Daemen chows down

On Friday, March 30, more than 100 starving members of the Daemen community crunched cannoli, devoured dumplings, munched on eggplant, sampled seviche, and savored tempura.

The first (hopefully annual) Taste-of-Daemen International Dinner featured foods native to Poland, Africa, Italy, China, France, Japan, and the Middle East. Soul and other ethnic foods were also served.

The dinner, which highlighted the diversity of the Daemen community, was sponsored by the Social Work, Foreign Language, and History Departments, as well as by the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences.

To the culinarily deprived—take hearts. “Next spring,” say faculty members Renee Daniels, Denise Mills, and Joe Sankoh, “we’ll once again bring the world’s cuisine to campus.”

The Future Student Association

by Andre Lillard

(Mr. Lillard is this year’s SA president, to whom Ascent freely extends the courtesy of this editorial space.)

“Enthusiasm and encouragement are what the SA [Student Association] needs most.” This quote is from the March 1990 Ascent Viewpoint. Yet this so-called remedy has not worked. The writer of the Viewpoint only proved how irresponsible and simplistic this assessment of the SA is. The fact that such an article could be printed in the Ascent baffled SA members. The writer only told part of the story, and for that, many students and SA members are outraged. As President of the SA, I’d like to tell the other part.

The Viewpoint questioned whether SA cares about the students. I hope that the students on this campus will come to the conclusion that, in fact, SA really does care. To recap SA’s accomplishments: the current members sought and planned ways to have the hours of the computer room extended to better serve the student community; SA convinced the school to revise its policy concerning the purchase of food items off-campus in order to be more flexible to the needs of student organizations; SA decided to move out of its old office so that students would be able to utilize and benefit from additional recreational space and equipment—the new game room in Wick Center; SA, over the past two years, has sponsored more activities than in the past, more parties and events on campus, movie passes on Fridays, bus trips to Sabres’ games, Bills’ games, and Shea’s Theater. SA members give of personal time, day in and day out, dealing with the red tape.

The Viewpoint did not mention that SA only consists of, at times ten members, and at other times, as few as six. The real truth is that there would be no Student Association if current members did not take the time to run for and hold office. The Viewpoint did not mention that in the past two years each candidate ran unopposed. Currently, it appears that once again those candidates will run unopposed.

(Continued under SA Responds on page 5)
Year Ends Leaving Faculty and Students Feeling Dismempowered

by Terri Papaj

Faculty Say They’re Treated Like Children

The hierarchy of the Daemen community is much like a family with domineering parents, according to a Daemen Theory and Practice discussion group, which met at the end of March.

According to Dr. Richard Cimbalo, moderator of the discussion group, the Daemen family structure consists of faculty who take on the role of teenage brothers and sisters, divisional and subdivision chairs who are the older brothers and sisters, and President Robert Marshall and Dean of Academic Affairs Chuck Reedy who act out the parental roles.

When young children ask for candy or toys, the parents usually say no, and then the children cry. The faculty is like those children, yet what they want is much more important than candy or toys; they want acknowledgment and power. The parents, however, according to the discussion group, are always saying no, unless they too could benefit by giving to their children.

The discussion group extended the metaphor by saying the parents sometimes believe that their children “don’t know what’s going on,” so they’ll give them a toy to occupy time with. So it goes when the faculty were given their handbook, which the discussion group believes is meant to placate demands for faculty input in decisions related to their work. Yet the Daemen Theory and Practice group pointed out that when a decision on faculty terminations was made, the procedure in the handbook wasn’t followed. Instead, the Chairperson was invited to the Dean’s office, where he handed her a paper stating the termination of her program.

Some faculty believe a father-knows-best mind set exists on campus. “Something’s surely wrong,” says Dr. Robert Morace, “when someone uses the word ‘cooperation’ but means ‘do as I say, or else.’”

Students Asked to Do What Faculty Is Unable to Do

The consensus of the Daemen Theory and Practice group is that Daemen students are disempowered except for when the faculty empower us to do the work they themselves fear doing.

“Having discovered our own [the faculty’s] powerlessness, we now talk of giving students what we do not ourselves possess,” said Dr. Robert Morace. “We ask the students to do in the classroom what we remain unwilling to do in the college. Cowardly ourselves, we want them to be courageous for us.”

Dr. Charles Sabatino, however, limits the power of students to the classroom, where power becomes an exchange of ideas. In the classroom, everyone—student, as well as teacher—is free to join the dialogue. Many students, however, disempower themselves by refusing to join the dialectic.

