College Democrats, Republicans Debate Health Care, Economy

by Adam Fix ’13

While the politicians of today debate in the nation’s capital, the politicians of tomorrow will debate in the decidedly less glamorous Red Pit of the Kirner-Johnson Building on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

College Democrats and Republicans hold a debate on political issues in the Red Pit of the Kirner-Johnson Building on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Debate Health Care, Economy

The students in the class all read Lowe-Anker’s book, and is looking forward to her talk on campus.

Mountaineer to Tell Story of Love, Loss

by Katrina Rabeler ’12

“ ‘You can either live your life in fear or you can live your life.’ These were Jennifer Lowe-Anker’s words of advice to those trying to understand how she kept her passion for life and adventure alive when her husband, Alex Lowe, was killed in a mountaineering accident ten years ago.

On Oct. 29 at 7 p.m., Jennifer Lowe-Anker will be speaking in the Kennedy Auditorium in the Science Center about her marriage to Alex Lowe, one of the most well-known American mountaineers. Lowe’s career was filled with groundbreaking successes until his untimely death on Shishapangma in Tibet.

Lowe-Anker will also discuss her life following the tragedy, including her marriage to her current husband, Conrad Anker, who was Alex Lowe’s best friend. Jennifer Lowe-Anker is herself an accomplished mountain climber, and her recent memoir, Forget Me Not, won the 2008 National Outdoor Book Award for literature.

Lowe-Anker is coming to campus on the invitation of James L. Ferguson Professor of History Maurice Isserman. Each year, Professor Isserman brings an author of adventure literature to campus for his Adventure Writing 111 class. “The students in the class alternate between writing about their own adventures on Adirondack Adventures, trip we take in the fall to the Adirondacks and the adventures of others,” Isserman explained.

Isserman recalled that two years ago, when Conrad Anker came to speak about Alex Lowe, the Kirk-Johnson auditorium was overflowing. This year, the class read Lowe-Anker’s book, and is looking forward to her talk on campus.

‘As the memoir of a climbing widow, her book brings a different perspective to mountain literature, with an emphasis on relationships, risks and loss, something that you don’t often find in a run-of-the-mill account of a triumphant expedition to this or that peak, and I thought [it] would be interesting for my students to read and discuss,” Isserman said.

Lowe-Anker’s story has it all: mountains, love, tragedy, family and adventure. Her memoir recalls detail from her and her husbands’ lives. The title of her first and only book so far, Forget Me Not, comes from her and Alex Lowe’s favorite flower. In one of his letters to her, Alex once begged Jennifer, who received her bachelor’s degree in art, to paint the flower for him.

Survey Shows First-Years see Hamilton as “More Diverse”

from HamPoll, page 1

Students expected (see the full chart above).

When asked about their experience adjusting to college life overall, 82 percent of first-year students found the experience easier or about the same as they expected. However, among the minority that reported a harder transition than their expectations, 21 percent of women found the transition harder compared to 10 percent of men.

This difference by gender was mirrored when first-years reported their ease of making friends. While 83 percent of students found making friends as easy as they expected, women were more likely to report finding social connections hard (20 percent relative to men (10 percent)). Students with hometowns farther from Hamilton were also less likely to make friends, with 26 percent of students reporting difficulty versus 13 percent of students from New York, New England and the Mid-Atlantic reporting difficulty. Students living in different dorms on campus reported generally the same ease of making friends relative to their expectations.

Respondents from the first-year class reported strong study habits, with 34 percent spending more than four hours on coursework per day. This workload somewhat exceeded their expectations, with only 25 percent expecting to work four or more hours per day prior to their arrival on campus.

When asked about the diversity of Hamilton relative to their home communities, 48 percent said Hamilton was more diverse than their home, while 26 percent said Hamilton was less diverse. However, this question showed a sharp distinction by racial background while controlling for other demographics. Students who identified as only white were 53 percent more likely to say that Hamilton was more diverse than their home community, versus 23 percent of students from other or multiple ethnic groups.

This distinction also applied to respondents’ views of their groups of friends. Students of color and varsity athletes were more likely to view their friends at Hamilton as less diverse than their groups of friends at home (with 46 percent of varsity athletes 33 percent of students of color holding the view, respectively, compared to 23 percent of the entire sample).

Notably, first-years in this survey viewed Hamilton as more diverse than did first-years in 2007. Thirty-six percent of respondents from the Class of 2011 viewed Hamilton as less diverse than their home communities in a HamPoll survey at that time, compared to 26 percent of the Class of 2013.

HamPoll, a student group that queries the student body about important topics, welcomes feedback at hampoll@hamilton.edu, and meets Wednesdays at 8 p.m. for its next meeting. Please visit HamPoll’s blog at http://hampoll.blogspot.com.

Colgate University

Military veterans can now attend Colgate University without paying any tuition fees. Housing, books and supplies will also be provided free of charge. Veterans need to have served for at least three years of active duty since Sept. 10, 2001, or for at least thirty days before discharge for service-related injuries to qualify. As part of the “Yellow Ribbon” program, a component of the GI Bill, Colgate has made an agreement with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Under the current program, the government will pay for the most expensive tuition at a state public school. However, this is not enough money to cover tuition at many private schools. The college has agreed to contribute half of the difference between the state school tuition and theirs, with the Department of Veterans Affairs matching the same amount.

Connecticut College

The Department of Justice gave $643,000 in grants to Connecticut College and Yale University on Oct. 16 to address domestic violence issues and help protect women on campus. The money was deemed necessary after the death of Yale student Annin Le last month. The Office on Violence Against Women and the National Institute of Justice, two divisions of the Department of Justice, awarded the federal funds. Amy Martin, a spokesperson for Connecticut College, explained that the college will incorporate sexual assault awareness and prevention programs into the campus culture with its $299,277 in grants. Martin also said that services on campus for victims of violence will be improved. She emphasized that a focus will be placed on combating domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Middlebury College

After first using oil and then wood chips to heat its buildings, Middlebury College is now using willow shrubs. For some time, the college has been concerned about its extensive reliance on wood chips as a fuel source (about 20,000 tons of wood chips per year) contributing to deforestation in Vermont. In response to this concern, Middlebury decided to plant a nine-acre patch of willow trees. According to Jack Byrne, director of sustainability, Middlebury, and Middlesex Business Services Director Tom Corbin, willow trees grow faster than many other species of trees and branch out when they are pruned, making them an ideal resource for cold-weather states.

New Leadership of SK Films Rolls Out Weekend Movies

by Russ Doubleday ‘11 News Editor

After a tumultuous beginning to the year, SK Films has secured new leadership for the semester and has begun to show late night movies on the weekends. When the student organization was left in the hands of only one student at the end of last year, according to Student Assembly Technology Chair Keith Willner, “11 Director of Student Activit- ties Lisa Magnerelli ‘96 would not allow SK Films to simply order movies of their choosing and let other students take care of everything else, as this student anticipated. Audio-Visual specifi- cally did not feel it was prudent to run the showings and waste the time of the students they employ whether the organization could have ran the showings itself with little effort.”

