



# THE SPECTATOR



## Hamilton Remembers



**Katharine Eckman '09 passed away on Friday, October 17.**

by **Martin E. Connor, Jr. '09**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For the second time since the Class of 2009 joined the Hamilton community, students were notified over break of the death of one of their classmates. On Saturday October 18, President Joan Hinde Stewart informed the Hamilton community through e-mail of the passing of Katharine Eckman '09. Katharine died following a short battle with cancer.

see *Memorial*, page 3

## Isserman Nominated for Pulitzer Prize



PHOTO COURTESY MAURICE ISSERMAN

A contributor to *The New York Times Book Review* called it “an awe-inspiring work of history and storytelling.” See *Pulitzer*, page 3.

## Intruder Attempts Assault on Student in Milbank

by **Scott Bixby '11**  
NEWS EDITOR

Joanna Myers '09 fell asleep while reading on the night of Saturday, October 18, one of the few students left in Milbank Residence Hall over Fall Break. Only a few hours later, her sleep was broken by every student's worst nightmare: an intruder had entered her room, unplugged her lights and pressed his hand against her mouth.

**“I woke up with this hand over my mouth, and I started screaming.”**

In an interview with *The Spectator*, Myers detailed the incident, which occurred at roughly 4:45 a.m. on Sunday. “I was screaming, and he said, ‘Don't scream, don't scream.’ Obviously, I kept screaming,” Myers said. She fought against the intruder's hold, rolling off her bed to the floor of her first-floor single. “I asked him what he wanted, and he said, ‘I just want to leave, if you be quiet, I'll leave.’ I just screamed, ‘Get out!’ and he ran out the door.” It was at this point that a shaken Myers



PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

An open window was likely the entrance point for the intruder.

phoned Campus Safety.

In minutes, one of the three Campus Safety officers on call arrived in Milbank and met Myers while others performed a quick search of the exterior of the building. After Myers assured the officer that she was not in any physical danger, she was asked if she wanted to file a police report. When Myers agreed, the Kirkland Police Department was called and arrived on campus.

Although Myers had fallen asleep with her lights on, they had been unplugged before she was woken, and she could not get any physical description beyond that the suspect was a male. In the eyes of Francis Manfredo, the director of Campus Safety, even the invader's gender is not confirmed: “I can't say that it was [a male] because the description was so limited.”

While the assailant may have fled without a trace, (Manfredo would not comment on Myers' statement that a car had been seen leaving Milbank), he did leave behind key evidence. Myers found a balled up sock jammed between her bed and her refrigerator, a discovery she described as “chilling.” The most damning evidence, however, was a t-shirt left behind on her floor.

see *Milbank*, page 2

**Face Off:**  
*Should we have a CEC?*

**Select Schools**  
*Become No Pong Zones*

**Theivery & Vice**  
*Overwhelm applegwon Tour*

**Text Messages Get**  
*The Votes*

**Men & Women**  
*Soccer Host This Weekend*

## Milbank Break-In Shocks Students

from *Assault*, page 1

*The Spectator* is withholding the specifics of the evidence at Campus Safety's request, but the shirt bears a logo connected to Hamilton College.

Myers strongly believes that the t-shirt presupposes a student connection to the person behind the assault. Despite this, Manfredo stated that investigators are "not making any assumptions on whether this was a Hamilton student or someone on campus. We're fully investigating all options."

While Campus Safety may be investigating all options, Myers feels that some of the theories regarding the nature of the incident have gained more traction than others. When speaking with Campus Safety, the Kirkland Police, and other members of the Hamilton power structure, she has noticed a continuing narrative. "They keep asking me, 'Was he drunk? Did you smell alcohol? Has anyone been following you lately? Are you sure you didn't smell alcohol?' Every time, I tell them 'no.' He smelled really strongly of cologne, but he wasn't drunk."

The strong scent of cologne, combined with the recently worn sock and t-shirt, made for what would have been extremely helpful evidence for a K-9 unit, which was originally offered to Myers. After she agreed, however, the unit never arrived. Kirkland Police declined official comment, but implied that while the unit may have been offered, it was not available until long after the trail to the suspect ran cold.

Identification of the intruder has proven exceedingly difficult. Because the assailant unplugged the light, Myers was not able to provide a detailed

description. Myers also stated that a Campus Safety officer informed her that no one had entered Milbank using their Hill Card for over an hour before the break-in took place.

No registry exists for students staying on campus over Fall Break, although registration is required for students staying on campus for all other breaks. When asked why Fall Break is excluded from this rule, Manfredo stated that, "People come and go rather frequently, so they don't require notification." Now that a potentially dangerous loop in this system has been exposed, however, "Campus Safety will be discussing this with Residential Life."

Manfredo also asserted that Campus Safety is working with Kirkland Police to try and solve the case. "We've worked with KPD every day since the incident occurred. We will continue to aggressively investigate this incident until it is solved or there are no more leads to investigate," he said.

While dormitory intrusions have occurred sporadically over the past few semesters, including a spike of several over one weekend last semester, Myers is the first injured party to come forward. When asked, Myers stated that "I was just lucky that something worse didn't happen to me. I feel like I have an obligation to speak out for those who have had worse things happen." Myers hopes that her speaking out will "help bring more attention and resources to crimes like this... it might stop something like this from happening again."

If you have information about this incident, or any other suspicious activity on campus, please contact the Office of Campus Safety at 315-859-4000.

## Student Assembly Talks Condolences, Composting

by Amanda Jordan '10

STUDENT ASSEMBLY CORRESPONDENT

At the beginning of their meeting on October 20, 2008, Student Assembly (SA) unanimously passed two resolutions. The first resolution concerned the loss of Katharine Eckman, class of 2009. In the resolution, the Assembly described Eckman's remarkable personality and accomplishments. They conveyed their feelings that Eckman "will be deeply missed, but never forgotten." The resolution concluded with the Central Council of the Student Assembly resolving to express "its condolences to the entire Eckman family." The Student Assembly President, Stephen Okin, will send the Eckman family a copy of this resolution. Additionally, it was proposed that a card be sent along with the resolution to the Eckman family to reduce the formality of the resolution.

The second resolution passed regarded composting on Hamilton's campus. The resolution stated numerous facts about food waste production on campus and the many advantages of composting. It stated that the college produces around 100-150 tons of food waste each year, which all could be processed using in-vessel composting. The Physical Plant already has money to purchase the shell of the composting unit and there is a possible site on campus to place the unit. Moreover, the Department of Energy Conservation will not allow food waste from institutions to go into landfills within the next five years. Composting supports Hamilton's sustainability goals and is thought to further establish the idea of becoming a greener campus. Therefore, the Central Council of the Student Assembly resolved, "The college administration should make purchasing a composting facility to process food waste produced in the dining halls a top priority."

After passing these two resolutions, Student Assembly approved funding and Assembly members briefed each other on their committees. The Assembly unanimously approved \$5,353.40 in weekly spending, \$375 of which was passed separately for a heater and propane for Fall Fest. SA has spent around \$88,000 so far this semester and still has around \$66,000 left in funds to allocate. The Food Committee reported that milkshakes will be available at the Diner for \$1.50 beginning this semester. Also, requests were made for a greater variety of fruit and cereal selections, a peanut-free table for students with allergies, and popcorn at snack time. Other suggestions included providing coffee sleeves in the dining halls in order to reduce the number of paper cups used. They also advertised Bon Appetit's other services, such as a bakery in Bundy dining hall, gift baskets that parents can order, and catering services. The Facilities Committee did a walk-around of campus after the last meeting to inspect lighting, the blue-light system, and flooding precautions. They also noted that some of the lighting may not be working properly due to the numerous construction projects currently underway on campus. The Diversity and Accessibility Committee announced that Quidditch will be held on November 8 and a trip to Utica including dinner and a film is planned for November 11 and will hopefully be free for students. If you are interested in joining the trip to Utica, please email [klippold@hamilton.edu](mailto:klippold@hamilton.edu).

The Social Traditions Committee announced that Fall Fest will be held this Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. on the Clinton Green. A Jitney service will be provided to transport students down the hill. If any students are interested in having a booth for their organization or are interested in performing, please contact [soctrad@hamilton.edu](mailto:soctrad@hamilton.edu). The Student Interests Committee reported that there will be a meeting at 9:00 on Wednesday in the bookstore to discuss merchandise selections for the next big order. Students are encouraged to attend with any ideas. The Elections Committee discussed ways in which to increase the number of people running for Student Assembly elections and voter turnout. Some ideas included: placing flyers around campus advertising the elections, placing reminder slips in all student mailboxes at the start of the voting period, making pamphlets with candidates' platforms and photos, extending the voting period from 24 hours to 48 hours, and holding an interest meeting for first years before the elections. The Technology Committee reported that the cell phone reception survey is out and that the laundry monitoring system is expected to cost an initial \$5,000, with an additional \$7,000 each year to maintain. Lastly, Student Assembly encourages all students to lock their doors at night due to the recent event in Milbank this past week. Additional updates on committee meetings will be reported at the next SA meeting.

## Massive Main Break Disrupts Hill's Water Supply

by Russ Doubleday '11

NEWS WRITER

While the majority of Hamilton students were away from the Hill enjoying the last couple days of Fall Break, the college faced a major and unexpected problem. Last Friday, October 17, there was a major water line break in the school's pump house behind 24 College Hill Road, which is down the road. On Tuesday morning with everyone back on campus, students woke up to an e-mail saying the problem had been fixed.

While outside water had no way of reaching the college due to the water line break, there was still some water available for on-campus use. "We have a one million gallon water tank

that supports our water system," said Steve Bellona, Associate Vice President for Facilities and Planning. "We pump at night to the water tank. During the day, the tank provides water to the campus." The water sitting in this tank was all the water the school would be able to use until the water line break was fixed. Luckily, the tank had already been completely filled at the time of the burst.

Physical Plant advised students coming back from break to take shorter showers (under five minutes) and avoid doing laundry until the water line break was fixed. The Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG) also backed up Physical Plant's requests concerning water use.

Students responded accord-

ingly and responsibly to the problem. Physical Plant reported that the school used approximately 350,000 gallons of water from Friday night, the time of the break, through to when the pipe was fixed Tuesday morning. This is a mere twenty five percent of the school's normal use during the same period with a working water line. However, there weren't many students on campus all day Saturday and parts of Sunday, which surely brought down the usage.

Bellona noted that this was the first time this had happened at the school's pump house. "The thrust rods from the main 12 inch pipe to the manifold separated," explained Bellona, "which separated the pipe at the dresser coupling." The rods are the key component to keeping

the water line connected. As Bellona went on to describe, "[T]hrust rods are installed to prevent movement [of the pipes]."

"The force of the water as it flows pushes against the angle creating a significant force which has to be offset. In this case the rods had lost their strength, and they snapped under this load."

Repair measures took several days to complete, complicated by the college being on break and the water line break happening at the very beginning of the weekend.

"We had to remove the 12 inch section of pipe attached to the intake manifold," stated Bellona. This was where the water line break occurred. "Since the manifold rotated

horizontally and dropped, we had to lift and pull the manifold back into place. Once this was completed, installation of the new dresser coupling, and the removed pipe section could take place."

Since this is the first water line break of this kind for the college, Physical Plant is taking preventative measures to ensure that it doesn't happen again anywhere else in the future.

The spot where the line broke is not the only place susceptible to this kind of break. Other areas use these rods on the pipe to secure them down. "Our most recent inspection had not found this weakness [in the broken pipeline]," said Bellona. "As a result, we are checking the other rods used for this purpose."

## Fun in the Fall with Fall Fest

by Kara Labs '09  
NEWS EDITOR

On this Sunday, October 26 from noon until 4 p.m., the seventh annual Fall Fest will take place on the village green in Clinton. Started by the class of 2005 in 2002, this tradition has facilitated town-gown relations with the local Clinton community. Allison Gaston-Enholm '09, co-chair of the Social Traditions Committee for Student Assembly (SA), stated that, "It is a time to celebrate fall and bring students, faculty and the community together."

Every year Student Assembly funds Fall Fest. The Social Traditions Committee, who works hard annually to put this event together, is comprised of various members from each class year, and not just SA members. Currently there are three co-chairs of this committee, Allison Gaston-Enholm '09, Amy Goldstein '11 and Caitlyn Williams '11.