This limited power is further qualified, according to Dr. Ned Cuddy, by the tension between the work needed to be done and the work being done. In short, the Daemen Theory and Practice group questioned whether the little power we students possess will remain limited to the classroom.

Psychology Major Gets Research Grant

Robin Brickler, ’91, a psychology major, has been selected as one of ten promising undergraduate students who will spend 8 weeks this summer doing research at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Ms. Brickler will receive a $2000 stipend, a free room, and funds to cover travel costs. In August, she will present her research results to the faculty involved in the program, which is funded by the National Science Foundation.
PARKING LOT PLANS TO BE REVISED

by Michelle Bock

The plans for the proposed Daemen parking lot behind the Little Theatre are being revised to appease objections from the neighboring community.

The original plan had the lot angled toward the north property line that separates Daemen from nearby Meadowstream residents. This plan would have had the lot within forty feet of the residents at one end and 100 feet at the other end.

The Amherst Planning Committee ordered the plans changed after Meadowstream residents expressed concern about noise and pollution coming from the cars. Now, rather than being angled, the lot must be built so that its length is 100 feet away from and parallel to the north property line.

The Committee also asked that the parking lot’s low sodium lights be equipped with special hoods to control the spread and direction of the light.

Daemen is now developing drawings which incorporate these changes.

SPRING AIRBAND ROCKS TO HUGE SUCCESS

by Tracey Krestos

How was Spring '90 Airband? “Bitching,” according to Daemen airbander John Gatti.

From the moment G. K. and the Destroyers hit the stage with Poison’s Talk Dirty To Me, the crowd was frenzied, often rushing to the stage to high-five the band members.

Twin emcees Phil and Tony Sciolino, dressed appropriately in white tuxedoes, helped work the crowd from a frenzy to a near riot by throwing candy such as Life Saver Holes to the crowd, as well as plastic cups filled with coupons.

Heavy B and the Boyz won best band honors on the strength of their rendition of Heavy D and the Boyz’ Somebody for Me.

A third band—We’re Going To Make You Wear A Thick Itchy Wolly Sweater Two Sizes Too Small—performed the Sex Pistols’ Anarchy in the UK.

Can Your Pussy Do The Dog’s performed Higher Ground, by the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

IN CONCERT
MAELSTROM PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 8:00 P.M.
DAEMEN LITTLE THEATRE

1990 SENIOR ART EXHIBITS

April 22-April 27
reception: April 22, 3-5 p.m.
Maris Battaglia
Melynda Gascoyne
Linnea Hjalmarson
Kenneth Harmer

April 29-May 4
reception: April 29, 3-5 p.m.
Christy M. Zucarelli
Mika Makiuchi
Kurt Kornacki

May 7-May 15
reception: May 11, 7-9 p.m.
Carol Ann Cuscina
Victoria King
John Beback
Randall North

All Exhibitions Will Take Place in The Daemen Gallery, Duns Scotus Hall.
For Further Information Call 839-3600, Ext. 241.

April/May 1990
VIEWPOINT

GRADUATION OPENS DOOR TO NEW SCHOOL

by Ann Hynes

Education begins when what is called education comes to an end.
Oliver Wendell Holmes

In any course of study, there is theory and there is practice. We have enrolled at Daemen College, taken classes, written papers, finished projects, conducted research, given presentations and taken tests, all based upon theory taught by educated faculty. Upon graduation, however, the real test begins, because our future livelihood depends upon how well we can apply theory to real life situations.

All students will have to evaluate their own preparedness for real life. If you're a freshman and plan to continue with your education, you will continue to study theory. If you decide that college is not for you, then you will be severely limited in practice. If you're a sophomore, you've decided to stick with college another year, thus building your potential practice, though still limited. If you're a junior, you've applied for upper division and have been accepted, thereby receiving a vote of confidence that you have what it takes to continue.

If you're a senior, and you're graduating in a few weeks, you've supposedly received all the theory you need, maybe with limited practice, and now it's up to you to apply what you know.

It's scary. Ties are being severed. Schedules are changing. One goal has been reached; now other goals need to be set. The cushion is gone, unless you're independently wealthy. It would be real nice to have a restful vacation before meeting the daily grind of a job. But reality means resumes, interviews, choices. After all, there are financial obligations to be met, college loans to be paid, living expenses.

