

THE DUEL OBSERVER

"Knowe Thyself, Not Be Thyself."

Vol. III, Issue IV

April 11, 2003

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CANCELS APRIL

By Mr. Keane '03

Following the unprecedented success of the winter months, the National Weather Service elected yesterday to cancel April this year. A NWS spokesperson said there were several reasons for the cancellation, but the biggest factor was, "Because we can, damn it." Many residents of Central New York praised the decision, as they removed ice from their windshields for what promises not to be the last time this year. One upstate resident noted that Spring, Summer, and Fall always seemed to detract from Winter's glory. The National Audubon Society was outraged at NWS's failure to notify migratory birds who might be returning prematurely.

Fleece-Bandit-

Task-Force Still on Hunt

By Mr. Brown '03

The refusal of Old Man Winter to release his grip on Clinton, NY gives the Fleece-Bandit-Task-Force something to cheer about. "Basically," stated undercover agent Mike Ghirt on Monday, "we can track the Bandit while students are still wearing fleece jackets to Bundy Parties." When confronted with the numerous thefts from the Little Pub, task-force leader Rich Banker commented, "No comment." The undercover task force, hard at work since 1993, looks forward to the upcoming Gamma Xi/Club DU weekend to finally apprehend this nuisance to overpriced mountaineering attire. "The real tragedy is that some of these jackets have sentimental value. We just want it to be safe to wear North Face again," added special-ops agent Robert Whalebock.

3rd Inf. Div. Saves Embedded Reporter's Ass Again

By Sgt. Martin '03

(BASRA, IRAQ) During a firefight on the outskirts of Basra, CNN correspondent Lee Rubin found himself rescued by US Infantry's 3rd Division after managing to get himself pinned down by Iraqi fire for, what was described by one soldier as, "like, the fifth or sixth time already." While Rubin considered himself brave for "going the extra length to get the story," most of the infantry felt he was simply ignorant for moving outside the secured perimeter in order to get "that key shot of the Iraqi artillery." "Of course he was going to get pinned down, what did he think was going to happen?" said Private James Maass, "And I had to go out there and save his dumb ass, yet again." Maass added, "One time, we were taking heavy mortar fire, and that tool shuffles up to me on his stomach with a microphone asking me 'What would your family think of this situation right now?' I was like, 'Man, just get out of the way!'"

Sophomore Metal Fan Secretly Enjoys Ben Folds Concert

By Mr. Fromowitz '06

(BUNDY) The self-proclaimed "metal god" of the sophomore class was astounded by how much he enjoyed the recent CAB-sponsored Ben Folds performance. Though the student (who requested to remain anonymous) was initially disappointed by the lack of stage-props and pyrotechnics employed in Folds' set, he eventually warmed up to what he called "a unique blend of tunefulness and wit."

"I really enjoyed the way he involved the audience. It made the show special," said the student with a hint of shame in his voice as he glanced at his Dokken T-shirt.

When asked how his four contemporaries in the Hamilton metal scene felt about his attendance, he confessed he had not told them. "I have a reputation to maintain. I'm still metal as hell. I bought 'Rockin' the Suburbs' after the show, but I still think [Metallica's] 'Master of Puppets' kicks a lot more ass."

Historians Gear Up for 10 More White History Months

By Mr. Robbins '05

As the eleven-month span of White History Months continues, April starts the second month, and things could not be more busy here at Hamilton College. History professors and majors burn the midnight oil at the Burke Library so as to avoid wasting a precious second of the White History Months.

The Duel Observer caught up with Justin Briarwood, a senior concentrator, to discuss his plans for the White History Months, "I'm finding it pretty impossible to narrow my studies, I mean white history has co-opted and destroyed so many other cultures, I don't know where to begin." Briarwood continued, "Right now I'm preparing a synopsis of South American colonization. Hey, could you give me a synonym for 'rape'?"

In such hectic times, *The Duel* was fortunate to find a professor willing to share a few moments of her time. In response to the disparity in length between white and black history celebrations, Professor Linda Altwood offered, "with Black History it's pretty cut and dry, you get a race of people who evolved correctly, used rational thought, and acted with consideration of their fellow humans. But with white history it was a crap shoot, they acted without reason, moved back human progress hundred of years, and neglected all humanitarian acts." Altwood added, "white history shows us that if there is a God, it is laughing at us, and we are bathing our children with its ass gel."

Departing Senior Carves Legacy Into Pub Bathroom Wall

By Mr. Martin '03

(CLINTON, NY) At 1:22AM Friday morning, graduating senior Adam Chait '03 decided to cement his name into the annals of Hamilton history by carving his name into the wall above the urinal in the men's room at The Pub. Since space was limited, he was resourceful, changing an "AD Rules" car key carving into a "ADam '03 Rules" masterpiece. While Adam has no future plans for the wall, he does believe that his grandkids might enjoy seeing his handiwork during a future visit to campus. If not, at least he will get a chuckle while urinating at Reunion Weekend 2025.

MATTEL RELEASES FULLY FUNCTIONAL BARBIE DOLL

By Mr. Siegal '03

A daring move by toy company Mattel has brought the world the first fully functional Barbie doll. The project stems from complaints of numerous children that the doll was not fun, and complaints from women's groups that it was not realistic. The new doll promises to be eerily accurate.

Mattel has issued a warning to anyone purchasing the doll. Owners must be aware that after approximately 11 or 12 years, the doll will begin to bleed once a month. During this period the doll should not be played with as it will feel inadequate, be prone to violent mood swings and want to do nothing except eat ice cream and complain. Owners will also notice that between years 14 and 19, it will spend a lot of time in the bathroom. You may also notice that most of the bathroom visits occur immediately after meals. This is normal behavior so do not attempt to intervene. The final warning accompanying the product is that it will snap in half after 65 years or so, unless an adequate calcium supply is available. *The Duel* has also learned the doll looks more like the average woman. Thus, Ken has not yet called the new Barbie.

