President’s New House Creates Stir

By Brittany Cozad

As the spring semester began, it seemed students couldn’t even walk to their first class without hearing the uproar over the news of Daemen’s new “Presidential Palace,” to quote the title from The Buffalo News article referring to the purchase of a new home for Daemen President Martin J. Anisman.

As The News reported, the new 9,220 square-foot mansion, not far from Anisman’s present home, is assessed at $1 million and contains 10 bedrooms and 6 1/2 bathrooms. The paper also reported that Daemen paid $650,000 for the 4 1/2-acre property.

Many members of the Daemen community had read the article in The News, and comments were flying from every direction ranging from “Nice to know where my tuition money goes” to “What does he need six and a half bathrooms for?” Students expressed concern that tuition would be raised because of the new purchase and questioned why this property was needed in the first place.

President Anisman stated, “If I were a student, I would feel the same way.” Anisman assures students that their tuition will not pay for the house; if tuition does rise in the future, it will have nothing to do with the new home.

Anisman referred The Ascent to another article on the purchase of his new home. “A good deal done for Daemen” in Buffalo Business First. This article clarified that the sale price of Anisman’s current home will be put towards the cost of the new house. The remaining balance will come from donations and gifts from outside sources.

A few Daemen students mentioned their concern about the facts behind the purchase due to the article published in The Buffalo News. Genie Rohl was uncertain about the whole situation when she read the article. “However, after reading further about this, I realized how the house will be involved with Daemen and hope it’s a great benefit to the college.”

Brian Macey, class of ’05, supports the purchase of the home. “I think the purchase of the new house can only be an asset to the school as long as it is utilized wisely. This is also a great opportunity for the school to expand due to the land lock situation the school is located in.”

Macey also felt it was important to note that the school received the house for an amount that is much less than its retail value.

Humanities professor Dr. Charles Sabatino

(Continued on Page 4)

Daemen Changes PT Program

By Antoinette DelBel

Until recently, the entry-level degree for physical therapists was at the baccalaureate level. However, as of December 31, 2002, all accredited programs must be at the master’s or doctoral level. According to Daemen Professor Michael Brogan, Chair of Physical Therapy, programs that fail to comply would lose their accreditation.

Currently, most accredited institutions provide a Masters of Science in Physical Therapy. But as the demands relative to the field increase, so do the requirements of students graduating from Daemen.

In March 2001, Daemen made the transition to an entry-level Doctorate in Physical Therapy (DPT). It is the 43rd school in the United States to transition to this type of program.

As of January 2003, Daemen is also offering a Transitional Doctorate in Physical Therapy. Physical therapists with either a B.S. or M.S. degree can now return to Daemen to complete their doctoral requirements.

An entry-level degree allows someone to practice a profession as a first degree. The Transitional DPT is for individuals with a degree in PT who choose to further pursue additional professional knowledge and skills.

In the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program, students must commit to six years of study including two summers to accumulate a total of 199 credits. At the completion of their fourth year, students receive a Bachelor of Science in Natural Science Degree. After completing their sixth year, students then receive a Doctor in Physical Therapy Degree.

Brogan noted that students graduating with a doctorate degree will better meet the needs of patients in today’s practice environments.

“Our DPT program is a tremendous asset for the college and the community,” he said. “I think in three or four years, all the PT schools in the country will be at the doctorate level. [...] So that means all the practicing physical therapists that don’t have their doctorate will feel compelled to go back and get it.”

Competition in the profession may arise between physical therapists who do and don’t have a doctorate. Those who don’t have a doctorate in PT may be inclined to return to school — I might have more of a cutting edge over them,” said Chris DePasquale, a fourth year PT major.

(Continued on Page 6)

Daemen to Change Core Curriculum

By Michelle L. Smith

In the fall of 2003, students entering Daemen College will face a new core curriculum. Whereas the present core emphasizes specific disciplines like math and history, the new core will measure seven competencies such as critical thinking and communication skills. The core will also have a service learning component.

The new core will be implemented in stages over the next four years. Next fall during the first phase of implementation, three kinds of courses will be offered for core credit: composition, the first year experience (FYE) class, and linked courses.

Of these three, Daemen already offers composition classes and the FYE class. That leaves the linked courses to be developed. These are classes linked together by a common theme; the classes examine this theme from the perspectives of different disciplines.

The Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies (CIS) is in the process of receiving proposals for linked courses for the coming academic year. “The proposals that are being submitted are very creative and should prove to be extremely interesting to the student population,” said Professor Linda Kuechler who serves on the CIS.