Each year greek life and many other groups on campus

set up booths. "The activities range from cookie and pumpkin decorating, face painting, making Halloween bags and football tosses," explained Gaston-Enholm. This year each greek organization has a different activity. TKE will be doing

Many groups will be performing and joining in the fun downtown, including the Hamiltones, the Buffers, the Juggling Club and Al-Ham the Pig.

Everything is free and Bon Appetit will be catering some fall favorites including cider, chowder and pumpkin pies. Cider Mill donuts will also be available. "We have been blessed the last two years with incredible weather, but in case of less than perfect conditions on Sunday - no worries - we have a heater and a tent!" exclaims Gaston-Enholm. There will be a fall fest jitney, used specifically to take students down to the village green, which will depart from ELS on a very frequent basis.

Lastly, Gaston-Enholm would like to acknowledge that without the help from the Clinton community this event would not be possible. "Ferris Betrus, the VP of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce has consistently helped us for years with this event. We owe him a ton of gratitude for the effort he also puts in every year to make this happen."



PHOTO COURTESY ALLISON GASTON-ENHOLM '09  
Former students enjoying the beautiful weather at a previous Fall Fest.

pumpkin painting, Gamma Xi will be doing a fish toss, KSA trick-or-treat bag decorating for Halloween, ATX face painting station, DU will have a football toss, KDO will be doing something with apples and potatoes, PBK will set up cookie decorating, and DKE's station is entitled "Wanna Chat" & "Will it Float?"

## Isserman Nominated for Pulitzer for Non-fiction

by Daniel Steinman '12  
NEWS WRITER

Many students are probably unaware that a member of the Hamilton faculty was recently nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. Professor of History Maurice Isserman has been nominated, along with co-author Stewart Weaver, in the category of "General Nonfiction" for his book, *Fallen Giants: A History of Himalayan Mountaineering from the Age of Empire to the Age of Extremes*, released by publisher, Yale University Press, last month. Isserman's book has been praised highly by critics. A contributor to *The New York Times Book Review* called it "an awe-inspiring work of history and storytelling."

Still, Isserman describes his chances of winning a Pulitzer Prize for his book as "a long shot." He had previously been nominated in the category of "Biography or Autobiography" for *Dorothy Healey Remembers: A Life in the American Communist Party*, which he co-authored with Healey, in 1990, the same year he joined Hamilton's history department.

Isserman seems more optimistic discussing the other awards for which *Fallen Giants* has been nominated; the book has been nominated for an award at the Banff Mountaineering Book

Festival, taking place in Canada in early November, as well as the Kendal Mountain Festival, in London later in the month. *Fallen Giants* is short listed along with only four others for the Boardman Tasker Award, which Isserman describes as "a kind-of Pulitzer Prize for Mountaineering Literature."

Isserman described his and Weaver's intentions, "My co-author and I are trying to bring a historical perspective to the topic of mountaineering." He explained that almost all of mountaineering nonfiction is "top-down accounts" by expedition climbers. Conversely, a "bottom-up approach" was taken in *Fallen Giants*. "We wanted to write a book that filled the gap in [this genre of] literature," he said. "We were interested in exploring [historical/political] connections."

*Fallen Giants* displays a distinct shift in subject matter from Isserman's five previously published scholarly works, which explored the history of American radical movements from the Second World War to the present, including the Communist Movement, the emergence of the New Left, and, specifically, the political atmosphere of the '60s. "By 2000," Isserman explained. "I figured if I hadn't said it by now, I wasn't going to say it. I thought, why not return to the

mountains?"

Isserman's interest in mountaineering began when he attended Reed College in Oregon. He elaborated, "I grew up in Connecticut, where we don't do mountains." But after he flew out to college, he found himself "surrounded by the Cascades." Co-author Stewart, a Professor of British-Indian History at the University of Rochester had been to the Himalayas as a teenager when he was living in India.

Isserman stated that he is not someone who climbs the highest peaks. However, he did climb to the summit of Kala Patar, a point that has a particularly good view of Everest, 8,150 feet above Nepal in June of 2007. "I felt like I was walking in the footsteps of giants," he said.

At present, Isserman is writing a book about American mountaineers for the publisher Norton. He continues to teach about the Louis and Clark expeditions and currently teaches an Adventure Writing course for which he has invited Arlene Blum, whom he describes as a very important figure in mountaineering history, to speak. This will be a public event on the evening of Monday, November 10. Blum, a chemist, led a successful ascent of Annapurna that was both the first American and first all-woman ascent of that peak.

## Memorial Plans Underway for Kat

from Remembers, page 1

She was 21 years old.

At Hamilton Katharine was a psychology major. Better known on the Hill as Kat, she was always a dedicated student and approached her work in the classroom with passion and cheer. Her warm personality lent itself to her senior thesis, which involved working with preschoolers to explore their understanding of deception and lying.

Yet anyone who spent time in her company knows that Kat's exceptional qualities were far from being restricted to the classroom. An animal lover, Kat volunteered at the no-kill animal shelter, Spring Care Farms, in Clinton. Kat even rescued and adopted a cat, Angus, that she found outside of her dorm room.

Kat also gave her energy generously to the Hamilton community. She served as a member of the Judicial Board, contributing her time to protecting Hamilton's safe and encouraging environment.

Kat lent her upbeat energy to many people and undertakings. She undoubtedly left her mark with all. "Kat was one of those rare people who could make anyone laugh. She was Hamilton's Eternal Optimist," said close friend Jenna Fain '09. "Traveling sunshine" were the words one faculty member chose to describe Kat.

Kat was diagnosed with acute leukemia on Saturday September 27. Soon thereafter she was transported from St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Utica to Christiana Hospital in Newark, DE. During her three-week battle with the cancer, friends and family were able to stay updated on Kat's condition and share their prayers and hopes with Kat and her family through a special website. On Friday October 17, Katharine passed away.

On Sunday Hamilton College Chaplain Jeffrey McArn held a small memorial service and prayer/meditation session in the

Hamilton Chapel in remembrance of Katharine.

A memorial service was also held for Katharine this past Tuesday at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, DE. The more than 600 attendees were a great comfort to Katharine's family and a testament to the magnitude of her loss.

Further efforts are underway on the Hill to honor Kat's memory. The Hamilton College Student Assembly passed a resolution on Monday remembering Kat and offering their condolences to the Eckman family. Citing Katharine's "vibrant and warm personality" and the fact that she "positively influenced the lives of countless students at Hamilton College," Student Assembly resolved that Katharine "will be deeply missed, but never forgotten."

Planning for a larger memorial service on the Hill is currently in progress. Hamilton community members should expect more information through e-mail.

In addition, the Eckman family is working to establish a memorial scholarship at Hamilton in Katharine's memory to "share with others the qualities that made [Kat] so special." The scholarship will be awarded to one student each year who, in the eyes of the Eckman family, exemplifies Katharine's qualities. Contributions can be sent to the Katharine Eckman Memorial Scholarship, c/o Hamilton College, 198 College Hill Road, Clinton, NY 13323.

Katharine is survived by her parents, Richard and Susan, as well as her three sisters, Elizabeth, Susannah and Lucy. But Katharine herself will survive in the hearts of her friends and of every member of the Hamilton community whose life she touched. Kat left a lasting impression on anyone fortunate enough to have spent time with her, and for that her memory will be forever cherished.

## Faculty Panel: On the Financial Blow-out

by Kevin O'Connor '09  
SENIOR EDITOR

To get a sense of what Thursday's Levitt Center Panel Discussion on the Financial Crisis, moderated by Center director Professor Jeff Plisken, was like, imagine that you have just dropped the soap in a prison shower. There is ambiguity as to why you dropped it and who should be blamed, but everyone knows what's coming next and

it is not pretty. Professors Erol Balkan, James Bradfield, Ann Owen and Alan Cafruny each offered different perspectives on the cause and implications of the current financial crisis, but they agreed on one thing: the outlook for the short term is grim. In fact, the most optimistic forecast of the evening was made by Owen, whose assurance that things would probably get better within the next three decades hardly puts her in the league of Pollyanna.

## Dexter: Here to Stay?

by Rebekah Mintzer '09  
SENIOR EDITOR

Two weeks ago, Hamilton College welcomed a new news publication, *Dexter*, to campus. The paper, created by Tim Minella '09 and Elizabeth Farrington '10, who are also editors-in-chief of the publication, seeks to challenge the campus status quo. In Farrington's words, it is meant as "a vehicle for the expression of under represented or stifled opinion; but beyond opinion, it seeks to be a galvanizing force simply by offering information."

The concept for *Dexter*, an independently funded publication, had been taking shape in the minds of its creators for a while, before becoming a reality when Farrington and Minella began work on it this past summer. Both intend for the paper to be a viable alternative medium that allows Hamilton students to engage in more proactive criticism of the workings of the school and to express their opinions about certain issues.

"In my experience, the apathy of students and alumni alike stems largely from ignorance. Much of the activity of the administration, for example, continues unchallenged when it seems to demand a more critical response," explained Farrington. "We have allowed ourselves to be lulled into passivity by nebulous promises and meaningless rhetoric while the administration

does whatever necessary to present a unified front to the trustees—even when that means undercutting their own stated goals or endangering our educations."

Farrington hopes *Dexter* will provide a campus that is relatively politically inactive with an incentive to participate more actively in campus debate about issues that pertain to the student body. For now, the editors are happy that students, alumni, and faculty are taking notice and reading.

"We received praise from surprising places, which was wonderful," said Farrington. "I must admit that I was disappointed with the minimal amount of hate mail, however," she added jokingly.

The first issue of *Dexter* covered such issues as protecting student privacy with the new Hill Card technology and the role of diversity in the latest Hamilton Strategic Plan. It also included features on several guest lecturers that have spoken on the Hill and at the Alexander Hamilton Institute as well as a few op-ed pieces.

"The funding for the first issue of *Dexter*," states Farrington, "came from the Leadership Institute [LI] in Virginia." However they only covered the preliminary grant and subsequent funding will come from other sources, which have not yet been determined. "In regards to the political bent of the Leadership In-

stitute, their funding does not imply an insidious Republican presence. The LI is 501(c)(3), which means they are strictly and explicitly non-profit and non-partisan. If they support partisan efforts, they lose their tax status," comments Farrington.

Conservative organizations like the LI hold a common belief that college campuses are overwhelmingly liberal and the best way to combat that is not with more political bias, "but with honest information and representation of a wider variety of viewpoints. That fits in perfectly with what we already seek to do at *Dexter*. We do not intend to preach conservatism; we want to present facts and grant people the opportunity to form and express their own opinions," states Farrington.

Farrington states that readers should make no assumptions about the political leanings of the publication. Its editors clearly state that aside from individual opinion articles, the paper is strictly nonpartisan. The paper was originally meant to be a replacement for *The Right*, another Hamilton publication, but its goals have since broadened to reach a more diverse, bipartisan audience. "*Dexter*" means "right" in Latin, hence the name.

"*Dexter* can be considered political only insofar as common sense and freedom of thought are political ideas," Farrington said.

## Kiss for Change

by Hayley Riemer-Peltz '12  
NEWS WRITER

The Rainbow Alliance Kiss-in was held on Wednesday, October 22 inside of Commons during lunch. The event was held to celebrate sexuality and mainly to protest for the right of lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender/questioning (LGBTQ) community members to show affection in public.

"The Kiss-in was a protest for Sexuality Week. People used a megaphone to read off various things that we were kissing for, like equal rights, people who feel like they can't kiss their partner in public, faculty, professors and students who feel like they have to stay in the closet," stated Rainbow member Amanda Schoen '09.

The event lasted about ten minutes and was sponsored by Rainbow Alliance, a club that provides support for LGBTQ members of the Hamilton community. The idea for the Kiss-in came from a member of the club.

The Kiss-in was something that Hamilton did on a regular basis in the 80s. The most recent demonstration was held in 1991 in front of the library. "Rainbow doesn't have much records about it, but a Professor told us how shocked the students were that year," reported one of the Rainbow members.

Participants of the Kiss-in went into the main room of Commons at noon. Around twenty people participated, including students, professors and staff. Chapstick and gum were given out at the entrance of Commons to the participants beforehand.

Megan Bolger, Rainbow Alliance co-chair, commandeered two chairs alongside fellow Rainbow member, Amy Tannenbaum '10. With a megaphone, these two students first gave an introduction to the protest, sharing information such as, "There are over 16 countries in the world where homosexuality is deemed illegal. In 8 of them you can receive the death penalty if convicted of being a homosexual. There are another 8 countries where you can be sentenced to life in prison. This is almost double the amount of countries that have legalized same

sex marriage."

