Hamilton College has instituted new policies concerning hard alcohol beginning this year based on recommendations from the Alcohol Coalition and Student Assembly (SA).

The new policy dictates that underage students who possess or consume hard alcohol, and any student who serves a minor, will receive three points on top of any other policy violations for which they are being cited. The policy also states that underage students who commit a violation in which hard alcohol was a “factor” will receive three points in addition to the points they receive for the violation. The College defines “hard alcohol” as any beverage with an alcohol content over 20 percent (40 proof).

“One of the things that became clear to us is that hard alcohol is often involved in the most serious incidents that happen on campus,” Dean of Students Nancy Thompson said. “Alcohol is almost always involved and hard alcohol is involved in the most serious and dangerous ones.”

(assistant Dean of Students) Jeff Landry met with many students who were transported last year to the hospital for an alcohol overdose and determined of the students with whom he met, in every single case, hard alcohol was involved.”

Late spring, the Alcohol Coalition agreed in principle on instituting an all-out ban on hard alcohol regardless of a student’s age, according to Thompson. This proposal came after Thompson met with deans from Bowdoin College and Colby College who had banned hard alcohol.

“We were comparing transport stats and Bowdoin sends far fewer students to the hospital than we do,” Thompson explained. “So we thought, ‘OK, let’s talk about it and let’s think about should be ban hard alcohol? Should we do what Bowdoin has done?’”

At that point, SA stepped in and asked the Alcohol Coalition to consider some of the unintended consequences that would come with a ban. These included increased drunk driving with students going off campus and students consuming hard alcohol in larger quantities and for shorter durations to avoid punishments. The new rule wouldn’t allow students over the age of 21 to enjoy a mixed drink, among others.

“After a lengthy discussion, weighing the pros and cons of a ban, the Student Assembly unanimously passed a resolution supporting a new policy with increased points for hard alcohol for underage students rather than a ban,” SA President Amy Goldstein said. “I then presented this resolution to the Alcohol Coalition where it was discussed further and essentially agreed upon to be made the recommendation to the President of the College.”

Many students doubt that the new rules will reduce the amount of hard alcohol consumed by minors on campus.

“Basically, at the end of the day, college students are gonna drink beer, their gonna drink wine, their gonna drink hard alcohol and put further consequences in place for hard alcohol is just going to ensure the Saranac brewery is turning a higher profit,” said Elizabeth see College, page 3
Mac (59) played linebacker for The Continentals during his time at Hamilton. Despite the economic recessions, Hamilton alumni keep on giving. This summer, the school received four separate gifts of one million dollars each. Board of Trustees Chair A. G. Lafley ’69 and an anonymous donor both created endowed endowments financing current and future generations of Hamilton students. These gifts are invested at a five percent rate, which allows the school’s available funds to remain stable and to grow. The interest gained, $100,000, in this case, then helps a number of eligible students pay for tuition. The school uses contributions such as these to avoid cutting just half of the entire student body.

A third million-dollar donation (also from an anonymous donor) will also make Stephen Field usable throughout the year. The new turf will enable Hamilton’s football, lacrosse, and intramural teams to enjoy a field free of serious wear and tear from the elements. The fourth million-dollar donation came from Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees Jeff Little ’71. The gift funded the remodeling of four undersized Bundy East and West Residence Hall lounges into student housing. Usually, the fresh- man class, which is $100,000 in each case, then helps a number of eligible students pay for tuition. The school uses contributions such as these to avoid cutting just half of the entire student body.

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The much-discussed Cultural Education Center (CEC) will be a reality at Hamilton College this semester. Professor of History Madeline Lopez has been appointed interim consulting director of the CEC for the fall semester, and she says programming will begin this month.

When asked about her directive as interim consulting director, Lopez explained, “I was told to host the CEC to fruition. The programming that is going to take place this year will dictate the spatial needs of the future endeavors of the Cultural Education Center.” Lopez described that, beyond arranging for guest speakers, the Center will hold forums for students, faculty workshops and film series. She also plans to hold exhibits on campus to showcase various historical memorabilia of different groups that have had an impact on Hamilton’s rich history “so people can start capturing the understanding of what the [physical] space will be used for.” The Board of Directors has committed to establishing a permanent residence for the CEC by fall 2010, but the location has not yet been decided upon. It appears that both of the previously discussed options of moving into Backus House or Anti-Latin Cultural Center have been dismissed; however, three current facilities will be vacant following the renovation of ELS next year.

It is important to note that the Cultural Education Center will be an independent entity under the Dean of Faculty Office, and therefore, will be financed as part of Hamilton’s budget for educational programs. Lopez says she will be collaborating with Associate Dean of Students for Diversity and Accessibility Allen Harrison and Associate Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives Steve Yao. “We’re not working in isolation,” Lopez said. “We’re working in partnerships to maintain traditions and create new ones.”

On Tuesday, Sep. 22, the CEC will be holding an open forum for students to engage in a campus-wide discussion about the task force report that was released late last semester. Professor Lopez, Dean Harrison, Dean of Faculty Joe Lunge, Physical Plant Director Steve Bellona, and Professor Angel Nieves, faculty member of the task force, will all be in attendance.

The first event coordinated by the CEC will be the reception of guest speaker Jenny Rivera, a CUNY Law School professor, on Sep. 24 for Latino Heritage Month. Rivera clerked for Justice Sotomayor in the federal circuit court and served on the New York Civil Rights Commission under the Gov. Cuomo’s administration. Her lecture will address “Latinas and the Law.” Another guest speaker, Professor Keith Mayes from the American Cultures program at the University of Minnesota will be scheduled for before the end of the semester.

Lopez describes the CEC’s role on campus as a “hub to address all these issues of diversity” at Hamilton; she commented that this week’s hate crime serves to illustrate the real need for the Center and is an example of the kind of problem for which it will help facilitate a discussion.

by Eloise Walter ’11

News Wrester

By August 2010, Hamilton will have a brand new student center, featuring offices for student activities, a two-story bookstore and its very own Starbucks. This building will be the result of a $10.8 million renovation of the Emerson Library that Physical Plant began this past summer. Physical Plant also renovated Bundy Residence Hall in addition to a few smaller projects. Alumni donations and gifts made these projects possible.

The new ELS will serve as a student media and activity hub. The building’s central location and special features intended to increase student involvement on campus and give organizations like WHCL (Hamilton College radio) better facilities. Now, instead of broadcasting from the basement of Bristol Center, DJs will move to the heart of campus directly overlooking the action on Martin’s Way. Architects have also upgraded the audiovisual system to include multiple flat screen televisions, external speakers and a complete sound system spanning the entire building. For prospective students interested in media and communications, ELS makes Hamilton stand out.

Those concerned about the effect on Hamilton’s party scene can rest assured that the ELS basement will retain its original flavor. Architects will only upgrade the social space with high quality audio equipment, adding a coatroom and bathroom, but plan to leave the walls untouched. An extension from the ELS basement includes new features such as a kitchen, a dark room and the bookstore’s lower level.

Physical Plant also added four luxurious suites to Bundy, a pleasant surprise for sophomores on the 수면과 the wealth. With a $650,000 trust fund, Physical Plant converted Bundy common rooms into studios that created the space needed to accommodate increased enrollment. Each studio includes two large doubles connected to a 300 sq. ft. common room and kitchen. The high ceilings and tall windows make the quarters twice the size of a Milbank suite. Needless to say, next year’s sophomore may not be the only ones living in Bundy.

The ELS renovation will be completed in time for the 2010-2011 academic year.

by Daniel Steinman ’12

News Writer

Campus Receiving Makeover

The Alcohol Coalition consists of about 20 students, faculty and staff members and was founded in the fall of 2004 to find ways to reduce the negative effects of alcohol abuse at Hamilton. In 2005, the current point system was created, and offenses were given point values. The accumulation of points can have significant consequences. At four points, a student’s parents are notified of their violation. At six points, a student is no longer eligible to go abroad. After the system was put into place, Thompson found that students do make different decisions once they get points. She hopes that the added points for hard alcohol offenses will have a positive effect on the students behavior in a similar way.

