Golf team finishes third in the NESCAC Championship Tournament

See page 26

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Golf Grabs Third

by Kate Tummarello '11

News Writer

Over the past year, the Hamilton administration has taken a stricter approach to one of Hamilton’s well-known traditions—the infamous varsity streaking team. Campus Safety proved this point by stopping several members of the team during their annual Accepted Students’ Day streak on Monday, April 19.

A female sophomore on the team said that she and two other streaking team members were stopped while changing by List Art Center, while two other members were stopped outside of the Kirkland Glen and another member near Commons Dining Hall.

One Campus Safety officer approached the three girls by List in a car, while another stopped them on foot and told them to put on their clothes and submit their Hill Card numbers.

The interviewed female sophomore was upset by Campus Safety’s response. “Streaking doesn’t hurt anyone. It’s completely harmless and fun/spiritual and is a huge tradition with a lot of campus support,” she said.

The sophomore became involved in an argument with the officer. “I felt attacked by the officer, like I was being given a moral lesson. It’s one thing for Campus Safety to stop us, but another thing to yell at us or scold us like children.”

The individuals caught by Campus Safety met with the Judicial Board and Travis Hill, director of residential life, on Wednesday, April 28 to review the two charges they received for the incident: lewd conduct and failure to comply with Campus officials. They each received four points for lewd conduct, while the charge of failing to comply was dropped. “They listened to us very respectfully, which was really nice,” said a team member.

She considers the streaking team to be a huge part of her Hamilton experience and not something she wants to give up. Another female sophomore on the team (who was not involved in last Monday’s incident) agreed. “The streaking team is one of Hamilton’s greatest assets. Anyone at all should be convinced should remember back to the Streak to Win premiere that drew nearly a full Annex crowd and a contingency of alumni, in addition to many faculty members.”

Student Streakers Receive Points for Lewd Conduct

by Kerry Q. Coughlin '11

News Writer

Former U.S. Ambassadors Debate Approach to Iran

by Kate Tummarello '11

Editor-in-Chief

“Towards Washington today, tough is military,” said former U.S. Ambassador William Luers ’51. “I say tough is smart.”

A “tough” approach to Iran was the subject of the panel discussion held this past Monday in the Science Center Auditorium. The panel, titled “A New Way to Deal with Iran,” featured Amb. Luers as the keynote speaker, former U.S. Ambassador Ned Walker ’62 as discussant and Professor Alan Cafruny as panel chair.

Liners from a conference in Tehran on April 23, Luers started with a discussion of his recent experiences in foreign policy towards Iran. While contemporary policy focuses on Iran solely as a nation that can develop nuclear capabilities, Luers argued, this approach is misguided. “There is no evidence, in anything that I’ve seen, that the people of Iran support nuclear weapons,” Luers said, recalling his recent trip to Tehran, which included time with Iran’s Foreign Affairs Minister.

Luers urged that we change our agenda. Rather than focusing exclusively on Iran’s military potential, we need to concentrate on building a relationship with Iran that can be beneficial to both countries. Luers suggested a new agenda include Iran’s neighboring nations of Iraq and Afghanistan, the incredibly harmful heroin trafficking that occurs in Iran, terrorism, and finally Iran’s nuclear program.

To those that claim military intervention is the only option in Iran, Luers countered, “We said the invasion of Iraq was the last option. Where was the first option?”

Amb. Walker presented the opposite perspective. When discussing alternative approaches to military involvement, Walker explained that other forms of intervention have failed. “It is not possible to have effective sanctions,” he explained. “They can buy their way around the sanctions.”

Complicating the issue is the dependency nations like China and Russia have on Iran’s oil. “People have a stake in seeing this regime continue,” said Walker. Similarly, the tension between Iran and Israel makes matters more difficult. “If we don’t do something, do we know Israel won’t?” asked Walker, adding that the consequences of Israeli action would be significantly more devastating than those of any action taken by the United States.

Max Currier ’10 appreciated the perspectives both former ambassadors brought to the discussion. He said, “What I most enjoy about hearing from them is not necessarily their expertise about any given issue, but their understanding of how the U.S. Government bureaucracy does and doesn’t work to address these issues in different ways. Without that understanding, all our opinions are just white noise.”

Streak to Win

by Emily Gerston '11

News Writer

The streaking team is one of Hamilton’s greatest assets. Anyone at all should be convinced should remember back to the Streak to Win premiere that drew nearly a full Annex crowd and a contingency of alumni, in addition to many faculty members.”

Greek Societies Going Under the Microscope

by Emily Gerston '11

News Writer

Following the suspension of the Theta Delta Chi fraternity (TDX) from Hamilton, the task force is being assembled for next fall to evaluate Greek life at Hamilton.

This marks the first official review of Greek life at Hamilton since the 1995 review that resulted in the elimination of private house housing. Hamilton currently has 19 Greek life organizations (11 national fraternities, two national sororities, and six local sororities). TDX’s suspension is the first suspension of a Greek organization since 2002, when Alpha Delta Phi (AIFD) was suspended until the fall of 2002.

Concern has arisen not only from TDX’s violation of College policy, but also from parents and faculty in general as well. “I hear periodically from parents and faculty in particular that during the pledging period and process, the oversight groups have, and then more generally are they contributing positively to the life of the campus?” Are they living up to their own charters and their own stated goals and aspirations?”

Brian Mizoguchi ’11, former co-chair of the Inter-Society Council (ISC), said, “I think self-scrutiny of Greek life here at Hamilton is always important, especially in the period of pledging.”

Unlike in 1995, the upcoming task force will consist of mainly students, faculty members, and administrators. “A trustee committee did [the review] in 1995. Of course it had others on it, but it was dictated by the trustees,” said Thompson. Thompson was unable to comment on the exact makeup of the committee for the new review because the community had not been formed.

In addition to the 1995 task force to evaluate Greek life at Hamilton, the faculty voted at a 1994 faculty meeting to eliminate Greek life at Hamilton, with only one voter present at the meeting dissenting. The vote was non-binding, but it came the week before the fall 1994 trustee meetings, where they voted to keep Greek life. Thompson said he is not aware of any faculty votes opposing Greek life since the 1995 task force met.

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The Bristol Center was intended to serve as a social center on campus. Today, the building houses the Hub, guest rooms, the honor court room and the Spectator office.

**Hamilton’s Facade Through the Years:**

*How Shifting Spaces Have Changed the College’s Social Scene and Academic Landscape*

_by Emily Delbridge ‘13_

*News Warra*

Is the Hamilton College students know today the same institution that alumni remember? Through the years, Hamilton has grown and evolved. Buildings have been constructed, destroyed and renovated since the College was first chartered in 1812. But even beyond physical development, Hamilton has changed because of the continual relocation of student and faculty housing, social areas and academic facilities.

“ ‘The Hamilton campus has been a work in process from the very beginning,’ said Maurice Isserman, James L. Ferguson professor of history. In only ‘the past 20 years or so…many buildings [have taken] on new functions – thus a salt barn became Beinecke, and the Rogers Estate, as either private residences have become academic buildings, fraternity housing has been prohibited and, with the addition of the former Kirkland College campus, Hamilton has indeed changed in more ways than the enumeration of physical differences on the College’s map can show. The constant redefinition of buildings’ functions, along with the physical growth of the College, give rise to uncertainty about whether the school has principally remained the same or whether each decade’s students remember completely different Hamilton experiences.

A few major changes to the campus have had a large impact on the College. First, there is the matter of sheer growth. When Jay Williams ’54, Walcott-Bartlett professor of religion, was an undergraduate here, there were only about 600 students enrolled. With roughly 1,000 more people on campus today, there has been an inevitable shift away from the intimate rural tone Williams remembers.

When asked what aspect of Hamilton’s growth has been the most influential in causing this change, Williams cited the gradual institutionalization of what used to be faculty housing and private homes. The Maurice Horowitch Career Center, philosophy, and afro-latin studies buildings, and even the Farmhouse, all used to provide faculty housing. However, in an attempt to accommodate greater enrollment numbers, the College has reallocated many faculty residences as well as several previously private homes, such as the Molly Root House and the Rogers Estate, as either faculty housing and private homes. Howev-

er, is my interests.”

Julia and I have grown close to be tremendously rewarding. "Julia and I were both very interested in social justice as well as a peace and conflict studies major and recognized that none of the classes at Hamilton really encapsulated what we wanted to study,” said Da-

vis. Using Colgate’s Peace and Conflict Studies Department as a guideline, they have chosen related classes at Hamilton to fulfill their major.