They also read "we are kissing for..." statements, such as "we are kissing to recognize the closeted members of the Hamilton community," and "We are kissing to show you it's not just a phase." Every person kissed after each sentence. The event lasted about ten minutes.

The general impetus of the demonstration was to actively advocate equality to celebrate all sexualities, especially those who have been told otherwise. "We gave some examples of how something as simple as kissing can end people up in jail or being told to stop when other couples would not have the same experience," commented Bolger. "I honestly didn't see much reaction because I was quite nervous and above the general crowd standing on a chair, but other people have told me they heard some people making snide comments but most were generally receptive onlookers," she added.

"We kissed to show how it was done, for the right to kiss where we want to, and for people who have fought the fight before us," remarked Schoen. "I think the onlookers were a little confused, but as soon as the demonstration began, there was dead silence from the crowd. They laughed at the jokes and seemed interested. I think the event was effective, and at least gained some attention to the small battles that LGBTQ people can face every day. Sometimes you have to stop and think about the fact that not everyone can kiss their partner in public or hold his or her hand, or even come out at all," she added.

Tannenbaum, commented, "I was really glad that we got to raise awareness about current news stories: LGBTQ rights and safety are really under quite constant attack in society at large and it's not something you read about in most mainstream news sources. We were glad to get some applause at the end. If nothing else it got people talking; a lot of people said that they were looking forward to stopping by and watching the action."

Rainbow members commented that the Kiss-in will not be the last staged event sponsored by the organization this semester.

**2009 Hamilton PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION**

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THE SPECTATOR

*Hamilton Safety:  
A Shared Responsibility*

The incident in Milbank served as a wake up call to many in the Hamilton Community. It should remind us that while we may find ourselves in an “academic bubble,” we are certainly not safe from all real world dangers. No students should have their safety violated as it was this past weekend, and we owe it to each other in the community to make certain everything possible is done to ensure it never happens again.

To protect ourselves, and each other, we need to know what we are protecting ourselves against. This requires greater transparency between those investigating the incident and members of the campus community at large. The e-mail sent to students from Campus Safety was missing vital information and downplayed the severity of the incident. Director Francis Manfredo’s e-mail disclosed that an unknown male entered a female student’s room and put his hand over her mouth. It did not include that the shirtless intruder had also unplugged the victim’s lights, left a balled up sock near the victim’s bed and that the victim did not detect any alcohol on the intruder.

These key details completely change the nature of the incident. Based on last year’s intrusions, many students failed to recognize the severity of this particular occurrence. Many inferred from the e-mail that this was “just another drunk kid who wandered into the wrong room and was startled.”

The facts reported in The Spectator, suggest that an intruder willfully and deliberately entered the student’s room. While we do not know what could have happened had Joanna not reacted quickly, nor what the assailant’s motives were, it is not unreasonable to suspect that foul play was intended.

If Campus Safety had provided students with all the pertinent facts of what happened, it would have been easier for students to understand the inauspicious nature of the incident. A truthful report of an alarming incident is always a more effective warning than a vague email.

We urge the Hamilton College community to not dismiss this incident as casually as the email portrayed it. Students do not need to live a life of fear but instead need to take initiative and be pro-active in following simple protocols that will ensure the safety of our student community. Locking your door and closing your window can be more than the difference between a drunk stranger stumbling into your room or not; it could save your life.

*The Spectator* staff offers its deepest condolences to all those affected by the loss of Katharine Eckman, especially her family and friends. A Memorial feature to celebrate Kat’s life will appear in the November 2 issue. If you would like to share thoughts, stories or photographs, please e-mail [spec@hamilton.edu](mailto:spec@hamilton.edu)

THE SPECTATOR

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Letters to the  
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# INSIGHTS & IDEAS

## Definite Destruction of Womyn's Center Brings Dismay

by Jessie Brown '12  
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS WRITER

"The Womyn's Center is being torn down this summer" has been a long-standing rumor. However, it has been confirmed: this June, the

Womyn's Center is definitely coming down, to the dismay of many.

Contrary to what some may believe, the Womyn's Center is not run by a group of militant, man-hating feminists seeking to overthrow

society in favor of one that views females as the better sex. Since its creation, the Womyn's Center has simply been "an advocacy group for women's concerns both on the Hamilton campus and in the larger community," said Amy Tannenbaum '10, co-chair of the Womyn's Center and member of the Social Justice Initiative.

It may be a simple goal, but the impact is significant. As Nancy Rabinowitz, professor of comparative literature, pointed out, "there is no programming on the administrative level about women's issues except for during orientation when sexual assault is discussed." The Womyn's Center works to address these issues in order to benefit the entire community.

The building itself, Tannenbaum continues, has historical importance. Kirkland College, an all-female



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE TUMMARELLO '11

The Womyn's Center, found in the attic of the South and North Courtyard building, prominently displays artistic mementos and posters advertising the organization's past events on its walls.

institution while it existed, had a women's center on its campus. When it merged

with the formerly all-male Hamilton College in 1978, the Womyn's Center came

into existence to ensure that a space dedicated to women

see *Womyn's*, page 6

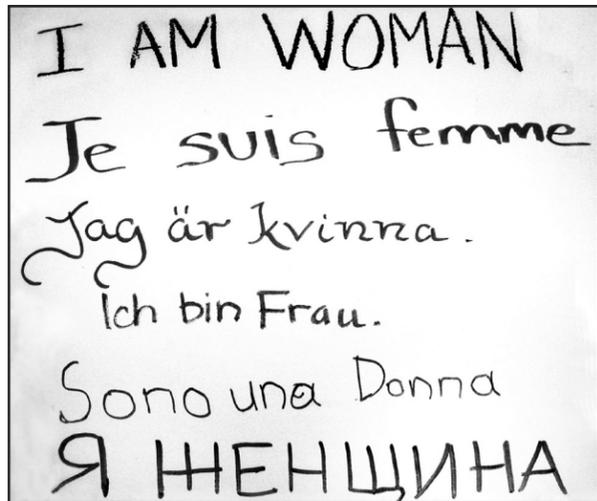


PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE TUMMARELLO '11

One wall of the Womyn's Center focuses on the universal nature of the community by repeating the phrase "I Am Woman" in many languages.

## Face Off: Should We Have a Cultural Education Center?

by Lauren Magaziner '12  
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS WRITER

We have all seen it... the Commons divide. You are in between classes, grabbing a quick bite to eat. All your friends are in classes, and it's pretty crowded in the dining hall, a bit too crowded to eat alone. You stand awkwardly with your tray, looking earnestly for a familiar face. What you do see is a different ethnicity pertable... a palpable separation. This separation needs to go.

The Social Justice Initiative's goal for a Cultural Education Center has lately been the topic of controversial discussion... but there is no controversy. A Cultural Education Center is simply a space for education and interaction with culturally and intellectually diverse students. The Cultural Education Center is open to everyone, not just ethnic students. It is a space on campus where every student can feel comfortable and safe.

In response to the allegations that a Cultural Education Center would segregate the campus, it is necessary to point out that that is an incorrect claim. Having a place where isolated students can go to feel comfortable is not segregation. Not only that, but the Cultural Education Center is a place of education. Professors would have offices and teach classes in the building. Education is open to the entire campus. The Cultural Education Center isn't just about shelter for marginalized groups and individuals—this is a place of education and interaction for all groups and individuals.

### Yes

Corinne Bancroft '10 said, "I think it would be an error to view the CEC as an isolated bubble within the Hamilton Campus. Instead it, like the Science Center or Glen House, has the capacity to over-emphasize one subject (which in this case has been historically marginalized) in a way that will actually improve the other spaces. I do not think anyone would argue that the Science Center, Glen House, or Cop for that matter segregates students interested in those subjects. I view the CEC as a resource for all students to learn about historically and currently underrepresented subjects and issues."

Education within one designated space is part of the appeal of a Cultural Education Center. Even if the education happens within the one area, it does not mean that people are less inclined to discuss ideas and problems outside of a Cultural Education Center. Similarly, although science classes are taught in the Science Center, it does not mean that science discussion is limited strictly to the Science Center. Also, addressing issues with the entire campus must begin in a space. We cannot expect that intellectual and cultural diversity interaction is just going to happen by itself; mutual respect and understanding derive from specific education and a communal

place.

Although there are other important matters on the agenda, a Cultural Education Center should also be put on the strategic plan. Bancroft said, "I don't know about taking precedence over everything else on the agenda, but I do think that many of the needs identified in the Strategic Plan rough draft could be consolidated and addressed rather easily with a CEC."

The matter is rather simple. It cannot hurt to have an all-inclusive, safe space on campus. The Cultural

by Allison Eck '12  
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS WRITER

The plans for a Cultural Education Center on campus are based on the advocacy of multiculturalism and tolerance in the Hamilton College community. Worthy pursuits, right?

It seems like it. However, the concept of "multiculturalism" is based on the ignorant notion that only some of us have hidden in the depths of our experience feelings of dissonant identity. The quest for "diversity"

### No

minishing our individual nuances. Furthermore, a college community is supposed to encourage these distinctions, not generalize them. Just as if we were to extract a grain of sand from the smooth, continuous dunes and notice its vibrant pattern of minerals which cannot be duplicated, Hamilton College must support the interaction of ideas throughout the entire campus. It is not enough to simply acknowledge that a certain group has a particular color — to become a truly "diverse" campus, Hamilton has to observe how and why these hues interact with each other. In this way, each student on campus is "marginalized." While it is perfectly natural to want to be culturally aware, there are so many other types of diversity from which we cannot distract ourselves.

In addition, the claim that underrepresented groups on campus need a place to feel comfortable discussing their beliefs is hypocritical—it seems to me as if the CEC would just perpetuate these students' fears. By placing them in a building where they can freely express themselves, they will feel less inclined to speak out elsewhere. Sure, they might feel empowered within their own niche, but is this really what we want on an open-minded campus? Conversely, it is not unreasonable to predict that

the handful of white students on campus would not feel entirely welcome socializing in a CEC.

There is no reason for minorities to feel victimized at Hamilton — the reason we are all here is not because we desire to hold in contempt everyone who is different, but because as seniors in high school, we decided that this is where we wanted to gain a broader knowledge of the world. Supporters of the CEC point out in defiance that the people whom most buildings on campus are named after are white and wealthy. But this point is completely irrelevant. It's not that Hamilton believes only white people can be successful — it's that unfortunately, until recent years, only privileged students from so-called "respectful" families could attend colleges like Hamilton. We should be grateful that this has changed.

Part of the problem with a CEC is that it would not make minorities identify with Hamilton any more than white students here identify with William J. Bristol or Elihu Root. While a specific building where professors would hold lectures on women's studies, anthropology, or Africana Studies would be an educational environment, it suggests that minority clubs currently have little freedom to hold meetings, maintain libraries, or decorate an area according to their taste. But in fact, every organization has this right if it so chooses. And if it embraces this right, it should be a sentiment dispersed across the whole campus, not just in one building.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGAN BOLGER '11

Above, members of the Social Justice Initiative with a cardboard Cultural Education Center at a demonstration on October 4 outside the trustee meeting.

Education Center can only help promote understanding, respect, education, and interaction between all races and all cultural groups. The Cultural Education Center is not just about a space for the ethnic groups that feel like a minority on campus; it is about a space for everyone who wants to learn about different cultures and interact with students from all backgrounds.

which the proposed Cultural Education Center would promote is honorable; however, what the Social Justice Initiative fails to realize is that "diversity" is not defined solely through the lens of race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation, but rather reflects an individual's hopes, dreams, thoughts, choices, and morals. By establishing a separate building for traditional minorities, we would be di-

## Womyn's Center to Be Torn Down

from *Definite*, page 4

remained on the campus. Over the course of its thirty years, women important to the college have decorated the walls of this space with their artwork. The walls will be salvaged, according to Tannenbaum, but the presence of these women will disappear.

"[It's] more than just taking down a building," she said. "It's symbolic of how much we as women, and as an organization, are valued."

Why tear down something so essential to the history of the college? Sight lines, Tannenbaum explains. A clear view of the athletic buildings and the science center from the map will create a "more aesthetically pleasing" quad. If the building itself cannot remain in its current location, certainly it should be resurrected in another place, but as of now, no new location has been selected. Of course, meetings could be held in other places – the women's center at Kirkland met in McEwen, according to Nancy Rabinowitz – but no one can pretend it will be the same as having a space



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE TUMMARELLO '11

associated with the group's goals.

