

THE DUEL OBSERVER

VOLUME XI, ISSUE VI “Knowe Thyself, Not Be Thyself.” FEBRUARY 29, 2008

STUDENT WINS *USA TODAY* SLACKER AWARD

Local man honored for “incredible” lack of motivation

By Ms. Stagner '09

FUTURE SEVEN YEAR SENIORS DEPT.

(HAMILTON COLLEGE) Tim Weiss '08 was awarded the prestigious *USA Today* All-USA College Slacker Third Team last week, ranking him among the laziest and slothful students in the country.

USA Today attributed Weiss' success to missing over 50% of his classes during the past four years, a total lack of involvement in campus activities, and an intense focus on three extracurriculars: Beruit, N64 Mario Kart, and “constant” masturbation.

Weiss proudly described his slacking as a finely honed skill.

“Slacking off actually involves a great deal of mental strategy. Every semester I figure out which classes fit my lifestyle. For example, this semester I am taking Sign Language, Drawing, some Communication class, and something about Africa... Iraq... some boring shit like that, which I've gone to twice.”

Weiss also credited his success to his parents, who “always gave me money no matter what, ignored me when I was crying out for attention, and left me the emotionally stunted boy-man that I am today.”

He added, “They never expected anything of me, and thank God for that.”

The Administration was proud.

“This award demonstrates what students can

See “Econ Majors,” pg. 3

HAMILTON STUDENT BODY DENIES DRINKING PROBLEM

Students cry “we're only kinda alcoholics!”

By Ms. Mintzer '09

LIQUOR BEFORE BEER, YOU'RE IN THE CLEAR DEPT. (HAMILTON COLLEGE) Students vehemently denied the accusation of a *Spectator* editorial stating that Hamilton had a drinking problem. If the first step towards recovery is admitting you have a problem, students clearly haven't even begun yet.

“Hamilton doesn't have a drinking problem. We practice moderation,” Ben Griffin '08 explained. “If I actually had a drinking problem, I'd be playing Beirut with Everclear everyday instead of every *other* day.”

“I only drink when it's appropriate,” a defensive Jack Burr '11 said. “You know, such as on weekends, national holidays, STAND meetings, or when I feel socially insecure, which is often.”

According to the piece, the “fun and liberation” alcohol can provide is the root cause of this trend. Fun and liberation, of course, are supposed to be completely absent from the college experience.

“Problem'is such a relative term,” Susan Phillips '10 said. “I see boozing as a necessary social lubricant, as most people here are self-absorbed assholes.”

“I think the administration has boozing totally under control,” Harry Wagner '09 said. “My friends and I only drink on weekends and a little bit on weekdays.”

He continued, “Little implies minimal alcohol consumption, or at least the bare minimum I need to bring a freshman girl back to my room, hook up with her, and pass out in a pool of my own puke.”

See “Unnecessary Evil,” pg. 2

EDITORIAL: HAMILTON'S STUDYING PROBLEM

By Mr. Linden '08

Hamilton College has a studying problem, and we must do something about it.

Too many freshmen come to college and believe that they are here for an education. Too many students spend even their weekends catching up on reading, or writing drafts of essays: despairing when a social or athletic commitment interrupts their work. Too many students walk to and from the science center or the library, reading or doing work for a variety of classes.

Having not spoken to anyone in the Administration, I will nevertheless quote them about irrelevant matters and use them to form a baseless conclusion. Students, both male and female, have always taken their studying too seriously. In '94 the Administration took away frat houses, in hopes that when the Greek community was integrated into the student body they would rub off on all the nerds, using peer pressure to get them hammered and maybe even laid. Judging from Kirkland and Root, it didn't work.

Too often I have stopped by the library on a weeknight and seen that all of the computers are taken. Too often have I seen students forming study groups rather than playing Beirut until they vomit.

The knowledge that studying provides is, in part, exactly the problem. It's unnecessary that a group of young intellectuals chooses to forgo their youthful vitality and drinking tolerance in favor of studying. Naturally, college students long for knowledge but, apparently, they cannot find joy and fulfillment within themselves and others, but, rather, in books.

