Call For Submissions

Step Ascending, the Daemen College Review, is now accepting submissions of poetry, short fiction, and literary essays for its Spring 1990 issue. Deadline is March 2. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your manuscript, and submit it to:

Step Ascending
Ann Hynes, Editor
Wick Desk

Students See No Evil, Hear No Evil

by Terri Papaj

We may fall asleep in our classes, doodle on our notebooks, or whisper to our friends, but we still notice the funniest yet most irritating things our professors do and say.

Ros Cramer is always chomping on her gum, a quirk which bothers one student, and John Masterson always has his pen to his nose while he talks, an idiosyncrasy which humors another student.

Ned Cuddy is always fixing his hair, smiling like a fiend, and clasping his hands, reports a student from one of Dr. Cuddy’s history classes. “I realize I have too many hand motions and that I fix my hair quite often,” confesses Dr. Cuddy. “But the thing I notice the most is how loudly I speak.”

One student finds Dr. Starkey’s notes illegible and confusing. “He writes all over the board and then tries to make sense out of it with arrows,” she says.

Another student gets a kick out of watching Dr. Talebi pacing around the classroom with a chalkboard eraser in his hand.

Not only do students have keen eyes to watch their teachers with; they also have alert ears to listen with. Dr. Moran has been noted as saying “In that way” or “In that sense” over 300 times in one class. “I’m aware of my repetitive statements from time to time,” he says. “Perhaps (in that sense) it’s because of my nervousness.”

Dr. DiPietro always says “right” right after his sentences. One student listens to him attentively just to hear how often he says “right.”

A teacher who combines his words with his actions is Dr. Morace. While dancing around the room, waving his hands in the air for emphasis, he repeats “problematic,” “as near as I can tell,” and has a hard time with his h-words.

“I wasn’t aware of my repetition of ‘problematic,’” he says. “But as near as I can tell I’m aware of my gestures and of my problems with h-words. My wife always gets me on that one. ‘It’s herbs,’ she says, stressing the ‘h’, not ‘erbs.’”
Students Debate Idea of Daemen Radio Station

Idea once was popular with former Student Services Director

by Steve Fields

Colleges like Canisius and Rochester Institute of Technology have radio stations that are run by students and funded by their student associations. And though there seems to be an interest here at Daemen for a similar kind of station that would provide a forum for free public speech, for the dissemination of current College information, and for music ranging from classical to alternative, no one has yet taken the initiative to see whether such a station is a possibility.

Students who would like to tune-in to Daemen have various arguments for a college station. Dalton Nyberg, for instance, says a station with Daemen call letters could serve as everything from a news station to a forum for students to express their views. Warren Vinson says a radio station would let students fulfill their fantasies of being d.j’s. And Ross Metzger says it would allow students to hear groups they normally don’t hear on F.M. stations, groups like Jane’s Addiction, Soundgarden, and Sonic Youth.

A Daemen station could offer more than music and news. It could broadcast sporting and other special events. The English Department, for instance, could encourage students to use the station for readings of fiction or poetry.

By listening to the station, students could learn about registration deadlines and upcoming social events. They could even listen to a program that offered advice about academics and personal matters.

Fraternities and other social organizations could use the station to promote fund raisers. A station here at Daemen could even lead to the creation of a new major such as radio broadcasting or broadcast communications.

According to Director of Student Affairs Bruce Marzahn, the idea of a radio station was considered several years ago by then Director Greg Romeo, who had had a background in communications. The idea, however, ended in 1986, when Mr. Romeo left Daemen. Mr. Marzahn says if students still want a radio station they should make a proposal to the Student Association, from which operational funds would need to be obtained.

Some students, however, think that a Daemen station would be too expensive. They would rather see their student fees used elsewhere. Bill Tilton, for instance, says a priority should be more parking spaces and a swimming pool, though facilities such as these would most likely come from a source of funds other than student fees.

Regina Crowe and Holly Juster, though they like the idea of a radio station, are convinced that students may try to use a station as a forum where they could seek revenge or grind an axe. At Canisius, however, where WCG broadcasts from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., students have rarely misused the airwaves, says General Manager Deanna Bakowski.

On RIT’s WITR, students can express their views, but neither the FCC nor the college administration will tolerate slanderous comments, says DJ Doug Jaeum.

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Thank You

To students who donated gifts and money to needy families at Christmas. Special thanks to the Resident Council and Campus Ministry for providing toys for 19 children. Without all of you, there would have been no visit by Santa.

