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"1998 Highlander Vol 80 No 22 April 6, 1998" (1998). *Highlander - Regis University's Student-Written Newspaper*. 118.

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HIGHLANDER

Vol. 80, No. 22

Denver, Colorado

April 6, 1998

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Names Echo in Wall

One of the many visitors who came to Regis to view the replica of the Vietnam War Memorial.

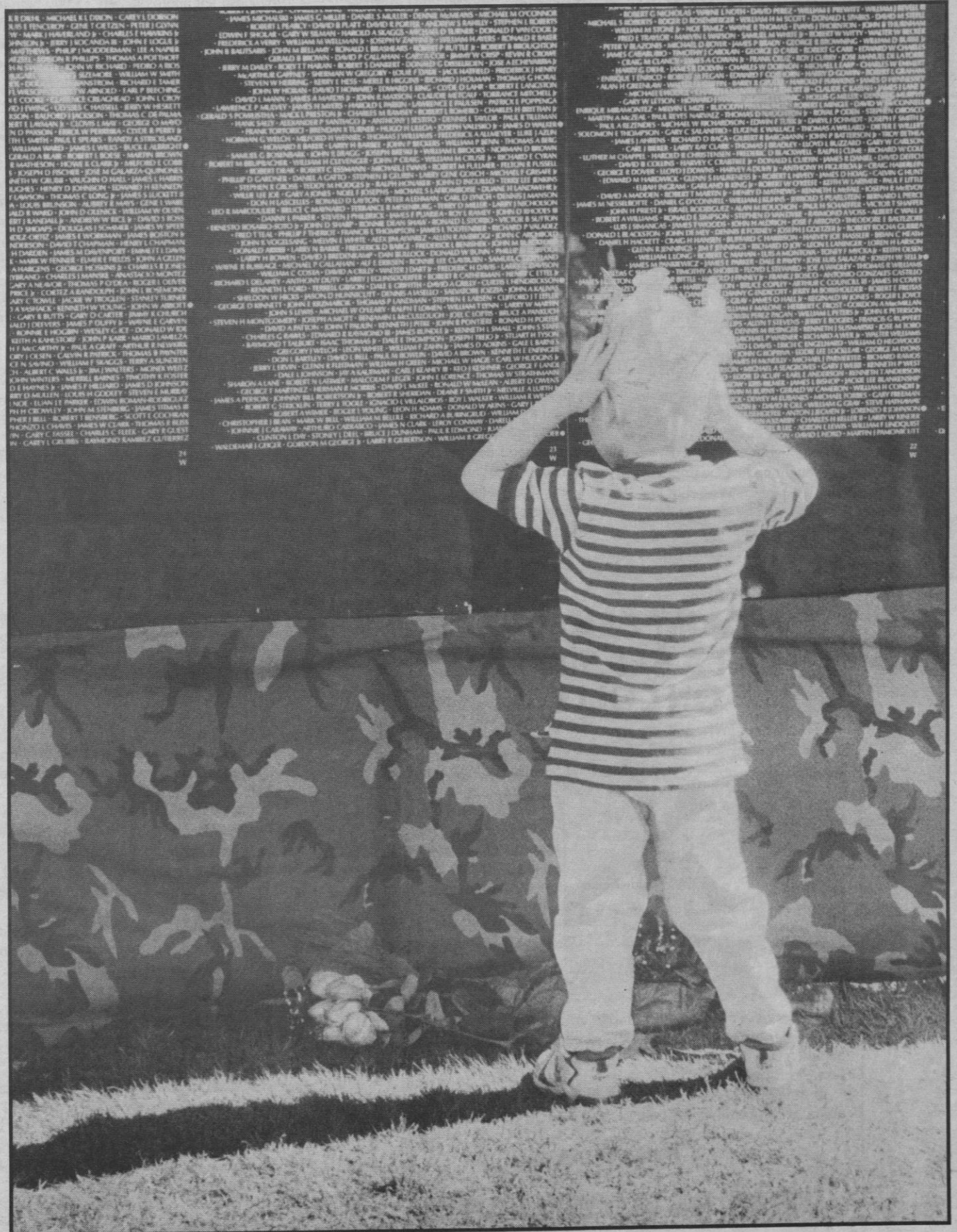


Photo by Tracie Williams

Featured Woman: Essie Garrett

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Special Feature

Letters to the Editors

Dear Highlander Staff:

