By Mandy Moen

So when you're in high school everyone asks what you're going to become or what you plan on doing with your life. Some people decide to enter the work force others the military, all of us at Daemen, we ultimately chose college. This decision may have been the best or worst thing we've ever done. It may be too early to tell.

As a senior, that graduation date is approaching closer and closer every day. As of April 18 it was only 52 days away. This means 24 days of class, 8 weekends left to enjoy ourselves or finish those thesis, one Easter break, one Academic Festival, one last study day, one final hell week. I mean final exam week, 3 short days to remember about the past (Senior Week), and last but not least our final day, the big day, Graduation. Just as though I was in high school again people are asking those oh so familiar questions. Do I choose to continue my education or is it time to enter the work force? The possibilities are endless and so is the amount of stress.

Most people think it's wonderful and peaceful to be a senior, well initially it is. First of all you're the top dog on campus. You've successfully made it through some of the toughest years you've ever faced. Friends have come, gone and transferred. The sense of accomplishment is almost overwhelming. We've basically been there and done that. The amount of information we have compiled in our brains is hard to believe, even for us. We're the wisest of the wise and our advice is invaluable. But when it comes down to it we're scared. What does the future hold?

It's May. This means we're applying and interviewing for jobs or applying and hopefully getting accepted into colleges. We're thinking about where we're going to live and how we're going to pay for all those loans and bills. For supposedly being the best time of our lives, it sounds pretty frustrating to me. The "real world" is supposed to be our promise land, but it's looking more like one big responsibility. Our child-like tendencies will be replaced with formal attire and briefcases. The world may be our playground, but the next few years will be full of hard work and limited playtime. It'll be all about "showing us the money!!"

As we go through our last - last Airband, last Midnight Cowboy, last Springfest and possibly last graduation it's a time to be sad, but always extremely excited. We need to stay positive and concentrate on finishing those few minor tasks, but also remembering to incorporate some fun. We need to ultimately slingshot our way towards the finish line and there's no stopping us now. Good luck and when May 22nd rolls around I'll give ya all the thumbs up from the stage!

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By Amy Dehn

It all started with signatures. President Anisman gave his traditional welcome to students, staff and visitors at this Spring's Academic Festival on April 21, but it turned out to be more than just a greeting as the President, along with natural science professor and chairperson Brenda Young, introduced the Taillores (Tail-loh-rees) Declaration.

Since her discovery of the Taillores Declaration, back in 1990 at an international conference in Taillores, France by university administrators, it is a pledge to implement environmental awareness and action into college activity. Over 300 colleges and universities worldwide have signed the Declaration, and so far, the University of Buffalo is the only other college in the area participating in the effort.

First discovered by the Dean of Daemen College Edwin Clausen back in February, the Declaration was brought to the attention of Professor Brenda Young, who, after researching the profile of the document, found it to be a good idea for incorporating environmentally friendly practices into activities here at the college.

By Antoinette DelBel

Sunny skies and warm weather brought a lot of students to campus on their day off from classes to celebrate the fourth annual Academic Festival Wednesday April 21. The Daemen College Academic Festival 2004 brings together faculty, staff and students in commemoration of their academic achievements throughout the year. This year's Festival offered an array of student and faculty work including presentations, poster sessions, multimedia demonstrations, performances and art exhibits.

President Martin Anisman started off the day by delivering his Welcome speech in the Athletic Center. He emphasized that this year's Academic Festival was going to be the most successful and that this honored event is rare among colleges. "We are one of the few colleges that sets aside an entire day to highlight student research and artistic accomplishment," said President Anisman.

The President's Reception early in the day rather than at the end of the afternoon, like past Academic Festivals, was a decision Margene Weiss, director of conferences and events, and her committee came up with, who all agreed, otherwise, made for a long day.

This year, her committee also decided to move the Poster Sessions into the Gym, rather than spreading them out across campus as it was done in previous years. Weiss felt the minor changes made this year to accommodate about 250 people in the Gym were a better way to accommodate the Festival and make it a success.

"We began to visualize the size of the gym in the past years. This year there were 48 proposals for Posters alone and we realized that would be the perfect time for the President to offer an official Welcome," said Weiss. The morning was very successful because people could look at all of the posters, ask questions and learn a great deal about projects done by Daemen students. Because of the purchase of a new poster printer, the majority of the posters were printed in full color at the

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May 2004

Graduates: Time's A Ticking

Green Future for Daemen College

Academic Festival Brings Success

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By S.D. Wright

People tell me, and I agree, that there is something distinctly absurd about our presidential selection process. Every four years, the two candidates endeavor to juggle personality traits, to appeal to both the smart and down-to-earth, cerebral yet spontaneous, openminded, yet righteously inflexible. Wardrobe selections are prepared by assistants minded that a tie-a texture or a jacket's cut can contribute ever-so-slightly to the nation's perception of a nominee. Though debate practices, practice rooms, are held by each campaign, with the candidate thoroughly coached. One can't but help notice the absence of any sort of originality. Typically in debate and party propaganda the language is reworked and condensed and overdressed, and style overwhelms substance every time. The common man finds difficulty discerning the man or woman who would be president, and the reason for this is an embarrassing well created by overpolishing and image-making.