Davis and Wilber decided to take a class at Colgate this year called Political Geography in order to supplement their major. “One of the primary reasons we decided to take this class, aside from the fact it was a part of the major, was because Hamilton was not offering the courses that we had hoped.”

Davis has found the course to be tremendously rewarding. "Julia and I have grown close with our Colgate professor – he’s a wonderful resource. In addition, it’s nice to have access to a library that specializes in [peace and conflict studies]. We’re absolutely going to maintain this connection with the professor and attend conferences on a weekly basis.”

Another student who has taken a class at Colgate in recent years is Ana Maria Diaz ’10. Her interdisciplinary concentration combines archaeology, anthropology and art history. "I found out about the possibility of taking a class at Colgate through my advisor freshman year who knew that at the time Hamilton did not offer any classes on Mesoamerica, one of my interests.”

Diaz was able to take a one-on-one class at Colgate called Mexican Heritage and its Develop-

ment. “It has been one of the best classes I have taken in my college career,” she said. However, she suggested that Hamilton students take advantage of all that Hamilton has to offer before pursuing a Colgate class, unless it is “a class they have been seeing for three years to improve research and faculty scholarship.

**Colby College**

Colby College has been acknowledged by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a green power champion for the third year in a row. The EPA uses the total amount of green power bought by schools to rank those in the Collegiate Athletic Association. Steven Collins, a Colby spokesman, said, “Colby got into green power about six or seven years ago when we decided to buy all renewable sources. So all of our power comes from hydro or biomass.” According to the EPA, Colby’s use of green electricity is at 103 percent. Colby has a 100 percent green power contract and has purchased green credits to guarantee its buildings are LEED certified.

**Bates College / Middlebury College**

"The Princeton Review’s Guide to 286 Green Colleges” ranked Bates College and Middlebury College among its top 15. About two years ago, The Princeton Review added a “green question” to its “College Hopes and Worries Survey.” According to USA Today, approximately 66 percent of over 10,000 high school students who plan to attend college and the College’s environmental stance important in the selection process. Other schools in the top 15, each of which received a score of 99, include Harvard, Yale, Colorado College and the University of New Hampshire. The rankings were based on surveys looking at factors such as the overall waste diversion rate and the percentage of energy consumption composed of renewable sources.
**Student Assembly Update**

**Changes Proposed for Course Evaluations**

Professors Ernest Williams, Christian A. Johnson Excellence in Teaching professor of biology, and Margaret Friedel, professor of women’s studies, have presented a proposed course evaluation form that is being considered, although it has yet to be passed by the Hamilton faculty. Williams reaffirmed to the Assembly that evaluations are taken very seriously and are used when considering personnel decisions.

The proposed changes to evaluations are relatively minor, although Gentry has been working on this project throughout the past year. The changes would clarify the confidentiality of the forms, make clear the purpose and warn against harassing or threatening statements. Gentry’s hope is that the changes will help to preclude more commentary from students filling out the evaluations.

**Strategies for Limiting Noise in Library**

The noise level on the third floor has been a discussion for the Student Assembly. Carolyn Carpan, the Burke Library director of public services, contacted the Assembly for feedback on how the “Quiet Study Floor” signs posted throughout the third floor have helped, and otherwise how the noise level could be lowered. One member suggested keeping tours out of the library since they raise the overall noise level. Another mentioned that the ITS office on the third floor is a source of noise. Other ideas included sending a reminder e-mail at the beginning of next year to remind students of the purpose of the library, or placing a sign at the bottom of the third floor stairs reminding students that it is a quiet area.

**Safe Behavior Encouraged on C&C Day**

Student Assembly has chosen to not take a stance on the Class and Charter policy being implemented, however they encourage the campus as a whole to be responsible. EMT calls did not show a large change between last year and the previous year that even with the policy changes. The only large difference that occurred on campus was that extracurricular relationship that students have been approved by their home department. As for Colgate students, Friedel said that over the last 13 years there have been 13 Colgate students to take a class at Hamilton. Gretchen Herringer, Colgate’s registrar, added, “Often, students take courses that may not be available or consistently offered on their home campus. For instance, several Hamilton students have taken 400-level German courses at Colgate, and Colgate students have taken the same seminar, discussion or lecture courses at Hamilton. But students may take courses in any course. However, if a department at Hamilton is small and cannot offer a range of courses or if a student is an interdisciplinary major.”

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**Face of the College Changes as Buildings Play Different Roles**

**AIDS Hike Raises $39,000**

by Russ Doubleday '11

Over 450 people participated in the 12th annual AIDS Hike for Life at Hamilton on Sunday, April 25, which raised more than $30,000 for AIDS Community Resources of the Mohawk Valley (ACR). This amount, which continues to climb as more donations come in, has already surpassed last year’s total sum of $35,965.

“It was a great success,” said Keith Willett ’11, a member of the AIDS Hike for Life planning committee. “New York State has a dispropor- tionately high number of HIV/AIDS cases and it’s important to raise money to educate and prevent.”

The 3-mile course went through the Kirkland Glen, then over to the Science Building before finishing at the Babbitt Pavilion. After the race, participants enjoyed refreshments and won raffle prizes. Many walkers were members of the Hamilton community, but participants traveled from all over the Mohawk Valley to the Hill. Prizes were awarded for the teams and individuals with the most amount of money raised, both for Hamilton and the greater Mohawk Valley community.

Wenxi Li ’10, president of the Planning Committee for the event was pleased with the community turnout for the event. Her committee began advertising the AIDS Hike for Life after Spring Break. The Hamilton community did not reach the monetary goal of $20,000 that the committee set for this year, but attributed that shortcoming to the proximity of Relay for Life.

“It was a hard year for us because Relay For Life, which is usually held in this fall this year, randomly moved to the weekend immediately before AIDS Hike for Life and impacted the amount of students, faculty and community members who participated and con- tributed to our event,” explained Li. “All things considered, Li was still very happy with the final turn- out. “This is one of the many events that has truly defined my Hamilton experience,” she said. “We still had a fantastic showing of Hamilton students and community members who came out to enjoy the day and support a worthy cause.”
Working with “No More Deaths,” students left water in the Sonoran Desert for immigrants crossing the border.

Students Work for “No More Deaths” to Aid Mexican Migrants

eBy Eloise Walter '11

This spring, Hamilton students from the department of Education Studies’ Borderland class traveled to Arizona to volunteer for No More Deaths (NMD). NMD is an organization that provides humanitarian aid to illegal immigrants crossing Arizona’s Sonoran Desert.

Since 1997 over 5,000 illegal Mexican immigrants have died crossing the desert. Hiding by day and traveling by night, many immigrants lose their way or die from hunger and dehydration. Coyotes – paid guides who lead migrants through the desert – often take the wrong way or desert them after stealing what little they have.

Hamilton students encountered every type of situation firsthand. The trip changed their perspectives on immigration and led to eye-opening experiences that brought class material to life and aroused unexpected emotions.

Before hiking the Sonoran Desert, students spent two days learning how to conduct immigration firsthand are two students from the department of Education Studies’ Borderland class, Reading about immigration and experiencing it can be reached for the sake of both the College and the Greek system.

Thompson said that those organizations that are not breaking any school or charter rules have nothing to fear from the textbook exchange program. “If organizations are living up to the standards of their charters, then this should not be threatening at all.”

For student thoughts on Greek life at Hamilton, see pages 10-11.

Class & Charter Day is perhaps the most loved social tradition at Hamilton. Students have an opportunity to celebrate their achievements, relax, and enjoy a day of freedom. While the atmosphere is characterized by high levels of energy, and we may push our limits on Class & Charter Day, only a select few who choose to celebrate irresponsibly end up posing a threat to themselves and others. As the College moves to modify this day of tradition, we urge them to focus their energies on activities that will better the day for the entire community, rather than focus on policies aimed at a select irrespnsible few.

We realize and appreciate that it is the responsibility of the administration to ensure our safety. However, to do this effectively, the College must embrace rather than stifle the shared celebratory atmosphere. Imposing ineffective restrictions creates more of a nuisance than a constructive solution. While the College is attempting to tackle this issue from all angles, it is clear that we need to focus our efforts on providing safe alternatives to irresponsible behavior.

Class & Charter day provides the one day a year when the student body celebrates as a whole. Different ways to celebrate our achievements of the preceding year should be made available to everyone. One way Class & Charter Day can be improved is to increase the appeal of the annual awards ceremony held in the Chapel. Currently, students attend the awards ceremony only if they are receiving awards themselves or supporting friends who are receiving awards. Rather than viewing this event as an obligation, it should be an extension of the day’s celebration. We can take steps to ensure that students are encouraged to and want to attend the ceremony. Student performances, by organizations like the a capella groups, would make the ceremony more inclusive and appealing.