My congratulations on a hilarious issue of the *Highlander*. The pokes on tuition hikes, although they no longer affect us graduating seniors, were humorous. My favorite was the brewpubs in the basements of the dorms. I had really hoped that the graduation guardian (who will remain nameless), would have made the issue. As all seniors who have to deal with graduation issues at this fine institution know, she does have a way with words.

Matt Brozovich has my vote for event planning coordinator next semester. Although harsh and completely politically incorrect, your concocted Whiteness Festival was funny. Maybe those upper/middle class Anglos that you speak of will draw more from your article than humor. There are some folks here at Regis who realize we are not the only surviving race on the planet.

I would encourage all the "close-minded, non-diverse" Caucasians to take a long hard look at just how fortunate they are and try to understand that yes, there are many privileges that we are entitled to simply because of our skin color. We need to

recognize that and realize that we could have been born any race and, in this White dominated society, we are blessed every day of our lives. Let me further voice that the priorities of some of those upper/middle class white students Matt spoke of are just as backwards as their views on diversity ("I'm not racist—I have Black friends").

The issue raised in Joe and Kara's article, "Beer, Tuition, & Regis" which suggested pubs in the dorms brought up just the priority issue I was speaking of. I guess, as a senior, I can finally say that the "Regis scene" (as we all refer to it) is sickening. Some of the drunken acts I have been witness to and part of

are frightening. We abuse our bodies on a regular basis and, thank the Lord, we live to tell these ridiculous drunken stories the next day.

The number of DUI recipients on campus is longer than the Dean's List. These recipients blame the police force--WAKE UP and take some personal responsibility. We take risks like getting behind the wheel of a car while intoxicated, and when the consequences are realized, these convicts call their daddy's big shot lawyer and get 20 minutes of community service. Not that I am a fan of pork, but we should be thanking the police force.

I've had a good time here, and I have met

many, many wonderful people, but I've also met many rich, careless jerks that, while complaining about 20 hours of community service, couldn't even be classified as hypocrites because they don't even claim to be concerned about the welfare of others. We can afford \$40,000 dollar automobiles (well, some of us can), but we can't afford to spend less than an hour a week helping those that are not as fortunate as we are. If this shoe I just described fits

your fat little foot, then I would encourage you to take a long hard look at where you are and where you could be if you were born a different person.

So, when we all sit on our bar stools and complain about the trivialities of our sheltered, meaningless lives, take a look at the local next to you and try to be a little more understanding of his hardships. I'm not an angel; I am a Republican and I don't claim self-righteousness, but I am offering Jerry Springer's words of advice as a senior, "Take care of yourself and each other."

Deeply concerned,

Holly Miller, Senior

"We abuse our
bodies on a regular
basis and, thank the
Lord, we live to tell
these ridiculous
drunken stories the
next day."

Always Alma

Pillaging Paradise

Alma Meeker

I first became aware of the environmental crisis that surrounds our world's rainforests when I was eleven years old. I remember watching a National Geographic video and being completely horrified. From that moment on, I committed myself to environmental activism. Once I got to college, however, I found my activism hindered due to time constraints beyond my control. It's hard to find the time to be a student and an activist.

A couple of Sundays ago, I was watching the NBC Nightly News when a three minute blurb flashed across the screen. Trees, thousands of them, were burning in Brazil. The reporter described it as the worst catastrophe in the history of the Northern Amazon. As of Sunday, one and a half million acres had burned. The burn rate was six miles of forest a day on seven fronts. This tragedy had also left approximately 15,000 families homeless. Members of the Yanomami tribe (a "primitive" group of people similar to the Ju'hoansi of Africa) found their home, the Amazon rainforest, crumbling under the flames. I watched with the same horror as when I was eleven. I was angry.