Willner ’11 met with Mag- nereilli and SK Films and worked out how to go forward with SK Films for the rest of this year. “Students wanted to keep SK Films because it gives students an enjoyable non-alcoholic alterna- tive on weekend nights,” Willner said. Later that day, Student Technol- ogy Committee meeting and set upon interest meeting. Pete Lauro 12 became the new president of SK Films in late September out of this meeting and is organizing movies for the rest of the semester. The first movies that were shown two weekends ago were Dumb and Dumber and Five Easy Pieces, which kicked off the new season.

“This weekend will be our western weekend, and we’re showing the John Wayne classic Rio Bravo and Robert Altman’s McCabe & Mrs. Miller, which has been called ‘perfect’ by [film critic] Roger Ebert, ” Lauro said. He added that their schedule is not complete yet, and he wants suggestions from the student body (e-mail ideas to pluto).”

Movies will be shown at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Friday, and 8 and 11 p.m. on Saturday. The more popular movie from the weekend set will be shown on Sunday night at 7 p.m.

SK Films is named after Samuel Kirkland, who founded the Hamilton Oneida Academy.
Dear Admissions,

Know Thy Traditions

Try to recall your senior year of high school: the joy and the pain of applying to an institution that seemed to hold your future in its hands. What was it about Hamilton that drew you to here? What was it that made your heart skip a beat every time the mailman drove down the street, hopefully bringing you an extra-thick envelope containing your congratulations? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

We fear that the tradition in which this soul should be firmly rooted is slowly disappearing. Some change is necessary, but too much can take us down a dangerous road. Gone are the days when opposing class years mauled each other on the steps of the Chapel, and maybe it’s appropriate that some traditions are gone. Still, some of the historic ones, such as the tug-of-war games played across the pond that formerly filled the quadrangle between Commons and South, are missed.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.

Does the College truly believe that yammering on about student to professor ratios or the number of tomes in our library will really set our school apart (especially when frazzled congrats? Though the deciding factor in choosing to spend four years at Hamilton differs among students, one thing sets us apart from the northeast, NESCAC, small liberal arts schools: Hamilton has soul, or at least we would like to think so.

While it is understandable that certain traditions might fall by the wayside in the almost-200-year history of Hamilton, even more recent traditions are quickly losing ground. In recent years, organizations such as the Streaking Team and events such as the Citrus Bowl have faced increased judicial sanctions and have even been explicitly banned from the official tour-guide lexicon.
Author’s note: I have presented versions of this paper on two occasions, at a panel at Hamilton College in April 2005 and again at a panel discussion sponsored by DSP in August 2007.

What if we, while sitting in my class on colonial American history and discussing New England town covenants, were suddenly aware that the Cold War had begun tomorrow? What, then, would we do with our remaining class time?

For many professors, such a scenario presents the ultimate “teaching moment,” that occasion when we decide to shift our attention from the subject of the course to the topic from outside the course that summons our attention. In the case of our scenario—the beginning of a world war—we could focus on what brought us to this situation, what policies or practices precipitated it. But in my colonial American history class, I would, I pray, continue to teach about New England town covenants. For however attractive the concept of “teaching moments” might be, however much those moments may help us to “connect” to students not as teachers of specific subjects but as “members of a common community,” they ultimately tend to reduce our classrooms to editorializing arenas, driven not by our commitment to our disciplines and to the knowledge of them that we should share with students, but by our political reaction to the front page of today’s newspaper or to the latest campus outrage. And they introduce an especially troublesome form of arbitrariness on the part of the professor.

The structure of academia allows me to exercise discretion in a number of ways. I decide which books my students will read, what documents they’ll examine, what I will base their grades on. As a professional, I make those decisions based on my assessment of the merits of the texts—the scholarly discussions on the merits of the work that students produce. But what guides my decision regarding what qualifies as a “teaching moment” in campus politics? Local, national, and world affairs? My deeply held political and religious convictions? Each day provides new events, and I am not arguing that any of them lack significance; rather, I had a choice between confronting what was on my mind and what my concerns trump my professional responsibilities, and it replaces the dispassionate, disciplined search for truth with the personal preferences of individuals guided by nothing but those preferences. We all know that we’re part of the “real world,” and I am not arguing that we, as individuals and as citizens, ignore that world—far from it. But the classroom is not the real world. It is a place where, through the rigorous and disciplined guidance of a professor, students learn how to acquire the knowledge, develop the skills, and cultivate the imagination that will enable them to function in and contribute positively to that world. Professors contribute most importantly to that noble project by teaching what we have been trained and hired to teach and what students pay tens of thousands of dollars to learn. No one asked me what my political, religious, or ideological commitments were when this college hired me; nor should they have done so.

In the most important sense imaginable, they were, and are, irrelevant to what I am on this campus to do. As academics we must not allow the lectern to become a soapbox, or our scholarship to become propaganda; we must demonstrate fidelity to our research, not slavish adherence to our political de-
sires. We must provide to our students the best that serious scholarship has to offer, not what best advances our political agenda.

If I find myself in a classroom full of students when word arrives of a new world war—or of a campus crisis—I pray that I will remember it is that I owe my students.

by Douglas Ambrose
Professor of History

Should professors address campus events in the classroom? I assume that the question really means, “Should professors depart from the syllabus to address campus events in the classroom?” And I’d hope that anyone at Hamilton would give the same answer—“It depends.” Certainly, the answer can’t be simply “yes,” since many campus events are not worthy of class time. But just as certainly, the answer can’t be unequivocally “no.” Whatever our commitments to the material we’ve promised to teach, we don’t have the luxury of living in a world of clear absolutes. Even apparently unconditional statements in syllabi (“No late papers will be accepted”) always have implied exceptions (for instance, the death of a parent). And even though faculty are hired to teach in more or less specific fields, we’re also hired to promote the College’s more general mission: “The faculty is dedicated to the promotion of academic achievement, integrity, and personal growth.” That involves more than getting through a syllabus.

So the difficult question is not “should we address campus events?” but rather “when should we discuss campus events?”

How would I decide? For me, the first question would be, “Do the students want to talk about it?” If the answer is “no”—if, for instance, this particular event is something that they’re bored with or that they’ve already talked out—then I’d probably drop it and move on. But if the students do want to talk about it, I’d ask myself a few further questions before abandoning the course plan. Here are three of them:

1. “Is this an event so momentous that it seems on its face to demand discussion?” Since we’re talking about campus events, I’ll leave aside situations of national disaster (as the Kennedy assassination and 9/11 were) but I can easily think of more local events of comparable impact. Had I been teaching at Virginia Tech at the time of the massacre, I couldn’t imagine telling my students, “Sorry, today’s the day we’re studying Marriage of Figaro”—unless my students told me, directly or indirectly, that listening to Mozart could provide some psychological relief. For example, I was the commuter campus student who endured the most traumatic events—for instance, when, in the 1980s, a dozen students were suspended without a hearing for protesting our investments in South Africa—seen severe enough to warrant flexibility in the classroom.