Throughout the afternoon, students should have the option of attending a number of different activities that everyone can enjoy. This year, HamTrek and the large concert will serve this function. However, more can be done. Taking a cue from “May Day” celebrations of years past, the College could also arrange for other activities, such as inflatable and lawn games. Controlled environments such as beer gardens provide appropriate settings for those who do want to drink on Class & Charter Day.

Ultimately, we as a community need to reevaluate the legacy of Class & Charter Day and determine how we feel about the path we are currently on. We have proven that the “Charter” aspect will outshine the “Class” aspect. The administration needs to accept that Class & Charter Day is ultimately about Hamilton students celebrating their accomplishments, and give us a chance to make our own responsible decisions rather than imposing rules that will be hard to enforce and invite the resentment of the student body.

Class & Charter Day is about celebrating as a community. Unfortunately, there is a potential that this day can be ruined by the irresponsible behavior of a few students, and the administrative response to this behavior. Together, we can work to ensure that our Class & Charter Day tradition is preserved.

Letters-to-the-Editor Policy

The Spectator’s Letter-to-the-Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of The Spectator, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

Nevertheless, The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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One Student’s Suggestion for a Safe and Exciting Class and Charter Day

by Logan Burrus ’10

Opinion Contributor

Consider the cigarette butt receptacles that used to be outside the library. With the removal of these devices there were two possible outcomes: either students would miraculously begin listening to the 18 years of advice their parents had given them and quit smoking, or cigarettes would litter the entrance of one of the most popular buildings on campus. Simply put, this is the philosophy behind Hamilton College’s alcohol policies.

Thus far it seems that the administration’s decisions reflect their belief that making alcohol harder to find will lead students to give up or fail trying. When Hamilton became known as a major drinking school, a point system and stricter rules were installed and expected to be a cure-all. It’s like treating gunshot wound with a band-aid.

What the administration’s heart is in the right place on this matter; however, it is unclear where its brain is. This has not always been the case. Starting in 2005, the Campus Coalition on Alcohol took some steps in the right direction by raising awareness about the positive and negative effects of drinking. In particular, they wanted fresh men and students with cars to have a proper understanding of the risks surrounding alcohol, alcohol-related vandalism, and underage drinking.

However, this is where the realistic approach to a serious problem ended and perhaps the most convenient and effective examples we can use to demonstrate this pattern are the recent changes made to the traditional festivities of Class and Charter Day.

Pandemonium of some houses near G-Road and multiple students requiring medical attention on 2008’s C&C Day caused the administration to eliminate G-Road apartments as a venue for all parties. Problem solved? Maybe it was premature at the time to say that their policy was a band-aid on a gunshot wound; in this case it seems that instead the administration decided to conduct heart surgery for a common case of hiccups.

This year, Hamilton’s administration has actually taken one step forward and then three steps back. They decided to bring a popular band to campus in the hopes of shifting the focus of C&C Day from binge drinking to entertainment and safe fun. However, completely negating the tangible results of this effort, they have banned students from holding any open containers outdoors regardless of whether or not they have alcohol in them. Instead, they will distribute college-approved water bottles.

Now students who wish to drink will either drink prior to the event or fill these school-sponsored tumblers with the cocktail of their choice. Although this is all but guaranteed, it is important that this habit not be a result of the new policy, as the research Hamilton misuses to make its decisions indicates that “pre-gaming” and imbibing mixed drinks are the most dangerous forms of drinking.

I want to emphasize that there is a reasonable and simple alternative, the same one that was sent to the administration and ignored last year. Bring Class and Charter Day back to G-Road. Upon doing so, eliminate the use of hard liquor by banning it entirely on this day, increasing the points students would receive if caught drinking it, and allow overage students to carry around and drink beer.

Not only would this reduce the students’ tendency to drink before the concert, but it would also keep students from bringing more dangerous forms of alcohol to campus, due to the easy access of beer and fear of points. If there is continued concern with regard to vandal ism on G-Road, let students use a marked section of the golf course to walk there and have a crossing guard.

Let us be clear – I am not asking the administration to encourage or tacitly approve underage drinking. I am merely suggesting a plan that recognizes the very real dangers of unsafe drinking and responds with simple but effective measures. As with any other off-campus party, this plan would recognize that underage students are required to show proper ID and absolutely no one should be distributing hard alcohol.

Students will drink on May 7, despite the school’s goal to change campus culture. However, a policy such as the one I have proposed could be a realistic step in creating an envir onment on C&C Day in which students could have fun in the safest setting possible. Other schools throughout the country, including our neighbor, Syracuse University, uphold this philosophy. It is a realistic and proact veget approach that does not prioritize administrative legality over student safety.

I hope that students and administrators recognize this as an opportunity for Hamilton to take an initial step in the right direction with regard to alcohol policies in general, safer Class and Charter Days in the future, and bridging the gap between administrators and students to create some semblance of a respectful and responsible relationship. We should not forget that Hamilton College is a fine institution made up of intelligent and mature students. Given the opportunity to demonstrate this with guidance from the school, we can begin to forge the positive identity the administration has hoped to build and the student body has been missing.

Mike D.  

Sure Hamilton, ease us off the stuff by making it suck for a year before you pull the plug. Taking notes from the creators of LOST I see.

Bon Appetite’s “Story Behind the Food” gets cancelled: too bad, I was dying to hear the story behind that tomato sauce you call a soup.

Schizophrenic weather: great for post coital shame (thanks for that tomato sauce you call a soup, great for post coital shame (thanks for that)

Stir Fry Gone Forever: I hope your plan is intentional.

Classics Department Plays: Sex! Lies! Ancient! Comedy! Lets see, sex and lies I’ve had before, and I’m betting any comedy that occurs won’t be intentional.

Book Drive to End Child Abuse: Reading is a good thing. Not hitting children is a good thing. Connections between ideas are good things.

Write for the Daily Bull: you’ll have big shoes to fill, but at least they’re nonsensical, unappreciated shoes that everyone really just wants to take off.

Class and Charter Day planning: If you need to plan your drunken happiness, then you’re not doing it right.

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 Speculator editorial board.

HAVE AN OPINION? WRITE ABOUT IT!

SUBMIT AN ARTICLE OR LETTER TO THE OPINION EDITORS AT

Paci & Lief
Safety First

by Cobus Van Der Ven ’11

Emergency response statistics, the administrators and quotations about the law all serve to convince you that Class and Charter Day is unsafe and unsustainable. But in the end, all these statistics and quotations are superfluous. If you have been to Class and Charter day, all you have to do is take a step back, take a deep breath, and think rationally about the day. I hypothesize that everyone who does this needs nothing more than their own rationality to convince themselves unequivocally that the events of previous years are dangerous. The question is not whether or not Class and Charter Day policy should change, it is how must it change.

There is no doubt that the policies implemented this year have their downsides. However, no criticism of a policy carries any weight unless it proposes an alternative solution that is mutually beneficial. Every single policy and every single decision carries with it pros and cons, so to point out the negative aspects of a policy does nothing to present effective criticism. Therefore, it is worth considering the rationale behind the current policy, its pros and cons, as well as a look as some alternatives.

Consider the situation last year. The official policy was no open containers, however, no action was taken against anyone who filled up Nalgenes with vodka. It is practically impossible to implement. There are not enough Campus Safety officers to check every single water bottle, and even if there were, it can be surprisingly hard to distinguish if something is alcoholic or not. If you assumed that Campus Safety was able to regulate water bottles in this fashion, it would consume their day and leave them unable to address more serious issues on campus. Strictly disallowing water bottles is a much simpler policy.

It is an individual’s responsibility to behave appropriately, but the administration that is liable for what happens on Class and Charter day. Therefore, the unsafe behavior must be controlled, and the events of last year leave no other viable option. When the risks of the behaviors are serious injury or death, it is not only the responsibility but the obligation of the people in charge to do something about it. To paraphrase Winston Churchill, “Democracy is the worst form of government except for all the other ones.” The same can be said of this policy. Although it has negative aspects, there is no other way to ensure a safe Class and Charter Day.

Ultimately, the new policy does very little to actually inhibit the celebratory aspect of the event. We are celebrating the end of classes, the achievements of our peers, and the coming of spring and summer. We have a concert to go to with an enormously popular band, and a day with no classes in the afternoon. The only change is that the unsafe and illegal behavior from previous years will not be tolerated, and the only way to enforce this with any degree of success is by not allowing water bottles.