The Duel Observer

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FINE PRINT: The Duel Observer is a publication of the Hamilton College Media Board, and is published on opposing Fridays. The facts and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily true or indicative of the staff's opinions. Any resemblance to persons, organizations, or institutions real or imagined, is unintended. Coincidences are coincidences.

The Duel Observer's Operation Iraqi Freedom Timeline

- 300 Million B.C.— Dinosaurs Die
- 299 Million B.C. — Dinosaurs Turn Into Oil
- 5000 B.C. — Mesopotamia is Settled
- 1776 — The United States Starts Pissing People Off
- 1777 — France Whines About It
- 1803 — Ottoman Empire Incorporates Iraq
- 1861 — France's First Kiss
- 1908 — Gerald Ford Invents the Internal Combustion Engine
- 1909— HOLY SHIT! WE NEED OIL!
- 1914 — Ottoman Empire Puts Its Feet Down
- 1915 — Thomas Edison Invents Fire
- 1923 — France Gets Its Period
- 1932— League of Nations Establishes Iraq as Sovereign Nation
- 1953 — Texaco Joins United Nations
- 1960— Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is formed
- 1972 — Iraq nationalizes the Iraq Petroleum Company
- 1979 — Saddam Hussein Becomes Iraqi President, Has Pool Party
- 1980 — Iran-Iraq War Starts (Is Everyone Over There Angry?)
- 1985 — US Arms Iraq (Opps!)
- 1988 — Saddam Gasses the Kurds, The Wheys are Spared
- 1990— We Still Need Oil
- 1991— The Gulf War Puts Saddam in His Place For Good
- 1995 — Food For Oil Program Fails to Get Us Enough Oil
- 1998 — SUVs Become Popular
- 1999— HOLY FUCKING SHIT! NOW WE REALLY NEED OIL!
- 2000 — Former Big Oil Exec., George W. Bush "Elected"
- 2001 — Saddam Just Being an Asshole
- Jan., 2002 — W. Starts to Save World, France Refuses to Bathe in Protest
- Mar., 2003 — U.S. Rides Tanks, High Horses into Iraq
- Apr., 2003 — We're Saved! All the Oil We Can Drink!
- Nov., 2003 — Baghdad Becomes Home to MesopotamiaDisney
- June 13, 2004 — Olsen Twins Turn 18

Freshman Sleeps Through Dinner, Wakes Up Hungry

By Mr. Rothe '05

Yesterday, John Finckle '06 woke up at eight o'clock and realized that he had slept through dinner at Commons. It was a disturbing realization as he was very hungry. "I had eaten lunch at noon and all I had was a bagel and some carrot sticks. I am not anorexic, I was just in a rush.", he commented. His roommate, Bill McCracken '06, was an eyewitness to the event: "John woke up and got out of bed. He looked at his watch. He looked really hungry. I was actually scared for a second that he might eat me!"

Readers Disappointed by Lousy *Duel* Article

Associated Press Newswire

Today, many students across the Hamilton campus read *The Duel Observer* only to be disappointed by a really poor article written by Whit Rothe '05. It was about a student who had slept through dinner and was really hungry as a result. The article seemed to have no clear objective or punch line, was way too short, and was just not funny. *Duel* Editor-In-Chief, Tom Keane '03 spoke on Whit's behalf, "Well, I thought it was funny. Of course, I don't usually read the articles before they go in." The J-Board will meet next week to decide what sort of punishment to give out. At least one campus constituency is supporting Rothe's expulsion from the College. Dan Galvin '05 said, "I would at least suspend him. Whit is usually pretty funny, but that was the lamest piece of crap I have ever read. Even the anorexia joke was stupid. I don't know what he was smoking when he wrote that one." Justin Thompson-Tucker '05, Rothe's roommate, responded, "Ridiculous amounts of drugs."

Do you like to write? What a coincidence!

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Students Demand More Shitty Lectures

By Mr. Keane '03

Ever with its ear to the ground, *The Duel Observer* has uncovered a latent sentiment among Hamilton students in a new poll issued in conjunction with The Levitt Center. In a random survey conducted by telegraph, an astounding 84% of students questioned indicated that they would choose to attend a lecture rather than watch TV, play a sport, take a nap, drink, or make out. Students also indicated (in statistically significant numbers) their desire to spend more time in the chemistry auditorium, the science auditorium, The Red Pit, and The Chapel. This news to come as no surprise to Roger Smithey, Dean of Lectures, who credits the innovative posters and flyers used to advertise the events. Smithey was hired by the College in an effort to occupy students between 4-6 PM and 7-8:30PM. One student offered, "My classes just aren't boring enough. Can we pleeeeeeease get the poet laureate of Lativa?"

Career Center Headed for Reform

By Mr. Brown '03

Faced with the stagnant job-market of today, Hamilton's Career Center has undergone much needed changes to help students cope with post-graduate reality. In addition to its focus on "traditional" careers, the Career Center has made an effort to reach out to those students who will inevitably be living with their parents next year. One highlight is a seminar called "Networking Within Your Household." Starting next week, the Career Center will host a workshop entitled, "How to Land the Perfect Job Waiting Tables, For You!" Following this first workshop, students will be able to attend a brown-bag lunch, "Accepting Failure While Still Aiming for Mediocrity." The Career Center will continue in this manner until early May when it will facilitate on-campus recruiting for the food service, Bon Appetit, and word has it special recruiting officers have already been watching students at Hamilton! As always, students are always welcomed to join the armed forces.