Ousted Mascot, Al Ham, to Release Solo Album

Plush pink pig plots a comeback sure to make you squeal

By Mr. Burns ’17

Swine Flu Vaccinations Dept.

(AFTER THE END OF ANIMAL FARM) On Tuesday, Hamilton’s ex-mascot, Al Ham, released his first rap concept album, *Unschooled*. Ham voiced his intention to get back to his roots with this album in his barndoor home.

“This is my journey from being runt of the litter to top hog,” Ham said. “Being in the pen was what inspired my artistry, what made me the pig I am today.” *Rolling Stone* has called Ham’s newest album, “the best LP by an anthropomorphic pig since Babe’s seminal heavy metal album, ‘That Shit Just Won’t Do, Pig.’” The lead single, “Making Me Square,” finds Ham rapping about his current girlfriend and animal activist Sarah Jessica Poutet. Many of the other songs on the album have to do with what Al Ham calls his ‘exploitation’ by Hamilton College.

“What can I say? Like so many eighteen-year-old pigs, I was young and I needed the money,” Ham said of the mascot job that made him famous. “But they took advantage of me. The administration used to call me filthy behind my tail. They made bacon jokes all the time—Kevin Bacon jokes, specifically.”

One song on the album, “Shoot You In the Face (I Wish I Had Opposable Thumbs),” is a graphic depiction of the end result of a duel. Ham raps, “You call me Porky Pig, man you call me a joke. / But when I get my Burr on, I’ll say ‘That’s all Folks!’” When asked whether the song was about Alex, the new human mascot, Ham denied the association. However, he did comment briefly on his replacement.

“I’m just saying, it figures that they’d pick a rich, white guy,” Ham said.

Despite his reluctance to speak on the topic, there have been rumors circulating of a conflict between Alex and the hotheaded pig. Ham was allegedly thrown out of a Utica nightclub after an altercation with Alex, in which he called the current mascot, “child nightmare fuel” and compared him to Gaston from *Beauty and the Beast*.

Alex responded to Ham’s insults in a letter written with quill pen: “Ham doesn’t know what he’s saying,” Alex wrote. “He has a real dependency problem. Next time you see him, ask him what’s in his trough.”

“Alex can slander me all he wants,” Ham said, “but 10 Dollar Bill hasn’t put out any good content since ‘The Federalist Papers,’” he continued, stepping into his limousine, snout smeared with cocaine. “My music speaks for itself. I’m the biggest ham since Kanye West.”

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In other news: F**k Trains

CAMPUS HAT GUY STILL WEARING HAT

See “Stoop kid afraid to leave his stoop,” pg. 118

HAMILTON PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFULS: ELECT MAYOR IGUANA

The dopest tape to bump with a vape. “Mixtape is mad fire. Plz share.”

MISSION STATEMENT

The Duel Observer aims to provide in-depth analysis of events and issues relevant to Hamilton College students.

Dear Mr. Editor (a.k.a. Nate a.k.a You Dick),

I write both to air a grievance and to make a public service announcement. Perhaps you recall the last time we met? I remember it well, for it was the last day I was truly happy. We sat together, wracking our brains for how to best change our lives for the next 40 days. Determined to outdo those who chose merely to forgo vulgar language or “give up” their time and do community service you cried out, “By Jove I’ve got it! We’ll give up defecating!”

Too naïve to know better, I listened. I trusted you. Yet you betrayed me. Not even 24 hours into this mess I saw you sneak off to do your business. The worst part? I wanted to be upset about the loss of our friendship, but I just don’t give a crap anymore.

You’re not the only one who left me, you know. All my friends keep a 10 foot radius, but I hear them shuffle. They call me Pumbaa behind my back.

By the time this ordeal is over, over 1000 hours will have passed, each slower than the last. Commons stopped being an option 30 minutes into making this damned decision! Unable to move faster than a herd of goats, I have learned to give myself an extra hour to waddle to class.

If there is one legacy I leave, let it be this: do NOT give up pooping for Lent. Give up chocolate, video games, or loving your family before taking on this nightmare. As for you, Mr. Editor... rest assured that I will be leaving a very “special” gift outside your door once these 40 days are through.

