THEDUELOBSERVERVOLUME XXXVI, ISSUE XI"Knowe Thyself, Not Be Thyself."NOVEMBER 6, 2020

Don't Look At Us We're Not A Real Newspaper

STUDENT SEES SILVER LINING IN POLITICAL TURMOIL Cuts ties with half the people he knows

By Ms. Terhune '21 Bye Bye Dept.

(BLOCK BUTTON) While most students have pushed through election hell over the past few days, Derik Boothe '22 feels that 2020's election cycle has improved his personal life. "I've said it before, and I'll say it again: It's not about whether your candidate won. The real election was the friends we lost along the way."

Since announcing his support for Joe Biden in June, Boothe has stopped speaking with most of his friends, which he considers "a true personal commitment." He said, "Exposing myself as a Biden supporter has helped me refine my friend group. I didn't really care whether Biden or Trump won because they're both old white men and probably not all that different, but I knew I didn't want any Trump supporters in my personal circle because they're almost definitely sexist, homophobic, near-sighted, hairy, and blonde, and that's just bad vibes all around."

Boothe likewise believes that though he will not be politically affected by a _____ presidency, cutting those with differing political views out of his life will help him in the long-run. "My roommate posted a picture with a sign that

STUDENT WHO BLACKED OUT WAKES UP ON NOV. 4

"Hey guys, what did I miss?"

By Mr. Chivily '23

NIHILISTIC RIP VAN WINKLE DEPT.

(UNCONTROLLABLY SOBBING IN A COR-NER) On the morning of November 4, Ian Holme '23 woke up the Health Center after a 13-monthlong blackout from drinking too much acid-laced Whiteclaw during the first weekend of the Fall 2019 semester. "God, I have a massive hangover. Where am I? Where are my friends -- did they leave me to go to Diner B? And why are you all wearing masks and standing six feet apart? And what's this emocha app you want me to download? Is this some app from Opus?" Holme said to his astonished caretakers.

Holme's screams were soon heard from the

said 'BYEDON 2020.' Who the hell is Byedon? I thought my roommate knew that a vote for anyone other than Joe was a vote for Trump, but apparently not," Boothe said. "What's worse, my Pizza Hut delivery driver arrived decked out all in red, the color of both Trump and communism, so I left Pizza Hut a bad Yelp review under my mom's name. I'll die before I let Reaganomics trickle down all over my large pepperoni."

Boothe's roommate, Benny Rinde '22, felt differently about the election. "Derik's a fucking idiot," Rinde said. "Of course the President's policies will impact him. Derik's essentially a legacy student who thinks that Reddit and The Spectator Sports section are the only legitimate national news sources. He uses that whole 'canceling friends' thing as an excuse to mute Hamilton Dems Election Day Jitney emails and report professors after they call him 'unmotivated' and 'failing the course," Rinde explained. "He'll ask you if you've phone banked recently and shame you if you haven't, but he never even sent in his absentee ballot. It's literally still sitting under a pile of Commons takeout boxes and eight copies of American Sniper."

In all, Boothe thinks that he has ended the week on a positive note. "It's not easy surrounding myself with understanding, empathetic, openminded people such as myself, but I've done it. Now I can happily hang out with my three remaining friends: my mom, Marge, and Mr. Clean."

best type of bread. 2020 is truly the worst," Holme said, while deciding whether he should rally.

"Unlike the rest of us, who had space to take in traumatizing, once-in-a-lifetime events over the course of 13 months, Ian couldn't handle everything all at once. He soon fell into an incoherent state and suffered a mental breakdown. But don't worry, he's receiving cutting-edge sound alchemy for his treatment, and we expect him to get better after a few days, when everything will surely be OK again," the Director of the Health Center said.

Holme's story has attracted national attention, with reporters flocking to Hamilton College for the scoop. "The lesson here is that if you're a lightweight, you shouldn't be attending parties," President David Wippman said to a crowd of reporters. "Everyone here wants me to solve all the problems on campus. I'm not responsible for some overzealous first-year deciding to go all out and blackout on the first weekend. Your constant questioning is getting me so stressed that I might just 'forget' to address the inevitable problem of spring term mental health."

STUDENT WHO DRESSED AS COVID PATIENT FOR HALLOWEEN STILL IN COSTUME Soon it will be a group costume By Mr. Komissar '22

In Denial Dept.

(WHEREVER THE FRATS LIVE) Last weekend, Don Siever'22 decided to dress up as a coronavirus patient for Halloween. While his roommate Tay Ahwei '22 was impressed by the effort that went into making the outfit seem so realistic, he found it distasteful. "I thought it made a mockery of people who actually had coronavirus, especially with Don's thermometer always showing a 100 degree fever and the constant fake coughing. Honestly though, at this point I'm just impressed with how hard he committed to the bit," Ahwei said. "Anyone who can have a convincing fake coughing fit while asleep has my respect."

