**Persecution by the student body**

By Jennifer Roush

Daemen College, nestled in Amherst, NY, seems an ideal place for students. But the quiet and beautifully landscaped campus harbors something nasty: homophobia.

Donna Bonacum, freshman Social Work major, is a lesbian. The student body responded to her with threatening and harassing phone calls and letters. This reaction surprised her.

"I thought this school was going to be a lot different," Bonacum said. "Friendlier, more open."

Donna said she went to Maria Brickhouse, Director of Residence Life, to formally complain about the problem. Brickhouse was unavailable for comment.

"She [Maria] was very understanding," Bonacum said. "She was like, 'Is there anything else we can do for you to help you in your situation.'"

With the help of Residence Life, Donna implemented some short-term solutions. Mrs. Brickhouse was unavailable for comment.

Marsha Jackson, Dean of Students, looked toward more long-term solutions. She said that she plans to bring groups specializing in diversity training to the campus, such as the theatrical group "Dramatic Solutions," who perform interactive skills about racism, sexism, and homophobia to teach people empathy and sensitivity to diverse populations.

Jackson also hopes to bring in the Gay and Lesbian Youth Services (GLSY) and Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (P-FLAG). P-FLAG came to Daemen over the summer to educate the Resident Assistants.

Jackson also said that she believes the key to rooting out homophobia is education resulting in empathy and respect for fellow students.

"I don’t think different is a bad thing," Jackson said.

When asked if she was surprised about homophobia on Daemen’s campus, Jackson said that she is not shocked by anything students do.

"This is a quiet community," Jackson said. "This is a community where you don’t hear about these things, but don’t think it doesn’t happen."

Senior Business major, Astoria Welch noted that he was surprised by the discriminatory...}

**Daemen considers buying buffalo**

by Michelle Smith

Since May of 2000, the streets of Buffalo have been adorned with large fiberglass bison as part of the "Herd About Buffalo" art project. In October, these buffaloes will be auctioned off to raise money for charity. Daemen College is considering bidding on a buffalo to honor the memory of the late Patricia Capstraw Wilkins, chairwoman of the art project and a graduate of Rosary Hill College.

If you have been around the city in the past few months, you have probably seen at least a few of these creative and colorful bison. Decorated by regional artists, each one stands about 7 feet long and 5 feet tall. Capstraw Wilkins initiated the project after she was inspired by a similar project in Chicago called "Cows on Parade." The money raised at the auction will be used to fund cancer research at Roswell Park Cancer Institute and art education programs at the Burchfield-Penney Art Center at Buffalo State College; these two organizations partnered the project.

Capstraw Wilkins had a long history with this, there was not a quorum, or a high enough percentage of members present to vote. This holds up the business of the EPC. Fries said, "Reducing the number of student representatives reduces the number needed for a quorum. We are doing this not to take away students' votes or voices, but to enable us to meet the quorum."

All of the faculty members interviewed made statements similar to Fries's. "We are absolutely not opposed to student representation. Reducing the number will not change the defacto student representation. If we change the..."
Acquiescing to the AM: An editorial

By Jennifer Roush

Ah, the smell of terror: the first tests are rolling in for which no one studied. Welcome to the exhilarating, if a little exhausting, world of the AM. We call it Academic Masochism, and no one is immune. Admit it, all students are masochists. Whether you came to Daemen to learn or to make money, some time in the distant future, you voluntarily consigned yourself to cerebral agony in return for weight gain, sleep deprivation, and total immune system malfunction.

As a student, prepare to spend weeks at a time doing nothing but eating potato chips, watching TV, drinking beer, and trying to determine "The Meaning of Life" by reciting all of its lines while sipping in your roommate's ashtray. The upper side? You are not a deviant. This is perfectly acceptable and normal behavior, and counselors are free available through the college to make you believe this.

You are not doing anything wrong, unless of course you believe what people over thirty tell you. But they convinced you to take that Chem/Bio/Math/Lit course in the first place, didn't they? They are full of shit.

I am full of shit.

