

# THE DUEL OBSERVER

VOLUME XVI, ISSUE I

"Knowe Thyself, Not Be Thyself."

AUGUST 27, 2010

## BREAKING NEWS: WE ARE THE DUEL OBSERVER!! And we're here to make you think about smurfs, satire & stuff

### FRESHMEN HAVE SUMMER READING, REST OF CAMPUS LOLS

Upperclassmen see *Piranha 3D* instead

By Mr. Grebey '12

READING OPENS DOORS DEPT.

(NOT VIETNAM) Upperclassmen were thrilled to have dodged a bullet: for the first time, incoming freshmen were assigned a mandatory summer reading book.

*The Things They Carried*, a harrowing tale of the Vietnam War, was chosen in a vote held at the end of last year. It narrowly beat out runners up *Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire*, *Green Eggs and Ham*, and *The Kama Sutra*.

By having the entire freshmen class read the same book, the assignment hoped to foster a sense of unity, and according to many freshmen, it worked.

"My roommate and I were brought together by O'Brien's expert use of metaphors and symbolism," Tom Timothy '14 said, "which is great, because I thought I was going to hate my roommate since he's a bleeding heart Obamanaut and I'm a bigoted conservative tea-partier."

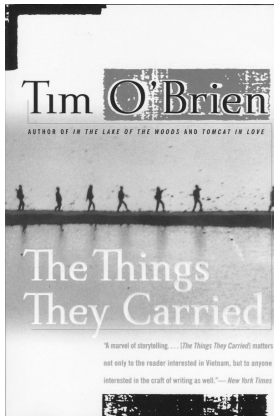
"They say nothing brings people together like mutual hatred, like America after 9/11 or when *Maid in Manhattan* hit theaters," Brian Young '14 added. "Now the class of 2014 will be forever bonded by a mutual hatred of the Vietnamese War, that Martha bitch, and water buffalo."

Meanwhile, upperclassmen expressed other opinions on the summer reading, mostly those of relief.

"I'm glad my class didn't have to read a book over the summer," Nicole Myers '11 said. "I would've hated to have to do any work over the summer. I just had my 60 hour per-week internship. And then my other internship. And my lifeguarding job to make money. And those nights working the red light district. Oh God, I'm so tired."

The Administration was pleased with the results of the summer reading assignment.

"I bet Colgate didn't have their freshmen read a classic piece of American literature," President Joan Hinde Stewart gloated. "18th place in *U.S. News* rankings! Suck on these nuts #21!"



They carried guns. The end.

### SOMEBODY POISONED THE WATERHOLE!

Contaminated water supply creates perfect opportunity for back-to-school blame game

By Mr. Sinton '13

WHAT THE FUCK IS TRIHALOMETHANE DEPT.

(HAMILTON COLLEGE WATER DISTRICT)

Over the summer, Hamilton College publicly announced—if non-descript, wordy e-mails count as announcements—that some crackpot outfit called the 'Oneida County Health Department' had given them some silly 'notice of violation' for 'exceeding [the] maximum allowable contamination level' for the water supply or whatever. Outrage didn't ensue.

The Administration tried to downplay the contamination.

"Yes, some studies 'prove' that this type of contamination leads to an increased risk of cancer, miscarriage and birth defects," college spokesperson John Nitterman Jr. admitted, "and yes, maybe similar levels of chloroform, bromodichloromethane and dibromochloromethane cause cancer and effect the liver, kidney, nervous system and the ability to bear healthy offspring, yadda yadda yadda, whatever." Nitterman went on to say that the real story was "how much money the College would save because infertile students don't need free condoms."

While resident aqua-genius Steve Bellona says the poisoned water is technically the Mohawk Valley Water Authority's fault, campus groups reacted to the news by blaming people they hated.

"Motherfuckin' BP!" College Democrats President Kevin Hill '11 shouted. "I haven't got the proof yet, but I just know it was them. I've never liked those Brits. First the pelicans, now the freshmen? Who's next, the Waifs of Rhode Island!?"

Self-styled investigative reporter Samantha Gee '14 disagreed with Hill.

"The Health Department found dangerously high levels of chloroform in the water, so the first thing I did was investigate the Greek Scene. Delta Iota Kappa got pretty touchy when I asked them about it. But like actually touchy—they kept draping their arms around my shoulders and asking if I wanted to play 'ruit. I told them the only 'ruit I was interested was the 'ruit of this issue."

The campus may never know the real culprits behind the poisoned water system. Especially because those chem majors refuse to tell anyone about their summer project.



"Get it? I say the title of this article...and there's a snake in my boot!"

