

THE DUEL OBSERVER

Volume VIII, Issue II "Knowe Thyself, Not Be Thyself" September 15, 2006

FACEBOOKERS FRET OVER

NEW "FUTURE FEED"

"Greek tragedy" meets "your next weekend," Facebook explains.

By Ms. Schatzberg '10

MINORITY REPORT DEPT

(CLINTON, NY) Facebook, the leader in collegiate stalking, announced the introduction of "Future Feed." The new technology accurately predicts users' actions and statuses for the entire duration of their college career.

Students everywhere have panicked. As Robert Lawrence '08 put it, "Facebook ignorance is bliss."

"What's the point of going out Saturday night if I know that I'm going to lose six consecutive games of Beirut and end my night puking in a Dunham stall?" Lee Rhodes '07, past-his-prime senior, asked. "It's basically what happens every Saturday... but give me hope."

Countless students report massive depression at Facebook's insight into the bleak future. Being instantly aware of hook-ups and breakups has proven a remarkable downer. Sara Davenport '09 has reportedly barricaded herself in a South quad after Facebook foretold a disastrous hook-up next month.

"Seriously, Will Austen is so sketchy," she explained. "My reputation is on the line. *I'm going to fight destiny. And I'm going to win.*"

See *Future Feed*, page 3

ADMINISTRATION TO

SPEED CONSTRUCTION

Construction 101 will focus on powerless relationship between freshmen and school, manual labor

By Mr. Leubsdorf '10

MUSH, FRESHMEN! DEPT

(HAMILTON COLLEGE) Administration officials proudly announced the start of Construction 101, a new, mandatory freshmen course. As President Stewart explained, "[The class of] 2010 is the brightest, most talented, and not coincidentally, most athletically fit class in Hamilton history. Admissions likes looking ahead to how students can contribute to the College."

The new class is pass/fail, based solely on three hours of hard labor at the Athletic Center, five days a week with a 6 hour Saturday lab.

John Nitterman, Administration spokesman, added that the course sought to "unite the new students while they lay asphalt, dig ditches and haul granite. Like Playfair – high energy meets awkward bonding, mixed in with hard labor."

Freshmen largely protested the new course.

"My daddy does *not* spend 45,000 dollars for me to do construction work," Caity O'Toole '10 pouted. "This is so common."

Joe Thrash '10 agreed, saying, "Maybe I don't know all the big words the dressed up lady said, but I'm so mad...I'm angry!"

See *Construction 101*, page 4

Q-LIT CENTER OPENS

REMEDIAL DRINKING

Freshmen class "a disgrace to Hamilton," says Joan Hinde Stewart

By Mr. Lee '07

BEER BEFORE...DEPT

(HAMILTON COLLEGE) Administration officials are reacting quickly to mounting evidence that freshmen drinking is "running amok," in the words of spokesman John Nitterman, following the EMting of fully 25% of the freshmen class.

"It's two problems. First, they can't hold their booze. Second, they can't take it easy," he explained. "We need to show them how it's done."

Q-Lit tutors will instruct freshmen in proper pacing, how to mix drinks, proper pour techniques and how to avoid bad drinking combinations.

"A night of Beirut, drinking Keystones? You're headed in the right direction," program director Jane Watterson said. "Fortifying Keystone with Senator's Club and then funneling Everclear? One way ticket, straight to downtown Utica."

Dissenting Administration officials, however, offered other explanations for rampant, poor freshmen boozing.

"There's the dry spell. No sticky icky, no danky dank. You know what I'm talking about," offered one official. "Wait 'till we get some of that up in this piece. Everyone will mellow out."

Meanwhile, upperclassmen and alumni have rushed to support the program as tutors, citing a variety of reasons.

"I'm not gonna lie; this freshmen class is soft. Soft like a little bunny's fur," Lee Rhodes

'07 said. "And that's not how we do at Hamilton College."

"Ten shots and five beers isn't a good time, freshmen. Trust me; I know," Sara Davenport '09 shamefully admitted. "Save yourselves a night of booting!"

"Back in my day, when we went out, we had to walk ten miles, uphill, both ways, in the snow, fighting grizzly bears the whole way. And we loved it," Chuck Needham '75, disgusted alumni, said. "Freshmen just don't know how to have a good time."

Freshmen, nevertheless, protested that they needed any instruction.

"But I drank this many!" Russel Urb '10 drunkenly complained, as he held up two fingers.

SAFETY BOOZES, CAUSES HOUR-LONG MILBANK FIRE DRILL

"Hilarious at time," Campus Safety says.

THE DUEL OBSERVER

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LOCAL MAN HATES PLAYER, NOT GAME

Was dropped as baby

By Mr. Lee '07

BALLA BABY DEPT.

(HAMILTON COLLEGE) Junior Terry Commons has a problem; he hates the player, not the game. He realized that he had the condition while watching the Federer/Roddick match last weekend. Every time Federer broke Roddick's serve, Commons would scream incoherently at the TV and weep under his bed like a little sissy girl.