I could sit here, safe behind my computer, relatively anonymous (no, I am not that girl who runs around in ratty clothes and a trenchcoat with red hair), and tell you that college shouldn't be like this, but I'd be lying. College should, indeed, be exactly like this. You are here to stretch those virgin synapses to the limit, and the only way that is going to happen is if you sit down and challenge yourself. The challenge: how fast and how well can you get everything you need to get done, done.

I could be a cheerleader for studying for at least an hour every day for each of your classes. Let's face it, I know what you are going to do because I did it all of my friends did it, and all of my enemies did it. Even the people over thirty did it. The difference, of course, is that I did it better than you, and so did the people over thirty. You will get the hang of it, I promise.

What is this "it"? AM.

You will procrastinate, and you will learn to do it well, until you are absolutely convinced that you cannot even start thinking about your homework until all of the popcorn extrusions on your ceiling have been counted in full, or until you make that $10 for your pizza (Which could take all night and lots of neck cramps in Buffalo), or until your toe nails are full of shit or your toenails have been washed, buffed, polished, per­fumed, and whatever else people with better hygiene than me do to their toenails.

And, in a 48-hour hysterical screaming-out-loud-in-the-middle-of-the-night, hitting-people-while-they-sleep smoking-until-you-vomit-or-have-some Serious-inspiration-fitting of "getting Shit done" productivity, you will create masterpieces of essays and note cards the likes of which have never before been, nor will ever again be, seen.

Your professors will not appreciate this artistry. Even the art professors. But they will pass you, occasionally even with an "A" if you can stay awake long enough, and you will be fine, give or take a scholarship or two.

This is Academic Masochism, the fountainhead of activity on campus: procrastinate, produce, and profoundly pontificate.

It is worthless, it is meaningless, and it is absurd. But so are you for as long as your social security number rolls off of your tongue before the barest hint of a thought of your name is even speculated to be cogitated.

If, for some unholy and absurd reason, you wish to deny my accusations, email your answer to this one simple question: Why the hell have you read this far into my article if you aren't procrastinating right now?

That's what I thought.

My advice: go to it, and do it well, just don't forget those diet pills so you can stay awake for the 56.573 hours you need to write that essay. Oh, and don't tell anyone who gave you this advice that they will have to guess and you can procrastinate a little more.

Clinton v. Lazio: It's Common Sense

by Eric A. Slate

Are you really interested in the New York Senate race between Hillary Clinton and Rick Lazio? If you were like most college students you would probably say, "No! I'm too worried about paying for college itself." Well then you better get interested in this race.

The stakes are high for future taxpayers and current students of higher education. Thousands of dollars are being offered to you depending on your vote, or at leastViewed by the people who made the tax cuts as a way to get the public to pass dates during the next few months will ultimately dictate your vote, but the facts that coincide with these political promises are almost too clear:

Hillary Clinton has already announced her support for College Opportunity Tax Cuts, which would provide up to $2,800 annually in tax relief to help American families to pay for college. The limits to this plan are small but worth noting. This tax cut would phase out married filers with incomes between $100,000 and $120,000.

Lazio's plan for making college more affordable falls back on a 1997 Taxpayer Relief act. This relief allowed the same act that provided $500 per child federal income tax credit for families with gross incomes between $10,000 annually (75,000 for individu­als) for every child under 17 years of age. This act allows for a learning tax credit equal to 20 percent of up to $5,000 for the third and fourth years of high education. Lazio's plan really is not his plan but an already existing act; he really is not concentrating on any further relief for college students or their parents. Clinton's plan of college compensation allows for a 28 percent tax credit. Lazio's allows for 20. Clinton's plan affects all years of education not just the third and fourth. When given the choice, who would you vote for?

Tuition, tuition, tuition. Where does our money go?

by Laura Beth Witt

We are charged a number of fees for college: $450 a semester for activity fees alone. But what does Daemen college do with it? This money goes...everywhere, basically.

This year, Daemen's annual loss money left from last year. According to Chris Mallik, director of student activities, Daemen is planning to put up a computer in room of sorts with this. But the money goes to other places too.

Freshman, remember when we first got here there were all sorts of neat stuff going on. Guess where the money came from, for the picnic, the movies, the comedian and etc? Well, from you, of course. But the money came from the activities fee. This money also goes to other events, like TGIF parties, entertainment shows, like the psych­ic fair, concerts, comedians (by the way, is any­one else bothered by the Michael Dean Ester sign that's STILL up in the dining hall?), picnics, par­ties, the season festivities, this very newspaper, the list goes on. This is how we get money for our dorm/hall socials, school clubs, and theater pro­ductions.