Why? Fire is a natural disaster, right? Normally, I would agree. However, in this instance, I don't think so. This fire was not natural at all; it was man-made. The part of the story that the reporter did not include was the influences of humans on this paradise. For years, humans have practiced slash and burn agriculture. Farmers are misled into the notion that rainforest soil is fertile, prime land for growing crops. Yet, this is the source of bitter irony and paradox. Without the trees, the soil is leached by the heavy rains that are so characteristic of rainforests. The farms have no staying power. Farmers then must clear more virgin forests and repeat the process, leaving hundreds of acres of barren land in their wake.

While El Nino has been blamed for the drought that is said to have caused the fires in Brazil, I suspect that the activities of these farmers and others are to blame. Nearly one-fourth of the carbon that is added to the Earth's atmosphere can be attributed to burning rainforests. Carbon effects the climate in that it contributes to our atmosphere's chemical composition. The result is global warming which spurs on climatic changes that we all too often attribute to "El Nino."

While rainforests cover less than two percent of the Earth's surface, fifty to seventy percent of all life forms on the planet call the rainforest their home. This includes plants, animals, and humans. Instead of treasuring this Heaven on Earth, we destroy it at a rate of 2.47 acres a second. On average, 137 species of life are driven into extinction every day. The fires that recently occurred in Southeast Asia have put the Indonesian and Malaysian orangutan in danger. Such fires may well be the final push towards the extinction of several species. Those that manage to survive congregate in farmers' fields where they are quickly attacked with machetes, clubs, and chainsaws that are wielded by villagers trying to protect their investment. Why is it that humans have failed to recognize the phenomenal worth of such a paradise? What is wrong with our society? How can we let this happen?

I don't know about you, but I wonder if the world of tomorrow is really a world I want to be a part of. If we are only concerned with making money—instead of preserving and protecting the habitats of our world—what type of future will we have?

If you are interested in getting involved in the fight to save the rainforest, give me a call at 458-3508.

The Regis University

HIGHLANDER

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The Regis University Highlander is an weekly student publication provided by the students of Regis University for the Regis community.

It functions as a forum to inform the community of events and persons relevant to Regis. It serves as a place for the expression of concerns and opinions. However, the opinions of authors may not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Highlander staff.

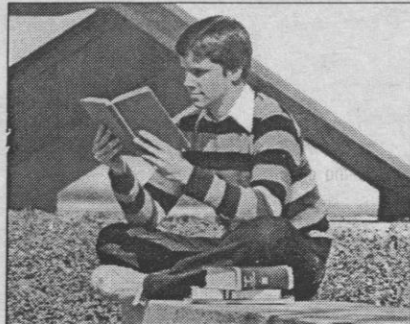
Content is reviewed and edited by staff members and advisor to ensure the quality of ideas and suitability of content. Editorials reflect the opinion of the authors, which are not necessarily the opinion of the entire staff or of Regis University.

The editors of the Highlander will accept signed letters to the editor and print such letters, not exceeding 250 words, at their discretion. Letters will be edited for length, grammar, and punctuation. Personal attacks or inappropriate language will not be printed. The deadline for receipt of letters is 5:00 p.m. on Thursdays before the week of publication.

Questions, concerns, or comments should be directed to Nicole Haas and/or Deryk Standing, Editors-In-Chief, at 964-5391 or at 3333 Regis Boulevard, Mail Stop 1-8, Denver, Colorado 80221.

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Where Spring Still Meets Snow!

Although Spring fun usually means reservoirs, volleyball, and frisbee, this is no reason to pack away all the Winter gear just yet. There is still plenty of snowy fun to be had on the slopes of Colorado. With the recent, sporadic falling of the white stuff, skiing and boarding is not out of the question. Actually, Spring skiing is a different experience altogether. The ski season will be ending in another month so. Head to the hills!!

Crested Butte

Where: 28 miles from Gunnison, via Colorado 131.

What's There: 3,062-foot vertical drop, 86 trails, 1,160 acres, three high-speed quads, four triples, two doubles, two T-bars, one platterpull, snowboard park.