The next best thing would be a space within the Cultural Education Center proposed by SJI, which the Womyn's Center supports.

Those who object to the building's removal may have the power to change it. Rabinowitz suggests the organization of a group to go before the senior administration and the Board of Trustees. Students should care about this topic.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE TUMMARELLO '11

"If you enjoy and attend Womyn's Center events – like the Vagina Monologues, our brunches with Kirkland alumnae, and Womyn Who Rock – you should care about the Womyn's Center," says Tannenbaum.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE TUMMARELLO '11

**Members of the Womyn's Center have been leaving their words and art on the walls for decades.**

## Ask Mister Morals

**Takes a look at dating dilemmas and reporting on your own team.**

*Not too long ago this guy asked me to dance at a party and we ended up dancing a long time. At the time I thought I didn't like him, but now I feel like I can't stop thinking about him. I have no idea if I actually like him or I just convinced myself that I do because he expressed some interest in me. This is very new to me since I used to only like guys that would never like me and have no interest at all in the guys who liked me. Since I've never found mutual attraction, I've never had a boyfriend. Anyway, this guy from the party has not recently shown any signs of being interested in me. I don't know if I should bother to find out if he likes me or not especially since I don't even know how I truly feel about him. Would I be better off to just forget about him? All I know is that I'm sick of stupid crushes.*

Have you ever bitten into an apple and got a piece of the skin stuck between your teeth? I have. It's maddening, trying to dislodge it (progressively) with your tongue, fingernail, or the prong of a fork (unadvisable). You'll work away at that little bit until it falls out; when it does, you'll consider it, wonder why you let a minor thing bother you, and move on.

I would confront this guy you danced with directly, let him know how you feel, and find out what he thinks about you. If he likes you, too, that's great! If not, you can thank him for his candor and stay. Regardless of the outcome, you'll feel much better after you have a definite answer. Delay in asking him, and the uncertainty will dominate your life, driving you mad like a piece of apple skin stuck in between your teeth.

*Should a student be banned from writing about his/her own sport's team in his/her school newspaper, such as The Spectator?*

A student who serves as journalist and an athlete faces a conflict of interests. As a journalist, they are obligated to provide an unbiased evaluation of a team's members and its performance. As an athlete on that team, however, they may hold prejudices that interfere with objective reporting. It is impossible to resolve a conflict of interest since any decision will end up hurting one or both sides of the conflict; therefore, conflicts of interest should be prevented ahead of time whenever possible.

Asking a reporter to answer question about journalistic ethics is a bit like asking Steve Jobs whether you should buy a Mac or a PC, or appointing Stanley Kowalski the president of the Womyn's Center. Ironically, in asking a question about a conflict of interests, the questioner has exposed my own conflict of interests as a dispenser of moral advice and a journalist. How can I call myself moral if I didn't try to give an honest answer? (On the other hand, how can I call myself a journalist if I didn't deliberately abuse my authority?)

*Mister Morals is a column devoted to helping resolve the ethical dilemmas of Hamilton students.*

**Do you have a dilemma for Mister Morals?**

**E-mail questions to Adam Vorchheimer at [avorchhe@hamilton.edu](mailto:avorchhe@hamilton.edu).**

**All submissions will remain strictly confidential.**

### Thumbs up

**Fall Break:** The 17-year-old girls are looking mighty fine this fall.

**Diwali:** Please stop trying to teach me about your culture while I'm chewing, it's rude.

**The Kiss In:** I will proudly support your public display of sexuality as long as you proudly support me as I watch and masturbate in the bushes outside of Commons.

**Fall Break:** Calling two days off from school a break is like calling Capoeira a sport, a club, an activity, or anything else that isn't calling it a complete waste of time and resources. I hate Capoeira.

**Meeting girls at Knit Happens:** Let's talk wool g-string.

### Thumbs down

**Fall Break:** The 17-year-old girls are looking mighty fine this fall.

**Campus Safety:** You have proven many times over that you excel at distributing parking tickets to students who've had their lots overbooked... but maybe it's time to start targeting the mouth-smotherers in Thrillbank.

**Campus Safety** shuts down "The Female Orgasm"...not the first time.

**Being a history major:** All this work is preparing me for being an interpretive soap maker in Colonial Williamsburg.

**Getting drop forms signed:** I thought you could take a hint when I attended your class ONCE this whole semester, but nooooo you have to go and make things all awkward.

**TKE 80s party:** The theme has been done, unlike any of you.

### Who Cares?

**"The Female Orgasm":** I will be holding a Male Orgasm program in response. It will be on Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 7:02 p.m. and will be followed by naptime.

**Fall Foliage tree tour:** If you looks on the ground to your left, you'll see the golden hue of the MGD can, which contrasts the brilliant blues of the Keystone can.

**Hey, when is Rocky Horror coming up?** I'm just dying to know which freshman will get too drunk and try to fight the EMTs and campus safety while wearing drag and a ball gag.

**"When gays come to Mr. Roger's neighborhood":** trading the outdated red sweater for some True Religion jeans and a hip messenger bag?

**No Ping Pong Club:** I guess I'll have to play Pokémon instead.

*by Steve Allinger '09, Jason Brown '09, Anthony DelConte '10 & Matt Fellows '09*

## Spectator Between the Sheets

By Annabelle Moore '12  
FEATURES COLUMNIST

Each "orgasm is unique. Like a snowflake," Dorian Solot, sex educator and orgasm aficionado, cried to a packed and cheering audience in the KJ auditorium this past Tuesday. Dorian, along with her husband Marshall Miller, travel the country to spread the word on female orgasms: how to have one, how to give one and how to make them better. And they certainly had an audience at Hamilton. With an amazing turnout from boys and girls, students showed up an hour early to get seats and many who came later were forced to leave. Solot and Miller addressed a variety of topics that are not commonly discussed openly on Hamilton's campus, such as vibrators, kegel exercises, clitoral stimulation and female ejaculation.

Opening with the fake-orgasm scene from "When Harry Met Sally," Dorian discussed her college quest for her first orgasm, and then separated the boys and girls for gender-specific discussions. While I cannot tell you what the guys discussed, I felt as though the women-only part was the most significant of the evening. Dorian asked questions about how masturbation was discussed in our homes and our first orgasm experiences. We compiled a list of physical, emotional and psychological contributors to orgasms, which ranged from "vibrator" and "lubrication" to "self-

esteem" and "asking for what you want." The candid stories offered by other Hamilton girls were, in my opinion, the most valuable portion of the presentation. The universality of female sexuality is so rarely discussed, it was refreshing to be in a room full of women smiling knowingly

average woman takes 20 minutes of clitoral or g-spot stimulation to orgasm.

\* Half of women experience their first orgasm before the age of fifteen.

\* 70 percent of women cannot orgasm through penetration alone.

\* The g-spot is two to three inches deep on the front vaginal wall.

\* Pulsing firmly on the g-spot is more likely to arouse a woman than rubbing.

\* Orgasms relieve stress, menstrual cramps and headaches.

*Here are some more statistics anyone interested in female orgasms should know:*

\* 44 percent of guys say that their girlfriend has an orgasm every time. 22 percent of women say they orgasm every time they have sex.

\* Around one percent of women can orgasm through breast stimulation alone.

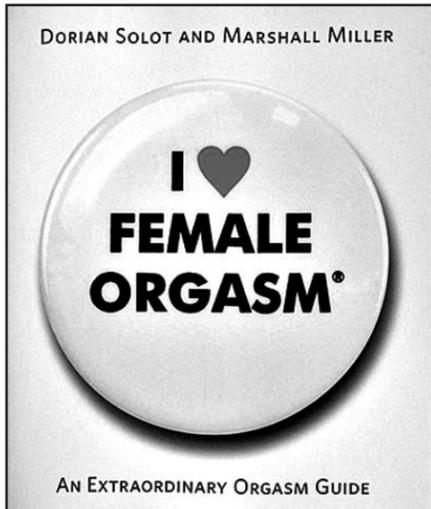
\* 2,000 couples around the world are doing it at any given moment.

\* The strongest muscle in the body is the tongue.

\* There are 7,000 nerve endings in the clitoris, more than the head or glans of the penis.

If you are interested in learning more about the Big-O, I would suggest buying "I Love Female Orgasm," a Pocket Rocket, AA batteries and spending Thursday night in.

No judgments.



Miller and Solot co-wrote "I Love Female Orgasm - An Extraordinary Orgasm Guide." Their talk included tips from the book.

at the mention of a detachable showerhead. After all, how often do you get to share the story of your first orgasm with a packed auditorium? In my opinion, not often enough.

*Here are some interesting facts mentioned that should be remembered:*

\* The average male takes two to five minutes to reach orgasm. The

## FROM WHERE I SIT

HAMILTON'S INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

By Cui Lin '12  
FEATURES WRITER

It seems every single one of my friends in high school knew that my dream was to go to Wellesley College in Massachusetts. It is an all women's college, but for many complicated reasons, I ended up here on the Hill having a co-ed college education. It is definitely not new to me as I attended co-ed schools all my life. But how could I ever have imagined that I would need to share more than classrooms and professors with boys?

I came to visit Hamilton on this past April before I made my final college decision. I remember I stayed in a dark side dorm and the girl who hosted me led me to a bathroom with a male symbol on the door. I gave her an embarrassed look and tried to ask, "Are you awake?" She paused for one second and seemed to understand me. "Oh, don't worry, bathrooms are co-ed in most dorms," she told me. I stated, "But I want to take a shower." She smiled and said, "The bathing part is co-ed too. Don't worry about it. Seriously, we see guys half-naked all the time in the bathrooms." I said I would try. After she left, I stood there for ten minutes thinking about whether I should take a shower or not. I did, but it only lasted for 3 minutes.

Even though I attended boarding schools in China, the girls and the guys lived in completely different buildings. Guys were not allowed to step into the girls' building without permission. My parents are a pretty traditional Chinese couple, so I didn't tell them my dorm would most likely be co-ed until after I came to Hamilton. They were completely speechless for about thirty seconds and asked me over and over again to protect



PHOTO COURTESY OF CUI LIN '12

**Cui Lin '12 is an international student from China.**

myself. I laughed, and said I certainly would.

What does co-ed education mean to me? Do girls wear make-up and dress pretty for classes or for the guys who sit next to them in class? Do guys exercise in the gym just to build strong muscles or do they do it to attract girls? Surprisingly, many attractive people packed the auditorium last Tuesday for the lecture entitled "The Female Orgasm." A freshman truthfully stated, "It's more interesting to see guys around all the time. They make our boring academic life 'spicy.'" She continued, "and besides, who would go to a party knowing that no cute guys would be there?"

On the other hand, academically speaking, co-ed educational means that you have men and women with very different perspectives in the classroom approaching academic discussions as well as the issues on our campus and in society today.

What type of men and women graduate from co-ed colleges? Obama. Biden, McCain and Palin. What type of women graduate from single sex colleges? Hillary. Should I have gone to Wellesley?

## Three Chinese Art Exhibitions at the Emerson Gallery

By Xiaolu Xu '10  
FEATURES WRITER

Despite the fact that Chinese art has been very active on the world stage in the past few years, it is unfamiliar to most of us on the Hill. What makes Chinese art important and what distinguishes it in this era of globalization? Prof. Steve Goldberg of Art History reflects on this question, calling the current exhibitions at the Emerson Gallery the "most ambitious exhibitions of Chinese art entirely curated by the Emerson Gallery at Hamilton College."

Both Prof. Goldberg and Susana White, the Emerson Gallery curator, suggest that the initial impetus to hold the three exhibitions corresponds with the 2008 New York Conference on Asian Studies (NYCAS) hosted by the Asian Studies Program from Sept 26-27, 2008. By redefining the ways in which we now understand contemporary China in terms of the cultural and artistic dynamics of globalization, *Dislocating the Center*, *Cherishing the Past*, and

*Ai Weiwei's Fairytale* helped reflect the theme of the conference--Cultural Connections, Convergences, and Collisions.

Representing traditional Chinese art, as the name suggests, *Cherishing the Past* seems to be the most authentic and exotic show among the three. The collection features calligraphy and professional and literati painting from the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) Dynasties. From these collections, one can find many ancient Chinese cultural implications such as Buddhist ideology and an intimate view of nature.

