

# THE DUEL OBSERVER

*"Knowe Thyself, Not Be Thyself."*

Volume II, Issue I

September 13, 2002

## **"DUEL" RETURNS TO PRESS AFTER SUMMER-LONG STRIKE!**

By Mr. Keane '03

### **WORKING THOUGH LABOR PAINS**

(CLINTON, NY) The management of *The Duel Observer* announced it had reached a tentative agreement with its staff late Tuesday evening. The labor talks began shortly after Finals Week and revolved around the issue of employee compensation. College administrators forced the issue by suspending dining hall, lodging, and library privileges over the summer to all parties involved. James Robbins, President of Local 8765-309 recounted his experience: "Basically, they didn't want to pay us. We wanted the same treatment as the kids at the Spec[tator], at least until we saw how bad that was." *The Duel* went back to last year's arrangement after the College reactivated the staff's meal cards on Sunday, September 1st.

## **TOPS AGREES TO HONOR GREAT AMERICAN FAKE ID POLICY**

By Mr. Keane '03

### **12 STEP DEPT.**

(CLINTON, NY) As the new grocer in Clinton, Tops has agreed to be as lenient with fraudulent driver's licenses used in the purchase of beer as was its predecessor, Great American. Tops has even adopted a new slogan: "Close Enough". This news comes as a relief to hundreds of Hamilton underclassmen without legal-aged friends. Immediately following the decision, sales of Keystone Light and Labatt Blue rose fourfold. Assistant Manager, Chuck Virtullo commented, "Sure, we're 'fake-friendly' now, but I still don't understand why so many of these kids are from New Jersey."

## **Crapping in Woods With Class- mates Classified as "Adventure"**

By Mr. Robbins '05

### **BITTER SOPOMORE**

(ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS) For the eighteenth straight year, members of the Hamilton College community have suckered approximately 160 incoming first-year students into taking a trip into the Adirondack Mountains two weeks prior to the start of the school year with promises of adventure. To keep with tradition, the involved parties scheduled events such as kayaking and rock climbing to soften the harsh reality of a complete lack of adventure.

Isaac Lafleur, who participated in the Adirondack Adventure, expressed his disappointment, "When I think of adventure, I think of things like shooting down an enemy spy-plane and feeding it to your wounded peers." Lafleur added, "but this whole thing is a major disappointment— crapping in the woods and wearing women's leotards are not adventurous activities." Other members of Lafleur's group commented privately that they did know why Lafleur insisted on wearing a leotard after day two.

Upon receiving over one hundred complaints in the past two years, the Director of Student Activities promised to improve the program. Among the possible alterations to the program being considered is the invasion of a local saw mill ending with the use of the saw-mill employees' possessions to fuel a sea-craft that they will take to British Columbia, Canada. According to sources close to the program, the last resort will be changing the program's title from Adirondack Adventure to "An Adirondack Adventure in Blandness Where You May See Your Future Debate Team Captain Half-Naked."

# CINGULAR WIRELESS PROPOSES "CHIT CHAT CHAPEL"

By Mr. Brown '03

CHIEF HANDS-FREE COORESPONDANT

To address the rising popularity of cell phones at Hamilton College, Cingular president Carl Stevenson announced last Thursday his plans to erect a cellular tower on the steeple of the Chapel. The new tower will increase range and clarity on campus, thus eliminating "dead-zones", including Wally J 115, between the 3rd and 4th floors of the Bristol Center, and the benches in the Root Glen. To further the transition of Hamilton into the digital age without adding an eyesore to our immaculate campus, the Cingular President intends to disguise the tower so that it resembles either an unassuming tree, a telephone pole, or substance-free housing. Opponents of Stevenson's proposal are quick to point out that the "disguised" tower will still be on top of the Chapel and that the Buffers might taint some transmissions. They also uphold the capability of normal telephones and AOL Instant Messenger as perfectly adequate in bridging the communication gap to the outside world, and as far as reaching one our 1500 students on-campus, one can simply yell the person's name loudly. Faced with these poignant arguments, Carl Stevenson responded by yelling, "Hey, look over there!"

