which led to the hazing complaint occurred a few weeks ago. According to Dean of Students Nancy Thompson, a student was injured after walking across embers of a fire during a TDX event. The facts leading up to the alleged hazing are not in significant dispute. According to former TDX President Teddy McBride ’10, the event was a chance to inform pledges about the history of the fraternity. Pledges and brothers were sitting around a fire sharing stories—according to McBride, it was “a night where everybody’s equal,” intended to prepare pledges for their initiation into brotherhood. McBride also recalled that there was no alcohol provided at the event and he did not notice anyone who appeared intoxicated.

Towards the end of the evening, the fire was doused. McBride said that both brothers and pledges were dancing around the remnants of the fire, and a few elected to walk around the doused embers, at which point a student may have been injured. However, he recalled that at the conclusion of the evening “nobody seemed hurt.” Thompson’s account was similar to McBride’s; she noted in her e-mail to the campus that the “activity culminated in members and pledges walking across embers.”

Apologies were given, however, injured by walking across the embers. This was reported to the College administration, leading to disciplinary proceedings.

With the usual venue of G-Road prohibited last year, students moved Class and Charter Day parties to locations like Eells House. The College says large gatherings will not be allowed this year.

office’s Toby Goes Off Script in Return to Hill

by Kate Moore ’12

News E nocta

Hamilton students are privileged to have alumni who make generous donations, recruit prospective students and provide networking opportunities. However, few alumni are able to offer the valuable guidance of a sage who has made the journey from economics major to failed auditor to successful writer and actor, most notably on NBC’s hit show The Office. Paul Lieberstein ’89 is an exception.

On Friday, April 16, Lieberstein gave an open lecture to the Hamilton community. He toured the campus and shared lunch with President Joan Hinde Stewart and dinner with the Campus Activities Board.

Dave Eng, assistant director of student activities, considered Lieberstein’s visit a huge success.

“He’s so charming,” Eng told The Spectator. “Unlike his solemn character Toby, who is often the target of incessant ridicule by his boss, Paul’s warm and charming personality made welcoming him back to Hamilton College a true pleasure,” Eng said.

The celebrity alumni also met with student improv and sketch comedy groups, media organizations, writing organizations, Student Assembly and members of his fraternity Chi Psi.

“Paul was awesome. What I loved the most about his presentation, aside from the fact that he loves The Wire, is how he stressed that our majors don’t define our lives. Best advice an alum has ever given,” said Jennifer Hightower ’12.

With every seat taken in Wellin Hall, Lieberstein opened with an anecdote about his days as a rogue Hamilton student, including breaking into the pool (while it was still under construction), stints with intramural hockey and the jazz ensemble and a less than inspiring career center appointment.

He went on to outline the evolution of his career in media, citing experience with shows such as The Wire, King of the Hill, and The Office.

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He went on to outline the evolution of his career in media, citing experience with shows such as The Wire, King of the Hill and Clarissa Explains It All. Lieberstein is best known for his work as a writer, producer and actor on the American version of The Office, which is currently in its sixth season.

The lecture ended with an open question and answer session in which Lieberstein revealed information ranging from the dorms he lived in at Hamilton (Dunham, Spencer House and Milbank) to the Office character he would most like to kill off (Michael Scott). He also said that his future plans included getting his own show picked up by a network.

In an interview with The Spectator, Lieberstein said of Hamilton, “So little has changed, that’s what I find shocking. I came here expecting a lot of change. The divide between campus is the same.”
**Students Frustrated with 60/40 Rule Shutting Door on Housing**

by Emily Gerston '11

Female students who were hoping for a Kirkland dorm quickly had their hopes dashed as the fourth floor was closed to women within the first 10 numbers of the substance-free lottery. During the blocking lottery, Babbitt also closed to women. Residential Life has a policy that buildings (or sometimes individual floors) should not have more than 60 percent of one sex.

“We’re trying to try to provide the opportunity for all students to have reasonably equal access to all types of living situations,” said Director of Residential Life Travis Hill. “We don’t want any one sex to dominate a living environment. Sometimes, it doesn’t work, such as Carnegie which may not have more than 60 percent of each floor be one sex.” Jen Santoro ‘11 hoped to get a Kirkland dorm. “I mean, I wouldn’t mind, but I want it,” she said. “I mean, I wouldn’t have a problem with all girls dorms or all guys dorms. I wouldn’t live in one, but 60-20 or 90-10 or 75-25 is just a little too heavy.” While the “60/40 rule” has always affected the housing lottery, this year marked the first time that students registered online for the lottery and the new registration system required sign-ups at the Residential Life office.

Eastside Area Director Ashley Menard was unsure of how the new system would work. “We tested it out this summer,” she explained. “Obviously there were a couple of glitches but overall it made it a lot easier for students to just sign up and not have to come into the office – they could just sign up at 3 a.m. if they wanted. It just made it a lot more convenient for us and them.” Santoro took advantage of the new system to the fullest extent. “I don’t remember when or where I was when I registered, but I registered for the substance-free lottery on my iPod,” she said. “I got an e-mail confirming it, and after I signed up I thought ‘Thank you! page you get after taking a Hamilton survey.’”

Not everyone had a positive experience with the new registration system. “There were a couple of students who got confirmation e-mails but weren’t on our list, but they showed up and showed us their confirmation e-mails,” Menard explained. “That’s already been addressed with ITS and they’re working on it for us.”

Hill urged students to save their confirmation e-mails just in case.

The new registration system has not been applied to the blocking lottery for logistical reasons. “The blocking lottery is a challenge because it’s a group of six people,” said Menard. “In order for us to make it work, we had to make everybody sign up on just a piece of paper.”

**TDX Suspended For Hazing**

from TDX, page 1

proceedings. According to Diann Lynch of the Student Health Center, no Hamilton emergency medical services were activated during the brawl all semester. While Lynch could not comment on the specifics of this case due to New York State law, it is clear that the student was not treated by Hamilton Emergency Medical Services. Mcbride said that the pledge who was injured will not face any sanction from the fraternity.

“Hazing will not be tolerated”

According to Thompson, the embers incident constituted hazing because it was a society-sponsored, dangerous and there was implicit coercion in the event. The “implicit coercion” stemmed from the fact that many of the fraternity brothers were walking across the embers. Even if no pledge was explicitly told to walk on the embers, Thompson said, the brothers’ participation could make a pledge could feel pressured. This view is based on the College’s position on hazing, which states that “Hazing behaviors include...[acts taken] either directly or indirectly, of membership, advancement, or good standing in a College-recognized organization.”

As a result of the hazing, the Dean of Students’ office suspended TDX for the rest of this semester and all of next year. According to Thompson, for the 2010-2011 school year the fraternity is prohibited from using the College’s name, use of the College mail system, reservation and use of on-campus social and meeting space, and other College facilities. TDX may not sponsor any parties off-campus during this time. In addition, the fraternity is not permitted to have a pledge class in the 2010-2011 academic year.

Current pledges (from the 2009-2010 year) will be considered brothers in TDX, even though they will not complete the pledging process this spring. Thompson allowed these pledges to become brothers so she could give them TDX “the strong base” upon its return to campus.

