Peace Vigil Held in Response to E-mails
by Russ Doubleday '11

In light of the recent escalation of violence in the Gaza Strip between Israel and Hamas, students and faculty of all backgrounds decided to come together for a peace vigil on Monday, Jan. 9. The brief event was not designed for open discussion about the war, but rather as a silent reflection and plea for reconciliation.

College Chaplain Jeffrey McArn, who participated and helped to organize the vigil, described the event: "We brought 50 white carnations to hand out to vigil participants, and put them together in the form of a huge peace symbol on the floor of KJ Commons. As people came together we stood in silence for a moment, until合唱." Taylor then moved on to Cornell where he ultimately received his Ph.D. in chemistry and then to Princeton University, where he is currently professor emeritus of chemistry.

After collaborating with pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly & Co. in 1985, Taylor was able to take a new version of a previously studied antibacterial compound and turn it into the cancer drug Alimta. After 12 years of testing, Alimta is now used to treat lung cancer and mesothelioma, a cancer found in the protective lining of internal organs and usually caused by exposure to asbestos.

Taylor hopes that this donation will help Hamilton students become equally inspired by chemistry. He urges students to be open to different kinds of inspiration and says, "The reason you are going to a liberal arts institution is to take advantage of the variety it offers. Don’t base your course selection on your prior limited experience. Spread your wings. Experiment. Other vistas will open if you have an open mind."}

Hamilton’s Newest Applicant: Claire Bennett from Heroes?
by Scott Bixby '11

The tagline of NBC’s hit series Heroes is “ordinary people with extraordinary abilities.” It is only fitting, then, that when one of these ordinary people is applying to colleges, they are looking for something extraordinary. In a sneak preview of the show’s upcoming midseason premier, Claire Bennett, whose regenerative abilities have helped her survive fire, bullets, and a small nuclear explosion, cites Hamilton as one of her top choices. Said Bennett, “Hamilton, Smith, Georgetown... they’re all the best schools in the country.”

Numerous Hamilton students and alumni, all fans of the live-action superhero series, were surprised to hear the College mentioned, and the preview video was quickly forwarded to dozens of students. "I was surprised that a show as big as Heroes was mentioning a school as small as Hamilton," said Jacob Murray ’09. "I know it’s a long shot, but it would be awesome if they decided to shoot here.”

Bennett might be a perfect candidate for admission: she’s a good student, has strong extracurricular activities, ranging from high school cheerleading to saving the world, and the fact that her father is a United States Senator with the ability to fly might help a little too.

Many shows aim to grab the attention of college students loyal to their schools by mentioning real-life institutions. More recently, the CW series Gossip Girl has made numerous references to the Ivy League: queen bee Blair Waldorf dreams of attending Yale University, and derides rival institution Princeton as a mere “trade school.”

Alumna Rebecca Rosenthal ’00 may have influenced the decision to mention Hamilton on the show, and the use of Hamilton’s promotional literature as set pieces. Rosenthal works on prop placement for the series. Mentioning the College on a hit show like Heroes might have other beneficial results for Hamilton.

After Roxy on the show Gilmore Girls decided to attend Yale in 2003, applications to the school jumped nine percent the next year. Hamilton’s mention may also have to do with our rising national profile and prominence, encouraging others that the College dropped five spots in the U.S. News and World Report college rankings in the past two years.

The episode airs on Feb. 2 at 8 o’clock on NBC.

FBI: Hamilton College Threatened
by Martin J. Connor ’09, Jr.

At approximately 7:15 a.m. Tuesday Dec. 9, 2008, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) received an anonymous e-mail conveying a threat of violence directed at the College. According to the FBI, the threat lacked credibility. Thursday Jan. 8, a month after receipt of the threat, the FBI notified Campus Safety via a telephone call. The next day, Director of Campus Safety, Francis sent an all-campus e-mail informing the community of the threat and outlining the measures that would be taken to address it, including a search of every building on campus.

The College has released few specifics details about the threat due to the pending investigation, but Manfredo did offer some limited information. “I cannot discuss the details of the threat but will say that the threat was not specific to any individual, property or group” at Hamilton, said Manfredo. Furthermore, "The FBI classified this to be a low priority threat and without credibility.”

Manfredo agreed with the FBI’s conclusions about the threat, stating, “The FBI deals with this... see FBI, page 2

K9 units, similar to this one, searched the campus after the FBI notified the College of the threat.

$1 Million Donated for Cancer Research
by Kate Tummarello '11

Edward C. Taylor ’46, inventor of Alimta, one of the world’s most successful cancer drugs, has recently donated $1 million to Hamilton for chemistry research.

Along with his wife Virginia, Taylor used this money to establish The Edward and Virginia Taylor Fund for Student Faculty Research in Chemistry. Beginning this summer, the donation will go towards research in the fields of organic chemistry, biochemistry, and physical chemistry.

Taylor began his time at Hamilton intending to be a writer when a coin toss pointed him towards chemistry rather than biology as the class to fulfill a science requirement. He became enthralled with chemistry thanks to the attention he received in Hamilton’s traditionally small classes and has said that, “At Hamilton, I had the experience of practically being tutored by a faculty member willing to spend time with me one on one.” Taylor then moved on to Cornell where he ultimately received his Ph.D. in chemistry and then to Princeton University, where he is currently professor emeritus of chemistry.

After collaborating with pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly & Co. in 1985, Taylor was able to take a new version of a previously studied antibacterial compound and turn it into the cancer drug Alimta. After 12 years of testing, Alimta is now used to treat lung cancer and mesothelioma, a cancer found in the protective lining of internal organs and usually caused by exposure to asbestos.

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Future alumna Claire Bennett, played by Hayden Panettiere, in the CW series Heroes. Claire Bennett is one of the world’s most successful cancer drugs, and has recently donated $1 million to Hamilton for chemistry research.

spread your wings. Experiment... page 12

lessons behind the Miracle of the Hudson... page 16

Hamilton scores lead in Liberty League... page 16

Obama’s Inauguration: A Hamiltonian Experience... page 8

A Hamiltonian Experience...
Vilsack ’72 Named Sec. of Agriculture

by Haley Riemer-Peltz ’12

On Dec. 19, 2008, then President-Elect Barack Obama appointed Hamilton College alumnus Tom Vilsack ’72 to the position of Secretary of Agriculture. Vilsack is another of Obama’s former opponents, who began his run for president in the fall of 2007. Vilsack was investigated only a week later due to his campaign’s insufficient funds.

Advocates for sustainable agriculture did not originally find Vilsack to be an ideal choice. Since huge corn, soybean, and pig farms dominate Iowa’s economy, however, Vilsack has connections to powerful agribusiness interests and experience working with these interest groups. Vilsack has also demonstrated an ability to think independently. Critics are hopeful that his credibility with “Big Agriculture” could help him bring about radical changes in the Department of Agriculture.

Vilsack was a logical choice for Secretary of Agriculture specifically because of his experience in Iowa, which is the ethnocapital of the nation. Ethanol, also known as ethyl alcohol, is a fuel distilled from plant matter. Vilsack’s experience holding office in Iowa will hopefully lead to advances in fuel efficiency possibly through the use of ethanol. He has also been a supporter of farm conservation programs, clean-water regulations and a cap-and-trade scheme to prevent global warming.

