

THE DUEL OBSERVER

VOLUME XXIV, ISSUE VIII "Knowe Thyself, Not Be Thyself."

OCTOBER 24, 2014

DRY COLD CANADIAN WINTER PARTY Parkas on sale in Beinecke.

HAMILTON SUPPLEMENT NOW ASKS WHY WILLIAMS IS YOUR FIRST CHOICE Turns out livestock mascots are actually kind of popular

By Ms. Rice '15

MOST SELECTIVE DEPT.

(SIUDA HOUSE) In a bold move early this week, Hamilton College admissions announced sweeping changes to its supplementary application material. Beginning with the Class of 2019, the Hamilton College supplement will ask applicants to describe their reasons for applying to Williams College, widely acknowledged to be better.

"It was really time to wake up and smell the coffee," Dean of Admissions Monica Inzer said, shrugging as she donned a jaunty purple and gold scarf emblazoned with the Williams violet bovine. "We're the rebound girl."

Inzer reported that the Hamilton admissions team has been frustrated in recent years by the less-than-enthusiastic responses to the supplement's original essay prompt: "Please De-

scribe Your Reasons for Applying to Hamilton."

"We were getting a lot of, 'Its acceptance rate is at least low enough to keep all the riffraff out,' which is really not the kind of attitude we condone," an application reader who preferred to remain anonymous explained. "We asked ourselves, 'What's Williams got that we don't?' I mean, besides a spread in Forbes."

In a pilot experiment disguised as a psychology thesis, the Office of Admissions has distributed the revised supplement to a group of fresh-faced prospective college students. The answers given by these earnest high school high-fliers proved to be remarkably consistent. "Because U.S. News and World Report," was a common theme, as was an imagined attachment to the famous Williams tutorial classes: "I can't wait to take a class with only one other person, hope it's not awkward, lol."

The college administration applauds the change in admission tactics, claiming that the new supplement will "teach applicants to analytically discern between Hamilton and Williams. Look at those fancy words I just used!"

STUDENT CONCERNED BY HOW WELL PARENTS' MARRIAGE IS GOING WITHOUT HIM

They have literally never been happier

By Ms. Whitmer '18

COUPLES COUNSELING DEPT.

(WHERE CHILDHOOD DREAMS GO TO DIE) After returning from fall break Sunday afternoon, Neil Klosov '18 expressed grave concern for the stability of his parents' relationship.

Klosov explained, "When they picked me up, my parents didn't lecture me about my schoolwork or even acknowledge my existence that much. They spent the entire drive talking to each other in the front seat about heirloom tomatoes."

While the couple's conversation wasn't heated, Klosov felt their giggling and handholding was an over-the-top cover for the issues he is convinced they are having.

"I got even more worried when we went in the house and my mother mentioned she hadn't restocked the freezer with my favorite frozen snack, ham and cheese Hot Pockets," he said. "As if she was so consumed with heartache that she couldn't

do one goddamn thing for me."

Klosov's iMessage history confirmed that the sympathetic heart emojis he sent his parents after his return to the Hill were seen at 4:32 AM and ignored.

Klosov's Comp. Lit Professor Beverly Lomax commented, "The couple appeared very much in love when they attended my lecture on Modern Feminist Literature over Fallcoming weekend. I got the sense that Mr. Klosov really respected his wife's rights. You don't witness that often."

Despite Professor Lomax's claims, Klosov remains convinced that his parents are on the slippery slope toward divorce. "Plus, I only took Comp. Lit to fulfill my writing intensive requirement," Klosov explained.

"I feel like my absence these past weeks has really forced them to face their issues as a couple head-on," Klosov added. "The guilt is jeopardizing my studies."

When reached for comment, Mrs. Klosov said, "Without our little Neil tagging along, my husband and I have really been able to rediscover ourselves and our relationship. We have never felt more connected."