The fraternity’s return will occur during the 2011-2012 academic year. Upon returning, TDX will be put on probation for the entire duration of its probationary period, the College will work with the local charge of TDX and the national organization to revamp the pledging process. TDX refers to its on-campus groups as “chapters,” not “fraternities.” The fraternity will be permitted to accept new pledges during its probationary period in a process coordinated with the College. Until the fraternity is off probation, it may “not sponsor social events or off campus,” according to Thompson. As a result of the suspension and subsequent probation, TDX will not be hosting any parties for the next two years. Thompson said that he expected that through-out the process TDX has been “very cooperative.” However, she decided to suspend TDX because hewanted to make a clear statement that hazing will not be tolerated. “I want to clamp down on any activity...that endangers the health or safety of any student,” she said. Inher e-mail regarding the suspension, Thompson said that the College will soon begin conducting its first review of the pledge period since 1995. In addition to the sanctions imposed on the fraternity, the leadership of TDX was sanctioned in Judicial Board proceedings.

The President of TDX has been suspended for the 2010 fall semester. He will be permitted to remain on campus for the remainder of the spring 2010 semester. The Vice President received eight points.

**A campus divided**

A number of people on campus have a connection to the incident who were asked for comment. Thompson had no comment on the matter beyond clarifying the statements in her e-mail to the campus. TDX has about a dozen brothers on the men’s lacrosse team; however, Coach Scott Barnard had no comment when asked about the incident. The current leadership of TDX had no comment on the issue but provided background information.

The Spectator put out a survey Wednesday, April 21 asking students about their views of Greek organizations on campus. There were 344 responses to the survey in the 12 hours the survey was open. Of the respondents, 114 (33.1 percent) identified as a member of a Greek organization; this is comparable to Hamilton’s overall rate of Greek participation.

Seventeen respondents had a “very negative” view of Greek organizations; another 40 had a “negative” view. The plurality of responses (159, 46 percent) expressed mixed feelings about Greek life, noting that there were “both positive and negative” aspects to Greek life. Students’ opinions on hazing differed greatly. Some expressed frustration with non-Greeks who comment on hazing; one student said “hazing is a complex topic. Unless you are a member of a Greek organization, you will likely not understand the true meaning and purpose of what goes on during a society’s initiation procedure.”

Other students expressed difference towards hazing, citing the freedom of individuals to make their own choices. One wrote, “the people who get法律责任 are all legal adults. They know the difference between right and wrong! If they feel that they are being asked to do something that they know is wrong, they should not do it. We are all adults and should not have to deal with the suffocation of the school’s administration.”

Many students doubted the value of hazing. One asked, “Would a true friend make you do it?” A more detailed sample of the responses to the survey will be featured in next week’s issue of The Spectator.
Student Assembly Update
by Eve Denton ’12
STUDENT ASSEMBLY CORRESPONDENT

Members Express Concern Over C&C Day Bans on Containers, Large Groups

At the April 19 Student Assembly meeting, the discussion continued regarding how to make Class & Charter a safe and fun day for all involved. Although the Alcohol Coalition appreciated the Assembly’s suggestions, they felt it was too late in the year to implement many of them. However, if currently planned activities such as the concert go smoothly this year, a student activities committee will consider holding next year’s Class & Charter Day.

For this year’s Class & Charter Day, no containers will be allowed anywhere outside or in public buildings on campus, with the exception of special water bottles that will be made available by the College. In addition, no large group gatherings will be allowed, such as ones in the past that occurred at the Griffin Road apartments or behind Eells House residence hall. Campus Safety will determine what constitutes a “large group gathering.”

Several members of the Assembly raised objections to the container policy. One stated that she felt the ban on containers was not environmentally friendly and came at an odd time as Hamilton is trying to implement the HEAG red mug program. Another member feared that the ban would lead to further binge drinking in the privacy of dorm rooms rather than controlled drinking throughout the day. A third member brought up feelings that the policy is unfair since plenty of students who simply want to have a bottle of water during the day may be unable to do so.

The Alcohol Coalition is hopeful that this approach to Class & Charter Day will make it safer, while still allowing for fun.

Former Congressman Harold Ford Jr. Discusses Challenges Facing America
by Adam Fix ’13
NEWS WRITER

What is the greatest responsibility of citizens of a democracy? Harold Ford Jr., former United States Congressman from Tennessee’s 9th district, addressed this and other issues on Wednesday, April 21 as part of the Voices of Color lecture series in the Chapel.

Describing himself as a moderate Democrat, Ford pointed out the importance of listening to and understanding the varying ideas and points of view that characterize a democracy. Referring to the extreme partisan divide in Washington, he declared that the people of the nations of America need to “find ways to work together, understand where we differ and appreciate where we agree.”

Ford pointed out three main challenges facing the current generation of college students in America: the two Middle-East wars, global economic competition and the waning of the American middle class. Ford described these as “under Siege” by an increasing chaos and potential for injury. “I’ve truly learned so much more from these than I have from any of the books I’ve read. They’ll honestly tell you the pros, the cons, what sorts of everyday tasks they are required to do,” said Lauren “Lennie” Spect ‘11. “The GOLD Summit is just another way to connect undergrads with alumni to make the transfer from college to the real world smoother as possible.”

Spring Volunteer Weekend was full of open houses, tours, student performances and sports games. Like the GOLD Summit, it included several mixers for alumni and students.

“Attending the event – both Kirkland and Hamilton – were friendly and eager to talk about Hamilton, both then and now. I really enjoyed meeting all the alumni and it was nice to see how enthusiastic they remain about Hamilton even 20, 30 or 40 years down the road,” said Caitlin Lavin ’10. GOLD is an organization comprised of alumni of the past 10 years, and is one of the United States’ oldest organizations for recent graduates. Young alumni make up nearly a quarter of Hamilton’s alumni population, and as such, provide significant support for Hamilton.

In addition to their annual summit, GOLD funds one Hamilton student as a GOLD Scholar for every $15,000 donated by recent alumni; selection is based on financial need and performance both in and out of the classroom. To date, there are 25 GOLD Scholars.

Alumni Pay Visit for GOLD Summit, Volunteer Weekend
by Arianne Bergman ’13
NEWS WRITER

Recent alumni flooded Hamilton this weekend for the Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) Summit and Spring Volunteer Weekend.

The summit focused heavily on networking, giving students an opportunity to talk to alumni in their field of interest. “I’ve truly learned so much more from these than I have from any of the books I’ve read. They’ll honestly tell you the pros, the cons, what sorts of everyday tasks they are required to do,” said Lauren “Lennie” Spect ‘11. “The GOLD Summit is just another way to connect undergrads with alumni to make the transfer from college to the ‘real world’ smoother as possible.”

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College Officials Offer Concert, HamTrek as Alternatives to Drinking on C&C Day

Although uncertain about the impact of shutting down the G Road party, Assistant Director of Campus Safety Wayne Gentile feels that HamTrek, a sprint triathlon, has been successful in tempering the campus by diverting some students’ celebratory energy into friendly competition. “HamTrek has been huge,” Gentile said. “There has been a lot of great participation by the athletes and everyone so I really think that it has made a difference.”

In part to provide another alternative to drinking, Magnarelli has arranged for the band Passion Pit to play a concert on campus as part of the day’s entertainment. The administration hopes that this organized event will lead students to spend time outside in public areas without drinking. An outside security firm will be on site (on either side of the road) to help Campus Safety, both with crowd control and ensuring that students do not drink at the concert.

The administration hopes that the enforcement of the open container policy, along with deterrence of large gatherings and several outdoor entertainment opportunities will encourage safe student behavior while celebrating. As Thompson summed up the new approach, “We don’t want to take the fun away from the day, just the chaos and potential for injury.”
College and Greeks Should Make New Pledge Together

The recent suspension of TDX has brought to light some concerns about the Greek community. Many students would agree that Greek societies play both a positive and negative role on campus. Although pledging is rooted in decades-old traditions, this incident demonstrates that there is a distinction between good traditions and bad traditions. No action is infallible simply by virtue of its history.

