Hundreds Protest Racism

By Antoinette C. DelBel

Hundreds of protesters gathered outside State University of New York at Buffalo, South, late afternoon on Sunday, Sept. 28 for a demonstration against racism. One arrest was reported.

The rally was organized by the International Action Center in conjunction with the International ANSWER coalition, or Act Now to Stop War & End Racism.

Matthew Lee Schwartz, U.B. student and representative for ANSWER, said the rally was a stance to say that Buffalo will not allow hate in our town, city or schools.

Held on the third anniversary of the second Palestinian Intifada, students spoke out against discrimination in Buffalo.

"Hate is itself a short word, but the definition to which it extends is by no means short," said U.B. student Ashley Rae Steinkeirchner, mathematics and comparative politics major.

Another U.B. student expressed himself through a poem he wrote in response to all the hatred, discrimination and racism he says he felt as an African American.

"America, a land of the free, why no free for me? Is my color a crime, what did it do?...Why does it seem like democracy is mocking me...," said Marquis Woodford, english major.

The demonstrators, carrying signs reading "KKK and Other Hate Groups, We Don't Have Time 4 Your Bullsh*t" and "Honk 4 Love," slowed traffic as drivers honked their horns to show their support.

The University of Buffalo's College Republicans support diversity and (Continued on Page 4)

USPS Apologizes For "Lewd and Filthy" Labeling

By Josh Gallagher

Many of those walking by Daemen College's Fanette Goldman/Carolyn Greenfield Art Gallery would be surprised to hear this months show includes "lewd and filthy" exhibits of female nudity. A quick scan of the gallery's holdings could give the casual observer the impression of comfort associated with seeing images faintly familiar, images they've seen before. A few landscapes, a reclining nude, juxtapositions of landscape and human figure, and a few playful ambiguously garbed women approaching a dark sea, nothing highly revolutionary, just scenes commonly viewed in any collection of European masters, rather mundane even.

Not according to the United States Postal Service.

Three hundred picture postcards, depicting Buffalo artist and teacher, Joseph A. Miller's "Study for the Tempest," depict a study of two young women bent at the waist, buttocks flaring, descending into a stormy sea, recently sent out to announce Miller's exhibition, "Joseph A Miller: Paintings and Drawings." They were promptly re-delivered accompanied by the definition of "lewd or filthy matter" from the Domestic Mail Manual Reference Book, Section CO3.5.4, which states as (Continued on Page 7)

Midnight Madness

By Amanda Moen

On Saturday, Oct. 4 Daemen held its age old tradition of Midnight Madness. For those who are unfamiliar with this popular tradition, Midnight Madness is the first official day that college basketball teams begin practice for the sports season. This prep rally was used to introduce the Daemen community to this year's Men's and Women's Basketball teams, as well as Cheerleaders and Step Team.

The night was kicked off with Daemen's favorite announcer and Director of Residence Life, Dan Schiesser. He commented on how he was looking forward to the upcoming season. "I loved the great attendance and the enthusiasm given off by the crowd," Schiesser said. "All the seats were packed and there were even people standing up. I just hope this enthusiasm continues throughout the season." This will be Dan's third year announcing for the newly introduced Daemen Wildcats. He was not only pleased with the attendance, but the mix of those in attendance. "It was nice to see such a diverse crowd," he said. "All who were there were laughing and having a good time."

To get the crowd pumped before the main event, the Daemen Cheerleaders were the first to take the floor. After (Continued on Page 3)
Opinions and Editorials
...but they don’t have souls

By Josh Gallagher

“But they don’t even have souls,” that’s a response I hear frequently when people find out I gave up meat six months ago. Other frequent responses include, “I’m a redneck hillbilly, please help me tie my shoes” and “I walked too far in my grandpappy’s field and almost fell off the edge of the earth and I was skookered.” Well, maybe not exactly like that. Something similar at least, I’m sure you get the gist of it. The real response is “Why?"

Usually, in the interest of time, I just shrug off the question. Besides, that’s a pretty intense question. No one really wants to know why.

Why would a normal western raised American suddenly quit meat? In about 1998, Rolling Stone did an expose’ on McDonald’s, their employees live wages. The story was all over the place that sudden. It was more of a gradual transition based on experience in the food industry and a couple of accidental exposures to vegetarian propa­ganda.