“As governor of one of our most abundant farm states, he led with vision, fostering an agricultural economy that only grows the food we eat but the energy we use,” Obama said of Vilsack on Wednesday. Vilsack was born into an orphanage in Pittsburgh before he was adopted by family in Hamilton. Vilsack met his wife in Hamilton in 1972 when he was jacked in history. Vilsack met his future wife, Christine K. ’72 while at Hamilton.

After graduating from Hamilton, Vilsack earned a law degree at Albany Law School. He and his wife moved back to his hometown of Iowa, where he held private practice as an attorney. He then went on to serve six years in the Iowa Senate.

President Barack Obama and newly appointed Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack ’72.

Vigil for Mid-East Peace Well-Attended

from Peace, page 1

around the peace symbol.”

Next, the Jewish Chaplain Anat Guez, Muslim Student Association advisor and Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies Aaron Spevack and McArn spoke words of peace, meditation, and understanding to the approximately twenty students in attendance. Following these brief remarks was a five-minute time of silent reflection, offering personal thoughts about the situation in the Middle East.

The peace vigil was the idea of both Guez and Spevack who wanted to bring the campus together over the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The event was largely in response to an all-campus e-mail controversy that occurred over winter break. On Friday, Jan. 9, the leadership of the Muslim Students Association sent an all-campus e-mail entitled, “The Israeli Attack on Gaza.” The following day the Hamilton German Club canvassed the campus e-mail server with a response that was quoted from an Internet blog. Both e-mails were politically charged opinion pieces on the conflict. German Club President Jeff Rabinowitz ’12 and the Muslim Student Association had their postings suspended following the in accordance with ITS guidelines on inappropriate use of the listserv.

Guez and Spevack avoided writing another all-campus e-mail to address and bring together students and faculty. Instead, they decided to hold a vigil inviting the entire Hamilton community to attend in the interests of peace in the Middle East. Hillel, the Muslim Students Association, and the Chaplaincy sponsored the event.

The purpose of the peace vigil was to unite the campus in a peaceful way. Some student organizations together and rearrange possible damage from the firewall. The following day, Manfredo was quoted from an Internet blog. The vigil was held with hope go along with you and the different ethnic student groups, offering personal thoughts about the situation in the Middle East. Hillel, the Muslim Students Association, and the Chaplaincy sponsored the event.

President Barack Obama and newly appointed Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack ’72.

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New President, New Semester, Renewed Agenda

The new ice rink (scheduled to be constructed shortly) will not be the only major change this semester: Joseph Urgo has taken over as acting president while Joan Hinde Stewart is on sabbatical. Urgo, who has served as the dean of faculty since 2006, will hold the role until Stewart returns after this semester.

Looking over Urgo’s plans, it seems like he will be making a substantial effort to make himself a visible figure on campus. He told The Spectator that he wants to be “as accessible as possible,” and that he wants campus community members to make use of that accessibility. Besides continuing Stewart’s regular Café Opus open hour, he has said he will be making regular appearances in Commons. It will be a conspicuous change to have a president who reaches out to students on a day-to-day basis. Stewart has had many successes in her tenure so far, including the very lucrative Excelsior fundraising campaign, but she has not yet taken an active role interacting with students. If Urgo and his scooter become a visible campus institution, that will be a welcome adjustment. Going to a small liberal arts school offers a realistic chance to get to know professors and administrators. It should be a part of the Hamilton experience.

Accessibility is pointlessness without attentiveness to student concerns. Students made it clear last semester that safety is on the top of that list. After incidents ranging from car break-ins to possible attempted sexual assaults, there was an outcry. Students voted overwhelmingly for more protection on the recent Student Assembly survey, organized a “Take Back the Night” rally, and had vocal discussions among themselves. Working with Campus Safety to make students feel safe is an urgent goal for Urgo to work towards.

Urgo’s most important job will be serving as a steward, helping the College navigate the economic crisis while continuing to improve the standards to which we hold our academics and our community. One way he has done this has been as the face of the Strategic Plan for the past semester. The Strategic Plan, dubbed “Foundations for Hamilton’s Next 200 Years,” is supposed to map the College’s path for the next five years, tackling big picture priorities and outlining long-term goals. So far, Urgo and the planners have been responsive to concerns, changing meeting times to invite more participation and correcting a glaring lack of attention to sustainability.

As Hamilton’s steward, Urgo must continue this work, balancing an ear for campus concerns with a weathered eye towards the future.
**Face Off: Should Mass E-mails Include Opinions?**

by Thomas Yarnell ’10

The Hamilton College Committee on Information Technology should reconsider their current policy on mass e-mail. At this point, the policy prohibits e-mail “that may be perceived as harassment, political campaigning, or commercial solicitation.” The ability to send e-mail to large groups of Hamilton community members, such as all students or all-campus, should remain a privilege, and therefore not include any form of harassment or commercial solicitation. However, why not allow the various student organizations on campus to express their views via e-mail? If handled in a responsible manner, the inclusion of more opinion in mass e-mails would benefit Hamilton in a number of ways. A message from a student organization about its collective position could help students determine whether or not they might like to join the organization, participate in an activity, or even attend a meeting just to offer a different perspective or a dissenting opinion.

Mass e-mails offering more than event information would also spark debate amongst students and faculty alike, and thus lead individuals to consider perspectives other than their own or those of the student organizations to which they belong. Although the e-mails sent over winter break by the Muslim Student Association and the German Club regarding the Israel-Gaza conflict demonstrated how organizations could abuse such new privileges, they also prompted students to engage each other in discussions about the issue. You could hear it in the classrooms, residence halls, and dining halls throughout campus.

Yes, those who sent e-mails about the conflict did so in an irresponsible manner, but this should not deny the entire Hamilton community the opportunity to disseminate knowledge and opinion. If anything, the College should be able to assume that students can handle new privileges with strict, enforced guidelines. Just as all instructors and Hamiltonian faculty expect a certain level of intelligence and hard work from their students, so too should the college be able to expect a level of responsibility from students bestowed with mass e-mailing privileges. Is it not a sign of a healthy program if the college refuses to grant student organizations these new privileges primarily out of a fear that they will use them to bicker or breed hatred? If, on the other hand, the students embraced the opportunity and did not abuse the privilege, it would build trust with the College, leading to more cooperation in terms of events, funding, etc.

This new, opinion-friendly approach to mass e-mail would not be as difficult to enforce as some might think. Guidelines could still limit the length of such e-mails, prohibit organizations from direct responses to each other and give students specific ideas about what would or would not be appropriate.

As they are now, anyone with mass e-mailing privileges will continue to be held accountable for their actions, and violations would be punished accordingly. It might take a little more effort and a lot more patience on the part of the entire Hamilton community, but given all the potential benefits, we should give it a try.

by Allison Eck ’12

College campuses thrive on the exchange of ideas. Hamilton especially. There is something exhilarating about the tension that arises from ascriptive student articles in publications such as The Spectator, The Duel Observer, The Daily Bull, and others.