Noteworthy: Crested Butte boasts exceptional terrain ranging from super-flat to elevator steep. In addition to convenient lodging at the base of the lifts, the nearby namesake town of Crested Butte has accommodations and excellent dining and nightlife. Not to mention, there is the traditional "Naked Ski Day" the final day of the season.

What's New: Replacement of Keystone triple chair with high-speed quad. Two slopeside hotels join major chains, Marriott and Sheraton.

Best Deals: Ticket Plus, enabling guests on multi-day packages to exchange a day of skiing for cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, a balloon ride or other activities.

Season: End of November to Mid-April

Snowboarding: Yes. There are 85 trails total. There is a terrain park. Snowboarding only trails available. Clinics are available.

Terrain: Beginner 13%, Intermediate 30%, Advanced 10%, Expert 47%

Average Annual Snowfall: Crested Butte receives approximately 300 inches of snow per season.

Crested Butte Mountain Resort
1-800-544-8448.

Rugby, the Game They Play in Heaven

McCabe Callahan

Yes it is true, rugby is the game they play in heaven. The immaculate tackles, holy rucks, blessed mauls, sacred penalty kicks, hallowed line outs, and virgin tries are all part of the majestic sport of rugby. A sport sponsored by God, rugby remains up and running after its first three games against Denver University.

The team has been very successful but has the toughest part of the schedule to look forward to. Living by the words found in one of the chapters in the bible, "We walk through the shadows of darkness and fear not, for God is my scrum half and thou shalt not knock on," the team hopes to at least make it through the season healthy and without injury.

Since this is the team's first season, there has been an adjustment period for the new players to get aquatinted with this foreign sport and set precedents for the up and coming seasons. "So far we are looking pretty good. We are hoping the small injuries nagging some of the players on our team will go away soon," states starting fly half Troon Dowds. The team currently has over twenty students on its roster, yet averages 12 to 15 at practice. This lack of participants at practice is mostly due to class and work conflicts.

The team's schedule is very tentative because of off-season lag, but the team is currently playing every weekend. The team's schedule consists of Denver University, Western State, University of Northern Colorado, Wyoming University, Chadron State, Metro State, Colorado College and Colorado School of Mines. This is an intimidating schedule due to the fact that each of these schools has had a team for over 15 years. The team definitely has its work cut out for them, but is ready for every challenge. "Bring 'em on, we fear nobody but God," says prop Matt Hollas. The team agree with this statement and looks forward to every challenge.

So what is to come of the sport at Regis University? Well, that is a very heated topic. The school only sponsors full varsity sports. Since Rugby is not NCAA sponsored, it can never become a varsity sport. A loophole must be found. At the pace "rugby fever" is spreading, it is on the road to becoming one of the most popular sports at the University. The team is hoping that with a constant dedication to practice and games, and a consistent turnout of participation for rugby sponsored activities, the school will begin to give more and more attention to the teams needs.

The Rugby team is in dire need of players. The team practices just two times a week, two hours each practice. If you or anyone you know is interested in playing, please contact me, McCabe Callahan, at 964-5193 or stop by room 122 in DeSmet Hall. My email address is Mccall1@aol.com. Anyone of any age, of any ability, of any size, of any fitness level is welcome to come out. There are no cuts, it will get you in shape and playing time is guaranteed. See you out there!

Giving to Others

Lexie Justice

"It doesn't matter what you give as long as you give something."
--Essie Garrett

Essie Garrett was born near Riesel, Texas, in 1947. She lived in three-room shack (with no plumbing or electricity) with her parents Ozell and Willie and her younger sister, Alma. At the age of 16, her mother passed away and her father abandoned the two children alone at the cemetery, never to return. Garrett and her sister were left to the care of aunts, uncles, and cousins.