2. “Can the subject matter of the course help students deal with the issues?” Even with less momentous events, I could imagine a discussion that would help students make that connection in class?

3. “Has the event so agitated or distracted members of this particular class that it interferes with their ability to concentrate or participate?”

The answer to the first question would depend on how serious we take the matter at hand. One reason for studying the past is to encourage among our students the need to think critically about the present. It is to allow us to indulge our political passions rather than restrain them, and to encourage among our students the notion that what they are learning in our classrooms is secondary to the topics outside of it. It is both self-indulgent and nihilistic, for it promotes the notion that by Peter Rabinowitz
Professor of Comparative Literature

those classrooms. Our lives here allow for plenty of time outside of class to discuss current or campus events. All professors believe that our subjects contribute directly to the formation of educated men and women and to the preservation and extension of a humane and worthwhile civilization. To neglect those subjects, to subordinate the mission to teach those subjects to the latest issue swirling around us, is to abdicate our responsibility to our students in the most fundamental way. It is to allow us to indulge our political passions rather than restrain them, and to encourage among our students the notion that what they are learning in our classrooms is secondary to the topics outside of it. It is both self-indulgent and nihilistic, for it promotes the notion that
Facebook is a dangerous tool for professor-student relations. There is a definite area of inappropriateness, and both professors and students are in danger of crossing that threshold. In the two-dimensional world of Facebook, it is sometimes difficult to discern tone from a status, and a goofy picture can make students look inebriated even if that wasn’t the case.

A USA Today article entitled “To friend or not to friend: college admissions in the age of Facebook,” by Lindsey Anderson, explores the ways in which social media changes relationships between students and their superiors.

In the article, David Hawkins, director of public relations at the University of Texas, says “I think that the general consensus among administrative offices is that personal connections through social networking sites probably raises more potential problems than it solves.”

Based upon my experiences with student-professor Facebook relations, I have made a list of simple rules to ensure that the relationships are healthy, appropriate and unobtrusive:
1. There must be a clear division between real life and Facebook life.
2. Don’t comment on anything too personal.
3. Don’t post anything too personal.
4. Use common sense.

The Spectator

Lauren Magaziner
Ok, just don’t send me a friend request!

The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of The Spectator editorial board.
I received the news of my admission into Hamilton on Sunday, December 16, 2008, early in the morning. I remember jumping and shouting, “Hurray!” My silence followed as tears rolled down my cheeks. A rare thing had come to pass for a boy in an African setting: I had been admitted to Hamilton College.

A series of past challenging moments came into my mind. I remembered my early school days when I had to run almost three miles every morning to get to school. This was a time when neither a dream nor an ambition existed to form and shape my life. Then I remembered why I felt empty: for three months I had to stop my high school studies in order to attend to my brother, who had fallen ill. I had temporarily dropped out of school because you were not allowed to study if your family had not paid the school fees.

I also remembered the time I asked my mum to tell me the river story again. One day she had gone to the river to fetch water and the donkey was leading suddenly kicked me into a two-day state of unconsciousness. I had not yet celebrated my first birthday so I could not cry for help. She could barely breathe as she recalled, “I thought you would no longer survive.” The flood of memories did not stop coming all day as I thought how all this was happening because someone an ocean away had made a decision that would change my whole life. The long struggles and the hard work of my past became meaningful at last.

At the time I received the news, I was tutoring physics and mathematics in the local high school. Unfortunately, I had to drop the tutoring job in order to get prepared for the rigorous test. I was to fly to the United States.

Every passing minute I was with my peers, I felt very special knowing at the edge of my mind that I was carrying portions of their futures as well as my own. “Never forget where strangers but the first dinner we ate together established a bond that has been such an experience as to make us great friends to date.

At first, I was concerned about adapting to living in a different country with people of different cultures, but HEOP hastened my adjustment. The program helped me to set a good environment to study in the college academic life as it helped me to make friends. The first HEOP gathering was in Kennedy Auditorium in the Science Center where Ms. Breland, the director of the program and Assistant Director Mrs. Davis spoke to us about what the program was all about and why we were participating in it. “I thank God, you are here, Hillary. Ms. Breland told me after the meeting.

Change came to the program got really rigorous; it was in such times that our togetherness, despite coming from different parts of the world, meant much to us. However, there were more happy times that I came to realize especially during the weekends. We made a trip to watch a play in Richard Rogers Theatre in New York. We joined paintball, went to a medical care center in Utica for volunteer work, got together for fine dining and participated in a four day Adirondack Adventure. It was fun!

By the end of the month, I realized that life might not be as hard as the way it appears to be at first; you only have to decide to do the work to make life good.

Since I was the only international student in the summer program, so I felt as if I were different from the rest of my fellow students, especially because I was an only child for the first time. I stopped feeling that way when, during orientation, I discovered that many of the other international students were in the U.S. for the first time and were undergoing transitional difficulties too. I appreciate having the ESOL class with many of these international kids. It is a place where everyone is an international student. You get a chance to know about different people and cultures, and facts about different cultures. By the end of the day, we will have made a home with people who have come from far away.

“From Where I Sit” is the ESOL column that represents the non-native English speaker’s point of view on his or her experiences at Hamilton. If you have a “From Where I Sit” story that you would like to share, please email editorial@hilli-langat13@gmail.com.

Physical Plant and Student Body Focus on a Bike-Friendly Campus

The successes of Lance Armstrong and the current focus on reducing carbon emissions has peaked in a global biking movement commonly referred to as a “Bike Boom” or “Bike Craze,” and the Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG). In addition, Physical Plant, according to Associate Vice President for Facilities and Planning Steve Bellona, has stepped up its role in providing appropriate measures to accommodate bikes on campus.

As the bike culture on campus grows, Bellona says the positive aspects include “a reduction of vehicle traffic” and an increase in “good exercise.” He says it is imperative to develop “adequate bike parking areas and safe routes for bicycles” to prevent accidents with pedestrians using the same routes” to improve. He continues, “If you have a “From Where I Sit” story that you would like to share, please email brbritthy@hamilton.edu.”

Physical Plant hopes to offer more parking spaces for bikes, such as this one outside the Science Center. It has peaked in a global biking movement commonly referred to as a “Bike Boom” or “Bike Craze,” and the Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG). In addition, Physical Plant, according to Associate Vice President for Facilities and Planning Steve Bellona, has stepped up its role in providing appropriate measures to accommodate bikes on campus.

As the bike culture on campus grows, Bellona says the positive aspects include “a reduction of vehicle traffic.”

The Bike Co-Op, also led by Pandey, brings together those on campus who enjoy biking at all levels, both recreationally and competitively. As an additional incentive to bike, the Bike Co-Op has an open shop behind the Glen House where students can bring their bikes to be adjusted or fixed by their peers.