Everyone’s opinion matters, so it is perfectly plausible to say that the campus needs to encourage thinking and debating on a higher level than just casual conversation. However, student opinion pieces should never be spread through all-campus e-mails. Hamilton is right to punish those students who recently abused such e-mail privileges.

The Muslim Student Association’s (MSA) e-mail was not only offensive to most students happily enjoying their winter break, but it was also probably very discouraging to other members of the MSA. The organization’s representative as possessing a call to action was obvious in his set of rules. The organization’s e-mail representative seemed to be using the e-mail to make a statement for his or her agenda. Everyone’s opinion is valued, so it is perfectly plausible to say that the MSA did not need to send the e-mail in the name of a “call to action” was fair and reasonable, but it was not. Even a bit more alarming was the sensitive nature of the issue. Even if the author had not signed the e-mail under the MSA’s name, even if it was purely personal, this was an issue that should not have been addressed through the penetrating medium of all-campus e-mails. It would be like sending an e-mail brimming with passionate cries on abortion or gay marriage. Once the College grants one person the right to express his or her opinion through e-mail, the rest will follow, and the entire Hamiltonian community will argue with each other.

In addition, at least the MSA is a group whose basis is related to issues of the Middle East. As I know, Germany has little to do with the Israeli attack on Gaza. Therefore, I feel that if the school was to dismiss the incident as a mere “warning,” then first, the e-mail would never have been able to clearly indicate that his or her views did not reflect the other club members’ views.

Student opinion should remain a facet of campus publications, not mass e-mails. Hamilton has a right to restrict such e-mails for the sake of maintaining our dignity within such hectic disputes.
Jan Admits Face Unique Challenges

from Jan Admits, page 4

Jan Admits and I had with the College was a short videoconference with the college’s upper level administration, a short meeting about the writing intensive program, and a meeting with a temporary advisor in order to choose classes for the spring.

It would have been nice to be able to talk to some students on the Hill while in London, to have some communication with student groups, or to have some of the Hamilton publications on hand for browsing. These little touches would facilitate the transition for Jan Admits.

This all changes, however, when a Jan Admit reaches Hamilton. It is much easier to integrate into the Hamilton scene than I would have expected. This place has an eclectic and colorful social fabric; personality and friendliness abound.

In essence, the integration process boils down to an excellent (although truncated) orientation program, combined with what the individual Jans do to get acquainted. The OLs are a wonderful resource for Jans, (my OL helped me move things into my new room and pointed out that he lived around the corner if I wanted to hang out) and they do their jobs admirably.

In terms of getting to know the campus on my own though, I frequented common areas such as a dorm common room or the KJ commons. Many people pass through the common areas, and there interesting relationships can develop in even the most random of circumstances.

I met my current roommates out of nowhere, when I was challenged to a Guitar Hero duel. It was a nice way to be welcomed to the Hill, and it answered at least one of those Jan Admit questions.
Like sex? Want to write about it?
The Spectator is looking for a new weekly sex writer for the column: "Spectator Between the Sheets"

* Are you a witty tongue-in-cheek writer? * Or maybe you have previous sex education experience?

The Spectator is open to various interpretations about how Spectator Between the Sheets ought to be written. Please send an e-mail with the following information to LMOON by Monday 1/26 to be considered for the position:

Name: 
Class Year: 
Why would you like to be the sex columnist? 
Any experience writing about/teaching sex? 
Please include a brief writing sample (LESS than 500 words) that would indicate your style of writing/feelings toward sex topics.

We encourage creativity, and if you have any questions before submitting please feel free to ask.

From Where I Sit: Life as a Jan Admit

By Tory Grieves '12

Features Writer

The hardest thing about being a Jan was, come August, explaining to friends and family why I would be spending the fall semester in London. It was as if I’d suddenly become some sort of outcast. I had to confront the fact that I couldn’t go to Hamilton in the fall, that the thought of Jet-setting to the UK was not out of the question and that I would not be starting college like every other “normal” freshman.

Upon arrival in London I was, however, comforted to discover that most of the other Jans’ loved ones had left them feeling timid and unsure. I particularly remember one conversation on the first day of orientation: Jan A: “Everyone was like, ‘Why are you going to London? That’s so weird.’”

Jan B: “Yeah, I guess I thought it was… umm…cool…?” An insecure silence followed, and I wondered if maybe we Jans had been selected by the crafty Admissions staff because they realized we could be coerced into thinking that a completely weird idea was actually quite ba-

initially seem like negatives, they collectively played an enormous and crucial role in facilitating incredibly, almost ridiculously close friendships among the group of Jans.

A highlight of the fall semester was my art history class. After learning about a specific movement in Western art, we would then meet our professor (who dated Jimi Hendrix…no joke) at a different gallery each week to see paintings we had discussed, in their original form. On our days off, my friends and I enjoyed exploring and bumping around London, especially if the mission involved finding the cheap Turkish restaurant our English teacher had recommended the day before.

We also took to experiencing London the British way: riding the Tube, dressing up for a Harlequins rugby match and of course, knocking back Strongbows at The Rocket, our local and definitely grungy, pub.

Recalling these memories, I think that my time in London was essentially a three-month grace period to feel independent, cool, and mature: a grace period before officially joining Hamilton and embodying the semi-awkward freshman girl I’ve undeniably been dying to be since my acceptance to Hamilton.

The Deadline for Puzzle #3 is Tuesday, January 27, at 4pm. All entries must be received by that time. Visit our website: www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/Puzzles/Puzzles_Home.htm
Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

This week: The new Student Assembly President Amy Goldstein ’11 and Vice President Edwin Gaston ’11

Edwin Gaston ’11

Age: 20
Eye Color: Dark Brown
Height: 5’7”

Sign: Scorpio
Hometown: Hyde Park, MA
Major: Sociology

On Campus Activities: The Brothers Organization, S&d (VP all day), POSESE, IM Soccer and other randomness
Off Campus Activities: VITA member, Harvard Crimson Academy, Project: Think Different

Interested In: Women
What Are You Looking For Now: Someone chill, that won’t take me or themselves too seriously, with a deep appreciation for my caballo.

Best On Campus Date: Eels balcony, fire roaring, stars blazing all that good stuff
Best Off Campus Date: Whatever I can afford

What is your ideal date wearing? A bucket of chicken

Turn Ones: Sense of humor
Turn Offs: Taller than me

Favorites
Place to Hangout on Campus: Diner
Favorite exercise at the gym: The desk swiping cards
Song: Nike Boots by W.A.L.E
Book: “The Seductions of Crime,” never read it, but it sounded good in class
Movie: Sin City

“Guilty Pleasure” Movie: The Rugrats Movie
Celeb Crush: Kim Kardashian
Campus Crush: Semma (They know who they are) and South 308

Faculty Crush: Ew

Breakfast: An omelet and bacon sandwiched between waffles
Favorite T.V. Show: House MD
Reality TV Show: Secret Millionaire

“Men all dream, but not equally.”

Car: Bugatti
Veyron or ’94 Supra

Oss
Light side or Dark side? Dark Side

Innie or Outie? Innie

Coffee or Tea? Coffee

What is your ideal date wearing? A smile

Turn Ones: Outgoing, funny, smart, and ideally has an accent
Turn Offs: Lack of personality

Favorites
Place to Hangout on Campus: Commons
Favorite exercise at the gym: Elliptical
Song: Satellite, Dave Matthews Band
Book: “A People’s History of the United States” by Howard Zinn
Movie: Most recently, “Slumdog Millionaire”

“Guilty Pleasure” Movie: The Cutting Edge
Celeb Crush: Channing Tatum from “Step Up”
Campus Crush: Too many...what can I say, admissions did a great job.