On Thanksgiving Day, three months after her mother died, Garrett overheard a conversation between her aunt and uncle that made her realize she and Alma were not welcome or wanted. Upset and filled rage, Garrett decided to burn down the house with her aunt and uncle inside. Later that night, she went to the house armed with kerosene and matches. Luckily, as Garrett later proclaims, she could not get the matches to light: "I think God protected me," she says, "It just wasn't for me to do that. I just wanted to get revenge. I wanted to have that blaze just flying and my sister and I would just stand back and watch them."

Over the years, Garrett worked various jobs, and eventually moved to Denver where she became the traffic manager of a paper company. She also began taking auto mechanics at the Emily Griffith Opportunity School. Garrett is still employed there as a technical educator in the refrigeration and air conditioning department.

In her search for inner peace and love, Garrett began running for charity events. She holds numerous awards and medals for her running and humanitarian work. Her healthy respect for life and her concern for the welfare of her fellow humans has been a key incentive in Essie Garrett's running career. A respected 50 year old ultramarathon runner, Garrett has logged more than 18,000 miles and has raised several hundred thousand dollars for social causes. In the past 17 years, she has run for the Homeless, AIDS victims and awareness (including to Colorado AIDS Project), MS, education, the Children's Hospital, and even animal shelters. Garrett's list of accomplishments includes a run from Denver to San Francisco, San Francisco to Denver, a loop through Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and from Atlanta to Denver.



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Dynamics of Domestic Violence

Ryan Kennedy

For many of us, the idea of being purposefully harmed or hurt by a loved one seems rather remote if not completely absurd. Sadly, however, domestic violence or partner abuse is a reality faced by an incredibly large number of people, with statistics continuing to grow. In fact, in her book, *The Battered Woman*, Lenore Walker states that one out of every two women will find herself in an abusive or battering relationship at some point in her life. These findings also suggest that domestic violence is one of the most under-reported or misreported crimes in the United States and that the figures are most likely much higher.

Indeed, C. Everett Koop, former US Surgeon General, stated that, "because family violence reached such epidemic proportions, it is the nation's number two health problem." Dr. Murray Strauss went as far as to say that "the family is the most violent institution in America, except for the Armed Services in time of war". More close to home, the City and County of Denver reports that nearly 33 percent of all homicides are identified as family violence related.

Although these statistics and figures may seem alarming at first, in the larger context of violence through oppression and fear, they are not surprising. Violence is the process of establishing power and control over a person or group, whether real or perceived, in order to coerce that person or group into certain behaviors or states of mind. This can be done physically, sexually, emotionally, economically and politically, either in reality, through the use of fear or more often, both. This process works to keep people alone, isolated and afraid. This has the psychological impact of reducing self-esteem and creating a sense of helplessness, eventually resulting in an identification with and reliance upon the initial perpetrator(s) of the violence.

This process has been seen countless times historically and continues to be repeated today. It occurs in a pattern that includes varying degrees of identifying the victims of violence as, "asking for it," and not holding the perpetrators accountable for their behaviors until there has been much suffering, injury or loss of life (if at all). These examples range from the Children of Israel in Egypt during the time of the Old Testament to current instances of oppression such as apartheid, racial and gender-based injustices and limited access to resources based on disability. Ironically though, when this use of violence is overlayed onto a domestic relationship, it somehow becomes a different issue. For many people, intimate relationships are seen as, "a personal matter not to be discussed outside the family." Because of this, victims are silenced, society doesn't involve itself and the phenomenon of "blaming the victim" for her or his violence while excusing the perpetrator is established.

Lenore Walker's book was a groundbreaking work when it was published as she was the first person to do empirical research with actual victims and survivors of abusive relationships. It was through her work that the "Cycle of Violence" was first described and systematically identified. The Cycle includes three dimensions. The first is a "Tension-Building" building stage, followed by one or more episodes of "Violent Outburst," which may include physical, emotional, verbal and/or sexual abuse. The last stage is regarded as a period of remorse known as "Hearts and Flowers." In this stage, the perpetrator becomes apologetic for his or her behavior and woos the victim back into the relationship where the Cycle begins once again with

"Tension-Building."

