

# THE DUEL OBSERVER

VOLUME XV, ISSUE VIII

“Knowe Thyself, Not Be Thyself.”

APRIL 2, 2010

## NEWSFLASH: OUR APRIL FOOLS JOKE WAS LAME! (But keep sending hate mail to jzappala@hamilton.edu.)

### HAMILTON GOES NEED-BLIND Blindness opens doors to starving orphans, ugly people

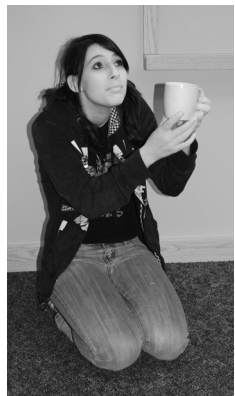
By Mr. Robinson '12

STEVIE WONDER-FUL DEPT.

(OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID) Hamilton College has decided to go “need-blind” in its admissions policy. While the news has been greeted with nearly unanimous enthusiasm, a few have raised strong complaints about the change.

Bemonocled sophomore Bartholomew Mantooth led a whale-oil lamp vigil outside the Admissions Office.

“My father, Cornelius Mantooth IV, slaved away giving sailing lessons in Connecticut for two whole summers to help pay for my five years of college! What have these penniless sympathy-mongers done to earn their keep?”



“Please sir, can I have some work study?”

“Poor people smell bad and they’re antisocial,” smelly, friendless junior Hiram Grundleson complained. “And they keep asking me to stop taking my wealth for granted. It makes my brain all confused.”

Such protests led one anonymous Admissions Office employee to reveal the cynical truth about the decision.

“All the other cool colleges were doing it: Swarthmore, Bowdoin, Amherst, the Ivies—everybody who’s anybody is going need-blind,” Spokesman John Nitterman admitted. “It’s similar to the period during the 90s, when we gave graduating seniors pogs instead of canes.”

*The Duel Observer*, being a totally legitimate publication, asked members of the Administration how they planned on funding the \$2 million increase in financial aid.

President Joan Hinde Stewart replied swiftly. “We sent an email to alumni explaining that because of our ‘need-aware’ policy, we had to turn down 3% of our admitted students, mostly brilliant young thinkers driven by a desire to rise out of poverty and bring about profound social change, and replace them with Jan Admits. Needless to say, the response was overwhelming.”

All resistance was finally quelled when Dean of Douchebaggery Timothy Dalton '87 put it in terms all members of the Hamilton community could agree with.

“We’re doing it to bitchslap all those schools that got hammered by the recession. We are literally handing out money to prospies! Suck on that, mothafuckasssss!”

### STUDENTS REPORT SPRING BREAK WAS “AMAZING”

Probably lying

By Ms. Adams '12

PANTS ON FIRE DEPT.

(MY SOFA) Students returned to the Hill this week with tales of intrigue and adventure from the break.

However, sources say that approximately 78.8% of these stories are bullshit.

“My roommate told me she went to Jamaica for a week,” Jenny Gilber '12 said. “But after I found a bottle of fake tanner on her dresser, she broke down and admitted that she’d really been in Jamaica, Queens the whole time. At least that made me feel better about the amount of time I spent playing online poker.”

Many students reported disillusionment, boredom and culture shock.

“Every time I come home I have to readjust to the fact that Keystone doesn’t grow on trees, and the food my mom cooks isn’t nearly as good as Diner B,” Josh Nichols '11 whined. “At least she knows how to roll a good J.”



Nancy Boatwright '12 lamented, “I started telling people about my ski trip to Colorado, but then I thought, who am I kidding? I really just spent the break on my couch enjoying the finer plot points of *Law and Order: SVU*.”

“And that’s depressing because it turns out there aren’t many finer plot points in *SVU*.”

“I had to get a wisdom tooth removed, which really sucked,” Matt Vinick '13 said. “I was so high on Vicodin that I thought I battled a dragon. That would probably have been really cool, if I hadn’t lost and been totally burninated.”

The students that actually did interesting things didn’t hesitate to rub it in.

“I was drunk on a beach in Orlando, Florida for two weeks, where I got in a fistfight with a pimp outside Universal Studios,” Cody Mills '12 said. “Somewhere, Alexander Hamilton is smiling.”

“I participated in AASB, or Alternative-Alternative Spring Break,” Haley Roberts '10 explained. “We didn’t actually build houses down in Myrtle Beach, but we thought about it. That’s where the alternative part comes in. We’re changing the world, one thought at a time.”

### SEARCH FOR URGO’S REPLACEMENT BEGINS

Top candidates: Assistant Dean Pat Reynolds,  
Sue Sylvester from *Glee*

By Ms. Ryder '10

WANTED: CAT HERDER! DEPT.

(BUTTRICK HALL) The search for Joe Urgo’s replacement as Dean of Faculty was finally publicly acknowledged by the Hamilton College Administration, who launched a countrywide search that will scour every college, university, and Denny’s on I-81.

“We thought about not bothering to look, you know, hire a work-study student to keep the seat warm until we got a new Dean of Faculty,” Spokesman John Nitterman said. “But apparently we can’t do that...something about the Trustees wanting to justify raising tuition north of fifty grand, I think.”