When asked for comment, Siever's neighbor Ken Seah '21 said, "Oh, he absolutely has coronavirus. I have no clue why he isn't in quarantine." At this point in the interview, Ahwei cut in, claiming his roommate could not have coronavirus since he only goes off campus to buy Bud Light with the occasional visit to local bars. "Sure, he gives me his Hillcard and has me take his COVID tests every week, but it's only to make the costume more convincing. Just like real COVID patients, Don doesn't actually want to know if he has it," Ahwei added.

Siever entered Sadove's Halloween Costume Selfie Submission Contest and won in both the Most Scary/Spooky and Most 2020 categories. In a week, he hopes to add Best Duo to his list of awards. "I've been trying to convince Tay to join in on the fun, but he doesn't want to get in a costume now that Halloween's passed. I'm sure he'll come around in five to seven days though," Siever said.

Despite his dedication to the costume, Siever still finds time to hang out with his friends. "I figured since it's just a costume, it's fine to go on as normal," Siever said. "Besides, we always stay at LEAST six inches apart."

"He still goes out and gets fresh air, so there's no way he has COVID," Ahwei stated. "Also, he warned me if I get a call from a 315 number not to pick it up. They're pretending to be medical professionals. Keep an eye out for those scams; I've already gotten hundreds of calls."

Health Center as the caretakers recounted everything Holme had missed the past year. "How is everyone alive and sane? From what I've heard, the only sorta positive thing from this year so far is that everyone knows how to bake sourdough, the third-



In this issue: we're in this opussy

IN WAR WITH TIME

If you think Shakespeare sucked before, just wait until it buffers. See, "That's The Real War With Time," pg. 23 Hamilton Health Tip of the Week

Be Canadian Just kidding. Don't be.

Just stop.

The Duel's 2021 Presidential Endorsements

Not to get all political, but The Duel Observer feels it is our duty to take a side on this, the most significant election of our generation: Student Assembly President and Vice President 2021. As the primary taste-makers of this campus, these are not choices we made lightly, but instead arrived at after hours of thought and seconds of whippets. As such, we are proud to announce the following candidates as our top choices for the following positions:

President: Mr. Aloysius Bumberstooten III '22	Vice President: His Gold-Plated Latrine
Bumberstooten comes to this election with 38 years of experience uh, I mean, 4 years of experience in student government and steel manufacturing. He has steadily grown his steel empire while also putting new water fountains in the cafeteria. Despite facing criticisms from environmental activists for questionable business practices, he has always come out on top. Those activists have changed their opinions, definitely not under the threat of force.	His Gold-Plated Latrine (toilet) has seen awful things (waterboarding) and wants to make a dif- ference.
President: Cumsock the Sex-elf	Vice President: The cool rock I found in the woods
As Vice President, Cumsock led on important national issues and represented our country abroad—traveling over 1.2 million miles to more than 50 countries. Vice President the Sex-elf convened sessions of the President's Cabinet un- der the Obama Administration, led interagency efforts, and worked with Congress in his fight to raise the living standards of middle-class Americans, reduce gun violence, address violence against women, and end cancer as we know it.	Mom, look! Nonono mom mom look, it's re- ally cool I promise! It kinda looks like Mike Ty- son's lisp!
President: My main man Kyle right here	Vice President: Kyle's Total bitch of a girlfriend
Qualifications: Look at him. Pure man-beef, can open a brewski with every orifice, gotta love this son of a bitch. Notable Quotes: "I fucking told you I'm not run- ning."	Fuck you sarah, you're the reason we don't hang out as much Fucking yoko ono'd my boy
President: High School Bully™	Vice President: Michael O'bama
Hates gays, loves change. Jean jacket gets him hella pussy. Notable quotes: "Give me your lunch money nerd, also do you have any thoughts on faculty transparency?"	Filihanda J ha Ma Staala '22 an J Ma Wilson '22

Video Message from David Wippman Script Draft

Hello Plebs,

I know you are stressed about the influx of COVID-19 cases here on campus. I am too, but I am rich and white, and you are a dirty orphan. I am kidding of course. I am also a grubby poor. I, too, have less money than Jeff Bezos. So in that sense we are all poor. But what a community it builds: the COVID-19.

This is a particularly stressful week, as the unprecedented upcoming election is upcoming in an unprecedented way. Never before have we seen this diverse a candidate pool in our nation's history. I have a special connection to this diversity as the first white male president of a private institution. Hashtag girl boss.

