AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
by felicia chamberlain

If you go to Webster's to find the word Amnesty, you’re missing its true meaning. Amnesty is more than a word; it’s a feeling, a passion. Amnesty International is an active group that researches the claims of brutal human rights violations around the world. If their race, sex, religion, or general beliefs are not similar or respected by the government, they can be, and too often are, persecuted. Many people are tortured and forced to live in dismal conditions with diseases surrounding them closer than the bars that close them out to the entire world, including their families. This infuriates people; and it should. To be taken prisoner because you have radical thoughts and not granted a trial or a phone call to your family is unethical.

"Amnesty International seeks the unconditional release of all prisoners of conscience."

Have you read George Orwell’s 1984? Big Brother actually lives in some countries. A pharmaceutical chemist in Yugoslavia was watching the news with his landlady. Like natural adults do, they made critical comments about what they had seen. The “Big Brother” of Yugoslavia put him in prison for twelve years because his private conversation was “hostile propaganda” against the state. Amnesty International seeks the unconditional release of all prisoners of conscience. These people are like the chemist, who are detained anywhere solely for their beliefs and origins, and who have not used or advocated violence. AI works for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and opposes the torture and execution of all prisoners.

How do they get all this information? Why should we believe them, if we can’t even believe our own government sometimes? AI is not a political organization, it’s a human rights’ organization. AI wants to increase the level of respect for human life. It takes individuals to demand that governments ensure human rights for all people. Amnesty is impartial, independent, and focused. Amnesty’s international office is in London, where the research is done. They quickly and effectively analyze data on human rights violations worldwide. Their sources include hundreds of newspapers, reports from legal experts, eye-witness testimonies, letters from prisoners and their families, and information from other organizations around the world. They send people to the countries to conduct on-the-spot investigations, observe trials, interview released prisoners and meet with government officials. Accuracy and impartiality are important, so the AI verifies its information with at least two independent sources to be accurate.

This all gets back to us. We are the future. Daemen’s mission statement tells us that the individual can make a difference. The members of Amnesty International are educating themselves and the Community college about the things some people do that are so inhumane that it is beyond cruelty.

"Daemen College believes that education must serve to alleviate human suffering and elevate human dignity." The dark ages still continue in some countries, but until we can honestly hold out the olive branch and take the candle out of the barbed wire, Amnesty will continue to fight to restore harmony and ethical treatment to the people of the world. We must compose the world and place all its evil offenders.

Coming to Daemen College!

PRISM QUARTET

March 3, Daemen Little Theater, 8 pm

P rize winners in the prestigious Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition and voted Outstanding Young Artists of 1989 by Musical America, The Prism Quartet performs regularly throughout the United States, including concerts in Detroit, Chicago, and New York. Venues include the Kramert Center for the Performing Arts, the noted Dame Myra Hess Series, Ann Arbor’s University Musical Society, Merkin Concert Hall and their own New Sounds Music Festival in Los Angeles. Prism also boasts a multi-recording contract with Koch International Classics and has been featured in radio broadcasts across the country including Chicago’s WFMT, New York’s WQXR, and NPR’s Performance Today.

Truly a “cross-over” group, Prism draws its recital and orchestral repertoire from original compositions, classical transcriptions, jazz, electronic and avant-garde twentieth century works.

In addition to performing as a traditional saxophone quartet, Prism features the most recent addition to the wind instrument family, the Yamaha WX11 Wind Controller. The WX11 enables traditional woodwind instrumentalists to access, with M.I.D.I. (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) technology, all of the sound capabilities of synthesizers and digital samplers. Simply stated, the WX11 expands the performer’s repertoire of sound and expression to the very diverse, allowing Prism to assume the role of almost any imaginable chamber ensemble such as a percussion ensemble, a baroque orchestra, a rock band, or a boys choir.

Recent Press...

The New York Times
“The group gave a beautifully coached reading...virtuosic...”

The Philadelphia Inquirer
“Four skilled performers... with buoyant musical personalities. The performers moved effortlessly between styles... the music was lighthearted, pulsing and windingly colored.”

The Reginal Leader Post
“Quartet members (performing with the Regina Symphony)... were able to change the sound for each of the four movements to encompass the likes of church organ and trumpets... the overall effect was entertaining and well played... The piece was brilliantly played by Prism...”

Don’t miss them!
March 3 at 8 pm
Daemen Little Theater

March 1993
Censorship is Not the Answer

by Patti Lane

Recently, my friends and I had the usual "It's winter time in Buffalo and there's nothing to do without spending a ton of money blues". So, we spent out Friday Night drinking beer, playing quarters, and watching "Babba Wawwa" on the television news show, "20/20". One of the topics discussed was pornography, and how it affects adolescents during the stages of dating, and on into adulthood.