Klosov hopes his parents will stay together through Thanksgiving break. "I'm not saying two Christmases would be bad, though," Klosov clarified. "I could use an extra Vineyard Vines pullover."

EVERYTHING DUEL WRITER WRITES COMES TO LIFE

Dick jokes reign supreme

By Mr. Lanman '15

STRANGER THAN FICTION DEPT.

(REALITY) A recent study has confirmed that the content of every Duel Observer article written by Elsie Stevens '17 has, by some manner of foul witchcraft, physically manifested itself on the Hamilton campus within weeks of being published.

Stevens' article on Hamilton nightlife, published in late-September, led to a raucous weekend perpetrated by the few students remaining on campus for fall break.

"A stolen library, another broken Opus window, three jitneys set on fire, eighty hospitalizations, and a junior physically pulled a midterm paper out of his ass," Dean of Students Nancy Thompson recalled. "I've seen worse."

While for some the effects of Stevens' articles have gone unnoticed, other students are hard-pressed to ignore the changes. Stevens' political pieces, in which she often orchestrates *Freaky Friday*-style ideological swaps, have caused an undeniable stir of the community's political pot.

"The Obama administration has clearly extended its regulatory mechanism beyond the scope of reasonable executive process *ob god what am I saying?*" Hamilton Democrats President Carl Sparks '16 robotically recited, holding hands with Hamilton Republicans President Freedom Gunslinger '15 on Martin's Way.

"And the Obama dog is very, very good with children," Gunslinger demonically gurgled before slapping himself. "Dad, I'm sorry!"

The tumult confirms that Stevens is still acclimating herself to the responsibilities of her gift.

"It's a lot of power and I'm not sure how to use it," Stevens admitted, watching the iPhone-wielding Milbank Bear King chase a horde of squirrels across the Dunham quad. "I could technically make tuition free, save the Communication department, cure Ebola, and give jobs to all graduating seniors. But turning the Chapel into a massive cock would sure be funny."

"Typical," Associate Dean of Students for Student Engagement and Leadership Lisa Magnarelli '96 lamented after an awkward Media Board meeting.

"Yeah, classic Duel," Media Board Co-Chair Esther Vasquez '15 echoed. "If one publication were to fundamentally alter the campus climate, we figured it would've been the Spectator, or the French department newsletter. Hell, even the AHI's incentivized Tumblr scheme (*Editor's note: Enquiry*) had a better shot at enacting change than the Duel. Let's hope Elsie uses this power to our collective benefit."

Stevens was reportedly slotted to write "Campus Community Enters Harmonious Era of Respect for All Perspectives, Belief Systems," last week, but, caught in the final throes of pledging season, missed the final draft deadline.

In this issue: The master key

CLINTON OPENS NEW BROTHEL



See "Between a Rok and a Hard Place," pg. 13323.