Forsaking Tradition

by Shelley Sauerhaft ’12

When I first came to Hamilton, I was regaled with stories of Class and Charter festivities each year—last year it was G-Road, now it is large gatherings and anything that holds liquid fun—the school is not only veering us towards a far-from-liberal college, but also ruining what made Hamilton College distinct.

What will the new Class and Charter day rules next year be? My guess is Campus Safety a Hitler-like power trip to keep large groups from gathering, or maybe telling students they can only drink out of certain pre-approved Hamilton provided water bottles that wouldn’t last anyone past breakfast. Oh wait, those nightmares already came true.

The Hamilton that I have come to know and love (most of the time) can only be described as beige and boring when the risks of the behaviors are serious injury or death, it is not only the responsibility but the obligation of the people in charge to do something about it. To paraphrase Winston Churchill, “Democracy is the worst form of government except for all the other ones.” The same can be said of this policy. Although it has negative aspects, there is no other way to ensure a safe Class and Charter Day.

Ultimately, the new policy does very little to actually inhibit the celebratory aspect of the event. We are celebrating the end of classes, the achievements of our peers, and the coming of spring and summer. We have a concert to go to with an enormously popular band, and a day with no classes in the afternoon. The only change is that the unsafe and illegal behavior from previous years will not be tolerated, and the only way to enforce this with any degree of success is by not allowing water bottles.

men feet away from fires, but let me make one thing clear: By slowly phasing out the Class and Charter festivities each year—last year it was G-Road, now it is large gatherings and anything that holds liquid fun—the school is not only veering us towards a far-from-liberal school, but also ruining what made Hamilton College distinct.

What will the new Class and Charter day rules next year be? My guess is giving Campus Safety a Hitler-like power trip to keep large groups from gathering, or maybe telling students they can only drink out of certain pre-approved Hamilton provided water bottles that wouldn’t last anyone past breakfast. Oh wait, those nightmares already came true.

The Hamilton that I have come to know and love (most of the time) can only be described as beige and boring in comparison to the Hamilton that existed fifty, forty, thirty, twenty, even ten years ago. The administration puts more stock in avoiding bad publicity and lawsuits than they do in honoring the history of Hamilton College.

I chose this school because my Accepted Students Day consisted of watching the streaking team and seeing Hamilton as a school that prided itself on not succumbing to societal constraints.

Apparently the school that so many of us envisioned when applying to colleges no longer exists. In its place stands a Campus Safety officer chasing the streaking team into the woods in order to punish them for the same thing that tour guides brag about to prospective students in order to show high school students we are not just another small, northeast liberal arts college.

Class and Charter Day is a tradition, and in my opinion, a necessary one. It is the only day of finals week arrives.

Simply put, I don’t care what rules the administration (that really needs to just knock a few back ourselves and relax) implement for Class & Charter Day.

I am still going to drink extremely heavily and probably puke in the bushes before the concert even starts, as will most people who partake in this “holiday.”

Only with these bullshit new rules about only drinking from provided water bottles while outside, the school is asking for even more emergency calls. The school is forcing people to binge drink in private and possibly overdo it, which is even worse than simply drinking too much. Too many restrictions on students just looking to celebrate their accomplishments beg for insubordination.

Moral of the story: faceless Hamilton College bureaucracy, you are destroying what makes Hamilton Hamilton, so please please PLEASE hop off Class and Charter Day. We want to feel connected to past generations of Hamiltonians. Keep our traditions alive.
Letter to the Editor:

Re: Fact-Checking and the Face Off

April 29, 2010

I am surprised by the lack of fact-checking presented in the Face Off in the April 22 issue. Neither side of the Face Off included Kathryn’s full name. Though true that the blurb on the Facebook page “Why deny a student her major?” does not include her last name, looking through the group’s members or a search of the Hamilton directory for seniors named Kathryn would’ve led to her.

Beyond providing a full name rather than just referring to the student as “Kathryn,” finding her would have provided a source of information that would allow the writers to understand the full story behind why she was denied her major...

“Beyond providing a full name rather than just referring to the student as ‘Kathryn,’ finding her would have provided a source of information that would allow the writers to understand the full story behind why she was denied her major...”

My understanding is that the rule preventing Kathryn from receiving her math major is designed to ensure that Hamilton students gain a comprehensive liberal arts education, so that a student cannot double major and minor in three closely related subjects. The idea is a good one; a well-rounded education is an advantage to those applying for grad school or jobs. However, the rule does not prevent a student from simply double majoring in two closely related subjects, and therefore does not push a liberal arts education as well as it is intended. In some cases, the rule does not even apply.

As a friend of Kathryn’s, I know that she has not focused solely on three subjects. In addition to her chemical physics major, her comparative literature minor and the mathematics major for which she qualifies, she has studied anthropology and Russian. Can it truly be said that she has not gained a liberal arts education?

Kathryn is not seeking to be an exception to the rule in place, nor is she “making a show of all her accomplishments and therefore diminishing others’ achievements,” as claimed in Mr. Lander’s side of the Face Off. The rule is flawed and needs to be changed, not solely for her sake, but for any student who may end up in her position. It is not inhibiting students from focusing on two closely related fields and is preventing others from being recognized for the work they have done.

Furthermore, Paul Lieberstein may have started out with an economics major and ended up as a comedy writer, but his case is not every student’s case. There are many fields that require a background in a specific subject. Could someone become a doctor having never studied biology or anatomy? Could someone with no background in English or education be an effective English professor? Sometimes careers are not related to majors, but that does not mean that they don’t matter.

In the future, a little more research would prevent articles based on unsubstantiated assumptions. Sincerely,

Jessica Brown ’12

Re: Fact-Checking and the Face Off
The offices of The Spectator and the college radio station WHCL 88.7 FM have long been located in the Bristol Center. By next fall, both will have moved to the new ELS. The Spectator presents a last look at the homes and history of these two campus institutions.

Looking back, Moving Forward:
Student offices prepare to move out of Bristol Center

Who’s Teaching Whom?
Hamilton students teach refugees in Utica
by Bianca Dragan ’10
Senior Editor

Utica is far from being the most prosperous city in the United States. For the refugees at the Mohawk Valley Resource Center (MVRCR), however, Utica is the beginning of a new life, as Reader’s Digest called it, “Second Chance City.”

“Refugees from all over the world are remaking themselves or, as Reader’s Digest called it, ‘Second Chance City.’”

“We came out with a different perspective as English native speakers,” agreed Laura Brantley ’10.

“Not all Hamilton students in the class are native English speakers, however. Ana Maria Diaz ’10 explained how sometimes adds an “e” in front of a word that starts with “st” or “sp,” reminiscent of Spanish. She caught herself teaching her students “estar” for “star” one time. A Burmese refugee speaking English with a Norwegian or Colombian accent makes for a truly “international” accent. Venjohn stressed that in spite the difficulties of learning a foreign language, English “brings people together.”

Ron Wai ’10 teaches English.

The ESOL department sells traditional handmade bags made by a group of Burmese refugees to help them make a living. Don’t be surprised if you see President Stewart wearing hers on campus, as she was one of the first to get one. If you are interested in purchasing the Burmese bags ($15 each) in a variety of colors. Your small contribution can make a big difference for the refugees living in the Second Chance City they now call home.

Members of ESOL Seminar in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) with immigrants and refugees at the Mohawk Valley Resource Center.
The Spectator Survey

Following an article on the TDX suspension in the April 22 issue of The Spectator, we sent out a survey to all students asking for feedback on Greek life at Hamilton. Of the 255 respondents, a third (85) identified themselves as members of a Greek organization.

Do you think hazing is a serious problem at Hamilton?
- Very serious: 23%
- Moderately serious: 49%
- Not serious at all: 28%

How would you gauge the College’s response to the hazing allegation brought against TDX and its leadership?
- Too lenient: 9%
- Moderately lenient: 13%
- Appropriate: 43%
- Moderately strict: 15%
- Too strict: 20%

How would you characterize the influence of Greek organizations on campus?
- Extremely negative: 8%
- Negative: 14%
- Both positive and negative: 48%
- Positive: 14%
- Extremely positive: 16%

Have you experienced hazing?
- Yes: 17%
- No: 68%
- Other: 15%

“By the College’s definition, yes, but by the College’s definition the work load for many of my classes constitutes hazing as well. By any clear and appropriate definition, I have certainly not experienced hazing.”