In the end, Thompson simply wants students to be safe when it comes to alcohol. “I want students to make decisions that are safe and healthy for themselves and for the community,” Thompson said. “And I do see this as a way to help influence that.”

by Eve Denton ’12

Student Assembly Correspondent

Dave Smallen’s Technology Update:

Many places in Clinton, including CVS, Aletti’s, Nick’s, Pizza Party, co-op, and Starbucks accounting Hill Card at some point this week, and more stores are considering allowing their use. Look for an e-mail sometime this week announcing that the system is in place, and remember to have money on the card when using it since it won’t work as a credit card. For delivery, give your Hill Card number over the phone, and upon delivery they will confirm this number by looking at your card.

Several additional technological changes are planned for Hamilton this year and next to make life easier for students. Verizon will be installing antennas in several large residence halls in order to improve reception at sometime this school year. The Hamilton e-mail and calendar system are going to switch over to Google, however email addresses will still be @hamilton.edu. A new program is about to be implemented on the school computer system to allow students to see how much printing they do, and how much it would cost if the school were to charge for it. There will be no changes this year, however it is possible that Hamilton will begin charging for printing next year.

College Takes Hard Line on Hard Alcohol

from Administration, page 1

Kosar ’10.

“Banning hard alcohol doesn’t stop alcohol abuse, it just changes alcohol abuse.” Thompson, Residential Life and Campus Safety, however, are all hoping that these new point additions will be dutifully observed by the student body. “I imagine some may test the boundaries, as tends to be the case with any policy or points related changes,” Director of Residential Life Travis Hill said. “I am optimistic that over time the amount of hard alcohol on campus will lessen, particularly with our students that are underage.”

“I am confident that it will discourage students from drinking hard alcohol and eventually lead to less hard alcohol being consumed on campus,” said Director of Campus Safety Francis Manfredo.

With these new policies will be strongly enforced. Manfredo plans to have officers document any violation that comes to their attention, and Hill has also given specific instructions to Resident Advisors (RAs).

“I have placed the expectation upon the Resident Advisor staff that they document inci- dents involving hard alcohol,” Hill stated. “RAs are not looking for violations, but if an individ- ual or group drugs. With the addition of several sports, including water polo and curling.

SA Update

by Eve Denton ’12

Student Assembly Correspondent

Hill Card to Work at CVS, Pizza Place

News Wrester

by Eloise Walter ’11

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September 3, 2009 Page 3
Break Ground for a Better Hamilton

As returning students once again move onto the Hill, we are reminded of our past arrivals to Hamilton. Some remember fun times on Adirondack Adventure, the first time they forgot to do their reading and were called on in class, or maybe their first, real college party. There are surprises and new adventures every fall, as significant as personnel changes, new course offerings, or even new buildings, and as mundane as a trip to Target to replace the blender your suitemate gave to Cram & Scram last year. For the freshman, these first few weeks are formative moments. They will meet their first friends, first challenges and certainly commit their first freshman faux pas (I’m looking at you, kid with a tray in Commons). These opening days are the ones that they will continually return to, the memories that will stick with them once they leave the Hill for good.

The place that we call home has undergone many changes since classes were last in session. Our return to campus has introduced new policies, new personnel and new plans for an improved campus. A hard-alcohol-related change in the points system has been greeted with mixed feelings across the campus. A new director at the CEC hopes to foster a better understanding of differences between the increasingly-diverse members of our campus community. Crews broke ground on new construction of a student center that incorporates the former ELS building. All of these changes bring exciting new opportunities for our college and its residents to better themselves and the world around them. Unfortunately, some things have not changed as much as we would have hoped; just a few days into the year, one of our fellow students was subjected to a crime of hate. It seems as though the sense of safety and community we work so hard to instill has once again been displaced by ignorance and anger. It is disappointing that this incident will be forever connected to many students’ memories of their first days, but it is important that we move forward with a renewed commitment to acceptance and awareness. It may be as simple as smiling at that girl you see every day on Martin’s Way, or perhaps having dinner with the international student in your Econ class. It is as easy to make someone feel welcome as it is to alienate and isolate. Regardless of the changes, both positive and negative, we, as students, must remember that this is our school. The community we have here is the one we decide to create. It is up to us to ensure that we are proud of the experiences we share.

As influential alumni have demonstrated recently, Hamilton should be a place that we call home for a lifetime of returns to the Hill, so make them ones that you will cherish.

For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.

Press subscriptions are $50 per year.
Urban Service Experience Inspires Philanthropy pprclassmen, first-years burst Hamilton bubble through pre-orientation

by Haley Riemer-Peltz ’12

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

At the end of this summer, I returned to the Hill to begin Urban Service Experience (USE), a relatively new pre-orientation program. In the past two years it has expanded to have many leaders taking several different groups into the greater Utica area.

Along with my co-leader, I led the Habitat for Humanity trip. We began our trip by working with all the USE participants on the Chenango Canal trail in Bouckville. We stayed at a church in Rome, did inventory at the Habitat site in Marcy, and built a shed for a family in Deansboro.

The site coordinators were welcoming and excited to work with us. Our work was extremely rewarding because we got to meet the family who lived in the site and understand their need for our help. It was amazing to see the finished project after our first day of work and know that we were able to improve their lives.

Afterward, we discussed as a group what service means, both for the ones providing the service and for the ones receiving. We found that it can be difficult and uncomfortable to be in both positions, but that it was important enough to all of us to make it worthwhile.

I had a lot of time to talk with the site coordinators for the Oneida County Habitat for Humanity group. One of our leaders expressed how much he has loved working with Hamilton students, and how helpful he has found them. I felt both proud and somewhat surprised to hear this.

A lot of students and College publications make fun of the Utica area for being depressed and run-down, especially in comparison to Hamilton.

Some of this criticism is not unfounded; it can be sad to see the deserted factories and broken down strip clubs in the city. It is definitely easy to laugh at. On the other hand, I felt that the Utica community’s perception of us was that we were stuck up wealthy kids who did not care about our greater community.

I found that a lot of Hamilton students have never explored the area outside of Clinton. Compared to the other cities that Hamilton students come from, Utica isn’t exactly a thriving metropolis.

But as I spent more time with my group driving around the area, I discovered that Utica does have an important history and diverse and rich culture. When I spoke with the site coordinators, it made me proud to see the connection forming with our community, and that there was mutual appreciation.

USE is an important program because it familiarizes incoming Hamilton students with their environment. It is important for all Hamilton students to spend time during their college careers to get acquainted with the greater Utica area and end the misconceptions on both sides.

USE participants clear brush from a canal that has recently fallen into disuse.

by Rachel Lieb ’13

Being a first-year consists of more than moving into a new brand new room at a brand new school. It is the start of a new life, with new friends, new perspectives, and new experiences. During my weeklong adventure with Urban Service Experience (USE), I played silly icebreaker games, made lasting bonds, and went beyond the Hamilton bubble as part of my first step into the real world.

USE is a pre-orientation program in which a group of first-years and two upperclassmen, two former leaders venture out into Utica to help those in need. This year, there were five groups that visited the Utica and Rome areas. The sites included The Neighborhood Center, The Underground Cafe, Johnson Park Center, Hospitality Row, and Habitat for Humanity.

With a group of seven other freshmen and two fearless leaders, I went to the Neighborhood Center and the Thea Bowman House to work and play with kids all day.

I was able to re-learn the excitement of trapping your opponent in Connect Four and how amusing it can be to play with plastic food in a play kitchen.

“USE was the perfect transition from summer to college and it provided me with a few friendships that will last long beyond my four years on the Hill,” my fellow USE participant Cara Bigony ’13 said.