"I can't help it," he explained. "I'm a player hater."

Player-hating disease, or PHD, is a silent plague across the nation.

"Player-haters aren't always in control of their actions," Dr. Ernest Hanson of Saint Luke's Hospital said. "Some people are born haters. Others hate to excess and turn into player-haters.

"Hating, in moderation, is alright. But you have to be able to stop and realize it's the game," Dr. Hanson continued. "Ask yourself: do you hate more than five times a night? Do you hate just to get through the day? Do you ever watch MTV, just to hate? These are signs of problem hating."

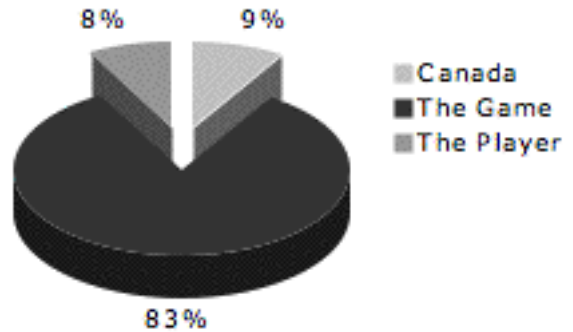
Commons, meanwhile, acknowledges that hating has held him down in life.

"I get turned away from jobs, kicked out of bars, my lunch money taken. The ladies, they're all like 'no, you a scrub.'"

There is hope, however.

"The first step towards recovery is admitting you have a problem. I'm giving a *thumbs down* to hating," he said. "I am a recovering player-hater."

Now, whenever he watches tennis and feels the need to hate, he turns the channel. "Because watching tennis is lame anyway," he proudly said.



Responses to a Zogby International poll, "Who to hate?"

Eighty-three percent of respondents answered 'the game', compared to an 8 percent 'the players' response. 9 more percent wrote in 'Canada'.

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Awkwardly exposing hookups and relationships, previously the domain of the Commons "Walk of Shame", is the least of Future Feed's evils.

Nick Allyn '09 recently discovered that he was switching his major to English next year.

"I was going pre-med, now I'm damned to a life of poverty," he said. "I thought I was going to be useful to society!"

Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg was unavailable for comment, apparently addressing a slew of "hate" pokes received since Future Feed's debut. Desperate to reverse public opinion, Facebook's spokesmen pleaded, "but we're too close for missiles! We're switching to guns."

FOOTBALL, GIRLS RENEW COMPETITION

Fight to death or half-time, whichever comes first

By Mr. Mirandi '10

BETTING MAN'S ODDS DEPT

(HAMILTON COLLEGE) Meeting for the 86th time in their celebrated rivalry, NFL football and girls squared off for a 36 hour grudge match this past Sunday and Monday in what has been called a "devastating football rout," by experts.

Freshmen girls, hit worst during the match-up, walked off the field in shock.

"I don't get it," Megan Lidner '10 said, "All of the guys here were such great listeners last week. They really cared about deep conversations, but now I can't find any of them."

Ms. Lidner further vowed to "not take this one lying down."

Veteran girls have already written off the season, with Clinton Hollywood Video reporting a total sell-out of all seasons of *Sex and the City* and Matthew McConaughey's *Failure to Launch*. The Diner has doubled shipments of Ben and Jerry's to little avail.

Yet others have vowed to fight on to win back the attention of campus boys. Alyce Fawn '07 has organized rallies during Sunday's 1 PM, 4 PM and 7 PM games.

"If screaming, chanting, or blasting Annie DeFranco all fail, we're going to the flea-flicker of attention grabbing," she explained. "Mud wrestling."

The effort may succeed as resolve weakens among campus boys. Vinny Spinelli '09 said, "I had the little lady penciled in durin' the commercials."

Spinelli then amended, "well, not one of them TWINS commercials, but you know, maybe one of them Tough Actin' Tinactin joints."

Still, in their 86 years of competition, girls have come out victorious exactly once, in 2004, the year "God wasn't watching sports," noted expert Tom Capote. Given decades of mis-matched play, some wondered if a peaceful co-existence couldn't be reached.

"The football season is only 17 weeks long," Mark DelRisa '08, football aficionado, reasoned. "And the Fitness Center will be open by like week 15 - can't they watch Laguna Beach or something till then?"

Continued from Construction 101, page 1

Upperclassmen had a much different view.

"This is a great way to finish the renovations," John Lewis '07 said. "And if a few freshmen die...well, we're committed to staying a *small* liberal arts institution, right?"

Frank Templeton '08 added, "I hope they work them 'till they can't walk. I mean, it's not like they're people, with feelings and such."

Some freshmen tried to find a silver lining. "It's not that bad," Susie Sweeney '10 said, "With all the heavy lifting, I don't have to worry about the freshmen fifteen!"

President Stewart added, "I think that the freshmen will soon love the course. Because if they don't, it's back to First Year Forum."

Comments? Questions? Complaints? Recipes?

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