Well, of course, 3 out of 4 people in the room were immediately interested in this topic. (Yes, ladies, the three who were interested were all males!) But seriously, all of the males interviewed on the show said that society’s perception of females made them look for "perfect goddesses", objects to be had. In addition, all of the females interviewed stated that they had continually felt pressure to look and be perfect. As I heard this, I expressed that I also have felt this pressure to be accepted. To this day, I spend hours every weekend doing my hair and make-up, trying on a dozen different outfits, just so that I will look "OK."

And then the guys don't understand why we women do this! "20/20"'s suggestion was to ban pornography, at least to an extent. Since we were all drinking, we got into one of those usual friendly debates about whether or not this was a good solution. This debate led to our discussing Madonna and her recent book, "Sex". An interesting conversation, to say the least, and quite the controversial topic!

Sure, perhaps society doesn't have a fair view on the expectations of women. Perhaps Madonna and other such "bare all stars" help to give society this image of a perfect, defenseless female. However, banning pornography, or anything else, isn't going to solve these problems. I don’t believe in censorship; if I don’t agree with or like something, I will just ignore it or not buy it. I am impressed with Madonna’s success, and her attitude of expressing who she really is, not letting anything stand in her way. If she wishes to express herself through pornography, so be it - I just won't buy her book.

"All humans have a natural curiosity about the opposite sex."

And now for the "attitudinal barrier". As long as guys don't take it too seriously, let boys be boys. All humans have a natural curiosity about the opposite sex. Most males can respect females as they become adults. However, it is that small percentage of people, male and female, that needs to be reached, to prevent the controversy, violence, crimes, and rapes being committed only to be blamed on music, television, etc. I don't like pornography, but what am I going to do about it? If we ban one thing, it will lead to the extinction of our free speech. We need acceptance. It is unfortunate, that many males look a girl straight in the chest rather than straight in the eyes, but censorship is not the answer.

HUMAN SERVICES CAREER FAIR

The fourth annual Human Services Career Fair will be held from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 30 in the New Student Union at the University of Buffalo, Amherst Campus.

All college students interested in exploring career opportunities in the field of Social Work or Human Service are encouraged to attend.

From 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., three professionals from the field will discuss information on their organization, career paths, trends for the future and tips for effectively marketing one's self in a tight economy.

Panel representatives will include:
- Robert M. Bennett, President, United Way of Buffalo and Erie County
- Leroy R. Coles, President & CEO, Buffalo Urban League Inc.
- Myrna F. Young, Executive Director, Everywoman Opportunity Center Inc.

From 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., representatives from organizations will be available to provide career information and to discuss part-time, full-time, summer, CO-OP, internship or volunteer employment. Several area colleges will also be represented to discuss graduate degrees in Social Work.

For further information contact the CO-OP/Career Development Center in Canavan Hall.

Daemen College's Sixth Annual Film Series

Great American Directors continues
March 29, 1993 at 7:30 pm
in the new Schenck Hall Auditorium
featuring the film

Wise Blood

Director: John Huston
open to the public no admission charge

The mid-winter blues are really setting in right now. I have heard people complaining that they are bored and there is nothing to do. I started to think about how much in this area there actually is to do. All you need is a car, or a bus map, (the buses go to most of these places) and occasionally some cash.

Buffalo and the surrounding area is culturally rich. We have a world renowned orchestra in the Buffalo Philharmonic. The orchestra usually performs at Kleinhan's Music Hall in downtown Buffalo. They sometimes perform at various schools or churches throughout the year. They have both classical and pop concerts and occasionally will have a "jeans and beer" concert for those who don't like to get dressed up.

The animal lovers could always go to The Aquarium in Niagara Falls and see aquatic life up close. Also, since the 8% sales tax extension just got passed, the Buffalo Zoological Gardens might be a pleasant way to spend a day. They have a variety of animals in a very nice landscape.

The Theater District is full of various theaters that always have some kind of performances going on. The big theaters, such as Shea's and Studio Arena, have such quality shows as "Evita" and "Aspects of Love." Also, try to find a performance being put on by the Theater of Youth, commonly called "TOY". I recommend you go see it. A few years ago I had the fortune of seeing their performance of "Macbeth" and thought it was the best play I have ever seen in Buffalo.

The athletic side of you might like to go skiing. The Southtowns have many fine ski slopes that usually have snow on them even if Buffalo has no snow on the ground. (I can tell you this first hand since I live out by Tamarack and Kissings Bridge.) Possibly, you could catch a Sabres, Blizzard, or Bandits game. I'm pretty sure they all play at the Aud.

If you want to just take a walk through somewhere and give your senses a delight, there is always the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. The gallery houses some of the finest paintings that have ever been produced. If you want an experience that can trigger the senses, go through the room of mirrors.