Our experience was one filled with laughter and jokes. At the same time, we also came to the sad but true realization that our short stay in Utica could not possibly be enough to fix the multitude of problems that plague the city.

One child in particular stands out in my mind. In the very first classroom we entered at the Thea Bowman House, a three-year-old boy with severe autism was struggling to get the attention he needed. While most of the children were busy with their toys, this boy could barely function. The teachers in the classroom were too overwhelmed to notice him.

I think it is unlikely that this little boy will ever get proper care. Nevertheless, I know that Hamilton’s continued support for programs like USE strive to make a lasting impact on such children’s lives.

Our stay taught me a lot about the area outside of our seemingly perfect Hamilton bubble. We spent most of the trip reflecting on why we were compelled to do service for our pre-orientation trip.

Hamilton provides many opportunities to help people through programs like HAVOC; we cannot leave this responsibility to another group or another time.

The Spectator wants to hear from you! Share your thoughts by writing a letter to the editor, or writing opinion articles on a regular basis.

If you are interested, email aek@hamilton.edu or kjmoore@hamilton.edu for more information.
Face Off: Is the New Hard Alcohol Policy Too Drastic?

by Tracey Ogaga ’12

Perhaps you have been unfortunate enough to have been EMT’d. Not only is there a hospital bill involved, but you will have to explain the situation to your parents. This is always an awkward and tense discussion to have, especially over the phone. But you’re not alone – Hamilton has a dangerously high EMT rate. After a town hall meeting with Hamilton’s Coalition on Alcohol, students began working toward a solution. Dean of Students Nancy Thompson recently announced a new rule that will assign additional points for violations involving hard alcohol. Now we wait as the number of EMT’d students drops down to zero. It is not going to be quite so simple to change the “drinking culture” overnight.

The fact that this new policy focuses on hard alcohol is not at all unexpected, as most EMT cases involve hard alcohol of some kind. It would seem almost irresponsible for the school not to address the situation in some way. This particular policy, however, seems to have more of a focus on simply finding a solution than getting to the root of the problem.

While placing more risk in blantly serving hard alcohol to minors will decrease access to some extent, it is more likely that students will just be more careful with drinking rather than being completely deterred. Sure, a student might think twice before he places vodka in a cup and heads over to the nearest party, but the average student is going to find a way to drink regardless. If anything, the new policy may even exacerbate the issue. In order to avoid getting caught outside with hard alcohol, students will consume large amounts of hard alcohol in shorter amounts of time when pre-gaming in the privacy of their rooms. Many students are going to develop rushed under-the-table drinking habits, which are dangerous to develop. Also, most students are aware that calling the EMTs in cases of alcohol related incidents warrants no penalties, but the email from Dean Thompson should have prefaced the introduction of the new policies with that disclaimer. Students finding themselves in trouble because of excessive drinking may be more afraid to get the proper help or aid. If the ultimate goal is to make the campus safer overall, the emphasis should be on making students feel comfortable at Hamilton, not on the fact that their actions may lead to three additional points.

Alcohol abuse is definitely a problem. Students abusing hard liquor to the point where they need medical attention is definitely cause for a response from the administration, but the type of response is key in actually bringing change to the campus. Instead of announcingsiffer penalties for an activity that determined students will participate in regardless, there should instead be a collective focus on aiding students in making the right decisions in the first place.

The new hard alcohol policy is in effect, and the general response to this policy among students is a gross overreaction. A simple rundown of the policy’s basic points and the objections to them prove that the administration is not being unreasonable.

Underage students found responsible for a policy violation in which hard alcohol was a factor will be assigned the number of points that correspond to that violation, plus three additional points for the hard alcohol. The penalty is steep, but this new point value simply encourages students to switch to a different beverage, drink more carefully and safely or possibly reconsider drinking altogether. Students who serve hard alcohol to underage students will be assigned three points in addition to the two to four points already assigned for serving alcohol to minors. This is perfectly fair, and the message to students over 21 is clear: don’t serve alcohol to minors. This clause pertains to undergrads, but shouldn’t bother them; they can have their hard alcohol as long as they keep it for themselves.

Students who are under 21 who possess and/or consume alcohol run the risk of being assigned one to two points, plus three additional points for hard alcohol. Students over 21 are perfectly within their legal rights to enjoy any drink they choose. As far as underclassmen, the new point value is intended to make students reconsider their choice of beverage.

The new policy is simply based on the realities and facts from last year. According to College administrators, almost all alcohol-related EMT calls were because of hard alcohol. Hard alcohol affects the body much faster than beer, and it is easier to get carried away with hard alcohol. This policy is just a prescriptive measure to help students make wise decisions. It may be a tad idealistic to hope that under-age students wouldn’t drink at all, but they should at least be drinking beer instead of hard alcohol.

Students forget that the Alcohol Coalition Board and the Student Assembly, both of which include students as well as administrators, recommended this policy. It is not the administration’s attempt to infringe on students’ fun, but rather it is a policy made by both staff and students, who are just trying to look out for the health and safety of all Hamilton College students.

This new policy on hard alcohol is reasonable and preventative in nature. Perhaps students tittering between drinking a beer and multiple shots of vodka will opt for the beer. In the long run, this small decision will save students from being EMT’d and transported to hospitals, which is expensive, time-consuming and life threatening. The new alcohol policy ultimately has students’ interests in mind by attempting to curb a preventable problem that can have a harmful and costly outcome.

‘I Always Feel Like Somebody’s Watching Me’: New Audio/Video Devices on Campus

by Patrick Landers ’12

Last weekend’s hate crime jarred the Hamilton College community, underscoring the fact that the Hamilton bubble, “a community that is committed to inclusion and respect,” is only so thick. By late afternoon these incidents and to ensure that their perpetrators are brought to justice.

Hamilton College first installed parking lot cameras to supplement the “Blue Light” phones in 2007, a measure implemented in response to safety concerns from students about the peripheral parking lots. These cameras are monitored throughout the day for suspicious activity, though currently not all lots are covered. The Campus Safety Advisory Committee, consisting of faculty, staff and students, has recommended to the College expand this system to provide complete coverage of all student parking lots. In addition, Campus Safety recently acquired ViaVu, a portable video and audio recording device. These devices will also ensure accurate documentation of contentious incidents.

While some community members may be comforted by these capabilities, others may be concerned over how these systems could be used. For example, some wonder whether these capabilities would invade privacy rights or help police students’ routine activities. These fears are unfounded, since the Campus Safety Advisory Committee regularly reviews campus safety policies and procedures to ensure their efficacy and appropriate application. These meetings are open to the entire College community. Additionally, the Dean of Students office oversees decisions that are relevant to students, including the ViaVu guidelines.

Campus Safety has a number of tools at its disposal to enhance the security of the College. However, more can and must be done. One of the first steps the Administration should take in response to this weekend’s hate crime and other similar incidents is to provide complete video surveillance of all student parking lots. This will improve Campus Safety’s representation on campus. As far as underclassmen, the new point value is intended to make students reconsider their choice of beverage.

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The National School Lunch Program provides meals to more than 30 million children every school day. This fall the Child Nutrition Act, which is the bill that governs the National School Lunch Program, is up for reauthorization in Congress.

We are in a position to urge Congress to make the Child Nutrition Act better. By signing the petition, you advocate to:

- INVEST IN CHILDREN’S HEALTH. Give schools one more dollar per day for each child’s lunch.
- PROTECT AGAINST FOODS THAT PUT CHILDREN AT RISK. Establish strong standards for all food sold at schools.
- TEACH CHILDREN HEALTHY HABITS THAT WILL LAST THROUGH LIFE. Fund grants for innovative Farm to School programs and school gardens.
- GIVE SCHOOLS THE INCENTIVE TO BUY FOOD FROM LOCAL FARMS.
- CREATE GREEN JOBS WITH A SCHOOL LUNCH CORPS. Train underemployed Americans to be the teachers, farmers, cooks, and administrators our school cafeterias need.