Not-so-cordially-yours,

A Dutiful Christian

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**BECOME AN INTERN WITH THE DUEL OBSERVER!**

Edited by Ms. Reading ’16

Attention all desperate/lonely/born jobseekers,

Think you’ve got what it takes to be our new intern? Qualifications include:

- At least 18 years of experience emptying your bowels
- Ability to swear politely over the phone
- Working knowledge of all the words to “If I Was Invisible” by the glorious Clay Aiken
- Willing to do nothing but observe duels for extended periods of time

You won’t be paid, but after 14 weeks, you will be allowed to spend a night out with the clique. Plus, by the end of the semester, you will be able to put the following on your handy-dandy little resume so you can outdo those who chose merely to forgo vulgar language or “give up” their time and do community service.

- Expert at finding rare clip art
- Fed a blue sheet of paper coffee and biscuits each morning without spilling
- Herded goats into a Mini Cooper

Here at the Duel Observer, we’re not arrogant. We believe our interns are the bright hopeful faces that will lead paper publications to victory when Apple wages war with their next micro-nano-milli-pico weapon. Preserve the art of the written word and never get annoying internship advertisement emails again! So, get your finger out of your nose and fill out the application at: www.hamilton.edu/duelobserver/apply/BBHMM.

We’re going to make you live in a horizontal refrigerator.

A comprehensive list of new courses added for Fall 2015 that fully and effectively promote the College’s goal of creating an educated and successful student body.

1. **PHIL 375: How To Get a Job with a Philosophy Degree.** "Job."

**THE DUEL OBSERVER**

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Friday Five: Fall 2015 Course Offerings

By Ms. Suder ’18

A comprehensive list of new courses added for Fall 2015 that fully and effectively promote the College’s goal of creating an educated and successful student body.

5. **ENVS 223: Semester in the Tundra.** Kind of like the Adirondack semester but more hardcore. Students take a helicopter into the tundra of northern Canada (passport required!), parachute into the vast wilderness, and have a semester to get back to campus using nothing but a compass, a crossbow, a HOC leader, and a five pound block of cheese.

4. **CHEM 245: Volcanoes.** Remember when you made vinegar and baking soda volcanoes for the science fair in elementary school? This is the 200-level version of that. Since there are no college-level textbooks on the subject, this class’s textbook money goes to buying shitloads of baking soda and paper maché. You’re definitely going to need it. Prereq: Comprehensive experience with the art of accidentally leaving bread in the garage and then finding it two years later after its rotting remains are hosting a termite colony.

3. **BIO 357: Microbiology of Hallucinogenic Fungi.** This course focuses on understanding the physical and molecular structure of the psilocybin mushroom, including how structure influences psychoactive effect. We closely examine how ingestion rates, combined with intake concentrations, affect the intensity of the psychoactive experience. Everything that takes place in this class is strictly educational and relevant to official, academically accepted microbiology. We don’t actually get high off the mushrooms. We don’t do drugs in this class. Really. Don’t call the police.

2. **HIST 201: The Evolution of the Frat Boy.** The history of the societal impact of fraternities and the so-called “frat boys” they produce. The syllabus includes an in-depth examination on the economics of how fraternities have funded the entire liquor industry and also single-handedly created the need for on-campus police. The time frame studied begins with the early 20th century Pledging Wars and continues through the tragic Keg Incident of ’07.

1. **PHIL 375: How To Get a Job with a Philosophy Degree.** "Job."

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**REJECTED INTERNSHIP FUNDING APPLICATION**

Hi please give me money.

I would like to apply for funding to get eaten by a blue whale this summer. I don’t think anyone’s ever done it. It will be adorable. "But that’s immoral!" Shut your face.

friends. I would like to separate some elephant friends for about twenty years and then film their reunion.

Alternately, I have constructed a plan to win the internet. What does the internet love? Animals and recipes? "Could you tell me how this applies to your math major?" Is the whale contained in the set of all sets? “But I would like to apply for funding to get eaten by a blue whale this summer. I don’t think anyone’s ever done it. It will be adorable. "But that’s immoral!" Shut your face.

"Job."