### PROFESSOR TO OFFER COURSE ON HIMSELF

Edible panties have nothing to do with this article

By Mr. Piskor '13

MILFS AND MIDGETS DEPT.

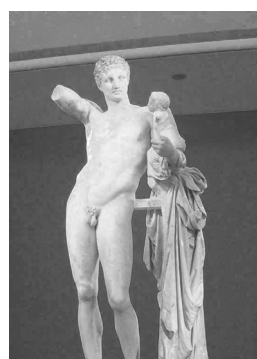
(HILLARY CLINTON, NY) Students interested in their professors' lives will find curricular bliss this semester. Professor Fitzwilliam Grudge-Panties, a visiting professor in the Comparative Literature department, will offer a course on himself entitled "The Literature and Sociology of Me: A Comparative Study."

"I'm really excited about teaching this course," Grudge-Panties commented. "I'm especially excited

about the two essay prompts, which require students to compare the intensity of my infant facial expressions to the fiery courage of my teenage poetry."

As a beacon of free intellectual thought in a world plagued by close-mindedness, this course will continue to make the college catalogue more progressive than it was in the days of courses focused on nude Greek gentlemen.

"This class is just so wicked insightful!" Jack Bigballs '14 exclaimed. "Like, today, he showed us a picture of his



Check out his beacon of free intellectual thought! And by 'beacon, we mean penis.

mother breastfeeding him, and we used that as an on-ramp for discussing themes such as nurturing and love."

Associate Professor Nart Bugglefus will teach the course in the spring, when Grudge-Panties will go on sabbatical to study himself in a diverse and culturally significant range of mirrors located along the Mediterranean. Prof. Bugglefus is overwhelmed by the class's avant-garde nature, but he is excited "to explore a subject I used to not give a shit about."

Grudge-Panties' fervor is infectious: "Readers should know they will read 'Relating the Self to My Self: An Adventure Through Selfhood Using Myself' if they take this course; such a classic cannot be missed! In the future, I think this class should sink deeper, emotionally, spiritually and physically into Grudge-Panties."

ORIENTATION FORECAST	SUNDAY	TUESDAY	THURSDAY
	Forced Friendships  Quiznos 39% chance the 19-year-old freshman spent his gap year working at Quiznos	Forced Volunteering  No. Nope. Nada. Unh Uh. No Way. Kids Against Drugs! "I can't get blazed tonight, I have Hamilton Serves tomorrow."	Forced Education  High probability of thinking KJ is modeled after an M. C. Escher painting

### WORDS OF WISDOM WITH MADELEINE ALBRIGHT



"Madeleine Albright is thrilled that Hamilton gets Bravo and the Food Network now. Seriously, this is really exciting."

2 people like this.

### HOTDOG MAN ABDUCTS FRESHMAN



See "The Bratwurst Bodysnatcher," pg. 8



## WHY THE THINGS I DID THIS SUMMER PROVE THAT I'M SELFLESS AND SOCIALLY AWARE

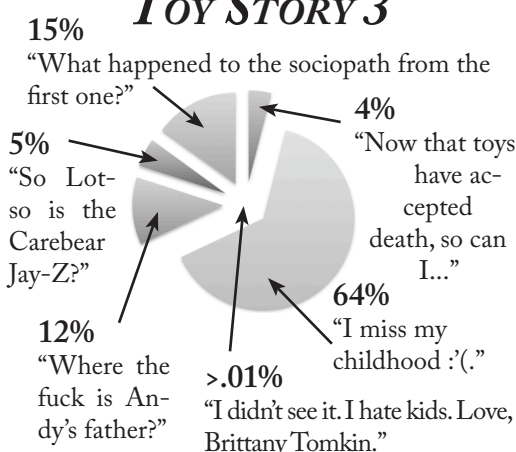
By Ms. Riemer-Peltz '12

This summer, I left the culturally bland United States to go to France and learn their European ways of life. As it turns out, France is struggling in many ways—their population is tragically dwindling and some of them don't even speak English! Therefore, I devoted my summer to making France a better place while still respecting their lifestyle choices and all that other stuff Good Samaritans are supposed to do or something:

- I taught everyone how to play leap-frog in order to help them appreciate their nation's mascot.
- I respected French tradition by wearing a beret all the time and not shaving my armpits.
- Whenever I saw one of their red, white, and blue striped flags, I felt so sad that the French nation was left with such a plain looking flag. So I helped them out by adding more stripes and drawing stars everywhere!
- My host family and I went for a picnic once, and they were totally inconvenienced by having to carry heavy (and breakable) bottles of wine. I introduced them to the portable boxed delights of Franzia so they wouldn't have to work as hard!
- The host family I stayed with ate such modest portions at meal times. I hated to see them go unfed, so I surprised them with an American-style dinner of mashed potatoes, freedom fries, yams, and double bacon cheeseburgers.
- I couldn't bear to see such young teenagers already addicted to cigarettes. I needed to save these innocent children from health dangers, so I introduced them all to heroin to help them kick the habit!