Methinks the media would prefer an American presidential candidate to be nothing more than a master of sound bytes, of merry photo-opportunities, and of calming mannerisms (think "V" for victory or the immortal thumbs-up) he or she would smile more skillfully than most and shake hands like nobody's business. Because of this a real candidate becomes a creature born solely to please, even if he pleases by talking straight (John McCain), by turning mean and angry (Howard Dean, pre-primaries), or by remissness about his humble background (John Edwards). Teams of consultants hone a politician's image, which must be well-fortified, invulnerable in the face of personal attacks and "character assassination." Ultimately, one trip-up can cause the pathetic balloon of one's media personality to deflate suddenly and fatally. One must not risk offending anyone by appearing human.

This absence of genuineness can at times per­suade a substantial percentage of the citizenry not to participate. After all, why not grow cynical and skeptical in the face of this falseness? Who can actually believe a Peoria native from Bloomington, Illinois is really a master of sound bytes, of merry photo-opportunities, and of calming mannerisms? Who can actually believe a Peoria native from Bloomington, Illinois is really a master of sound bytes, of merry photo-opportunities, and of calming mannerisms?

The answer is that American democracy can triumph over superficiality quite easily, through a majority of Americans submerging themselves in the core content of candidates' positions. Ascertainment who exactly is best is a matter of understanding political philosophies and not personalities, policy positions and not identities. Ernest Hemingway once wrote that to be a high­quality writer or one must possess an "All built-in, shockproof sh­- detector." So it is with good cit­izens and voters alike. In this spirit I ask our read­ership to consider closely the careers and goals of Senator John Kerry and current President George W. Bush, and vote prudently. That being said, my allegiance lies with John Kerry, and my intention is to provide solid, substantial reason as to why Mr. Kerry, upon indepth examination, is the best candidate for America's future, and can provide the substance the American electorate so desperately wants.

First, George W. Bush is an anachronism, belonging to a different economic era, whereas John Kerry has a progressive strategy for America's financial future. The conservative, sup­ply-side response - Bush's response - to econom­ic hard times is to cut taxes, with government monies returning to the wealthy taxpayers in the hope that those funds will "trickle down" to the poor and lower-middle-class. This line of reasoning has initiated no great surge in America's eco­nomic standing since its fulfillment through a series of gargantuan tax refunds. In fact, three million jobs have been lost in Bush's administra­tion. This is no real surprise, since ideally, con­servatives like Bush are half-hearted about creat­ing jobs, since they advocate complete non-inter­ference in the private economic sphere. (This ide­ology sits in direct contradiction to the prece­dents established by President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, which pushed for strong government intervention for the downtrodden). John Kerry's plan, in contrast, is proactive, and he believes that America can grow to 10 mil­lion jobs in his first term. His strategy involves persuading American companies, through the termination of tax breaks, that remaining in the country and retaining jobs here is paramount.

Second, John Kerry will internationalize the conflict in Iraq, so as to lessen the danger to American soldiers. He would appoint a non­American as head of the UN mission after the passing over of power on June 30, and thus diminish the perception in the Arab world that America is nothing but an occupying force. John Kerry would not hesitate in supplying needy troops, and will not "cut and run." A Kerry Administration will do everything it can to render Iraq a peaceful and stable island in a sea of Islamic fundamentalism. In addition, President Kerry would not have "sexed up" intelligence reports in the first place, which allowed for a sud­den, thoughtless rush to war on the part of the current Republican administration over the course of the past two years. John Kerry is com­mitted to intelligent international relations.

Third, a President Kerry would not set himself apart as a perfect defender of the environment and a staunch advocate for conservation. He has conceived something he calls "The Manhattan Project," which in ten years will empower our country to be independent of Middle Eastern oil. Unlike the Bush-Cheney Administration, Kerry will not be wedded to powerful interest groups with schemes to erode environmental policy. He will reduce mercury emissions and like his Democratic predecessors stand tall for the pru­dent preservation of our natural habitat.