I encourage all students to participate in this Election Day with great enthusiasm but even greater caution. As we teach our students at the Alexander Hamilton Institute, the safest voting is no voting. And if you are an international student and you cannot participate in this election, you do not matter right now. You have never mattered.

Friday Five: Things Currently on **Fire on Campus**

By Mr. Projansky '21

Well folks, if shit hadn't hit the fan before, it is DEFI-NITELY hitting the fan now. COVID is at an all time high, who knows what political hellscape comes next, and we can be sent home at any moment with no warning. It seems like everything we love is currently going up in smoke, but these five things are burning especially hot right now.

5. Me. Every day I wake up to this flame in my body. Is it rage? Anxiety? Boils? I don't really know, but I feel like I could combust at any moment. If someone asks me a question about graduate school, or even about an upcoming homework assignment, BOOM. I'm gonna look like Mount Vesivius.

4. The Opus cookies Shannon left in the oven. Oh my god Shannon you snot nose garbage looking dumpster fire smelling anthro major acting dumb bitch! You left the Opus chocolate chip cookies in the oven! Shannon this is the third time you've done this, there is smoke everywhere! Run Shannon, you gotta go put out the fire you started with your terrible negligence. The audacity of Larry to hire you instead of me freshman year when I had TWO Opus baristas recommend me and you only had one is just terrible. Shame on you Shannon.

3. Hamilton College Democrats. I mean I get it, this election cycle has kept me up at night. I recently had a dream where I was Nate Silver's computer breaking down over too much election uncertainty, so I cannot even imagine the stress dreams the Hamilton College Dems e-board must be under. The panic spirals they must be facing... please let those poor kids sleep.

2. Mental Health. We did not need a "November Spirit Day." The only spirits I care about right now are Gin and Brandy. As a younger sibling, I think I finally know how my older brother felt throughout our childhood: abandoned by authority figures who were supposed to help, and constantly called ugly. Campus could have literally done anything else, like giving students a real break or a general sense of hope, but what did we get instead for our mental health? Musical Alchemy.

1. Campus. Arson? Lightning? The Wrath of God striking down upon us for our sins and all the premarital sex that we've totally been having? I don't really know, but everything is burning down. The students, the buildings, the very institution of college and higher education, it's all going down. My therapist always told me that it's okay to burn down bridges that are unhealthy, but this seems like it's going a bit too far.

THE DUEL OBSERVER

MAJESTIC RENÉE TERHUNE Editor-in-Chief / Marianne Williamson RICHARD JOHN STEELE Managing Editor / Bernie Sanders MADELEINE BELL CAVALLINO Layout Editor / Elizabeth Warren JULIET PATRICIA DAVIDSON Layout Editor-in-Training / John Hickenlooper BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

However, I empathize with all of you. This is a frightful time for students of all class years and of all nationalities. Even stupid ones. [laugh]. To our first-years, how was prom? To our sophomores, you contribute nothing [do not laugh]. To our juniors, abroad changed me. And to our seniors, as Socrates once said, "Eat shit."

You may be asking: why can't I get a break? This is also what your mother asked last night [*point and* laugh]. Allow me to answer your question, though, as I have now read the Minds for Change petition thoroughly. As in, sort of, one time, on the toilet. I even screen-shat it and sent it in a group chat of other college administrators. Our group chat name is "Let Them Eat Cake." It is a reference to a quote by my personal hero, Marie Antoinette, who once said, "Let them eat cake." It is also in reference to the song "Cake by the Ocean" by DNCE. I play that song every time I mark a Sunrise Movement email as "Read." Joke. I do not check my email.

In regards to environmental action and sustainability, I am proud of the work that we as a campus are doing. Why compost and overwork our Facilities Staff when we can not compost and overwork our Facilities Staff?

I would like to end this video on a positive note. We are testing three times a week, and I only know of one other college doing so. I also only know of one other college.

Please keep your distance, and please, please, wear a mask. You always have something stuck in your teeth. [Whip, Nae Nae, Dab, fart and grab it in hand and show it to the camera. Then wave like a mom waves. With her hand.]

Found in the first floor CJ printer by Ms. Davidson '23

Filibusted by Mr. Steele '23 and Mr. Wilson '23

The Boss Senior Staff Writers PETER WILLIAM KELLY ANDREW MAXWELL PROJANSKY Staff Writers JOSEF SAMUEL KOMISSAR DOMINIC MARK LANNON OLIVIA LAUREN BATAL HENRY JAY WILSON COLE STANTON WRIGHT-SCHANER SIMON JAMES STRINGER PHILIP ALEXANDER CHIVILY Copyeditors SAMANTHA GABRIELLE KAPPHAHN JAMES EDWARD GALLAGHER Webmaster PETER WILLIAM KELLY

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/