There is always a lot of stuff going on here at Daemen. Fun stuff, if you actually go. This is how these events are financed. This is also my advice...You paid for these events. So why not go and get your money's worth?
Daemen gets new dean

By Darcy L. Smith

Academic affairs are under new management. In June, Dr. Edwin Clausen became the new Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the college.

Dr. Edwin Clausen, who has a B.A. and M.A. in History and a Ph.D. in Modern Chinese History, will now be responsible for all the academic operations of the college. He will also be expected to provide leadership in the administration and development of academic programs, as well as policies and standards.

Clausen began his administrative career by presiding over a Global Studies program and major at Arizona International College at the University of Arizona, in Tucson. He stated that his decision to become an administrator stemmed largely from his desire to create change at a larger level.

"I liked the idea that I could really provide energy and resources to create change at a larger level," Clausen said. "I also wanted to create an administration that pays attention to students."

Clausen said that though he oversees the academic affairs of the college, he is also responsible to the college president and his vision for the institution, as well as other areas of concern. Among these concerns, but not exclusively, will be those of the alumni, admissions department, business office and grounds committees.

Chief among his current concerns is the task of directing Daemen's academic future.

"In the last five years, every good institution has started to go through a time of introspection," Clausen said. "They are looking at the students and the world, and asking if they are providing the right kind of education."

The right education, as he stated, may involve altering Daemen's academic concentrations. He said he felt that the college had to take its existing resources and focus them with greater intensity on fewer programs. He also added that this may include a new focus on the fine arts and natural sciences.

"We need to focus on training liberal arts educated students," Clausen said. "Students who can think critically and creatively and understand diversity."

Clausen also stated that he felt this may be facilitated by the new core, which is currently in the process of being drafted by the Educational Policy Committee. He expects that the core will have a rough shape by the end of the fall semester and will be finished by the end of the spring.

Though Clausen said he hopes to promote a number of changes within the Daemen community, he said that one thing he was extremely happy with was, is the college's commitment to the community.

"One of the greatest traditions of Daemen is its service to community ethic," Clausen said. "The faculty and students are to be applauded. They are way ahead of most colleges in the nation."

Helping the Homeless on Daemen's Campus: Facts and Fiction

by Shehzadali Ismaily

Change is coming. It's inevitable. Daemen College is going to be constructing new housing facilities along Campus Drive.

There have been many rumors surrounding this issue. Most are completely false or have little spark of truth in them.

Robert Vitanza of the Building Department said that Daemen College is going through the approval process for a building permit, which must go through the town board. In fact, Daemen College had a public hearing concerning the permit on September 18, 2000.

According to Francis A. Balcerzak, Vice President for Business Affairs and Treasurer, construction of the new housing facilities are suppose to be completed in two years. The reason why it is going to take two years, Balcerzak explained is because of financing and design.

A rumor that has been circulating is that area residents are against the construction. Vitanza said that he hopes this will not be the case, stating that the new housing facilities will actually be an attribute to the area and not a problem.

A second rumor concerning the construction of the new housing facilities deals with where current residents will be placed during construction. The rumor is that the current residents of the Campus Drive dorms may be placed in motels. There is actually some truth to this rumor.

Daemen College is proposing to place all males living in the Campus Drive dorms into the thirteen dorms that are located on the island (the area between Campus Drive East and West). All females living on Campus Drive will be moved into Canavan Hall.

The alternate plan is to place all students that live on Campus Drive into motels during construction. Daemen College would lease the motels for a certain period of time and place twenty to thirty students and one RA in each motel. Transportation to and from the College will be provided by Daemen.

The placement of students in motels and transportation services raises an obvious question: Will there be an increase in tuition? The answer is no. Tuition will not be affected.

Another important question is why is Daemen College spending so much time and effort, not to mention money, into such a huge construction venture? The answer is very simple: Daemen College hopes to satisfy the needs of the student body.

The new dorms will have four single bedrooms, two bathrooms, one kitchen, and one lounge area. All together there will be 384 single rooms available on Campus Drive.

