THE DUEL OBSERVER

VOLUME XXXII, ISSUE I "Knowe Thyself, Not Be Thyself."

August 24, 2018

HEY YOU: JOIN THE DUEL

After all, you totally got snubbed for the "Funniest" Award on your AA trip!

BRENDA'S SUMMER SOUNDS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE PLOT OF MAMMA MIA!

Here we go again

By Ms. Terhune '21

THEATRE KID DEPT.

(CLINTONOPOULIS) This week, students returned to campus from communities all over the world, like Worcester, Mass., and Somerville, Mass., and swapped summer stories. While most people talked about internships and retail jobs, Brenda Anderson '20 described a whirlwind summer that sounded suspiciously like the plot of *Mamma Mia!*

"When she first told me she went to Greece, I thought 'Yeah, that makes sense," Megan Campbell '20, Brenda's friend, stated. "Then she told me about how her mother had one crazy night at a Career Center crawl, got pregnant, and didn't know if the father was Bill, Sam, or Colin Firth. But I'm pretty sure I met her dad, Adam, last year."

"I'm Adam, and I'm Brenda's real dad," Adam Anderson, 'Brenda's real dad,' said. "We went to

Greece for a weekend, sure, but I'm definitely her father. We did the whole *Maury* thing, so it's legit. Plus," Adam added, "her mother didn't do flings."

"He said no flings? Ha," Holly Anderson, wife of Adam and mother of Brenda, said.

News of Brenda's adventures quickly spread across campus after she detailed them in a solo, one-hour a cappella event in Commons.

"I hate myself, so I stayed and listened to the entire thing," Jackson Murrs '21 said. "She only sang ABBA songs, so it was difficult to connect the major plot points on tunes alone, but she'd take occasional breaks to say what happened. I had never seen the hit movie-musical sensation *Mamma Mia!*, but I knew she was lying because Greece couldn't support that degree of island partying in its current state of financial crisis."

Eventually someone reported Brenda for making too much noise, and campus safety took her to the slammer. Officer Rose Bensen reported that she additionally saw a "Cher look-a-like" racing off the scene and that everyone should be on the lookout for someone wearing platform heels and who "hasn't aged a day."

dards had been raised as well. "I know I rejected her last semester when she offered to be my lab partner, and when she asked me to get dinner with her, and when she invited me to have a threesome with her and her friend Charlotte, but I can't believe she's ignoring me now!" Andrew Pomerantz '21, Monroe's classmate and a six out of ten at best, said, adding, "She was my fallback, I was just trying to see if I could do better!"

Monroe herself has seen a vast increase in quality of life since throwing away her academic pursuits in favor of a smokin' bod. She is reportedly being courted by every sorority on campus, has a big date with a cute hockey player, and has even been asked to model for a statue to replace the one of Alexander Hamilton.

Adjusting to Monroe's transformation, however, has been hard on her friends. "Ingrid used to be the sweetest person I know. We used to have deep talks over long dinners, but now I can hardly have a five minute conversation with her," Charlotte Flowers '20 said. "That being said, she is pretty hot now. It'll be much easier to convince guys to have threesomes with us."

Administration Improves Something

Students shocked, confused, aroused

By Ms. Rinehart-Jones '20

PLEASANT SURPRISE DEPARTMENT

(COMMONS AFTER 11 PM) Students returning to Hamilton on Tuesday were baffled to find that the College had actually followed through on several of its planned improvements over the summer, with several works still in progress.

"It's shocking," Harris Mann '19 said. "They always say they're going to do stuff, you know, make things better, but you never expect that they'll actually follow through. I nearly broke down and cried when I walked into Milbank and saw that they refurbished the floors. We are so blessed."

Students all over campus are taking advantage of Hamilton's new features, flocking to Commons at 11:59 PM for late-night feasts and driving double-wide trailers down the newly-widened Campus Road. Students can also be seen sporting T-shirts with slogans like "Asbestos Contained," "Everyone has a bed!" and "No Bed Bugs Right Now."

However, not all students are pleased about the improvements.

"What the hell am I supposed to complain about now?" Hannah Rennick'19 asked. "Most of my free time at Hamilton used to be spent commiserating with my suitemates about things being dirty, not enough housing, that sort of thing. Now I'm left to be like, 'You know, I wish we had more flowers' or 'It's messed up that the library doesn't architecturally match its surroundings.' I could complain about our mental health services, I guess, but where's the fun in that?"

Others in Rennick's camp remain dedicated to their craft.