This campus has a problem. I base that statement not on fact, but simply by passing the library on several nights and seeing it crowded.

Because I've seen a bunch of people studying, I can come to the logical conclusion that everyone is studying, and nobody is having any fun of any kind, anywhere. Clearly, this problem is a danger to the Hamilton community that must be dealt with immediately.

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The Administration defended its conduct.

"Well, what else is there to do in Clinton besides get shitfaced?" spokesman John Nitterman asked. "Intellectual discourse won't keep you warm during -10° blizzards."

"While 15 EMT calls a week sounds bad, contrast that to the 100 calls a week we used to have before frats lost their houses," Dean of Faculty/Presidential lapdog Joe Urgo explained. "I'd say comparatively, we're not doing too shabby."

THE DUEL OBSERVER

WILLIAM PAGE LEUBSDORF

Editor in Chief/Has Alcohol Problem

RACHAEL FAYE ARNOLD

Layout Editor/Has Smoking Problem

ALICIA TAYLOR SPECHT

Layout Trainee/Has 99 Problems, but a Bitch Ain't One

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

The Boss

Staff Writers

ASHLEY ANN STAGNER

MATTHEW JAMES LINDEN

LESLEY ELIZABETH RYDER

ZACHARY MARTIN HALUZA

THOMAS HUNTINGTON VICTOR YARNELL

Contributors

Rebekah Ann Mintzer

FINE PRINT: *The Duel Observer* is a publication of the Hamilton College Media Board, and is published every Friday. The facts and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily true or indicative of staff opinions. Any resemblance to persons, organizations, or institutions real or imagined, is purely coincidental.

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References?

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HAMILTON COLLEGE NAMED MOST AWKWARD COLLEGE IN THE NATION

Award received with classic awkward silence

By Ms. Ryder '11

SEASONAL AFFECTIVENESS DEPT.

(HAMILTON COLLEGE) Hamilton received its first “awkie” award this week, a prize awarded annually by a panel comprised of the most awkward celebrities to the most awkward college in the nation.

“Hamilton was an easy choice,” lead judge Michael Cera explained. “This campus is so awkward; it reminded me of middle school, except without the acne and uncontrollable erections.

“The awkwardness here is top notch. It permeates every aspect of Hamilton life: the social scene, basic human interactions, and in the classroom whenever a professor asks a question. It’s really quite extraordinary.”

Students were pleased by their awkwardness

“It’s really only fitting that we won, as I don’t ‘do’ social interaction.” Darksider Miles Hugel '10 elaborated. “Just like I don’t do sports, parties, and joy.”

“I never talk to people when I walk to class,” Sarah Davenport '09 said. “If I’m forced to acknowledge someone, it’s always a terse ‘hi’ or an awkward hand wave. That’s a classic way to signal ‘Hey I know you, but I don’t give a shit about you.’”

Not surprisingly, members of the freshman class were big contributors.

“I’m committed to my awkwardness,” Lindsay Jarvis '11 said. “I’ll stare at my cell phone all the way from McEwen to the Science Center if it means I don’t have to make eye contact with anyone.”

She added, “I also like to scan the horizon for a few seconds, and look down as soon as I see someone coming. It’s a technique I perfected on the walk of shame.”

The administration was also pleased

“And they say we never win anything! We got a *USA Today* slacker award AND the Awkie. Suck it, Colgate!” President Joan Hinde Stewart said with an exuberant fist pump. “Now, if I can only get people to stop pointing out our diversity problem and my own incompetence, we’ll be set.”

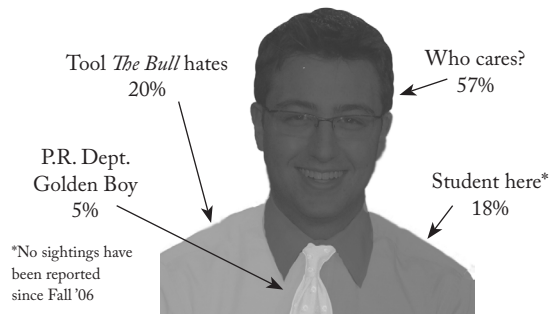
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achieve when they don’t work for something,” President Joan Hinde Stewart observed. “Proving that our focus on recruiting rich prep-school kids pays off; not so much in the academic realm, but certainly in finding more rich parents to donate to the endowment.”