Students seem to think that the new dorms will be beneficial to the campus.

"The administration will have less problems concerning housing and can focus on other situations needing attention," said Jessica Suppon, a student at Daemen. She added that she wouldn't mind moving into a motel as long as it was close by and she didn't have to pay for it.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: I hope that this article helped to put to rest some of the rumors that have been flying around campus. We'll just have to wait and see what occurs in the next two years. We'll just have to put our faith and future in the hands of the higher ups and hope that everything goes well.

Diagrams for the new apartments being planned for Campus Drive. To the left is the layout for the entire 1st floor. To the right is an enlargement of one of the eight quads that will make up the building.
"Persecution"

cont. from pg. 1

actions of the students. "I'm not shocked that she is being discriminated against because of her sexual preference," Welch said. "However, I am shocked that it is happening here. Daemen College is a small place and I assumed that everyone has respect for one another."

It seems most of the student body is supportive of Bonacum and her bravery. Steve Parisi, Secondary Math Education major and sophomore at Daemen, said that it upset him that students would treat one another the way they treated Bonacum. Of the letters and phone calls, he said: "That's kinda shitty. That's, like, a really immature thing to do."

"I'm not shocked that she is being discriminated against because of her sexual preference," -Adonis Welch

in the meantime, anger over Bonacum's treatment may serve to goad students into action. Already an LGBA is planned, and students and faculty alike are trying to bring gay-friendly groups onto the campus. Mainly, some outraged students are trying to understand where this bigotry comes from.

"My comment to the student body: Do you know her well enough to judge her," said Welch. "I believe that ignorance is ignorance...whatever 'group' you may belong to has had some form of hate bashing against them. No one has the right to disregard another person for who they are." Jackson agreed saying: "I think civility is important: I think people should be treated with kindness and respect.

"They're trying to kick me down, but I'm always going to be standing strong," Bonacum added.

"Buffalo"

cont. from pg. 1

this project, said that he is not focusing on any particular buffalo. He hopes to get "something that would be dignified and commemorative of Patty." He mentioned that there was an angel buffalo outside of the funeral home where Capstraw Wilkins' wake was held. However, this buffalo is expected to be popular, and therefore costly.

Faculty, alumni, and students who currently know about the project seem enthusiastic and supportive of it. Renee Kressa, a Spanish major said, "I like the premise. It would be nice to have something here that someone who graduated from here contributed to the community." The live auction will be held on Tuesday, October 24 at Shea's Performing Art Center. You can view pictures of the buffaloes at www.HERNDOUBUFFALO.COM

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Local "Conversation": song theme or swan song

by Ray Graf

Some people say it's an historical landmark of significant proportions. Some people believe it is a tourist attraction just waiting to bolster a sagging Buffalo economy. Some think it's just in the way. The public was given a chance to hear about these topics at a two day event called the "Canal Conversation" which took place September 11-12 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel here in Buffalo. Organized by Kevin P. Gaughan and supported by the Baird Foundation, the Paul J. Kesseler Foundation, Fleet Bank of North America, and our Daemen College, the "Conversation" was attended by over 400 people, including Mayor Anthony Masello and County Executive Joe Giambra.

Daemen helped promote this exchange of ideas by assisting in much of the registration and arrangements. Dr. Martin J. Anisman, President of Daemen College, introduced the keynote speaker, Gerald W. Adelman, founder of the Open Lands Project. When asked about Daemen's role in the conference, Anisman said he was pleased that the college could support it as a neutral party because "all viewpoints need to be heard."

These are just some of the opinions vocalized since a section of the historic Erie Canal was covered on the waterfront. During construction of the Inner Harbor, crews unknowingly discovered a section of the original canal slip. The slip connected the actual canal to the harbor on which thousands of people traveled west. Some one hundred and fifty years ago this was a hot spot of history making events. Passengers on the Underground Railroad fled to Canada and many settlers used the canal to get through the Great Lakes to places like Chicago and the West Coast. With so much history in one place, why the controversy?