Once pledging begins, a student is free at any time to quit. In this sense, all acts of pledging are “voluntary.” However, it is no secret that at the point where the distinction between “pledging” and “hazing” becomes fuzzy, participation may no longer be truly optional. Pledging requires members to commit on a level that is difficult to regulate, making it impossible to evaluate individual responsibility.

Hazing can mean different things to different people. There is a fine and disputed line between productive bonding activities and dangerous hazing. Both the law and college policy fail to do more than vaguely define hazing and are therefore difficult to follow or enforce. However, there are requirements of the current pledging process that are without a doubt “morally degrading or humiliating.” While some things will never be agreed upon as “hazing,” there are actions that are clearly in violation of the guidelines. The task lies with those who are already members to decide where to draw that line.

If the administration is unable to establish a clear policy, we cannot expect that the societies will easily decide on one themselves. The best way for the administration and student body to proceed from this point is to work with members of the Greek community to decide where the line can be drawn between pledging and hazing—and to ensure that both administration and societies follow through on this decision.

At this juncture, many organizations have already begun to evaluate their initiation processes, and we applaud them for this. This is a crucial time for members of Greek life to reexamine how they currently operate and how they want to operate in the future.
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Where is the Love? Relationships (or Lack Thereof) at Hamilton

by Rebecca Pomerantz

Features Writer

According to the February HamPoll survey (which questioned students about their love and sex lives), the gist of the April 10 relationship quiz was that there seem to be a lot of “single-oriented events” on campus, not that there are enough opportunities for dating and social media,” the semester beings through e-mail, texting and general student consensus, “hookups” seem to prevail over long-term relationships at Hamilton.

“Many people that I talk to during a day are engaged in hooking up rather than in committed relationships,” noted David Walden, Ph.D., a counselor at the College. The HamPoll survey similarly reported that 70 percent of participants found it easier to find a casual, short-term relationship than a long-term, more serious one. The reasons for this, however, are not quite clear.

Walden attributes this culture to a number of factors including “the modern era of quick, superficial contact with other human beings through e-mail, texting and social media,” the semester beings through e-mail, texting and general student consensus, “hookups” seem to prevail over long-term relationships at Hamilton where few people live off campus.

When asked if there are enough opportunities for dating on campus, 54 percent of students surveyed responded that they felt at a loss for activities. Sarah Kelley ’12 agreed that there seem to be a lot of “single-oriented events” on campus, noting “Most people go to acoustic coffeehouses and concerts with a group of friends. You wouldn’t ask a date.” Similarly, Amina Siibaint ‘11 said, “One doesn’t go to a Bundy party to find a husband or boyfriend. That’s just stupid.”

On the other hand, senior Devon Farkas said, “There are plenty of activities. If you want to go on a date with someone go to a free concert at Wellin and then go to the free movie theater (KJ or any academic room with a projector).”

One way of which to analyze the dating scene is to look at those students involved in different activities, teams and organizations on campus. Interestingly, the HamPoll found that students who are on varsity sports teams are 18 percent more likely to be in long-distance relationships than those who are not in teams. Additionally, Greek students are 13 percent more likely to be in relationships than non-Greek students (leading to random hookups) and 13 percent more like than “Lightshiders” and students who maintain a high GPA are 9 percent more likely.

Walden, though, believes that perhaps the biggest factor contributing to the dominant hookup scene is the comfort with interpersonal intimacy. Often, he said, students “almost don’t know what to do with themselves when relating to someone on that level.” I’ll suggest to clients that they go out on a date such as dinner and a movie or coffee at Opus and some will react in horror as if they could never engage like that with another human being.”

Oftentimes, though, these same people will be willing to have sex with someone they have never had a decent conversation with. In the February HamPoll, 58 percent of students responded that they see casual sex as acceptable, while only 36 percent said they were not comfortable with it.

A recent HamPoll survey reported that 61 percent of students would like to “settle down” with one person during college. But 70 percent of participants said it’s easier to find “casual hook-ups” than a serious relationship.

“I think our age is what contributes to this. We’re all young, wanna have fun and are interested in our peers and sex. Sometimes our interest in each other is more than our interest in sex (leading to serious relationships), some times more in sex than each other (leading to random hookups) and sometimes a happy medium (leading to casual dating)” observed Farkas.

One possible explanation for the rise of hookups and the decline of relationships is a culture shift on the part of our generation. This culture includes the driven, younger individual (both male and female) with higher career aspirations heading out of college. “There has been a shift away from pursuing close relationships with other people…in favor of pursuing individualistic goals, career and success,” said Walden. “We cannot ignore that so much of our energy as devoted to individualistic pursuits at the expense of exploring and enjoying the potential of relating to other people,” he added.

It seems that oftentimes the casual relationship is also manifested in a loss of intimacy and interpersonal communication between individuals, giving rise to hookups. Regarding her generation’s loss of intimacy, Kelley said, “Many people are afraid to put themselves on the line and this is facilitated by excessive drinking which acts as a means of self-handicapping.”

Part of the culture shift is also the longer acceptable time-span for finding a spouse. Whereas college used to be viewed as a time to find a “life partner,” students now more than ever are just looking for education and fun. I think more people start looking for a life partner towards the senior year if at all… I think most people here feel like college won’t be the last time to find a partner,” said Farkas. While a hookup culture may be dominant on campus, it does not mean that relationships or the desire for relationships do not exist. In fact, of the percent of the campus surveyed, 43 percent percent would like to settle down with one person during college. 43 percent report to be in a relationship and 51 percent of those in relationships have been in that relationship for at least a year. So why, then, do HamPoll results show that short-term relationships easier to attain than long-term relationships?”

One possible explanation may be the apparent social differences between the sexes which seem to become clearer with regard to relationship status. “I think that heterosexual men on campus are far more likely to be okay with casual sexual contact and far fewer on an ongoing basis than a more serious relationship” said Walden.

He suggested, however, that men desire relationships just as much as women but are afraid to show it. Likewise, Kelley said, “I think guys want women…as much as girls do, but they don’t admit it.”

Whether or not hookup prominence is a negative fixture of the Hamilton campus is still open to debate. While some, like Sitbon, found it helpful to enjoy themselves and be “healthier,” many feel differently.

“I think the dating-hookup scene should be seen as fun and nothing more,” said Farkas. Advising his peers, he added, “Go out and meet some people…may be you’ll make a better friend than you thought you would in the process.”

“Everything is an experience to learn from,” agreed Keller. “There’s nothing wrong with [the hookup culture]. You don’t know where you are going to go after the Hill so you might as well gain interpersonal experience here [at Hamilton]. So who’s ready for the next Bundy party?”

The Beauty of Being Different

by Nicolas Keller Sarmiento ’13

Features Contributor

How do we recognize international students at Hamilton? Is it their accent? Is it their exotic passports? Or their foreign mysterious hometowns? Is it their naÃ¯ve lack of comprehension of what “tear jerking,” “crowd surfing” and “list pumping” mean? Or is it maybe their skin colour? (And yes, I was taught to write “colour” the British way.) I would like to inform you that there is no unique way of spotting international students on campus. They are everywhere. One of them might even be sitting next to you right now! Why do I know this, you might ask? Well, I am one of them. Many of you could consider me an “undercover” international. So tell all those people you are sure that you know who I am, where I come from, my home. What does that make me? It makes me myself. I am not a label. I don’t like the idea of little booklets with stamps on them deciding who you are. I am an international student at Hamilton who was accepted at Hamilton as an American student because I only had an American passport at the moment (I only have Argentine residency). Does that make me an American? I never really considered myself American. Well, I don’t really have an accent, but I learned both English and Spanish at the same time. I love watching American movies, but I also love my Argentine telenovelas. I have a native Argentine, Italian, German and Spanish blood. I love dual citizenship (American and Italian), and I love my home. What does that make me?