Calligraphy and landscape paintings made by brushing ink on Xuan paper have been dominant in Chinese art for centuries; however,

the trio of artists in *Dislocating the Center* have brought new elements to the media and contents. Arnold Chang, an American born Chinese, Michael Cherney, a native American, and Andre Kneib,



PHOTO COURTESY OF EMERSON GALLERY

a native Frenchman, bring their own unique cultural background to traditional Chinese calligraphy and landscape paintings. The artistic fusion of east and west blends their works into very innovative forms of fresh perspective with global

cultural implications. *Dislocating the Center* challenges the traditional definitions of Chinese art by blending the nationalities of the artists. The fact that none of the artists are Chinese citizens presents a premise for interesting discussion about authenticity of contemporary Chinese art.

According to Ai Weiwei, *Fairytale* is an unconventional work that relates more to social, political and cultural aspects than to purely aesthetic ones. Many people regard the China born and China renegade artist as the pivotal figure of contemporary Chinese art since the early 1990's. *Fairytale* is the documentary of the second part of Ai's contribution to 2007's Documenta 12 in Kassel, Germany. In his project, Ai facilitated the temporary visitation of 1001 Chinese citizens as a disruptive intervention and living art object to Kassel--the home of the Brothers Grimm. Ai intended to create a condition that would encourage self-experience and extend people's participation in art. Tesar

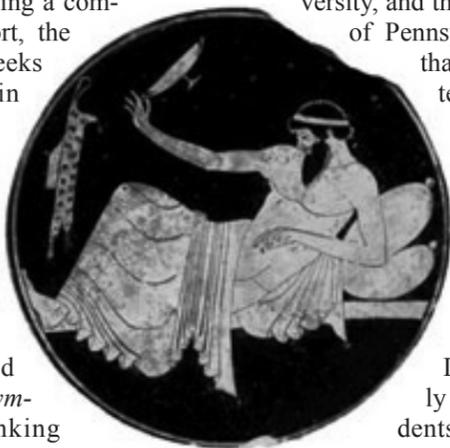
Freeman comments that such an international art exchange yields a greater sense of regional identity both within the regions visited by participants and their own native regions. This experience leaves a huge impact on the participants' lives. As Ai's main standard in choosing the candidates are "those who are not able to travel overseas under normal conditions, or those to whom traveling overseas has a very important meaning," the short visit in Kassel becomes their once in a lifetime opportunity to experience the world. It is remarkable to note that this is also the first exhibition of *Fairytale* in North America.

The exhibition has been receiving great feedback so far. "This show would be a blast if it were held in New York City. The audience was deeply impressed with the quality and sophistication of the exhibitions for a small liberal arts college in Central New York," said Prof. Goldberg. The trio of exhibitions is funded by the John B. Root '44 Exhibition Fund and is open to the public until January 4, 2009.

# Alert! Select Schools Become No Pong Zones

By Olivia B. Waxman '11  
FEATURES WRITER

Long before college students made imbibing a competitive sport, the ancient Greeks faced off in *Cottabos* (also *Kottabos*), a Sicilian drinking game that dates back to the Greek and Etruscan *symposia* (drinking parties) of the 4th and 5th centuries B.C. Players would fling wine from their cups to knock over targets called *plastinx*.



WWW.BRYNMAWR.EDU

**A Greek man playing an ancient drinking game called Kottabos.**

In the 1960s, Dartmouth College fraternities gave birth to "Beer Pong," using paddles to hit ping-pong balls into cups arranged in a triangular formation at opposite ends of a table. In the mid-1980s, Lehigh and Bucknell University frat boys ditched the paddles and rechristened the game "Beirut" in light of the bombing of American barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.

Now, in the 21st century, many elite schools are cracking down on the college pastime, as 44 percent of students at four-year colleges are binge drinking, according to the Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study, published in July 2008.

While college students

have always reveled in the spirited competitiveness of drinking games, administrators at Tufts University, Georgetown University, and the University of Pennsylvania fear that such contests encourage players to drink too much too quickly. Georgetown University in Washington D.C. originally barred students from possessing specially made Beer Pong tables in the Fall of

2007, but amended the rule over the summer to allow students who can drink legally to own Beer Pong tables.

"That said, a student found guilty of an alcohol infraction risks a more severe punishment if a Beer Pong table is found in his or her on-campus residence," Andy Pino, Georgetown's Director of Media Relations, explained. "We believe alcohol games are risky and unwise, and we encourage our students to be thoughtful about how they socialize," he added.

Tufts University in Medford, MA, proscribes drinking games altogether.

"Regardless of age, these games are prohibited at Tufts," said Marisel Perez, Associate Dean of Students at Tufts. "If we are aware that someone engaged

in this activity, he or she may be subject to disciplinary action."

The University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia also outlaws drinking games, but would not comment on how it enforces the ban—though one male sophomore, who wished to remain anonymous, observed that "Penn does not make much of an effort to enforce any sort of

in the dorms and at other sites like fraternities and sororities," Birch-Desai explains. "I think a school can easily put a ban on drinking games, but that doesn't necessarily mean they cannot be found."

Georgetown sophomore Margaret Massimo, 19, also admits that she has "seen no cutbacks on Beer Pong playing,



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM

**Will Hamilton College become a no Pong zone?**

ban on drinking games. It seems like Beer Pong (do you guys call it 'Beirut' up there?) and flip-cup [another popular drinking game] are nearly as ubiquitous on campus as beer itself."

Tufts' taboo has not sunk in with students either as they continue to sink cups in Beer Pong, according to sophomore Jaya Birch-Desai, 19.

"Beer Pong is still prevalent

either in 21-year old + houses or within dorms" in spite of the university's restrictions on the game. In fact, she argues that as far as underage binge drinking goes, playing Beer Pong is one of the more innocuous social activities.

"Not only is going out to bars more expensive, it also requires twice the illegal behavior (fake IDs and underage drinking), not

to mention the fact that the bar scene promotes much faster consumption of greater amounts of alcohol (pitchers, people buying rounds)," Massimo said. "Beer Pong usually divides two or three beers (and that's only if you lose) between two people, and it takes a much longer time to drink because it's part of a time-consuming game."

Of course, administrators realize that students will continue to play these games, regardless of the bans. In fact, Kenyon College in Gambier, OH, repealed its ban on drinking games in 2005 because the school did not want to "drive games underground," Shawn Presley, Kenyon's Director of Public Affairs, told *The New York Times*.

According to Perez at Tufts, the university relies on its residential staff and the Tufts University Police Department to carry out the ban, as well as other alcohol-related policies, though Perez acknowledges that underage drinking is not easy to prevent.

"Success in preventing drinking games is a relative term," she adds. "I think education, including peer education, is most effective in addressing these issues."

So will Hamilton College become a "No Pong Zone?" "We have no intention of banning Beer Pong at the moment," said Nancy Thompson, Dean of Students at Hamilton. "If it became a problem, if someone was endangered, if someone had to go to the hospital, then we'd consider it. At this point, it has not created those problems."

## "Volunteers in Service to America" (VISTA) @ Hamilton

By Nora Grenfell '12  
FEATURES WRITER

This Monday, October 27, Heather Savoy, program coordinator of the AmeriCorps VISTA program, will be speaking with Hamilton seniors about opportunities available to them through the program. VISTA, or Volunteers in Service to America and has been in existence since 1965. The VISTA program is like "the domestic version of the PeaceCorps," said Amy James, Coordinator of Special Projects at Hamilton. VISTA workers are committed for at least one year and are directly involved in projects that combat poverty in urban and rural areas across the country. VISTA workers primarily assist in the administrative handling of multiple initiatives rather than a single community service project.

This methodology is reflected in the vast array of projects handled by Hamilton's VISTA workers. Hamilton currently has four VISTA workers on Campus, three of whom are Hamilton graduates. "As a member of Campus Compact and a non-profit educational

institution, Hamilton is eligible to write a grant for a VISTA worker," said James. Last spring, she was able to bring Jeremy Wattles to campus. So far, Wattles has helped HAVOC to "expand their reach into the community and sustain programs that are already running." His involvement extends into the ABC (A Better Chance) program in Clinton, USE (Urban Service Experience) pre-orientation program, Alternative Spring Break, and more. Wattles has worked with recent Hamilton graduate Jordan Fischetti '08 to organize Monday's event.

Recent Hamilton graduates working with AmeriCorps VISTA also include Stephanie Wolter '07, and Michael Allen '08.

All of the VISTA workers have integrated the Hamilton community with their community service outreach initiatives. Wolter is the coordinator of Project SHINE (Students Helping in the Naturalization of Elders), a

program that engages Hamilton students with refugees and immigrants living in Utica. Project SHINE is a nationwide organization, drawing participation from

the ESOL teachers and organizing events for the participants.

Michael Allen works with Russian residents at the F.X. Matt Apartment Community

Garden in Utica. The project has a strong history with Hamilton students, having been created by Jenney Stringer '08 and continued by Rachel Bigelow '10 before coming to Allen. Allen works with Hamilton's Russian classes to bring them to the garden where they speak with the residents. Allen feels "the residents greatly appreciate our presence and support." For his second project, beginning next spring, Allen will coordinate students to prepare tax returns for low to middle income families.

Fischetti has helped to pioneer the Bonner Leader program, a two year commitment that matches Hamilton students to special community service projects in Utica. He meets

weekly with the participants and oversees their placement at different sites. "Although leading this program can be difficult at times," said Fischetti, "working with my Bonner Leaders makes it worthwhile. They are all truly hard-working, intelligent, and good-hearted young adults."

Next semester, Fischetti will also be involved in the West Side project, which will focus on the "long neglected" northwestern region of Utica. According to Fischetti, "one thing that working for AmeriCorps has taught me is to expect the unexpected. Thus, I might be coordinating a project next semester about which I have heard nothing yet."

According to the AmeriCorps VISTA website, "recent graduates gain the kind of real-world experience they can't find in a typical entry-level job. Experienced adults apply their skills and knowledge to serious social problems and discover previously untapped strengths." Seniors interested in the opportunities provided by VISTA are welcome to register for the Information Session this Monday in the Science Center at noon.



WWW.WWVC.COM

18 colleges across the country.

Said Wolter, "the program aims to enable immigrants, refugees and college students to build cross-cultural and cross-generational relationships. Each semester I'm responsible for recruiting students for the program." Wolter is also in charge of meeting with

## Thievery and Vice Overwhelm applewagon Tour

By Melissa Balding '09  
and Jerome Noel '09

ROADIES

In a move akin to 'traveling circus meets low-budget remake of Almost Famous' the Hamilton College band, applewagon, recently embarked on a Fall Break tour. Scheduled to play four shows in five days, the band *et al.* kept a hectic pace throughout the break.

"It was definitely a rough schedule for such a rag-tag, disorganized group of youngsters," reported Phil Tracy '09. "It felt a little bit like Luke must have been going through when he left Mos Eisley Spaceport with Han... 'Oh man, what the hell was I thinking?'"

"NERD!" added Sander Doucette '09

While the first off-campus show, played in the living room of a Victorian-style tenement at Brown University, was heavily attended by Hamilton students, only four non-Hamilton students were in the crowd, two of whom were invited in off the street. We assume the show went pretty well and must confess we have not yet found an attendee who remembers it.

"I can't say that the first time I had my pants stripped off by un-

ruly fans, but I was only happy to oblige," reminisced Dave Morony '09.

The second show, played in Andover Mass, entertained a more geriatric crowd. After getting drunk enough to forget inhibitions, many of these women preyed on Chris Kuhnhardt '10.

"Honestly, I was jealous," sighed Jerome Noel '09. "I wanted to play the cougar field in order to get a job next year. Chris was just that idiot dancing in front of the band."

"What can I say? The ladies love me." retorted Kuhnhardt.

The high note of the show occurred as the band played a late night rendition of their most controversial song, "You and Me," to the remaining six members of the crowd who had not already drunkenly wandered home. Andover became the unequivocal favorite stop of the tour after the catastrophe that befell the band the following night at Connecticut College.

What began as a simple barn show quickly turned into a three-ring circus of police cars, irate campus security officers, mad Rottweilers, and glow-in-the-dark condoms. The band had to change venues after having already set up and sound checked

at the first, only to be turned down at the second.

"They told us, after our first show was prematurely shut down, that the student activities group at Conn had all the equipment we needed. When we got there, we were shocked to find out they lied," said Doucette. "Then they tried to bribe us with condoms and smiles. While we were insulted, we took the condoms. I mean, we were on tour..."

Disappointment and resentment defined the mood of both bandmembers and fans after applewagon was not allowed to play on campus.