One side is that of Empire State Development. They had plans drawn up for years about developing the waterfront, which would help strengthen a struggling Buffalo economy. In order to complete the project as it is drawn could mean the destruction of as much as ninety percent of the canal site. People Inc. is a group of approximately fifteen hundred individuals who badly needed to keep the public informed, without all the petty bickering.

Daemen College helps the new group on campus

by Melissa Kennedy

Along with the new freshmen and transfer students there is also a large group of individuals playing an important role at Daemen. Developmentally disabled individuals between the ages of eighteen and twenty-three chose to graduate from public education with an Individual Education Program (IEP) diploma because they and their families felt they could receive much more through People Incorporated.

The program offered by People Incorporated at Daemen presents the students with a favorable option to public education due to the ages of the individuals, Daemen is an ideal site; instead of staying in a high school environment until the age of 21, the student can interact with others their own age. This is important because many of the individuals need to work on communication skills. The coordinators of the program stressed that it is very important to treat the individuals the same as you would treat your friends - they do not need special treatment.

The individuals are building on their social skills, learning job skills and have an access to the community. All of this enables the individuals to continue in a meaningful, long-term adult outcome. The collaborating of Daemen College and People Incorporated has created a meaningful transition from school to adult agencies.

Warren sets example and speaks of "doing good" at Daemen

by Beth Seelberger

Historian and philanthropist Robert A. Warren spoke about the importance of "doing good" to an audience of Daemen students, faculty, and administrators on September 27. During Warren's highly autobiographical lecture, he spoke of personal and professional experiences which led him to his career as an historian, but particularly, to philanthropy. Formerly a New York City attorney, Warren said that he "pretty much saw it all."

Warren said that his disillusionment with, and legalizing gambling, an organized forum was formed previously when a grant written by Ray Graf for the Seneca-Babcock Community Project, to which he encouraged Daemen students to devote their time and service. Warren said that he is he had it to do all over again, he would become a writer or history teacher. Teaching and interaction with the students, he said, is "how you affect eternity."
Math made all the difference.

by Darcy L. Smith

Sophomores Spanish Education major Renee Kresse agreed and added that Mills is also very flexible. "She has a strange fanaticism for Diet Dr. Pepper," Kresse said. "She also makes us watch the same movie, Koyaanisquatsi, over and over again. It's her favorite."

Senior Spanish major, Shantry DiCicirao said that what really matters to her the most about Mills is her dedication to the students and openness with them. "She is one thing that makes her different from a lot of professors is that she gives a damn about her students," DiCicirao said. "Her students become like her children and she really gets to know us. She also lets us get to know her."

Mills stated that she wishes she would see even more students taking Foreign Language classes. "The average American changes careers three or four times," Mills said. "It [a foreign language] gives you diversity. You may find that it has a whole lot of practical applications in your life."

She also went on to say that the Foreign Language Department is hoping to make some big changes. She is hoping that among those changes will be the addition of a non-western language. Just as long as it isn't math related.

Daemen eliminates presidential scholarship

by Beth Sellberger

Maintaining enrollment numbers and financial stability at any academic institution is a must, but at a private college? Due to Daemen's current financial crunch and last year's decrease in enrollment, full-tuition, or presidential scholarships, will no longer be offered to Daemen's above average applicants. Instead, scholarship funds will be distributed more widely, and generously, among the student population. Although students currently attending Daemen on full-tuition scholarships will not be affected by this change, some express concern over the effect this may have on Daemen's academic environment.

Mike Smith, a senior physical therapy major currently on full-tuition scholarship said that he opposes the decision to eliminate the award. "I feel that while it may benefit students in the less popular humanities and art programs because there won't be as much of an incentive for them to attend a state school if he had not received the award, and was attracted to Daemen because of the reputation of the PT program."

Consultants hired to advise Daemen boost enrollment numbers advised the decision to eliminate the full-tuition award so that more students could be offered, and recipient of more money, said Maria Dillard, Dean of Admissions.

However, the original intent of the award was not to boost enrollment, but to attract particular types of students: those who maintain above-average academic standards. Dillard initially developed the idea for the award.

"I found, from an admissions standpoint, we were finding extraordinary applicants that we hadn't previously attracted," Dillard said. "I thought, how do we attract them if they're getting scholarships elsewhere?"

Dillard added that she thought that highly capable students add a lot to the academic environment.