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**Features**

April 22, 2010

**Last Team Standing: Trivia Night 2010**

Trivia Night is held every Tuesday from 8:00-10:00 in the Little Pub and is presided over by Paul Ryan, Dave Eng, and Lisa Magneredi. Teams of 5-6 members answer a broad range of questions and compete for Tex-Mex gift cards (weekly prize), T-shirts (monthly prize), a trophy (semester prize), and pride.

**#1 Dickens Cider Box**

Scott Ryan ’11, James Hogan ’11, Greg Kreitzer ’11, Jeremy Brenner ’10

“Win, always.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** The dynasty that is Dickens Cider Box (also Sam McNerney doing flashdance)

**Favorite Team Name:** Ma and Pa

We do Trivia Night... To assert our dominance on a weekly, monthly, and yearly basis (also t-shirts, tex-mex, and the cup) It’s the best way to spend a Tuesday night.

**#9 Sophomore Money More Problems**

James Grebey ’12, Pat Donn ’12, James Kruger ’12, Frederique Dupree ’12, Hannah Schacter ’12

“Win or go home, but try not to be a douche about it.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** Whenever we know the answer to an obscure question and the other teams do not – it happens a lot.

**Favorite Team Name:** Our name last year – Freshman Prince of Bel Air

We do Trivia Night... To win. We leave if we’re not in the running.

**#3 Downdraft Offensive**

Dylan Walderk ’11, Kayla Safion ’11, Nick Sylwester ’11, Leah Cairns ’13, Evan Van Tassel ’13

“We’re very competitive — balls out. If we don’t place, it kills our spirits until our shot at redemption arrives again.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** WINNING. We’ve been the best freshman team all year, but to be the win, AWESOME.

**Favorite Team Name:** Dylan knows U.S. Presidents and sports better than anyone in the world.

We do Trivia Night... To convince ourselves that Sporcle.com isn’t a waste of time.

**#10 Twitter my Clitter**

Brad Caswell ’10, Matt McNerney ’10, Ezra Rosenberg ’10, Megan Bumb ’10, Emily Devaney-Graham ’10

“We’re in it for a break from the week and to enjoy the company of people we don’t always see.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** Matt Mrandy dressing up in the dance team gold spandex for the Halloween edition.

**Favorite Team Name:** Sarah Palin’s Apal Beads.

We do Trivia Night... Because it’s exactly the best thing offered at Hamilton by any group.

**#5 Giant Pandemonium**

Sage McNerney ’11, Jeremy Safion ’11, Allegra Penny ’11, Will Broth ’11, Mike Williams ’11

“Think hard, drink hard.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** Winning first last fall and Sam McNerney’s flash dance.

**Favorite Team Name:** Geography, presidents, pop culture, sports, and movies.

We do Trivia Night... To win and see Paul Ryan.

**Big Kahuna Burger**

Chris Smith ’11, Adam Vorcheimer ’11, Evan Klonard ’11, Danielle Fortier ’10

“Take uneducated guesses and shots in the dark week after week until we win Tex-Mex. We seriously love Tex-Mex.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** Winning Tex-Mex.

We weren’t kidding, we can’t get enough of that stuff.

**Experts in:** Everything but animals and Scrabble.

We do Trivia Night... Because it’s more fun than doing homework.

**#13 Wertimighty** (below, left)

Cooper Oregan ’13, Meghan Woolley ’13, Amanda Berman ’13, Will Rusche ’13, Luke Schwartz ’13

“We’re not that intense.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** Winning.

We ran over by Paul Ryan, Dave Eng, Lisa Magneredi ’96 and Paul Ryan - Morgan Freeman’s Freckles. We’ll Start Tipping When You Stop Cheating [in reference to the team Tip Your Bartenders].

We do Trivia Night... To win, free Pepsi, the luscious Paul Ryan’s voice, and songs by Owl City.

**#17 Salvador’s Deli**

Catherine Boyd ’12, Ryan Kazereta ’12, Ben Trachman ’12, Ben Li ’13, Drew Libin ’12, Julia Goldstein ’12, Tyler Roberts ’12

“Go big or go home.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** Guessing that cats have 18 toes to win Trivia Night (the whole thing!)

**Experts in:** Geography. Catherine Prefers Art and Indie Rock and Gas Station Trivia.

**Favorite Team Name:** Men: Freeman’s Freedcles. We’ll Start Tipping When You Stop Cheating, Twitter My Clitter

We do Trivia Night... Because it’s more fun than doing homework.

**Artificial Head Cheese**

Kate Bennett ’12, Claire Hunstiger ’13, Amelia Mattern ’12, Karen Abdul Jabar ’13, Mahatma Gandhi ’11

“Win at all costs. Go big or go home.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** We won the random fourth prize on the same night we logically figured out the population center of the U.S. using a hand drawn map.

**Experts in:** Doctors of Taiwan and freckled females.

**Favorite Team Name:** Twitter My Clitter. The Number of Dead Bodies in Liza Magneredi’s Trunk.

We do Trivia Night... For the babes.

**BARACKTOBER FEST**

Will Leubsder ’10, Gillian Jackson ’10, Mandy Bowman ’10, Julian Brody ’10, Jeremy Warttles (COOP)

“Game face.”

**Favorite Trivia Night Moment:** When Will dressed up as FDR or when he hit his head on the table to illustrate the concept of “drooping dead.”

**Experts in:** Presidents and pop culture.

We do Trivia Night... To win and see Paul Ryan.

Photos and Blurbs compiled by Meghan Wooley ’13
Students Celebrate Earth Day by Buying Local at Green Week’s Farmer’s Market

by Rebecca Shields ’13

Green Week was this week and many people were wondering what they could have done to help the environment. One easy thing to do is go to the farmer’s market on Martin’s Way.

The farmer’s market is a way for students at Hamilton to buy local food and other products without having to leave campus.

Now you’re probably wondering why this is a part of Green Week and how buying from an artisan at the farmer’s market would help the Earth? The farmer’s market is a way to reduce carbon in our atmosphere that is adding to green house gases. How? It’s because the food and crafts at the farmer’s market use less gas in cars or trucks to travel here, reducing the amount of carbon released from exhaust fumes from the vehicles. Most of the food at the market is also organic, reducing the amount of harmful chemicals that we take into our bodies. You’re also probably thinking that this sounds great, but I’m not that big into vegetables and other healthy foods. However, the farmer’s market offers a wide variety of foods that are local and good for you.

Tom’s Natural Foods has a booth at the market that had their famous dried pineapple and trail mixes. Local artisans also sold handcrafted jewelry and stuffed animals. Fresh honey made on a local bee farm was also a major hit this year.

“The whole point of the farmer’s market is to get people to buy local foods,” explained Kylie Cameron-Burr ’12, vice-president of Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG). “By buying locally, we can reduce the amount of carbon released from trucks transporting produce all over the country to major chains of supermarkets.” HEAG has been organizing Green Week for many years now, and it is their fourth year hosting the farmer’s market on campus. “At the beginning of the year, we go down to Clinton to our farmer’s market and ask some booths there if they would like to be a part of our farmer’s market… once in the fall and once in the spring,” explained Cameron-Burr. “Even though the market in the spring doesn’t have a lot of produce this time of year, we get people to think about buying local and how easy it can be because most of the people who sell at the farmer’s market have shops or their produce in town for people to buy.