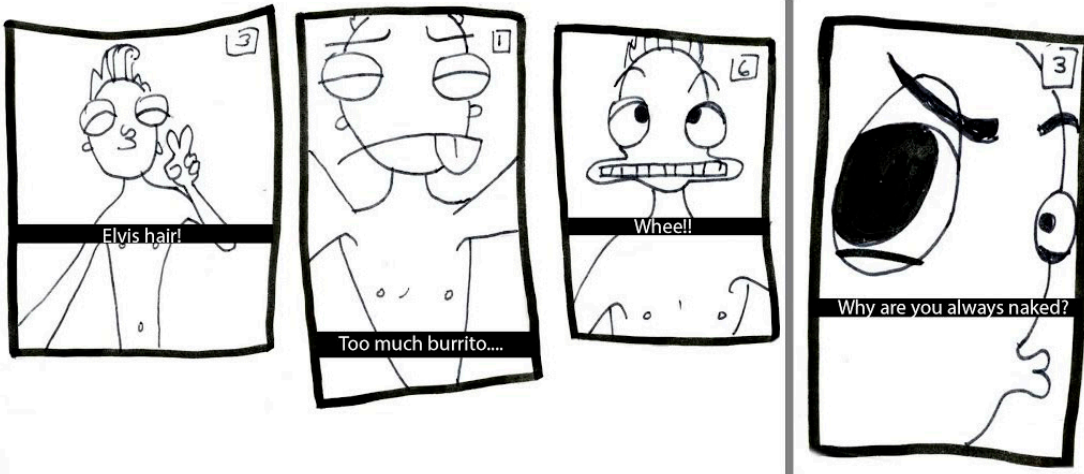
OUIJA BOARD OF THE OUIK



"Raaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!"

— Joan of Shark

HOGWARTS AT HAM FORECAST	5:00 PM	9:00 PM	MIDNIGHT
	  100% chance someone's a fucking snitch... Neville.	  High probability Hogwarts only school whiter than Hamilton.	  "Is that dildo unicorn hair or phoenix feather?"



LETTER TO THE EDITOR: IN DEFENSE OF BIKE LANES

To the editor,

I'm sick and tired of people just flat out ignoring the new bike lanes. I almost got killed today because of it. I was walking out of CJ when some crazy lunatic on a bike went straight over the bike lane and came right at me. I had to take a step halfway onto the grass just to avoid him! I made sure to take a picture of his bike (a green, aluminum Schwinn with one handbrake) so I could report him to Campus Safety, but I know it won't do any good.

What do these bikers think the lanes are for? Do they think the administration just woke up one day and decided to doodle on its campus? This isn't some kindergarten coloring book. In real life, you stay inside the lines. There's just no excuse.

And I wish people would stop complaining that the lanes don't lead to the dining halls. I know you can get baskets to put on the front of those metal contraptions you ride. You could easily carry around some ramen or leftover Opus soup. You don't get to run down us innocent pedestrians just to snatch the last burger in Commons.

My roommate Rebecca hasn't been very understanding, either. She was talking yesterday about how some of the lanes just stop randomly, whining on and on about not knowing where to go. I'll tell you where to go: nowhere. I'm sorry, but when the paint stops, you stop. Shel Silverstein understood.

I really wish the administration would do something about this. It's good that they've started fighting the biking menace on this campus, but now someone's got to finish the job. I've had to start sneaking out at night and placing homemade spike strips—thumbtacks, gorilla glue, and a yard stick, my mom's recipe—around the walking-only pathways. Someone's got to keep people safe.

Love,

Holly Schweikert '17

Photographed and posted to HamSecrets by Mr. Riopelle '17

TIMELINE OF FALL BREAK AT HAMILTON

Wednesday

7:55PM – Realized there would be nothing to eat on campus until Sunday.

7:57PM – Manically filled backpack with cups full of polenta (whatever the hell that is).

8:14PM – Polenta cups spilled all over backpack. Break off to a great start.

Thursday

12:17PM – Woke up, wandered campus. Encountered literally no other human being.

2:15PM – Took walk in Glen, contemplated life. What is life? Who am I? Where am I? No seriously, shit, am I lost? How the hell do I get out of this freaking forest? Oh my god, I'm gonna die here!

5:07PM – Finally rescued from Glen by only CampPo officer on campus. Cried tears of joy. Received awkward pat on back from Officer Jones.

Friday

10:23AM – So bored.

10:42AM – SO BORED.

11:15AM – Considered becoming a day-drinker.

6:04PM – Sunset! Finally socially acceptable to begin drinking!

6:15PM – Remembered that there is absolutely no one on campus to drink with.

11:53PM – finash/ded entfrs hanlee o sVeedka byte mystelkfl. Ggreastst lisfe accomplshhedment yyet!!@

11: 58PM – Puked. A lot.

Saturday

4:47 AM – Woke with intense hunger pains. Had not eaten since polenta incident Wednesday, but had apparently consumed pillow during sleep. Coughed up memory foam for an hour.

