

THE SKIDMO' DAILY

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Skidmore's Only Intentionally Satirical Newspaper

Now back in print!

2014 National Psychology Experiment Shows Humans not, in Fact, Rational Actors

By SILAS PHIPPS-COSTIN, We Think

In a groundbreaking study concluding November fourth of this year, Psychologists working out of the National Institute for Rational Decision Making proved conclusively that the majority of American Citizens are not rational actors. "We established a social structure with obscene inequalities in resource distribution - I mean really grotesque - nothing any reasoned human being would ever stand for," explained Corresponding Author Barack H. Obama, "then allowed the populous to choose between a party dedicated to providing supportive services such as health care and a financial security net, and a group dedicated to further empowering the obscenely powerful - and somehow, once again, they chose the rich white guys."

Researchers had expected that, given the decision, subjects would choose the group which provided critical infrastructure and services that the vast majority of them relied on. The shocking outcome of the experiment suggests that

Americans are, in fact, very bitter about these security systems that they themselves are likely to rely on in the near future - not to mention their desire to place their own health-care entirely in the hands of exploitative and profit-driven

corporations.

"Clearly these subjects did not select candidates with their own interests in mind - this experiment pushed the question of rational self interest to the logical extreme, which one group practically promising to further wealth inequality and remove social security nets - and yet, even in these extreme conditions, subjects voted against their own interests," said Journal of Experimental Psychology editor John Boehner, "We are forced to conclude that the American people are fundamentally irrational, and do not act in the interest of themselves, their families, or really anyone except the tiny minority we allowed to control the bulk of national resources for the duration of the experiment."

Future experiments will attempt to control for the influence of the media, xenophobia, and the self-perpetuating power of wealth - but in the meantime, we will be returning to the scientific meritocracy we've all come to know and love.



"Slow and Obstructionist Wins the Race" - Julia Berstein

Skidmore Unplugged Successful Despite Robot Objections

By MIRANDA THOMPSON

Skidmore Unplugged, the annual three-week competition between residence halls to decrease electricity usage, has continued amidst outcries from the robot community. For years, Skidmore students have been leaving their electric technology idle in the spirit of competition and energy conservation. And these neglected machines have finally had enough.

"Every year we suffer weeks of disdain," said Mac #6 from the library's first floor, presi-

dent of the REA (Robots and Electronics Alliance). "Students love us when we print their papers and upload their yaks. But when someone reminds them that they're killing the Earth, and all of a sudden we become the enemy."

Shower light from second floor Kimball, the alliance's secretary, agrees. "My parents programmed me to be kind to others, and I expected the students' parents to do the same. To get angry at someone for just doing their job, that's

fucked up."

The REA planned to protest last weekend. Unfortunately, the alliance's event coordinator, a junior's iPhone, died temporarily due to his owner's unwillingness to plug in a charger. Thus, iPhone C8QKX-MGDFP0L was unable to alert the other machines of the date and time of the demonstration.

"This was an incredible blow to our cause," Mac #6 explained, "as well as another example of the hardships we endure. Imagine dying every

time someone just didn't feel like feeding you."

The only robots that appear to be thriving right now are the water bottle refilling stations, as a new station was just installed in the dining hall and students are competing to win one for their dorms. The refilling stations have been notably absent from REA meetings and planning. When asked to comment on these machines, Mac #6 shook his head in disgust.

"They've forgotten that watt is thicker than water."

Palazzo Riggi Throws a Halloween Rager

By NICK PAPAZIAN

So we all know that a pretty big Halloween party was held at Palazzo Riggi this year, but Skidmore students weren't invited. However, that didn't stop one Skidmore student from sneaking in. "I dressed as a Chihuahua, and the lady who owns the place loved it and let me in, no questions,"

said Andy Shellstone, the intruding student. When I asked him how boring it was, he put his hand on my shoulder and said, "it was insane."

Surprised by this, I asked him to elaborate. "Well, the first thing I was handed upon entrance was a mixed drink. Mostly vodka, but there was

definitely some OJ in there, too," he said. I was listening intently at this point. "Next thing I saw was just beautiful: fifty-six Chihuahuas, all doing lines."

"Of coke?" I asked, wondering if dogs could even handle that sort of thing.