“Most of the hazing that I experienced consisted of extreme drinking for all involved. For all of pledging she was constantly worrying, nearly always in a bad mood, and there were multiple occasions when she came to me in tears.”

“The ideal way to enforce anti-hazing policy is to remove Greek organizations from campus entirely. The only other way would be to shorten the pledging time period.”

“My hazing experience, I’ve seen what hazing does to people. One of my best friends pledged and I’ve seen what hazing does to people. For all of pledging she was constantly worrying, nearly always in a bad mood, and there were multiple occasions when she came to me in tears.”
The Greek Society presidents have been in contact recently to hopefully open a more constructive dialogue with the administration in regards to the future of Greek life on campus. We believe that Greek life contributes constructively to the Hamilton community in a number of ways, and that our members are leaders in a wide range of Hamilton activities. That being said, we acknowledge that some compromises could be made to build a more positive Greek atmosphere, and we hope to work with the administration to accomplish that. We hope that Greek life will emerge from recent controversies a stronger and better part of student life at Hamilton, and that we will have more constructive and overt communication of expectations with the administration in the future.

-Holly Donaldson, President of Alpha Theta Chi, speaking on behalf of the leadership of Delta Upsilon, Alpha Theta Chi, Phi Beta Chi, Theta Delta Chi, Psi Upsilon, Delta Chi, Theta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Chi Psi, Delta Phi, Kappa Sigma Alpha, Gamma Xi and Alpha Delta Phi

Just the facts: Greek life by the numbers

- Eleven national fraternities: Alpha Delta Phi, Chi Psi, Delta Chi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Phi, Delta Upsilon, Lambda Upsilon Lambda, Psi Upsilon, Sigma Phi, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Theta Delta Chi
- Six local sororities: Alpha Chi Lambda, Alpha Theta Chi, Gamma Xi, Kappa Delta Omega, Kappa Sigma Alpha, Phi Beta Chi
- Two national sororities: Sigma Lambda Upsilon, Alpha Kappa Alpha
- Percentage of all students who are Greek: 24%
- Percentage of eligible* students who are Greek: 33%
- Percentage of all men who are Greek: 34%
- Percentage of eligible men who are Greek: 46%
- Percentage of all women who are Greek: 16%
- Percentage of eligible women who are Greek: 21%

*Eligible = Sophomores/juniors/seniors
SAVES display aims to raise awareness about sexual violence.

by Meghan Woolley ’13

What can a clothesline do to combat sexual violence and assault? According to the Clothesline Project, it can act as a means of expression and awareness. The displays in Opus I and II, brought to campus by Hamilton SAVES, feature shirts made by women affected by domestic violence and sexual assault in an attempt to raise awareness of these issues. It was on display from Tuesday, April 27 through Thursday, April 29.

The purpose of the project, according to www.clotheslineproject.org, is to give women an opportunity “to express their emotions” and to “provide awareness about sexual and domestic violence, hate crimes and child abuse.”

The Clothesline Project was founded in 1990 in Cape Cod by a group of women who “wanted to find a unique way to take stag...”

The state. The collection displayed at Hamilton belongs to the Mahwah Valley YWCA and was made by women from the surrounding communities.

Noelle Niznik, North Side director and co-chair of Hamilton SAVES, described the project as “a way to raise awareness...”

As part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Hamilton SAVES has been hard at work on a number of other projects as well. For example, April 28, the group held a panel discussion about sexual assault that gave community and campus members the chance to tell personal stories and start a dialogue about how to deal with the issue.

They are also planning to host a showing of “Speak Out and Stand Up: Raising Awareness about Sexual Assault,” a 25-minute documentary narrated by Kristen Stewart. Niznik hopes that this and other events will serve as a platform for discussion. “Before SAVES this was not really being talked about, and it needs to be. This is happening on campus,” she said.

Hamilton SAVES is also thinking of plans for next year, including a possible peer advocate program that would train students to provide advice and support and to guide victims of sexual assault through the reporting process.

They are also hoping to create a bystander training program, in conjunction with the athletic department, that would help students to step in if they see a dangerous situation developing. Hamilton SAVES members have also been seeking feedback on Hamilton’s sexual assault policy and reporting process.

One major goal is to utilize the Hamilton website to make information more accessible.

Two of Niznik’s overarching goals are to increase awareness among new students and to emphasize the relationship between alcohol and sexual assault. She hoped that by using different approaches it will be possible to reach different groups. She chiefly “wants to encourage people to talk about it, to confide in someone and seek support.”

Trustee Corner:

Elizabeth McCormack

Few people have had lives as interesting as Elizabeth McCormack’s. When asked to talk about her life, she said, “That’s too long,” and went on to add, “Well, we can go through it quickly.”

“My life, until the mid-1970s, was in education,” McCormack said. Her career in education began at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, a private secondary school where Mc...”

The arts were very prominent and central at Kirkland, and they were not at Hamilton. The merger brought a new and important strength to Hamilton,” McCormack added. “Not many men’s colleges became coeducational by merging with women’s colleges. Some began by taking a few female first-years, but taking the whole of Kirkland was a great thing.”

After the merger of Kirk...”

McDonald added, “The general role of the board is to support the organization in every way, including financial support, so that the institution will be possible to reach different...”

Hamilton has a special place in McCormack’s heart, as does its board. “Of all the many boards I’ve been on – non-profit, educational, corporate – the best one is Hamilton. It’s a great board because it’s a great institution.”

Her experience as a former college president gives McCormack an interesting perspective on board service: “I sometimes will ask the president ‘What do you need from the board?’ or ‘What do you hope will come out of this upcoming meeting?’ I think that because I was a college president, I understand first that the president needs the board, and that the president of ten knows better than the board how the board can be helpful.”

McDonald, who recently turned 88 years old, continues to serve on the boards of numerous institutions and non-profit organizations. Since 1980, McCormack has been a trustee of the Asian Cultural Council, a non-profit organization in New York City that supports cultural exchange between the United States and Asia. McCormack joined the Asian Cultural Council at the request of John D. Rockefeller III, the founder of the organization, and has been its chairman since 1992.

McCormack’s counsel has been sought by institutions and individuals in the fields of education, philanthropy and the arts for more than 30 years. The words of President John Hinde Stewart reflect the seemingly unanimous opinion of anyone who has ever worked with McCormack: “The respect that Hamilton trustees feel for Elizabeth is matched only by their affection for her. Her contributions to discussion are shaped by vast experience, immense wisdom and profound humanity.”
**Weekly Charts**

**MUSIC**

### TOP SONGS

- 1. B.o.B. feat. Bruno Mars—*“Nothin’ On You”*
- 2. Rihanna—*“Rude Boy”*
- 3. Train—*“Hey, Soul Sister”*
- 4. Taio Cruz feat. Ludacris—*“Break Your Heart”*
- 5. Lady Antebellum—*“Need You Now”*

### MOVIES

- 1. Justin Bieber—*My World 2.0*
- 2. MGM—*Congratulations*
- 3. Lady Antebellum—*Need You Now*
- 4. Usker—*Raymond V Raymond*
- 5. Cohed and Cambria—*Year of the Black Rainbow*

### BOOKS

- 1. *A Conversation with Clementine* by Clementine Is My Sunshine, Jonathan Wu
- 2. *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway
- 3. *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortensen and David Oliver Relin
- 4. *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert
- 5. *My Horizontal Life* by Chelsea Handler

**PAPERBACK FICTION**

- 1. *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson
- 3. *The Last Song* by Nicholas Sparks
- 4. *Little Bee* by Chris Cleave
- 5. *The Host* by Stephenie Meyer

**NON-FICTION**

- 1. *Conservative Victory* by Sean Hannity
- 2. *Are You There Vodka? It’s Me, Chelsea* by Chelsea Handler
- 3. *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortensen and David Oliver Relin
- 4. *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert
- 5. *My Horizontal Life* by Chelsea Handler

**A Conversation with Clementine Is My Sunshine’s third album, A Plunge Into the Sea, delves into Jonathan Wu’s trademark folk-pop sound.**

### Charts (New York Times “Best Sellers”)

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

### April 29, 2010

**by Taylor Coe ’13**

**Arts & Entertainment Editor**

Under his musical moniker Clementine Is My Sunshine, Jonathan Wu ’13 has been recording and performing music for the past five years. Arriving on Hamilton’s campus in January after a semester at the University of Toronto, Wu has already made an impression on Hamilton’s music scene, playing a number of common room concerts as well as opening for The Morning Benders at the IMF concert on April 17. I recently had the opportunity to sit down with Wu and ask him a few questions.