One proposal is for a linked course that would examine contemporary social issues like genetic engineering and abortion. Students would take one 3-credit class that would approach the topic from a scientific perspective and another 3-credit class that would examine the ethical questions involved. Information learned in one class would be applicable to discussions in the other class, allowing students to come to a more complete understanding of the topic.

Therefore, the new core will help students gain a multidisciplinary perspective on different topics.

Dr. David Jaynes of the Natural Science Department was on the committee that designed the core. “It will allow professors the opportunity to better assist students in making connections of seemingly unrelated concepts, and, therefore, will help students view the world as a continuum and not as isolated topics,” he said.

Jaynes feels that the new core will be very positive for both students and faculty. He said that for students the core “will help ease the
Opinions and Editorials

Wheelchair Accessibility: Is Daemen’s Code Good Enough?

By James Middleton, Kristen Polakiewicz, Jeffrey Schneider and Kimberly Sciolino

Last Tuesday, our SED 364 class had the opportunity to experience what it is like to ride around the campus in wheelchairs in the role of a disabled person. We were very surprised, in fact shocked, to discover just how little Daemen College is wheelchair accessible.

Have you ever taken the time and actually thought about how a person who has to travel in a wheelchair could get around Daemen? Most students and staff members use their legs to sprint around the campus, and those who are just plain lazy use the elevators. So for someone confined to a wheelchair, the things we take for granted become a huge opposition. You might not know it, but Daemen does not really make itself accessible to the handicapped. The campus is supposed to be wheelchair accessible, but is the code really good enough?

On Tuesday, students in the class split up into groups to test the accessibility of different areas around campus. Our first finding was the restroom in Duns Scotus. Only one bathroom on the ground floor was accessible to the handicapped. On the second and third floors, there was no accessibility whatsoever. In order to enter the restrooms, as everyone knows, there is not one but two doors to get through. Trying to get the wheelchair through the first door was a feat in itself; by the time we finally faced the second door, we nearly gave up. What if a person who was disabled had no choice but to use this restroom? He or she would be frustrated and it could lead to embarrassment that really did not need to happen.

Plus, not everyone happens to have class on the ground floor of Duns Scotus, so what would that person do the majority of the time? Would taking an elevator to the ground floor be necessary? This was also the case upstairs in Wick, where there was no way a person with a wheelchair could fit into the restroom because the entrance was too narrow.

Now, you are probably wondering why can’t a disabled person in a wheelchair just use the elevators? There are two elevators in Duns Scotus and a ramp that leads to the wheelchair accessible bathroom. That ramp is almost impossible to navigate. In fact, since the gym happens to be in that direction, if you wanted to do something in there, you would be tired out by the time you got there because going up that ramp takes so much out of you. You have to grab the rail and pull yourself up the entire way. There used to be a lift that a disabled person could get on, but it no longer works and looks to have been that way for quite some time. The elevator on the west side of the school is not even big enough for two wheelchairs to fit in, or for that matter, a person in a wheelchair and an aide to help out. It is just too small.

Daemen’s library was a little hard to navigate around. We did like that the library had a lift so someone could get there easily, but the problem that presented itself was how to get to the top and bottom floors. With only stairs to lead one to these areas, how could a person search for a certain item? This was a topic of discussion that was brought up by a student in our class. A lot of the audiovisual equipment is on that top floor in the library. How could a person in a wheelchair hope to use it if they cannot get up there? Would someone be willing to bring that equipment downstairs for you, just as bringing certain books that you needed? What if you did not know the exact book you were looking for and just wanted to browse? This would pose a huge inconvenience. The only thing that can say in defense of the library is that the school is planning to build a new one.

(Continued on Page 7)

Mix Girls and Boys in the Classroom?: Your Answers

By Brittany Cozad

First of all, I would like to thank those who participated in my study last semester concerning private and public education institutions. Without your opinions and taking the time to fill out my surveys, this project would not have been possible.

When I began this study, I believed there was no changing my mind that single-sex high schools were the best way to educate young women. I also expected many participants to agree that attending an all-girls’ school would have benefited their education. Most of these same participants were the best way to educate young women. I also expected your opinions and taking the time to fill out my surveys to be helpful one day when you decide where you want your daughters to be educated. It is also as many others received financial aid because of the cost of a private school is too expensive.

Personally, I always had a busy life outside of school and perhaps after reading what I have told you in these articles, your belief on this issue has changed as mine has.

