

ASCENT

Volume XLIV, Number 3

A Student Publication

November 1988

THE DAEMEN COLLEGE NEWSMAGAZINE

Announcements

from various places

CO-OP DAYS. Tuesday and Wednesday, November 1 and 2, from 11:00 to 2:00, in Wick Lobby; and Thursday, November 3, from 11:30 to 2:30, in DS Vestibule. Come learn how the new Cooperative Education staff can help you. Free refreshments served Tuesday and Thursday only.

November 5 is Community Food Drive Day. Interested students and faculty can participate in the Build the Pantry Drive by helping collect food and/or donations from communities surrounding Daemen. Stop in at DS 237 for details. Or contact a member of the Human Services Club.

Kurt Vonnegut, renowned author of numerous novels, including the best-sellers *Slaughterhouse Five* and *Bluebeard*, will speak on Tuesday, November 15, at 8:00, in the Wick Social Room. Mr. Vonnegut's topic will be "How to

continued on Last Page



Father of Evicted Son Pickets Daemen

by Don Clark

"DON'T SEND YOUR KID TO DAEMEN" and "DAEMEN UNFAIR TO KIDS" read the picket-board of an Illinois father who for three days in mid-October picketed in front of the College's Main Street entrance to protest the eviction of his son from the Daemen Campus apartments.

From October 18 to October 21, Furman French, an American Airline pilot from Roscoe, Illinois, was protesting Daemen's eviction of his son Robert French from dorm 56E for violating the College's alcohol and noise policies.

"The first week of school I got one warning for having alcohol in my room and for being loud," says Robert French, "and two weeks later I got two warnings for the same thing. That's three warnings for two violations. It just isn't fair." Furman French also says his son's eviction isn't fair. "All kids have bad sauce in their rooms," says the father, Furman French. "Why hit on my Robbie?"

Housing Director Jim Burke, however, says after French's first warning Dorm 56E held an "emergency meeting" to review the alcohol and noise policies and that in between the first and second violations, which resulted in three written warnings, French had been given numerous verbal warnings, in fact, "more warnings than anyone in the past."

Daemen students also say Robert French has no right to complain. "He signed a housing contract. He should've known what the rules were," says Christine Mustico, a sophomore English major. Darren Warren says that "French knew what he was doing was wrong. It's right for him to be kicked off campus. Rob just didn't see what was ahead. I got a warning last year and I straightened up."

Mr. French is also protesting the College's refusal to refund the unused portion of his son's rooming fee. "I've got a double whammy," says Mr. French. "I'm out cold cash. It's a hardship financially because I have to find him a new room and now pay two bills." The official student housing contract, however, clearly states that upon cancellation "There will be no refund of room and board fees."

Robert French, a student at Erie County Community College, North Campus, was living in 56E as a "courtesy," says Housing Director Burke. According to Mr. Burke, the right to a disciplinary hearing, demanded by Mr. French, applies only to those students officially enrolled at Daemen. Mr. Burke says that Mr. French's protest is only "supporting his son's negative behavior."

Security Installs Dead Bolts

by Link Klabo

Daemen dorms are more secure this semester than they were in the past. Over the summer, dead bolt locks were installed for each room in every dorm.

Last semester a student's door could be opened with simply a screwdriver or a knife. In fact, during the Spring break of last semester, several Campus apartments were broken into and hundreds-of-dollars worth of valuables was stolen. Coeds in Canavan Hall were also victims of theft. Consequently, Daemen decided to provide residents with better security.

Now, with the dead bolts installed, there is no way for anyone except the person who lives there to get in a room without a key. Even dorm RA's don't have keys. If a key is lost or misplaced, a student must show a security guard a valid student identification. Only then will Security unlock the room for the keyless person living there.

Consensus among Daemen residents is that dead bolts make them feel confident and safe about the belongings in their rooms.

Sig Ep Plans Annual Air Band

by Christine Mustico

Once again this November, Sigma Phi Epsilon will host Air Band, their annual lip-synching contest. The students who don't participate on stage can join in by cheering the performing groups. It's much like being at a rock concert.

Air Band started out small in 1981 and was held in the Rat when it was still a bar. Air Band was a huge success, so it had to be moved to the Wick Social Room. It's grown ever since.