Because of Walker's willingness to hear the stories of these women without ascribing blame to them for being involved in abusive relationships, a paradigm shift began to happen. Mental health professionals and other service providers began to shift the focus of their questions from only asking, "Why does the victim stay?" to also questioning, "Why does the perpetrator batter?". Although both questions are important and pursue answers that provide insight into the dynamics of relationship violence, this broadening of the question lifted the burden of responsibility and blame from the victim and placed it squarely on the behavior of the perpetrator.

Walker describes a violent relationship as being one in which the victim is, "repeatedly subjected to any forceful physical or

psychological behavior by a man in order to coerce her to do something he wants her to do without any concern for her rights." She further allocates this definition to only those people who have gone through the cycle of violence at least twice. It is important to note that in her writings, victims are referred to as women and perpetrators as men. While this is often the case, victimization is not strictly a gender issue or heterosexual issue.

Domestic violence crosses the lines of gender and is found in equally alarming numbers in gay and Lesbian relationships.)

This is a good working definition and one that is useful in framing domestic violence in the larger context of a specific form of institutional and societal violence, namely sexism. Many contemporary theorists on relationship violence have questioned how much social conditioning and the sanctioning of gender disparity creates a climate and metaphor for most examples of heterosexual partner abuse to be sanctioned and even modeled after. Current thought in the area of domestic violence though expands this definition beyond merely one of gender and sees the roles of both victim and perpetrator as more fluid.

This is seen both in terms of a single person's position along the continuum of violence and in the context of roles available to people of any gender and/or sexual orientation.

The Gay and Lesbian Domestic Violence Program of Minneapolis has created a definition that takes this less static position into account and reframed domestic violence as, "routine, intentional intimidation through abusive acts and words...(that) is not a gender issue, (but) is about power and control."

It is this definition that pin-points the core issue that engenders and perpetuates violence in intimate relationships. Simply put, it is about Power and Control. It can take many different forms, but ultimately it has to do with exerting power over another person without that person's consent for the purpose of controlling his/her behavior. This definition also calls into question the behaviors and roles each of us has employed and asks if we have fallen somewhere along the continuum of victim/perpetrator, regardless of our gender.

Because domestic violence is about power and control over another person, it

usually isn't a one time event and research has shown that domestic violence or partner abuse almost always increases and escalates over time. This is due to the nature of perpetration and the fact that most perpetrators feel out of control and afraid about certain aspects of their lives or parts of themselves. Because of this sense of diminished internal control in their lives, perpetrators can garner a sense of external control by manipulating someone else, a process that can be difficult to interrupt once initiated.

Domestic violence works because the Cycle brings the victim through a series of stages in which she or he becomes less and less able to discern her or his own experience and begins to feel crazy. This is called "crazy-making" and begins when a victim is battered for the first time and cannot come to terms

with the fact that the person that she or he loves has hurt them. The victim then internalizes the belief that his or her own behavior (or lack thereof) is what precipitated the violence. This is compounded by the fact that the perpetrator often uses degrading and dehumanizing language and behavior to such a degree that the victim actually begins to believe that the treatment she or he receives is what is deserved.

Assisting a victim who has experienced this abuse to get out of the Cycle is a challenging process of reeducating and reconstructing a sense of self, which has been damaged or destroyed through constant humiliation and often incomprehensible terror. The first step is to empower the victim to regain his or her own sense of self-control by providing basic awareness of the dynamics of violence, empowering the victim to identify the options available and making her or his own choices about them. This may take several attempts and may in fact never happen the way that a therapist, service provider or concerned friend or family member wants to see, but the decision must rest in the hands of the victim.