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The Ascent Wick Center
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**Political Opinions**

*Disclaimer: All opinions expressed on this page are solely of the writers. They do not reflect the opinions of the staff or advisors of this newspaper or the college as a whole.*

### Do Not Blame Peacekeepers For Inciting War

By Wayne Brown

The world seems eager to be politically correct, and sensibly stupid. There are protestors throughout the world claiming that the United States is evil and wrong and leading us into global conflict. There is one key fact here that should not be ignored. All Saddam has to do is disarm his missiles and "World War 3" comes to a screeching halt. There is no need to call Bush a terrorist or a madman, just focus your anger in the right way. Remember, if Saddam can document that the U.S. has done what the world has asked and Bush is still saber rattling, Bush is figured out. However, if there is documentation and Bush, Powell and Rice say that they have achieved victory and our forces can stand down, then Bush was truly interested in creating a better and safer world for everyone, even United Nations citizens.

Remember, it was about a year ago that Americans were calling Bush a warmonger for being involved with situations in Afghanistan. The cries were the same: American troops are going to die, it is none of our business despite 9/11, and the rest of the palbum we hear from the blinding peaceniks. Bush understood that sometimes if you want peace, you have to be able to kick a little ass. Because of that, women in Afghanistan can now learn to read. Or do women’s rights end at our shoreline?

Does anyone truly want war right now? With the exception of some militia members in Montana, not really. However, if the United States built up from 9/11 to be nothing but a paper tiger, our shores would spill American blood once again. Please keep in mind that what you think are your best interests are not necessarily the country’s right at the moment. We can hope that we don’t end up in a military situation, but JFK gave 12 hours for the Russians to get their missiles out of our hemisphere.

The countdown is on. Will the people in Iraq take down their missiles? Don’t blame Bush for Saddam’s actions. If anything, Bush has been too patient, not too eager for war. Understand that peace has a cost. We might not like to believe that, but it is true. All of history’s great leaders have understood it. I hope that someday everyone will, that more than anything could bring global peace.

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### Party's Over for the UN

By Wayne Brown

There is a big party going on. All the academics across the globe are attending. They are sitting around sipping coffee, smoking cigarettes, waxing philosophic in their intellectual highbrow way. And their conversations are regularly and openly assailing the hosts of the party. Who is hosting the party? We are! The United States of America!

It is long past time the United States realizes that their role in the United Nations is to play host to a party where all the party goers hate us. The United States sacrifices time, money, and real estate to protect an organization that openly repudiates any time a First World Country must initiate action to protect its own borders, unless of course the UN is ordering US troops into Somalia, Bosnia, or somewhere else to cover the UN’s uselessness.

If the War on Terror has taught us anything, it has taught us that the world’s compassion for the United States was a superficial compassion bound only by a fear that we would no longer protect the interests of our "allies" when their militaries could not protect their own countries. Now that we are on the horizon of taking action to uproot a major contributor to global terror, the UN and specifically France and Germany of all countries, are telling us we are wrong. Does France not realize that without the United States, they would have been Southwest Germany?

Simply put, much like the League of Nations, the United Nations had its time and place. The League of Nations could not prevent World War II in large part because of Neville Chamberlain’s weakness. Now Kofi Annan is proving he cannot handle navigating the tumultuous waters of the War on Terror. This is the most crucial time for the future of the UN, and they seem compliant in letting the organization turn into the bad punch line of a horrible joke. It is crucial that the world learns from the history that made the League of Nations nothing more than a lesson for 7th grade social studies.

As Ronald Reagan said, "If history teaches anything, it teaches self-delusion in the face of unpleasant facts is folly." The world seems eager to condemn the United States to the role of "Rogue Nation" while idealizing Iraq into some sort of victim being picked on by the big, bad bully of the Western Hemisphere. President Bush and the United States are focused and committed to global peace, but not at the cost of our own safety.

People keep saying we are rushing into war. However, the simple fact is that we have taken too long. The element of surprise has vanished. When we attack might be a surprise, but the country is simply waiting around for it to happen. That is not fair to our soldiers putting their lives on the line. The party has gone on too long. As a taxpayer, I am tired of hosting a party when the guests do nothing but throw rocks through our windows. The keg is dry, the food is gone and the party is over.

This does not mean the end of global coalitions. Something will probably grow out of the fiery embers of the United Nations, but it will be something where intelligence and common sense are allowed in the same room. To be an effective peace broker, you must know and understand the players on both sides. Chamberlain trusted Hitler not to invade Poland, Annan believes that the US is more culpable for the current actions than Hussein is. It is fine for him to believe that, but we don’t need to sit through such insults.

The UN has been a fun experiment. If they are as legitimate as they think they are, they will survive United States withdrawal. Let’s find out if they are truly global peace brokers, or just wasting the world’s time.

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### Why Protect the Environment?