Along with these student groups, Physical Plant has increased its role in facilitating transportation on campus and has begun to make efforts to identify the biking needs and challenges faced by bikers on campus. Bello-

na says, “Our role in the past has been to provide racks at various locations on campus. This fall, with feedback from faculty and student bike groups, we have become apparent that we need to expand this role.”

Some of these needs include wider or alternate paths and additional leadership in bike parking. Compared to larger
my husband died 10 years ago. Alex was one of the world’s foremost mountain climbers. At age 40 when he died, he was known as the best mountaineer in the country and one of the best in the world. I set out to write a book knowing there was a market for a story about Alex, but the book is about me as well.” In writing about herself and their relationship, Lowe-Anker hopes she will be able to relate her husband’s story. “I thought it would be better to capture who Alex was,” she said.

“The book includes a lot of letters to me when he was away and stuff from my journals.” In their first seventeen years together, Jennifer and Alex shared many adventures. They traveled together all over the world climbing and mountaineering. They visited South America, Alaska and Europe. Later in their lives they had three boys together. Eventually Alex was invited to the Himalayas and began more extreme mountaineering expeditions. On Oct. 5, 1999, Alex was walking over a glacier in Tibet on the mountain Shishapangma, an 8,000-meter peak. With him were his best friend Conrad Anker and high-altitude cameraman David Bridges. The three of them were caught in an enormous avalanche. Tragically, both Alex and David Bridges died.

Though Jennifer did not know her husband as well as she’d hoped and very well, they grew close after the accident and found comfort in one another. “He was quite drawn to the boys,” Jennifer said. Jennifer and Conrad eventually fell in love and were married, after which Con

adoption with Alex’s blessing. The last part of Forget Me Not is about Conrad and Jennifer’s lives going forward. With the help of mountaineer Greg Mortenson, author of Three Cups of Tea, Jennifer and Conrad started a charitable foundation in honor of Alex. The foundation teaches climbing skills to Sherpa in Nepal.

When asked if she had any advice for students dreaming of becoming successful in adventure writing, Lowe-Anker said, “Read voraciously, keep journals and write letters. Letters were an incredible side of my relationship with Alex when he was away. They’re really valuable. To receive a letter is like getting a present. Writing is great for getting in touch with your own thoughts.”

Lowe-Anker was filled with spiritual advice for students. She said that “too many people are stuck in the virtual world. Real world is where it’s at.” When it came to inse

urities held by students, whether aspiring writers or not, she said that, “there’s nothing holding them back further themselves.” She suggested that anyone “can become Greg Mortenson if they want. Doors are begging them to come through.”

Jennifer Lowe-Anker’s talk next week should attract climbers, writers and anyone who enjoys a great love story. After all that she has been through and all of the challenges she has overcome as an author, mountaineer and mother, Lowe-Anker still believes that “falling in love is probably the biggest risk you can take in life.”

Lowe-Anker’s memoir was published in 2008.

Campus Makes Accommodations for Bikes

from Physical Plant, page 6

campuses with adequate bike parking areas and paths, Hamil
	on has some work to do.

To help address these con

cerns, Hamilton became involved in the recent Bicycle Circulation and Bike Rack Charrette with The Saratoga Associates. Through this intense discussion of design, the Physical Plant learned how to “develop preferred locations for racks, identify the best rack installation, understand bicycle circulation on campus and improve safety” says Bellona. In

adds, “we also learned how best to determine the extent of the importance of creating a bike-friendly campus.” Hamilton faces some unique challenges to bikers, including the landscape of the college grounds and the seasonal difficulties. To protect

from snow, ice and salt damage, the Gilded Bike Guild does not offer “Golden Bikes” during the winter. Still, Bellona says that while winter on campus offers a challenge, “it does not change our focus.”

Additionally, he feels that “commuting on a bike is always an option,” even for students who live down the Hill. Physical Plant hopes to encourage campus-wide biking with better bike-parking options. Biking is a growing prior

ity on campus and the college, through student groups and Physi
cal Plant action, recognizes the biking needs of the community and plans on continuing to sup

port for this growth. Bellona says, “I believe we need to be flexible in creating opportunities as [bik

ing] needs change. In this regard, we also have to understand what those needs are and how we can best support them. The study charrette is a first step in develop

ing that understanding.” The goal of the Physical Plant is to make biking a seamless, integrated part of campus life.

by Russell Marcus

Professor of Philosophy

The Puzzle

At the Colgate-Hamilton mixer, there were three couples. One couple consisted of two Colgate students. One couple was two Hamilton students. The last couple was a mixed pair: a Colgate student and a Hamilton student. There were also three signs: “Colgate pair” , “Hamilton pair” , and “Mixed pair” . One sign was held by each couple, and each couple held a sign that incorrectly described them. You know none of the students, but can ask any of them whether they are Colgate or Hamilton students. Students will respond truthfully, but only about themselves, not about their partners.

Question What is the fewest number of questions in which you can determine which sign correctly describes which couple? Describe your solution completely.

Rules

Solutions to Puzzle #2: The Mixer may be sent to puzzle@hamilton.edu, or, via campus mail, to Russell Marcus, Philosophy Department. Make sure to include your contact information with your solutions. A winner will be chosen at random among those who submit correct solutions. Any one may play the puzzle, but only current Hamilton College students may win prizes. If the winner of the puzzle is not a Hamilton College student, a secondary winner may be chosen.

Prizes

Prize winners receive a t-shirt or mug from Lulusaili, home of the best philosophy t-shirts on the web.

The Deadline for Puzzle #2 is Monday, October 26 at 4pm. All entries must be received by that time. Visit our website: www.themarcusfamily.com/philosophy/HCpuzzles

Bachelor of the Week

Stephen Bury ’12

Hometown: Boston, Massachusetts

Major: Chinese and Economics

Turn On: Chinese, Brewski’s.

Turn Off: Not possible.

What is your worst habit? Wheeling

If you were a dorm which would you be and why?

Good Question.

If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians which would you pick and why?

Justin Bieber and Miley Cyrus

If you were God, what would be the first thing you’d do to the world?

Change water into Smirnoff Ice.

If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense? Not going out on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday

What advertising slogan best describes your life?

“Imagine”

What movie genre best describes you? Tween Romance

What’s the best pick-up line you’ve ever used/had used on you? Did you just fart? Because you blew me away. (Used on me)

If you could have any super power what would it be and why?


If you were a cold cut, which would you be and why?

Roast Beef. I can’t get enough of it.

If you could get rid of one group on campus what would it be and why?

The Young Socialists; the current government provides me with all the socialism I can handle.

If you could join one group on campus what would it be and why?

Women’s Ice Hockey, I’d be an All-American easy.

What would you say is your most attractive quality?

My facial hair.

If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day what would it be?

Norn Bazin, Men’s Ice Hockey Coach.

If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it which would you choose?

Have a keg in my Bundy single; I’d finally be able to get drunk.

What would you give a thumbs up?

Gossip Girl and One Tree Hill (you think I’m kidding).