Today’s National Day of Action at Hamilton College is supported by Bon Appetit, the Central Leatherstocking Chapter of Slow Food USA, The 1812 Garden and the Food for Thought Seminar, and the Hamilton College Community Farm.

We hope you enjoy the dishes prepared from produce grown on campus and in theClinton area.
by Emily Anderson ’13  
FEATURES WRITER

This year, the Cultural Education Center welcomes a new director, Professor Madeleine Lopez. Educated at both Princeton University and the University of Pennsylvania, Lopez has taught both high school and undergraduates students. Most recently, she served as Coordinator of Faculty Development Programs for the American Social History Project at the City University of New York. She has taught courses in both the History and Education Departments at Hamilton, and her husband, Chad Williams, is also a professor in Hamilton’s History Department.

The CEC is part of Hamilton’s Diversity Strategic Plan. Its mission is to promote diversity awareness and foster intercultural dialogue. Currently, the Center is still in the works—issues such as the mission statement, space to use and programs to sponsor are still being decided by students, faculty and trustees. According to Professor Lopez, the center has been in the works for decades as students and student groups have advocated for a space to foster cross-cultural dialogue and intercultural understanding. This type of space is needed for many organizations on campus: Hamilton’s Rainbow Alliance group has been operating out of an actual closet for years, ironically enough.

For the past three years students have submitted proposals for such a space and have been supported by both the faculty and the student assembly in this endeavor. Their efforts have finally culminated in the new CEC.

Essentially, Lopez describes her job as “getting this done.” For example, she has worked on pedagogical workshops for the faculty with Associate Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives Steve Yao. She is also working on programming for the Center; trying to find an adequate space on campus to create a strategic plan and raising money all in order to have the Center equipped for a permanent director in the future. Professor Lopez believes that any student who becomes engaged in the creation of the CEC will benefit just by seeing how these institutions are run.

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“Hamilton Serves” is Freshmen Favorite during 2009 Orientation

by Michael Koester ’13  
FEATURES WRITER

Forty years ago the youth of the nation shared three days of peace, love and music at the Woodstock music festival of 1969. On Aug. 28, 2009, 480 new Hamilton students trudged up the hill fresh from their pre-orientation trips and summer vacations, to be inducted as the 198th class in the college’s history.

On move-in day the campus was littered with enthusiastic orientation leaders helping first years move in with their mini-fridges and clothes. The week’s events started with opening ceremonies in Wellin, where the OLs introduced this year’s freshman theme “Know Thyself, Dude” to the motley crowd of first years. This was followed by numerous icebreakers across campus, including the classic “First Night Experience” in the alumni gymnasium.

The rest of the week was scheduled with Hamilton Orientation classics such as a speech by Dr. Maura Cullen on character and diversity, an intimidating presentation on fire safety using the 2000 Boldon Fire at Seton Hall University as an example of what not to do, the mandatory alcohol education center, and assimilate them into the college lifestyle. “I felt overwhelmed and tired all the time,” says Danielle Brockman ’13, “and after a while I just wanted to jump right into classes, until I realized my regular schedule would not be much different. Events like the scavenger hunt seemed tedious at first, but it helped get me the necessary knowledge for getting around campus.”

Other favorite events for the class of 2013 included: Figure Eight Bingo (with a guest appearance from the varsity streaking team), opening night and the return of a dance party from previous years.

Across campus, first years unanimously agreed that the group service project was the highlight of the week. “I feel that my group started to bond more with the community service,” notes Callie Hensomara ’13, who helped transport props for the fledgling Players of Utica Theater Company. “It was really nice way to get to know the community outside of the campus bubble, and work with our fellow classmates for the first time.”

2009 OL L.J. Scurfield ’12 also spoke highly of the service trips: “My freshman year was the first year we did Hamilton Serves, and that continues to grow as a great program and a great end to Orientation.” This attitude of the Orientation Leaders and their generally outgoing nature was likely what made these trips such a success.

Hamilton College receives Honorable Mention in GQ magazine

Although we were defeated by USC for the #16 spot, Hamilton garnered an Honorable mention on GQ’s list of “America’s 25 Douchiest Colleges.” Below you can find what GQ considers the qualifying factors for a college d-bag of the Hamilton caliber.

Complete results can be viewed at http://men.style.com/gq/features/landing?id=content_10779.

Home of: The Giant-Sunglasses Douche

Affectations: Audi Q7 (high school graduation present); tertiary connection to Olsen twin; frosted tips.

Thesis topic: “Steven Spielberg’s Gremlins and the Art of the Impossible.”

Ten years from now, will be: Living in Laurel Canyon while “producing” a bio-pic on Karch Kiraly and burning endless pounds of the kush.

Honorable-mention craziely expensive institutions: Duke, Tulane, Bennington, Hamilton.

Unofficial Hamilton mascot Al-Ham as the “Giant-Sunglass Douche.”

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We may have only been on campus for a week, but for those who are already growing tired of the selection at Commons and McEwan, there’s hope. Starting next week, eating and shopping off the Hill just got easier.

The off-campus program enables students to use their Hill Cards at a number of local businesses including CVS, Alter’s, Pizza Place and Nick’s NYPD. Like our familiar Hamilton locales, these Clinton merchants are equipped with a Hill-Card reader. When a card is swiped, the signal travels through a modem and is sent to ITS, where it is read and processed almost instantaneously.

So what prompted this change? Irene Cornish, Supervisor of the Hill Card Office, explained the very democratic but difficult process. Last spring, Hamilton students were surveyed on their favorite Clinton fixes. Next, meetings were held with the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, where local merchants voiced both their interests and concerns. Their primary concern was lower change. According to Ms. Cornish, “We could have a similar situation ensue at Hamilton.”

The off-campus Hill Card is modeled off of a similar program at Skidmore College, who’s representative has dwindled to two. Ms. Cornish believes that a comparable vetting process will ensue at Hamilton.

“We could have a similar situation. Or, if it is successful, other businesses will join.” Regardless, the first year will effectively serve as a trial-period. It is difficult to predict what the demand will be, as many students use both debit and credit cards. Ms. Cornish contends that the off-campus Hill Card system is not only useful for students, but for parents as well since it allows them to monitor the Clinton venues that their children are frequenting. Unenthusiastic about the Hamilton menu? Grab your Hill Card and a few friends and head to Clinton—your favorite restaurants are now equipped for (and anxiously awaiting) your arrival.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CHRIS EATON ’11

WTF is Rainbow Chard?

*If you’re a vegetarian, you can leave out the fish sauce or look for vegetarian fish sauce at a health food store!

Take a wok and heat up a little oil. Sesame or peanut oil has a really great flavor, but you can use whatever is handy. While the oil heats, mince about 3 cloves of garlic and a quarter inch of ginger. Throw them in the wok and you should hear a fantastic sizzling. Let the ginger and garlic make the oil really fragrant and then chuck in the rainbow chard, which you can cut to however big you consider to be conveniently bite sized.

Then squirt some of the sauces into the chard and cover the wok with a saucepan lid. This makes the chard cook a little quicker and prevents the sauce from evaporating entirely.

Stir it every minute or so and after eight to ten minutes you should have some pretty well done chard. When it is done, it should be significantly smaller. It had a little bit of an Asian flair and went perfectly with the miso-soup and Szechuan tofu we made with it. And it’s super easy and quick to make - perfect for a busy night! (It’s also a fantastic way to spruce up a boring bowl of ramen!) You’ll need:

- Rainbow chard
- Fresh ginger
- Fresh garlic
- Soy sauce
- Fish sauce*
- Cilantro

Rainbow chard doesn’t seem to shine so long, the co-op still manages to find cheer and joy in the harvest of summer’s garden. We’re incredibly lucky to have a fantastic community garden on our campus and we’ve been making the most of it by cooking up some super tasty, local and seasonal meals.