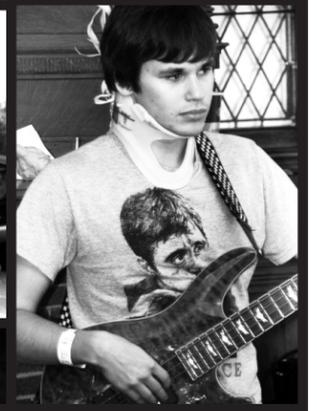
"We were robbed of a show, plain and simple. Our show at Conn was handled by the most unprofessional group of incompetent nitwits this side of Wasilla, Alaska," said Charlie Kaplan '11. "They should seriously consider running as candidates in 2012."

"Cowards!" added Mason Fried '10.

Despite the disappointments of the eve, the Conn stop had one positive twist. In between the unforeseen arrival of the 5-8 Connecticut police officers that threatened to prematurely shut down the original show venue and the even more un-

foreseen return of the same aforementioned officers who *did* prematurely shut down the show, another band formed amidst the confusion and fury. After only one bandmember got tickets to an upcoming Phish concert (and all five of them tried), an offshoot band called "Crustacean" was born. Some band members switched up instru-

ments, while two roadies honed their musical skills. The member with Phish tickets was not invited to play.



*Things applewagon learned on tour:*

- Can you play Bass in a neckbrace? (Sort of)
- Do kids at Brown have fun? (No)
- Can Mason's parents get funky? (Absolutely)
- Is Connecticut a police state? (Absolutely)
- How much beer does it take to get a puppy drunk? (Not as much as we thought)\*
- Could the Buffers cover an applewagon song? (Honey, the Buffers can do any song we want)\*\*

\*No puppies were harmed or intoxicated during the tour  
\*\*Answer provided by resident tour Buffer Chris Kuhnhardt '10



## Hogwarts at Hamilton Brings Magic to Clinton

by Rebekah Mintzer '09  
SENIOR EDITOR

Tonight and tomorrow night, Hogwarts at Hamilton invites muggles of all ages to ELS to participate in an interactive tour of the "Hogwarts Academy of Witchcraft and Wizardry." This annual event features Hamilton students playing the parts of Harry Potter characters and acting out comical scenes from the book series. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated and will be given to the Children's Room of the Kirkland Town Library to help promote children's literacy.

"The production is largely improvised, and that makes it so much fun for the actors. I love all the references that we make to the books, and how we completely become our characters," said Fiona MacQuarrie '09, who will play Hermione Granger this year.

Hogwarts cast members rehearse substantially for their weekend of performances and try their best to get into character

without working from a script. ELS is decorated to resemble Hogwarts, and costumes and props are used to make the experience more realistic. Performances in the past years have included improvised Quidditch practice in the Gryffindor Common Room, (the room with windows at the side of ELS) and arguing with Professor Snape in the Potions Classroom (the ELS basement). This year, the stops on the tour will include Divinations Class, a Dumbledore's Army meeting, and more. "I'm playing the role of Quidditch chaser Angelina Johnson in the Defense Against the Dark Arts Class," said Sally Powell '09, "We're performing a classroom scene where we fight over Quidditch and plot against the nefarious professor."

"We perform our scenes about 45 times during the weekend, and it can get a bit tir-

ing, so the most challenging aspect of the performance is keeping the energy level high. We manage to pull it off each year, though!" said MacQuarrie.

Many members of Hogwarts agree that the most gratifying part of being in the club is seeing the reactions of the many area children that visit Hogwarts each fall.

"They ask all sorts of questions, so many of them truly be-

lieve they're at Hogwarts, which is brilliant," said Sally Powell '09. "Of course they want to know if I know Harry, and where I'll play my next match. It's great!"

Along with making young Harry Potter fans feel that they are really living in the books, Hogwarts at Hamilton gives children in the Clinton area a fun activity to do around Halloween time. It draws droves of kids and their families, sometimes dressed as Hogwarts characters themselves, who line up outside ELS for the tours every year.

"I think it's a wonderful organization that fosters more positive town-gown relations," said Hillary Fixelle '09, who plays Romilda Vane this year, "plus, the enthusiasm from the children is enormously rewarding and makes it a truly worthwhile endeavor."

Kristin Webster '09 is on the e-board

for Hogwarts at Hamilton and plays the role of Pansy Parkinson. She also is in charge of making costumes for many of the Hogwarts students. Webster has been involved in Hogwarts for four years and described this, her final year in the production, as bittersweet.

"Everyone has their Harry Potter dork side, or some other thing they really enjoyed when they were younger, and some still enjoy those things," she said. "So come to Hogwarts to support your friends, and indulge your inner Harry Potter geek for one weekend out of the year, it's okay to let it show."

The earlier tours are geared towards children, while the later tours, if attended entirely by an older college-aged crowd may feature more adult humor and general pandemonium. This year, tours will take place on the hour every hour tonight at 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11, and on Saturday at 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11. There are no 9 pm tours. Early arrival to sign up is suggested because tours can fill up quickly.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HAYLEE REIN '09

Hamilton students transform into each of the popular Harry Potter characters.

# Nick and Norah's Mediocre Playlist

By Rebekah Mintzer '09  
SENIOR EDITOR

Entering the theater to see *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist*, I expected to see another charming, winsome teen movie a la *Juno*. After all, both films star Michael Cera playing opposite a quick-witted, offbeat brunettes and feature trendy-for-thirty-seconds indie soundtracks. I was proved wrong, however, because beyond these basic similarities, *Nick and Norah's* has nothing much in common with *Juno*, perhaps because director Peter Sollett can't save a script that can't shine a light to Diablo Cody's.

*Nick and Norah's* tells the story of two New Jersey teens embarking on a night of adventure in New York City and finding love along the way. Nick (Michael Cera) is a sweet and introverted teen, the only straight member of a queer-core band called *The Jerkoffs*. He meets fellow music fanatic Norah (Kat Dennings) by accident during one of his shows. Norah enlists him to pretend to be her boyfriend to make another girl, Tris (Alexis Dzeina), jealous. Turns out Tris is Nick's ex girlfriend who recently dumped him and broke his heart. Add one

crazy boozing best friend (Ary Graynor), two benevolent and rockstar wannabes (Aaron Yoo and Rafi Gavron), and a secret performance by a fictional indie band called *Where's Fluffy?*, and you have a rowdy, if not always so funny romp through the city

than Cera can muster up. Though his deadpan is charming, it gets old fast and desiccates potential chemistry between him and his leading lady. Dennings on the other hand is quite good—her character is genuine, likeable and as three dimensional as the rather cliché ridden script will allow.

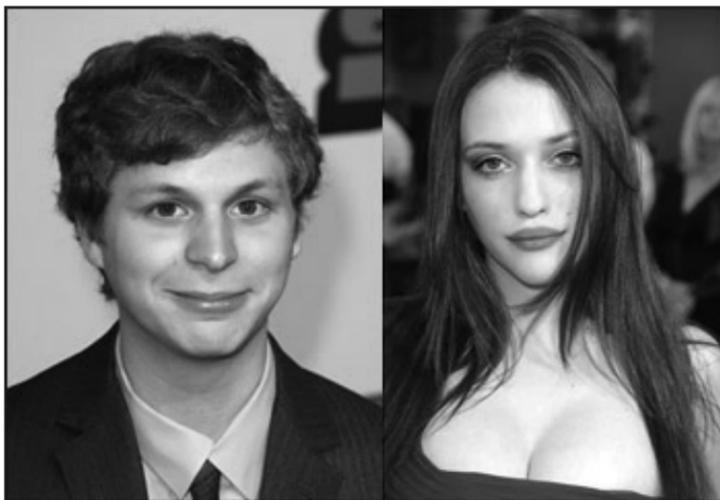


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.MICHAELCERA.COM

**Michael Cera and Kat Dennings star in *Nick and Norah*.**

that never sleeps.

One major downfall of the film was the underacting of Cera who though charming in *Juno* and the TV series *Arrested Development*, has proven that he can only play one-note characters, and that note is awkward. While that may have worked just fine in his previous roles, the role of Nick requires a little more range

The best surprise of the movie though may be Ari Graynor who plays lovable drunk Caroline in a performance that somehow manages to combine the drunken mannerisms and vocalizations of every goofy inebriated girl you've ever met into one hot mess.

The script provided for a few laugh out loud moments, but I ex-

pected more of the quick banter of *Juno* and ended up seeing drawn out sarcasm that tried to be edgy but was really just kind of prosaic. Though the characters shoot a few zingers at each other, much of the comedy did not get the theater laughing and came out sounding clunky and awkward. One scene involving chewed gum and a toilet (I'll leave the rest to your imagination), and one lousy pickup line "You wouldn't have to get over me if you were still under me." were more reminiscent of gross-out teen shtick than the smarter, more sophisticated teen comedy that Nick and Norah purports to be.

Despite its faults, it is hard not to appreciate *Nick and Norah's* depiction of New York City and the local music scene. Nick, Norah, and company visit hollowed New York venues like Arlene's Grocery and the Bowery Ballroom, filmed here in their full neon-lit glory. The cinematography is excellent, and captures the vibrancy and energy of the city at night. The change in scenery from other teen movies allows for a showcase of hipper and edgier characters whose values correlate more with the urban rather than the suburban that is typical of teen comedies. Nick and Norah idolize punk bands, not the Homecoming king and queen. It's too bad the rest of the film doesn't live up to its appealing premise.

## Weekly Charts

by Jennifer Vano '09  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

### MUSIC

(From *billboard.com*)

#### TOP ALBUMS

1. Kenny Chesney-Lucky Old Sun.
2. T.I.-Paper Trail
3. Ray LaMontagne-Gossip in the Grain
4. Metallica-Death Magnetic
5. Jennifer Hudson-Jennifer Hudson
6. Kid Rock- Rock N Roll Jesus
7. Keane-Perfect Symmetry
8. Ne-Yo-Year of the Gentleman
9. Lucinda Williams-Little Honey
10. James Taylor-Covers

#### TOP SONGS

1. Whatever You Like-T.I. F
2. Live Your life-T.I. feat. Rihanna
3. So What-Pink
4. Womanizer-Britney Spears
5. Hot N Cold-Katy Perry

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<b>SAW V</b>	●1:30●3:30-5:50-8:00▲10:10 DTS R
PRIDE AND GLORY EDWARD NORTON COLIN FARRELL	●1:50-4:35-7:20▲10:00 DTS R
<b>MAX PAYNE</b> #1 MOVIE IN AMERICA! MARK WAHLBERG	●12:40●3:00-5:15-7:30▲9:40 PG-13
DISNEY'S BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA	●12:05●2:10-4:20-6:30▲8:40 PG
W. JOSH BROLIN RICHARD DREYFUS	●1:35-4:15-6:50▲9:25 PG-13
THE EXPRESS	●2:00-7:00 PG
SEX DRIVE	4:40▲9:45 R
QUARANTINE	●1:40●3:40-5:40-7:50▲10:05 R
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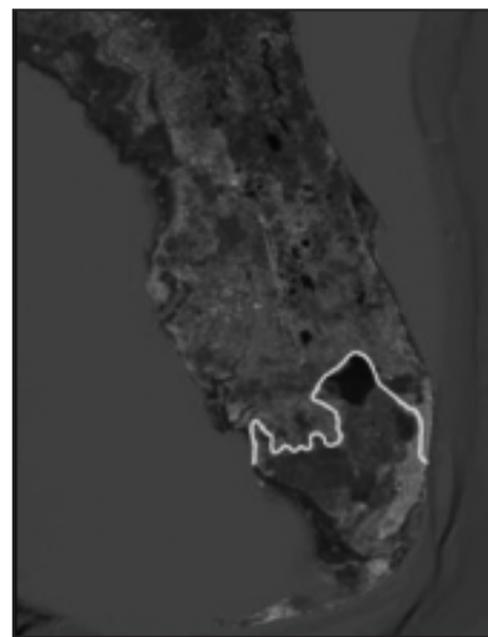
## Everglades Big Sugar Buyout: Green or Greedy?

by Saad S. Chaudhry '12  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

In June, Governor Charlie Crist announced that Florida will purchase 300 square miles of the Everglades for a price tag of \$1.75 billion as a part of an environmental restoration project that would result in Florida's largest land acquisition in history. Though this deal sounds like a proposition that would please the tree-huggers and state officials alike, there is one critical problem—critics of this deal say that the purchase will actually help Big Sugar more than it will the environment.