Community Service Office
Schism Between Majors Breaks Open

Misunderstandings foster ill-will among PT and other majors

by Tshana Cooper

“Physical Therapy is the most important major to me,” says PT major Katie Bashford, “but that doesn’t mean it’s more important than any other major.”

Ms. Bashford doesn’t seem to fit into the category of “those stuck-up PT’s,” an attitude held by many students who are majoring in other disciplines. What causes such an attitude? What causes the impression that a definite class system exists here at Daemen? And what causes non-PT majors to think that the College sees them as second class students?

Some students blame the administration. “The school focuses more on the needs of Physical Therapy,” says Warren Berry.

“Physical Therapy might be the biggest major in the school,” says Donald Jordan, “but that doesn’t mean the school should disregard other majors.”

“We all work hard enough on our majors to deserve a little recognition,” says Tracy Teich, herself a Physical Therapy major. “But when people think of Daemen,” she says, “they think PT.”

The impression of Daemen as a PT college might stem from the fact that physical therapy majors are currently in such great demand, says Laverne Ogieste. A student who graduates with a PT major is practically guaranteed a job, she says.

The impression that PT is the most important major gives many non-PT majors a sense of being second class students. Bridgett Herrod, for instance, senses that PT majors are elitist. “They think they’re taking the hardest courses,” she says. “They act as if other programs are so easy that students in them don’t have to study.”

Pamela Frank says the majority of PT majors walk around with a chip on their shoulders. “I’m paying the same amount of tuition that they are,” she says, “so there’s no need for their attitude.”

“They’re always wanting everybody to be quiet,” says Kishia Douglas. “It’s almost impossible to live in a dorm full of PT’s.”

PT majors, however, are quick to defend themselves or to acknowledge that sometimes they are unconsciously insensitive to the egos of their peers. “PT is hard,” says Gary Frasier, “but I don’t know about other programs, so I can’t say PT is harder.”

Diane Mantilla says, like all students, PT majors have problems. “We’re under so much stress, sometimes we forget there are other majors,” she says.

Other non-PT majors are quick to point out that perhaps the schism between PT and themselves is due more to the imagination than to reality. Joe Leonard says that he knows of several PT majors who envy students in other majors who are permitted to express themselves in non-technical ways. And Eric Agosto says that non-PT majors would feel better about themselves and would be better students if they were as competitive as PT majors.

MEN & WOMEN IN FILM: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Women In Love

Adult theme and language. Free Admission

MONDAY NIGHT FILM SERIES

Monday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.
Daemen College Theatre
We are all going to die. The time comes when we have to face death in our personal lives, and though we prepare for it, it is devastating nonetheless.

Perhaps the hardest death to come to terms with is premature death. If the death could have been prevented by simple measures, we look back and ask ourselves, “Who is to blame? What means would have stalled the process so that we could at least have prepared ourselves?”

A few of us are asking those questions now, and the grim fact is that there is nothing that we could have done, because it is too late, and because the shocking news was not delivered until the body was buried.

Administration announced during the middle of last semester that it had decided to terminate a fully established baccalaureate degree. The Medical Record Administration major had been prematurely killed, without any measures being taken to retain a major that has produced hundreds of highly visible and successful Allied Health Professionals working productively throughout the United States.

So for a post-mortem—

Imagine coming to school the first day of classes in the final semester of your senior year and finding the door to your lab locked. Imagine being told that you no longer have a lab, a classroom, where all the materials needed to complete your degree are located. Imagine being told to box everything up. This room, your lab, is going to PT. And yet you will still be expected to pay the lab fees!

Try to complete the required 18 credit hours of coursework when, from day to day, neither the you nor your instructors know for certain where to meet for classes. Every day brings a new unpleasant surprise.

The loved one is dead, yet the body continues to be mutilated.

I’ll admit to a certain bias. I am one of the mourners. I am one of those asking “how did this happen?”

Though excellent, dedicated faculty are being forced to leave jobs they truly enjoy, I and the remaining students in the program will benefit from the death by being assured of a job upon graduation in a profession where the demand far outweighs the supply.

I will be gone in May, so why should I care? Because the plug was pulled prematurely. Because a Do Not Resuscitate order was placed on a patient simply deprived of nutrients.

Because you may be next.

Unless, of course, you’re PT.
Dear Editor

The Ascent should broaden its base. Being a former editor-in-chief of my high school paper, I can relate with the principles behind publishing a paper.

However, I feel that the reporters of the Ascent are disobeying a cardinal rule in being good reporters. If you review past issues of the paper you will find that many of the same sources are repeated.