"Of coke," he confirmed. He went on to tell me that

there was also ecstasy, acid, and shrooms at the party, but that he left after he couldn't find any weed. "That must have been why they didn't want Skidmore students," he said. "I don't think the Chihuahuas like it, or something."

Study Shows only Studying Done on Study Day is this Study*

By JAMES RIMMER

In a recent study administered by somewhat hard-working Psychology majors, 100% of Skidmore students do not study on study days. The group spent 12 hours searching for people to answer their survey. The few people they found proved that this study is undoubtedly the only studying done on study days. The only study done on study day showed these results: Skidmore students were involved in four things on study days. Some did one of these following things; others did all of them (as shown in the venn-di-



agram below). Here are the 5 activities: Sleeping, Having Sex, Drinking, Doing Drugs, and Not Studying. Everyone partook in the 5th activity not studying, as I mentioned before.

An important thing to note about the recent study day is that it was (for most people) well after all midterms had been taken. So that is what students do on study days in place of studying. I want to reiterate that no studying was done (not even this study, which was actually administered the day after the Study Day).

Philosophy Dept to Release Children's Book: Why Is Waldo?

By SAM GRABOYS

William Lewis, chair of the Skidmore philosophy department, has released a statement this morning regarding his intent to increase the scope and popularity of staff publications. Included in the memo was Lewis's desire for the department to remain current, while recent publications have only been found in sources considered dry by young audiences, such as *The Review of Metaphysics* and Cambridge University Press's *The Classical Bulletin*. The academic isolation of philosophy seems to Lewis only breakable with an effort to reach out to younger students. As such, the department plans to collectively write a CTM and philosophy-themed children's book, *Why is Waldo?*

The book will apparently concern itself with how a solitary man, moving through the innumerable and vastly different landscapes of life, can find

himself and the value in his own existence. Whether with comically clad pirates or on a Hollywood movie set, Waldo ponders questions such as, "with so many people around, it's easy to feel like you're disappearing. How can I reconcile life's meaning with these feelings of insignificance in a universe characterized by impermanence and instability? Can you find my friend who is dressed like a wizard?"

This book is intended to challenge young audiences just discovering their capacity for critical thought. As Waldo finds his way into increasingly absurd settings, the book shifts perspective to Waldo's far more sinister looking twin, always present in Waldo's scenes, but never the main focus. Professor Jo-Jo Koo wrote this section, and it deals with age-appropriate philosophical ponderings as "I have wandered behind my brother from the South

Pole to the Sahara Desert; with such variety in lifestyles across humankind, how can I truly understand the nature of another's experiences? Is human connection confined to the complete isolation of solipsism? Bet you can't figure out which other character also appears in every illustration!"

Initial chapters tested well with ages six to twelve; focus groups recording positive and surprisingly eloquent feedback. Jamie, 8, of Schenectady told professors, "I enjoyed the challenge of finding Waldo's physical location and establishing how it influenced his metaphysical and epistemological musings. His brother looks funny, and I liked his allusions to Cartesian doubt." Says one first grader, "Waldo struggles with a lot of the questions that trouble my classmates and that we often discuss during lunch; especially those about the arrogance of assuming

human importance in light of our evolutionary history. I also like the wizard's beard and that it's so long it touches the ground." Despite the popularity among this age group, the book seemed too complex for kindergartners and younger students, who unanimously felt the book was too "sad," "long," and "unidimensional in its portrayal of existentialism".

Copies will be available next month, and Lewis will begin a lecture circuit of local elementary schools upon the release. The philosophy department says they expect to see a sudden increase in philosophy major declaration around the class of 2026, a hypothesis they are excited to test. Depending on the reception, the philosophy department may follow this project up with a Dr. Seuss-inspired book about the philosophy self-definement, "Am I Sam?"

Skidmore to Revolutionize Need Based Tuition

By JACK ROSEN, Editor-in-Chief

After prolonged negotiations between the school's trustees and Skidmore's admissions offices, the College has decided to blaze a new path in need based tuition. Until now, Skidmore has merely offered need based grant aid. However, forces both on campus and nationally have called for a reduction in the overall cost of college through a shift to need-based tuition for everyone. After careful consideration of the college's principles and priorities, and an intensive discussion with the more literal members of the English department, Skid-

more has decided to take into account both financial need and prospective major when determining a student's tuition. An Interview with Director of Tuition Jimmy Harrison:

Q: Thank you for sitting down with us Mr. Harrison, can you explain the school's new policy of Need Based Tuition?