Brett Miller, a senior art education major, disagrees with the decision. He said that he probably would have gone to Buffalo State College if he had not received the full-tuition award.

"It's going to ruin the diversity of the school," Miller said. "Most of my friends have the full-tuition award and I think they provide a lot for the school."

Senior graphic design major Mandy Poreda said that Daemen wasn't her first choice until she received the award. "I wasn't thinking seriously about going there," she said. Poreda also disagrees with the decision to eliminate the award. "I think it was a really great opportunity. If it didn't exist, I would've been stuck at a community college."

Darcy Smith, a junior English and History major said that because she receives a full-tuition award, she feels indebted to the college. She agrees that eliminating the award may, in some ways, hurt the academic and intellectual environment of the college.

"If they want above average students, they have to offer above average packages," Smith said.

Daemen accquires soccer

by Tish Clark

Around campus I am sure that you have heard or seen signs of soccer. This sport is a hot new way of getting Daemen College out in the fields to represent their school and display their talents.

It will offer more activities to the students," said coach Don Silveri. "With soccer being popular in this region it will be easier to recruit. To add men's and women's soccer will allow this sport, the team, and the school to be a part of the American Midwest Conference. This is the best Conference at a our level."

Silveri added that soccer would be a "pool for admission" as well. "It will definitely give Daemen recognition because it would be drawing kids from the northeast and kids that want to pursue their high school talents can continue here at Daemen College."

The soccer games that are home are usually at Erie Community College North at 3:00pm. The days that games are held vary. However, signs and postings will be put up.

"We would like to see our students come out and support our sports teams," Silveri said.

Meet the new SA officers

by Joelle Schelhaus

Last spring, students elected a new set of officers for the Student Association (SA). Here is a little bit of information about each of the new officers.

Stephanie Williams, Treasurer. She is a junior, majoring in psychology. She is also the vice president of the Multi-Cultural Association (MCA). Stephanie says she runs for SA, "So that I could be active in campus life and to help make changes that will affect the campus positively." She hopes that this year there will be more activities that represent the college community. She will work to accomplish this during her time on SA.

Jamie Treantis, Secretary. Also a junior, she is a physician assistant major. Jamie is a member of Delta Phi Mu.

Jamie says, "I hope more people come out to meet new people and get involved in SA". She also says that she is actually a lot that we as students can accomplish. She ran for office because she wanted to get more involved on campus.

Matt Hitchcock VP of Publications. He is a second year student, with a major in Elementary and Special Education with an Early Childhood specialization. Because he switched majors, he is slightly behind in his curriculum. However, he hopes to graduate on time in 2003. He is an active member of Phi Beta Gamma, currently serving as vice president. Matt is also the president of the Inter-Greek Association (IGA). He finds time to play intramural volleyball, too.

Matt decided to run for SA because, "I feel that I could best represent the student body and voice their opinions."

He is also a very active person, so he felt a need to get involved on campus. He says, "I needed to get involved, and what better way than SA." During the year, Matt hopes to fix the copier malfunctions that "have been happening." He says that this will be done either through purchasing a new copier or through repairs that will eliminate the problem.

Simone Speak, VP of Programming. She is a fourth year education major. Her activities include: Daemen College Step Team, MCA, Students of Color Alliance (SOCA), Student Talkers about Race and other local's (STARS), Resident Council, and Education Club. Simone says she ran for SA office because, "I felt that by doing this, is another way to see things done on campus that I appreciate, as well as my fellow college mates. Not that I do not appreciate..."
Daemen Personals

Have a bone to pick? Need to get something off of your chest? The Daemen College Personals are here for you. Just fill out this form and drop it off at Wick Desk (make sure you tell them it's for the Ascent) or email tish_18_99@yahoo.com. We'll put in as many as we can!

• "Ascent" staff members are cool!!! Thanks for all of your hard work.

• Are you interested in studying Wicca? Then please contact female_wiccan@yahoo.com so that we may help one another study and learn Wiccan traditions.

• Hey K.S. Have you seen B.M. today?

• Mike P., you are a cool roommate and a bushel of fun; but you need to stop wearing make-up. This is NOT a normal practice, no matter how much you check yourself out in the mirror and wish that you were a girl.