The primary area of emphasis that service providers, friends and family need to focus on in working with victims of domestic violence is safety. "How do you keep and stay safe?" This is a question that only the victim can answer and may mean that the safest thing to

do is stay in the relationship. The following are some hints and guidelines for service providers, friends and family to be aware of and use in providing information and education to a victim so that the victim can be empowered to make the soundest and safest decision:

Being involved with victims can be difficult for therapists, service providers and family or friends who are invested in the victim making certain choices that the victim doesn't chose or follow through with. In dealing with victims of domestic violence, it is crucial that the service provider, friend or family member is clear with her or his own issues around violence, perpetration and victimization because the process can become very personal and traumatic. Also in this light, it is important to receive continued support from other people who understand relationship violence. These may include staff at a shelter, supervision if you are a service provider or from one's own support system. Most important, and perhaps most difficult to remember, is the fact that in some convoluted and confused way, what's often underlying all of the fear, denial and violence is love. True it is often too late for there to be reconciliation or even forgiveness, but what brought these two people together initially was most likely some variation on the theme of love.

Often perpetrators are seen as heartless, calculating, sociopathic people, but most perpetrators are actually very human—afraid of themselves, their feelings and their relationships and are also in need of a certain degree of empathy. This thought should not dismiss their behavior as acceptable, just as it is not acceptable to excuse the behavior of an alcoholic because she or he was drunk.

Maintaining the human component is important in helping both victims and perpetrators because it allows each of us a chance to own our own experiences of abusing power or being abused by it. We can then use these experiences in our connections with others who are facing violence related issues rather than deny them. Taking responsibility for our own reactions and feelings not only models a new way of interacting with the world for those we are helping, but it also allows for an opportunity to examine our own behavior and relationships, both interpersonally and with the world at large. We can then see how we may be playing or have played the roles of both victim and perpetrator in our own relationships. The key to breaking the cycle of violence is honesty.

Deep and profound truth-telling that isn't afraid of investigating the netherworld of the human shadow. Doing this work is the formula for creating a more equitable, compassionate and safe world.

... domestic violence as, "routine, intentional intimidation through abusive acts and words...(that) is not a gender issue, (but) is about power and control."

Resources for Information

Emergency/Police	9-1-1
Alternatives to Family Violence, Adams County	303-289-4441
Anti-Violence Project, Statewide-Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual	303-852-5094
Boulder County Safehouse, Boulder County	303-444-2424
Denver Victims Service Center	303-894-8000
Longmont Coalition, Boulder County	303-772-0432
Gateway, Arapahoe County	303-343-1851
Rape Assistance and Awareness Program (RAAP)	303-322-RAPE
SafeHouse Denver, Denver County	303-830-6800
Services de la Raza, Latino/Latina	303-458-7088
Women's Crisis Center, Douglas County	303-688-8484
Women in Crisis, Jefferson County	303-420-6752
General Information	
Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence	303-573-9018

Liberal Line**When Names Become Real**

Amy Lewis

Last week, the quiet voices of Veterans trying to remember and even to discover the names of the people they served next to, walked the length of the wall. There were those trying to find the name of a grade school playmate that they heard had died in the war. People were trying to find the name of a distant cousin who served in Vietnam. Or, in my case, the name of a soldier that was missing in action and engraved in a bracelet that my mother still has today. Whatever the reason, the wall is about discovering peace in a past of unhealed wounds, through the discovery of names.

My connection to the wall came with my reading of the soldiers' names. I approached the microphone, sat down, and began to read the names of those who risked their lives for the

United States government. As it happened, I started reading on the letter "L." During my fifteen minutes of reading, I read every single Lewis that is placed on the wall. Including, the name of my father.

With each of these names I couldn't help but to think, "what if..." What if in some way this person was related to me or what if that had been my father killed in Vietnam? Then, came my guilt. It felt like my heart was falling every time I came to a name that looked

foreign to me. Here I was butchering the pronunciation of our American soldiers and all I could think was this guy deserves more than to have me completely screw up his name. I noticed a couple watching me as I read. I prayed that they weren't waiting for a certain name because of my fear of messing it up.

How would I feel if I was in the place of

that couple, waiting for the announcement of my son's name and having it completely mispronounced? This is my connection to the wall. The names of the wall became real to me and each time I read after that I was lost in trying to put a face to each name. The idea that each of these names is a man or a woman is incredibly hard for me to grasp.