After taking a good long swig from a bottle of Jack under his desk, he added, “I’d apply for it myself, but I think my three scooter DUIs would disqualify me.”

“Staying true to our dedication to the Open Curric-

ulum, we’re trying a few different techniques in recruiting,” Search Committee head Andrew Crowley said. “In our New York City auditions, we asked our applicants to sing 16 bars of music from a contemporary musical and recite an original poem about why they want to be at Hamilton...and all in front of Simon Cowell.”

“Then, once we have twenty finalists, we’ll hold a Combine, and they’ll have to present their PhD dissertation, chug a Natty Light, and bench press 225 pounds until exhaustion.”

The application process is attempting to be as “Hamilton-inclusive” as possible, where every department from Admissions to Physical Plant has a say in the matter.

Admissions director Jerry Harris elaborated, “We’re looking for someone who will fit in with the Hamilton community and with the many well-rounded students and who can contribute to—” he stopped short and sighed.

“Sorry, I just finished writing like 3,000 rejection letters to idiot high-schoolers. Cut me a little slack here. Truth is, all we really need is someone with two legs and a willingness to be yelled at. A pulse is optional.”



“Urgo, you are the Susan Boyle of beards”

### In this issue: a fold!

#### CHINA SEA® REJECTED FORTUNES

By Ms. Tomkin '12

“He who passes out in Diner B with his shoes on become Sharpie transvestite in morning.”

#### WORDS OF WISDOM WITH MADELINE ALBRIGHT



“Madeline Albright doesn’t give a shit about what you did during ASB. My \$20 tip at that Asian ‘massage parlor’ helped some poor people too.”

BACK AT SCHOOL FORECAST	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
	Doing Linear Algebra Problem Set  79% chance of procrastination, watching <i>Space Jam</i>	Rewriting Government Paper  “Justice John Paul Stevens’ ruling on Pop-Tarts: Delicious, but fattening”	EVERYTHING IS DUE!  High probability of whiskey-fueled despair

## REJECTED RESEARCH PROPOSALS

By Ms. Tomkin '12

### I SMOKE, THEREFORE I AM STONED

Name: Mario Descartes

Major: Philosophy & Biology

Proposal: Descartes wanted to experiment on the physical and psychological effects of different strains of marijuana. Descartes preferred to be the sole test subject because, "I don't share my shit unless you buy me Taco Bell after."

Amount requested: \$400/week for an ounce of marijuana, \$50/week for fast food and/or vending machine purchases

### I CAN HAZ SOCIOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTATION?

Name: Louisiana Purchase

Major: Sociology

Proposal: Purchase wished to test the way in which people of different social categories react to Youtube clips of puppies, kittens, and other assorted cute animals running through fields chasing butterflies while the sky rains glitter. Reactions would be filmed and data would be organized based on the test subjects' age, gender, ethnicity, socio-economic class, and the size of their heart.

Amount requested: \$100 for video equipment

### JANE EYRE'S MONEY SHOT

Name: Janet Weiss

Major: Art & English

Proposal: Weiss wished to take the heavily descriptive literature from Victorian Era romance novels and use the descriptions to draw scenes from the books in the style of Anime pornography.

Amount requested: \$300 for the Norton Anthology of Victorian Literature, \$40 for art supplies, \$19.95 for "Harajuku Lovers Part II: Say Yes to Bondage" for creative inspiration + \$4.50 shipping and handling

### HITTIN' THAT, LITERALLY

Name: Samantha Forloko

Major: Neuroscience

Proposal: Proposed to assess the brain damage to an individual after hitting them on the head multiple times with a blunt object. IQ tests will be administered after each concussion, knock out, or death.

Amount requested: \$3.00 for the candlestick, \$8.00 for the wrench, \$0.50 for the lead pipe, \$60.00 to hire out Mr. Boddy to be the test subject

### HITTIN' THAT, ALSO LITERALLY

Name: Rick Jagger

Major: Dance

Proposal: Jagger wanted to attempt every position in The Kama Sutra to test the effect of sex on the body's flexibility and the muscles used with each position. Jagger was considered for acceptance but was ultimately rejected after he started dry humping the chair during his interview.

Amount requested: \$200/night for prostitutes, \$0.99 for the iKamaSutra iPhone app

## SPRING BREAK TRAVEL DIARY: MOZAMBIQUE EDITION



By Mr. Leubsdorf '10

Last spring break when I was abroad, my friends and I were supposed to take a flight from Tete in northern Mozambique to the capital city Maputo, but there was a screw up. The next available flight was four days away, so instead we opted to take a public bus for the 30-hour drive to Maputo. Here is my real, live journal from that journey.

### Tuesday Morning

3:27- Got on bus. It's going to be crowded. Yay! Also, before boarding, I saw three stray dogs viciously fighting each other at the bus stop. A good omen!

4:11- Bus still hasn't left from bus station, which looks like a junkyard. Kristen feels nauseous.

4:44- Bus finally leaves.

5:32- Dawn.