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The Ascend

By Mandy Moen

Outdoor Movie Night

By Mandy Moen

It's about that time old Mother Nature decided to give us a little warm weather. So on behalf of this mortal occasion to be nothing more than a master of sound bytes, of merry photo-opportunities, and of calming mannerisms (think "V" for victory or the immortal thumbs-up) he or she would smile more skillfully than most and shake hands like nobody's business. Because of this a real candidate becomes a creature born solely to please, even if he pleases by talking straight (John McCain), by turning mean and angry (Howard Dean, pre-primaries), or by remissness about his humble background (John Edwards). Teams of consultants hone a politician's image, which must be well-fortified, invulnerable in the face of personal attacks and "character assassination." Ultimately, one trip-up can cause the pathetic balloon of one's media personality to deflate suddenly and fatally. One must not risk offending anyone by appearing human.

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Spike Lee: "America Through My Lens"

By Julian Reder

On April 13, Daemen College was proud to have Spike Lee speak and address the audience about his life and various issues relevant to today’s society. The athletic center was packed with excited people. The Buellana area had eagerly anticipated Spike Lee’s appearance for weeks. The President of Daemen College, Dr. Martin Anisman, gave a brief introduction, describing Spike Lee’s accomplishments in the film industry and his contributions to the African-American talent in Hollywood.

"Athlete Through My Lens" was the kickoff to Daemen’s Academic Festival 2004. Spike Lee was met by a standing ovation. Lee quickly looked around the crowd and gathered up the courage to ask Lee for advice on how to become a successful screenwriter. Lee answered, "If you’re determined and humble the young boy was Lee suggested that he should keep working hard and start creating his own original stories.

With all the controversy during Spike Lee’s speech, it is a general consensus that, regardless of whether or not even one agreed with Lee’s ideas, attending this presentation was a very rare and unique experience. Lee presented everyone in the audience with strong views and harsh criticisms. Some people left very motivated. All left knowing they had witnessed a very poignant speech. "I thought it was awesome. He (Lee) was an amazing speaker and was very engaging. He was informed and motivated people in the audience," said Phil McAndrew, an illustration major.

The Talloires Declaration was presented during the President’s Reception by Associate Professor and Chair of Natural Sciences Department, Dr. Brenda Young. Dr. Young is a part of a campus-wide committee to look at how all of us can do a better job with our environmental practices on campus. She felt that since this year’s Academic Festival was taking place the day before Earth Day 2004 (April 22), it would be a perfect link to environmental issues stated in the Talloires Declaration.

This declaration was drafted in 1990 by several college presidents who shared a concern for the environment. It has been signed by over 300 colleges and universities. During the reception, President Anisman shared his concern by signing the Talloires Declaration as a pledge of Daemen College’s commitment to the environment and as a statement for Earth Day 2004. It was a significant event.

The rest of the day was filled with nearly 40 presentations, art exhibits and performances, all illustrating the work that students have produced in their courses, internships, senior theses and volunteer projects. One of the performances was the Pre-Law Association’s Second Annual Moot Court Experience held in Duns Scotus. History and Government Professor and faculty sponsor, Lisa Parshall says that although the students who put the time in to “show-off” to us.

"I wasn’t able to make it to the Festival this year because it fell around the same time when a lot of my exams were coming up," said Jim O’May, physician assistant major. "A day off from classes is valuable to me and I wanted to use my time wisely."

All in all, students, faculty and members of the planning committee joined together to make the Academic Festival 2004 a complete success. Margene Weiss, director of conferences and events, says the Festival not only brings people together, but is also an experience that can help students in their future endeavors.

"The heart of the Academic Festival is the students who submit proposals and want to share their projects with the rest of the campus community and those faculty members who mentor and support them. This is very much like a conference that each of you will attend sometime in your professional careers," said Weiss. "Each April, we are truly indebted and in awe of those professionals who put the time in to "show-off" to us. We all experience the feeling of an academic community."
Residents: Do They Have More Fun?

By Michelle Murphy

Residents and commuters both have certain perceptions of one another. Residents have certain views of commuting that may or may not be true, and the same goes for commuting students about residents.

As residents sit and eat countless meals in Wick, whether in the Cyber Café or the dining hall, commuters enjoy nice home cooked meals, some of which may even be prepared for them. Residents who wish to enjoy a change of pace from pizza, sandwiches, and other cafeteria food have to go to restaurants where they will be spending their valuable, well-earned money. Yet as a commuter you can choose what you want for breakfast, lunch and dinner. It's also pretty much guaranteed to be good or at least edible.