By Toby Beahan

At the close of 2002, we saw the repercussions of a catastrophic oil spill that occurred off the coast of Spain. When a tanker was breached during an offshore storm, it began to seep millions of gallons of crude oil into the aquatic ecosystem off that Spanish coast. Most of the oil sank to the ocean floor trapped with the tanker where it was impossible to recover and would certainly leak into the area surrounding the wreck. One positive note – some scientists speculated that due to the extreme depth of the wreck, the oil might remain on the ocean floor and solidify without causing any greater environmental devastation than had already occurred.

The environment of today’s world is not in terribly good shape, contrary to the overly optimistic findings of Danish statistician and environmental researcher Bjorn Lomborg, author of the controversial book *The Skeptical Environmentalist*. Lomborg uses UN, World Bank, and other international organizations’ figures to demonstrate through statistical evidence and extrapolations based on possible technological advancements that the state of the earth’s environment is not nearly as dire as many environmental groups would have us believe. The unfortunate part of Lomborg’s work is that he uses only the most optimistic figures available, which can be misleading in an objective appraisal of today’s environment.

- Should people be concerned about the environment? Will we have enough resources in the future? Are we really in as bad shape as we are led to believe? The easy answers that are supported by Lomborg are No, Yes, No. These answers only hold true for the immediate future though. Do we really want to exploit the environment to its breaking point and leave nothing for our children and the generations to come? Such shortsightedness will end up doing a grave disservice to ourselves, our children, and our planet. Every day.

(Continued on Page 4)
transition from high school into college, socially and academically." For faculty, the new core may provide opportunities for team teaching. It will allow more faculty to become involved in teaching core courses and to share their expertise.

Humanities professor Dr. Charles Sabatino supports the interdisciplinary and student-centered approach of the new core, but he also addressed several concerns, such as how one measures competencies.

"Competencies are what students are capable of developing," Sabatino said. "I don't believe that if you take a close look at competencies, they are measurable in the ways people are used to measuring content."

Each required course in the core must address one of the seven competencies. "Competencies are not as separable as people think they are," Sabatino said. "When will we start thinking inter-competencies?"

Professor Kuechler of the CIS, however, believes that the structures are in place to measure competencies. When proposing a course to the CIS, a faculty member must state which core competency will be addressed, the learning objectives that will address that competency, and methods of assessment.

The CIS committee continues to work on the core. They want to make sure that the core will accommodate students who transfer in and out of the college.

"The new core is a major change for the college," said Kuechler. "It is one that is needed and will provide the college with a competitive advantage. I think it will be a very rewarding and exciting time for the college."

Students currently at Daemen will continue to follow the present core over the next few years.

Drama Club
Trains for Spring Production
By Marcie Peterson

Daemen's Drama Club has started putting together their Spring Production, The Yellow Boat written by David Saar. This is a true story about the coming of a young boy living with AIDS. Benjamin, an 8-year-old hemophiliac, contracted AIDS when he received tainted blood from a transfusion. Although the story is a sad one, it is presented as a lively and joyous celebration of a young boy's life and the ways in which he touched the lives of others.

This production features Daemen students Kate Belliotti, Jessi Borek, Joanne Dyke, Ray Graf, Cara Orynyawks and Jenn Scandra with Rebecca Bass of City Hall playing the role of Benjamin.

This play will let Benjamin's life touch other lives for years to come.

Performances will be held Thursday, April 3 through Sunday, April 6.

Admission will be $1 for the Daemen community, $5 for adults and $3 for children. One dollar from every ticket sold will benefit pediatric AIDS research. Tickets will be available at the door, remaining seats will be accepted. For further information call 832-8042. Also, look for banners and the SLICE for more information as opening day nears, and check out future issues of The Ascent for more about the play.

Facility Profile Series
A New Face for the Psychology Department:
Dr. Colleen Kashino

By Brittany Cozad

Walking through the rain from Duns Scottus to Curtis Hall made me feel, though I was entering uncharted territory, I can count the number of times I've made this trip on one hand, even though I've been a student at Daemen for over a year now. The only reason I enter this building is to attend meetings for the Honors Program, but this trip felt different. Instead of going through the front door, I went through the side door, where I was convinced an alarm would set off at any moment screaming an "intruder alert".

English major on the premises," Curtis Hall has always seemed forbidden to me since it contains the Social Work, Physician Assistant, and Psychology programs. This is exactly the type of setting I prefer. When proposing a course to the CIS, I have often been told that our Psychology administrator does not want the students at Daemen to have.

