

THE DUEL OBSERVER

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STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES PLANS TO INVADE COLGATE

Attack would improve *US News* standing, “teach Colgate bastards a lesson”

By Mr. Leubsdorf '10

BREATHING ROOM DEPT.

(HAMILTON COLLEGE) The Strategic Planning Committee announced plans to help the College's standing during the accreditation process by conquering Hamilton's long standing rival and “taking their womenfolk as war booty.”

“The fact is that we need more space to place next year's freshmen,” President Joan Hine Stewart said. “Colgate is the logical target, as we have no room to expand here, and while we could conquer Utica College, we would prefer to move as far from Utica as possible.”

“During this time, it is important to show our strength as a community,” Dean and Presidential Flunky Joe Urgo added. “And what better way to do that than to invade our greatest rival, burn it to the ground, and stack its students' skulls at our entrance way as a warning?”

Students had mixed reactions to the plan.

Conservative Henry Bold '09 roared, “I favor this pre-emptive strike against the Colgate terrorist lovers, as long as poor people fight for us so I have to do nothing except be bellicose towards anyone who opposes this unnecessary war!”

“On one hand, this is a war of greed and aggression,” liberal Katie McHound '08 pondered. “On the other hand, Colgate is full of douchebags. See “Joanie the Hun,” page 3

LOCAL MEN DREAD UPCOMING VALENTINE'S DAY

Hook-ups looking better as day draws near

By Ms. Stagner '09

ROSES ARE RED... DEPT

(HAMILTON COLLEGE) With less than a week 'til Valentine's Day, campus men are feeling the pressure from their girlfriends to get them the perfect gift. Or, at least one that won't provoke an angry reaction.

“I can't screw up this year. Last year I sent my ex-girlfriend a Bobby Peru Hategram as a joke, but apparently she didn't find it funny,” Leo Tolleu '08 commented. “She punched me in the balls and told Campus Po about my hydroponics weed garden.”

Tolleu paused, “I guess in retrospect I should've gotten her a Buffergram, but then again that would have signaled that I loved her instead of the truth—that I was really going out with her just to get laid.”

“My old girlfriend loved to work out, so I thought hey, I should get her a scale so she could measure her weight,” a chastened Harry Wagner '09 said. “I still have nightmares where I can still hear her screams of rage, and it brings terror to my heart.”

Other guys felt that the best idea was to ignore the holiday and hope for the best.

“I figure that if I ignore it, it will go away, like American Gladiators and my syphilis,” Steve Light-hall '11 observed.

“Valentine's Day is a bad time to have a girl. See “Edward Lamere, you've been warned,” page 3

MEET THE SPARTANS: A CINEMATIC TRIUMPH

By Mr. Haluza '11

It was a pleasant surprise to discover that *Meet The Spartans* had become the number one movie in the nation, although I hesitate to use such crass words to describe such high-brow art. In an era dominated by trash, this film was truly a breath of cinematic fresh air.

Meet the Spartans harkens back to the earliest of Hollywood genres of the 40s and 50s, the sweeping epic, telling the history of man dealing with his own hubris. Indeed, it is the best commentary on the negative influence of fundamentalist religion and capitalism since that much revered epic film which managed to epitomize the darkness in the human soul, *Transformers*.

In *Meet The Spartans*, virtuosos Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer direct character-driven interpretation of the Battle of Thermopylae. Sean Maguire's King Leonidas defies our perhaps overtly masculine expectations and instead oft-ventures into the sublime, delivering a performance rivaling Brando's tormented Vito Corleone—nay, I daresay, a superior performance.

His antagonist is the malevolent, domineering King Xerxes, performed by Ken Davitian (who recently delivered a stirring performance as Borat's manager in the aforementioned character's eponymous documentary-comedy venture). As for Davitian's performance, no man can remain unemotional when Xerxes gives his "forsaken even by one's own hubris" monologue.

The film itself ventures occasionally into the area of allegory but primarily serves as a commentary on humanity, taking cues from historical points in cinema like Bogie's performance in *Treasure of the Sierra Madre*. What is ingenious is the subtle touch used in the film, succeeding in

finding comedic gold where others before it have failed. What results is a subtle, yet powerful, work of cinema. In today's depraved cinematic atmosphere, films such as *Meet The Spartans* and *Rambo* provide the intellectual edge that sophisticated audiences seek.

HAMILTON SNAPSHOT

Hamilton students and faculty "dine like our ancestors," eating a historically accurate 19th century meal



Later, those faculty and students experienced "dysentery like our ancestors"

THE DUEL OBSERVER

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CONSERVATIVES FOUND NEW CAMPUS GROUP

Organization devoted to intellectual whining

By Mr. Leubsdorf '10

ECHO CHAMBER HYPOCRISY DEPT

(HAMILTON COLLEGE) Local conservatives announced the founding of the William Pitt Association, in order “to foster intellectual diversity by educating members about freedom, patriotism, traditional values, and whining about liberals being meanies.”

“Our goal is to educate people about values that activist professors ignore,” Henry Bold '09 said. “And who better to represent a society devoted to American freedoms than a dead elitist British aristocrat who hated democracy?”