While speaking with residents, it was discussed that commuters are primarily friends with their high school friends or other commuters. This may be due to the fact that while in between classes residents can be mostly found in their rooms, while commuters sit and chat or even nap in lounges used primarily by commuters. "I don't believe that commuting gives you the full college experience," said senior Sara J. Stout, who is a resident. "Living on campus gives you the chance to get to know more people and make lifelong friendships. It also allows you to get more involved in campus activities." When thinking about commuting, traffic jams also come to mind. Morning traffic can be ridiculous and a very fun way to start the day. When speaking to a variety of residents they all agreed that waking up and walking to class is much more convenient then waking up hours before class and having to fight traffic. Not only are commuters fighting traffic, they also have to fight for a parking space, while residents roll out of bed and run to class.

Residents and commuters each have their own perceptions of the other. No one is better then the other just different.

Truly, unless we're in the situation ourselves, we can only have perceptions that may or may not be correct.

So talk to each other and find out if you're right, you just may make a new friend!

Seantoon

By Sean Dunbar

Word around the forest is that you have been spreading rumors about me. It's go time!

Dodge this fuzzy freak!

Crap! This won't end well. Oh no, not the briar patch!

The Price Is Right

By Mandy Moeen

Come on down, you're the next contestant on The Price Is Right! The Office of Residence Life recently held their 2nd Annual "The Price Is Right Game Show." With great entertainment and even better prizes the $1 cover charge was a small price to pay considering that all proceeds were donated to the Buffalo School system.

Geoff Geoffrey kicked the night off with the calling of the first four contestants. As students rushed to the front of the social room stage the crowd was introduced to the Barker Beauties and Barker Brothers younger, more handsome brother, Dan "Barker" Schiesser.

The night was a complete success. 150 Students were given the chance to participate in winning a bike, DVD/VHS player, a stereo, beach ware, movies and DVD'S, a TV and many more. The Daemen RA's built and organized such games as Hole In One, Cliffhanger, Punch-a-Bunch, and everyone's favorite Plinko. At intermission The Price Is Right held its first annual T-shirt contest. Students were challenged to create a personalized T-shirt to show their school spirit and enthusiasm for the event. The Residence Life staff was very pleased to see many participants. After an audience vote, it was down to the guys of Canavan z and the Tie-dye girls. It was a close call but the Tie-dye girls (Katie LeBlanc, Beth Knox, Natasha Brockington and Aisha Als) were the winners of this match.

As the game show approached its conclusion the wheel was Spent one last time to see who was going to join Blake Martin in the Showcase Showdown. Ali Kanji came out on top in the second round of the Wheel where he gladly accepted the challenge of going to the Showcase Showdown. The guys were shown a fabulous showcase which included a Digital camera and a picture printer to accompany it, a gift certificate for two at The Olive Garden, and the choice between Bills tickets or tickets to Shea's Theater. The first bid was in from All who wagered $400, while Blake took a chance in bidding in at $600. Dan "Barker" played with the audiences suspense until he finally announced: "And the actually retail price is... $638!!" The crowd went wild as the boys of Canavan 2 rushed their buddy Blake in result of his triumphant victory.

"I was amazed and very PROUD Friday night to be affiliated with such a great staff after I saw the work people put in for the event. Everything on stage was in place on time, the sound and equipment was set up great, the sets were amazing, check-in went well, it was smooth," said Dan "Barker" Schiesser, Director of Residence Life while commenting on his RA staff. The Office of Residence Life would really like to thank everyone for coming out and making this event such a hit. We're looking forward to seeing all of your smiling faces next year as you Come On Down in 2006!!

Summer is Coming

By Kathy Horschel

Spring is in full swing and will be over before we know it. The trees are budding, the birds are chirping, the grass is becoming green, the flowers are blooming. Today is April 27 and I am looking out my window, what do I see? A few snow flake coming down. This upsets me greatly, by this time of year I am so sick of cold and snowy weather that I just don't want to see snow again until next Christmas. But, alas, this is Buffalo and the weather here is always unpredictable. Anyway back to my task at hand, I was looking out my window longing for sunny, warm summer days and thinking about what I am doing this summer, working of course, I must pay for school somehow. But beyond that, I had no idea. So I figured that a lot of college students are in the same boat as I am. You're looking for fun, but don't want to be doing the same things you've been doing since you were born. So I decided to make a list of things that could be fun to do this summer while you work or take summer classes.