Dr. Kashino is one of the newest additions to our growing Psychology Department. One thing she wishes she could change is students' opinion about how far away her department is from the main activity of the campus. "Students tell me all of the time that they don't know where Curtis Hall is or that it is too far away," she said. Another student told me she thought Psychology was disassociated from the rest of the departments because it was "all the way over in Curtis Hall." Regardless, the Psychology classes Dr. Kashino is teaching this semester contain nearly as many psychology majors as non-majors, and she is in Curtis Hall for anyone who needs her.

Last year, Dr. Kashino taught a Statistics class (which is her favorite class to teach) for the Psychology Department, and last spring she was hired as a full-time professor. This year she is enjoying teaching at a campus whose small population "makes it such a close-knit community."

Originally, Dr. Kashino was a Biology major in college but turned to the field of Psychology when she realized that the behavior component of Biology fascinated her. Dr. Kashino's specialized field of psychology is known as Cognitive Neuroscience, which she described as focusing on the neuroanatomical and neurophysiological mechanisms of perception, action, memory, language and attention in the brain. In addition, she recently was involved in a research project aimed at identifying the most effective factors in educational leadership; this study explored the qualities of teachers as well as educational administrators that are most useful for adapting to education in a global society. This semester, she is keeping busy with her course preparations, helping her students with their papers and projects, and learning about the academic policies here at Daemen.

Besides Daemen, Dr. Kashino has taught in Western New York and in New York City for over ten years. She has taught locally at Canisius College and UB (two schools which she attended herself), Niagara University, and the Western N.Y. Consortium, which is a program to educate prisoners. After ten years, she left the teaching profession to work on her post-doctorate, but missed teaching and yearned to get back in the classroom. She felt she was always destined to go into an academic field of some sort. She hoped for a local position in higher education and feels very fortunate to have been hired by the Psychology Department at Daemen. When asked about her feelings regarding our Psychology Department, it became obvious how much Dr. Kashino was enjoying her new position. "I'm very excited that it's a growing department, and I truly enjoy interacting with my students," she said.

President's New House
(Continued from Page 1)

Disagrees and sees the cost of maintenance for the house as a financial burden for Daemen since the house will be larger than the previous one. He expressed concern over a piece of property symbolizing what Daemen stands for. "What do we need a materialistic image to represent who we are and what we value?" he said.

President Anisman displayed support for the approved deal made by the Board of Trustees in the hope that this purchase will further Daemen and its reputation. "I really believe the board made a good deal for everyone," he said.

Dr. Shirley Peterson of the English Department disagreed that the move was a step backward. "The new home will provide the college with a competitive advantage; more livable," she said.

The new house will provide the college with a competitive advantage; more livable," she said. This house will be used for dinners, receptions, and entertaining for donors to the college and potential donors.

According to him, Daemen will soon undertake a capital campaign in an attempt to raise a large sum of money for the college; his new house will play a key part in this plan. The house will be used for dinners, receptions, and entertaining for donors to the college and potential donors.

The mansion will also be the place for alumni reunions, receptions, and dinner parties. It will also serve as a way to honor distinguished alumni, and other special college-related events.

Anisman also expressed his intention of trying to get students over to the grounds and perhaps even holding activities for leader members.
2003 Academic Festival

By Marcie Peterson

The committee for the 2003 Academic Festival is working on plans for this year's big event. The festival will be held Tuesday, April 15, 2003.

The Academic Festival is a daylong celebration of the student body's work from the past year (the Fall 2002 and Spring 2003 semesters). Students showcasing their work can present it in one of six ways: a presentation, a group presentation, a group debate, a poster session, an exhibit, or a performance. Students interested in presenting were given the opportunity to submit a proposal for the festival committee.

Presentations consist of one or two people speaking for 20 minutes and a group presentation is more than two people speaking for 40 minutes. Poster presentations will be on display all day for viewing; one-and-a-half hours are allotted for presenters to stand by their work to discuss it with the audience. The committee will do their best to keep presentations on schedule by sticking to time limits.

The festival presentations will be spread out through Schenck, Dunn Scouts, Wick, and the Business and Commerce Building. No classes will be held that day, but hopefully students will not view it as a day off because there is a lot of information that students would like to share with the rest of the student body.

At the end of the day, a reception will be held in Rosary Hall; President Martin J. Anisman will say a few words, and a small gift will be given out to those who presented work at the festival.

The festival for the third Academic Festival approaches, this year's committee hopes attendance will double from last year. Spring 2001 brought us the very first Academic Festival with 70-80 projects presented, and in Spring 2001, 150-160 projects were presented.

Do you have suggestions or input for the festival committee? If so, email Melody Manwaring at mmmanw@daemen.edu. The committee is also looking for suggestions for the gifts that will be given to the presenters.

Regarding the festival, Manwaring said, "Come to the campus, hang out for the day, and have a good time. It's about everybody sharing with everybody else."