At the farmer’s market on Wednesday, I was able to talk with a few vendors about why they come year after year to market, even though there is not always a lot of profit for them. “I like to come here because of the atmosphere. It’s just so great to sit outside with the people here [at Hamilton]. It’s always a lot of fun and a good way to start out the season,” Judy Poccia, who runs the jewelry stand at the market.

Sarah Gamble of the community farm explained “we like to come here because it gets people aware that a lot of the food they eat on campus comes from the community farm that’s right here on campus. We want people to start noticing where their food comes from.”

Cameron-Burr explained that her friend, who is abroad in Australia right now, buys most of her groceries at her local farmer’s market. The amazing thing is that her produce costs for the week are about $2.00. “[My friend] says that there are not a lot of supermarkets and that it’s really easy to buy fresh produce on her way home… I would love to see the U.S. move away from our chains of supermarkets and towards more local markets like that one.”

The farmer’s market not only sells food and hand-made products, like beautiful jewelry and huggable stuffed animals, but also brings awareness to the Hamilton community of how buying local is an easy way to live a low carbon, environmentally friendly lifestyle.

Remaining Green Week Schedule

Don’t Miss the Rest of the Green Week Events:

Thursday:
Low Carbon Diet Day - Lunch in Commons and McEwen

Make Your Green Pledge - Lunch in Commons and McEwen

HEAG’s Survey - look for it in your e-mail

Friday:
Campus Clean-up - Groups will be cleaning from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

“At more and more people understand what’s at stake, they become a part of the solution, and share both in the challenges and opportunities presented by the climate crisis.”
Til Gore

No Impact Man Discusses Living Without a Footprint

by Ben Trachtman ’12

Green Week began with a lecture by and discussion with Professor Katheryn Doran of the Philosophy Department. The discussion centered on how to live a green life, specifically the environmental benefits of vegetarianism, how to avoid supporting big agribusiness, and how to encourage the members of the Hamilton community to think about the impact of their food choices.

On Tuesday, HEAG held a screening of No Impact Man in the Glen House. The 2009 film documents one family’s attempt to eliminate their carbon footprint for a whole year. Colin Beavan and his wife and daughter give up electricity, cars, television and any non-locally grown foods in an effort to be completely environmentally neutral. While the adjustment was difficult at first, the family eventually found that the lifestyle changes they made not only brought them closer to each other, but also benefited their health and fitness as well. Beavan boasts that he lost 20 pounds during the year without going to a gym, while his wife’s prediabetic conditions subsided after she started to eating natural, healthy foods. The film showed that environmentalism and quality of life are not mutually exclusive—in fact, they often go hand in hand. Beavan keeps a blog about how individuals can reduce their carbon footprint while still maintaining a high quality of life. It can be found at noimpactman.typepad.com.

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“At more and more people understand what’s at stake, they become a part of the solution, and share both in the challenges and opportunities presented by the climate crisis.”
Til Gore
Bon Appétit Sponsors Low Carbon Diet Day as Part of the Earth Day and Green Week Events

by Ben Trachtman ’12

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, Bon Appétit held a low-carbon diet day aimed at reducing Hamilton’s carbon footprint. The food system accounts for about one third of the world’s greenhouse gas production, releasing chemicals into the atmosphere during farming and production, transportation, and disposal.

A typical American diet high in red meat can actually contribute to global warming more than driving an average sedan. Holding one low-carbon diet day is a great step, but a year-round effort could greatly reduce the environmental impact of the food industry. Pat Raynauld, executive manager of Bon Appétit on campus, provided five tips to help maintain a low-carbon diet.

The first tip is to not waste food. First, it wastes all the energy and resources consumed by growing, packaging, shipping and cooking it, and second, it will take up space in a landfill and release methane, a greenhouse gas, as it decomposes. Buying and cooking only food you plan on eating is a great way to save money and the environment.

The second tip is to eat mostly seasonal and ethically grown foods. These foods have a lower carbon footprint because they do not need to be transported as far. Off-season fruits are usually flown in from the southern hemisphere, which releases a huge amount of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Supporting local farms is also part of your community and small businesses in your area. Even food grown in greenhouses or with non-renewable resources should be avoided even if they are locally grown.

Beef and cheese products should also be avoided because of the environmental impact of cattle. Livestock are responsible for 18 percent of the world’s greenhouse gas emissions. Reducing the amount of these products in your diet will greatly help to lower your carbon footprint. Going vegetarian or vegan can help even more.

Be careful of “fresh” produce or seafood, because this usually means the product has been frozen and flown a long distance. Transporting food by air releases 16 times more carbon emissions than transporting it by ship. Again, buying produce or seafood from local sources is the best alternative, but even keep an eye out for seafood that has been “processed and frozen at sea.” This label means that it has a much lower carbon footprint than other “fresh” seafood, and usually tastes better anyway.

Finally, avoid processed or packaged foods. It takes a lot of energy and releases a significant amount of greenhouse gases to prepare, box, freeze and transport these products, and they are usually loaded with unhealthy and unnatural chemicals and preservatives, as well as chemical contamination. Instead, snack on a piece of locally grown fruit, nuts, or homestead made alternative. These are better for the environment and your health.

Changing over to a low-carbon diet isn’t just better for the environment—it’s better for you, too. Opting for smaller portions and only buying food that you know you will eat can save you a surprising amount of money. Avoiding processed foods full of preservatives and high in empty calories can help you maintain your weight, especially if you eat a piece of fruit instead.

Buying locally grown produce helps support your local community, and because many small farms are organic, you can avoid pesticides and other chemicals that can harm both you and the environment. The giant food corporations in the world usually only have their bottom line in mind, even at the expense of your health and the environment. Keeping an eye on what you eat can make a difference for a happier, healthier, and more eco-friendly lifestyle.

Hamilton Reduces Carbon Footprint by 370 Tons

by Ben Trachtman ’12

Hamilton has been aggressively pursuing an environmentally friendly campus, and the result is that the college's consumption of natural gas has decreased substantially this year.

New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman has noted that the college’s energy conservation efforts are on par with those of the most advanced companies in the world. The college has been able to reduce its carbon footprint by 370 metric tons, which is the equivalent of taking 80 cars off the road.

The college has achieved this reduction through a variety of measures, including upgrading buildings, improving insulation, and replacing older heating systems.

For example, the college has replaced all 2,000 water heaters with more efficient models, saving 43,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year. This is equivalent to taking 40 cars off the road.

In addition, the college has replaced thousands of older fluorescent lights with energy-efficient LED bulbs, saving 21,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year. This is equivalent to taking 20 cars off the road.

The college has also made improvements to its heating and cooling systems, saving 17,800 cubic feet of natural gas per year. This is equivalent to taking 17 cars off the road.

Overall, the college’s efforts have resulted in a 22 percent reduction in its carbon footprint. The college continues to look for ways to reduce its carbon footprint even further, and is committed to being a leader in sustainability.

Pledge To Go Veg

by Haeg and Ben Trachtman ’12

This year’s Green Pledge focuses on increasing students’ awareness of the environmental impact of the food we eat. Pledging to eat vegetarian for even just one meal can make a difference. Reducing the amount of meat we eat can help maintain a low-carbon diet.