1) Get a bunch of friends together, write a script and make a movie. (It may sound a bit juvenile but trust me its fun.)
2) Start up a summer day camp for kids.
3) Go to at least one outdoor concert.
4) Get a group of friends and rent a cabin on a lake (Erie, Ontario, any lake in the Finger Lake region or one near your home) for a week.
5) Paint/Decorate your room (If you're like me you haven't redone you're room in years but don't want to be doing the same things you've been doing since you were born). So I decided to make a list of things that could be fun to do this summer while you work or take summer classes.
6) Pick up a new hobby like scrap bookling, kick boxing or playing the guitar.
7) Take a road trip.
8) Take a weekend trip to NYC. (It takes a couple hours by plane and tickets are cheap on one of the airlines, I don't remember which one.)
9) Follow your favorite band touring this summer for week and go to all the shows and see if they start to recognize you. (Again sounds juvenile, but fun.)
10) Try writing songs or poetry. Maybe even a book.

Now don't tell me when I see you next fall that you had a boring summer, I give you a whole list of things to do. Now as finals approach and the year ends think about all these things you could be doing this summer. And for me this is my goodbye for the summer. I hope to fill these pages of the Ascent again next year for your pleasure and enjoyment. And as the traditional end of the year saying goes (a little corny I know but I couldn't resist) "Have a great summer and I'll see you in September."
Green Future
(Continued from page 1)
the document must be approved by the Board of Trustees. With this in mind, Prof. Young sought reinforcements from faculty, staff and students to show the Daemen community support for the Declaration. Students, faculty and staff were asked to show their support for a petition that went around in classrooms and offices. Over 400 students signed the petition, and two-thirds of the Daemen faculty received and signed the petition as well. The support resulted in the Board’s passing of the Declaration, and the President whole-heartedly added his signature to what could be a historical document in working toward preservation of college environments.

What a few signatures can do!

However, as Dr. Young states herself, to truly honor the Declaration, Daemen will have to incorporate a lot of time, planning and funding into this new promise. The new library will be an environmentally green building, in terms of its structure and the materials used in construction. In addition to practical considerations, the motion here at Daemen, Dr. Young would like to see more awareness and concern when it comes to providing green spaces.

First, she sees a problem in Daemen’s recycling program, as many people probably do. Despite the fact that the library has at least one designated bin for recycling on almost every floor of Duns Scotus, as well as at least one bin in Wick, Canavan, and the Business Building, people are constantly throwing trash into these bins, making it much more difficult to recycle.

Professor Young has a plan in mind. “I would like to see recycling bins in every building, recycling bins designated for plastic cans, glass and paper,” she says. “There should be a uniform system, such as color-coding, so there is recognition of what goes where.”

It’s not as if Daemen is not already committed to recycling. Many people do not realize that colleges are tax exempt, and are therefore not entitled to many of the benefits taxpayers receive, such as recycling pickup. The college pays for recycling to be picked up. It’s up to students, staff and faculty to respect the program and put things where they belong. Without this effort, Daemen will not get the best value in recycling.

Although she admits that parking is at a premium on campus, to take anymore away would be unwise. Professor Young would like to see a small sacrifice of parking spaces to beautify Daemen campus and create a better atmosphere for students, staff and visitors.

“When you walk out of Wick to get to Duns Scotus, you’re in the middle of a parking lot,” she notes. “It doesn’t have that nice feel to it of being on a college campus.”

She suggests giving up about twenty parking spots in the lot between the two buildings to build a walkway connecting their entries, and maybe adding a fountain or a garden in the center. This would call for horseshoe parking on either side of the walkway, but may also result in more safety for pedestrians.

“I know I’ve almost been hit a few times when crossing between the two buildings,” Dr. Young says. “People don’t slow, hop at those stop signs.”

Another controversial issue Professor Young broaches is the ability of students to print from their own computers, or the cost of printing services given to students on campus. Although Daemen does use recycled paper for printing, and we recycle ink cartridges, students (and sometimes faculty) may abuse their printer privileges.

“Some students print out a two-page single-spaced email from a friend and get exasperated because the printer doesn’t move fast enough, so they’ll hit print several times,” Dr. Young says.

She suggests implementing a printing quota for students of around 300-400 pages a semester so students might think twice about hitting that print button so much, or for something they may not necessarily need to form a committee, at this stage comprised only of Daemen faculty, called DESI (Daemen Environmental Sustainability Initiative), to discuss environmental practices on Daemen campus, and to run a petition drive for the Declaration. Students, faculty and staff were asked to show their support for a petition that went around in classrooms and offices. Over 400 students signed the petition, and two-thirds of the Daemen faculty received and signed the petition as well. The support resulted in the Board’s passing of the Declaration, and the President whole-heartedly added his signature to what could be a historical document in working toward preservation of college environments.

See what a few signatures can do!

However, as Dr. Young states herself, to truly honor the Declaration, Daemen will have to incorporate a lot of time, planning and funding into this new promise. The new library will be an environmentally green building, in terms of its structure and the materials used in construction. In addition to practical considerations, the motion here at Daemen, Dr. Young would like to see more awareness and concern when it comes to providing green spaces.