“Our group will discuss the intellectual underpinnings of modern conservatism,” James Burke '09 said. “Such as low taxes, idolatrous Ronald Reagan worship, and blaming liberals for our organizational failings.”

“This fills a huge hole in campus life!” Dave Bonella '11 squealed. “Conservatives have no groups of their own, except College Republicans, Publius Society, Edmund Burke Society, the Al-Ham Center, and Varsity Squash.”

Many were skeptical about the new group.

“All these new societies seem to be founded by the same people,” Susan Phillips '10 pondered. “Either conservatives really enjoy naming things or they're doing a great job fluffing their resumes.”

“This is exactly why I avoid these groups,” rebel conservative Rachel Rice '10 said. “All they do is complain about being persecuted. At least SJI has several hundred years of oppression to justify their whining.”

“Look, there are some people who're assholes and who'll act like jerks towards conservatives for no good reason,” Katie McHound '08 admitted. “But generally when they get criticized, it's for making bad arguments [*cough* Noble *cough*].”

Others considered the broader implications.

Aaron Page '10 said, “By not engaging the student body, conservatives are denying students the chance to hear different ideas, creating intellectual echo chambers. It denies students the opportunity to thoughtfully rethink their beliefs by having them challenged. And that's a true shame.”

Continued from “Joanie the Hun,” page 1

We have to weigh all the pros and cons before making any moral judgments.”

“I don't understand why we're doing this,” Aaron Page '10 said. “Shouldn't we be focusing on making sure ELS doesn't collapse or making the Hill Card work someday? What are the administration's priorities anyway, besides fattening the endowment?”

The critique didn't sway President Stewart's resolve.

“We will invade Colgate, because I am the Decider, and what I say goes, except when I bungle major crises and piss off the Board of Trustees, which is all the time. So really, they are the Deciders.”

Continued from “Edward Lamere, you've been warned,” page 1 friend. That's why I don't have a girlfriend now,” Jack Burr '11 said. “Also because I lack social skills and I spend most of my time masturbating to Uhura from Star Trek.”

Despite the difficulties, some romantic men attempted to fulfill expectations.

“I have the whole day planned—the Buffers will wake Kaitlin up at 5:45 am singing ‘Love Me Tender,’ then later on I'll show up with roses, and we're going out for dinner,” described Sam Aller '09. “I'm so getting some that night.”

ARETHA FRANKLIN NAMED “GREAT NAMES” SPEAKER

Campus braces for two months of annoying “R-E-S-P-E-C-T” references

OUTSIDE-THE-BUBBLE NEWS

Because Marti Gras was Far More Important than Super Tuesday

THE UNITED STATES

Super Tuesday: Democrats

Hey, your guess on who's going to win is as good as anyone's at this point.

Super Tuesday: Republicans

Mike Huckabee did surprisingly well, winning five primaries, leading to speculation that he would be John McCain's vice presidential nominee to form an unstoppable "batshit crazy" ticket.

New Orleans

College student Laura Michaels flashed a television camera from *Girls Gone Wild* during the Marti Gras celebration in exchange for beads, a decision that will haunt her in 25 years when she runs for President.

THE WORLD

Chad

Rebels here launched a fierce attack on the capital city, leading Americans to support intervention, mostly because they think the country is named after Chad Michael Murray from *One Tree Hill*.

Iraq

Al Qaeda released a video showing the group's new terrorist training camp for boys under the age of 11. Activities at the camp include arts and crafts, canoeing, rifle, and blowing up the Jew infidels.

China

Yesterday was the Chinese New Year, which by 2050 will be known as everyone's New Year.

THE DUEL OBSERVER PRESENTS: A SOPHOMORE'S GUIDE TO POTENTIAL MAJORS

Hey class of 2010, it's finally time to decide your major, and help determine what profession you'll become a wage slave in for the rest of your natural life! Having trouble choosing? The Duel Observer has your guide.

Biology

Unfortunately, these classes are mostly devoted to learning about boring-ass cells, not about sex. The major devoted to that is Comparative Literature.

Chemistry

A major devoted to breaking down and analyzing various chemicals, as well as figuring out the attraction between Ross and Rachel in *Friends*.

Chinese

It's really hard, but getting a degree in Chinese will ensure that you'll end up richer than astronauts.

Classics

A major that's totally worthless unless you get stuck in a time machine and get sent back to ancient Athens, and even then its only useful if you're a dude who can give good hand jobs to Sophocles.

Computer Science

Seriously, do you want to die a virgin?

Economics

This is perfect for those budding soulless corporate jackals out there, or for those looking for a degree that would justify Daddy giving them a company.

English

If your goal in life is to try to teach snot-nosed little shits about the proper use of then and than until you're old, bitter, and alone, this is the major for you!

Government

This is very similar to History, except easier, and populated by either tools or liberal idealists who'll go out into the real world and have their beliefs shattered by reality, turning them into either cynical conservatives or Hillary Clinton.

History

If you came to college to learn and become an excellent writer, you should take History. But let's be honest, most of us came to college to drink and smoke a lot of weed, not learn stuff.

Philosophy

Ideal for deep thinkers or copious bull-shitters.

Psychology

A great choice for people who want to learn how to totally fuck with people's heads. Oh, and I guess help them out.