Changing over to a vegetarian or vegan diet can greatly reduce the environmental impact of the food we eat. The livestock sector is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. For example, producing one pound of meat emits more greenhouse gas than producing a gallon of milk. This is because the livestock sector is responsible for 14.5 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, while the transportation sector is responsible for 14.2 percent.

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Even though the global meat industry is only responsible for six percent of the world’s carbon dioxide emissions, it is also responsible for 65 percent of nitrous oxide emissions. Nitrous oxide is 296 times more potent as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

One study has shown that vegetarians spend 20 percent less money on food and have one sixth of the greenhouse gas emissions of carnivores.

Processed food packaging accounts for about 60 pounds of carbon dioxide per person, per year. The plastic used also clogs landfills and will not biodegrade for thousands of years.

Producing one pound of meat emits the same amount of greenhouse gases as driving an SUV 40 miles.

It takes up to 16 lbs of grain to produce only 1 lb of meat. Even though the global meat industry is only responsible for six percent of the world’s carbon dioxide emissions, it is also responsible for 65 percent of nitrous oxide emissions. Nitrous oxide is 296 times more potent as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

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A Doll’s House

Theatre Department presents a new take on an Ibsen classic

by Kate Tummarello ’11
Editor-in-Chief

Nora Helmer is the original Stepford wife. In Henrick Ibsen’s A Doll’s House, Nora discovers the complexities of her relationship to her husband Torvald and her relationships to those around her before coming to the realization that she has been merely a doll in a dollhouse. Diana Stern was captivated as Nora Helmer in the Hamilton Theatre Department’s production of A Doll’s House, directed by Professor Craig Latell. Within two and a half hours, I was convinced by her performance as it ranged from money-hungry ditz to an anxious, deceptive wife to a changed, independence-seeking woman. I started out hating her character and ended up rooting for her.

As Kristine Linde, Shelly Hoy aptly treaded the line between feminine agency and dependency, leading the audience to question the appropriate role of women.

While the female characters became likeable as the play progressed, the male characters became less so, thanks to impressive performances from James Greisler as Torvald Helmer, Juan S. Hurtado as Niels Krogstad and Rouvan Mahmoud as Dr. Rank. Torvald, Niels and Dr. Rank all became infuriating, pathetic, or some combination of the two during the performances.

However, the visual aspects of the production were nothing short of stunning. Somehow, the designers and production staff effectively turned Minor Theatre into the set of Mad Men, taking the audience back to 1964.

The visuals only added to the contrast between a play written in 1879, a production set in 1964 and an audience from 2010. As an audience member, it was very easy to get distracted with questions of time period. Would that line be a realistic thing for a woman to say? How about in 1879? In 1879?

To travel back in time and watch stereotypes be defined, reinforced and then imploded, see A Doll’s House, April 22 through 24 at 8 p.m. in Minor Theatre.

Morning Benders Set The Wrong Tone In Opus

by Taylor Coe ’13
Arts and Entertainment Editor

The Freelance Whales, a charming indie quintet from Brooklyn, opened the acoustic IMP concert on Sunday night with their brand of Arcade Fire influenced chamber pop. Armed with their harmonium, glockenspiel and watering can, among other instruments, the five members raced through an eight-song set.

If the band’s colorful instrumentation was not enough to win me over, then the endearing absurdity of Judah Dadone’s lyrics earned my affection. “You caught me sleeping in the power sockets,” the entire band exhaled during “Ghosting,” in the midst of banjo and glockenspiel.

Hamilton’s own Jonathan Wu ’13, performing under the moniker Clementine Is My Sunshine, went onstage after the Freelance Whales. Wu played four original songs, including “On One Spot” and “Mong Kok” off his record A Plunge Into The Sea, directly from indie giant Grizzly Bear. (Chris Taylor, Grizzly Bear’s bassist, shares production credits on Big Echo, the Benders’ last release.) But while the atmospheric tunes of the Freelance Whales suited Opus I, the jangly rock of the Morning Benders felt a little at odds with the concert space.

Leaving the concert last Sunday night, I could not help but feel that some acts are simply unsuccessful playing in Opus I. While jazz combos and acoustic performances (Freelance Whales and Clementine Is My Sunshine) indisputably feel at home in Opus I, the jangly rock of the Morning Benders felt a little out of place. Opus I’s atmosphere for the Freelance Whales’ set, slowly emptied as the Benders plowed through tracks off Big Echo. Portions of the remaining audience seemed to enjoy the change in pace from the previously relaxed vibe, although other onlookers hung on to their seats and listened to the music uneasily.

Despite my complaint, I have no qualms with the Morning Benders as a musical act. The Berkeley-based band extended a passionate and energetic performance—a show that simply felt out of place in Opus I. Clementine Is My Sunshine and the Freelance Whales did not reach any difficult truth that evaded the Morning Benders; they simply managed to fill the space that the Benders did not.
Chainsaws and Dylan: Folk Is Still Alive and Well

by Taylor Coe ’13

Amber Rubarth did not plan an amusement career. At age 17, Rubarth moved in Canon City, Nevada, and began a chainsaw wood sculpting apprenticeship. The apprenticeship—originally planned to last a few months—stretched into three years, at which point the craftsman who had been training her took her aside and told her that it was too late to do what she was most passionate about. “He gave me permission to do what I really wanted to do,” said Rubarth of the experience. What she really wanted to do was music; with a childhood of piano lessons under her belt, she picked up the guitar and began writing music. Rubarth, however, has not forgotten her woodworking roots. Asked to cite any connection that she felt between the musical and woodworking disciplines, Rubarth offered her song “Rough Cut” as an example. “The song,” she explained, “is from the wood’s point of view as it’s being cut.” The song—one of Rubarth’s compositions on the piano—begins with the pain and loss felt by the wood as it is being sculpted but culminates with the revelation that the painful process has shaped the wood into art and thus into something beautiful. Rubarth extends the same outlook toward her own life, offering the idea that “the hardest things in life make you who you are.” Rubarth played an opening set of eight songs for the final coffeehouse of the semester last Thurs- day. While not a songwriter on par with his idols, Purdy certainly demonstrated a level of mastery with tunes like “Ballplayer” and “Outlaws.” The latter especially is a clear example of strong songwriting, allowing room not only for a series of neat musical references (Holland, Georgia, the Wall) but also an exploration of the way names (Holland, Georgia, the Wall) play off one another and the way a song can take on a life of its own. Purdy managed to wear his influences on his sleeve more than any other co- feehouse performer this year. With his weary vo- cal, acoustic guitar, and harmonica, Bob Dylan comparisons were inevitable, even had his songs not been sprinkled with Dylan references. Many of Purdy’s tunes carried Dylan’s imprint, notably the lyric “blood on the tracks” in “Last Clock on the Wall.” (Blood on the Tracks is a 1975 Bob Dylan album.)

Baratunde Thurston

Baratunde Thurston: One With No Nickname

by Lily Gillespie ’12

If Baratunde Thurston had been advertised as a comedian rather than a political com- mentator, the Hamilton College Democrats would have had a problem. As it was, the Red Pit was well over capacity, with audience members sitting on the stairs in the back. “I thought he was perfect for our audience,” said senior Will Leibsdorf. “I didn’t have any problems, no matter what he was talking about.”