A free campus lunch will be provided on the day of the Academic Festival.

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Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program

Free tax help for college students and for those who cannot afford it, sponsored by the Business Club

Dates: Thursday, March 6th 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Sunday, March 9th 1:00 - 4:00 PM
Location: Business and Commerce Building, Computer Lab Room 204
Bring: Prior Year Tax Return, W-2's, Supporting documentation, and Identification
Contact: Daniel Tschopp at 839-8239 or dtischopp@daemen.edu for further information

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Why Protect the Environment?

(Continued from Page 3)

environmental destruction occurs on a global basis, and little is being done to prevent it. Countries in the Third World are the worst culprits, destroying large tracts of forest and ignoring the few environmental regulations that are in place.

It should be the role of the First World industrialized nations such as the United States to take a prominent role in protecting the environment, cutting emissions, and strengthening environmental policies. If those who dictate the rules to the rest of the world show no interest in protecting the environment, then why would the developing world take it upon itself to pick up the slack where the rich First World became lax?

It is very unfortunate that the Republican-controlled Congress cannot see the importance of protecting our nation's environmental assets. Of course, people would first have to see a pristine forest, a clean fresh-water brook, and a silent deer standing in a thicket as assets, not for their monetary value or for their economical worth, but instead for their natural intrinsic value as part of nature. Not everything must be exploited for its base economic purposes using the fastest means to an end. George W. Bush is no friend to the environment. In his 2000 campaign, he spoke of exploiting the oil reserves that can be found under the tundra in untouched wilds of Alaska. In doing this, America would lose far more than it could possibly gain. By tapping these relatively small reserves, which would supply Americans with enough energy for only a very limited amount of time, a vast tract of Alaskan wilderness would be permanently scarred.

As anyone who is familiar with high altitude or high latitude vegetation knows, any large-scale human incursion into the arctic wildlife refuge would not only be catastrophic to the flora and fauna, but it would take an indefinite period of time for the land to recover, if recovery was possible at all.

Now the Bush administration has removed many of the EPA restrictions that had curtailed the amount of pollution-causing emissions that are spewed forth from big business in the U.S. every day. The administration claims that by cutting restrictions, which are very costly, businesses can use excess money to develop cleaner, more earth-friendly technology. Does this make sense? If business wanted to develop more environmental technology, why would so many multi-national corporations relocate to Third World countries where restrictions are negligible and they can pollute at will? This scenario has been played out many times in developing countries in Latin America and South Asia.

From before his inauguration, Mr. Bush has been perusing policies which are damaging to the environment. Many important members of his administration are tied closely to heavily polluting industries and have the general attitude that the environment is a resource to be exploited for maximum economic gain. The tremendous lack of interest the current administration has in global environmental issues is clearly illustrated in the fact that neither Bush nor any important member of his cabinet attended the environmental summit held in Johannesburg, South Africa. The administration flagrantly ignores the Kyoto Protocol and allows environmental degradation to continue at an alarming rate both at home and abroad.

It is time to act. Let us not fall into the same short-sighted trap which blinds Bjorn Lomborg and the Bush administration to the preponderance of evidence that unmistakably states that the world's environment needs immediate attention. It is not too late! By creating more stringent regulations and emphasizing more earth-friendly technologies, much of the damage done in the past century can be corrected. What good will come of our great nation, the protector and propagator of modern democratic values and our planet to such an extent that it is uninhabitable? It is our duty to protect the natural beauty of our nation and world because of its own intrinsic value and so that future generations will not be deprived of the glory of our natural world.

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Ask Annie

Daemen Advice Column

Dear Ask Annie,

I'm sorry to pick such a common topic to send to an advice column, but I find myself questioning the relationship I'm in. Everyone tells me to ditch this "person." I want this to be my decision, but I also know that all my friends are also trying to look out for me (and I know that my own personal opinion may be a bit biased). Do you think that the flame has gone out of this relationship, which they thought had ended a long time ago. And I think that some of them may be right. But the thing is, I do still care about this someone....Any ideas?

-Both Happy and Sad

Dear Happy and Sad,

It sounds as though your mind is partially made up. I'm not telling you to dump this person, but it sounds like you are waiting for someone to tell you what to do. What is it exactly about this person that makes your friends so concerned? Listen to your friends' opinions, but try not to be swayed in your own opinions. You should be your own judge. If you still really care about this person, make an effort to put the "flame" back in the relationship. If that still doesn't work, then maybe the two of you weren't meant to be together.