Breakfast: Bacon, egg, and cheese on a perfectly toasted sesame bagel
Favorite T.V. Show: Friday Night Lights
Reality TV Show: Top Chef/The Hills

Most attractive organization on campus: Student Assembly

Car: My younger brother stole it from me...it’s a touchy subject.

Oss
Light side or Dark side? BUNDY

Innie or Outie? Innie

Coffee or Tea? Decaf either...

Midnight Rendezvous or Afternoon Delight? Afternoon Delight

Opus or DD? DD

Keystone light or Keystone Ice? Light

Annex or ELS basement? Annex
Kr or Science Center? Science Center

My most attractive quality: I stay calm even when my world is falling apart

Weirdest decoration in my room: Wall of 20+ fitted hats

The outfit that epitomizes me: Purple sneakers, jeans and a T-shirt with a loud graphic on it

If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to: Brazil

If I were a cartoon character, I would be: Brian from Family Guy

The best pick-up line I have used: Say Daddy

The best pick-up line that has worked on me: Nice car, can I drive?

How can someone tell that you are interested? Eyes, will look you up and down after.

If I were out with a date & were charged by a bear I would: Say “that sucks” and sprint for the car

Amy Goldstein ’11

Age: 20
Eye Color: Blue
Height: 5’4”

Hair: Red/Strawberry-blonde...it’s debatable.

Sign: Aquarius
Hometown: Greenwich, CT
Major: Government/History

On Campus Activities: Student Assembly President, HEAT, PBX, figure skating, intramural hockey

Off Campus Activities: The weekly trip to Hannaford, the occasional CVS run

If you were to prepare romantic dinner, what would be on the menu? A medium-rare NY Strip steak and a delicious, crispy caesar salad

Best On Campus Date: Snowshoeing in the glen
Best Off Campus Date: Dinner at Nola’s and a movie

What is your ideal date wearing? A smile

Turn Ones: Outgoing, funny, smart, and ideally has an accent
Turn Offs: Lack of personality

Favorites
Place to Hangout on Campus: Commons
Favorite exercise at the gym: Elliptical
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Favorite T.V. Show: Friday Night Lights
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Most attractive organization on campus: Student Assembly

Car: My younger brother stole it from me...it’s a touchy subject.

Oss
Light side or Dark side? BUNDY

Innie or Outie? Innie

Coffee or Tea? Decaf either...

Midnight Rendezvous or Afternoon Delight? Afternoon Delight

Rok or VT? VT

Mac or PC? Mac

Opus or DD? Opus, except DD hot chocolate, amazing.

Keystone light or Keystone Ice? Light

Annex or ELS basement? ELS basement

Kr or Science Center? Kr

My most attractive quality: My hair

Weirdest thing in my room: My foot massager

The outfit that epitomizes me: Furry boots and my puffy blue jacket

If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to: Hummus Bros in London, soo good.

If I were a cartoon character, I would be: Dori from “Finding Nemo”

The best pick-up line I have used: Hi, I’m Amy Goldstein.

The best pick-up line that has worked on me: They’ve never worked.

How can someone tell that you are interested? Oh, they’ll know.
The Inauguration of

As seen through the camera lenses of Hamilton College students, Dan Allen ’09, James Russell ’09, Dave Riordan ’09, Kye Lippold ’10 and Will Leubsdorf ’10, Student Kye Lippold ’10, shows off Obama propaganda.
It wasn’t until January 6, when I saw an entire street lined with port-a-potties, that I realized Obama’s inauguration was finally happening. I had seen so many Obama signs hanging in the windows and vendors selling miniature buttons of the First Family “elect” that the Obama fascination seemed to be part of the DC experience. Turning into 10th Street on my way to intern at the Department of Justice Friday morning, however, made me understand the day that myself and millions of others had waited for, would finally arrived.

To me, the inauguration of Obama’s presidency represents more than a change of administration, new economic solutions, or the historic placement of the nation’s first African American president. As cliché as it sounds, I believe he has provided Americans with much-needed hope, especially during today’s domestic and foreign climates. I could feel it everywhere. Standing on the National Mall, a few hundred feet from the Washington Monument, it was hard to imagine the number of people who had come to see this succession ritual. But here they all were, braving the freezing temperatures and getting to the Mall as early as  a.m. to get prime spots in front of the closest teleprompter screens to the Capitol.

Despite the weather, everyone around me seemed cheerful, thankful that they could be here on this “historical day.” This feeling of optimism only continued as the screens re-played Sunday’s ‘We Are One’ Inaugural Concert in front of the Lincoln Memorial, people singing along to ‘Shout’ and ‘One Love’ as they eagerly waited for the guests of honor to arrive. Maybe they were dancing to stay warm and singing to pass the time, but the energy was undeniable when chants of ‘O-ba-ma’ filled the air every time he appeared on the screen. Obama’s speech certainly didn’t disappoint the crowd. His words also resonated with me. The decisions that Obama makes, especially during his first 100 days, will greatly influence and define his presidency. As a college student one year away from the professional world, my life will be affected by Obama’s direction for the country, whether it is through health care reform or America’s place in international diplomacy. It is too early to tell what Obama will strive to accomplish and what he will actually accomplish during his time in office, but the sense of hope and optimism that he brings positively affects us all. It is this hope, found through his rhetoric, persona, and beliefs that allows us to look toward a bright future.

My roommate’s mother asked us during dinner this weekend where we thought Obama was four years ago during the last inauguration. We all decided that during President George W. Bush’s inauguration no one would have guessed that Obama would become the 44th U.S. President. Yet with hard work, perseverance and hope, Obama is a walking example of the American Dream. Who could be better to lead Americans to their dreams than someone who has achieved it himself?
Revolutionary Road is an Intense Journey
Rebekah Mintzer '09

One of the better films I saw this week was Sam Mendes' Revolutionary Road, based on the novel of the same name by Richard Yates. The movie's release prompted instant Academy Awards talk and general hype, largely because it pairs Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio as romantic leads for the first time since Titanic. This time, however, Kate and Leo's romance has matured, and the obstacles they face as a couple are somehow more ominous than a rogue iceberg.

For a movie about the stifling qualities of 50s conformity, a topic that has been rehashed many times in film and literature, Revolutionary Road proves to be executed quite well. It prevents itself from being tried because it focuses more about the inner lives and relationships of two main characters than about the themes of conformity itself. Rather than just lashing out at the complacency of 2.5 kids, commuting and a white picket fence, Revolutionary Road allows its main characters Frank (DiCaprio) and April (Winslet) to be individually and with each other and with those of their neighbors on two easels simultaneously. The edges of their entire pieces take.

Several dozen students and faculty members partook in Reynolds's "Human Draftspeople" project; each person drew the architecture of the room and their neighbors on two easels simultaneously. The edges of these drawings had to line up with each other and with those of their neighbor's drawings. The drawings will be hung side by side to create one large and coherent piece.