6:02- Pit stop, no one got off of bus. A vendor offered me a bag of native Mozambican food known as Kellogg's Corn Pops. Also, threw a bag of Kristen's vomit out of bus window. Nearly hit vender.

6:23- I'm very uncomfortable in my seat because I am pinned between window and a huge fatass, who we nicknamed "Big Papa."

8:00- Nauseous.

8:48- Attacked by curtain blowing in my face.

9:00- If someone in high school told me that my Spanish would be practically applied to speak Portuguese in Bumblefuck, Mozambique, I would have laughed in their face. Hahahaha! Shoot me.

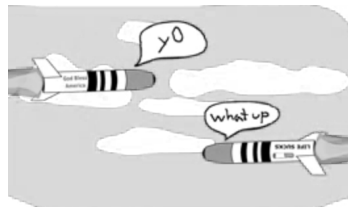
9:10- Pee break. Urinated in front of entire bus, nearly got left behind.

10:09- Switched seats with Kristen, now have task of fighting off encroachment of Big Papa. Mozambique is very pretty but extremely poor. Portugal was one of the worst colonizers, investing diddly squat in its colonies, especially in infrastructure, roads etc. Note to self: nuke Portugal.

11:19- Ate bananas bought off vender through bus window. Downside: lots of brown spots. Upside: organically grown!

### Tuesday Afternoon

12:25- Big Papa elbows my face. His encroachment helps me understand how Poland felt circa 1939.



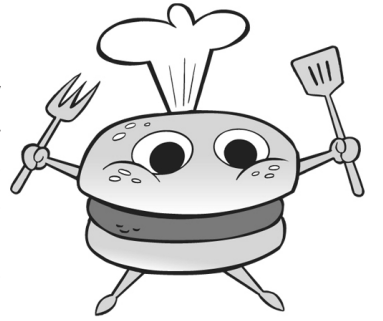
## FRIDAY FIVE: FINAL FOUR PREDICTIONS

By Mr. Yarnell '10

1. If Michigan State wins, the state can briefly celebrate before pawning the trophy for spare change.
2. If West Virginia wins, every headline will feature a corny play on the song, "Take Me Home, Country Roads."
3. A CBS sideline reporter will mistake the Duke mascot for Coach Mike Krzyzewski. It will be an honest mistake. Coach K and the Blue Devil both sport the same schnoz.
2. Much to the delight of Hoosiers fans, Gene Hackman will take the place of coach Brad Stevens on the Butler bench. If he complains, Stevens will be sent to his room and told he can't come out till he says he's sorry.
1. Less than a second left in the first game! Butler down 68-67 to Michigan State with two free throws coming up! One will tie it! Both will win it!! Butler's Gordon Hayward steps up to the line and—CBS switches to Greg Gumbel in the studio, assuring you that they'll be right back to the game (after it's over), but first, they're gonna take you to the tip off of Duke/West Virginia. Thanks, Greg.



1:06- Was that sound from a baby or a chicken?  
 1:22- Yep, live rooster on the bus. Way to confirm some stereotypes, Mozambique.  
 1:43- Big Papa nurses sleeping little girl, either his daughter and/or dinner. Awww.  
 2:25- Pee stop, urination felt awesome.  
 3:58- Woman gets off bus, takes time to argue with everyone. They all call her fat, she replied, "tenga carne!" (I have meat!). What?  
 6:05- Clear consensus among passengers: this bus sucks. My personal question for God, re: this ride. Are you punishing me for my love of sodomy?  
 6:35- Hungry. Only eaten cookies, salt and vinegar chips, salt crackers, and Coke Zero. Really craving a hamburger right now.  
 6:47- I kinda wish that I had paid more attention in high school Spanish/ that my Spanish 4 teacher hadn't been a psycho-lady so I could understand people when they make fun of me.  
 6:49- Most people on the bus are nice, but the language barrier is a problem. One dude asked if I spoke French. Merde?  
 7:10- Overpowering desire to watch Grease.  
 9:05- Crying baby. I agree.  
 9:13- Rooster quiet, is it dead?  
 9:30- I want a fucking hamburger.  
 9:53- Too tired to read, about as literate as Kate Winslet in The Reader at this point. [Illegible writing].  
 10:01 Bus stops at lodge, everyone gets out with their stuff. We are very confused. Eventually a nice man behind us yells at the driver that we can't speak Portuguese. The man explains in mixture of Portuguese and English that we've stopped for the night, and we must return to bus at 3:30 or be left behind. We paid for lodge rooms, and were promised A.C. and a TV. Lies.



"I love it when you call me 'Big Papa'"

### Wednesday Morning

3:47- Back on bus. Rooster is still alive, and Big Papa has moved to a different seat. Good omens.  
 4:00- Bus left five minutes early, stopped because passengers yelled at driver for leaving people behind.  
 5:29- Dawn.  
 8:50- Hungry, we look for the last of our salt crackers. After search we see that the rooster is eating them. FML.\*  
 9:48- Are we there yet?  
 10:38- The rooster is restless.  
 11:03- We arrive in Maputo!

\*Note: Seriously, this happened. Fucking rooster.

## THE DUEL OBSERVER

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MR. '13  
 By Mr. Grebey '12

\*This is a true story...