What would you give a thumbs down?

Extra points for hard alcohol and Obama’s Nobel Peace Prize

Who would you say is your campus crush?

Brian O’Malley…He is not a real person.

Who would you say is your faculty crush?

Still waiting for that special someone.

What is the weirdest thing currently in your room?

Banan Boat Tanning Oil (SPF 4).
**Weekly Charts**

**MUSIC** *(From billboard.com)*

**TOP SONGS**
1. Britney Spears—“3”
2. Jay Sean feat. Lil Wayne—“Down”
3. Miley Cyrus—“Party in the U.S.A.”
4. Jason DeRulo—“Whatcha Say”
5. Jay-Z, Rihanna, Kanye West—“Run This Town”

**TOP ALBUMS**
1. Michael Buble—“Crazy Love”
2. Kiss—“Sonic Boom”
3. Toby Keith—“American Ride”
4. Barbara Streisand—“Love Is the Answer”
5. Jay-Z—“The Blueprint 3”

**MOVIES** *(Highest grossing from imdb.com)*
1. Where the Wild Things Are
2. Law Abiding Citizen
3. Paranormal Activity
4. Copulates Retreat
5. The Stepfather

**BOOKS** *(From The New York Times Best Seller List)*

**PAPERBACK FICTION**
1. Say You’re One of Them, by Uwem Akpan
2. The Shack, by William P. Young
3. The Time Traveler’s Wife, by Audrey Niffenegger
4. The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo, by Stieg Larsson
5. The Art of Racing in the Rain, by Garth Stein

**PAPERBACK NON-FICTION**
1. I Hope They Serve Beer at the Heaven, by Tucker Max
2. Three Cups of Tea, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
3. Glenn Beck’s Common Sense, by Glenn Beck
4. The Glass Castle, by Jeannette Walls
5. The Tipping Point, by Malcolm Caussell

---

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

**Pumpin’ the Wattage Into Yo’ Cottage**

Look, WHCL 88.7 FM has a blog!

Well, this is all very new and exciting. WHCL now has a brand new music blog for all you interested listeners, excerpts from which will be featured here in *The Spec-tator*. Soon to come: music reviews, musings on music, radio station information and lively dialogue amongst DJs of the Hamilton community.

**Album Review: The xx “xx” (2009)**

Here’s an interesting new album to check out. The band is a group of 20-year-olds from London who call themselves The xx. They all met as students at the Eliott School, some prestigious co-ed place that has shaped other talented artists including Hot Chip, Four Tet, and Burial. The album, simply called “xx”, is in their first studio recording.

The album makes for a really interesting listen. The band proves their debut effort to be a masterful one, making good use of dark 80s guitar sounds, extinguishing vocal duets, syncopated rhythms thereof—any brewing criticisms were quickly forgotten as soon as the musical score came on. These songs would be breathtaking on their own, I’m sure, but combined with the scenes’ visual input and that magnetic little lead boy, they gained an incredible emotional intensity that I haven’t felt at the movies or from an album in quite a while. Crazy yelps and drums accompany the frantic moments of running and jumping centered on the physicality of the wild things; the most majestic, gorgeous sounds perfectly mirror the gentle light of dusk that often bathes the characters in crisp gold and orange. I might just spend MONEY to get this soundtrack in my posses-sion and start playing it on the airwaves ASAP for any one who missed “WTWTA” this weekend. Now that’s saying something! Check it out, or possibly check it out on Werewolf Bat Mitzvah, Thursdays from 5-6 p.m.

**“The Mind Guy” Alain Nu to Showcase Extraordinary Mental Skill on Campus**

by Lily Gillespie ’12

*Arts and Entertainment Editor*

Perhaps you believe that people who claim they are psychics are crazy, or that people who seem to perform supernatural feats are hoax-es. Alain Nu is coming to Hamilton to challenge every preconceived notion we may have about the power of the human mind. Also known as “The Mind Guy,” on his own show on TLC, Nu doesn’t consider himself a psychic or a supernatural being; rather, he describes himself as a “mentalist”--someone who can demonstrate the powers and potential of the human mind.

The Washington Post praised his show, saying “to watch him is to throw out all the rules of physics. Time and space are malleable in Nuf’s left hand.” A mentalist for over twenty years, Nu has not only garnered attention from the media, but from impor-tant political and cultural figures, including U.S. presi-dents and vice-presidents, celebrities and royalty. He has garnered enough attention to snag a prime slot as a headliner at Caesar’s Palace in Las Vegas.

Nu has inspired audience-es around the world with his seemingly impos-sible men-tal achieve-ments, but he’s not sim-ply a magi-cian or a mind reader; he is a student of the mind and is fascinated by its suppos-edly limitless powers.

“He is a student of the mind and is fascinated by its supposedly limitless powers.”

Alain Nu, mentalist and star of TLC’s show, “The Mind Guy,” will perform remarkable examples of mental skill—and talent, but also to encour-age them to examine their own mental potential and the never-ending possibilities an understanding of our minds creates.

He may be an extraor-di-narily impressive performer, but Nu is also a regular guy who likes Jay-Z, “Fight Club” and “Arrested Devel-opment.” Even the most im-pressive minds need a little mind-corrupting TV sometimes. Alain Nu is a normal guy who has achieved incredible success by harnessing his mind and his performance this Saturday at 9 p.m. in the Events Barn is one that promises to leave the audience astounded.
F.I.L.M. Series Will Continue Screenings
This November With Three New Events

Sunday, Nov. 1: Cine-Nocturnes, a presentation by Professor Scott MacDonald

One of the sources of inspiration for cinema was 19th century American landscape painting and painted panoramas, and film history has continued to profit from this history. At the close of the 19th century, one of the forms of landscape painting most in vogue was the nocturne: moonlit evening scenes. James McNeill Whistler and Ralph Albert Blakelock were major contributors to this form (Beethoven, Debussy and Erik Satie composed well-known musical nocturnes).

Hamilton professor and F.I.L.M. director Scott MacDonald will present a selection of cinematic nocturnes by Americans Peter Hutton and Philip Solomon, British filmmaker Laura Waddington and Iranian Abbas Kiarostami.

Press Release Courtesy of Eileen Foote

Sunday, Nov. 8: A Journey Reunion

NOTE: This event begins at 1 p.m.

In 1984, hundreds of central New York residents, including Hamilton College faculty and students, worked with Academy-Award-winning director Peter Watkins on what became The Journey, which premiered in 1987 as a major event at the Berlin Film Festival. The Journey is a 14 1/2-hour film (mini-series, if you like) that explores the ways in which our educational and media systems process information about crucial issues: the film offers an alternative way of thinking about how media can function within a democracy. We will present an excerpt from The Journey, followed by a discussion with some of those who made major contributions to the Mohawk Valley sequences of the film, including pollster John Zogby, Robert Baber, dean of Pratt Art School at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute; and Rick Werner, professor of philosophy at Hamilton.