## Prospective Employers Find "Duel Observer" Unimpressive on Résumé

THE FORMER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF LOOKS BACK

It's been almost four months since I left the sacred grounds of Hamilton. In that time, it seems quite possible that a graduate with not one but two majors could find a place in the work force. Well, after four months it's now apparent that "Duel Observer Founder and Editor" don't mean shit on a resume. Tour guide for 2 years? No one cares. TA? Wasn't one, but I'm sure no one would care if I was one. In fact, I could have put that I was a TA, and I guarantee no one looking at my resume would question it. Moral of my story? Realize that no matter what you accomplish at this school, you can always make something up that looks better on your résumé. That's what I did.

David Schwartz '02  
Your Valedictorian

# EDITORIAL:

There has been a good deal of pressure on *The Duel Observer* to publicly support a candidate for President of the Class of 2006, especially in light of these troubled times. We need a freshman who is not only a leader, but who looks good in a Hamilton tee shirt. After careful review, *The Duel Observer* supports John Kewl as our candidate for this office.

Too many candidates waste their energy and the attention of the student body on the so-called "important" issues such as diversity, respecting the Honor Code, and making one's voice heard. Mr. Kewl's campaign has clearly shown us that he will not bother us with these matters.

He is willing to do what generations of Hamilton students have never tried: secure freshman parking. How is it that none of us thought of that? The administration will surely listen to Mr. Kewl.

What other candidate has offered to arrange trips to exotic locations such as Montreal? Furthermore, what other candidate already has a fail-safe plan to finance these excursions?

Every academic department brings speakers to campus, but we can agree that none of these have ever been "cool", like Mr. Kewl's would be. Surely, he must have financing for this too.

## The Duel Observer

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## DINER MOGUL HOWARD ATTACKED BY PLO

By Mr. Cairns '05

*ILL-FITTING POLITICAL METAPHOR DEPT.*

Leaders of the Pink Lemonade Organization claimed responsibility for the vicious attack of Howard that occurred September 5<sup>th</sup>. In a violent video taped message, the PLO leader said that he had no remorse for striking at the heart of "the Zionist Pepsi empire" for "their atrocities against thirsty Pink Lemonade lovers everywhere". This statement was made in reference to the Diner's removal of Coke products, including Hi-C Pink Lemonade, from its offerings. Originally the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Pink Lemonade, the PLO was suspected in the well-coordinated assault, but their leaders, though repeating claims that Pink Lemonade rightfully deserved a place in "the sacred fountain", denied culpability.

## Coca-Cola Fountains Find New Home in Pimped-Out Civics

By Mr. Brown '03

*HANGS AROUND SANGERTOWN PARKING LOT*

Bon Appetite employees have decided the fate of the Coca-Cola soda fountains. Immediately following the official and highly controversial switch from Coke to Pepsi at Hamilton, the old soda fountains were collected in a pile outside the loading dock of McEwen dining hall - unwanted and unloved. However, Honda Civic enthusiasts employed at McEwen were apparently caught-up in the infectious Hamilton recycling fervor and used the forsaken machines to "trick-out" their rides. One Honda Tuner added a sharp racing stripe to his Civic SI with yellow-5 residue from the Surge fountains. Such ingenuity resulted in an unsubstantiated 15-hp boost. Another Bon Appetite employee is currently installing a Barq's Root Beer fountain in his dashboard; the tap will be situated tastefully above his aftermarket cup-holder for maximum driving enjoyment. Another Honda owner plans to pawn several coke fountains so that he can buy "a crap-ton of dope Japanese decals" for his Honda CRX.

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## STUDENT FACES J-BOARD FOR DRINKING COKE IN COMMONS

By Mr. Keane '03

*CHIEF JUDICIAL COORESPONDANT*

(SOPER HALL OF COMMONS) College junior Kate Reisner is waiting to hear the decision of the Judiciary Board this weekend regarding charges against her for drinking a 20 oz. Coca-Cola in Commons last week. College officials maintain this is a clear transgression of the new Pepsi contract. In her defense, Reisner says she had not yet had the chance to read the addendum to the Student Handbook discussing proper choice of soft drinks. Director of Contract Services, James Mesby would not comment on reports that the College had plans to erase students' memories of Coke. In addition, no College official has come forward to explain the disappearance of all four Hamilton students from Atlanta.