First, she sees a problem in Daemen’s recycling program, as many people probably do. Despite the fact that the library has at least one designated bin for recycling on almost every floor of Duns Scotus, as well as at least one bin in Wick, Canavan, and the Business Building, people are constantly throwing trash into these bins, making it much more difficult to recycle.

Professor Young has a plan in mind. “I would like to see recycling bins in every building, recycling bins designated for plastic cans, glass and paper,” she says. “There should be a uniform system, such as color-coding, so there is recognition of what goes where.”

It’s not as if Daemen is not already committed to recycling. Many people do not realize that colleges are tax exempt, and are therefore not entitled to many of the benefits taxpayers receive, such as recycling pickup. The college pays for recycling to be picked up. It’s up to students, staff and faculty to respect the program and put things where they belong. Without this effort, Daemen will not get the best value in recycling.

Although she admits that parking is at a premium on campus, to take anymore away would be unwise. Professor Young would like to see a small sacrifice of parking spaces to beautify Daemen campus and create a better atmosphere for students, staff and visitors.

“When you walk out of Wick to get to Duns Scotus, you’re in the middle of a parking lot,” she notes. “It doesn’t have that nice feel to it of being on a college campus.”

She suggests giving up about twenty parking spots in the lot between the two buildings to build a walkway connecting their entries, and maybe adding a fountain or a garden in the center. This would call for horseshoe parking on either side of the walkway, but may also result in more safety for pedestrians.

“I know I’ve almost been hit a few times when crossing between the two buildings,” Dr. Young says. “People don’t slow, hop at those stop signs.”

Another controversial issue Professor Young broaches is the ability of students to print from their own computers, or the cost of printing services given to students on campus. Although Daemen does use recycled paper for printing, and we recycle ink cartridges, students (and sometimes faculty) may abuse their printer privileges.

“Some students print out a two-page single-spaced email from a friend and get exasperated because the printer doesn’t move fast enough, so they’ll hit print several times,” Dr. Young says.
Students Recognized for Leadership

By Antoinette DelBel

Eighty students and faculty members gathered in Alumni Lounge Thursday afternoon on April 29 to participate in the Daemen College Student Leadership Awards Reception.

This reception provided an opportunity for administrative offices to recognize outstanding students and their respective initiatives. Student organizations also took this time to recognize their graduating senior members.

Dean Mankey, Dean for Student Affairs, commenced the hour-long reception with an anonymous quote about leadership:

"A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others," Dean Mankey read. "S/He does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the quality of his/her actions and the integrity of his/her interest. In the end, leaders are much like eagles...they don't rock; they find you them at one time."

One at a time, students walked up to the room to receive their respective awards. For some, it marked the end of their time in college, while for others, it was their name being called for an award came as a nice surprise.

Faculty, members and student organizations achieved their goal by keeping award recipients a secret while making sure the student was not surprised. Other student organizations, like the Social Work Alliance and the Step Team, kept their awards a secret until the recipient stepped forward. Among missing presenters, there were many student recipients who were not able to make it to the reception as well.

Student recipients for the 2004 Student Leadership Awards are as follows:

Business Club Award – Tracy Burkard
Student Alumni Ambassador Awards – Amanda Moen, Laura Pasker, Grace Golodinski, Andy Wheeler, Michael Patane, Nellies James, Jillian Delmont, Kathleen Henninger
Michael G. Patane Award – Andrew C. Wheeler
Student Activities Award – Andrew Casey Wheeler Award – Nellies James
Student Association Awards:
Senior Class President – Lisa Senay
Vice President of College Affair – Andy Wheeler
Student Physical Therapy Award for Class of 2005 – Jennifer Jordan
Student Physical Therapy Award for Class of 2006 – Maureen Schichtel
Athletics: NAIA All-American Scholar Athletes – Mary Bellanos, Michelle Bloom, Vincent DiGiovanna, Natalie Dumas, Nates Jones, Ashley Lawton, Kristie Mattzolt, Matt Pokigo, Jess Bel Baldini, Lisa Schrank
Ascent Award – Antoinette DelBel
Honor Program – For their work to support the Corner's Children Center and Vine de Paul de Souza kitchen – Amy Farmer, Andrea Hubbard, Ashley Quong, Tara Suen, Erin Gilbert, Samuel Wright
Learning Center Award – Heather Bak, Carrie Bratek, Diana Bruseau, Amanda Campbell, Allie Chanhan, Rachel Clark, Jillian Dzugan, Kristen Flanagan, Grace Golodinski, Laurie House, Kaelena Howden, Dan Kelver, Michael Lewis, Sherria Lewis, Melody Modiano, Heather Rather, Kathleen Robinson, Kathryn Rehak, James Retallack, Jeff Summer
Residence Life Awards:
Wesley Christian Center Peer Review Board – Laura Pasker, Sara Gugliuzza, Michelle Pelleter, Melody Manwaring, Andrew Puglisi, Seton Review Board – Abby Millener, Sarah Zaluzki, Maribeth Saccone, Greg Yorgutian, Ken Mitchell, Mandy Moen, Derek Bigelow, Claudia Mesa
Student Activities Award – Derek Bigelow, Jessica Clarkson, Monassa Harris, Melo, Manwaring, Amanda Moen, Laura Pasker, Laurie Stahr, Heather Vanderamalie, Andy Wheeler, Laura Witt
Student Affairs Office Work Study Award – Janet Ritter, Ashley Holgood, Stacy Heiler
Student Employee of the Year Award – Matthew Pogpik
Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges – Kara Blaha, Brittany Cozad, Antoinette DelBel, Jessica Elseye, James Felicita, Michele Lalayanis, Brian Macey, Kristie Mattzolt, Abby Millener, Michael Patane, Matt Pogpik, Robert Schaefer, Kins, Nina Zehr, Geoffrey Abraskin, Gregory Purdy