One of my favorites was the rainbow chard we made the other night. It had a little bit of an Asian flair and went perfectly with the miso-soup and Szechuan tofu we made with it. And it’s super easy and quick to make - perfect for a busy night! (It’s also a fantastic way to spruce up a boring bowl of ramen!) You’ll need:

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Emerson Gallery Exhibits Look Into Artists’ Minds

by Louisa Savage ’13
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Perhaps many of you have seen the emails and flyers about the Emerson Gallery, flaunting their current exhibitions, and perhaps some of you have even attended those emails and ventured forth towards the quaint art gallery conveniently located in the center of Hamilton’s campus. Eager to see this “Trio of Exhibitions on Artists’ Sketches” and make good on the promise of free posters.

One of the exhibits, entitled “private (dis)play: Contemporary Artists’ Sketchbooks,” helps set the tone of the show with a quote from the famous Paul Gaugin: “A critic...sees my paintings [and] asks for my drawings. Never! They are my letters, my books,” helps set the tone of the private display and conveys sketches and paintings that are my letters, my books,” helps set the tone of the exhibit. As Gaugin claimed, there is a distinct difference between public and private appearance, and these sketches provide the viewer with a much more intimate perspective...

Each sketch represents a different style of sketching and conveying the world as they see it. As Gaugin claimed, there is a distinct difference between public and private appearance, and these sketches provide the viewer with a much more intimate perspective into the artistic process that isn’t necessarily capable of being seen through an artist’s final work. There are the more concrete artists, such as Kari-Ann S. Rollins, who is known only through the viewer into some imaginary world, known only by the artist. Adams’ work lives in the middle of the spectrum; she brings an abstract quality to detailed sketches of the female nude, giving these figures, posed in erotic positions, bulbous and exaggerated forms, emphasizing every bump and curve in the female body. These artists’ sketchbooks, along with the works of the many other artists lining the walls of the South Gallery, allow the reader to glimpse into the private mind of the artist, and uncover, as Gaugin said, “the private man.” Such an idea undoubtedly contributes to the underlying theme of all three exhibitions, just as the directors of the gallery intended.

“We thought [all three collections] would be a good idea to expose as a trio,” says White. And a successful idea it has been, as Hamilton students should certainly witness.

Take this chance to come visit the gallery and see these three fantastic exhibits along with the many others!

Emerson Gallery Hours:
Monday-Friday 10 am - 5 pm
Saturday & Sunday 1 pm - 5 pm

A Capella Starts New Year on the Right Note

by Lily Rothman ’13
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

The pitch pipe sounds, followed by a moment of silence. Singers sway and snap to a beat in anticipation, as the audience perks up and brings their chatter to a halt. It’s the first a cappella concert of the school year.

Last Friday night, August 28, many were fortunate to be graced with the talented voices of the five Hamilton a cappella groups. Wellin Hall was packed at 8 pm when the show kicked off with Special K, the oldest all-female a cappella group on campus. One of the group’s most popular numbers was "Sell Me Baby" and their medley of songs included "The Pet Shop Boys’ "What Are You Doing All Night?" followed by "Ooh La La," in which the solo parts were divided amongst a few singers, and " Dreams" performed by a warning that the Buffers’ classic style of performing was about to come to an end. Last but not least were the Buffers. One lone Buffer walked out and made an announcement regarding the newest members of the group, just as the directors of the gallery intended.

The Hamiltones, just one of Hamilton’s many talented a cappella groups, brought depth and an amazing overall sound to the pieces they so excellently performed. Tumbling After is the newest all-girl a cappella group on campus, founded a little over 10 years ago in 1998. The ladies performed a fantastic rendition of The Dixie Chicks’ “Not Ready To Make Nice,” followed by “Umbrella,” in which the solo parts were divided amongst a few singers, Duelly Noted put on a crowd-pleasing show, which focused on the story of an incoming first year who falls for his Orientation Leader. The group included both in the songs they sings and their arrangements.

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Successful “Striptease” Starts Fall Semester

by Katy Mastrocola ’13

What if two normal men suddenly found themselves in an inescapable room where the only thing that could possibly save them was a giant hand? There is no need to question the limitless possibilities, for the Hamilton College theatre department answered with its performance of Striptease, written by the Polish playwright Slawomir Mrozek and stage managed by Laura Lee Smith ’11. Is the play absurd? Yes. Creepy? Very. Filled with subtle political propaganda? Absolutely. Yet at the heart of Striptease lies a dryly-humorous satire that left the audience wishing it had lasted longer than merely forty minutes.

The show ran on August 28 and 29 and explores how two normal and seemingly similar men react to circumstances beyond their control. When these two nameless men are confined to a room with absolutely no way out, no communication with the outside world and no idea what they did to deserve this punishment, chaos and hilarity ensue.

The first man, played by Amr Rouvan Mahmud ’11, does not try to escape or question his fate in the ominous room of doom, for he feels that becoming proactive would “limit his free will.” The second man, played by Rem Myers ’11, actively tries to defy his fate through fighting, protesting and even begging on his knees, for he believes that making the choice to fight back is the only way to truly be free. The two men quarrel, philosophize about life and death and wrestle in their underwear in an effort to gain insight into their situation.

Who is right? What is the point in their struggles? Questions remain unanswered, for all resistance is futile against the giant hands, played by Alison McLaughlin ’11 and Georgia Mierswa ’11, who “strip” the men of their clothes, as well as their sanity until they are only in their underwear and handcuffed together.

One of the greatest attributes of “Striptease” is the intricacy of the characters’ interactions. Mahmud and Myers seamlessly collaborated with one another; both wore the same outfit, which earned a lot of laughs from the audience. McLaughlin and Mierswa were skilled in their portrayal of the enigmatic hands, earning them great praise. Every time the hands entered the stage, they wiggled their fingers towards the men, demanding a sacrifice of clothing.

Overall, “Striptease” was an entertaining and thought-provoking performance. In addition, it served as a great way to kick off the new semester and let the first years know about the talented cast and crew in Hamilton’s theatre department. There weren’t enough seats at both performances of the play, and to those unfortunate few who did not get to see this unique show, two men were handcuffed together in their underwear by a giant hand, but the audience loved it anyways. I think we can all agree that the curtain call made “Striptease” a truly scintillating performance.

Art and Entertainment is in search of an associate editor! If you are interested, please contact lgillesp@hamilton.edu.
Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

**Ana Baldrige ’12**

**Hometown:** Kutztown, Pennsylvania  
**Major:** Undecided  
**Turn On?** Frosted tips  
**Turn Off?** Patchy chest hair  
*What is your worst habit?*  
Cracking my knuckles.  
*If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians which would you pick and why?*  
I’m a combination of Fergie and Jesus.  
*What advertising slogan best describes your life?*  
“Sometimes you feel like a nut, sometimes you don’t.”  
*What movie genre best describes you?*  
Silent films.  
*What’s the best pick-up line you’ve ever used/had used on you?*  
Have you heard of Platform 9 3/4? I know something else with those measurements.  
*If you could have any super power what would it be and why?*  
Teleportation so I wouldn’t have to walk to and from Bundy.  
*If you were any social space what would it be and why?*  
ELS basement.  
*If you could get rid of one building on campus what would it be and why?*  
The Womyn’s Center. Oh wait.  
*What would you say is your most attractive quality?*  
My grizzled facial hair.  
*If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day what would it be?*  
Lester so I could be an accountant/student loan adviser/jerk chicken connoisseur.  
*What would you give a thumbs up?*  
Waking up in the KJ water feature  
*What would you give a thumbs down?*  
Waking up in Root  
*Who would you say is your campus crush?*  
Jeannie from the Diner  
*Who would you say is your faculty crush?*  
Jay G. Williams  
*What is the weirdest thing currently in your room?*  
A tin-can phone across that stretches across the quad.