First, I gave up fast food. Just like many teenagers, my first job was at McDonald’s. Here’s a little secret, McDonald’s employees live their jobs. And as for their managers, they probably wouldn’t succeed doing much else. What does this lead to, you may ask, absolutely no respect for the food product or the customer. I’m very surprised there are not more fast food related illnesses. I’ve seen everything from inter­esting workers to intentional mishandling of food for problem customers. Have you ever pointed out that there were pickles on your burger although you specifically requested otherwise. Well, you’re a problem customer.

Now if McDonald’s is such a cesspool, I don’t think it’s much of a jump to include KFC, Arby’s, Burger King, Wendy’s or Taco Bell. Even to Sbarro’s. The first vegetarian pizzeria I’ve managed three different stores, every one of them had different managers and different standards, and there are two things that never change. New employees always make very simple mistakes that can lead to unsafe food being sold to a customer, and every manager felt that a meatball that hit the ground was still good. No matter how far a meatball falls, it never seems to look any worse and hence it can still be sold to the customer.

So anyway, I quit the fast food business. When employees are paid, they perform appropriately, and if customers knew what their really happening to their food they would spray french fries and shards of meat onto a multi-color show of disgust. Hungry, why wait?

In about 1998, Rolling Stone did an expose’ on the meat-packing industry, did you know that McDonald’s meat is actually of a very fine grade? Due to their massive buying power they get some of the best beef/cow available. Good news, sad, but apparently high grade beef standards only require 97 percent cow in their beef patties, the other 3 percent includes such delicacies as insect brains and bone fragments from the slaughterhouse. Don’t worry though, it’s all perfectly safe and healthy because it’s irradiated to kill any harmful micro-organisms.

Getting hungry for some nice cow corps on bread with a side of thorax and brains? Imagine what it’s like to be a quarter of a cow in the slaughterhouse. Dairy cows were underpaid they performed appropriately, and if customers knew what their really happening to their food then they would spray french fries and shards of meat onto a multi-color show of disgust. Hungry, why wait?

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By S. D. Wright

"Where there's smoke," Chicago-born, deeply-tanned, thickly-muscled man intoned, reddening his head to the audience, "there's fire." Or so Arnold Schwarzenegger said not too long ago, amidst charges that he groped women on the set of his blockbuster movies. Greeted with raucous cheering from his audience, the Terminator proceeded to apologize for "behaving badly." Despite this honorable-sounding statement, Arnold later blamed Governor Gray Davis for an image of consummate toughness would secretly buy off Iranians for the return of hostages? Appeasement is still appeasement, even if the leader who commits it hides it from the country. Reagan's legacy in history, then, is as a straight-talking man's man, and more of a deceitful, incompetent schemer.

Arnold did have a problem with sexual harassment - one that would have instantly invalidated any other candidate in any political match-up (whether it be for city alderman or president). And in this case, yes, the smoke led to a substantial truth about Arnold's character. But as Americans hold dear certain other foggy perceptions about celebrity politicians, Ronald Reagan and Charlton Heston including, in our minds, they are at once manly and likable, as well as being morally-sure-footed, character-endowed men. But the "smoke" of celebrity identity often dissolves to reveal counterfeit personalities and, in general, false men.

Immediately after the shocking, terrible tragedies of Columbine High School and the death of 16-year-old Megan Kinngardtner, Charlton Heston appeared near the sites of both incidents, massing his NRA congregations to promote Second Amendment rights. Michael Moore, the plainspoken liberal filmmaker, confronted Heston on these actions at Heston's home in the award-winning documentary Bowling for Columbine. Heston predictably retreated into another wing of the house, believing just as any great masculine icon would. Wherever you may stand on the gun control issue - I happen to believe that every state should be allowed to determine its own gun laws - Heston's behavior exemplifies colossal indifference to shooting victims. Virility is not defined by willingness to exploit those anguished by suffering. Quite the opposite, in fact. Heston displayed an insensitivity that would make a Fleischer the late, great mass-culine hero, belt him. Thus Heston emerges as the ultimate sissy.