Dinner Theater Honors Martin Luther King
by Lyndra Vassar '09

In celebration of Martin Luther King Day, the Hamilton College Theatre Department presented a compelling performance of Anna Deavere Smith's Fires in the Mirror. Directed by Theatre professor, Mark Cryer, the play consisted of several monologues based on interviews with African-American and Jewish residents of Crown Heights, a historically tumultuous race riots in 1991.

The riots occurred when a Hasidic man’s car jumped a curb and killed Gavin Cato, a black seven-year-old child. In the aftermath of Cato’s death, Yankel Rosenbaum, a Hasidic rabbi, was stabbed to death in what appeared to be an act of retaliation by the Black community. The violence only ensued; what was previously considered a tolerant community of coexisting races rapidly transformed into one of the most violent uprisings in New York City. In this series of interwoven monologues, Smith documents a multi-layered perspective of the event and hatred that engulfed the community.

The play’s cast of eight Hamilton students - Christian Baxter, Kadalish Bennett, Brianna Felton, Jocelyn Bos-Fisher, Cindy Reyes, Amr Rouvan Mahmud, and Corin Wheeler - effectively revived the voices of Crown Heights residents, forcing the audience to relive a historical moment that would have racial tension, violence, and confusion. Drawn verbatim from Smith’s interviews, each monologue presented a candid portrayal of racial identities, religions, and cultural perplexities of the time. Within these performances, Hamilton students engaged in diverse roles ranging from Reverend Al Sharpton (Christian Baxter) to an anonymous Lubavitcher woman (Jocelyn Bos-Fisher). The 29 characters within the play culminated to achieve what Mark Cryer stated as the primary objective of Fires in the Mirror celebrating culture. "Students on the Hill wanted to do plays that speak to culture," he explained. It appears that the play not only "spoke to culture" but also to the intersections of gender, race, and religion incited in understanding collective identities, recreating a history for the audience that was jolting yet impactful.

After two sold out performances during the previous week, Fires in the Mirror will be presented this weekend at Cazenovia College on Friday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. in the Catherine E. Cummings Theatre.

Performance Artist Draws in Hamilton Students
by Jennifer Vano '09

On Wednesday, January 21st, performance artist and sculptor Cindy Tower held a lecture and workshop for Hamilton students, faculty members and visitors.

Cindy aimed to offer students a brief “lineage” of the art that has inspired her, showing viewers examples of pieces and performances by Antin, McReynolds, Sherman and others. Her art, which often incorporates sculpture and a performance-element - for example, before Cindy could afford studio space, she created wearable sculptures for her friends to tote around NYC - relies heavily upon the materials and environments available. Cindy also relies on costume and cloth to inform her art. For this Hamilton event, she asked that attendees wear costumes, and the petite Cindy was decked out in gold cape and silver boots. She

In “Factory,” Reynolds reconstructed an Illinois factory in the South Bronx.

In the Factory show, Reynolds reconstructed an Illinois factory in the South Bronx. In "Factory," Reynolds reconstructed an Illinois factory in the South Bronx. Reynolds’s “Human Draftspeople” project; each person drew the architecture of the room and their neighbors on two easels simultaneously. The edges of these drawings had to line up with each other and with those of their neighbor’s drawings. The drawings will be hung side by side to create one large and coherent piece.

Colin Wheeler ‘11 draws as part of Tower’s “Draftspeople” project.

Dinah Wheeler '11 draws as part of Tower’s “Draftspeople” project.

Revolutionary Road is an Intense Journey
Rebekah Mintzer ‘09

One of the better films I saw this week was Sam Mendes’ Revolutionary Road, based on the novel of the same name by Richard Yates. The movie’s release prompted instant Academy Awards talk and general hype, largely because it pairs Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio as romantic leads for the first time since Titanic. This time, however, Kate and Leo’s romance has matured, and the obstacles they face as a couple are somehow more ominous than a rogue iceberg.

For a movie about the stifling qualities of 50s conformity, a topic that has been rehashed many times in film and literature, Revolutionary Road proves to be executed quite well. It prevents itself from being trite because it focuses more about the inner lives and relationships of two main characters than about the themes of conformity itself. Rather than just lashing out at the complacency of 2.5 kids, commuting and a white picket fence, Revolutionary Road allows its main characters Frank (DiCaprio) and April (Winslet) to be individually and with each other and with those of their neighbors on two easels simultaneously. The edges of their entire pieces take.

Several dozen students and faculty members partook in Reynolds’s “Human Draftspeople” project; each person drew the architecture of the room and their neighbors on two easels simultaneously. The edges of these drawings had to line up with each other and with those of their neighbor’s drawings. The drawings will be hung side by side to create one large and coherent piece.
Hamilton Choir Sings in NYC

by Rachel Pohl ’11
Arts & Entertainment Editor

This past Saturday night, the Hamilton College Choir in conjunction with the University Glee Club (UGC) performed in front of hundreds in Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center in New York City. Avery Fisher Hall is the home of America’s oldest symphonic orchestra, the New York Philharmonic. The 60-member Choir sang several songs including “Babylon,” “My Lord, What a Mornin’,” “Ave Maria,” and “Jubilate Deo.” Professor of music and director of choral music at Hamilton, G. Roberts Kolb is responsible for directing the choir and the College Hill singers. Both groups boast a continued tradition of superiority in choral singing for over a century. The Choir travels regularly; last spring break, the group traveled across the Midwest and will go to Italy this upcoming spring break. Over the last 18 years, the choir has undertaken five recent tours in Europe. The Hamilton College Choir and the UGC sang four songs together. Founded in 1886, the UGC is a male singing group with 120 active members. The club encourages excellence in singing; members are of all ages from recent college graduates to old men who have been in the group for decades. The group sings a wide range of music including Broadway, classical, sea chanties, and traditional college songs.

The UGC is closely connected with Hamilton, as John Low Baldwin, a director of Hamilton’s Choir in the 1950s and 60s and member of Hamilton’s music faculty, was the conductor of the UGC for 39 years.

The Hamilton Choir sang at the Avery Fisher Hall on January 17th.

Upcoming at Hamilton

January 20th-February 20th

“Friends” Exhibit Remembers Those Lost to Drunk Drivers

Hamilton College is hosting the “Friends,” exhibit, a memorial to young people whose lives have been lost to automobile accidents involving drunk drivers, from Jan. 20 through Feb. 20 in the Blood Fitness Center Juice Bar. It is free and open to the public. The exhibit is sponsored by Hamilton’s Athletics Department.

The main purpose of the exhibit is to make teenagers and college-age students aware of how quickly the lives of those involved in DWI tragedies, as well as those of families and friends of the victims, can change. The exhibit highlights the lives of four Colgate University students who died in an alcohol-related auto accident in November of 2000. Numerous personal effects, including photographs of the victims’ accomplishments, books, trophies and stuffed animals are included as a part of the display. Also displayed are pictures of the fatal crash, police documents, interviews with family and friends and a timeline outlining the students last hours up to the accident.

The combination of these elements creates an emotional reaction in observers, with the goal of behavioral change. This approach creates a powerful message that may deter college-age students from driving after consuming alcohol.