**What inspires you to write music?**

People call me a very positive songwriter in terms of the things I like to sing about—but the way I see it is when I sing these things I’m really talking to myself. I usually write these songs when I’m in a very low point in my life and it’s kind of like, “Come on! Pick it up! Try to keep your head up.” And that’s kind of where a lot of my songs come out of. And also just…girlfriends…parents…life…

**How do you go about writing songs?**

It’s a mess. Sometimes I get kind of this riff going or a progression that I like and I’ll add a melody over it. Sometimes I have a melody in my head and I’ll try to find the progression and the key that fits best for my voice. Sometimes I have words first…so it’s just whatever. But I’ve been thinking about that recently. The best representation I can think of is…you know *The Old Man and the Sea*?

Yes. Hemingway.

Yeah, so basically the old man goes out, catches this big fish he can’t see for the longest time, tries to reel it in, finally reels it in, bring it back, but by the time he brings it back it’s just bare bones. It’s not what it was before. [laughs] I feel like that’s a really good image of the creative process. A lot of times when I start—in the shower or some random place—I hear this awesome piece in my head and then, as I start trying to translate it into a song—words and progressions—things get taken away and it just loses some of it’s umph. At the end it’s just totally different…like the bare bones of what you had before, but you’ve just got to hope that that’s good enough.

I guess my favorite performing experience would be opening for Avril Lavigne. For one thing, it was in front of 13,000 people. Another thing is I really had to win the audience over…1\1 mean, they were Avril Lavigne fans in the first place so it was tough. A lot of people were like, “What the f–k?” in the first couple minutes. I got a couple boos, which was encouraging for some strange reason and made me calmer. A lot of “We want Avril” chants. So I just bantered and talked back to them, which was fun. So I think that was the best experience just because I was playing for so many people who didn’t necessarily expect to hear me, which is a great experience for a performer.

**What are your plans for a musical career after college?**

I would like to continue playing either by myself or with a band. Make enough money to support myself. My ultimate goal is to make a living out of it. To live with the title of a “professional singer-songwriter.” Popularity isn’t so much on my mind right now. I don’t need to be on billboards. I just need to make enough money so I can keep playing music. At this point in my life that’s all I really care about. If I could do that, I’d be happy and I could live that way. Even if critics hate me, whatever. If people are paying for my music and I could keep doing it, then I’d be happy.
Friday

Senior Art Show 2010
Opening Reception
Emerson Gallery
@ 4 p.m.

Student Dance Alliance
Choreography Show
Blood Fitness Center
@ 7 p.m.

Saturday

Bufflers Invitational Concert
Chapel
@ 7 p.m.

Hamilton College Orchestra Spring Concert
Wellin Hall
@ 8 p.m.

Wednesday

Untitled @ Large Presents
Private Lives
by Noel Coward
List 106
@ 10 p.m.

Tuesday

A Sneak Among the Greeks & The Brianna
Events Barn
@ 7:30 a.m.

Productions presented by Professor Gold’s Ancient Comedy class
Wellness Fair Showcases the Local Health-Related Options for the Hamilton Community

by Rebecca Shields ’13
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WRITER

A Sneak Among the Greeks

Need a massage to take your mind off the end of the semester? Even though massages and other wellness activities are offered by local businesses, most students are not aware of their options. To help spread awareness about these organizations, the College hosted a “Wellness Fair” to inform students how to help students learn more about their own fitness.

The activities showcased at the fair ranged from music therapy to flying fishing. All of the booths had something unique to add to one’s health. For example, the Time for Me Day Spa offered free 10-minute massages. One of the massage therapists previously worked at the Blood Fitness Center at Hamilton and added, “I love to come back and show our relaxing work.” Dr. Adam C. Ellis of the Elijah Chiropractic Group provided free nerve testing. “We use this unique device that can show how the muscles and nerves in your back are working... It only takes about one minute and we can tell if there is extreme tension that can affect your back and nerve or muscle damage.” College students have to be aware of areas and tension, especially at the end of the year. Chiropractic treatment offers an easy way to help relieve some of this built-up tension to avoid muscular problems down the road.

Jennie Rose Barlow is the outreach coordinator of the Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired. “We’re a nonprofit organization that helps people who see or are blind live a normal life. And it’s not just older adults, but people your age and even children. We actually work closely with the Counseling Center [at Hamilton] for anyone that has trouble with vision. We can work with them and translate textbooks and assignments to Braille or large print for them.” The association is always looking for new volunteers and interns to help clients with their shopping, transportation, school, or even reading the newspaper.

I had the chance to meet with Brad Grady, son of long-time Hamilton hockey coach Chris Grady and organizer of The Shawn Grady Memorial Fund. Some of the proceeds raised by HamTrek are used to support the Memorial Fund. Grady explained what he is trying to accomplish.

“The Shawn Grady Memorial Fund helps families in dealing with a child with a life-threatening illness, such as cancer or leukemia,” he said. “I started this memorial fund in the remembrance of my brother Shawn Grady. He died at the age of 16 from cancer and it not only affected our family, but also the community.

“Being a family with three children other than Shawn is difficult as it was, but even more so because of his cancer. He had to travel all over the east coast for treatments, while my brothers and I still had sports practices and school functions to go to. Our fund offers families money to offset financial hardships that come from having a child with a life-threatening disease... We have raised over $1 million dollars since the starting of this memorial fund. And this is our second year with HamTrek, and last year we raised over $1500.”

Grady came out to support HamTrek recently housed the wellness fair, which encouraged students to take advantage of the health and wellness options on campus, to relax and help students’ bodies. Boot camp and HamTrek signups gave people an opportunity to exercise and get outdoors and back in shape. Volunteer and memorial organizations, such as the Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, allowed people to help others in their community with physical needs. The fair was a great way to help students become more familiar with the local community as well as increase their awareness about their own fitness and well-being.

Neuro. Candidate Discusses Possible Benefits of ADHD

by Julia Litzky ’12
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Poor diet and lack of exercise are generally blamed as the cause of obesity, diabetes and heart disease. However, Michael Frederick, a candidate for the visiting professor position in the Neuroscience Department, presented an additional explanation. In his talk titled “Are We ‘Programmed’ Before Birth?: Evidence for the relationship between prenatal nutrition and later health problems,” he discussed how low birth weight and prenatal environment is correlated with a variety of disorders including obesity and ADHD.

According to Frederick, obesity may be the result of a fetus developing in a nutrient-poor environment and then entering a nutrient-rich world. If developing fetuses do not get enough nutrition from their mothers, signals are sent to the fetuses that they will be entering a world where food is scarce. Their physiology will then be set to not only endure life outside of the womb, but to survive in this world; they will have a slower metabolism and store more fat than those who did not have to worry about a nutrient-poor environment, and will also be smaller at birth.

While these adaptations would allow an individual to survive better in a world that was truly nutrient-poor, the modern world is full of fast food and nutrient-sparse societies. Therefore, the adaptation ends up increasing the risk of obesity, heart disease and diabetes in those who were not intended to survive those conditions. Evidence for the relationship between prenatal nutrition and later health problems can be found in the Dutch Hunger Winter. During World War II, the Nazi’s decided to starve the population, which resulted in a generation of small children who were more susceptible to heart disease and diabetes in later life. It is possible that this is also happening on a global scale, with people who are undernourished in their prenatal years being more susceptible to later health problems.

Professor Profile: Physics, Researching Dark Matter

My dark energy research is focused on better understanding Type Ia supernovae. There are several projects that are currently in progress in my lab. One is figuring out new ways of selecting Type Ia supernovae more efficiently. For example, future generations of Type Ia supernova surveys (especially space-based ones) will have to quickly identify Type Ia supernova candidates among all kinds of supernovae of other types, without wasting valuable telescope time.

My collaborators and I have developed a new way of doing so. Another class of projects that I am currently working on has to do with understanding the crucial assumption that all Type Ia supernovae are exactly alike. This is the assumption that allowed cosmologists to use them as “standard candles” and to discover dark energy. However, we know now that there are some “anomalous” Type Ia’s. This is bothersome, since we are

What research question(s) are you currently interested in?

My current research has two main dimensions. One is understanding so-called dark energy, a mysterious energy component of the universe that was discovered only about 10 years ago. It turns out that most of the universe (70 percent) is dark energy (for reference, “normal” matter that we think we understand at least to some extent is only 4 percent). It was discovered using Type Ia supernovae, which are giant stellar explosions.