The former Hollywood actor Ronald Reagan - and California governor - created a larger-than-life image of conviction and moral certainty, so much so that it led the otherwise brilliant speechwriter Peggy Noonan to title her biography of him "When Character Was King." In truth, the hero of the fundamentalist Christian Right was the first divorced president, and continued to paycheck from wholesale selling of his political career (a big no-no for the Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell followers of this world). As leader of the free world, the Gipper only understood a few abstract notions, among them basic anti-government and anti-commu­nist mantras. His penchant for deregulation and government decentralization led to widespread bureaucratic scandal, as officials began treating the system with similar disrespect. In direct con­trast to the Kennedy years, interest in govern­ment employment declined. And Ronald Reagan's foreign policy consisted of great lies that led to great scandals.

Who knew that the president who exuded an image of consummate toughness would secretly buy off Iranians for the return of hostages? Appeasement is still appeasement, even if the leader who commits it hides it from the country. Reagan's legacy in history, then, is as a straight-talking man's man, and more of a deceitful, incompetent schemer.

As the night continued, the audience, "there's fire." Or so Arnold Schwarzenegger said not too long ago, amidst charges that he groped women on the set of his blockbuster movies. Greeted with raucous cheering from his audience, the Terminator proceeded to apologize for "behaving badly." Despite this honorable-sounding statement, Arnold later blamed Governor Gray Davis for an image of consummate toughness would secretly buy off Iranians for the return of hostages? Appeasement is still appeasement, even if the leader who commits it hides it from the country. Reagan's legacy in history, then, is as a straight-talking man's man, and more of a deceitful, incompetent schemer. But as Americans hold dear certain other foggy perceptions about celebrity politicians, Ronald Reagan and Charlton Heston including, in our minds, they are at once manly and likable, as well as being morally-sure-footed, character-endowed men. But the "smoke" of celebrity identity often dissolves to reveal counterfeit personalities and, in general, false men.

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ESSAY CONTEST 2004

The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics T

SUGGESTED TOPICS
Reflect on the most profound, moral dilemma you have encountered and analyze what it has taught you about ethics. How can human beings move beyond hate and violence?

Explore how writing can be an ethical activity.

What ethical issue concerns you the most and what concrete proposals would you make to deal with it?

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 5, 2003

ELIGIBILITY: FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE JUNIORS AND SENIORS DURING THE FALL 2003 SEMESTER

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The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity 1889 Broadway, Suite 1002 New York, NY 10017

Telephone: 212.490.7777
A Different Twain in Shania

By Brittany Cozad

Music sensation Shania Twain rocked Buffalo’s HSBC Arena Sept. 30 with an adrenaline pumping two-hour performance. Opening the show with her popular hit, “Man, I Feel Like a Woman” told the audience they were going to see a different side of Shania. Instead of wearing her usual highly criticized navel-bearing attire, Shania dressed to satisfy Buffalo fans for the first part of her show with a Sabres tee shirt and fashionable blue jeans. Like her clothes, Shania’s mood was relaxed and comfortable as she belted out her hits from her current album “Up!” as well as from her previous records. Twain’s last tour was low-key and her usual fast pace for sense and energetic band. However, Shania’s band stepped out of the spotlight and let her take over the stage. Performing in the middle of the arena allowed each section of the audience to enjoy all of the surprises Shania had planned for her fans.

During her two hour performance, Shania consis­tently engaged her audience by signing autographs and accepting dozens of flowers from fans who gathered around the stage. There wasn’t a dry eye in the arena when Twain embraced and sang “Nah!”. to a four-year-old girl named Melanie, who had brought a sign demanding, “Shania give me a hug.” Usually known for her desire for privacy, Shania let her guard down to run into the audience to sing “Happy Birthday” to a fan and admire her “Shania” sign. The most heart-stopping moment of all occurred when the audience realized the superstar was sitting in the 100 level section to sing her melody, “The Woman in Me.” Throughout the show, Twain also provided exploring special effects during her upbeat songs. Fans also had the opportunity to enter a raffle drawing to get their picture taken with Shania onstage when they donated money to a food charity set up inside the arena. Although it’s been over four years since Shania Twain toured, her love for music and for pleasing her fans still stands strong. As the audience left the arena humming her music, Shania’s mission to reclaim her title as one of the top performers of our generation was clear.

Protest

(Continued From page 1)

support unity on our campus,” said international relations major Matthew Pelkey, 19. “Without diversity we would not have unity, and without unity, we would not have a community.”

Craig Pierce, an African American, said he was surprised to see more Caucasians at the rally than African Americans.

“The thing that touches me the most is it’s not just all black people here today,” he said. “I thought it was going to be all African Americans, but actually it was more of the Caucasian race than African Americans.