A: Let's say you are a trust fund kid from a Massachusetts boarding school, who wants to major in Religious Studies. Your tuition is going to cost \$7,000 and a 30rack of PBR an-

nually. We think that's a fair reflection of how much you need that degree, and how much anyone needs that degree at all. For comparison, if you are coming from the south side of Chicago and want to major in music, we will literally pay you.

Q: What about a student from better socioeconomic circumstances who wanted to double major in Chemistry and Physics?

A: Well, that would be full tuition. But, like, I promise it'll still be less than 60 large

a year, that's straight bullshit.

Q: How about an art major from a lower income background?

A: Actually, the art major is now going to be free ninety ninety and BYOASANM.

Q: BYOS...BYOAS.....What?

A: Bring your own art supplies and nude models.

Q: Seems fair. Umm one last thing, how will this impact Skidmore Athletics?

A: No comment.

Skidmore's Cabaret Troupe to premiere "Zero Dark Thirty: The Musical"

By CHRISTOPHER JONES and JACOB SCHWARTZ

Skidmore's Cabaret Troupe has announced that they will be performing a musical adaptation of the Oscar-winning flick "Zero Dark Thirty". The play tells the story of a jovial group of US Soldiers who go on a mission to kill Osama Bin Laden.

The troupe ultimately decided against performing "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" as planned, as it offended the sizable illiterate community at Skidmore College. The tamer Zero Dark Thirty musical seemed like a suitable substitute. We here at the Skidmo' Daily were treated to a dress rehearsal performance.

In the first scene, Bin Laden

wails the opening notes of the ballad "I'm So Lonely... and a Terrorist" during which he eats Cheetos and watches Keeping Up With The Kardashians,



curled up on a futon in his bunker. Our favorite line from this song was "Will there be Cheetos in heaven?"

The second act will feature

songs such as "Where is he? (The CIA Intro)." "We found him!" and "Ouch, these bullets are hurting me."

In a touching scene near the

"Couldn't you have been a doctor like your brother?" sings Bin Laden's father in falsetto.

In the final scene of the play Dead Bin Laden sings an operatic ballad called "No One Understands Me" as he is lowered into the ocean. Dolphins* leap out of the water singing vibrato backup vocal, which in the opinion of these reviewers seems a tad unrealistic since dolphins usually sing in a deep baritone.

Besides that one enormous flaw, the play should be a major success.

**No dolphins were harmed in the making of this play.*

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The Skidmo' Daily welcomes any and all contributions. Guest articles and features can be emailed to jrosen2@skidmore.edu. Staff meetings are held every Monday at 8:00 P.M. in the Spa.

Study Shows that Blind Terror is the Best Treatment for Ebola

By CONNER BATSIMM

Over the past month, Ebola-induced panic has swept the nation, leaving much of the country in a state of panic. Fortunately, a recent study has revealed that the best way to combat Ebola is to blindly fear it.

“Don’t try to research Ebola,” says one esteemed doctor who chose to remain anonymous, “People who are

well-informed about the disease are usually the first to die.”

Eileen Scott, a lucky survivor of Ebola has given similar advice: “I know nothing about Ebola,” says Scott, “And I still haven’t gotten it, even though it’s already wiped out most of the American population. I might not be so lucky if I were to actually research the disease.”

SGA Not Ready For Twitter

By GINGER ROAST

Recently, SGA has been pondering why its new twitter promotion, #IamSGAbecause, has more or less completely failed to gain any sort of popularity outside of SGA itself. “I use the hashtag all the time,” one SGA member told me. “I just don’t understand why nobody else does.”

I went outside and asked the first person that I saw why they

don’t use the hashtag. “Because the hash tag is ‘#IamSGAbecause’, and I’m not SGA,” the student replied. I decided to ask some more students about it. The answers were more or less the same every time. One student summed up all of the answers of the students I talked to when he said, “Well, I’m not a part of SGA, so why should I tell people why I’m SGA, when

Another Ebola survivor, twenty three year-old Richard Bloomberg, has reportedly spent the past three weeks barricaded in his apartment, living off nothing but Cliff Bars and Mountain Dew and avoiding all contact with the outside world. Bloomberg refrained from contributing to this article, as he was afraid

I’m not even SGA? Also, I don’t give a shit, I go to Skidmore.”