• To: Josh (The Art Major)

  You are my idol. If I could be like anyone in the world, I would be like you. Unfortunately, I don't have the lack of motivation to pull it off. You mah dawg.

• Hey Alex, change the message on the answering machine!! Please!

• Hey big shithead, when is our next philosophy club meeting?

• To the old, tall, doofy-looking asshole with the red backpack who struts around campus: the world would be a happier place if you never opened your fucking mouth. Not only for your words, but also for your breath.

• Yo Noah, your love is like a raccoon. Furry, stinky, striped, and masked.

• 86 Easy

  Here ye here ye, I be waiting to finish. My web page. Soon, and for the rest of your life.

• I want you to know that I made mazes in my spare time in middle school. I made lots of them.

• What's with all the blue-haired freaks running around on campus? Get a life.

• Have you ever counted how many la la la's there are in the Smurfs' song? Are you really a robot in disguise? If you can answer yes to any of these questions, then you are a child of the 80s.

• Eric, you are so full of shit. Don't get the eye exploding virus.

• Hey BS clean up your shower scum (the stuff you say "came off the wall")! It's disgusting!!

• Hey EASY...Shut the fuck up in Western Civ. It's already long enough!!

• Cobra ta la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la Brett

• Love goes out to everybody that loves me back and those who don't 0-Well Chantel wood

• God bless the child that could hold his own Maine-tain

• Special thanks you shout to the E-board members of the Daemen College step team as well as the new recruits on the team. Keep up with the good work, and don't quit. You are doing well, very well...

  Simone and Linda

• I will like to give a special shout out to all the R.A.'s on campus. Keep up the rounds. Don't sleep. Also I would like to say good luck to the new recruits of the Daemen College step team.

  Gaelle

• Happy belated birthday to Barsette Linda

• I would like to give a shout out to the Daemen College Steppers. Keep up the rhythm. A personal shout out to Linda, Gaelle, Simone, Sammi, and myself. One Love Kerensa
Daemen Demands

Name: Erin Stanley
Age: 20
Are you registered to vote? Yes
Are you voting this November? Yes
For whom? Gore and Clinton
Why? Because of the majority of issues. What they stand for I agree with. Education, both are against vouchers and so I am, and for college tax cuts.
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? They think their vote doesn’t make a difference. They’re the age group that complains that nothing gets done for them, but they don’t vote."

Name: Arin Wood
Age: 18
Are you registered to vote? Not yet, I just turned 18. I’m going to.
Are you voting this November? Yes
For whom? I don’t know yet. Probably Bush and Lazio.
Why? I’m pretty sure Lazio isn’t strict on gun control. I’m a hunter.
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? We don’t care.

Name: Derek Bigelow
Age: 18
Are you registered to vote? Yes I am.
Are you voting this November? Haven’t decided on that yet. My focus is on other things besides the election right now.
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? Because they think their vote doesn’t matter and their one vote won’t make a difference.

Name: Desiree Williams
Age: 18
Are you registered to vote? Yes, but not here. I’m from Ohio.
Are you voting this November? I don’t know. For whom? Gore
Why? My mom told me to vote for him.
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? They’re lazy. We don’t care.

Name: Shinette Hairston
Age: 17
Are you registered to vote? Yes, because I will be 18 before November.
Are you voting this November? No, because I don’t know enough. I don’t know about politics and I don’t want to vote for the wrong person.
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? They don’t take the time to learn about politics. Half the time, they don’t care. They don’t think their vote is important anyway.

Name: Carly Williamson
Age: 18
Are you registered to vote? Yes
Are you voting this November? I’m not sure if I’m voting here. I think I’m going to.
For whom? Bush and Lazio.
Why? For Bush because he’s a republican and I am too. And for Lazio because I don’t like Clinton.
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? I don’t know.

Name: Michael Patane
Age: 18
Are you registered to vote? Yes
Are you voting this November? Yes.
For whom? Why? I’m against Clinton because I feel she doesn’t really know New York. She just wants to further herself. And probably Bush, I’m not sure.
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? I don’t know. We are in our own little world. Our own little microcosm. We think about ourselves, not world issues.