All Type Ia supernovae are supposed to be the same, and so we can use them as “standard candles” — objects that have a known intrinsic brightness, so that we can tell how far they are by how bright they appear. They are also very bright, so we can measure distances to very far away galaxies that contain Type Ia supernovae. Knowing cosmic distances allows us to understand what the universe consists of and how it evolves.

What is your specialty in your field?

I am an astrophysicist/cosmologist.

What is your specialty in your field?

I am an astrophysicist/cosmologist.

by Natalie Connolly
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS

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 an astrophysicist/cosmologist.

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What is your specialty in your field?

I am an astrophysicist/cosmologist.
The Nature of Dark Energy in the Universe

Professor Profile: Natalia Connolly, Physics

from Profile, page 15

drawing very fundamental con-
clusions based on the assumed
homogeneity of these superno-
va.

In my research, I am develop-
ing new statistical techniques
for analyzing the spectra of Type
Ia supernovae in order to identify
possible sub-classes and perhaps
understand their origin. Finally,
this summer I am starting a new
project where my students and
I will be exploring new ways
of extracting very faint super-
nova signals from astronomical
images.

The second aspect of my re-
search has to do with understand-
ing galaxy evolution. Specific-
ally, I am looking at galaxies that
are very bright in the infrared.
They are typically mergers of two
galaxies that collided; but their
exact nature and evolution are still
largely unknown. My col-
laborators and I have recently ap-
p lied novel statistical techniques
to a sample of such galaxies and
produced what we believe is a
fundamental evolutionary plane
for these objects, telling us the
phases these galaxies likely go
through.

One project my students and I are currently working on is
extending the sample to include
galaxies that are much further
away than those considered in
our original work.

Why are you interested in
these questions?

Dark energy is probably the
single largest mystery of mod-
eran cosmology and astrophysics.
It was never predicted by any
theory, its existence does not follow from any fundamental
principle of nature — it was sim-
ply discovered by experiments.
Understanding the nature of dark
energy may lead to a complete
revision of what we think
and we understand about the way
the Universe works.

Understanding galaxy evol-
u tion may not sound quite as
important, but galaxies are fun-
damental building blocks of the
Universe and figuring out how
they came to be is the way they
are is fascinating and crucial
for building a complete picture
of the Universe.

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

Because my research fo-
cuses on developing and applying
new statistical techniques to astro-
nomical datasets, most of my work is heavily compu-
tational. I use data from exter-
nal telescopes, both space- and
ground-based ones, such as the
Spitzer Space Telescope, the
Hubble Space Telescope, and the
Sloan Digital Sky Survey
Telescope in Apache Point (New
Mexico). I then apply sophisti-
cated data analysis techniques
to the data, which tends to be
very CPU-intensive. I have a
small computing cluster here at
Hamiton and I also use exter-
nal computing resources such as
the National Energy Research
Scientific Computing Center at
Berkeley and the TeraGrid su-
percomputing cluster.

What impact do you hope
your work will have?

I certainly hope that my
work will contribute to a better
understanding of the universe
we live in!

ADHD, Schizotypy
May Have Benefits

from ADHD, page 15

ADHD, Schizotypy
May Have Benefits

in the womb affects ADHD and
schizophrenic symptomatology,
and how these disorders could give
individuals an evolutionary advant-
ge. Specifically, he found that the
impulsivity associated with ADHD
is more common in those who
were low birth weight babies. Addi-
tionally, he found that people who
were low birth weight babies had a
more schizophrenic symptomatology,
such as hearing voices and having
hallucinations.

This symptomatology, how-
ever, seems to have an advantage
in terms of reproduction. As part
of his study, he asked college-age
men and women to report how many
people they had had sex with, which
he used as a measure of evolutionary
advantage in reproduction. Those
men who were more impulsive
and had more schizophrenic symptoms
reported higher numbers of sex
partners. Frederick suggests that
this could be the evolutionary ben-
efit of both ADHD and schizophrenia
symptoms.

Green Week Survey Results:
How Much Do Hamilton Students
Know About the
Environmental Impact of their Diets?

by H.E.A.G Members

In response to the recent Green Week survey, you said...

Percent of students who
believe that meat, dairy and
fruits have a "high carbon
footprint."

Meat Dairy Fruit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>96</th>
<th>65</th>
<th>40</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
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How likely are you to make
dietary decisions based on the
known environmental impacts
of your food? (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>35%</th>
<th>24%</th>
<th>15%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strongly Disinclined</td>
<td>Inclined</td>
<td>Not Sure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here are the facts:

Meat

“18 percent of greenhouse
gas emissions” are from the
meat industry. That’s more than
total transportation combined.
– New York Times

Dairy

“Dairy cows produce meth-
ane when digesting… Meth-
ane has 25 times the impact of
carbon dioxide” on global
warming.
– Cornell University

Fruit

Be aware of the transporta-
tion methods of your food and
their country of origin. Bananas
flown on a plane from Ecuador
will have a high carbon foot-
print. However, it is important
to realize that distance does not
always equate to a high carbon
footprint. You must also be
aware of harvesting and land-
use practices.

Here’s a general rule of
thumb for maintaining an
environmentally sustainable diet:

eat locally, eat seasonally and
eat organically. Also, make an
effort to cut meat out of some
or all of your meals. You won’t
starve, and you’ll be doing a
good thing for the planet.

Children born
to mothers who
were pregnant during the
Dutch Hunger Winter are more likely
to suffer from obesity, heart
disease and schizophrenia.

Connolly studies type Ia supernovae, which occur when a
white dwarf star absorbs a companion star and collapses.
by Yinghan Ding ’12

**Science & Technology Writer**

Two Hamilton students attended the Washington Symposium and Capitol Hill Poster Session, an event sponsored by the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement (NCSE) held April 19-21 in Washington, D.C. During the three-day conference, Will McIvor ’12 and Julia Litzky ’12 presented their project entitled “Are there Carcinogens in Our Furniture? An Examination of Halogenated Flame Retardants,” a lab project originating from Chemistry 125, a course focusing on health and environmental chemistry. The instructor of the course, Professor of Chemistry Tim Elgren, also attended this conference.

The Washington Symposium and Capitol Hill Poster Session is designed to provide an opportunity for members of the Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities (SENCER) community. In addition, participants have the opportunity to engage in personal meetings with members of their home congressional delegation, with whom they discuss how their projects might impact future legislations.

To Professor Elgren, this conference was an opportunity to showcase the skills students learned from the Chemistry 125 laboratory. The course introduced topics in the effects of toxic chemicals, and the goal was to “expose students to basic science, examine public policy and understand the science underlying the public policy issues.” McIvor and Litzky were concerned with the health effects associated with fire-retardant chemicals being added in California-produced furniture. This gave rise to their investigation of whether the furni

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According to a legislation originated in California, furniture manufacturers are required to make their furniture in a way so that the foam inside the furniture resists exposure to an open flame up to 12 seconds. For these manufacturers, the most effective and inexpensive way to meet the standards is to add fire-retardant chemicals such as polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) to the furniture.

However, these toxic chemicals evaporate from the foam gradually, and most of them settle in dust. According to a survey by the Silent Spring Institute, dust in California homes contains 10 times the concentration of PBDEs found in dust from other states and 200 times the amount in houses in Europe. This high level of PBDE has significant adverse effects on human health. Evidence has been found that it increases the risk of cancer, sterility, thyroid disorders, endocrine disruption, developmental impairment and birth defects.

Among those fire-retardant chemicals, one of the most serious ones is the Bisphenol-A (BPA), an organic compound that is known to be an endocrine disruptor. This is the focus of McIvor and Litzky’s research on fire-retardant chemicals. By conducting experiments on furniture on campus, they found that the majority of furniture on campus exceeds the permissible level of BPA, which could pose health risks to the campus community.

McIvor and Litzky had the opportunity to talk to Congressman Mike Arcuri (D-Utica) during the poster session on Capitol Hill, and they discussed the case with Arcuri’s science staffers, presenting their views on a potential bill that sought to remove toxic fire retardants from all furniture. This bill is still making its way to Congress, and it will be voted in the near future. When asked about how this event could impact a student’s overall education experience in Hamilton, Professor Elgren responded, “Through this event, students got some exposure to some issues we face as citizens, like human and environmental health. Students got an opportunity to advocate for civil engagement, inform public policy and understand the impact of science on society. It helps students develop confidence to better understand the science underlying important issues, like health care, energy, science in the news, research and global climate change.”
Softball Getting Consistency From Core Players

by Brandon Leibsohn '10  
Session Editor

Heading into the home stretch of the NESCAC season has given the women’s softball team an opportunity to challenge itself. Although the team ended up coming away from its home series without a win against top-ranked Williams College, the team showed good fight despite losing the contests 6-2 and 8-0. In the first game, the Continentals held the game within one run into the fifth when the Ephs broke out with two runs and then struck again with two in the seventh. The Continentals kept things close for a few innings in Game 2, but were ultimately unable to contain the Williams College offense. Even though the playoffs are now out of reach, there is still plenty to fight for in the remaining four home games beginning on Friday. Amy Appel ’13 has stepped up her play off late serving both as the starting pitcher and main offensive force.