Sunday, Nov. 15: Arthur and Jennifer Smith present Ice Bears of the Beaufort (2008)

Jennifer Smith and Arthur Smith III live on the northern coast of Alaska, where they have devoted years to recording the lives of polar bears. In 2008, their collaboration produced Ice Bears of the Beaufort, a remarkable nature film that won the grand prize at this year’s Black Maria Film Festival.

The film portrays polar bears struggling to adjust to diminishing sea ice on the Sea of Beaufort, which lies on the northern coast of Alaska. The bears are further threatened by the prospect of oil drilling on the north shore.

As a result of the developing environmental crisis, nature filmmaking has become an avenue for proactive resistance to the status quo, and those women and men who put their lives on the line to bring the realities of environmental change to us are heroes of this resistance and a new kind of cinematic avant-garde. After the screening, the Smiths will talk about Ice Bears and the nature of their collaboration.

Stills of the polar bears featured in Arthur and Jennifer Smith’s awareness film Ice Bears of the Beaufort.

Crooner Jay Nash Will Perform for Next Coffeehouse

Come GNAR Out @

Wild Stallions
An East Coast Ski Thriller

Thursday 8 p.m.
KJ 127

by Lily Gillespie ’12
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Jay Nash is no stranger to what it means to live in upstate New York. Born and raised outside of Syracuse, Nash will be in familiar territory when he performs tonight as the next artist in the Acoustic Coffeehouse series.

After graduating from the University of Vermont, Nash headed to the Big Apple and then to Los Angeles to pursue his career as a musician. While in L.A., Nash worked with other bands who would come to have great success in the music industry, including OneRepublic and Colbie Caillat, as he was booking these and others at the small club where he worked.

Among his own influences, Nash cites Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton, the Band and most notably, Grateful Dead and Cat Stevens, whose work appeared on a tape that would come to be the inspiration for Nash’s musical career. His music has been called “warm, soulful, energetic, intelligent, just a little bit country, just a little bit rock” and his performance is sure to be a must-see.

Pamela V:
Vox/Metal/Water

A unique show that combines voice, electronics and video to create complex layers of sound.

Saturday, October 24
8 p.m. Wellin Hall
SAW VI
● 1:30 ● 3:40 ● 5:50 ● 8:00 ● 10:10
STADIUM SEATING R

DIGITAL PRESENTATION!

ASTRO BOY
● 12:00 ● 2:10 ● 4:30 ● 6:40 ● 8:50
DTS PG

THE VAMPIRE ASSISTANT
● 12:15 ● 2:30 ● 4:50 ● 7:10 ● 9:30
JOHN C. REILLY DTS PG-13

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE
● 12:05 ● 2:20 ● 4:40 ● 7:00 ● 9:15
#1 MOVIE! DTS PG

THE INVENTION OF LYING
8:10 ● 10:15
PG-13

COUPLES RETREAT
VINCE VAUGHN
● 12:25 ● 2:45 ● 5:10 ● 7:30 ● 9:50
PG-13

LAW ABIDING CITIZEN
JAMIE FOXX
● 12:40 ● 3:00 ● 5:20 ● 7:40 ● 10:00
R

STEPFATHER
● 12:30 ● 2:50 ● 5:00 ● 7:20 ● 9:40
PG-13

CLOUDY W/A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS (IN 2D)
● 12:10 ● 2:15 ● 4:20 ● 6:20
PG

ZOMBIELAND
● 1:30 ● 3:30 ● 5:40 ● 7:50 ● 9:45
R

MICHAEL JACKSON’S
THIS IS IT
DTS

SPECIAL ADVANCE SHOW
TUES @ MIDNIGHT
PG REGULAR ENGAGEMENT STARTS WED.

FREE POPCORN WEDNESDAYS!
FREE SMALL POPCORN WITH EVERY ADMISSION

MATINEES FRI-SAT-SUN ● LATE SHOWS FRI-SAT-SUN
NON-3D EVENING ADMISSION W/COLLEGE ID $6.50
ADMISSION $5.50 ALL NON-3D SHOWS BEFORE 6:00
WHERE THE PARTY’S IN YOUR MOUTH

Serving the BEST Mexican food and margaritas in Central NY

NOW OPEN…

Lil’ Tex-Mex in the Village Tavern

We Deliver 853-5353

order online at: www.RGTMG.com
Chemist, Mountaineer Arlene Blum Visits Campus

Breaking Trail author discusses unregulated carcinogens, her journeys to Everest and Annapurna
by Ben Trachtenberg '12 and Julia Litzy '12

On Monday, renowned chemist and mountaineer Arlene Blum gave two lectures on campus. The talks covered her career in biophysical chemistry, her efforts to control hazardous chemicals and her experiences as one of the first women to climb several significant mountains, including Mount Everest.

Blum was instrumental in the banning of the use of brominated tris as a flame retardant, which was used in children’s pajamas in the 1970s. As a graduate student, Blum discovered that the chemical was also a carcinogen. While climbing Mount Everest, Blum wrote a paper on the dangers it posed to proper development and growth. Her paper lead to the chemical being outlawed just three months after her journal article was published. However, there are still similar flame retardants on the market today that can be absorbed through the skin and cause severe physiological ailments, including cancer. These can be found in clothing, furniture and even baby strollers and cribs, and have leaked into environments as remote as the ocean floor.

Blum’s talk highlighted the problems the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) faces when trying to regulate chemicals in consumer products. Many Americans may be shocked to learn that flame retardants, which are well-known for causing the rare lung cancer mesothelioma, is not actually illegal. Because of the way the regulatory system is set up, there is little the EPA or other regulatory associations can do against such dangerous chemicals. In 1976, the U.S. Toxic Substances Control Act, which was designed to allow some regulation of chemicals, grandfathered in the approximately 62,000 chemicals already on the market. Since then, the EPA has only five of them, even though several others are known to cause health problems. Over 20,000 new chemicals have been invented and utilized in consumer products since then, but 85 percent of these have no health data on them at all.

Blum presented an example of how flawed the regulatory system is with the flame retardant Firemaster 550. It was introduced by the company Chemtura in order to replace another carcinogenic flame retardant. Regulatory law provides the EPA with six weeks to prove that a chemical is dangerous. For Firemaster 550, the EPA predicted that it would have toxic effects on reproductive, developmental, and neurological processes. However, this does not mean that Firemaster 550 was prevented from entering the market. Rather, Chemtura has five years to establish that its chemical is safe. Meanwhile, the suspect chemical is free to enter the market and consumer lives.

Now, Chemtura has developed a new chemical, Firemaster 600, to replace Firemaster 550. Even if the EPA determines it may be dangerous, it will still be on the market for several years before any final decision is made. Blum is still active today in her opposition to the chemical industry and the lack of regulation. Flame retardants are not actually immune from burning, but rather only required to withstand a candle flame for 12 seconds without burning. Blum argues that it is irrational to make the foam inside of upholstered items flame retardant when the foam is surrounded by flammable fabrics. When this foam does burn, toxic dioxins are released into the air. This is thought to be a cause of the higher levels of breast cancer.