The brothers enjoy hosting Air Band each year because it gets the crowd involved and provides the atmosphere of a live band. Sig Ep's president, Mark Bias, feels that Air Band is a Sig Ep tradition event where everyone has a good time. They like to give things away, so the crowd gets more out of their ticket than just drinks.

If this sounds like a good time, then form a band or just plan on going. More information and presale tickets will be available soon. Watch for posters, or talk to a Sig Ep brother. Mr. Bias "hopes this year will be as successful as past years and hopes that all will plan to attend."

Corrections

In the October 1988 issue article "Special Coeds Hope To Go National," the *Ascent* used the phonetic spelling Fi for the conventional spelling Phi, as in Phi Mu. In that same article, it was implied Something Special had finished a mural at Buffalo's Children's Hospital, when, in fact, the group is still in the process of painting it. The *Ascent* also erred by stating the October 21 bus trip to watch the Sabres was to Montreal. We apologize to anyone who was disappointed when the bus went no farther than the Auditorium in downtown Buffalo.

Daemen Students Hoping To Further Democratic Agenda

by Dave Brothman

A new group at Daemen consists of students who want to become politically active. The Daemen College Democrats has a specific agenda. They plan to work on Democratic election campaigns, they plan to bring local as well as national political speakers to campus, and they plan to sponsor events to benefit not only Daemen but Western New York as well.

Their purpose is primarily political. Members will be encouraged to attend Town Council as well as Democratic Committee meetings to voice their opinion on the state-of-affairs in Amherst. They will also be a link among other colleges in Buffalo, all of which will interact to insure a strong united Democratic front on Buffalo's college campuses.

Dr. Ed Cuddy, chairman of the History and Government Department, states if the right programs are instituted to interest the student body, the College Democrats could be an asset to Daemen. The group already has twelve interested students and therefore qualifies as a club. Each and every one of these students aspires to become more knowledgeable of the political process, and they are willing to step forward and associate with people who are highly respected in our community.

Anyone interested in becoming a part of the Daemen College Democrats should contact Amherst Democratic Committeeman David Brothman at 688-9524, or Dr. Ed Cuddy in the History and Government office in DS 235.

Daemen Students Split on Why They Go to Benefit Concerts

by Michelle Bock

Protesting at Woodstock, banning the bomb, and fighting for civil rights—those days are far behind us, right? Not necessarily.

Our generation likes to think that we've come closer to the ideals strived for in the sixties than ever before. Instead of being the self-indulgent spin-off of the "Me" generation we have become attuned to the plight of our fellow man. Yet we're not so altruistic as we think.

Many Daemen students are willing to attend charity benefit concerts. For some it's of minor consequence that they're star-studded. The important aspect is that the gate goes to a charitable cause, such as famine in Ethiopia or to Amnesty International. Students, however, object to benefits being so close together. "I don't think we're bored," says a senior physical therapy major, "but I do think we get bombarded with charity concerts."

Daemen students also object to the seemingly vast number of events coming one after

the other. "When they're so close together," says a senior marketing major, "it's hard to tell which ones are legit and which ones are fake."

It's not necessarily the goodwill of charitable giving, however, that motivates students to donate what little money they can afford from their student budget. "I went to Live Aid because I wanted to see the groups," says a history-and-government major. "People are so excited about seeing their favorite stars that they give money."

A freshmen adds that buying a charity recording like the *USA for Africa* album is nothing more than a token gesture and that students don't usually go beyond that.

Whether students go to concerts to see the stars or to support the cause, one thing seems obvious: students benefit from these concerts. Whether our motives for wanting them will ever bring us closer to the longed-for world of John Lennon's "Imagine," however, is hard to tell.

In the last issue of the *Ascent* we asked you to give advice to a hypothetical Daemen resident who had been having valuables messed with by a roommate. Here are suggestions from three aspiring Lander advisors:

- 1) Leave little notes among your valuables explaining that your territory (or whatever your terminology) is off limits.
- 2) Try not to keep anything of real value in your room. Alert your RA of your suspicions, and request a room change.
- 3) Give your valuables to your roommate and follow Christ or have your hands surgically removed and follow the Ayatollah.

Sorority Off to Good Start

by Caryl Mazzi

A Daemen sorority has started the Fall semester in a big way.