Those are just some of the places that you can go to break the boredom of March. These activities will not only break the "sameness" of life, but they will leave you with an experience that you won't soon forget.

The sisters of Psi Xi Omicron invite you to a TGIF PARTY

Friday, March 19 from 5 to 8 pm Wick Center Snackbar

sponsored by the Student Association

look for details in Wick Center

Beating the March "Blahs"

by Carol Kowalk

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Trip to see the Phantom of the Opera at the Pantages Theater in Toronto

Sunday, April 18, 1993
3 pm Performance

Ticket vouchers go on sale in the Daemen College Bookstore beginning March 1

* tickets are $46 each (U.S. funds), limit of 2 tickets/student
* includes round trip transportation from Daemen College
* seats are limited—get your tickets early!
* sponsored by the Student Association
* all sales are final—no refunds

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The Cold Cold Cold Cold Cold!
by David Roll

As usual, it started with itchy eyes and a runny nose. Then it moved to the chest, where it produced deep rough-like barks. Then it aspired with desire to strive towards something that is higher, the throat. Where it then produced an assimilation of hellfire. Finally, it traveled to the head, where it created extreme pain in the sinuses and an even more profound depression.

Now it is breaking up, which means that it is developing rather a lot of phlegm. And nobody will believe it's a cold.

"You know, in an age of confusion, the common cold is an unacceptable simplicity."

The things that display sympathy with its owner - a wailing pharmacy of tissues, lonzenges, a cough suppressant and some little red and white pills - tells me it must be "that virus that's going around", or that I could have Pneumonia and not know it. Or even Tuberculosis, which I hear is making a comeback. One person, which had an unrelated rash, mentioned to me about maybe having measles. Of course, everyone rejected my own diagnosis.

"You know, in an age of confusion, the common cold is an unacceptable simplicity."

But I, like others visited with the same complaint, know my cold. We know there is no cure in heaven or on earth, (well, maybe in heaven) and we might as well bow our heads as to having been taken over by a hostile bug.

I also know I'd be getting more sympathy if I were to be suffering from something more interesting. Saddest of all, I can visualize my very premature return back to work and school. It won't be a "Welcome Back" or Good to see you" that greets me, but a "don't sit by me!"

COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWS

Daemen in the News

The Director of Community Service, Joe Sankoh, appeared on a Channel 2 TV news show "Buffalo Etc." on Saturday and Sunday, February 13 and 14, 1993, to talk about the Community Service program at Daemen. It was a very successful interview and we have already received several calls from the community in response to the show. The show was recorded and those who would like to view it can contact the department for the videotape.

Reminders

1. The Community Service Volunteer Recognition/Award Reception will be held on Friday, April 2, 1993, at 8:00 pm in Wick Alumni Lounge. All students, faculty, administration and staff are invited and encouraged to attend.

2. The "Food For All" project sponsored by the Community Service Department, Student Affairs, and Food Service will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 1993, in Wick Center. Daemen's student organizations are all invited to participate in this event. (More specific information will be in next month's ASCENT.) All foods and proceeds from this project will benefit the Food Bank of WNY.

3. The Rosa Coplan Jewish Nursing Home needs 150 student volunteers to help move Residents to a new facility in Amherst in April 1993, (exact date will be announced later). For more information, please contact us at 839-8375 or visit our office in Canavan Hall.

A Note to Physical Therapy Students

As a result of a joint arrangement between the P.T. Department and the Community Service Department, all P.T. students (particularly freshmen and sophomore students) must register with the Community Service Department for placement in order to satisfy their required community service hours.

Please visit our office in Canavan Hall to pick up placement information. Our sincere thanks and appreciation to the P.T. Department and students for supporting our community service program, and making a difference in the community.

For any information on community service, volunteerism, friendly visits to the needy, etc., please contact our office in Canavan Hall (839-8375).

VOLUNTEER!!!

secluded silence targeting dimensions encircling the confusion but defining nothing sleeping inside, yet opened eyes mental drain caused by stopping thinking with developed thoughts nothing to encourage prosperity rehearsed answers to no audience no chances granted for audibility all dimensions are encircling into secluded silence.

feliciA chamberlain
The Price is Always Right!

by Patrick Mweheire

Imagine not being able to marry the love of your life only because you didn’t have enough cows! Sounds weird but in many parts of Africa, this is a common occurrence.

Dowry, as it is commonly known, is a long practiced African tradition in which the groom’s parents have to present some kind of material wealth or property in exchange for the bride. It is not as simple as it sounds because it normally takes weeks of haggling and bargaining before a negotiable price can be reached. Now, a very well behaved, obedient, strong, beautiful girl can go for up to 15 cows.