(If you have a question for Ask Annie, leave it in The Ascent mailbox behind Wick desk or send an email to ascent@daemen.edu. All names will be remain confidential.)
Throughout the year, The Ascent will be reviewing businesses in the Snyder area in an effort to introduce students to the wide variety of establishments around campus. Be sure to check them out for yourself!

Café in the Square – Small Restaurant, Great Food
By Nina Zehr

Driving down Main Street towards Daemen, you might easily miss Café in the Square. Set back from the road in Snyder Square, the Café is admittedly tiny. The entrance is a small foyer containing a small counter and four small tables. The décor is strictly utilitarian, with one wall in a pathetic attempt to make the space look bigger. It doesn’t quite work, but no one ever said only large restaurants can have good food.

The café serves both lunch and dinner. I suggest the lunch menu, only because it’s cheaper. Selections include standard fare, such as club sandwiches, warm chicken salad and veggies with pasta, but quite a few of the choices were more interesting. You can try the artichoke, tuna and potato salad or the smoked turkey sandwich “served on café-baked sunflower bread with cranberry mayonnaise.” On the lunch menu, appetizers range from 6.95 to 7.95, salads from 6.95 to 7.95 and entrees from 6.95 to 7.95. The dinner menu ranges from 7.50 to 18.95 – stick with the lunch menu.

My turkey club sandwich was absolutely piled with turkey, bacon, lettuce and tomato and was so thick I had to take out the extra piece of bread so I could take a bite. Served with potato chips, it was a basic but tasty meal. My date, on the other hand, ordered the black bean crepes, and they were anything but basic. Although they were a little on the small side, they were stuffed with chicken, cheddar cheese, curry and salsa, and they were delicious.

The café’s crowning glory, however, is the desserts. The menu doesn’t provide a listing, but instead says: “We have an ever-changing array of desserts. Please ask your server to tell you about today’s selections.” Tuesday night’s selections included lime tart, fresh fruit cheesecake, Oreo cheesecake, chocolate raspberry layer cake and pumpkin pie. The chocolate raspberry layer cake was covered with a chocolate shell that could easily be marketed as a chocolate bar. Although my distaste for sour things prevented me from trying the lime tart, my date assured me it was “really really good.” The coffee was a little burned, but it was served with real cream. All in all, dinner was great, but dessert was better.

Café in the Square’s hours are Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. At 4476 Main Street, across the street from Denny’s, the café is within easy walking distance of Daemen and well worth the trip just for a piece of dessert. Our bill came to $25, and included salad, coffee, dinner and two desserts. Stop by and see what the dessert case holds in store for you!

Crossword Puzzle
February 20, 2003

ACROSS
1. Great brilliance
6. Ice or old follower
9. TV’s Baretta
14. Digger
15. Sleep talk
16. Is a slow tempo
17. Gem State
18. Van person
19. Vesuvius ad Etna’s home
20. Not a “model” quality
22. “Parent Trap” actress
23. Thanksgiving dessert
24. Russian ruler
26. Pilgrims’ action at Plymouth
30. Rough wave
31. Scimitar sword
32. Scottish bird
36. Komodo sans
37. “You’re so ...”
38. Containing uria
39. Helicon
40. Unit of work
41. Milton’s dismal, gloomy
42. Cog
43. Colonial
45. Jewish city section
46. Court
47. Born
48. Tribunal
51. Memory improvement system
52. A start
53. P. Diddy diamonds
54. David
55. Carlo
61. Boy
62. Author Jung
63. Damwore
64. Non-professional
65. Stonewacker

DOWN
1. Saga
2. Tinkle
3. NIH
4. Pang
5. Hamlet
6. Shure
7. Fear
8. Seat for relaxing
9. Mood
10. Hit the sack
11. Stage in between oral and phallic

12. It will (Contractions)
13. Non-Jews (slug)
21. Help
25. Adeline
26. Formal reception
27. Not together
28. Whiny
29. Mew
30. Pussule
31. Nunsrate
32. Monastery head
33. Grand or upright
35. Gym device
36. Cathedrile
38. Peg
41. Percussionist
42. Rule
44. Liten
45. Jewel
47. Penniless
49. Weight of twelve grains
50. Clave
52. College athletic org.
53. Movie about James Joyce
54. Storklike bird
55. Chanel

60. ____Carlo
63. Danewort
65. Droid
67. Stoneworker
69. ______________Chanel
70. Memory improvement system
71. Jewel
72. Rule
73. Rule
75. Jewel
78. Rule

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You can receive up to one credit a semester for regular contribution to the Ascent!

Changes to Physical Therapy Program

Also, having a doctorate degree may allow a physical therapist to treat patients more efficiently by eliminating the need to go through a doctor’s first.