The Tree That Binds The Worlds

Continued from Previous Issues

By Dan Croft

According to Bjorn, men had been engaged in Quarrelsome disputes over land ownership, and other such things, for more than a century. Barbarian tribes also raided, and overrun, certain parts of the continent. It didn't take me long to discover that I had not only traveled inexplicably across the ocean, but across time as well. The final winter settled upon us recently, said Bjorn. For the winter has passed, and the summer has come, but look around you. At that point, the snow began its steady descent from the distant mountains. Next, the earth would surface, and the souls of the dead would emerge from the pit of Niflheim[jell]. In darkness, cold, bloodshed, and lament would the giants of Jutunheim find the human race after they swiftly crossed the icy waters that separate their realms from the earth. Soon, the souls of great warriors would emerge from Valhalla to fight the behemoth invaders. The resulting clamor would awaken the world serpent, which slept at the very bottom of the sea, encircling Midgard. The gods of the realm of Asgard (the word used to refer to the sky) would then come to subdue the great serpent, until Fenris the Wolf, brother of the world serpent, would arrive. In the great battle, the gods themselves would be vanquished and devoured by these incredible monsters.

At this point, when there is nobody left to protect the world, the demons of Muspleheim, a fiery region above the earth, but below heaven, would send the fire with words of fire. Under the leadership of one such demon, endless in might, they would sear the whole of Midgard, and that would be the end. After that, nobody knew what would happen. At length, we reached the settlement of Nordsfjord, which was really nothing more than a nest of small, wattle houses built across rock and snow. The narrow street was almost empty, but for several old women sewing in corners, and some young children playing in the snow. I looked upon these innocent, young children, and would have felt sorry for their having been born into an age of impending destruction. The only thing stopping me was the fact that I was still trying to take everything in. Bjorn's house was a slight improvement on the isolated dwelling of my former hosts. Upon entering, I saw a small, round, wooden table in the middle of a spacious, dark room. In a corner, an ollong, sheepskin rug and a small flight of beehive wooden stairs that led to Bjorn's bedroom. I, myself, was to sleep in a spot that was similar to that in my room. I had a sheepskin blanket and a bed of straw for my own purposes. The house of my previous hosts was a small, secluded above, containing nothing save a small mat, made of ox hide, and a sheepskin blanket. The house of Bjorn's dwelling was a humble one, overall. That night, we enjoyed a light meal consisting of bread, ale, and old cheese. I had certainly never tasted ale before, as I am not yet of age. I must say that I found it quite repulsive. As I didn't want to be rude to my generous host, I said nothing of it. I me, rather. It is said to be the dwelling place of the gods of Asgard, the chief of which is Odin. They have no better reply than, I wasn't aware that anyone lived there.

Well, supposedly, the Rock Sprite has dwelt there since the dawn of time. It is said that if you were to make a wish while within that cave, the Rock Sprite would grant it. In return, it would demand your servitude for three years.

That got me thinking of my request, and my subsequent discovery of having wished, while in the cave, that everyone in this strange world could understand me, and that I could understand everyone in this world. And, ironically enough, I could suddenly understand everything I heard at least from one person. Then I realized that, if my presumption was correct, I had dug myself into a pit that would be difficult to get out of.