**Joe Shapiro ’12**

**Hometown:** Concord, MA  
**Major:** Government  
**Turn On?** Huge tatas  
**Turn Off?** Smart  
*What is your worst habit?*  
Being overly sensitive  
*If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians which would you pick and why?*  
Rhianna and Chris Brown.  
*What advertising slogan best describes your life?*  
Owning more than one pair of boat shoes.  
*What movie genre best describes you?*  
Mockumentaries.  
*What’s the best pick-up line you’ve ever used/had used on you?*  
You had me at Shalom.  
*If you were any social space what would it be and why?*  
Bundy Dining Hall because I also like to fake that I know how to cook.  
*If you could get rid of one building on campus what would it be and why?*  
The Womyn’s Center. Oh wait.  
*What would you say is your most attractive quality?*  
My grizzled facial hair.  
*If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day what would it be?*  
Zamboni driver.  
*What would you give a thumbs up?*  
Waking up in the KJ water feature  
*What would you give a thumbs down?*  
Waking up in Root  
*Who would you say is your campus crush?*  
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#3 A Half Order of the Daily Luncheon Entree, a Mini Garden Salad or Soup & a Soup $8.00

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The Insects Are Coming To Hamilton College: Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Longhorned Beetle, and Sirex Wasp Among Those to Threaten Hill

by Elijah LaChance ’10

Science & Technology Editor

It sounds like the beginning of a horror film. Strange armies of alien-looking insects are invading the campus, bent on boring into and destroying our trees, leaving behind a barren wasteland and exposing the College’s buildings to the sun, wind, and weather. It sounds like science fiction. It’s not.

Unfortunately, this threat to trees on the Hill is all too real. The emerald ash borer, the Asian longhorned beetle, the sirex wasp and the viburnum leaf beetle have all been reported in the Northeast and are either near or already on the Hill. Terry Hawkridge, Assistant Director of Grounds, Horticulture and Arboretum, has said the woods of the Northeast and the campus are under serious threat and that the College is doing what it can, though in some cases the task is just too great.

Hawkridge described the emerald ash borer as, “the newest and greatest threat” to trees on campus. The facts bear him out. Over 20 million ash trees in lower Michigan have been destroyed by the borer or cut down in an attempt to prevent its spread. While the borer flies well, a greater threat is the insect spreading through firewood. Hawkridge described the ash as, “the best firewood; it will burn either wet or dry.” As a result, the borer has spread to the Northeast in a matter of only a few years, and this summer was reported in New York State.

The speed of the borer’s spread is frightening. The researchers who found the borer in New York were, according to Hawkridge, en route to study the pest in Ohio but found an infected patch of forest by chance along Route 17. New York State responded by placing a 50 mile limit on the movement of any firewood in an effort to stop the spread. Unfortunately, this severely impacted an industry that employs thousands of people in New York.

On the Hill, Hawkridge and Physical Plant have taken action as well. Physical Plant’s team of three certified arborists injected several different chemical treatments into the cambrian layer (below the bark) of between 20 and 30 ash trees on the main hill and in the Root Glen, and these injections will be repeated annually. Unfortunately, hundreds of other trees on College-owned property will not be protected. As Hawkridge explained, “that’s science fiction. It’s not.”

The emerald ash borer is only one of the species that could be dangerous to Hamilton’s trees in coming years. The emerald ash borer is only one of the species that could be dangerous to Hamilton’s trees in coming years.

A Who’s Who Guide to the Hamilton Science Center

by Julia Litzky ’12

Science & Technology Editor

Maybe you’re new on campus, and want to talk to someone about what it takes to be a Chemistry major. Or maybe you just need to take a physics class before you graduate, but don’t know which one is right for you. For those new to campus, or even new to the science center, we’ve listed the names and office numbers of the department chairs, along with some other helpful names and locations in the science center (including where to print out your papers at the last minute).

Department Chairs:

Physics: Peter Millet, G053 Chemistry: Ian Rosenstein, 4074

Geoscience: David Bailey, 1021 Biology: Herman Lehman, 2086

Archaeology: George T. Jones, 2086

Psychology/Neuroscience: Douglas Weldon, 3065

Other Helpful Names:

Health Professions Advisor: Leslie North, 1005 - Provides career and internship advice for pre-meds.

Administrative Assistants: Wendy Schmidt and Janet Stepiola, 2005

Bio Lab: 2080 - Go up the stairs to the second floor, all the way down the hall, make a right and it’s on your left. This lab is always unlocked, but the printer occasionally doesn’t work.

Chem Fishbowl: on the first floor, follow the hallway to end, it’s on the right. Printing access is only for chemistry majors (in theory). Often locked early in the morning, but you’ll usually be in if you knock.
Reflections on Summer Research:
Saving Sea Turtles in VA Beach

by Daniel Feinberg ’12

Two deadly cottonmouth snakes lay across my path. One was curled up in a ball, its head poised and tongue out, ready to strike. The other was sprawled out with the midday sun glinting in its scales. My only choice was to retreat, so I began to slog backward through waist-deep mud toward the canoe.

This was a typical day during my summer internship at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia Beach, VA. I worked as a biological aid, helping to protect native plants and animals. The National Wildlife Refuge System is comprised of federally protected land and essential to the survival of threatened and endangered species. There are 550 national wildlife refuges nationwide, with more than 150 million acres of land.

From May to August, I worked as a biological aid, helping to protect native plants and animals. The National Wildlife Refuge System is comprised of federally protected land and essential to the survival of threatened and endangered species. There are 550 national wildlife refuges nationwide, with more than 150 million acres of land.

As we approached the 60-day mark, we began “nest-sitting” or staying by the nests until 3 a.m. so that if the turtles hatched, we could remove the cages and make sure that the hatchlings appear and make their way down to the ocean. The aquarium staff releases them into the wild. If the same turtles wash up again, their tags will make them easy to identify. I attempted to hold the turtles in place while the strangling specialists affixed the tags. Inconveniently, the turtles kept flapping their heavy flippers, nearly knocking me over.

Our major project was to handle this strain of phrag because it is a nonnative species that was introduced from Europe. Native animals don’t eat it, so nothing in the natural environment checks its growth. By wiping out the native vegetation, it also destroys the habitat of the other living creatures that would normally live in the area, destroying the ecosystem.

We used GIS software to create “shape files,” aerial representations of the regions of land that have become solid phrag. The refuge will send our shape files to a helicopter pilot, who will spray herbicide from the air. In order to make our map, we had to walk, drive and boat around the patches of phrag.

Some patches were too small for the helicopter, so we sprayed them by hand. This was by far the most difficult physical labor that I have done. The temperature was in the nineties and the air was humid and sticky. We had to wear long sleeves, long pants, wading boots, rubber gloves and a hat, in case the herbicide spilled.

Working at a wildlife refuge can be both challenging and thrilling. I loved having the opportunity to glimpse the delicate balance of wildlife that composes an ecosystem. Despite the grueling conditions, the work was satisfying and was truly worth it.

Once found, the nests were protected by cages such as the one shown above to prevent predators from getting to the eggs.

Feinberg, above, worked to protect sea turtle nests.

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One of the most ethically charged scientific topics is that of human cloning and genetic manipulation. Despite the moral questions these issues raise, there are many cases in which such techniques could prevent devastating genetic disorders. One such situation arises when the mother’s genetic material contains defects in the mitochondrial DNA. Disorders of this sort affect about one in every five thousand people. Recently, researchers at the Oregon Health and Science University in Portland found a possible solution for such genetic defects.