Thurston, however, has not forgotten his woodworking roots. Asked to cite any connection that he felt between the musical and woodworking disciplines, Thurston offered his song “Rough Cut” as an example. “The song,” he explained, “is from the wood’s point of view as it’s being cut.” The song—one of Rubarth’s compositions on the piano—begins with the pain and loss felt by the wood as it is being sculpted but culminates with the revelation that the painful process has shaped the wood into art and thus into something beautiful. Rubarth extends the same outlook toward her own life, offering the idea that “the hardest things in life make you who you are.” Rubarth played an opening set of eight songs for the final coffeehouse of the semester last Thurs- day. While not a songwriter on par with his idols, Purdy certainly demonstrated a level of mastery with tunes like “Ballplayer” and “Outlaws.” The latter especially is a clear example of strong songwriting, allowing room not only for a series of neat musical references (Holland, Georgia, the Wall) but also an exploration of the way names (Holland, Georgia, the Wall) play off one another and the way a song can take on a life of its own. Purdy managed to wear his influences on his sleeve more than any other co- feehouse performer this year. With his weary vo- cal, acoustic guitar, and harmonica, Bob Dylan comparisons were inevitable, even had his songs not been sprinkled with Dylan references. Many of Purdy’s tunes carried Dylan’s imprint, notably the lyric “blood on the tracks” in “Last Clock on the Wall.” (Blood on the Tracks is a 1975 Bob Dylan album.)

While still consulting, he be- gan to publish a newsletter called “News Phlash” to sati- fy political issues. In 2006, Thurston began his blog Jack and Jill Politics with friend Cheryl Contee, but because of the highly satirical nature of the work, both had to use pseudonyms to protect their identities. Baratunde Thurston began his career publishing a newsletter that, “I thought it was perfect for our audience.”
Rules Were Made for a Reason

A student named Kathryn who is the subject of the Facebook group titled "Why deny a student her major?" took enough extra classes in one discipline to constitute a major, although she never declared a second major or minor in that subject. Currently, she has a major and is minoring in comparative literature but has also completed the requirements for a math concentration.

However, Hamilton College only allows a student to declare a maximum of two concentrations or one concentration and a second major. The first question that needs to be answered when addressing Kathryn’s plight is whether or not the campus policy is sound.

As The Office’s Paul Lieberstein ’89 noted when he visited campus last week, it’s not necessarily what you study at college that matters—it’s how well you excel at it. This is the embodiment of the liberal arts approach to education that Hamilton espouses.

While most students appreciate that Hamilton lacks core requirements, they still chose it over large universities that offer degrees in professional areas like business. In this way, the approach to education that Hamilton advertises and practices is largely recognized as extremely successful, especially in today’s world, in which classroom knowledge becomes quickly outdated but adaptable skills are valuable forever. Hasn’t anyone noticed that many business schools now incorporate a liberal arts element into their curriculum? Many schools are beginning to realize the value of a well-rounded, interdisciplinary education.

By maintaining this policy, Hamilton is able to hold on to a shred of dignity when it claims to be a liberal arts institution. In preventing a student from declaring a double concentration and a minor, Hamilton discourages students from taking so many courses (roughly 25) in just three academic areas.

Hamilton’s policy is valid because it promotes a diverse and well-rounded liberal arts education, something that a student with so many academic requirements probably would not be able to achieve.

While there is an argument that the policy is valid, some people might feel differently. Those students and other members of the community would argue that Kathryn is making a show of all her accomplishments and therefore diminishing others’ achievements.

The Facebook group responds to that claim, however, in saying that “she definitely did not spend these past four years taking all of those math courses in the hopes of making the rest of us look bad.” While there is an argument that this policy is well known, so students should make their academic decisions accordingly. The school cannot exempt one student.

Finally, it’s not as if the college is saying that the student can’t be recognized for her achievements in math—she could still double major if she wanted to; she would just have to drop her minor. Otherwise, she could declare a single concentration and a double minor.

Either way, Kathryn can still be recognized for her achievements in various academic areas, which is merely secondary to the fact that she will receive a degree from a prestigious academic institution like Hamilton. In a few years her concentrations may not even matter. Look at Paul Lieberstein, who majored in economics and ended up as a comedy writer.

Unlike a professional school, concentrations are not set in stone. The emphasis at Hamilton is on the variety of thinking styles, learned or experienced. The College promotes super specialties: In the name of the Lord smiled and said, “Give them nice weather to warm their skin, endless food in Commons for eternity when it claims to be a liberal arts institution. And on the high holyday of the vending machines to ease their endless drymouth.”

Hamm-Trek: While I admire the effort, I’ll let my liver speak for my entire body when I say: IMA BE BUSY.

Alumni Events: apparently “networking” means getting allotted with older people who can’t remember your name, aka, my relationship with my grand-parents. Success here I come!

by Anthony DeConte ’10, Nathan Fedrizzi ’10 and Lesley Ryder ’11

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.
OUR VERY OWN CHAMBER OF SECRETS: 
A Look at the Mysteries of Hamilton’s Website

by Danielle Brockmann '13
Opinion Contributor

Have you ever looked at Hamilton’s website? I have, several times. There are so many interesting things that this school offers that I didn’t know existed. For instance, did you know that Hamilton offers an interdisciplinary major? According to the website they do, but when I went to speak to my advisor about it, he had no idea.

“I’ve never met anyone with an interdisciplinary major. We don’t do that here,” he said.

What about the Class and Charter Day Awards? After browsing the website I discovered that there were awards for freshmen.

“How do I submit my work for one of these?” I asked.

“Oh, you’re just a freshman, you don’t have to worry about such things.”

Really? I was under the impression that if the school presents awards for freshman, they should apply.

“My advisor doesn’t know about this either. Well surprise, surprise. His words of wisdom: “Stop looking at the website. Let Hamilton come to you, don’t seek it out.”

Right, because the early bird never catches the worm, but the boy with flannel pants and bedhead running to class does.

“To the non-experienced user, Hamilton’s website is merely a labyrinth of links.”

Did you know that if you click on the tan weather vane that is in the background of the top of the page, you will come to “Many Voices, One Hamilton?” It is a project of a collection of stories from alumni, students, faculty and staff about their experiences at Hamilton that is being preserved for the bicentennial celebration.

If it weren’t for an accidental move of the mouse, I would have never known.

So Hamilton, why so secretive? Why is the community that you represent completely unaware of your online happenings? I think that faculty, especially advisors, need to take a website tutorial to learn about all of the wonderful opportunities that you present.

Additionally, a website that is easier to access and search (without clicking on all of the random objects on the page in hopes that you found another hidden link) is much needed. In the 21st Century, technology along with the Internet plays a fundamental role in people’s lives. Hamilton, it’s time to step up your game.

Want to be more involved? Student Assembly elections are coming up!

Save the Dates:

Class President
Signature sheets (attached) from peers in your class year are due to Box 277 by Friday, April 23rd by 4 pm or bring the sheet with you to the mandatory briefing meeting that afternoon at 4:30 pm in the Fireplace Lounge.

Note: you may not begin any advertising until AFTER the briefing meeting.

Elections will be held Wednesday, April 28th with winning candidates announced that Friday via email.

Class Secretary-Treasurer, Representatives (5), Judicial Board (3), Honor Court (3), Appeals Board (2 overall)
Signature sheets (attached) from peers in your class year are due to Box 277 by Friday, April 30th by 4 pm or bring the sheet with you to the mandatory briefing meeting that afternoon at 4:30 pm in the Fireplace Lounge.

Note: you may not begin any advertising until AFTER the briefing meeting.

Elections will be held Wednesday, May 5th with winning candidates announced that Friday via email.