## Instant Message Mislick Leads To Awkward Conversation

By Mr. Martin '03

*TECHNOLOGY EDITOR*

(CLINTON, NY) Late Saturday night, senior James Murphy unintentionally IMed "DaveNY234" and as a result had a strained and awkward conversation with a friend of his freshman year roommate. "I had just never bothered to delete the name after freshman year," Murphy said. The roommate's friend, David Scott, said, "I didn't know why he was IM-ing me. We hadn't talked since that time he kicked me and Steve [Bowman] out of the room when we was trying to hook-up with that girl from North Court." The conversation, which went on for a grueling minute and fifteen seconds, touched on the subjects of summer, new rooms, and McEwen still "sucking." Murphy called the conversation "really random," and then proceeded to delete the IM names of two ex-girlfriends and "that kid from camp" as a precautionary measure.

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# ALEXANDER HAMILTON LIST TO SERVE AS BLACKLIST FOR UPCOMING PARTY

By Mr. Robbins '05

**BUDDING SOCIALITE DEPT.**

(GRIFFEN ROAD APTS.) Dirk Schneider, a member of the class of 2003, announced that he and his roommates would prevent all students nominated to the Alexander Hamilton List from attending their Beirut party this weekend. Sources close to Dirk say that the decision was most likely a result of the recent rejections of his submission of an article to the New Yorker and his screenplay to the Audiovisual Department.

The Alexander Hamilton's List consists of students, nominated by faculty, who have excelled in writing. The nominated students are capable of expressing their written ideas in a clear, thoughtful manner. Many students have posited theories as to why Schneider would wish to alienate himself from the campus's most articulate students. Allison Bradford, a psychology major, ventured, "his actions are most likely a backlash caused by his recent literary adventures turned sour—the literary community rejected him, so now he is rejecting the literary community." Peter Dorfol, Schneider's fraternity brother, offered, "Dirk has been acting strangely as of late, I couldn't begin to tell you what is up his ass." Dorfol continued, "Actually, I think it's the raccoon we used during pledging." As interesting as the theories are, none of them aligned with Schneider's official statement to *The Duel Observer*: "It's like this, if I piss on an ant farm, and the chemicals in my urine combine with the sand molecules to form half-retarded super babies, then we would have to restructure the entire Tennessee Valley Authority to make room for a certain breed of extinct Walrus eggs that can tell time according to the atomic number of cobalt." *The Duel* believes this to be an example of why Schneider was rejected by the literary community.

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# Brooks Brothers Offers New "Brookz Bro-z" Fall Line

By Mr. Martin '03

**FASHION EDITOR**

(NEW YORK, NY) Brooks Brothers today introduced its new "Brookz Bro-z" clothing line, the legendary men's designer's attempt to tap into the lucrative youth clothing market. The release took Paris, Milan, and Compton by storm. "It's kind of a paradox, but a fun one," said Head Designer Travis Ren-Steven, "it's the new def style of street wear, but with a classic Brooks Brothers flair." New items include button-down football jerseys, gabardine cargo pants, cardigan muscle shirts, "Chillin' Fit" jeans (pleated), and freestyle walkin' boat shoes. "This collection works equally well in the office or in the 'hood," said Ren-Steven, "these clothes say 'I'm a young man...but I still know what's up.'" Brookz Bro-z is the most daring collection to hit the fashion runways since last year's FUBU "Caribbean Collection." Find the new collection at your local Target by early next month.

## ASK THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Frank,

Being a freshman in college is so intimidating. I really want to make new friends—do you know where the good parties are this weekend?

- Melissa

Dear Missy,

Listen, Toots: I'm playing the Aloha Room at The Flamingo and then me and Sammy are gonna hit the Bellagio and grab a few drinks with some of his dolls. You could join us, or I hear great things about Bundy West.

- Ol' Blue Eyes

Send your questions to Frank: [duel@hamilton.edu](mailto:duel@hamilton.edu)

**ATTENTION FRESHMEN:**  
Hamilton doesn't have a journalism major.

**Write for *The Duel Observer***  
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