Sigma Omega Chi—the green, grey, and white sorority—began the semester with a plant sale. Over a hundred were sold. The sorority also sponsored a volleyball tournament in which 106 people participated. "It was a big success and nice to see such a big turnout for a first time event," says sorority president Linda Walsh. For Sweetest Day, Sigma Omega Chi hosted a flower sale.

The sorority is presently occupied with the pledging of twenty-one coeds inducted on October 1. Sigma's future plans include having the pledges hold a car wash and taking part in a soup kitchen near downtown Buffalo.

Let's Go Out to the Ballgame

by Link Klabo

Daemen students have had the opportunity to go see professional games in the Buffalo area. Student Activities Director Chris Malick orders tickets and sells them at low cost, which includes game admission and transportation. So far this semester tickets have been available for some Buffalo Sabres hockey and Buffalo Bills football games.

Many dorms on campus use this opportunity to fulfill their mandatory dorm activity. They soon discover, however, that going to the game is a fun thing to do and they usually end up rooting for a team they like. A lot of the students want to go again, and they especially like the low cost and the easy transportation there and back.

A S C E N T

THE DAEMEN COLLEGE
NEWSMAGAZINE
VOLUME XLIV, NUMBER 3
November 1988

Daemen College
Wick Center
4380 Main Street
Amherst, NY 14226

Editor-in-Chief
Ann Hynes

Managing Editor
Pam Koprowski

Writers
Theresa Bauer
Lori Bellomo
Michelle Bock
David Brothman
Don Clark
Tom Jones
Scott Kaufman
Bernard Larroque
Link Klabo
Caryl Mazzi
Christen Mustico
Chris Nigro
Courtney Reed

Faculty Advisor
Dr. Richard Long

Editorial comments appearing in the *Ascent* are not necessarily the views of the student body. Viewpoints contrary to these opinions are welcomed. Letters to the *Ascent* should be mailed to the above address or -delivered to the information desk at Wick Center. The writer, who must sign the original letter, will be kept confidential upon request.



V I E W P O I N T

Who Cares?

by Ann Hynes

We wonder what has happened to student interest in what goes on at Daemen. Or in the whole country. For that matter, even in the world.

Let's start with apathy on the local level. Here on campus, we have a Student Association that until this past week has gone begging for leadership. The ability to shape the course of the class of 1988-89 and give clear focus to future graduating classes is a powerful challenge. Yet here we are into the middle of the semester and we are just beginning to have a voice in the direction of our next year here. Is this because no one cares?

Or is it just that only a few students care enough to persist in trying to keep activities going?

This apathy also extends to the *Ascent*. We hear a lot of students complain that this paper is too serious or too stuffy. Many students don't even read the paper. So we try to lighten up while still focussing on student issues and activities. We started out with a large staff, lost a few along the way, and are now in the settling-in stage. Our purpose is to inform. And also to encourage you think about and discuss what you read. But we need to know if we're succeeding.

So rather than telling your friends at lunch, or your roommate, what you do or don't like about what you read in the *Ascent*, tell us. We'd rather hear it straight from the horse's mouth rather than through hearsay and innuendo.

We know, of course, that students are plagued with a lack of time. Many of us work, we have family commitments, demanding classes, and we enjoy active social lives. It's hard to fit everything in. But let's not fail to participate because we simply don't care.

And let's not let our apathy extend into our future. In the past few months, we have followed the presidential primaries, the pennant races, the Olympics, the World Series, the Bill's successful season, and the presidential debates. And now the presidential elections are upon us. Let's not just wait to hear the outcome. If we study the issues, choose our candidate and VOTE on November 8, we'll be participating, not just standing by uninvolved.

In the Student Association, in the *Ascent*, in national and thus world politics, you have a voice. There'll always be the movers and the shakers, those who take charge. Who do you want them to be? What do you want them to accomplish? Let them know, not in subtle mumbling complaints, but with a clear voice, with open participation.

The *Ascent* endorses neither Governor Dukakis nor Vice-President Bush for President. The opinion of the staff is too diverse to settle on just one candidate.

We are, however, urging you to take part in the election process, by caring and by voting.