Questions? Email Elections Chair, Clare Browne at cbrowne@hamilton.edu
What do tomatoes have to do with slavery?
How does your cheeseburger contribute to climate change?
How does Bon Appetit drive market changes toward sustainability?

the story behind the food

Join Bon Appétit’s Sustainability Fellow Dayna Burtner for a conversation about food, farming, sustainability, and farmworker justice!

The Story Behind the Food
Tuesday, April 27th, 7:00-8:30pm
Glen House

Free food!
Everyone is welcome.
Though there isn’t much .501. percentage to their opponents’ posting a mere .381 slugging got on base (.369 OBP), but essentials have hit at a reasonable .30 unearned runs. The Continentals this season is .10 have all posted ERA’s in Koenig ‘11 and Max Foster .345 batting average against, terrible. They have allowed 146), the pitching hasn’t been a prelude to the 1500 meter run, and a final two games against SUNY Cortland and Vassar.

The lady Continentals, the women’s team came from Liz of 30.90 meters. The most ex

Patrick Gennaco ‘11

Stolen Bases Help Continental Offense Stay in Close Games

from Baseball page 16

to SUNY Brockport 20-9 and then getting swept at Williams by scores of 6-4, 6-5 and 11-7. Their overall record currently stands at 6-20.

While opponents have put tons of runs on the board against Hamilton (their opponents have outscored them 264-146), the pitching hasn’t been terrible. They have allowed a .345 batting average against, but Alex Augustyn ‘10, Dan Kroenig ‘11 and Max Foster ‘10 have all posted ERA’s in the four’s, tossing at least 18 innings apiece. What has killed the Continentals this season is an extremely shoddy defense: they have committed a whopping 53 errors and have allowed 30 unearned runs. The Continentals have hit at a reasonable .287 clip this season and have gotten on base (.369 OBP), but they have very little power, posting a mere .381 slugging percentage to their opponents’ .501.

Though there isn’t much silver lining for the Continentals this season - they are 0-9 in the NESCAC conference - they will have two more chances to improve that record with a two-game series against Middlebury following a date with St. Lawrence on Apr. 21. The baseball team will conclude the 2010 season with their annual alumni game and a final two games against SUNY Cortland and Vassar.

Despite Struggles, Equestrian Team Rides On

from Equestrian page 16

et and skill of its riders. The team’s last show of the season at Hartwick College was marked by the success of Kate Hutchins ’12, who won two blue ribbons for jumping and for flat. Flats is the rigorous portion of competition in which riders and their horses must walk, trot and canter as officials judge them based on the horse’s gait, the rider’s posture and how the horse reacts to its rider. Such mastery over one’s mount is not easy in the IHSA, where riders are randomly assigned to a horse. As nine-year rider Jessica Gutfleish ‘13 explained, “the first time you ride the horse is when you’re showing, unless you’re on the home team.” In recognition of Hutchins’ impressive riding performance, the sophomore was given the opportunity to contend with another rider for the accolade of “high-point rider of the day.”

Googel explained that in this final challenge, “each [rider] had to answer a series of horse-related questions which would test their knowledge and overall horsemanship.”

Hutchins proved not only to be skilled on the horse but also extremely knowledgeable about her sport and she easily won the high-point rider title. Googel described her teammate’s accomplishment as “reflecting throughout the team, providing a wonderful reward to finish off a tough season.” At the regional finals, Googel and Hartwick performed admirably with Googel earning sixth over sixes and fourth in flat competition and Hutchins placing eighth on the flat.

Already looking to the future, the team is hoping to reduce some of the disadvantages that plagued them this season.

“We had to do everything ourselves, without a coach,” commented Chelsea Lewis ‘13, but as a consequence, “we were able to unite as a team despite our challenging circumstances.”

Continuing to make the best of an unfortunate situation, Googel expressed a desire to “acquire new horses, new members, and a full-time coach” by next fall.

With a budding talent of the riders, and the possibility of empowering their support, the equestrian team is looking nowhere but up.

Tennis Prepares for St. Lawrence

Peter Erwin ’11 delivers sole win

from Tennis page 16

and 6-2. Drew Libin, ’12, was close to reeling in another win but lost in a super-tiebreak during his third set, 11-9. Continuing their journey northward, the Continentals traveled to Bates that evening to rest up for a series of matches scheduled to take place all day Sunday. In a colder environment - yes, even colder than Hamilton - and nearly 450 miles away from home, the two teams played a total of fourteen matches with the men’s squad going 0-5 and the women’s team finishing 1-8.

Deb Barnay ’11, brought in a win with a score of 7-6(5), 3-0, when her opponent had to step aside due to an injury. Meanwhile Laura Brantley, ’10 almost won a very close match that went into a third set super tie-breaker, scoring 7-6 (5), 4-6, but falling in the third 10-5. Hamilton’s men’s team got valiant efforts in their doubles matches with Mike Moreno ’11 and Jordan Petit ’13 falling 8-4 and Jon Franzel ’13 and Peter Erwin ’11 dropping an 8-6 thriller.

“Despite these disappointing losses, the weekend was a really great chance for the team to bond,” said first-year Alex Arsenon ’13. “The matches were really tough, but everyone tried especially hard.”

Jon Franzel ’13 concluded, “The best part of the weekend was experiencing the level of the best competition in Division III tennis. Even though they’re not Division I, the best NESCAC teams have great recruiting and sufficient facilities to recruit many players who could easily play at the DI level.

Although they returned home early Monday morning with losses under their belts, the team was upbeat. The Continentals will have a chance to improve their win total in the upcoming weeks with matches against St. Lawrence, SUNY Geneseo and Williams. These matches will decide the fate of the season and help assess where the teams can improve in their preparation for next year.

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from Tennis page 16
Baseball Skids Against NESCAC Rivals

by David Meisel '13

The Hamilton men’s baseball team has hit a huge slump after starting their season with a 5-9 record. They have lost 11 of their last 12 games, with a 14-8 win against SUNY IT sandwiched by seven and four-game losing streaks. Their decline began with a 24-13 game-tying and go-ahead runs scored in an error to give Utica a walk-off victory. Following the loss to Utica, Hamilton was swept in a three-game series against Wesleyan, losing the games by margins of 13-2, 6-3 and 5-4, respectively. Though the Continentals’ starting pitching showed promise, a strong Wesleyan staff shut down the Continentals for the better part of all three games. On Apr. 11, Hamilton bounced back with a win against SUNY IT, scoring a run in all but two of the eight innings they came up to bat in a 14-8 victory. Since that game, the Continentals have dropped four straight, losing in the twenty-third annual Jackie Robinson Game at Utica College in the first game, going 2-4 with a double, a home run and 6 RBI. It was a valiant ef- fort against the Lord Jeffs, (a perennial Division III powerhouse) who always assemble a strong pitching staff under the helm of legendary pitching coach Bill Thurston. Amherst outscored the teams 8-4 and 14-3. going back from a 7-3 deficit, and then coughing up a 10-8 lead in the bottom of the tenth on a two-run double in which the game-tying and go-ahead runs scored on an error to give Utica a walk-off victory. Following the loss to Utica, Hamilton was swept in a three-game series against Wesleyan, losing the games by margins of 13-2, 6-3 and 5-4, respectively. Though the Continentals’ starting pitching showed promise, a strong Wesleyan staff shut down the Continentals for the better part of all three games. On Apr. 11, Hamilton bounced back with a win against SUNY IT, scoring a run in all but two of the eight innings they came up to bat in a 14-8 victory. Since that game, the Continentals have dropped four straight, losing...