The researchers started with eggs from rhesus monkeys with genetic defects in the mitochondrial DNA. They removed the genetic material contained in the nucleus of these eggs. They then took eggs from mothers with healthy mitochondrial DNA and replaced the genetic material in the nucleus with the material from the mothers with unhealthy mitochondrial DNA. This results in an egg with healthy mitochondrial DNA but with the genetic material from the mother without healthy mitochondrial DNA. The mother without the healthy mitochondrial DNA can then have offspring with healthy mitochondria. These eggs were then fertilized and implanted, resulting in four healthy offspring.

While such techniques could soon be able to be applied to humans, the possibility raises many ethical questions. Primarily, there is a general taboo against tinkering with human genetic material. If something were to go wrong, it would not be ethical to kill a human infant. Even if many more experiments in monkeys were to be successful, it will be difficult to ensure that such successes will carry through to the human species. As quoted in The Washington Post, Shoukhrat Mitalipov, who led the research team, explains, “This type of gene therapy involves replacing genes in the germline which of course will be transmitted to next generations, which is a concern. However, we’re talking about patients and applied to humans. In this research, eggs were removed from monkeys with healthy mitochondrial DNA. These eggs were used to carry the genetic information from monkeys with unhealthy mitochondrial DNA, allowing those monkeys to have offspring with healthy mitochondria. Understanding how to treat genetic disorders. Even if the exact process used in rhesus monkeys in this experiment is never approved in humans, the knowledge of the process allows further research on such ideas. Hopefully this experiment will at least help in the discovery of an ethical and effective solution to such genetic disorders.

Because of the genetic similarity between Rhesus monkeys and humans, this species of monkey is often used in scientific experiments which may later be birth defects that cause terrible diseases due to these gene mutations.” Many also worry that allowing such genetic manipulation will make other forms of genetic manipulation more acceptable. Additionally, this technique could raise many legal and social issues. Embryos created with this method contain the genetic material of two females, meaning that they have two mothers and one father. The ability to do so would add more complexities to the already thorny world of family law, and possibly create a confusing family environment for the child. Even so, the ability to replace defective genetic material with healthy material from a different female is an important step in understanding how to treat genetic disorders.

Genetically Engineered Monkeys Could Hold Solutions for Some Heritable Genetic Defects

Julia Litzy ’12 Science & Technology Editor

College Strategic Plan Published from Greener, page 15 outlines requirements for new buildings on campus. They must “achieve a maximum energy usage of 50,000 btus per gross square foot.” a 56.5 percent reduction compared with the usage of current buildings. In addition to the solar resources located at Kimer-Johnson and at the Outdoor Education Center, Hamilton will review increasing renewable energy use on campus by at least three percent. Buildings on campus will be designed to comply with Silver LEED standards. LEED standards involve site selection, curtailment of light pollution, public transportation connectivity, architectural innovation and many other criteria. Buildings that meet Silver LEED standards receive anywhere from 50 to 59 points on a scale of 100 points. Currently, only buildings on campus to be Silver LEED certified is Skennadock. Other projects are also expected to help reduce the College’s carbon footprint. Simply installing smarter indoor light fixtures on campus could reduce energy consumption for lighting by ten percent. The plan also provides guidelines for student-faculty research and various courses, which will continue to encourage interest in the environment and in sustainability. For more information, the plan can be found at www.hamilton.edu/sustainability/sustainabilityplan.html.

Overall, the Hamilton Climate Action Plan describes practical and attainable goals for reducing the College’s impact on the environment. Clearly, Hamilton’s focus on such improvements has paid off. Recently, the College received a cumulative B+ on the College Sustainability Report Card, which is produced online by the Sustainable Endowments Institute. This grade is an improvement from the A- the College has received in past years. For more details, visit www.greenreportcard.org. Hopefully, the College’s Climate Action Plan will further Hamilton’s efforts to have the lowest environmental impact possible.

The Asian Longhorned Beetle is another species of invasive insect that is currently threatening the trees on the Hill as Oswego. The viburnum leaf beetle eats the leaves off certain species of viburnums, and although a few trees are being treated in front of Spencer House, the College has largely switched to planting non-susceptible varieties. Other insects also threaten to cause problems. The shagbark hickory, for example, has killed many trees around campus. Insects such as the Asian longhorned beetle bring back memories for Hawkridge of the horrors of Dutch elm disease, which ravaged the campus in the 1950s to 70s. Next week, the Spectator will bring a historical and scientific perspective on the repercussions the College suffered after losing its elms. For now, consider this: in 1949, the Hill was covered in 139 elm trees, each between 80-110 feet tall with immense shady canopies. Now there are only three elms left on campus. One stands on the east side of Cooper Hall. Take a trip over there and try to imagine the Hill covered in such magnificent trees. Try imagining losing the trees we have. Suddenly, this horror story doesn’t sound as much like science fiction any more.
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PG

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Men’s Soccer Looking To Bounce Back This Season

By Ronald Wai ’10

SPORTS Writer

As Europe’s top soccer clubs dive into their new campaigns, the Hamilton College Continentals are likewise preparing for the challenges of the new soccer season. Coach Perry Nizzi will be looking to lead the team to success in the regional Liberty League, paving the way to a place in the NCAAC Championships. Hamilton has a proud history of regular postseason appearances, having earned the right to participate in the playoffs seven times in the last ten years. After an unexpectedly disappointing season in last year’s Liberty League with an 8-6-0 record, the team missed out on the NCAAC Championships, which will surely provide added incentive to perform well this year.

What our soccer fans can expect to see is an abundance of goals. In last year’s 14-game season, the team amassed an impressive tally of 25, with Jesse Arroyave ’11 leading the charts with seven goals and one assist. He was closely followed by Frank Campagnano ’12, who netted five goals and assisted on two more. Arroyave will once again be the Continentals main forward, whereas Campagnano’s high scoring rate came as bit of a surprise as he plays defender for Coach Nizzi’s team. Hopes for another strong outing for the sophomore are high.

Whilst impressive on offense, the Continentals were somewhat disappointing defensively, conceding 17 goals and managing only four shutouts all season-two areas that the team will surely look to work on as preseason preparation gains pace.

Coach Nizzi has selected Paul Moakler ’10, Sam Dwyer ’10, Billy Ford ’10 and Jon Sanford ’11 as his new captains for this upcoming season. Moakler gives one hundred and ten percent. He is a very good player,” Coach Nizzi said.

Coach Nizzi further explained, “Sam Dwyer will be the leader and playmaker in the center of midfield this year, whilst the skilful Billy Ford will serve excellent balls forward [from the defense]. Jon Sanford is a top marking back with the ability to cut forward and be dangerous. He leads by example.”

Sanford is the first junior captain in Coach Nizzi’s 12 years as Hamilton College’s men’s soccer head coach, a testament to his ability and importance to the team. Nizzi is no novice at producing stars, having seen thirteen of his players making it onto the all-region selection team over the years. Three players made it onto the All-Liberty League team in 2008, and 12 student athletes earned spots on the league’s all-academic team. Flanked by coaches Mike Fornino, Frank Barbuto and Dave Carter, it appears that Nizzi has unearthed more gems in the form of Sanford, Arroyave and Campagnano.

The team’s first game of the season is against Rochester Institute of Technology on September 9, at 4 p.m. on Love Field. The Continentals can especially look forward to the week between September 25 and Family Weekend on October 3, in which the team has three home games in a row, including the alumni game.

Cross Country Filled With High Hopes for New Season

By Cooper Creagan ’13

SPORTS Writer

With the start of the cross country season coming upon us, the Continentals seem to be back in full force. The seven men who managed to gather a tenth place finish in the NCAA Atlantic Region Championship last year all return for what should be another strong season.

Though Head Coach Brett Hull claims “it is way too early to tell” where the men will end up in the championships this year, the runners are looking to improve upon their fourth place finish at the New York State Collegiate Track Conference and their eighth place finish in the NCAAC.