Name: Erin Minch
Age: 18
Are you registered to vote? Yes
Are you voting this November? I have no clue
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? They don’t think they have a voice.

Name: Esteban Vizcarrondo
Age: 19
Are you registered to vote? Yes
Are you voting this November? I have no clue
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? They don’t think they have a voice.

Name: Donna Bonacum
Age: 22
Are you registered to vote? Yes
Are you voting this November? Yes
For whom? Gore
Why? Cause he’s more liberal on the issues.
Why do you think people between the ages of 18 and 24 have the lowest turn out on Election Day? Because the younger adults don’t know much about the issues. And they don’t know who to vote for. And they don’t have time to go and vote because of school, college.

Interviews and Photos by Darcy Smith, Beth Seilberger, and Jennifer Roush

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“Representatives” cont. from pg. 1

fy cutting the number of student representatives on EPC. I feel that representation is malapportioned as is.” She explained that there are nine faculty members, but only four students to represent the entire 2,000 member student body.

Coval continued by saying that if the EPC wanted to reduce that number, “Who can blame them?” The apparent apathy for the student population warrants such a proposition. The student body should seize the opportunity to make these decisions.

Coval did make it clear that she felt the EPC should not decide how the students choose their representation. “If the student body is not interested in making sure that we put people on committees who actually do their job, the student body is losing out.”

The current process of selecting representatives begins within the Student Association (SA). The SA members choose representatives at their meetings. Then, the VP of Governing makes a recommendation to the President of the college. He gives the final approval of the representatives.

The EPC also voted to change this process. They are now asking that all prospective student representatives submit a letter of interest or have a faculty recommendation. Dr. Shirley Peterson gives the reason behind this: “We want student representation, but we want ones who really do want to make this commitment.” Being on the EPC is a huge time commitment, especially now that the EPC meets weekly, instead of biweekly, as in the past.

There were other ideas floating around about how to get better representatives. Dr. Mary Fox mentioned the idea of letting more students attend the meeting who may not be voting members. This would allow a quorum to be reached if they do not show up.

“This is not anti-student” Fox said. “We are not trying to keep votes from students. I am a firm believer in student involvement in their education.”

Darcy L. Smith, the SA Vice President of Governing and acting President, disagrees with this idea. She feels there would be no incentive to do the work of reading proposals, attending meetings, and writing proposals, if one's voice doesn't mean anything. “I do feel it is important to have students participating in the process that determines the courses they will take,” she said. The SA is discussing their own idea. It would involve a trial period for the two representatives and if they proved to be reliable, eventually returning the number to four.

It was also mentioned by some people that this is not just a student problem. Sometimes, faculty members are just as unreliable. When faculty members are absent, as well as students, that creates a real quorum problem. The question was raised, if students are going to be held to a standard of reliability, should the faculty be also? If a faculty representative is repeatedly absent, should he or she be removed? This is an issue that the EPC should consider at its next meeting.

“SA Officers” cont. from pg. 5

all we have going on.”

This year, Simone would like to see there be activities that both commuters and residents will enjoy, as well as members of the community. Simone has some advice for the incoming freshmen. “Damen College is very unique in its own way. It is what you make it, so don't just sit in your rooms, join a club and be heard.”

Darcy L. Smith, VP of Governing and acting SA President. She is a junior, double majoring in English and History and Government. She is an active member of the English, History, and Government, and newly formed Foreign Language clubs. Darcy is the assistant editor and a staff writer for the Ascent. She is an inactive member of Pi Xi Omicron.

Darcy says that SA is a chance to be heard and see results. That's one of the reasons she ran for SA. She wanted the opportunity to voice the concerns of both herself and other students. She says, "I think apathy is a substantial problem with the students here. Everyone complains about all the problems they have with the school, but they don't take it to the correct places."

In SA this year, Darcy hopes to make students more aware of what is happening at the college, financially, academically, and administratively. She feels students should be made more aware of college policies and changes. "I also hope to encourage other students to be involved in the issues that affect them and stir things up and make some changes," she says. "It's time that we make sure it[the college] works for us; to make the college function in that way takes our participation and interest."

The SA meets every Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in room 113-115 in Wick. All students are welcome and encouraged to attend the meetings. The new SA board hopes to see you there.

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