ENTERTAINMENT

Two Reviews: Albums You Won't Want to Sleep By

by Scott Kaufman

REVOLTING COCKS: *YOU GODDAMNSONOFABITCH*—

A second release (as far as I know) from the Alain Jourgenson (ex Ministry) and all on Waxtrax records. Honestly, I don't think the album is nearly as good as their first release, *Big Sexy Land*, which included such industrial sampled mayhem as "Attack Ships on Fire," "Big Sexy Land" (one of the band's best tunes) and "Union Carbide."

A large portion of *You Goddamnsionofabitch* is live and is also, unfortunately, just a re-release of old material from *Big Sexy Land* ("We Shall Cleanse the World," "Attack Ships on Fire"). The live quality of the album is consistently excellent, and the few new songs are good. I was disappointed, however, to find them re-releasing old stuff already. Are the Revolting Cocks losing their talent for creating new songs? Probably not. Having added a few new members (no pun intended) the Revolting Cocks will probably be with us for quite a while yet.

One more note of interest. If the sight of partially censored, soft-core pornography offends you, refrain from purchasing *You Goddamnsionofabitch*. But if it doesn't, and if you're not familiar with the Revolting Cocks, pick up *You Goddamnsionofabitch* or *Big Sexy Land* immediately.

SHRIEKBACK: *GO BANG*—At last, another long-awaited Island release from the Shrieks, who seem to have a penchant for making their fans wait long periods of time before releasing their records.

Go Bang is a very good album—keeping perfectly in synch with near-perfect quality of their last two releases *Oil & Gold* and *Big Night Music* (released in that order). *Go Bang* is probably not the Shriek's best album. That award definitely goes to their *Oil & Gold* release which included the post-punk dance hit "Nemesis," as well as some exceptional ballads.

But *Go Bang* is certainly not their worst. (Have they ever had a worst?) If anything, *Go Bang* proves to the Shriekback audience once again that the Shrieks are perfectly capable musicians and that, although the albums may take a while coming out, they're definitely worth the wait.

If you've never heard of Shriekback, or if you're unfamiliar with *Go Bang*, you might want to check out the song "Shark Walk." Judging from current radio play, it'll probably become the first twelve-inch single from the album.

Go Bang, as well as *You Goddamnsionofabitch*, is available at New World Records on Evans Street in Williamsville.

The Temptation to Ban Christ

by Chris Nigro

A considerable amount of controversy surrounds the film *Last Temptation of Christ*, directed by Peter Scorsese. *Temptation* humanizes Jesus Christ and portrays him as a man subject to the foibles, desires, passions, and personal uncertainties—including self-doubt—of mere mortals. Scorsese is clearly attempting to add realism to the story of Christ, a realism in which Christ reluctantly accepts his role as the Messiah. Scorsese shows us a Christ who earns and finally accepts divinity by overcoming human trials.

Numerous clergy have protested *Temptation*, even ridiculed it, referring to Scorsese's portrayal of Christ as blasphemous because it portrays Christ in a "derogatory" fashion.

Scorsese, however, is merely attempting to create a Christ that we can at last identify because in a way he's like us. We have to strive and work for divinity because it's not born inherent within us. Thus, Christ's traditional persona as someone who was born without and lived without sin is stripped away, and he becomes suddenly identifiable. He becomes one of us.

If Christ were indeed a man and had an even remotely human-like personality, then it is not blasphemous to imagine him being subject to tumultuous aspects of human experience. Scorsese deserves a round of applause for having the courage to portray his point-of-view, in spite of an unthinking public who would ban anything contradicting their convictions.

Students Experiment with Black Magic

by Dave Brothman

Remember being a child and how you fancied the magician at your friend's birthday party, amazed that a black-suit-and-top-hat could make rabbits disappear and reappear? As you grew older, however, you learned it was all a hoax and the magician's hands were faster than your eyes.

A couple of students here at Daemen practice a type of magic that by no means compares to what we remember as a child. They practice black magic, a form they insist is not a hoax. Instead of working magic on rabbits, they call spirits, imps, or demons to earth. These black magicians, they say, contact and control spirits and use them to their advantage.

One of Daemen's black magicians (both wish to remain anonymous) became interested after reading a book on Aleister Crowley, the most famous black magician of the twentieth century. After reading the book he then bought a Ouija Board and used it to contact the spirit world. He claims to have contacted at least one spirit whose name is Pamela—a coed, born in the mid 1950's, killed in a car accident at twenty-two.