Both meets were extremely close with Hamilton defeating their competition by merely three places in both events. Clearly, the team is fortunate to retain all of that talent because there should easily be room for improvement upon last year’s championship performances with extra practice and stamina building training sessions. The group of incoming freshmen will help as well.

Coach Hull believes that the freshmen “should be able to help the program.”

The returning athletes bring a wealth of experience to the team. Scott Bickard ’11, Kevin Kerr ’10, Peter Kosgei ’10, Devon Lynch ’11 and Will Reid ’10 have all been to every NESCAC championship since their freshman campaigns. This know-how should translate into better performances on November 1 at Trinity (site of this year’s NESCAC championships) as well as excellent leadership for the newcomers.

The team captains are Reid and Cuffie Winkler ’10. Of course, all eyes will be on Kosgei as he continues to impress, attracting fame with every stride. Last year, he won the NCAA Division III Cross Country Championships, proving himself to be among the most elite athletes in Hamilton’s history. This year, he will obviously be striving to keep his title and will likely break a few records along the way. He will get competition from within the team through Hilary Langat ’13, also from Kenya, who hopes to keep up with Kosgei’s speed.

The women also retain much of last year’s team, as only one of the top seven runners has graduated. Besides the returning veterans, there is also a strong group of incoming runners. Rachel Cackett ’13 was in the front of the pack during time trials last week, and Emily Heckman ’13 and Anna Paikert ’12, also finished among the fastest on the team, running the one and half miles in well under ten minutes. Also joining the team are Tory Grieves ’12, Nina Krouse ’13 and Becca Wergarten ’13, who is currently dealing with torn ligaments in her left ankle. “We are looking to improve upon last year’s eighth-place NCAA Atlantic Regional meet and NESCAC championship,” said Head Coach Ellen Hull.

At the New York State Collegiate Track Conference the team managed an impressive third place finish over the University of Rochester. During that competition, the Continentals’ combined time edged out Rochester by a margin of nine seconds.

Leading the team this year are captains Chelsea Stone ’10, Alexandra Leighton ’10 and Kate Halix’s ’11. They have already stepped up their efforts this year in which should be a promising cross country season.

Last Sunday, while most students were sleeping in or working on homework, the runners were making the trek “from Hill to Hull,” which is a nine-mile run from Hamilton College to Brett and Ellen Hull’s home in New Hartford. The long, hilly run is an annual tradition on the cross country team; many people around town cheer for the runners as they approach their destination.

The teams begin their season on Saturday, September 12, here at Hamilton against Nazareth, D’Youville, Union and Vassar in a short course meet, which will cover a shorter-than-average distance for both men and women.

“Everyone is excited to start the season,” said Coach Ellen Hull.
Steuben Field Gets New Look with Artificial Turf

By Daniel Hagemeier '11
Swarts Editor

Maybe the Hamilton College football team just needed a little more motivation to finally get back their winning record. The Continentals have struggled for the last few seasons despite good talent on the team, finishing with back-to-back 2-6 records. An already promising outlook for the new season became even brighter when an anonymous donor gave Hamilton College a one million dollar gift this summer to renovate Steuben Field.

The football team traditionally plays its home games on Steuben Field during the season. Additionally, the field is used for intramural events, new student orientation and practices, among other activities.

The natural grass on Hamilton College’s football field will be replaced with artificial turf for better field conditions and a better playing experience. Adding to better field conditions and a better playing experience will be the replacement of the natural grass on Hamilton College’s football field with artificial turf.

The football team practices on its new field in preparation for their upcoming opener.

The natural grass on Hamilton College’s football field was originally constructed in 1897. The last renovation dates back six years. “Renovation became necessary when we almost had to move one football game because the field was unplayable and unsafe,” said Athletics Director Jon Hind ’80. Coaches, players, and the administration have known about the need for an upgrade for several years. The project finally got under way this summer.

Construction on Steuben field started in June and is scheduled to be finished by the time the Continentals open their first game of the 2009 season on September 26 against Amherst College. Hamilton students can currently see the last stage of construction in progress. However, the field is already open for everybody and the football team held its freshman tryouts on the new field last Sunday.

Dean of Faculty Joseph R. Urgo said that the one million dollar gift, the third within three weeks in May and June Board Chair A. G. Lafley and another anonymous donor each support the funds for student scholarship aid, “signals that Hamilton, through the support of its alumni, parents and friends, is continuing to invest in its students and programs, even during this difficult economy.”

“We are very excited about the new field,” Head Coach Steve Stetsen said during the team’s freshman workouts last weekend. “I know that toughens’ can’t wait to get on the field and play. It is a great installation. But during the games they will still be more excited about playing than about the turf itself.”

After all, getting a few more wins for the football program about not hurt the cause at home. Current Hamilton students and especially the new class of 2013 have a good reason to get excited!

Men’s Tennis Encouraged With Youth and Coaching

By Daniel Greenberg ’12
Swarts Editor

This year’s men’s tennis team looks to improve on the progress it made last year with a good mix of returning players, promising freshmen and strong innovative coaching.

The team is composed of a core of juniors which include Peter Erwin ’11, Dan Gross ’11, Greg Kreitzer ’11 and Mike Moreno ’11, and they will all take the experience they gained last season as a stepping stone for their higher positions in the lineup. While the first flight player cannot be determined at this point, team captain Kreitzer seems to be the frontrunner after accumulating five wins in singles last year and seven wins two seasons ago.

Head Coach Joshua McKee mentioned, “Greg Kreitzer brings a great deal of experience and leadership to the squad.”

While the team has no seniors, a talented group of players return, including Colby Berman ’12, Victor Zimmerman ’12 and Andrew Libin ’12, who led the class in singles wins with five. The future appears exceedingly positive because the team will have experience even without seniors, and their top players will play for at least two more years.

As Mike Moreno ’11, who led the team with nine singles wins last year, put it, “The team is very deep this year. There is a lot of potential with the freshmen. I think we have a real shot at returning the program back to the level we were at in the 90’s.”

Indeed, the program in the 90’s was exceptional, a decade which included several winning seasons and a team title at the 1997 Liberty League championships. It was also in those years that the players on the team achieved the top six career records in singles victories that are held, along with four of the top five career records in doubles victories. The team seems to be rising once again to that point, which is very optimistic.

Regarding the freshmen, Moreno stated that “[the team] has a bunch of good recruits that are sectionally and nationally ranked.”

Coach McKee also highly regards the talent of the incoming class, “We have a few first-year players of note who will immediately contribute to the team like Jon Fannel [’13] and Jordan Petit [’11]. These players will add a welcome surge of energy and talent to an already successful tennis program.”

And as for the coaching, Moreno explained how “the team has three coaches—one head coach and two assistant coaches. We have a dedicated coaching staff, and one coach in particular dedicated to mental toughness, Assistant Coach Mark Oakes, who works in the psychology department. He helps run special exercises that will improve our mental toughness.”

The team is also developing in the sense that it will have more experience in New England Small College Athletic Conference (NECASC) play after adding a NECASC schedule to the spring season for the first time in 2007. The team will play several NECASC opponents during April, and will conclude with the conference championship in early May. Only six teams can qualify for the event with the winner receiving an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III championships. The Continentals have high hopes of getting in.

The team will also continue its focus on academic performance in conjunction with athletic achievement that has become a key trait of both NECASC teams and Hamilton college sports. The Continentals will host all their home matches at the Gray Tennis Courts, and in the event of bad weather conditions, they will move into the Margaret Bundy Scott House. The team will bring in their improved squad, hoping to set a new standard as the fall season kicks off at home on September 13 at 11 a.m.

Coach McKee said, “We are looking forward to a lot of support on campus over the weekend of September 12 and 13 when we will host the opening matches of the fall. We’re looking forward to a great year of tennis and everyone has high hopes for what we will be able to achieve.”

Peter Erwin ’11 serving during a doubles match with teammate Mike Moreno ’11.