Craig Pierce, an African American, said he was surprised to see more Caucasians at the rally than African Americans.

Twain in Shania

By Nina Zehr

The Italian Job

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Charlize Theron, Donald Sutherland, Edward Norton, Seth Green, Mos Def, and Jason Statham

Directed By: F. Gary Gray

Rated PG-13 for violence and some language

Running Time: 110 min.

Paramount, 2003

THE ITALIAN JOB: Fast cars, funny jokes

Anyone who has seen just one of the hundreds of crime caper movies knows this story: a reformed career criminal who has promised a loved one to get out of the crime business is drawn in One Last Time, because the plan is TOO brilliant and the payoff TOO enormous. Of course, this familiar plot often ends with the familiar career criminal getting double-crossed by a familiar villain and going down in familiar flames. The revenge drama, where a grieving protagonist must avenge a murdered loved one, is painfully familiar as well. The Italian Job combines both of these overused plot lines. However, the film employs amazing heists, a fast-paced soundtrack, actors with impeccable comedic and dramatic capabilities, and unusual circumstances that make it fun to watch and distract the audience from the predictable story. The Italian Job begins in Venice, where John Bridger (Sutherland) and his sidekick, Charlie Croker (Wahlberg) steel $35 million worth of gold with the help of Steve (Norton), Lyle (Green), Left Ear (Mos Def), and Handsome Rob (Statham). Steve turns on the crew, steals the gold, and shoots Sutherland. (No, I’m not ruining the movie—the audience sees this coming.) The remainder of the movie focuses on Charlie’s efforts to steal the gold back from Steve after enlisting the help of Bridger’s daughter, Stella (Theron) and of the other criminals that helped steal the gold in the first place. We know, of course, how this story will end. But don’t mind the lack of suspense; the story is told in such an inventive way, that we sometimes forget we’ve seen this all before. For example, the first heist requires John Bridger to crack a safe...underwater. After the crew steals the safe, a chase ensues...on motorboats in the canals of Venice. During the film’s climax, Charlie and his partners must unload an armored car...after detonating a series of bombs so that the car falls through the street onto a subway track. The crimes themselves are not new to the audience, but the way they are carried out is creative and original. One of the most notable elements of The Italian Job is its solid ensemble cast, and some of the most notable cast members are not actors, but cars: three brand-new mini-Coopers that plow through the Hollywood walk of fame, down stairs, and into the subway system in the memorable heist sequence. These adorable, high-speed wonders of technology make the film more enjoyable. Anyone can appreciate the amazing stunts that the cars perform.

Another particularly notable performance is Seth Green’s. Although Green is not the most distinguished actor in the ensemble, he is by far the most comedically gifted. His impeccable timing is a true highlight, and makes the movie even more enjoyable.

Rent this movie. Watch the cars. Laugh at the jokes. You may not come away with a deeper understanding of the meaning of life, but you will have been entertained. I guarantee it.

Movie Review

By Adam DeRose

Adamtoon

By Adam DeRose

WE'VE DECIDED
WE ARE NOT
GOING TO
MY FRIENDS
WITH ME?
YOU BETTER
BELIEVE IT!
YOU CAN
NEVER
HAVE
TOO
MUCH
COLD!
YOU COMING
WITH ME?

When you have a new baby, you should be breaking into Adamtoon comic strips daily. By Adam DeRose.
A Tribute to the Late
Dr. Ruth

This past summer, an esteemed member of the history & government department died. Dr. Ruth Stratton had been on leave for the past three years and was battling cancer. She was an inspiring and beloved teacher. She was a force, not only academically, but she was so active in committee work, etc.

By Deanna Fredmore Romita

As a teacher, one of my main goals is to get my students excited about learning; to motivate them so that when they walk out of my classroom, they will want to know more; to give them a reason to ask questions and explore possibilities. There were two teachers, in 22 years of school, who really did that for me. One of them was Dr. Ruth Stratton.

I knew Dr. Stratton from the time I was a little girl because my father was a colleague of hers in the History and Government department at Daemen College. I remember her smile, her sweet hello, and her genuine joy whenever she saw me. I remember her thoughtfulness when I graduated and when I got married. I remember her helping me plan a short notice surprise party for my dad’s 50th birthday and asking, “What else can I do?” when she had already helped tremendously. I remember her laughing with everyone else as they tried to hide behind couches and chairs.