Black magicians supposedly have other ways of contacting spirits—via the Watchtower. "I am also a witch, a war-

lock," says Daemen's black magician. "I practice my art two hours a night, cleansing myself so that spirits will be attracted to me, then I open the Watchtower, the door connecting our world to the spirit world."

Daemen's black magicians say a prerequisite to opening the Watchtower is an Invocation, where the witch acts as the medium and is protected by a "wall" of seven "mortals." Preferably in a backyard or a room empty of furniture and religious icons, the medium uses fifty to sixty blue and white candles to make a circle, in the center of which is a blue and white wax pentagram to contain the spirit.

Why those colors? "Blue and white are neutral," says the black magician. "They make it easier for the spirit to enter into the Invocation, and they make it easier to see the spirits who appear as a breeze or a flash of light. Remember though—a spirit has no real form. The form it takes is what is in your mind."

Is all this a hoax? A fancy rabbit trick? Not to Daemen's black magicians, who invited me to attend an Invocation on Halloween. In the next *Ascent*, I'll let you know what happens.

Van Takes Group to See Shakespeare's *Richard III*

by Christine Mustico

On Thursday, October 20th, eleven enthusiastic Daemen theatre-goers (the writer included) traveled via a van to Stratford, Ontario, to see a production of Shakespeare's *Richard III*.

After a two and a half hour drive to Stratford, the theatre looked very inviting. The stage was set in a three-quarter circle. Trumpets alerted the audience to the play's start.

Colm Feore, who played Richard III, then held his audience captive by drawing the focus of the play directly to him with the forcefulness of his performance.

The special effects also added to the atmosphere of the medieval setting. Smoke, lightening and sound drew the audience into a trance that was broken only when the play ended.

The costumes were bright and elegant, and brought beauty and color to an otherwise gloomy period. The cast was marvelously real and well-directed. The audience couldn't help getting caught up in the excitement of the period.

When the production was over, the eleven theatre buffs

walked back to the van in an awe-struck trance. The explosive performance floored everyone and made the trip worthwhile. It was a shame that more students were not able to take advantage of the opportunity.

**ON NOVEMBER 8
BE SURE TO VOTE!
For Bush/Quayle?
Or Dukakis/Bentson?
That's up to you.
Just vote.**

New SA Executive Officers Must Work to Politicize Student Body

an Ascent advocacy

What's been going on with the Student Association (SA) is a question that many have asked since the first of the Fall '88 semester. The answer is nothing has been going on, until only recently when, in mid-October, elections were held. Even then, however, the ballot for executive officers consisted mostly of candidates who were running unopposed. The only exception was the two candidates competing for treasurer.

The reason for this seeming lack of campus-wide participation? Little interest, answers Dean of Student Affairs Bruce Marzahn and Director of Student Activities Chris Malick. And why aren't students interested? One reason is Daemen commuter students, who make up the majority of Daemen's student body, aren't aware of SA. Another reason is many students hold down jobs to help pay for their education and simply don't have the time to become involved. A third reason is a few students have simply forgotten the importance of working to get the most out of school and giving something in return.

Neither Dean Marzahn nor Mr. Malick blame the Daemen student body for not being able to sustain an active Student Association. They say, instead, that the student body's inabil-

ity to organize is a problem shared by numerous colleges around the country.

The *Ascent* advocates a politically active Daemen student body. And though we shudder at the actuality that SA officials—or any political official, for that matter—can be elected unopposed, we are fully aware that every member of the Daemen student body had the right to run for SA office, yet none chose to except for those whose names were on the ballot.

Therefore, the *Ascent* supports the new executive officers of the Daemen Student Association.

The *Ascent*, however, further advocates that these new SA officials immediately begin working on creative ways to transform a mostly apolitical student body into a college teeming with active students. In the process of doing just that, the new SA officials might very well simultaneously undermine their own privileged positions, for when a people become politically active they themselves want to wrest control from those in power. Yet without this activism, this competition for power, those in control will be little more than mere figureheads. No more than scarecrows.

Idlers Shouldn't Complain

by Courtney Reed

Everyday I come to Daemen, and everyday it seems as if hardly anyone cares about what happens on campus. Hardly anyone cares, for instance, about this newsmagazine or any other campus organization.