"There's still plenty to complain about," one junior said. "Until McEwen is open on weekends, I don't care if it serves lobster and caviar; I'm gonna keep Tweeting anonymous complaints about it to @HamiltonCollege."



FRUMPY GIRL RETURNS FROM SUMMER, SUDDENLY BEAUTIFUL

Now too good for you

By Mr. Boudreau '20

METAMORPHOSIS DEPT.

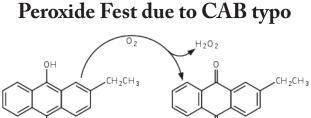
(SOMEWHERE SHALLOW) Upon returning to Hamilton this week, one of the biggest changes that the student body has faced has not been the nearly completed Health Center, nor the new Hill Cards, but rather that Ingrid Monroe '21, who used to be an uggo, is now, like, a total babe.

"I never used to care about my clothes, makeup, or hair, but this summer I realized something: there's no reason to try to be a well-rounded person, when all I have to do is take off my glasses and let my hair down to be able to get what I want out of life," Monroe said about her transformation, before realizing that the reporter interviewing her wasn't attractive enough for her to be seen talking to.

Monroe's change in appearance was initially a welcome surprise to her male classmates, who only see women as objects. However, after several rejections, they soon learned that Monroe's stan-

In this issue: Russell Crowe Marries Katy Perry

FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY 40% chance your fake from high school still works Low probability there's room for another chill fella in this suite kitchen SUNDAY *Oh... You're still here."



Water Fest changed to Hydrogen

See "It eats right through the balloons!" pg. H202



A LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN REGARD TO THE ONGOING CONSTRUCTION

Hey guys, so you may have noticed that there are some unfinished construction projects across campus, and the Board of Trustees will be suspending them indefinitely. We realized that we could not afford the cost of these renovations, especially after we spent the vast majority of the endowment on energy crystals. However, we do not feel that this is a bad investment, given that we got over fifty gems that each have their own unique properties that completely outweigh the inconvenience of having campus under perpetually stalled construction.

Over the summer, the Board met this great woman, Tamantha, and she got us turned on to energy crystals. Like, we can't even describe how amazing this woman is, such a free spirit. She has her own line of seagull feather earrings and got banned from Applebee's after harmlessly splashing a waiter with battery acid. Anyway, Tamantha pointed out that the campus' energies were totally out of wack and that we could really benefit from the therapeutic qualities innate to most, if not all, crystals. She introduced us to her dealer, a man who rejected his western name "Craig," and now goes by his true name, Guru Roti.

The Board started out with only one beautiful azurite crystal that acts as ward against evil spirits and telemarketers, but after we were infused with its radiant, collect call refusing energy, we felt so good we just kept buying more and more. We spent so much money that we had to get our last four crystals on a payment plan and stop all the campus construction, but our chakras have never been more aligned.

We will not apologize, because we have seen tremendous results from our new energy crystal program. For example, after we arranged a ring of malachite around the Chapel, we saw a six percent reduction of unwanted mongoose pregnancies in the building, which is the textbook benefit of malachite. Who really cares that some of the floors in Milbank are still unfinished if we get a Sturmanite crystal, which increases the adhesive abilities of most name brand denture pastes? These crystals will change the way our students interact with the campus in a much more meaningful way than any completed construction projects would. The crystals will also help flush out our students' bowels, so there is that to consider as well.

Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees

Telepathically received by Mr. Paull '20



FIRST-YEARS! LISTEN UP! YES YOU! THE FRESHMEN (FIRST-YEARS)!



Time to learn how to save money, you Freshmen!

As the academic year begins again, it's important to remember that the semester is long, and you're going to have to spend money wisely to have enough cash left over for that winter break trip down ol' México-way! So here are some tips to make your hard-earned dough from your summer job last:

- Smoking weed is expensive (and bad for your lungs)! Crack open a can of paint thinner and fuckin' VEGETATE, MAN!
- Stop eating printer ink.
- Treat yourself! You only go to college once, so spend all your money in the first week on anything you want, like a mini fridge or losing your virginity. Mom and dad can send more later.
- Commons is open until midnight now, so if you want to be disappointed, get your midnight snack there.
- Your friends will only like you if you buy them alcohol. You think you have such a "wild" personality? Think you "bonded" with your AA group? Talk to me when it's mid January and the only thing that motivates you to leave your dorm is the promise of drinking jungle juice out of a trash can, and suddenly Jessica doesn't remember all the fun times you had while hiking or kayaking or whatever. Invest in a fake ID early, or else buckle up for a long and lonely winter!
- Have a plan for how much you want to save, and stick to it! You can't always fake a ransom note like you did last year, especially since your parents know you're not worth kidnapping.
- Stop spending so much money on antique woodcarvings.
- Remember last year? When you discovered yourself sexually? Wasn't that great? Well guess what: NOBODY even cares!!
- There isn't a dildo for sale on the internet that can outperform a good old-fashioned broom handle.
- Commit identity fraud if you're looking for a new hobby. Knitting is too expensive.
- Don't go to the bookstore, you colossal dumbass.
- Campus safety will likely try to bribe you early on to "give the deets" on underage parties. Always take the money, but never forget where you came from, boy.
- Sadness and trauma can only truly be solved by material consumption.
- When money gets tight, sell your body.

Friday Five: New Interdisciplinary Courses

By Ms. Cavallino '21

As Hamilton students, our motto is "Know Thyself." Since literally none of us know what we want to do for a career, the Registrar, in coordination with various academic departments, has created a new list of interdisciplinary courses that students can explore in the 2018–2019 academic year to broaden their intellectual horizons and life experiences.

- **5. Epidemics, Global and Personal.** A collaboration between the Biochemistry, World Politics, and Anthropology Departments for those of us who are great at shuffling around campus like zombies to get to our 9 AM class and want to take our skills into the real world. If you thought norovirus was fun, just wait until you see the Typhoid Mary reenactment final projects! Consequences be damned; deaths expected. MW 1-2:15 PM, lab R 1-5 PM.
- **4. Campus Relations.** Co-taught by professors in the Creative Writing and Phys Ed departments, this course pits Dark Siders and Light Siders against each other in sparring matches. Verbal debates will also be incorporated throughout the semester as students' injuries limit the intensity of fights. Assignments to include persuasive essays about dorm architecture, McEwen versus Commons, and whether you are more employable with a septum piercing or an untucked Vineyard Vines shirt. Not open to first-year students; Bundy residents require special approval from advisors to enroll. TR 10:30-11:45 AM.
- **3. My Time In Europe.** The French, Communications, and Annoying Departments bring you the perfect way to talk about your spring semester abroad in Paris. Frankly Greg, we don't care anymore. We know a French baguette is better than Commons' cinnamon swirl. We've already seen your slideshow of Eiffel Tower photos. You can't smoke inside Cafe Opus (which you keep calling a second-rate bistro). Shut the fuck up. Writing Intensive; minimum of five sessions at the Oral Communications Center. MWF 9-9:50 AM.
- 2. Cooking???? Something????? This course incorporates materials from the Philosophy, Archaeology, and Nauseating Departments to figure out what exactly that smell is that is permeating your entire hallway. Because it is gross and it never goes away and the school year hasn't even started yet so why is there mold in the common room sink guys COME ON. Prerequisite is that you know how to wash dishes and empty a trash can; QSR. MTWR all day until the hallway doesn't make me want to gag.
- **1. Survey of Physics.** Presented by the Physics and Doubting Oneself Departments, because if there's anything that will make you decide to not be a Physics major it's Intro Physics. Go take a Theatre class. QSR; TR 2:30-3:45 PM

THE DUEL OBSERVER

ANDREW ANTHONY LETAI

Editor-in-Chief/ Maximus Decimus Meridius

JOSEPHINE STELLA GRACE RINEHART-JONES

Layout Editor/ Javert

MAJESTIC RENÉE TERHUNE

Managing Editor/ Cinderella Man BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN The Boss

Senior Staff Writers
ANDREA MARIE DICKMEYER
ERIN C. COLLINS

NOELANI MARIA STEVENSON

Staff Writers

ALEXANDER MACALLAN FERGUSSON
GRAHAM LEITER PAULL
TYLER A BOUDREAU
JOHANNA C. BOWEN
PETER WILLIAM KELLY
PETER JUDSON CASE

Contributors

MADELEINE BELL CAVALLINO

Copyeditors

CLAIRE NICHOLSON SAMANTHA GABRIELLE KAPPHAHN

LIKE WHAT YOU SEE? COME TO THE DUEL MEETING AT 7PM ON SUNDAY IN KJ 101

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. Coincidences are coincidences.

Comments? Email duel@hamilton.edu
Complaints? Or find us on the interweb!
Recipes? http://students.hamilton.edu/duelobserver/