Batting close to .300 and pitching in 22 of Hamilton’s 26 games this season, Appel has served as a spark plug who will be better prepared to handle her key responsibilities next season. With 14 complete games already under her belt, she has shown that she can compete with the best despite her youth.

Additionally, Lisa Faraci ’13 has settled in nicely at second base and has the highest on-base percentage on the team. Given that the team has struggled offensively to get runs in the board, her presence on the basepaths and her ability to collect extra bases on her line drives will serve the team well in the future. Her defensive efforts also have proven valuable, as she has only two errors in 62 chances.

Finally, Liz Reid ’11 has become the slugger for the Continentals, hitting in the clean-up spot and doing her job to drive in runs. With the team’s only home run on the season, Reid has 10 RBI and leads the team in slugging percentage. These three players will have to be the cornerstones of the team for the future. The team looks to reemerge beginning this weekend against Utica College and RIT. Utica comes to Ferguson Field with major issues of its own, as it has won only two of its last eight games. They have won only three games on the road all year, which will give the Continentals a major edge at home.

Its starting pitchers have combined to give up an average of six runs a game, providing Hamilton with great opportunity to recover offensively before the season concludes. Yet, Appel will need to be on top of her game given that Utica boasts a strong lineup-up with three players who bat over .385 and six players with double-digit RBI totals. Furthermore, RIT started its season strong with many wins on the road, yet it has struggled recently away from its home field.

Contrasting the style of Utica, RIT is strong in its pitching and possesses two pitchers who could be considered aces on most collegiate squads. Its offense has let them down and cost them any chance of coming away with a winning season. Therefore, the Continentals will need to be prepared for a pitching duel, with getting on base being the main priority.

Overall, the Continentals have a tremendous chance to finish out a high note for their season. With four games in three days, getting back to the basics and working the count to find their pitches may provide just the spark that the team needs to enter its off-season with a sense of comfort and hope for its future.
Lacrosse Succeeds

by Elizabeth Ruemlin ’12 and Erika Decker ’12

SPORTS WRITERS

The men’s varsity crew team has had a rough season up to this point. They have struggled since moving to the NECCRAC against highly competitive teams including Wesleyan and Tufts as well as old rivals St. Lawrence and RIT.

During the weekend of Apr. 10-11, the men’s team traveled to Boston to race against Wesleyan and Tufts. The varsity eight, coxed by captain Ricky Bottini ’10, with stroke Gibson Hoyt ’12, had a poor showing, losing both of their races. The second varsity boat, coxed by Dan Rudel ’10 and stroked by Rafael de la Rosa ’12, also finished behind the teams from Wesleyan and Tufts. However on Sunday, the men’s varsity four, also coxed by Rudel and stroked by de la Rosa, was victorious in their race against Tufts.

The team competed against St. Lawrence the following weekend, and despite the varsity eight finishing behind both of St. Lawrence’s shells, the varsity four won an exciting race, finishing a split-second ahead of the Saints and in third place overall.

“We row hard during the winter months, and it’s good to see that transfer to results,” said Joe Ely ’12, bow seat in the four.

Philippine Women’s Crew Garner Recognition

Men’s and Women’s Crew Garner Recognition

by Elizabeth Ruemlin ’12

from Lacrosse page 20

led Hamilton with three goals and two assists. However, it was a team effort, with 13 players scoring goals against Wells. The 21 goals were the most Hamilton has scored since March 13, 2007 against the University of New England. Seven first-years were able to get into the action: Lai, Chris Whelan (three goals, one assist), Armides (two goals), Matt Hill (his first goal and assist as a Continental), David Goldstein (eight ground balls), Jared Palmer (seven ground balls), Mac Shriver (one goal), James Forrey (one goal) and Alex Thompson (one assist).

The Continentals held an amazing 51-19 shots advantage in the game and scored ten consecutive goals over the course of the second and third periods, including two man-down goals. They also held a 60-29 advantage in ground balls and won 24 of 27 faceoffs. The Continentals will finish their regular season with a game against St. Lawrence at Steuben Field on Saturday, May 1 at 1 p.m. With a win, the Continentals will qualify for the Liberty League tournament for the first time since 2006.

Sophomore Midfielder Lucas Sadoff defends the ball against two RPI players.
Defender Jon Leanos ’12, instrumental in the Continentals’ success, lays a hit on one of RPI’s offensive players.

M. Lacrosse Crushes Its Competition
With a win Saturday, the Continentals will earn a berth in post-season play
by Dave Meisel ’13
Sports Editor

The Hamilton men’s lacrosse team has heated up after a slow start in Liberty League play following a strong 6-0 start in non-conference games.

They have lost a little consistency due to their tough in-conference schedule, but they remain in good shape for the playoffs; they now 9-3 overall, 3-3 since their torrid start. They have stayed afloat with some solid play on the road, with a 9-6 win against Clarkson and 17-5 defeat of Morrisville State. They took an 11-3 loss to Skidmore between those matches.

Henry Burchenal ’12 paced the Continentals’ win against Clarkson on Apr. 17 in Potsdam, leading all scorers with three goals. Frankie Ho- liber ’10 and Mac Shriver ’13, had a goal and assist each, and Paul Citarella ’12 recorded a game-high 12 ground balls and 9.5 ground balls played.

library of Congress’ Spring Opener.

The team traveled to Wil- liamsport on April 17 for Wil- liams’ home course in Williamsport, Mass., they again fell short of the NESCAC championship.

The team traveled to Taconic on April 17 for Wi- lliams’ home course. Williams, Mass., they again fell short of the NESCAC championship.

The team traveled to Taconic because the course had lost eight greens since Hamil- ton played there last fall. Since Hamilton would be returning for the NESCAC Championships the following weekend, they looked at the Spring Opener as an impor- tant warm-up, but they could not come through in either contest.

The Continentals finished third out of six squads at the Spring Opener with a two-day team total of 625. The team showed improvement on the sec- ond day with a four-man total of 308. Roche, competing in his first tournament of the spring season, finished fifth overall with rounds of 76 and 78. Scott Blosser ’12 finished ninth overall, and Riley Jorgensen ’11 had a solid week- end, carding a career-best round of 76 on day two. Williams won their home tournament with an impressive total of 606.

“Even though the weather was terrible, we still managed to scrape together two decent rounds, especially with the help of Brad Roche’s return,” said L.J. Scurfield ’12.

Hamilton returned to Taconic the following weekend (April 24- 25) to compete in the NESCAC Championships against Trinity, Middlebury, and Williams. Win- ning the NESCAC Championship to advance to the NCAA Division III tournament has been the team’s vision for years. Last spring the Continentals missed that target by just three strokes.

“We came so close to quali- fying last spring and the goal all year has been to win NESCACs,” said Blosser.

In this year’s championship tournament, captain Phil Preiss ’10 placed seventh individually with a 73 on day two, and Roche posted rounds of 78 and 77 to fin- ish tenth overall. Despite solid play from Hamilton’s standouts, the team was overmatched by Trinity College, which defeated the rest of the field by a wide margin. Led by sophomore Alex Birmingham, Trinity won the tournament with a two-day total of 598 and will compete in the 2010 NCAA Division III cham- pionship in Hershey, Pennsyl- vania. It was the first NESCAC championship for Trinity’s golf program.

Hans Schulte ’13 ended his rookie year on a high note, lead- ing the Continentals to a sixth- place finish with rounds of 75 and 77. His 75 on the first day was Hamilton’s lowest round of the weekend.

“The team had a lot of confi- dence going into the tournament and our captains did a great job getting us fired up to play. Unfor- tunately, Trinity played lights-out golf so you have to give them credit on a great weekend,” said Blosser.

Despite being abroad this semester, Roche was able to con- tribute some solid late-season per- formances for Hamilton, posting four sub-80 rounds at Taconic during the two tournaments.

In addition to losing Preiss for next season, the men’s golf team will lose considerable depth in the fall because current starters Blosser and Scurfield will both be studying abroad.

However, head coach Albert Hight created a merit scholarship with a $1,000 award for the winning golfer at the Spring Opener.

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