Friday January 23, 2009

Painted Protests: Art As Activism, Siddhartha Joag

Siddhartha Joag is a visual artist/sociologist and cultural activist whose work has been exhibited nationally and internationally in commercial, alternative and public spaces including: the Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU, Asia Society, the Bowery Poetry Club, Yale University, Amherst College, VOCAS arts space, the IndoCenter for Arts and Culture. Over the past six years he has worked as an artist-in-residence, teaching artist, program director and counselor with marginalized communities in the Bronx, Chinatown and the Lower East Side of New York City, India and China.

Joag will give a talk titled “Sociology of the Saturated Mind” in KJ302 at 4p.m. on Friday January 23. He will discuss the “parallels and overlap between visual arts, cultural work, and sociological study,” including examples like graffiti, community arts, cultural/resistance movements, and ethnography as creative practice. He will also talk about his work with the ZeroCapital collective (www.zero-capital.net) and BorderStatements, a community-based art center near the China-Burma border.

On Saturday January 24, he will have a workshop in List 104 at 2pm.

Saturday January 24

Bluegrass Legend Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys

at 8 pm in Wellin Hall
$18 campus community/$5 students
The box office will be open THURSDAY, Jan 22 12 noon - 1 pm and FRIDAY, Jan 23 3-4 pm for walk up sales.

On Saturday, at 3:00 p.m. the Kirkland Art Center, (East Park Row in Clinton) will host a workshop on Ralph Stanley, his music and influence on bluegrass. The workshop will be presented by Lydia Hamesley, Professor of Music at Hamilton College and will include music by Lost Time. Free for evening concert ticket holders, $5 all others.

Like movies, music, books, video games, art?

Want to write for Arts and Entertainment?
The Spectator is now calling for new writers. Contact rpohl or jvano at any time with inquiries.
A Dramatic Physics Lesson: the Hudson Miracle

by Elijah LaChance ’10

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY E D I T O R

“We’re going to be in the Hudson” has become a household buzzword for Bay Area commuters. Flight 1549 ditched successfully in the Hudson River on January 15, narrowly missing the George Washington Bridge. Every passenger escaped alive; even every pet made it out unscathed, making the “Miracle on the Hudson” the most successful emergency landing in the history of commercial flight. The story is now well known to most of the United States as well as the world over.

The question that remains is how such a heavy object, hurtling toward the Earth at such a mind-boggling speed, could survive the impact and, having done so, remain aloft long enough for the passengers to escape onto the waiting ferries.

Flight 1549 was a regional propeller aircraft, a Continental Connection with regional partners A320. It was 123 feet, three inches long and had a wingspan of 111 feet, ten inches. Even more remarkably, the plane had a 1,500 pound takeoff weight of such a model is 162,000 lbs., or roughly 80 tons. The plane was at an approximate altitude of 3,000 feet when the aircraft collided with birds, losing both engines. From that point on, the plane accelerated toward the ground at a rate of 9.81 meters/second/second. How did such an object survive the impact with the water without shearing into pieces?

Assoc. Professor of Physics, Stephen Majeski, with Professor Majeski ed an answer. “The wings are pretty strong on these planes,” he pointed out, explaining how they remained attached to the body of the aircraft on impact with the frigid water. “They have to support a pretty big load just during flight.” “The river was also very calm that day, very flat. There were no waves, no little bits of water sticking up.” Hitting a wave, Majeski suggested, would be akin to running into a building, potentially slowing down the front of the plane while the rear of the plane was still accelerating, causing the plane to flip over.

Likewise, Majeski explained why the flight’s pilot - Captain Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger III - landed back the end of the plane while touching down the nose. “If the plane landed right side up, the front of the plane would slow down, but the back of the plane would still be going pretty fast and the plane would flip over,” he explained. “He [Sullenberger] put it down just like a glider.” Of course, since Capt. Sullenberger flew gliders as a hobby, that was probably more than a coincidence. Majeski added, “It was a really great landing; it had a lot to do with everybody getting out alive.”

Even understanding how the plane was undamaged on impact, how did an 80-ton aircraft stay aloft for nearly an hour before sinking only slightly? Majeski explained that lightness and buoyancy are not the same thing; an object can be incredibly heavy and still float. He used large ships as an example. “Think of a steel boat,” he said. “A steel boat can still float even though it weighs a lot. It has the hollow part inside, and the air in the hollow part displaces the water, so the boat doesn’t sink.” “Remember,” he added, “this is a pressurized aircraft. The pressurized cabin... also the baggage compartment are pressurized.”

When asked the reason for the pressurization, Majeski explained that at 35,000 feet - the usual cruising altitude for commercial jet liners - the air would be too thin for the passengers to breathe unless the pressure of air in the cabin was kept at ground level.

Major also pointed out the long stretch of flotation suggested that, “the underbelly [of the plane] was undamaged” due to the excellent landing. “Eventually,” he said, “water got in, but they were able to get everybody off by then.” Usually, people don’t think of a plane as a boat, but on flight 1549, for about an hour, “that’s what it was,” Majeski said.

In addition, Majeski cited the fact that only one engine was missing from the plane as a testament to the excellent landing. "One engine was missing from the plane as a testament to the excellent landing..."
Charles Darwin’s Bicentennial Birthday Bash

by Yinghan Ding ’12

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
THE SPECTATOR

The year 2009 is a special year for Charles Darwin, one of the greatest biologists in history. It marks both the 150th anniversary of the publication of On the Origin of Species and the 200th anniversary of his birth.

The great biologist was born on Feb. 12, 1809, in a small town called Shrewbury in England. Darwin’s father was a doctor, so young Darwin was sent to study medicine in Edinburgh. However, it did not take long for the Darwin family to realize that a medical career was not suitable for young Charles. He then transferred to study ministry at Cambridge where he befriended a biology professor, John Henslow, and developed a strong interest in that field. He went on a voyage to the Galapagos Islands, and later to some of the southern islands, to the South American coast and to Australia. Darwin’s experiences on these legendary trips provided a substantial contribution to his life’s work. Afterward, he published his first book, The Voyage of the Beagle (1840), in which he described his adventure in the southern islands.

As his experiences accumulated, Darwin started to question the teachings of Genesis, which claimed that every species was created whole and never changed through the ages. Instead, it seemed obvious to Darwin that the present state of existence was the result of some developmental process that had taken millions of years. What this process really was and how it worked became Darwin’s focus for almost 20 years. During these years, he recalled his own experiences as well as the data he had gathered from his voyages. He read widely from many learned journals. Darwin finally published his conclusions from his research in 1859 with the book On the Origin of Species, which is now thought of as the leading work in natural philosophy and the history of life on Earth.

In general terms, Darwin’s theory is that life evolves through a process called “natural selection,” which was determined through the “survival of the fittest.” “There is grandeur in this view of life...” Darwin said to the world, “From so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been and are being, evolved.”

The theory was not completely new to the world, so the credit given to Darwin was not for discovering it, but instead for gathering indisputable evidence and thus setting forth a theory showing how it actually works. Darwin had earned his place in the history of biology, and his name remains well known to every household even 200 years after his birth.