It didn't take long for our talk to fail to different matters. Bjorn told me of the eight worlds of which the universe was made up, and the great tree that stood between them. That got me thinking of the day I came to this place through a tree. At nightfall, we took to our beds. Again, it took me considerable time to fall asleep. I could not sleep, but the people around me now, which was generally an improvement. However, this did not make me any more comfortable. The next morning, I awoke to find myself in a strange, icy, pagan world out of which there was seemingly no escape.
Shout Outs!
Graduating Seniors say goodbye

I would like to thank Maureen (Pemick) Huber for everything she has done for me. Going back to school was difficult, but her perseverance and kindness helped me become the person I am today. Thank you & say hi to Big Earl!!! -abby

Sigma's - thanks for the memories! Super 7 - "oo) - DISGUSTING! DO YOU KNOW? Much love for Molly's, Canada and crazy times. Thanks to my former b-ball teammates for everything she has done for me. Going back to THE NATION-Good looking. Aisha, see you back at home. Tasha, it's been real. Sidekick it's time to go. Congrats to the class of 2004! -Ashanta Abraham

Shout-outs to my fam. Iyanna, we finally out this B***. Dr. Kashino and Dr.Emer thank you for helping me get through the rough times. Shouts to THE NATION-Good looking. Aisha, see you back at home. Tasha, it's been real. Sidekick it's time to go. Congrats to the class of 2004! -Ashanta Abraham

To Lynda Cessario, we will miss your motherly advice, your silence, and your screaming about APA format. Thanks for all that you have done for us. It has been a real experience. From the Perceptions of Weehawken Learning class

To Lynda Cessario, our mentor... could you please explain APA format one more time? Your sweet students... Meg, Cheryl, Sandy, Wendy, & Deb.

I would like to give a shout out to all the awesome business teachers who have taught me so much! Good business classes, Pat, Matt, Lisa and Nicole finishing up!! - Cassandra Gomewicz, business student

1) Good bye, farewell and most of all THANK YOU to the Residence Life staff. I will miss all of you dearly!! These past two years have been the most challenging and enjoyable times of my life. Thanks for being there to experience it with me. I couldn't have asked for a finer group of people to work and grow with. Each and everyone of you holds a special place in my heart, after all "out cult rocks, rocks hard!"
2) The best of luck to the girls of Canavan 4, past (92-93) and present (93-94). I wish you great success and happiness. You all are bright and beautiful women with much potential, don't let me down. I'll miss you all greatly, keep in touch!
3) Thank you to all the faculty, staff and administration who have helped me to get through this endeavor known as college. Dan Schiesser and Sue Kerner - you're the BEST! Thanks for the guidance, laughter and most of all a shoulder to lean on! Dorothy Lutgen - you're an inspiration for all women. I will miss your advice and compassionate nature. Keep smiling!! Chris Mailk - you're the coolest. The time and dedication you put into the college should really be commended. Thank you for all the wonderful programs and events, they really do keep us out of trouble! Paul F. - thank you for the encouragement and opportunity to give back to Daemen. I now have a greater sense of as to why you love this place so much. I will never forget the grand events and all the good food you bought us along the way!!
4) To all the Cheerleaders keep smiling and keep the "club" alive!!! - Mandy Moen

There are so many professors at Daemen that I will miss most of all. So many have taught me so much. Debbie Bickmore, my most challenging and enjoyable times of my life. You all are bright and beautiful women with much potential, don't let me down. I'll miss you all greatly, keep in touch!

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Got Bush?

By Josh Gallagher

Through Buffalo streets filled with supportive Howard dean posters came the presidential entourage. On April 20, President George W. Bush made Buffalo national news when he gave a televised pro-Patriot Act speech to a hand picked collection of friends at Kleinhans Music Hall.

National Media ignored the true excitement, the show of solidarity against war and tyranny and the loss of civil liberties to scare tactic legislation.

Close to 600 protesters, filled orange safety net pens, sarcastically sloganed "Dont pen me in, I want my civil liberties back."

The attitude of the crowd was delightfully festive. Protest music filled the air, songs by Dylan and Marley intertwined with free wheeling chants like "This is a white mans war, what are we fighting for," voices of every creed and color joined together for peace and government with conscience, struck through the Buffalo morning.

About 50 pro-Bush supporters were in effect, sporting delightful army fatigues and avoiding truancy officers. It was if the local Junior ROTC was protesting in support of the Iraqi war while Veterans for Peace protested with experience from the anti-Bush side.

Surprisingly national media either ignored or severely undercounted the anti-Bush support.

Luckily, a picture is worth a thousand words....

(Photos courtesy of Jolene Bailer)

"Didn't you learn anything from McKinley?"