The Everglades is a subtropical wetland located in southern Florida, and it is essentially a mix of complex ecosystems, including cypress swamps, tropical hardwood hammocks, the estuarine mangrove forests of the Ten Thousand Islands, pine rockland, and the marine Florida Bay. The health of the Everglades is in imminent danger due to the "loss of wetlands, disrupted timing and flows of water, deterioration of water quality, reductions in wading birds and other species, declining lake and estuary health, and loss of native habitat to exotic species," according to the Environmental Florida Organization.

Gov. Crist claims that the purchase of the Everglades, which is scheduled to be com-



The Everglades are subtropical wetlands that are in peril due to pollution from the sugar industry in Florida.

pleted in early 2009, will help "jump start" Florida's plan for environmental restoration by reducing the water pollution caused by fertilizer runoff, for which sugarcane growers are noted as the primary cause.

However, critics believe that this deal is economically unstable, due to the fact that Florida will be purchasing Everglades property from only one sugar company, the United States Sugar Corporation. Hence, this buyout would allow a monopoly to form, since only one other major sugar corporation exists: Florida Crystals, which is owned by the famous Fanjuls family—one of the

wealthiest families in the United States.

Additionally, many insiders, including former employees of United States Sugar Corp, believe that Florida may in fact be using the claim of restoring the Everglades as the principle reason for the magnanimous land purchase simply as a way to cover up another reason for paying Big Sugar big bucks—the U.S. Sugar Corp. is deep in debt, troubled by a new local sugar mill, and several former employees have filed suit against it, claiming they were cheated out of retirement money. Thus, these insiders claim Florida is planning on "unethi-

cally" spending tax dollars to ease off the executives of United States Sugar Corp. so that they can retire comfortably, rather than continue to sink into debt and roll down the pathway to a crippling end without significant payoffs.

To add to the controversy, Attorney Dexter Lehtinen filed suit against the Big Sugar land deal in early August, claiming the deal was brokered in private meetings absent from public knowledge, which are illegal according to Florida's Sunshine Law. The law mandates advance disclosures of government meetings and their agendas.

Nonetheless, as Gov. Crist detailed this acquisition for Florida's restoration project, many advocates and insiders who had heard rumors of the deal were utterly shocked and speechless that such an unimaginable acquisition could ever take place. Years of war between United States Sugar Corp. and Florida over the tremendous pollution the sugar company produced preceded this historic event, and the fact that Big Sugar can legally avoid punishments through corporate loopholes made the possibility of Florida's buyout of the

see *Who Benefits*, page 14

## Solutioneering: How Text Messaging is Getting Out the Vote and Changing Business as Usual

by Dave Riordan '09  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SPECIAL  
CORRESPONDENT

Remember those simpler times when we didn't know who Senators McCain and Obama would pick as their Vice-Presidential nominees? It feels like decades ago, but there was a time before "Hockey Mom" was a punchline and the media thought "Gaffezilla" was a poorly foreign translated movie. It was August and anticipation was in the air: literally. In the early hours of August 23rd, 2008, the Obama campaign made their announcement of running mate Joe Biden to the world over-the-air through a simple mobile text message.

That text message was the Obama campaign's secret weapon for voter turnout.

In the weeks leading up to the announcement, the Obama campaign's media team had been hyping the announcement, using every interview to encourage people to "Text VP to 62262" to be the first to find out who the nominee would be. Meanwhile the "sign up to find out" message was the centerpiece of a

massive online ad campaign for much of August, eventually encouraging three million people to sign up.

By the time the text message went out around 3 a.m. on August 23, the Obama campaign had compiled what was perhaps the largest list of campaign supporters' mobile phone numbers ever assembled.

So far, there haven't been any reports of the campaign using this list to make terrifying "robocalls," but doing that would squander the value of the list. Rather, the campaign likely plans to use the list of three million mobile numbers to send out one final text message right before the election: a simple reminder to vote on November 4. It's like a reverse *American Idol*.

By collecting the mobile phone numbers of 3 million likely voters, the Obama campaign will theoretically be able to mobilize supporters to get to the polls, using a tactic cutting edge marketers have been advocating for years for their corporate clients.

Does it work? Absolutely. A 2006 study conducted by the

New Voters Project found that a text message reminder increased the likelihood of a new voter actually showing up to vote by 4.2 percent and was considered "helpful" by 59 percent of recipients. For the campaign consultants, the real value is the price: only \$1.56 per vote cast. While it's just as effective in turning out voters as a "quality" phone call, the call costs about \$20 per vote cast, meaning it's efficacy and cost effectiveness makes it a viable tactic for upstart campaigns. Get Out The Vote just got a lot more accessible.

And yes, even "likely" voters don't turn out some times. I spent a good deal of time working on my local Congressional primary, which coincidentally was the same morning I bought an iPhone. Even though I was involved in the campaign, I'd completely forgotten it was primary day, and as I sat in the parking lot, checking my e-mail on the iPhone for the first time, I got a message reminding me to vote. The race wasn't even close, but getting that e-mail on my phone was what got me to the polls that morning.

Rana Sobhany knows a thing

or two about the intersection of politics and mobile. She's a former grassroots campaign consultant turned rockstar publicist turned mobile guru who's currently the head of marketing for Medialets, a creative ad network for the iPhone, Android, and other rich-mobile devices. "As campaigns begin to shift their focus to digital, the promise of mobile becomes the epitome of personalized reach to constituents. The mobile phone is the most personal device one owns, particularly in middle America where mobile phones are far more ubiquitous and constantly connected than computers, which makes it the clear platform of choice for large campaigns, spearheaded

by the Obama camp."

This tactic could be the difference between electoral victory in several close states, mobilizing enough supporters to turn out to counteract the undecided voters who turn out for the other side. Whether it's enough to counteract the "Bradley Effect" is yet to be seen, but in a race where pollsters are only starting to come to terms with the "cell phone gap," using mobile phones could turn out to be one of the most valuable tactics in any campaign's arsenal.

On November 4, watch the screens.

Disclosure: David Riordan has previously worked with Medialets.

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~MAX PLANCK

## The Nobel Prizes 2008: Physiology or Medicine

by Jessica Carroll '12

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine has been awarded every year since 1901. The first went to a German by the name of Emil Adolf von Behring for his work with diphtheria. Recently, another round of nobel laureates was chosen, and this year there are three recipients of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Harald zur Hausen received one half of the prize for his work in identifying the human papilloma virus as the cause of cervical cancer. It had been thought that cervical cancer was caused by the herpes simplex virus, which actually only causes herpes of the mouth as its first strain, and genital warts or herpes of the genitals as its second strain. One quarter of this year's prize went to Françoise Barré-Sinoussi for her discovery of the human immunodeficiency virus, more commonly known as HIV. She completed her work with Luc Montagnier, who received the remaining quarter of the prize.

While both of these discoveries were completed over twenty years ago, only now is it becoming apparent how significant they really were. For example, in an interview with Adam Smith, of the Nobel Foundation web site, zur Hausen discussed how his ideas were "not very welcome" in the community of those who were convinced that "herpes simplex type two would do it."

Hausen began researching the



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**From left to right: Harald zur Hausen, Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, and Luc Montagnier. 192 people have received the prize since 1901, making it one of the most exclusive in the world.**

papilloma virus after failing to find evidence of simplex DNA in cervical cancer cells. There was anecdotal evidence connecting cervical cancer to the papilloma strain, but zur Hausen was the first one to recognize and further investigate the findings. Even then, it took him approximately ten years to find the genotypes that were causing most of the diseases, HPV16 and HPV18.

His research facilitated a vaccine, Gardasil, which helps to prevent HPV types 6, 11, 16 and 18. The first two cause 90 percent of genital warts cases, and the latter 70 percent of cervical cancer. This drug would not have been possible without zur Hausen's research, as he was not only the one to discover which virus was causing the cancer, but also the one to identify specific strains.

Gardasil is effective due to the

fact that it uses non-infectious, virus-like particles to stimulate the body to produce antibodies directly corresponding to the unwanted invaders. This drug is incredibly important because out of all the different types of cancer, cervical cancer is the fifth leading cause of death in developed countries and the first in those still developing. The vaccine can prevent 70 percent of these deaths.

Unfortunately, Barré-Sinoussi and Montagnier's discovery still has not yielded a viable vaccine. Human immunodeficiency virus, HIV, causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, AIDS, which has killed approximately 25 million people since December 1, 1981, when it was first recognized.

HIV is hard to combat due to the fact that it is a retrovirus, or has a genome of RNA, and uses

the reverse transcriptase enzyme to insert its genome into that of the infected cells. In addition, it has a high genetic variability, making it nearly as impossible to cure as the common cold. This is so because it is constantly evolving though each new generation has a high replication rate. A person infected with only one type of the virus at the beginning of the day can be

carrying multiple variants by the end of the day. Thusly, the virus is impossible to pin down and create a specific antigen for, as was the case for HPV.

Even so, Barré-Sinoussi and Montagnier have given scientists plenty of time. Their discovery came only two years after the first reported case of AIDS. Since their discovery 25 years ago, all we we have learned is how HIV is transmitted and how to suppress it once somebody becomes infected. HIV can be transmitted through blood, semen, vaginal fluid, pre-ejaculate or breastmilk. While it can be found in the saliva, tears, and urine of those who are infected, there have been no known cases of transmittance through those fluids. However, at least now we know how to prevent HIV from spreading and also how to extend the lifespans of those that were infected before and have been infected since.

Overall, all three of these scientists have made important contributions to the world by helping to make it a better and healthier place.



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**The Nobel Prize medal is 18-karat green gold plated with 14-karat gold and was named after Alfred Nobel.**

## Who Benefits from Everglades Buyout?

from *Everglades*, page 13

United States Sugar Corp ever more difficult to comprehend, and yet ever more musical to hear.

"It's so exciting," said Margaret McPherson, vice president of the Everglades Foundation. "I'm going to do cartwheels." The owners of Florida Crystals, the Fanjuls family, will likely join McPherson with the cartwheeling, but certainly not for the same reasons, for instead of having the "green syndrome," they have the greed bug.

Never heard of the Fanjuls? Well, if you have ever bought Domino Sugar, C&H Sugar, or any other bag of sugar from a national retailer, such as Wal-Mart, Kroger, or Safeway, you have essentially patronized the Fanjuls' Florida Crystals. If you have ever taken a pill or eaten a granola bar, you have likely supported Florida Crystals. Even if you have imported sugar from Mexico or the Dominican Republic, chances are you still contributed to a Fanjul's bank account.

If Gov. Crist succeeds in effectively buying out the United States Sugar Corporation, then the Fanjuls will have complete dominance over a market where their influence is already deeply-rooted. Such amplification of power could have devastating outcomes on other markets that purchase and use sugar as a component of their products. For instance, several candy and cereal firms are opposed to this deal since they believe the price of sugar will increase when the sugar market is, in essence, monopolized due to government activity.

This brings a question to mind: how capitalistic is the U.S. economy when a component of the United States government, the Florida state government, is actually forcing a market into a monopoly by shutting out a critical competitor and stimulating the loss of over 1,900 jobs during one of the most economically unstable periods in U.S. history? E-mail us your responses to this question at [specsci@hamilton.edu](mailto:specsci@hamilton.edu) and we will publish your thoughts in next week's issue of *The Spectator*.

## Did You Know That? Wacky Facts: Spaced Out, Yo

by Jessica Carroll '12  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

- In Gulliver's Travels, Jonathan Swift described the two moons of Mars, Phobos and Deimos, giving their exact size and speeds of rotation. He wrote the book more than 100 years before either moon was discovered.

- Traveling at the speed of 186,000 miles per second, light take six hours to travel from Pluto to the earth.

- Tiny dust particles surround a comet. They are swept into a long tail by the solar wind, which consists of subatomic particles speeding from the sun at speeds of hundred of miles per second.

- To an observer standing on Pluto, the sun would appear no brighter than Venus appears in our evening sky.

- A bucket filled with earth would weigh about five times more than the same bucket filled with the substance of the sun. However, the force of gravity is so much greater on the sun that the man weighing 150 pounds on our planet would weigh two tons on the sun.

- Uranus' orbital axis is tilted at 90 degrees.

- Time slows down near a black hole; inside it stops completely. That would be useful for studying, wouldn't it?

- The proper name of earth's satellite is Luna. The grammar books say that "moon" (and likewise "earth" and "sun") should be lower case, with the exception of when "earth" is in a list with other planets. The earth is Terra; the sun is Sol. This is where we get the words "extraTERrestrial" and "SOLar".