Most of all, I will always remember Dr. Stratton as an incredible teacher who inspired me and made me proud of what I had accomplished. She had that rare gift that we all look for in our teachers, to not only teach us, but to spark our interest, to motivate us, to help us really understand.

Many of us become teachers hoping to make a difference in the lives of our students. I can only hope that I will do for someone else what she did for so many of us. I can only hope that I am able to help my students grow and learn and move on with their lives they will remember me the way that I will always remember her. She did what she became a teacher to do; she made a difference.

A Letter of Remembrance...
Dr. Ruth

-- Dr. Sharon Murphy teaches Political Science at Nazareth College in Rochester.

This is a letter she wrote in tribute to the late Dr. Ruth.

Ever since I found out that Ruth was ill, I wanted to do whatever I could to tell her how much she meant to me and what a big impact she had on my life. But knowing that she prized her privacy, I never did do so. I am happy to have an opportunity to set down for the record the major impact she has had on my life.

I first met Ruth when I was assigned to the Department of History and Government as a student worker, to earn some financial aid. I thought it was 1975, my first year of college. I found it a challenge, because there was almost no work to do, so I would usually come and put my hours in but not really do much. It made me feel guilty and out of place.

More than anyone else, Ruth seemed to sense my discomfort and tried to make work for me. Ruth had a weekly job for me. On Tuesdays, I would go to the library and photocopy the Supreme Court decisions for the week as they were printed in The New York Times. Since I had a lot of time I would also read them. In this cradle was born my passion for the study of politics and government. Little by little, as I realized that I would probably not be able to make a living as a musicologist, I became more and more interested in history and politics.

At the end of my sophomore year, I left the music department and became a history and government major. Ruth became my academic advisor. I took many classes from her. One assignment is particular that I remember was to go to a government meeting and write a paper about it. As a girl from the suburbs, it was scary for me to find my way into City Hall, but I remember it like it was yesterday. I suppose it was really an ordinary meeting of the City Council that day, but it was another turning point for me. I became more and more fascinated with the practical side of government.

Ruth continued to be generous with her time and I always felt comfortable turning to her with a problem. I finished my studies in December 1979, a semester late because of my change in major. This encouraged me to leave the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Mary into the history & government department at Daemen College. I remember her saying to me of how to live a life as a professional in higher education. I will miss her. Sincerely, Sharon

Up and Coming Band, Too Late

By Amanda Whalen

I had the privilege of interviewing a very talented alternative rock band from West Seneca and Lancaster. Mark Goracke, 16, Steve Polcholpek, 17, Ryan Owczarczak, 16, and Dan Reedy, 17, are the talented musicians behind Too Late.

They got their big start by playing their own version of "Rock in the USA" by John Cougar Mellencamp, for the spring concert at Queen of Heaven grammar school. They were in seventh grade. After that, they just started learning how to play other bands’ songs they liked.

When it came time to choose a name for the band Goracke blurted out, "Too Late." They were supposed to think of a name to put in the program for the Queen of Heaven talent show. They got down to the wire and was too late -- the program had already been printed. It eventually just stuck!

The boys play a mixture of music. From classical rock to heavy rock, they play rock hits and even some acoustic pieces. But their own sound is a blend of rock and pop.

Their music allows them to define who they are. "Playing music is a way of expressing yourself," said Polcholpek.

So far they have been very successful with shows. Too Late has played at the Queen of Heaven Carnival twice, many private parties, and a benefit for Mercy Flight. Their biggest accomplishment was the day they got second place in their second competition in the Battle of the Bands in West Seneca. As far as recent shows go, they are looking forward to a show at Showplace Theater this winter.

"It’s fun," Goracke blurs out.

Polcholpek looks around the room. "You get to have a lot of fun with people and you build a fan club," he said.

They are making the transition from being known as that cover band to being known as those guys in Too Late. I saw them perform live at the Queen of Heaven Carnival this past summer and had the privilege of hearing their CD. At the show, they rocked the stage. The tent was filled with people of all ages (but mostly teenage girls), singing along and tapping their feet, just enjoying the music.

When I asked what it felt like to play live, Owczarczak referred to the fans.