I'm not going to criticize anyone for not participating. We

all have reasons for ignoring this or that. And I am certainly aware that some Daemen students do participate. But I will criticize anyone for not caring about the things that go in a school where they will hopefully be spending the next four years. What's worse is that some students complain that Daemen is boring but don't become involved enough to make the College exciting.

At the *Ascent* is a small staff, who, for your benefit, is trying to produce a newsmagazine that will be both informative and enjoyable. If you don't write and tell us what you want to know about, then the staff will continue writing what it thinks you want to read. Nothing more. And nothing less.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION

President	Paulette Zagari
V-P of Governing	Joseph Montana
V-P of Programming	Danielle Jensen
V-P of Publications	Heather Richardson
Secretary	Rosemary Giambra
Treasurer	Andre Lillard

ELECTION RESULTS

HAVE A SAFE, (FUL)FILLING TURKEY DAY

Announcements

continued from page 1

Get a Job like Mine." Asked why he'd write novels that go unread by presidents and other national leaders, Mr. Vonnegut said he hoped "to catch them at school [before they became leaders] and poison their minds with humanity." Free admission.

Announcements for the December issue of the *Ascent* will be accepted until November 19. Please address them to Ann Hynes, Editor-in-Chief, *Ascent*, Wick.

How many people or families are homeless in the nation? In Buffalo? Is homelessness an epidemic? Why? What's the cure? Why is everyone so concerned about this issue?

The Human Services Club will sponsor an open forum entitled "Homelessness: Private Troubles vs Public Issues or Is It Everybody's Problem," on Friday, November 18, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., in the Wick Social Room. The forum will consist of legislators, agency personnel, and homeless persons who consider the topic a very hot issue. There will be a slide show as well.

The whole Daemen community is invited. Admission is one item of canned or boxed food.

The Great Works of Literature on Film series will present Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations* on Monday, December 5, at 7:30 p.m., in Daemen Theatre. Starring James Mason, Michael York, and Sara Miles, the movie is based on Dickens' novel about Pip, an orphaned lad who lives with his sister and her village blacksmith husband. Following the movie will be commentary by Dr. Betty O'Neil, Professor Emeritus of English. Free. Sponsored by the College Alumni.

Want to write for the *Ascent*? The staff meets every Tuesday at 11:30 in the *Ascent* office, Wick Center.

The annual Harvard Model United Nations Conference takes place in Boston, February 1-19, 1989. Students interested in joining the Daemen College delegation should contact Dr. Edward Cuddy, Chairperson of History and Government.

The Human Services Club keeps you involved in the school and the community. Meet with us on Mondays at 12:00 in O'Day Lounge.

Step Ascending, the Daemen College Literary Review, is now soliciting manuscripts for its Spring issue. Students are encouraged to submit poetry, short stories, excerpts from in-progress novels, or literary essays. Submissions should be made to Ann Hynes, Editor, *Step Ascending*, Daemen College, Amherst, New York. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope for the return of your submission.

Are you a TTM student looking for a way to help defray tuition? If so, stop by DS-110 and ask Sharon for information about the Statler Foundation scholarship.

The Weather

by Bernard Larroque

A traditional weather prognosticator is calling for very cold temperatures and massive amounts of snow this winter in Buffalo. Speedy, a willeworm, has a coat which is more black than brown. Therefore, according to folklore, Buffalo can expect a severe winter.

The *Farmer's Almanac* corroborates Speedy's forecast. According to the *Almanac*, a major snowfall can be expected by late November. In December, Buffalo will enter a deep freeze and remain there until February, when we can expect some spring-like weather. In March, however, the *Almanac* predicts another major snowstorm.

Indoor Soccer

by Don Clark

With a 2-4 record, the Daemen Indoor soccer team is quickly becoming a major competitor in the Sportsplex "B" league. "It's definitely a building year," says U. K. team captain and manager Brian Gallagher. "We're all confident and looking to the future."

Indoor soccer is new to Daemen, but soccer in general is not. The College fielded an outdoor team for four seasons until lack of interest caused the sport to be discontinued.

As a result, 1988 is a successful year for the indoor U.K.'s, regardless of their record. "We're confident. We'll win more games," states co-captain Joe Tribotte. "But we'd like to see some more student support."

Vans are available for spectators if there's enough demand from fans.