- A brown dwarf is a very small, dark object, with a mass less than 1/10 that of the Sun. They are 'failed stars' globules of gas that have shrunk under gravity, but failed to ignite and shine as stars.

- Only one satellite has ever been destroyed by a meteor: the European Space Agency's Olympus in 1993.

- A cosmic year is the amount of time it takes the sun to revolve around the center of the Milky Way, about 225 million years.

- A day on Mercury is twice as long as its year. Mercury rotates very slowly but revolves around the sun in slightly less than 88 days.

- A dog was killed by a meteor at Nakhla, Egypt, in 1911. The unlucky canine is the only creature known to have been killed by a meteor.

## Soccer Finishes Regular Season at Home This Weekend's League Matches Will Decide Play-Off Fate

by Daniel Hagemeyer '12  
SPORTS WRITER

The Hamilton College Men's Soccer Team had a tough schedule last week with three games in five days. The Continentals played both Skidmore College and Union College at home on consecutive days and traveled to Utica College for the last game before fall break. Overall, the team finished with two wins and one loss during the week.

On October 10, Head Coach Perry Nizzi's team played Skidmore College on Love Field. The Continentals took the lead 20 minutes into the game after Sam Dwyer '10 scored his second goal of the season. Skidmore tied the score in the eightieth minute on a goal following a free kick. However, Hamilton again was able to rely on forward Jesse Arroyave '11 who scored four minutes later on an unassisted goal to decide the game 2-1 for the Continentals. The victory marked the fifth win in the last six games against Skidmore College and improved the overall series record to an impressive 23-4-1. The Continentals held a 10-9 edge in shots on net and took nine corner kicks during the game.

The next day, the Continentals took on Union College. Arroyave scored once again when he headed the ball into the net following an assist from Marcus Dormanen '10 in the twenty-third

minute. Union College tied the game when goalkeeper Anthony Carello '09 unfortunately collided with one of his defenders in an attempt to secure the ball. With only two minutes to go in the first overtime, visiting Union College scored off a free kick to

year's fourth shutout. Hamilton College now leads the overall series against Union College with a 29-1 record.

Additionally, the men's soccer team has been successful off the field as well lately. Arroyave has been honored as the Liberty League's soccer co-

Offensive Performer of the Week on October 13 and he was named the league's weekly award winner only seven days later. He shared the second award with goalkeeper Carello who helped to record



PHOTO COURTESY OF HANNAH ADAMS '10

**Tom Goulder '12 makes a move to evade a Union opponent.**

win the game 2-1. The Continentals held a 15-12 advantage in shots and still lead the overall series 28-27-8. The team's home record is now 4-2.

On October 15, Hamilton traveled to Utica College for a non-league match. The Continentals took a quick lead in the thirteenth minute as Michael Hannan '09 recorded his first goal of the season when he headed the ball into the net following a corner kick by Paul Moakler '10. In the sixty-first minute, team captain Max Akuamoah-Boateng '09 dribbled the ball through Union's defensive line to loft a nice pass to Arroyave who scored his seventh goal of the season and has now scored once in each of the past three games. In the sixty-fifth minute, Frank Campagnano '12 notched his third goal of the season off an assist of Arroyave to finalize the 3-0 win and this

Hamilton's shutout against Utica College.

For the next two games of the season, the men's soccer team will travel to Vassar College and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. The team will finish the regular season in a home game against SUNY Geneseo on November 1.

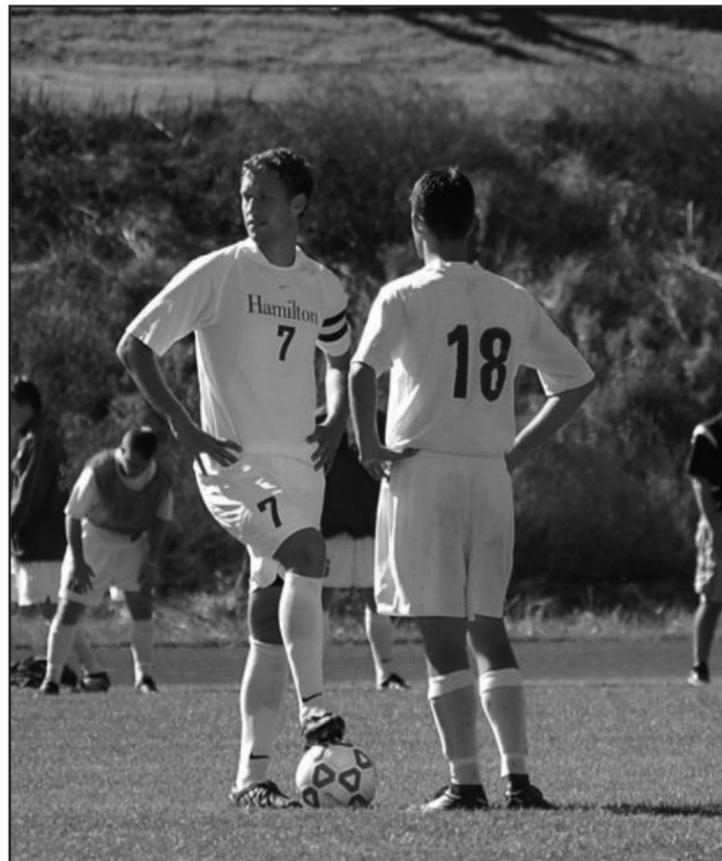


PHOTO COURTESY OF HANNAH ADAMS '10

**Mike Hannan '09 and Paul Moakler '10 prepare to kick off.**

## IM Sports Update

### Softball Final Standings:

**First Place: Team Woo Woo**  
**Second Place: The Next Episode**  
**Third Place: Keehn-age Mutant Ninja Turtles**

### Golf Tournament Champions:

**Matt Mancini '09**  
**Zach Stratton '09**  
**Jim Chapman '09**  
**Dan Kroening '11**

## SOCCER PLAYOFFS BEGIN THIS WEEKEND!

### Football First Place Standings (as of 10/19/08)

**FC Badfish**  
**SMJ**  
**DU**

## John Bellona Inducted into Hall of Fame

*On October 2, John Bellona, Associate Vice President for Facilities and Planning at Hamilton College, was inducted into the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Athletic Hall of Fame. Rear Admiral J. Scott Burhal, superintendent of the Academy, and Dr. Ray Cieplik, director of athletics at the Coast Guard Academy, presented Bellona with a plaque at the ceremony taking place at the Officer's Club in New London, Connecticut.*

*Bellona is a retired Coast Guard Captain who graduated from the Academy in 1973. He was a member of the cross-country, indoor and outdoor track teams, and ran at the NCAA Division III Nationals in the 880 yard dash in 1973. Bellona was the record holder for the two-mile relay in indoor and outdoor track in 1972-73.*

*Bellona received his master of science in civil engineering from the University of Illinois in 1978, and has been employed at Hamilton College for 11 years. He is an assistant coach of the men's track team here at Hamilton.*

*Candidates accepted to the Coast Guard Hall of Fame have demonstrated outstanding participation in the Academy's intercollegiate athletic program, distinguished post-graduate achievements in civilian or military life, and have exhibited overall courage, leadership and well-roundedness.*



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## Congratulations!



# SPECTATOR SPORTS

October 24, 2008

## Cross-Country "Warriors" Take On Home Course

by James Russell '09

SPORTS WRITER

Pain and suffering await any runner brave enough to run the five-mile Hamilton cross-country course. The Hamilton team has proved over the last two years their ability to cope with the course better than other teams. The men's team closed out another successful home invitational with a 3rd place finish (out of ten teams) on Saturday, October 11.

The squad's historical success on their home grass will be especially important this year, as the State Championships will be decided at the mercy of the Hamilton course. In addition, the trenches of Hamilton will be a great stepping-stone to the ultimate goal for the team: success at the national qualifiers at St. Lawrence.

Luckily, Hamilton is home to probably the only human on earth that can dominate the golf course and the cornfields: Peter Kosgei '10. As he whipped the course into submission with a 24:39 (in case you were wondering, that's 4:58 a mile), Kosgei flicked 25 seconds off the course record.

Following in the wake of Kosgei's dominance was Will Reid '10 in 7th place with a time of



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES GREBEY '12

**Devon Lynch '11, Kevin Kerr '10 and Cuffie Winkler '10 stay in step during the Hamilton Invitational.**

27:06 (no course record but still, a very good time). Bill Reid continues to feed off the energy of a strong finish from last year.

Devon Lynch '11, Kevin Kerr '10, and Cuffie Winkler '10 partied up in the 27:39-27:47

range. The always-consistent Lynch eventually out-kicked the two juniors, whose vast improvement from last year eases the loss of some quick seniors from last season. "We each took something out of each other today," commented Cam Gaylord '09.

However, all was not sunny on the course that day. Keith Gross '09, Peter Woodruff '09, and Garret Armbruster '10 each suffered injuries during the race. However, their collective healthy contributions next race will add much depth to the team.

Apart of Hamilton's success on this day must be credited to the opening ceremonies. Reid, Lynch, Tim Olsen '11, and Ian "Lil" Wayne '12 sang the Star Spangled Banner before the race began.

For the Hamilton girl's team, running the course was a good learning experience for the young squad. Seven girls, including three freshmen and two Emily's, all ran under the 20 minutes mark for the 5k. The girls put together a very solid performance. The long, smooth

strides of Meredith Fitzpatrick '11 led the young herd with an 18:50. Watch out for her come championship season.

Not too far behind was Perry Ryan '12, in her personal collegiate best of 19:04. Abby King '09 powered her way to a 19:19, Emily Potter '12 marched a 19:38, Kate Hails '10 glided to a 19:44, Emily Gaudet '12 stepped to the tune of 19:57, and Gen Flanders '09 coasted to a 19:59. Their fifth place finish was misleading, as they were just 9 points out of 3rd place. With this kind of depth, the team has a chance to do some big things during championship season.

Hamilton is off to Saratoga this week and then championship season begins from thereon after. As many teams' legs begin to hit a wall, the Hamilton team continues to climb. Now is the time for them to trade in their old PR's for some brand new ones. That's what it will take if the team can reach their goal and qualify for the national championships. Prevailing on their home course certainly makes them worthy.

## Women's Soccer Hosts Vassar on Saturday

by Brandon Leibsohn '10

SPORTS EDITOR

An offensive barrage against Utica College last Saturday put the women's soccer team back in the hunt for a deep NCAA tournament run. After losing three tough games in a row, the Continentals were determined to right the ship and show the rest of the Liberty League that they still have what it takes to be an elite team. Three goals within the first 60 minutes of action gave the squad its highest scoring output since mid-September and kept Utica College from having any chance to squeeze out a victory. Despite being outshot by Utica, Hamilton was able to capitalize on its scoring opportunities and connect on three out of its 11 shots on net.

Anne Graveley '11 began the attack with her second goal of the year to give the Continentals the lead. Midfielder Ricki Feldman '10 had the best game of the season when she assisted on the first two goals of the game. Her second assist set up Lauren Farver '11 perfectly for a break-

away shot up the middle of the field. Farver beat the goalkeeper with a rocket to the right side of the net and gave the team a two goal lead heading into the half.

Despite holding a two goal lead, the Continentals were not

away shot up the middle of the field. Farver beat the goalkeeper with a rocket to the right side of the net and gave the team a two goal lead heading into the half.

away shot up the middle of the field. Farver beat the goalkeeper with a rocket to the right side of the net and gave the team a two goal lead heading into the half.



Kate Fowler '10 had eight saves against Utica College.

content on playing conservatively and kept on the attack. Fifteen minutes into the second half, team leader Erica Dressler '09 came through with her tenth goal of the season. She took the ball from the top of the box and punched it in over the goalie's outstretched arms. Her tenth goal of the year put her in second place on Hamilton's career goals list and she is within striking dis-

they did against Utica, then they should capture a much needed win. Vassar plays with an aggressive style that allows them to put pressure on their opponent's defense by forcing the issue on offense and fouling when necessary. Hamilton should be up to the challenge, so come out and support your Lady Continentals' move back into the postseason picture.

### Hamilton Sports This Weekend

Saturday October 25

Football v. Williams

Soccer (W) v. Vassar

Soccer (M) @ Vassar

Volleyball v. SUNY Cobleskill

Men's Crew @ Head of the Schuylkill Regatta

Women's Crew @ Head of the Schuylkill Regatta

Cross Country (M) @ Saratoga Invitational

Cross Country (W) @ Saratoga Invitational