(Continued on Page 6)
By Shemisa Ali

You've been lied to. Your whole life you've been misled to believe that Africa is a land that is nothing more than an economical disaster, politically in crisis, and its multitude of cultures and people are "barbaric" or "savages." However, Africa is the richest and most valuable continent throughout the world. Do you even know where the brilliant diamonds and the shiny gold that so lavishly decorate the nape of your neck comes from? Did you know that the oil we need to fuel our homes and fancy cars, besides the Middle East, was born within Africa?

But yes, did anyone ever tell you that the first being to ever walk the face of mother earth came from Africa approximately 200,000 to 160,000 years ago? I know it may be shocking to most and this truth may even piss some biased readers off, but there is actual evidence to prove it. As a matter of fact, the first civilizations were created in Africa before the people migrated to other lands and recreated other cultures while evolution and the division of continents took place. Climatic changes that came with migration had a strong impact on the evolution of people along with changes in skin tones, development of culture and languages.

Why do you think that the Europeans wanted so badly to conquer and control the people and resources of Africa? The beauty and value of Africa's resources is ample and definitely profitable. Before the degradation and exploitation of Africa, Africa was a land of noble kings and queens, prosperity, influence, advancement and future success.

First, analyze these two excerpts that were written by W.E.B Dubois from The World And Africa, "In the end it was the Sati kings from the delta who opened Egypt to a flood of foreigners. The Greeks came, and Egypt was turned into a delta who opened Egypt to a flood of foreigners. Africa's suffering. Manipulation, poor leadership, greed, war, and stealth are the underlying causes of Africa's suffering.

To conclude this article on describing the beauty of the peoples of Africa despite what's been portrayed, African people are indeed beautiful, with ranging skin tones as bright as the light of the sun, to as dark as the midnight hour, with fine, thick, curly, long or short hair. Various cultures, arts, and religions sparked, enlightened, and at one time influenced the world. So before you become judgmental about what you heard about Africa, go and seek the truth for yourself.

Looking for an internship? Visit Co-op's Web site at www.daemen.edu/career

Bingo Night

By Amanda Moen

So what did you do on Saturday? Who needs to go out when you can go to BINGO!!

On Saturday, Sept. 20 the staff from Residence Life presented "Not Your Grandmothers Bingo." As students piled into Wick's Social Room they prepared themselves for big prizes and bingo dabbler madness.

The Master of Ceremonies (MC) for the night were two of Canavan's finest Resident Assistants (RA's), Freddie Sanchez and James Felicha. The guys led the participants through an evening of fun and laughter.

Several of the students were overwhelmed by the fantastic prizes that were up for grabs. "I was so overwhelmed that I actually won the stuffed guerrilla," said Kate Serefine, an elementary and special education major. Surprisingly enough the first prize to go was the good old Tickle-Me-Ellie. A few participants also had the chance to win various gift certificates, a Bills blanket, a car kit, CD player, a Dust Buster and a dart board to mention a few.

The night was a success, which meant that the people were of the divisional offices, DS230D. Interested students interested in discussing problems within the division, presenting ideas, or simply looking for a meal are invited to sign up in the divisional office, DS230D. Interested students from the departments of English, Foreign Languages, History & Government, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Philosophy & Religion, Psychology, and Visual and Performing Arts should leave their names with Kitty Mahar, the secretary of the Arts & Sciences Division; and, in turn, the first six who indicate an interest will receive directions and other necessary information.
Bon Jovi Powers Up

Duracell Launches New Commercial Featuring Worldwide Rock Superstars

MEDIA ADVISORY—(COLLEGIATE PRESS-WIRE)—Bon Jovi's highly anticipated "This Left Feels Right" - a collection of the band's greatest hits entirely re-worked- is being released in November and coincides with the latest installment of Duracell's "Trusted Everywhere" ad campaign. This new 30-second television spot features performance footage of Bon Jovi and highlights the use of Duracell batteries to power the band behind the scenes and onstage.

With millions of screaming fans hanging on every word, the commercial demonstrates how Bon Jovi trusts Duracell batteries to power the microphones they need for each night's performance.

For a limited time, music lovers who purchase Duracell batteries will also receive discounts ranging from $3 to $5 off the new CD when it hits.

Please Recycle This Newspaper

The Tree That Binds the Worlds

Part 1

By Dan Crofts

My name and background are of no importance. All that the reader needs to know is that I am an American, born and bred, and that I was born in the year 1986. I am approaching my senior year in high school, which places an immense responsibility upon my shoulders. I must contemplate what I wish to do with my life, and find a means of achieving this goal. And, for a time, I had positively no idea what I wanted. I was bewildered, lost, overwhelmed with indecision and anxiety. The experience of which I write changed this forever.