7:00AM – Discovered half a stick of butter and a very brown banana in back of fridge. Combined with remnants of pillow, baked at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Not terrible. Next time, less pillow, more butter.

8:36AM – The banana may have been a bad decision. Food poisoning sucks.

Sunday

11:02AM – Meal plan finally back! Swiped into Commons!

11:07AM – Options included: polenta and squash, polenta and cheese, eggs with polenta sauce. Left without eating.

2:15PM – Roommates returned to campus. Everyone's break was "fine."

2:36PM – Sat around dorm with roommates. Watched Netflix and played games on phone.

9:04PM – Began countdown to Thanksgiving break.

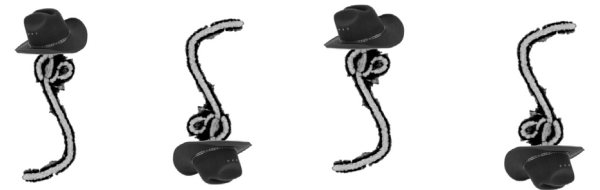
Discovered by Ms. LaSon '17

FRIDAY FIVE: WAYS TO PREVENT EBOLA OUTBREAK

Submitted by Ms. Wilson '15

In order to combat the ongoing Ebola crisis (?), the administration has proposed the following changes:

5. **Quarantine:** All students from Texas, the state where Ebola first hopped off the plane in the US, will be quarantined in Wertimer. They will not be allowed to leave the building until the crisis has subsided. They will video conference into classes, and Bon Appétit will install a pulley system down to the Bristol Center that will then convert into a conveyer belt transporting chicken, pizza, and Keystone Light for students to consume.
4. **Points:** Six points will be given to any student who brings Ebola back to campus. Along with receiving these points, there will be a disciplinary hearing for the student. The student should dress professionally for this hearing underneath an airtight BSL-4 positive pressure suit. Furthermore, Ebola will be given four points.
3. **Ebola Inspection:** Along with performing fire safety inspections, RAs will now perform Ebola inspections. In order to do this, RAs will receive training on what the Ebola virus looks like and portable pocket microscopes in order to inspect the rooms from top to bottom.
2. **Extra Health Center Hours:** In order to diagnose Ebola-like symptoms, the Health Center will now be open 5 AM until 8 AM on Saturday mornings, the hours deemed most convenient for students.
1. **Vigil:** The first mandatory candlelight vigil against Ebola will take place this Sunday night in front of the Chapel. We will vigil the shit out of Ebola. That virus will think twice before coming to this campus!



THE DUEL OBSERVER

NATHANIEL BENEDICT LANMAN

Editor-in-Chief/ Good

COLLIN JOSEPH SPINNEY

Editor-out-Chief/ Fine

SABRINA ESTHER YURKOFSKY

Managing Editor/ Okay

ZOË BIGGÉ BODZAS

Layout Editor/ Alright

CHARLOTTE HINIKER SIMONS

Artiste/ Oh my god my fall break was so great

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

The Boss

Senior Staff Writers

ELIZABETH DANESI WILSON

HANNAH CURTIS CHAPPELL

MARY SUZANNE RICE

Staff Writers

ADAM PATRICK GWILLIAM

WYNN ROSE VAN DUSEN

BRIAN PATRICK BURNS

STEPHEN FAIN RIOPELLE

BENJAMIN KUMAR WESLEY

ISLA CLARE NG

CESAR ATZIN RENERO-SOULÉ

TAYLOR CELESTE LASON

Contributors

LAURA DEANNE WHITMER

FINE PRINT: The Duel Observer is a publication of the Hamilton College Media Board, and is published every Friday. The facts and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily true or indicative of staff opinions. Any resemblance to persons, organizations, or institutions real or imagined, is purely coincidental. Coincidences are coincidences.

Comments?

Email duel@hamilton.edu

Complaints?

Or find us on the interweb!

Recipes?

<http://students.hamilton.edu/duelobserver/>