So as you can see, I spent my summer helping other people. And how'd you spend yours, huh? Doing a summer internship? Volunteering at some animal shelter or something? I saved a fucking country.

## REACTIONS TO TOY STORY 3



## CONSPIRACY THEORY OF THE WEEK: NEW ELS IS A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM

By Mr. Hess '13

By now, you probably have seen the new hot spot on campus, the Sadove Student Center. Like a flesh-eating zombie bent on killing us all, ELS has risen from the grave, but bigger and better than anyone could ever have imagined.

A group of students, likely deriving inspiration from director Christopher Nolan's recent remake of *The Matrix*, believes the new ELS could only be the product of a "fake world" that we are all cybernetically connected to. This group has resorted to extremist tactics to attempt to "wake" themselves, including a recent mass jump off the roof of Dunham that left three students mildly injured.

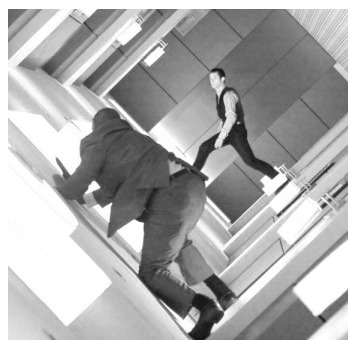
"For the entirety of last year, ELS wouldn't have stood out in central Detroit," Jerry O'Connor '12 explained. "I'm gone for two and a half months, and they build a fucking McMansion in its place. Either this isn't reality or I am seriously tripping."

One of the injured students, Melanie Johnson '13, remains under psychiatric evaluation after the incident.



These tapioca balls are just a projection of your subconscious

"I became most concerned after Mel tried to explain to me how deep she felt the last 15 seconds of *Inception* were," her close friend, Jamie Oliver '13 commented. "She says she jumped because she doesn't accept the concept of an ELS basement that isn't a graffiti covered heap of excrement, but I think it had a lot more to do with Leo DiCaprio and his magic dreidel."



This is how you have to get around the third floor

While no doubt Christopher Nolan's two-hour experiment in mental masturbation is to blame for this incident, physicists at Hamilton have been hard at work attempting to prove or disprove this terrifying theory.

"The law of conservation of mass clearly states that you can't make awesomeness out of a pile of shit," Physics Department Chair Dave Conrad said. "I strongly believe that our research will conclude that this is all a dream. BA-DUM!"

While Conrad cautions against cult-like suicide as a manner of achieving "the kick," he believes that students should prepare themselves for the event that everyone "wakes up." He foresees a world that consists of an ELS permanently under construction, the inexistence of great names speakers, and a world where the question "who the hell is Justin Bieber?" is not uncommon.

Comments? Email [duel@hamilton.edu](mailto:duel@hamilton.edu)  
Complaints? Or find us on the interweb!  
Recipes? <http://students.hamilton.edu/duel/>

## FRIDAY FIVE: MOST UNEXPECTED SUMMER E-MAILS

By Mr. Zappala '12

5. Student Parking System Overhauled: Wait, so now any registered student can park in any student lot? How dare you talk sense!
4. SEVERE HEAT ADVISORY: It's rumored that, for about a half-hour, temperatures went as high as 81 degrees. Then it snowed.  
*Editor's Note: Freshmen, you will get this joke in about two months*
3. Registration Times No Longer Selected Arbitrarily: Students may now get into classes they prefer or require for their major as early as second semester sophomore year.
2. ResLife to Improve Fire Alarm System, Students to Sleep Through the Night: ... Sorry, that one was admittedly a bit of a stretch.
1. Legion of Doom Refuses to Use New Sadove Student Center as Hideout: "ELS worked for us because it had that decadent, evil feel to it," Lex Luthor said. "Now look! It's shiny and there are trees and shit. We'd like to go back to the Burke Library again."

## WANT TO GET LAID?

So do we.\*

Come make jokes about it at *The Duel* meeting on Sunday, August 29th at 7pm in KJ 101\*\*

\*No, but seriously, we get laid all the time. Well sometimes, I guess.

\*\*Did we make it clear that we're looking for writers? If not, come tell us about it on Sunday!

## THE DUEL OBSERVER

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