"Now, a nice well behaved, obedient, strong, beautiful girl can go for up to 15 cows."

What normally happens is, a group of elders (a bunch of old, obnoxious, wealthy men) from the bride’s family meet and set a price for the bride to be. On the other end, another group of elders from the groom’s family also meet and decide on an acceptable price. In most cases I can remember the bride’s family will always be asking for a few more cows than the groom’s family is willing to pay. So on a set date, both groups meet and begin negotiating. One group may say “your daughter is lazy, she is only worth 10 cows” the other will say “she is really pretty and can cook a mean rabbit”. This goes on for a few hours till one group gives in and a set price is agreed on. Let’s assume the agreed price is 13 cows and a couple of pigs. The groom’s family must deliver the merchandise before the girl can be taken home. Well, one thing is for sure, I will not be asking for cows. Hopefully by that time we will be talking bigger things like cars, houses, bonds and so on. If someone is willing to give a couple of cars for my daughter—God bless them, I will be more than happy to let her go!

As for an African youth of my age, school is the least of his worries. If he can collect those 15 cows, he is set for life.

A friend of mine asked me whether I would ever have the audacity to practice the same thing when I returned home. Well, one thing is for sure, I will not be asking for cows. Hopefully by that time we will be talking bigger things like cars, houses, bonds and so on. If someone is willing to give a couple of cars for my daughter—God bless them, I will be more than happy to let her go!

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1. Artic river
5. Say suddenly (with "out")
10. Sponsorship
14. Former Ugan damn leader
15. Uncanny
16. Company symbol
17. Final opportunity
19. On the peak
20. Realm
21. Solons
23. Roster
25. Orchestrate tuber food
26. Kind of club
30. Gaudy
33. Scot, hillside
34. More droll
36. WWII area
37. Small rolls
38. Kitchen knife
39. Old Eng. poet
40. Football player
41. Fe or Monica
42. Surface for inscriptions
43. Kifis
45. In high spirits
47. Under to a poet
49. Sharp in taste
50. Greek
53. Used a certain golf club
55. Small liquid container
58. Ft. resort city
60. Fish-eating bird
61. Young eel
62. Pujuo —
63. Foxx
64. Men of vision
65. Large amount
DOWN
1. Strong wind
2. Moslem leader
3. Speak
4. Island group
5. Command
6. Yam measure
7. Vases
8. Eimer and Granland
9. Adolescent
10. Click beetle
11. Lose self control
12. Girón or Orenchino
13. Britons
18. Tails
22. Having wings
24. Giant
27. Titles
28. Together
29. Purloined
31. Bill of fare
32. Purloined
33. Deserted
34. Intended
35. Recreation activities
36. Improperly
37. Improperly
38. Declare to be true
39. Stiff person
40. The Man
41. Grow weary
42. Bushy plant
43. Steamer or Saratoga
44. Follow closely
45. — homo
46. Alcohol
47. Indian Ocean vessel
48. — Solasell
49. Greek
50. Declare to be true
51. Grow weary
52. Wheel hub
53. — homo
54. Follow closely
55. — homo
56. Indian Ocean vessel
57. Small liquid container
58. Rt. priestly title
59. Snail measure
60. Men of vision
61. Young eel
62. Pujuo —
63. Foxx
64. Men of vision
65. Large amount

ANSWERS

Spring Break Hot Spots!

by Kristen Burgess

After working hard this semester, it is time for a vacation. Spring Break is from March 6-13, and it is welcomed by all.

Many people in Buffalo are sick of the cold weather and snow, so they head south for a vacation. While almost any warm place seems better than Buffalo, there are four particular hot spots that are most popular with college students.

"Daytona Beach is the most popular spring break area."

Daytona Beach is the most popular spring break area. It is situated in northeastern Florida, along the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. Twenty-five miles of beautiful white sand beaches attract at least a quarter of a million students. The beaches are good and the parties are great, but no paradise is without its faults. The hotels book early in advance, and many require hefty damage deposits.

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South Padre Island is another hot spot. This island is off the coast of Texas, near Corpus Christi. It is a year-round resort area, but it fills during spring break. South Padre has beach concerts and volleyball tournaments, along with 34 miles of sand.

Mexico has two popular spots: Cancun, and Cabo San Lucas. Cancun is a center of tourism, located on the Yucatan Peninsula. It has miles of beaches and huge parties. The American dollar goes a long way in Mexico, so check out the nearby markets filled with Mexican goods. Ancient Mayan Indian ruins are also in the area, for a side-trip. The other Mexican resort, Cabo San Lucas, is on the tip of Baja California. This is a prime area for surfing. But beware: don’t drink the water in Mexico. Drink only bottled water.

Wherever you go, have a great time! And even if you are staying home for the weekend, anywhere is better than being at school!!!