When we think about the vast implications of our unsustainable environmental practices today, it seems almost ludicrous how little change is actually taking place. Surely common sense tells us current environmental methods are not effective enough. The awareness of global warming and the “green” movement are indicators that we as a country are starting to recognize the scope of the environmental problem, but there is still much resistance to it. The manner in which environmentalists are tied to traditional industries is part of the problem; they are considered “elitists” who condemn the way that American society has run for centuries; they are “tree-huggers” with their heads in the clouds for whom nature is tied to emotion and spirituality, not rationality. Let’s face it: the goals of environmentalism are not taken seriously in today’s society.

I believe part of the reason the environmentalism movement faces so many obstacles is because of its deep-rooted connections to feminism. Women have always been tied to nature in ways that men have not; women give birth and remain in the domestic sphere, while men control business and science in the outside world. Because of this, nature has come to be associated with irrationality and emotions, characteristics traditionally attributed to women. Men, on the other hand, have always been linked to science and rationality. Because of these connotations, men who are concerned about environmental issues do not prescribe to traditional mas-
Faster Method of Reproducing Stem Cells Found

New method will allow larger supply of stem cells, resulting in increased accessibility for researchers

by Yinghan Ding ’12

New Planets Outside Our Solar System Discovered

by Yingshan Ding ’12

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
THE SPECTATOR

New planets on which life could exist are being found in solar systems that have stars of a similar size to our sun. Solar systems that have stars of a similar size to our sun.

Recent discovery of 32 new planets outside our solar system, astronomers did not find any planets that appear to have an atmosphere that would allow life to exist. This discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 newly discovered planets was up to five times larger than Jupiter, which is almost 318 times the size of Earth. Among the 32 newly discovered planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

The new findings suggest that exoplanets are quite common in multiple-planet systems. The planets have orbital periods of anywhere from five days to several thousand days. The survey also found four new exoplanets around M dwarf stars, which are relatively cool, low-mass stars. This finding challenges planet formation theory, the researchers said, as current models suggest it is difficult for planets to form around such stars. The new findings suggest that exoplanets are quite common in our galaxy.

“I’m pretty confident that there are Earth-like planets everywhere,” said Stephane Udry, one of the astronomers working for the European Space Agency. “Nature doesn’t like a vacuum. If there is space to put a planet there, there will be a planet there.”

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.

Among the 32 new planets that were discovered, six are more than three times bigger than Earth, which increased the population of so-called “super-Earths” by more than 30 percent. Two of them were about five times the size of Earth. Astronomers believed that the results support the theory that planet formation is common, especially around the most frequently found types of stars. More than 40 percent of discovered sun-like stars have planets that are closer to Earth-sized. Depending on the definition of the size of super-Earths, the discovery suggests that planets that have a mass similar to Earth’s are extraordinarily commonplace. It is unclear if any of these planets are Earth-like. To find planets, the researchers look for dips in starlight that indicate that a planet has passed in front of the star.
Tennis Grows In Tournaments

from Tennis, page 16

Mentally ready for the competition, they are physically and mentally prepared for the team experience while making the best out of it. Picking up valuable tournament experience, the team is learning on the spot. With only two seniors on the squad in spite of their youth, with the team not having any senior leadership, the progress they have made on this young team is incredible and you can expect them to be ready for their NESCAC opponents after all the hard work they have put in. During long matches, it is very important, especially during long matches. The team has shown that they are getting closer and closer to being a great team. For example, they have a lot more stamina, which is very important. The team has also progressed significantly in the fall season’s coaching, training, and tournament experience.

The women’s team has also progressed significantly in spite of their youth. With only two seniors on the squad, the team is learning on the spot, picking up valuable tournament experience while making sure they are physically and mentally ready for the competition that lies ahead in the spring. Despite their 1-2 record, the team has shown that they are getting closer and closer to being a great team. For example, they have barely lost their last match to William Smith, after being edged out 4-5. Also, in the ITA Northeast Regional Championships, there were many fine performances. For instance, Deb Barany ’11 advanced all the way to the third round before falling to the number one seed from the College of New Jersey. Amelia Mattern ’12 addressed this tough training regimen that has been implemented, saying that “this year we have been focusing a lot more on conditioning, which sucks while we’re sprinting or doing footwork, but it’s great in the long run. As a team we have a lot more stamina, which is very important, especially during long matches.”

But what might be the most important development for both teams is the rising team chemistry and camaraderie, which is put best by Mattern, “We are a tight knit unit. It’s great when you’re out on the court to have so many of your friends right there next to you, or being a great team. For example, they are getting closer and closer to being a great team. For example, they have a lot more stamina, which is very important. Despite their 1-2 record, the team has shown that they are getting closer and closer to being a great team. For example, they have barely lost their last match to William Smith, after being edged out 4-5. Also, in the ITA Northeast Regional Championships, there were many fine performances. For instance, Deb Barany ’11 advanced all the way to the third round before falling to the number one seed from the College of New Jersey. Amelia Mattern ’12 addressed this tough training regimen that has been implemented, saying that “this year we have been focusing a lot more on conditioning, which sucks while we’re sprinting or doing footwork, but it’s great in the long run. As a team we have a lot more stamina, which is very important, especially during long matches.”
by Greg Hyman '13

Sports Writer

Continuing one of the most successful seasons in school history, the Hamilton Field Hockey Team looks strong, winning three of its last four games. The team continues to make a splash on the national stage, being ranked nineteenth in the country. Since the start of October, the Continentals have a 5-1 record in conference, Union and Williams, and have lost only to Skidmore College, which was ranked eleventh in the county at the time.

The Continentals played the first of the four games at home against St. Lawrence University, a perennial athletic powerhouse. Four different Hamilton players scored in the 4-2 win. Hamilton got on the scoreboard first at 145.00 as McNamara '12 scored her third goal this season roughly one minute into the first half. St. Lawrence answered with a goal less than a minute later. The Saints scored again to take the lead in the twelfth minute. Amy Allen '10 tied the score with a penalty stroke, passing Sarah Finlisk '12 with 2:12 left.

The Continentals took back the lead when Colleen Callaghan '11 scored on a penalty stroke with 16:54 left in the second half. Five minutes later, Mary Lancaster '12 added to Hamilton's lead with a second goal. Lancaster scored her first goal on the season against the third goal of the season off the first collegiate assist for Holly Rodiger '11. Goalkeeper Courtney DeMarta '10 finished with eight saves. St. Lawrence held an advantage in shots, 14-12. The Saints took 11 corners while the Continentals took seven. The Continentals won the Saints' six game winning streak. Next, Hamilton defeated host Union College 2-1 in a Liberty League game at College Park on October 9. Hamilton earned its first win over Union since 2004. After a scoreless first half, Hamilton broke the deadlock in the forty-second minute when Lancaster passed from the right side of the cage to Rodiger, who scored her first goal of the season from seven yards out. Just two minutes later, Finlisk sent a pass through a crowd in front of the goal to Carly Andrascik '11, who hit the ball into the right corner of the cage for her second goal of the season. Union pulled to within one point, with a goal from the corner, but it came too late, with just 1:03 remaining in the second half.