Daemen is not a vastly populated college, but it has a large enough pool of sources. Reporters have quoted the same people in many issues. Quotations are a sampling for a population. A statistician would tell you that you don’t use the same sample space for every experiment.

The Ascent could be a much more popular source of news if its reporters tapped into the vast supply of opinions and information available to them.

David Wilsey

Dear Cupid,

Four months ago I was virtually alone. I didn’t have a boyfriend, or anyone for that matter. My life was a void. Then one day in my mythology class I met THE GUY. Dark, curly hair. Soft brown eyes. An irresistible smile. Muscular body.

The next day he asked me out to dinner and a movie. Heart-tipped arrows must have been flying in the air because he was the perfect gentleman. He opened doors, helped me with my coat, and pulled my chair. After the date, I got a rose and a card.

Weeks followed in which we had a great time together, whether we were just talking or going some place or writing each other notes or holding hands or just looking at each other.

Yesterday he gave me a gold necklace with two connecting hearts, each one with two tiny diamonds.

Happy in Love

February 1990

Hard Luck Woman

Dear Editor,

Please retract an article printed in the December issue of Ascent, entitled “Students Discuss Abortion.” Tshana Cooper’s article was biased, it lacked much planning, and I dislike the shabby and haphazard fashion in which the information was presented.

In bringing up such a controversial issue like abortion, one must take careful precaution not to offend, ridicule, or single-out. The incomplete information seems to insinuate, through generalizations, Ms. Cooper’s perception of the male ethos.

I have talked to a number of men who say they held council with her on the subject. The extreme majority feel the opposite of what she writes, specifically that “Most males wash their hands of the matter or they act possessive and chauvinistic.”

It seems Ms. Cooper did her research with a conclusion already conceived. This is fine in an editorial, but when presented in the sheep’s clothing of research, it can be taken only as an insult.

Brent A. Schultz

Cupid,

That neon blue mini dress you sent—everything was fine until my date told me blue was his ex-girlfriend’s favorite color!

And I wore that “Ecstasy” make-up from your catalog to my favorite singles bar, where six different guys told me I looked like a Rocky Horror reject. Flirting Made Easy—it sucks! The guy I winked at thought something was stuck in my eye.

Your love potion supposedly takes fifteen minutes to kick in, but when I left my pick-up for five minutes I returned to find him hot with a bitch.

Cupid, what gives? All this for zip. I’m about ready to put your wings in a sling.

Hard Luck Woman
Semester Begins Right

by Tracy Krestos

On January 19, Booga Booga Beta sponsored a "Welcome Back" dance in the Wick Social Room. The dance ran from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., though, like at most parties, people didn’t start walking in until 10:30. By 11:00, the dance was well underway and people were on the floor “twisting the night away” to tunes by DJ Duffy Brown. If people weren’t dancing, they were munching on nachos and cheese and drinking soft drinks or, if they were of age, draft beer. Admission was fifty cents.

Last weekend (January 26-28) was Winter Weekend with events sponsored by the Inter-Greek Association. The weekend got underway Friday night at 9:00, with the Greek Bash featuring Top-40 band Omega in the Wick Social Room. Admission was free, and there were 50 cent beers, with proper ID, of course.

The next day buses took Daemenites to Chestnut Ridge Park to sled and ski. Saturday night, Fireside Movies were shown in Schenck Lounge.

Volunteers Needed

• Out-going, adventurous volunteers to answer phones, access information, or assist with data entry. Internships available for Information/Retrieval specialists. Westside location on bus route. Particularly suited for computer, pre-law, and social work majors.

• Great opportunity in Graphic Design for a volunteer familiar with the techniques of graphic design to assist the Medical Illustrator in producing illustrations and graphic designs for a local hospital.

For more information, contact:
COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICE
D.S. 108

Students Want More

by Tracey Tricoli

Though many students are displeased with the fun Daemen offers them, they don’t plan to work for the kind of fun they want.

Many students feel the school should organize more trips. Another complaint is that there aren’t many activities that promote school spirit, like pep rallies before basketball games or parties afterwards. These students point to the lack of a Daemen homecoming event, to the absence of a school fight song, and to the need of a school mascot.

Many of these students, however, are unwilling to organize into committees to get what they want. It is not their responsibility to organize entertainment, they say. Or they say homework keeps them too busy to organize activities. Some of them feel that since they pay thousands of dollars a year it’s not too much to ask the school to do their social planning for them.

Coming

LOS SABORES DE DAEMEN
FOODE TAIS NAR
DAEMEN IL SAPORE DI
DAEMEN EINE
PROBE VON DAEMEN
LA SAVEUR DE
DAEMEN SMACZNE

Soon