The answers I got led me to ask the big question: Is SGA ready for social networking?

This is not SGA’s first Internet blunder. Last year, when SGA tried briefly to have a Facebook presence, the only two posts on the page were: “SGA is on Facebook now!” and “How do I add friends?” The page was

that the writers of the Skidmore’ Daily might have Ebola.

Doctors continue to look into new ways to prevent the spread of Ebola, including destroying all sources that provide information about the disease, and broadcasting films detailing the destruction caused by the disease.

up for two months before the endeavor was abandoned.

Earlier this year, the SGA tried joining tumblr as well. This plan fell into pieces when 1) SGA accidentally started following a NSFW blog and 2) SGA learned what tumblr was.

And now it seems that SGA’s efforts for twitter recognition will go unanswered as well.

Skidmore College Laundry Service to Win Most Philanthropic Organization on Campus for the 50th Consecutive Year.

By CONNOR CRAWFORD

As many students are well aware, Skidmore College is a very philanthropic organization that prides itself in its student body’s desire to give back. Social Justice month, a student organized month focused around bringing light to all of the social injustices suffered around the world, and the club FeedMore, an organization attempting to bring leftover food from the dining hall to local food pantries, are just two prime examples of the philanthropic ideals shared by all members of the Skidmore community. However, as a student at Skidmore, I’m forced to admire the college’s dedication to giving back. I am referring of course to the college-organized laundry service.

The devotion that Skidmore College has to providing upper class white people such ample opportunity to sink their money into ensuring their over-privileged son or daughter spends no time away from the three-foot bong he or she has stored under his or her bed is simply awe-inspiring. The

thought that these poor, poor children would ever have to lift a finger to learn important life skills breaks my heart. Over the recent Parent’s Weekend, parents were asked to speak as to why they value the laundry service so profusely, the responses nearly brought a tear to my eye, “I was worried about my child having to be separated from the nanny that raised him from birth, but Skidmore reassured me that upon arrival my son would be babied every bit as much as he was before he left home.” Other parents claimed that the only reason that they chose Skidmore for their child was because of the philanthropy embodied by the Skidmore College laundry service.

Upon announcement of the winner of such a prestigious award for the 50th consecutive year, Amir Riverra, long-time employee of the Skidmore Laundry Service, was so humbled that he dedicated the award to all of the parents that have decided to sink \$775 per semester into this worthwhile cause. When

asked the motivation behind this charitable work, Amir claimed, “It has nothing to do with the fact that Pulse gets to borrow the van for gigs, or that they pay me minimum wage and I need to eat...To me, its all about the children.”

Unfortunately, no cause is without obstacles, and recently the laundry service has hit quite the speed bump. The students in need of this service have shared their one complaint... The green bag that they need to fit all of their laundry in, well, simply put, its just too small. The students cant fit all of their week’s laundry in a single bag, and they’re at a loss on how to fix the problem. The Laundry Services’ official report states that they’ve tried reasoning with the Skidmore students, saying that, “...excess laundry can be done by the students themselves.” When the students scoffed at that idea, the Laundry Service even offered to give the students a second bag, but this also was too much for the students to handle, Lach Zachman ‘15 was quoted say-

ing, “That would mean that I’d have to either carry two bags in one trip, or make two trips, and that’s just unacceptable. My parents pay good money to make sure that I can get high, *cough* I mean study for my classes whenever I want to.”

Rest assured, Skidmore College Laundry service is on the case, and this minor speed bump will have no impact on the receipt of their justly deserved reward. On an unrelated note, stay tuned to see whether or not Exxon wins Skidmore Unplugged.

Correction: Lach Zachman has called The Skidmo’ Daily to correct his previous remarks. Mr. Zachman has recently discovered that the laundry service in fact offers door-to-door pickup and delivery. However, Mr. Zachman maintains that dragging two laundry bags across his floor as, “Too much work....I mean what am I the f—king maid?”

On the advice of our attorneys, we recommend that you

BURN AFTER READING