This is also exciting. At last: respect, power, a confident voice, a paycheck, the feeling of professionalism.

So—how did we get here? We could write a list thanking all those who contributed to our success in college. There would most likely be a companion list containing the names of those who stood in our way, said we'd never make it, and did what seemed like everything possible to make the already difficult, impossible.

At the top of the positive list, however, put yourself. No matter how much help you received, you alone were responsible for your successes. You sat in classes, pushed yourself, kept going. You succeeded. Now begins your real education.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SA RESPONDS TO ASCENT VIEWPOINT

(Continued from page 1)

The Viewpoint questions SA’s concern for student interest in up-coming elections. SA has developed the best strategy, given the situation with which it was faced. An article was published in the Ascent, calling for Letters of Intent. After all, what better way is there to reach the student community than through its student publication? If the writer of the Viewpoint has any better ideas than those developed by the SA, why doesn’t she run for office?

The student body is not aware of the fact that in January, the SA President received a letter from Dean Marzahn stating three options for the future of SA. Option one was for Daemen College to stop collecting activity fees, resulting in no money to fund those activities we already enjoy. Option two was to have the Student Activity Office (administration), not the Student Association, make the decisions about where money would be allocated. Option three was that SA would decide how activity fees would be allocated—the most positive option for students, by students.

The Viewpoint, even in its lowest moments, made some valid suggestions, but the bottom line is this: we don’t have the staff to make those suggestions work. Ten people cannot run a government, nor can the student body expect everything to run efficiently all of the time.

The time has come for students to ask themselves three simple questions. Are we willing to help solve the problems that SA faces? Are we willing to give up our free time? Are we willing to get involved and go the distance?

There is apathy on campus, and that fact will ultimately be the downfall of SA. Why do students complain? Why don’t they take the time to care and get involved, to take advantage of an opportunity that exists now? If students would rather complain, may I remind them that complaining never accomplishes much, except alienating the very people who are doing something, instead of nothing.

Action accomplishes a lot. Current SA members are taking responsibility and action. Are you? Attend our meetings and find out. They’re held on Mondays at 4:30 p.m. in the SA/Publications Office, located in Wick Center. Join SA. You need us. We need you.

Dear Editor,

Regarding the shorter gym hours—why bother even to have a gym? The fraternities are playing a handicap league “football in wheelchairs” and can’t have the game in the Daemen gym. Why? Because the floor cost $50000. I never thought the use of facility would be harmful. Only the abuse. Nobody will thank the College in the year 2010 for saving the gym floor. By then, there might not be a Daemen.

Anonymous

April/May 1990

Dear Editor,

Is Daemen aware that Health Related professions are in great demand? In the health related field, for instance, record keeping is a must for financial survival. Health care payments are directly linked to documentation. Daemen should put to use some of the marketing and public relation skills that many of us have learned in the classroom. The College shouldn’t put all of its eggs in one basket.

Janet H. Meyer, R.N.
Happy birthday, Beph-a-knee.

Gary—Thanks for being there for me when I needed you. You’re a good friend. Love—Tarsha

Elizabeth M. & Kim L.—Don’t ever forget “the poem vacuum” and G.I. Dave! “Am I going too fast for you?” Have a good summer—T.E.R.

Tina—Have a good summer. And believe me, you’ll never stop being a P.H.!—T.E.R.

Joey—Thanks for everything, especially for just being yourself. Remember that I love you . . . forever.—T.E.R.

Ann—For two years of leadership, Thanks.—Ascent

. . .

Terri—Thanks for the wonderful birthday wishes. You’re the greatest.—Tina

Scott Ellis—Do you think you’ll get a room, schneider?

Berger—Now what exactly did you say?

Lisa—Stay away from Ralph. He’s mine.—Julie

Kim Cook is Buff!

Our lips are braille; they must be read by touch alone—K. N.

Jewels—I miss you. Please come back. I love you.

T & L—Grow up! Get a life. Stop Whining!

Jeff—Thank you for all your help this semester. I couldn’t have done it without you—MJ

Lambda Chi Iota would like to thank the entire Daemen community for the caring, help, hugs, and support through the difficult period we faced with the death of our sister Kelly M. Cooper. The concern and support made us realize how important friends are during a trying time. Knowing Kelly, like so many of you did, you also knew how much she loved Daemen. Through your concern, you’ve proven to us that Kelly’s memory will forever live in all of our hearts and minds.