The Continentals opened with a two-day tournament against NYU, Colgate, and Hamilton. NYU finished third in the conference last year. The teams traded goals with one another until Lancaster sent a shot into the first half. The Ephs answered quickly once again, as they took a little more than three minutes to tie the score at 2-2. Neither team scored again until Lancaster sent a shot from in front, through a crowd, that settled in the back of the cage for her fifth goal. Charlotte Lescourt '13 picked up her first collegiate assist on the play. Williams owned a 23-16 advantage in shots and was awarded 13 penalty corners to six for Hamilton.

The Continentals, currently 7-3-0, are off until Saturday, October 24, when they travel to Vassar College for a Liberty League game at 3 p.m.

Friskie Tournament: The Ultimate Friskie Club will be providing FREE burgers and hot dogs for all who attend their tournament on Saturday, Oct. 24 behind the turf field. Hamilton, Colgate, SUNY Brockport, Alfred and Hamilton B/Alumni will all compete. The games will be held from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Come out and enjoy some great friskie and food!

Field Hockey Keeps Climbing Up National Rankings

The Hamilton Field Hockey Team continues one of the most successful seasons in school history. The team looks strong, winning three of its last four games. The team continues to make a splash on the national stage, being ranked nineteenth in the country. Since the start of October, the Continentals have a 5-1 record in conference, Union and Williams, and have lost only to Skidmore College, which was ranked eleventh in the county at the time.

The Continentals played the first of the four games at home against St. Lawrence University, a perennial athletic powerhouse. Four different Hamilton players scored in the 4-2 win. Hamilton got on the scoreboard first at 145.00 as McNama...
by David Biel ’13
Sports Writer

At the start of the season, the Hamilton men’s varsity soccer team knew it would face high expectations. With nine straight winning seasons and seven returning starters from last year’s 8-6 squad, the team knew it could compete for a Liberty League Championship. By the end of the first month of the season, though, all these expectations seemed up in the air.

After a 3-0 home win against Vassar on Sept. 26, the Continentals ended a disappointing September with a record of 3-3-1. The offense was inconsistent, having two losses ending in shutouts. The team failed to make use of a homefield advantage, five of the first seven games played on Hamilton’s Love Field. With October approaching, the team faced an uphill climb, with only one of seven remaining games at home and a need-to-win-now mentality.

Starting with a convincing 5-1 win at SUNY Institute of Technology on Oct. 4, the Continentals began a five-game winning streak and have a solid record of 7-3-1, with a 3-1-0 record against fellow Liberty League teams. Supported by consistently stellar defensive play, especially by starting goalie Eric Boole ’13, the Continentals are back atop the Liberty League standings.

Hamilton started fast against SUNY, scoring three goals from defender Billy Ford ‘10, midfielder Matthias Hunkele ’10 and co-captain and midfielder Jon Sanford ’11. Sanford and fellow midfielder Gary Bedrosian ’11 later scored in the second half as the Continentals coasted to an easy win. Forward Jesse Arroyave ’11 was also a key contributor throughout the season.

Go Continentals!

Tennis Team Coached Tough

by Daniel Greenberg ’12
Sports Editor

As Mike Moreno ’11 ripped another ace down the court to pull out a come-from-behind victory in his first set of the ITA Northeast Regional Championships, he demonstrated something new that Hamilton tennis has focused on this year: toughness. This toughness can best be attributed to the coaching staff, which is led by Head Coach Josh McKee. The most interesting addition to the staff, who joined last year, is Mark Oakes, an assistant professor of psychology, the mental toughness coach, who has brought a new element to the team.

“Oakes helps us visualize the win with his relaxation exercises,” Moreno characterizes Oakes’ novel approach. “He is like the team psychiatrist. For example, I was down in the first set, but after using Oakes’ relaxation techniques I was able to do what Oakes calls ‘relaxed focus.’ I visualized a better service and I came back and took the first set in a tiebreak and I never turned back.”

This relaxed focus way further exemplified by the performance of Drew Libin ’12 at the St. Lawrence University Fall Classic. In the A bracket, Libin dropped his first set in the semi-final 0-6, but bounced back to win the next two sets. He capped off his rally with a 10-7, super-tiebreaker victory and made the finals. However, this mental toughness would be nothing without the physical conditioning to complement it. Coach Jamie King makes sure the team stays in tip-top shape. He and the other coaches want to make sure that the teams will be ready for the tougher NESCAC schedule in the spring. Moreno joked, “I’m going to have huge biceps by the spring.”

The coaching has already translated to tournament results. In the St. Lawrence University Fall Classic, out of the three singles finals, four of the six players represented Hamilton. Also, more recently the team played in the illustrious and challenging ITA Northeast Regional Championships. Among the teams competing were several top tennis schools that included Rochester Institute of Technology, New York University, Skidmore College, Vassar College, Hobart College and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, among other teams. The team played very well although no one advanced to the semi-finals. As Moreno states, “[the teams] played very well. We have to focus on one another and not the other teams.”

Women’s Rugby To Host Postseason Match

The Hamilton women’s rugby team is currently ranked third in New York state by the NYS Rugby Conference behind Syracuse University (1) and Cornell University (2). Ironically, the team’s current ranking of No. 18 in the country by Rugby Magazine places the team ahead of both Syracuse (19) and Cornell (20).

On Sunday, Oct. 25 at 1:00 p.m., the team will compete against SUNY Brockport for the third place standing in the New York State Rugby Conference. The team won a game against Brockport earlier this season, 20-14.

Go Continentals!

Soccer on Track for Liberty League Tournament

Spectator Sports

Continents win five straight games, currently hold a 7-3-1 record; team tied for first in league standings.

Sam Dwyer ’10 shoots against the SUNY Institute of Technology. His efforts helped the Continentals win 5-1 and start their five-game winning streak.

Continentals prepare to engage Colgate in a scrum.

The coaching has already translated to tournament results. In the St. Lawrence University Fall Classic, out of the three singles finals, four of the six players represented Hamilton. Also, more recently the team played in the illustrious and challenging ITA Northeast Regional Championships. Among the teams competing were several top tennis schools that included Rochester Institute of Technology, New York University, Skidmore College, Vassar College, Hobart College and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, among other teams. The team played very well although no one advanced to the semi-finals. As Moreno states, “[the teams] played very well. We have to focus on one another and not the other teams.”

Go Continentals!

Kolya Kerz ’13 utilizes his devastating backhand.

University, Skidmore College, Vassar College, Hobart College and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, among other teams. The team played very well although no one advanced to the semi-finals. As Moreno states, “[the teams] played very well. We have to focus on one another and not the other teams.”

Go Continentals!