His 200th birthday celebration will be primarily held in the United Kingdom. The organizer of Darwin200, The Natural History Museum, announced its recent plan for the big celebration. The celebration will begin on July 1, 2009, which will mark 150 years since Darwin and his colleague Wallace announced their theory that shocked the entire scientific field and society. The celebration will continue until November 24, 2009, which was the 150th anniversary of the official publication of the book On the Origin of Species.

Several very exciting activities are scheduled to involve more young people in the celebration throughout the year. The post-celebration activity, The Great Plant Hunt, will be held in March across the United Kingdom. Every state primary school in the UK will be sent a “Darwin Treasure Chest.” These will be packed with resources enabling the children to do real science inside and outside the classroom by exploring habitats, growing plants, and collecting seeds.

There is also an activity appropriate for college students. The Evolution Megalab is a mass experiment run by the Open University and Royal Society. They ask people to record observations online about banded snails in gardens or in parks. If you have the habit of catching small animals just like Darwin did, you might be interested in participating in the global celebration by simply recording and updating your observation of snails. You can search “Darwin200” online to get more information about all the interesting events that will take place this year.

Professor of Biology Wei-Jen Chang summarized Darwin’s impact by stating, “[he] recognized that living organisms are changing from generation to generation and proposed that given sufficient time new species could have arisen. While this idea of evolution seems rational, when Darwin made his case the bible was dominating the thought on the origin of species and there was no knowledge about the law of inheritance, either. Darwin broke the myth and provided us with a fundamental law that explains the diversification in nature.”

A Physics Lesson on the Hudson

from A Dramatic, page 16

evidence of a soft and graceful landing. The engines on an Airbus A320 are located under the wings and Major noted that, “there must not have been a lot of force on the engines and wings by the time they hit the water,” or else both engines would have become detached. Finally, Major explained how scores of people could stand on the wings of the plane without capsizing or sinking the aircraft. “It’s a big plane,” he said, “there would need to be a lot of weight they’d need to displace a lot of water - for that to happen.”

Another interesting scientific component of the landing was the bird hits that made it necessary. There are as many as 16,000 “bird hits” or “bird strikes” a year in commercial flight in which a bird hits the windshields of a plane or is sucked into an engine, but double hits like the one that disabled Flight 1549 are relatively rare. Most strikes occur during takeoff or landing, when the routes of planes and migrating birds intersect in altitude. Several organizations, including the International Bird Strike Committee, have proposed making areas around airports less inviting to birds by cutting down trees and shrubs and planning flight routes to avoid typical migration patterns during spring and fall.

WE MUST NOT FORGET THAT WHEN RADIUM WAS DISCOVERED NO ONE KNEW THAT IT WOULD PROVE USEFUL IN HOSPITALS. THE WORK WAS ONE OF PURE SCIENCE. AND THIS IS A PROOF THAT SCIENTIFIC WORK MUST NOT BE CONSIDERED FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE DIRECT USEFULNESS OF IT. IT MUST BE DONE FOR ITSELF, FOR THE BEAUTY OF SCIENCE, AND THEN THERE IS ALWAYS THE CHANCE THAT A SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY MAY BECOME LIKE THE RADIUS A BENEFIT FOR HUMANITY.

~MARIE CURIE

College-Specific iTechnology

from iPhone, page 16

kit was released in 2008. Aaron Wasserman spoke to The Spectator from the start-up’s San Francisco office. The twenty-year-old Stanford junior admits that though he is a student on paper, he spends most of his time at Terriblyclever’s headquarters. He has plans to take MobilifiDo on the road and market the product to colleges and universities nation wide, including Hamilton.

“We’ve built the [App] in such a way that it is easy to implement at other colleges and universities and on other phones aside from the iPhone, like the Blackberry,” Wasserman explained. “Basically, it can work on any phone with a browser.”

Dave Smallen, vice president for information technology, is optimistic about the potential to integrate such mobile information technology on campus in the future. Already, approximately half of Hamilton students have cell phones or comparable mobile devices with internet capabilities, and 97 percent work off wireless laptops, though the number of students who own an iPhone is still unknown. The college itself does not have the staff resources to create its own iPhone application, so it would have to tap an outside provider to build such a product. Given cost and complexity, students probably will not be downloading iHam-lton applications anytime soon, though Smallen pointed out that the iPhone is compatible with the school’s secure network.

“We know that mobile computing is in the future, and we want to take advantage of that,” he explained. “Our campus-wide wireless network is already in place, so we have the first major piece that many other schools don’t have.”

In fact, one’s alma mater may be the only thing missing on iPhones these days. Price put this thought into perspective: “Every one has their music, television shows, email, contacts, weather, news, and Facebook on their iPhones. Why not have all your college stuff on there, too?”
Tom's Natural Foods
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Mon-Fri 10-6
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315-853-6360

“BABY, WE’RE THE GREATEST”
**NCAA President Myles Brand Reveals Struggle With Cancer**

by Kate Greenough ’09

On Saturday, January 17th, President of the National Col-
legiate Athletic Association (NCAA), Myles Brand, an-
nounced that he has been diag-
nosed with pancreatic cancer with a
slim prospect of recovery. In a
recent press statement, Brand
indicated that he had just learned
the severity of his condition in the
last few days.

For many in the collegiate
athletic community, Brand stands
for academic advocacy and is
revered for his unwavering ad-
herence to the tradition of tal-
tented, rule-abiding athletes, ad-
ministrators, and coaching staff
members.

Hamilton students may re-
member Brand from a Levitt
Series Lecture in Oct. 2007, “The
Place of Intercollegiate Athletics
in American Culture.”

His “zero tolerance” ap-
proach to collegiate athletics fu-
eled an incident that cemented
his reputation as a firm leader,
even before his NCAA presi-
dency. Brand has been extolled
by some, hated by others, for the
dismissal of notoriously aggres-
sive Indiana University Men’s
Basketball coach, Bob Knight.
Knight had led the Hoosiers to
three national championships
in fewer than thirty years while
he served on the coaching staff,
while Brand only served as presi-
dent of the university for eight
years (1994-2002).

Starting his career as an
academic and a college dean,
Brand entered his NCAA presi-
dential role in 2002 with hopes
to underscore the importance of
a college education for student
athletes. On the current NCAA
website, information for pro-
spective athletes is nothing short
of brutally honest, detailing that
“the overwhelming majority of
student-athletes will never earn
a dime as a professional athlete.
That’s why terms ‘student’ and
‘athlete’ are synonymous within
the NCAA: When the athlete
can no longer play, the student
can still succeed.”

On these principles, Brand
helped develop the APR (Aca-
demic Progress Report) sys-
tem, which examines students’
academic performance and cat-
egorizes the athletic program as
having met NCAA defined ac-
ademic standards. Where teams
fail to meet standards, scholar-
ships have been cut up to ten percent,
decreasing the recruitment pool
for coaches. With the APR scores,
NCAA members and collegiate
athletic advisors can target strate-
gies for improving student’s grade
point averages and commitment
to completion of a Bachelor’s
degree.

Under Brand’s tenure, team
APR scores have improved
across the board. According to a
2008 NCAA press release, men’s
baseball, football, and basket-
ball, and women’s bowling are
in need of improvement, while
men’s fencing, water polo, and
gymnastics, and women’s field
hockey and lacrosse, posted the
highest scores.