“The DPT [in the future] may allow us to treat patients directly without getting a referral from the doctor,” said physical therapy student Emily Hanson.

Some of the required courses for lower division in the PT program include Pre-Calculus, Biology, Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry and Bio-organic Chemistry. Upper division required courses include Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation I and II, Kinesiology and 120 hours of volunteer work in a physical therapy setting.

Some students say that compared to the old B.S. program, the course work isn’t really harder in the new DPT program, there is just less time to complete the required work.

If any physical therapy students would like to comment on the new DPT program, express your opinions by writing an e-mail to ascent@daemen.edu.

(Continued from Page 1)
My Big Fat Greek Wedding: Funny Name, Funny Movie

By Nina Zehr

My Big Fat Greek Wedding
Running Time: 95 minutes
Rated PG
Starring: Nia Vardalos, Michael Constantine, John Corbett, and Lainie Kazan
Directed by: Joel Zwick
Home Box Office, 2002

For the last six months, my customers at Blockbuster have been demanding to know when My Big Fat Greek Wedding is coming to DVD and video. I couldn't understand what all the fuss about this movie was. It's a relatively small production starring an unknown actress, it's a romantic comedy (which, in general, don't do as well at the box office as dramatic, epic, or action films) and besides, it has a silly name. However, I only felt that way until I saw it myself. I now understand that the reason for all the fuss is that this movie is genuinely funny. Nia Vardalos plays Toulah, a thirty-year-old Greek woman who falls in love with Ian Miller, played by John Corbett. Toulah's parents, however, disapprove of her engagement to a non-Greek man. In order to be accepted by Toulah's family, Ian must "become Greek," and hilarity ensues.

My Big Fat Greek Wedding is one of those rare movies that you can watch with your friends, your significant other, or your parents. The problem with most comedies is that they usually stick to one type of humor, whether it's gross-out, dry, or slapstick. As a result, most comedies only draw one type of audience, like teenage boys, young children, or adults. My Big Fat Greek Wedding combines physical humor with intelligence, which makes it appealing to all audiences.

The movie is carefully written and wonderfully cast. Nia Vardalos wrote the script based on personal experience, which makes her exceptionally convincing in the leading role. Michael Constantine is unforgettable as Toulah's old-fashioned, Greek-flag-waving, Windex-spraying father, and Lainie Kazan is equally superb as Toulah's ever-cooking mother. Plus, let's face it, girls, John Corbett is just so darn cute that he would be easy to watch no matter what role he was playing.

One of the reasons this movie is so great (besides the sharp writing and excellent performances) is because Toulah is in a situation that every single person who has ever dated can relate to. While not everyone has been engaged, who hasn't brought home a boy or girl that their parents didn't approve of to watch no matter what role he was playing.

Of course, some of the situations aren't quite so recognizable (the scene where Toulah's family roasts a lamb on a spit in the front yard comes to mind!). However, those not-so-recognizable moments are the truly funny ones, and they are what make this film so refreshing.

Don't be afraid to see this movie just because it's an independent film or because it's a romantic comedy. You'll be missing one of the funniest movies made in the last few years.

Accessibility (Continued from page 2)

Library. However, it will not be built until around 2006.

On campus, the chapel is almost impossible to get through because the door is too heavy and the aisles are too narrow to even get to the alter. As for classrooms, a majority of them have no tables, and most rooms are too small to even hope to get around.

To say that this is only a problem at Daemen College would be wrong because the situation is similar at many other places. Some students had the opportunity to take their wheelchairs to markets, malls, etc. They reported that there were too few handicapped parking spaces (a big topic at many stores). The automatic doors did not operate so well at the mall. One student went to a supermarket and found it difficult to get items that were on higher shelves.

Can we at Daemen College really say that the code is good enough? Of course, a question like this could open up a mixed bag of feelings. Some may feel that we are as accessible as we can be, while others would have a different opinion. We ask anyone to feel free to take a wheelchair for a spin around the school for an hour. The many difficulties that you will experience such as that ill-fated ramp will only cause you to question such a code as well. We should start looking into these things; only then can we say that we are truly up to code.
**WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING**

Sarah Anderson, former Residence Life Assistant, enjoys Christmas.

Schenck Hall decorated in its winter outfit of powdery snow.

The Daemen Community enjoys the appearance of Robert Channing, Mentalist.

Today's Not Tomorrow won first place in the Battle of the Bands Concert sponsored by Art Club.

Daemen College's Director of Residence Life, Dan Schiesser, calls out numbers for a game of Bingo.

Daemen students make their own music video at a Daemenites Socialize gathering in the Rat.

Photography by Chris Malik