Roughly a month ago, on a hot, stagnant August afternoon I sat on my back porch in deep thought. This was only one instance among many in which I thought of what it would be like to look upon my life; that enigmatic gift that may only be experienced once, as a complete waste. Should I fail to find my niche in life, I thought, I might end up with no alternative to settling for something that gives me no true pleasure. Other high school students may not give the slightest consideration to this concept, but it troubled me very deeply on that day. I often find solace in certain leisurely, if not somewhat odd, activities, such as throwing a tennis ball against the large, brown fence that encloses my backyard. At one point, in my intense frustration, I tossed the ball with a bit too much force, causing it to bounce off of the fence, striking the adjacent garage, and taking flight in the direction of a large oak tree growing behind the fence. Within seconds it disappeared into the knothole in the middle of the tree.

Before I continue, I would ask the reader to bear in mind that I had not, up to that point, taken notice of anything unusual, regarding this tree. I have known it my whole life to be a considerably ancient tree, perhaps as old as the land itself.

Apart from that, I knew nothing of it. All I knew at that point was that I had lost a perfectly good tennis ball, and I needed to retrieve it. Jumping over the fence, I struggled to climb the tree, reaching into the knothole. Surprisingly enough, I could not feel the ball anywhere in there! My hand searched the sides, top, and bottom-nothing. I then set my feet on the garage, struggling to stand. "The garage was only a few inches away from the tree; I was able to crouch down on the edge, and simultaneously stick my head into the knothole. The knothole was fairly large, so I had no trouble with this.

In the darkness and stench, I saw nothing except peeling wood. As strange as the disappearance of the ball was, even stranger was the queer, abrupt draft that I felt ascending from below. I quickly returned my head to the open air, feeling almost numbed by the contrasting heat. I was about to dismiss the matter as simply a matter of scientific origin, though I am far from being an expert on such matters. Before I could turn away, however, my curiosity got the better of me. Peering once again into the knothole, I noticed that the bottom was no longer composed of wood, or of anything, as there was a large, round hole in its place. I stuck my head in, and felt the draft yet again.

I was able to squeeze my right hand into the knothole, though this was more of a struggle. I ran my hand along this apparent hole, in order to verify its existence. Indeed, it was real. Not content with this confirmation, I peered down into the darkness and stench, struggling to stand. I was about to dismiss the matter as simply a matter of scientific origin, though I am far from being an expert on such matters. Before I could turn away, however, my curiosity got the better of me. Peering once again into the knothole, I noticed that the bottom was no longer composed of wood, or of anything, as there was a large, round hole in its place. I stuck my head in, and felt the draft yet again.

The ascent is now accepting personals and classifieds.

maximum for personal ads are 35 words.

Send submissions to ascent@daemen.edu
**Horoscopes**

By Laura Beth Witt

**Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22)**
Right now, no major disasters or calamities are heading your way. However, it might be best to start taking a more logical approach to problem solving as a preventive measure.

**Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 22)**
New relationships seem to have potential, but they will not go as far you first hope. Remember that love can be fleeting, but true friendships are not. Finding a good friend may be a better use of your time than looking for new romantic relationships.

**Sagittarius (Nov 23-Dec 21)**
A new person will be coming into your life, within the next week you may find that you are about who you entrust with secrets. It may come as a surprise, but the person you have been moody and irritable towards, your past efforts have not freed you of this cage. It is not a complete escape, but it is a step forward.

**Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19)**
You need to get out more! You feel locked up, like a bird in a cage. Your past efforts have not been true to yourself always brings the solution.

**Aries (March 21-April 20)**
A new relationship seems to have potential, but you need to be careful about who you entrust with secrets. It may come as a surprise, but the person you have been moody and irritable towards, your past efforts have not freed you of this cage. It is not a complete escape, but it is a step forward.

**Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18)**
You are now spending time with a new group of people. You may wonder why such a change occurred. The reason for this is that YOU have been moody and irritable towards.