Brand has not announced
any plans to step down from
his position, and has begun treatment
for his condition in hopes of a
rapid recovery.

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**Arizona Cardinals and Pittsburgh Steelers meet in Super Bowl XLIII**

by Daniel Hagemeier ’12

After winning their first
playoff game in over 10 years,
the Cardinals added two more
and now head to Tampa to take
on the Pittsburgh Steelers in
Super Bowl XLIII.

The Cardinals defeated the
Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday
32-25. Ken Whisenhunt’s team
pulled off an early lead after
three Larry Fitzgerald TDs in
the first half, including a trick
play which resulted in a 62-
yard touchdown reception in
the second quarter. Fitzgerald
also set a new NFL postsea-
son record with a combined
419 yards. Donovan McNabb
got the Eagles back into the
game after he threw two TDs
to tight end Brent Celek in the
third quarter and added anoth-
er one for 62 yards to rookie
DeSean Jackson in the fourth
quarter. When leading by only
one point, the Eagles defense
was not able to stop rookie run-
ning back Tim Hightower on
3rd and 8 with just under eight
minutes to go. After a success-
ful two-point conversion, the
Cardinals gained a three-point
lead which they kept until the
end of the game.

In the AFC championship
game, the Pittsburgh Steelers
won the defensive battle with
the Baltimore Ravens by the fi-
nal score of 23-14. Joe Flacco,
who had been flawless during
the playoffs before, had a ter-
rrible day with only 141 yards
and three interceptions, the last one
returned by Troy Polamalu for a
40-yard touchdown. The Steel-
ers profited from three Jeff Reed
field goals while Willis McGa-
hee, who had to leave the game
with a serious neck injury, scored
two TDs for the Ravens, essen-
tially equalizing the interception
return and a Santonio Holmes
TD in the second quarter.

Ben Roethlisberger will start in his second Super Bowl
after winning his seventh playoff
game in his career. The Steelers
now have the chance to win their
sixth Lombardi trophy which
would be a new record for the
team. While the Cardinals would
win the first Super Bowl in fran-
chise history.

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**Writers Wanted!**

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The Spectator needs your
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questions.
Basketball Rises to Top of the Liberty League

Hamiton's Jay Simpson '10 drives towards the hoop.

by Daniel Hagemeier '12
Sports Editor

While most Hamilton students enjoyed their winter break, our athletes only enjoyed a couple of days of rest before they started their routine of practice and games again. It is only three weeks into the year 2009, and the men’s basketball team has already played six games and won four, including three against other Liberty League teams. This is especially remarkable considering that they started off with two losses. On Jan. 3, the Continentals lost to the visiting Middlebury Panthers 49-73. Patrick Sullivan '12 and Russ Rosenband '12 led the team with seven points each. Only three days later, Coach Anderson’s team lost at Connecticut College 69-50 despite Harlee Wood’s '09 20-point, 5-rebound performance. Sullivan also added another 13 points while Lance Wilson '11 recorded four assists and two steals. However, the men’s basketball team turned their fortune around, recording their first win in 2009 against Hobart College. Led by Ephraim McDowell’s 12-20-point performance, the Continentals beat the Statesmen in their first Liberty League duel of the season, 71-51 on Jan. 10. McDowell, our athlete of the week, was five of ten in converting three pointers. Wood had another impressive performance with 16 points and junior Jay Simpson '10 recorded ten points and six assists. Two days after the game Wood was named the Liberty League’s co-Forward of the Week, while McDowell was named co-Rookie of the Week. On Jan. 13, Hamilton’s men’s basketball team visited Williams College. Despite McDowell’s 16 points, the Ephs capped off a 62-58 win after a three-point half time deficit. Wood once again dominated the opponent with 14 points, 13 rebounds, five assists, three steals, and two blocks. McDowell and Sullivan both continued their impressive efforts during their first season for the Continentals with 16-point games each. In another Liberty League match on Jan. 16, the Continentals recorded their third straight win with a 61-52 victory over visiting Vassar College. Wood had his second straight double-double with 11 points and a career-high 17 rebounds. Lance Wilson had 15 points, and Sullivan made another double digit effort with 14 points.

Only one day later, the men’s basketball team had yet another win against another Liberty League team. Once again led by Wood and Sullivan who combined for 38 points and 17 rebounds, Hamilton beat visiting Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a final score of 67-60 to overtake the Liberty League’s lead. Wood had his third straight double-double, and Ephraim McDowell recorded impressive 14 points. The Continentals will try to continue to dominate the Liberty League this Friday when they face visiting Union College.

NESCAC Honors Two Hamilton Continentals

by Kate Greenough '09
Sports Editor

Swimmer Whitney Rosenbaum '10 and Ice Hockey goalie Meg Shine '10 were both deemed athletes of the week by the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC). Rosenbaum was named co-athlete of the week after a stellar performance at a dual meet against Middlebury College on Jan. 17. Even though the Continentals lost to the Panthers 212-88, Rosenbaum notched two victories in each the 100-yard backstroke and 100-yard butterfly races this year. Whitney Rosenbaum '10 has excelled in the butterfly races this year, and 200-yard butterfly race.

Ranked seventh among goal-tenders in the NESCAC league, Shine stepped up Hamilton’s defense in a 4-0 victory against the Buffalo Bulls on Jan. 13. She shut out Buffalo’s offense with 19 saves. Shire, Laura Stinear '10 and Lesley Ryder '11 share the goaltending position on the team.

Wood plays extremely hard in practice and in games, never taking a play off. McDowell went on to describe Wood as “the most complete player” he has ever played with, due to Wood’s ability to shoot, defend, rebound and handle the ball.

After tallying 1,000 points in his high school basketball career, McDowell said his proudest athletic moment was putting on a Hamilton jersey and playing in his first college game. He has made a name for himself in the Liberty League, and, as he will only continue to improve, we can expect that Ephraim McDowell will have many more proud moments as a Continental and make a lasting name for himself here. Be sure to cheer on McDowell and the rest of the team at their next game on Jan. 23 at home against Union College.

Also, be sure to watch the Super Bowl on Feb. 1 to see if McDowell’s prediction is correct. As he said, (spoiler alert!!) the Pittsburgh Steelers are going to win because “their defense is too good, even for [Arizona Cardinal superstar] Larry Fitzgerald.”

Hamiton’s Athlete of the Week: Ephraim McDowell ’12

by Abby Perer ’09
Sports Writer

While the majority of the Hamilton community took a month-long break, the men’s basketball team was hard at work, winning four of six tough games in the first weeks of 2009. During that span, you may have noticed the name Ephraim McDowell mentioned several times on the Hamilton website under basketball news, and, if you haven’t heard that name yet, it is one you should get to know. McDowell, who was a standout player at Beaver College, while playing in his first college game.  He has made a name for himself here. Be sure to cheer on McDowell and the rest of the team at their next game on Jan. 23 at home against Union College.

Also, be sure to watch the Super Bowl on Feb. 1 to see if McDowell’s prediction is correct. As he said, (spoiler alert!!) the Pittsburgh Steelers are going to win because “their defense is too good, even for [Arizona Cardinal superstar] Larry Fitzgerald.”