Weiss pledged to live his after-college life up to the same standards.

“I’m planning to leverage my daddy’s connections so I can get a job that I’m ridiculously unqualified for,” Weiss explained. “And then rule over more qualified subordinates while remaining lackadaisical with my own work—basically, I’m going to be just like George W. Bush.”

WHO IS ERIC KUHN?



DARKSIDE UNPLOWED DURING RECENT SNOWSTORM

Administration not bothering to hide pro-Lightsider bias anymore

THE DUEL OBSERVER PRESENTS: OSCAR SNUBS

By Mr. Leubsdorf'10

At the 80th Academy Awards, many deserving nominees received awards for their excellent work. However, other deserving nominees were screwed because the Academy is a bunch of old stupid farts whose taste in movies sucks balls. Here is a list of nominees who should have won.

Visual Effects: *Transformers*

I still can't believe *Golden Compass* won this. Those robots in *Transformers* were so freaking cool. That fight near the end in the city made me pee myself. Seriously, how could anyone ever choose the *Golden Compass* over *Transformers*? All *Golden Compass* had was an annoying little girl, a talking polar bear, and Nicole Kidman.

Animated Short: *My Love*

I haven't seen this short or heard anything about it, so I'm just going to assume it's the animated version of Justin Timberlake's song.

Make-Up: *Norbit*

It takes a lot of skill and artistry to turn Eddie Murphy into three different characters, including a grotesque stereotype of a black woman. But what really made the make-up sublime was Murphy's make-up for his role as a horrific caricature of an Asian man. A true classic!

Sound Editing: *Transformers*

How could they award this to *The Bourne Ultimatum*? It was a great movie, but I'm not sure how much skill you need to get the sound of Matt Damon punching a guy in the face. *Transformers* took a lot more skill, especially to keep Shia LaBeouf from sounding like a twelve year old boy going through puberty.

Sound Mixing: *Transformers*

Uh, I'm not sure exactly how this is different than sound editing, so it goes to *Transformers*, which was pretty fucking awesome.

Documentary: *War/Dance*

I haven't seen this either, but it's the only nominee that wasn't either about the Iraq War or Michael Moore lecturing about how much we suck as a nation.

Best Original Song: *No One*

Three songs nominated from *Enchanted*? A song from *August Rush*? I think this category should've automatically been disqualified just because of sheer lameness.

OUTSIDE-THE-BUBBLE NEWS

These subheads are getting far too meta

THE UNITED STATES

Virginia

John McCain emphasized the new central theme of his campaign that Barack Obama is too naïve and inexperienced to be President by going to elementary schools and screaming "boo" at small children.

Washington, DC

Ralph Nader announced plans to run for president for the forth time, stating this time he was running "just to be a dick."

Texas

Barack Obama countered accusations that his campaign was vague on specifics by pointing to his bold stances in favor of hope, dreams, America, and small kittens.

Ohio

An enraged Hillary Clinton responded to Barack Obama's attack on her record on NAFTA by snapping Obama supporter Gov. Kathleen Sebelius (D-KS) in half, and feeding the remains to her hounds.

THE WORLD

Serbia

Serbian radicals attacked the American embassy last week, lighting fires in some parts of the building. The U.S. responded by lighting the entire country on fire.

Cyprus

There is new optimism is Cyprus for a solution to the long standing conflict between Greek and Turkish residents of the island, shocking most Americans who were unaware there was a conflict on Cyprus, or for that matter that Cyprus existed.

Zimbabwe

Despite chronic shortages and massive inflation, dictator Robert Mugabe spent \$250,000 to celebrate his 84th birthday, the equivalent of three Sweet Sixteen parties in America.

Pakistan

Opposition leaders reiterated demands that President Musharraf step down, leading him to proclaim he will leave office "over their dead bodies."