**Taurus (April 21-May 20)**
Your bull-headed nature may be landing you in trouble soon. Other people's opinions of you may not be as flattering as you would hope. It is time to admit to your faults and remedy them.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)**
You have been moody and irritable towards those close to you and have some apologizing to do. This attitude is not completely un-called for, though, because some friends may not be as trustworthy as you first thought.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)**
You are currently experiencing a pleasant feeling of equilibrium with your emotions. Presently, everyone seems friendly towards you, and all is going well. Problems you've had with people in the past may be bothering you, resolve these issues as soon as possible.

**Leo (July 23-Aug 22)**
It is time to slow the pace of your busy schedule. It may seem difficult to you, but listening to the advice of others may be the best thing for you. Instead of always taking on other people's problems, get caught up on some important work.

**Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22)**
It may seem like your goals are too far away to ever reach, but don't give up! You are closer to your goals than you think. Don't be afraid to stop and take a break now and then. Remember that every new dawn brings your goals closer.

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**Crossword Puzzle**

**October 3, 2003**

**ACROSS**

1. Sifting utensil
2. Type
3. Duke of
4. In general
5. Fugitive
6. Vehicle
7. Versus
8. Electron tube
9. Large hawk
10. Upset
11. Couple
12. God
13. Eve's home
14. False gods
15. Nothing
16. Decayed
17. Sensitive subject
18. Damned
19. Anne Martin
20. Lustrous
21. Lustrous
22. People
23. Time to live
24. Roman ruler
25. Britty kids' complaint
26. Most brown
27. Helped
28. Frag noise
29. By way of
30. Banger
31. Cut of meat
32. Between then and now
33. Conquering
34. Distance
35. Prayer over
36. 1/12 pound
37. People who write essays
38. Descending
39. Closely confined
40. Distance
41. 1/12 pound
42. People who write essays
43. Counting
44. On land
45. Not new
46. Metallic ore residue
47. Ultimate, in Zen
48. Indian sage
49. Three foot ruler
50. Ring or grass
51. Knight or grass
52. Get really wet
53. Three pips
54. False gods
55. Copper, zinc alloy
56. Patience
57. Three pips
58. Dog's nuisance
59. Carwash
60. Focus on intensity
61. Already eaten
62. Singer Kravitz
63. Colloidal solution
64. Head shake
65. Lysis (plural)

**DOWN**

1. African bushman
2. Thought
3. Duke of
4. Live!
5. Bath
6. CHEF
7. Peace
8. Electron tube
9. Large hawk
10. Upset
11. Couple
12. God
13. Eve's home
21. It is (cont'd)
22. Get really wet
26. Garbage
27. Fathe
28. False gods
29. Notdin' but
30. Copper, zinc alloy
31. Occurrence
32. Between them and now
33. Bet
35. Priest
36. Dog's nuisance
39. Hindu tenth month
41. Carry writer's name
42. Sell more
44. Oh land
45. Not new
47. Impelled
48. Rachel's baby's daddy
49. Opposite of "out of"
50. Upper layer of earth's crust
52. Car
53. Three pips
54. Hoots
55. Cuneiform
56. Door opener

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**Dating Advice**

Dear Lisa,

I've been in love with my boyfriend for 1 year and 4 months. I love him dearly. The problem is the IQ of a bat, but in reality they're as intuitive as Sylvia Browne - they have a built-in life. For me, it happened after a difficult time and all is going well. Problems you've had with people in the past may be bothering you, resolve these issues as soon as possible.

---

Dear Tiy,

If your boyfriend is making you feel useless at 1 year and 4 months, by the time you get to 4 years and 1 month you'll feel like absolute roadkill.

I can appreciate that you'd like to "sample the wares" with the cute guy you work with, but there's one step you've got to do first:

Come clean with the guy you've got. End the relationship and go for the work guy, or tell your boyfriend your self-esteem has taken its last grenade on his behalf and that things have got to change or you'll be walking.

The bigger question is, however, how can a guy you've only known for a year make you feel so bad about yourself? My theory is that you hit a low point in your life and were feeling particularly vulnerable. In swoops Mr. Boyfriend and whom, you're in love on the fast track to misery.

Some of these nasty jerks may seem like they have the IQ of a bat, but in reality they're as intuitive as Sylvia Browne - they have a built-in radar for vulnerable women they can dump on.

Every fantastic, confident woman I know has dated one of these guys once in their lives, and it always followed a particularly low period in their lives. For me, it happened after a difficult time and all is going well. Problems you've had with people in the past may be bothering you, resolve these issues as soon as possible.

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Kisses,
Lisa