For some of the students here at Regis, the wall represents the past, a

symbolic figure. But, for many Americans, it is the present and the future. A future that struggles without the love of friends and family lost to the war. The most powerful image of loss that I saw last week was in the book entitled, *Things Left at the Wall*. In this book was a picture frame that on one side had an ultrasound and the other side was written: "Happy Father's Day, here are the pictures of your first granddaughter."

"The names of the wall became real to me and each time I read after that I was lost in trying to put a face to each name."

Regis Recognized**Put Yourself In Their Boots**

Darcy Fehringer

On Sunday, I was volunteering at the Vietnam Memorial Wall when a woman walked up to me. "Could you look up a name for me?" she asked. "I'm not sure he'll be there, but I'd like to check."

I opened up the thick volume that lists the names of men and women who died in the Vietnam War. Over 58,000 people are listed in that book, which corresponds to the names listed on the Wall. I found the name she had asked for, and when I looked up, her eyes had begun to tear. "What is the date of death?" she asked. It was in June. "He had just graduated from high school," she said.

Just graduated from high school, I thought. What was I doing just after I graduated from high school? I went to Europe with my aunt. I worked as a camp counselor when I returned. These men and women were fighting in a war which made no sense to many of them. They were in a strange country, living with people they had only just met. Many were like this woman's friend: they had just graduated from high school.

Marcus Clifford, who was also volunteering at the Wall, turned to me and said, "What's scary is that many of the people listed here are our age. Kind of makes you think, doesn't it?"

Take just a moment and think about the

over 58,000 people who are remembered on that Wall which stood in front of Dayton Memorial last week. Think about the men and women—barely men and women—who were just starting their independent lives, who died for our country.

These people were no different from us. Think about the momentos that were left at the Wall: cigarettes, 8-track tapes, milk cartons, photographs, bottles of Crown Royal whiskey. These are no different from the things that we cherish and share with our friends every day.

These people didn't have a choice in their fate. That's how we're different from them.

At Regis, we are constantly faced with situations and ideas that make us think about our own position in life. Earlier this semester, it was the senseless death of a peer and the injury of three others. For the students on the Mexico project, it was living with the people of Nuevo Rosita, Mexico for a week. During the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, it was Tim Wise, who made us take a look at the discrimination and bigotry that is alive and well in our country. Today, think for just a moment about the men and women who died senselessly in Vietnam. Put yourself in their boots, and think about why they were there and why you are here.

"What's scary is that many of the people listed here are our age. Kind of makes you think, doesn't it?"

The Dark Side**Why I'll Never Be President**

Matt Brozovich

American politics is pretty funny when you look at it from a distance. Political mudslinging and character defamation are the main ingredients for running a successful election. That's about the only thing I look forward to during election time. It's great to turn on the nightly news and hear a report about a presidential candidate's escapade in a St. Louis Holiday Inn with three pounds of crack, four prostitutes, and a belt sander. Usually, I vote for the candidate that will bring me the most entertainment in the next four years. It's a damn shame that Ross Perot didn't make it to Washington.

I could be president. I have all the qualities. I'm white, I'm a man, and I'm good with people. I can kiss babies, shake hands with veterans, hold goats at the local petting zoo. When I'm liquored up properly, I can do a succession of cartwheels, and I can actually seem sincere when I'm giving a speech. I'm charismatic and look good in pictures, and that seemed to work for Ronald Reagan.

I do have a list of flaws that would probably keep me out of office. I know you find that hard to believe. First, I have a shady past. I've done some pretty wild stuff in my younger days. The news media would have a heyday with that. Although it's nothing quite as extreme as sexual harassment, it still qualifies as some pretty decent dirt. I'd be the topic of poorly written books and the main attraction on Hard Copy for years.

Another item to add to my list of blemishes is that I have no political backing. I'm not a Republican because I'm not white and rich enough; I'm not a Democrat because I'm not rich enough; I'm not a conservative because I'm not narrow minded enough; and I'm not a liberal because I'm not stupid enough. Without a party backing me, I would have no campaign support. That means I would have to run a self-financed campaign—not a good thing to do when you're poor.

That brings me to another problem—not being rich. Only rich people run things. Why do you think a family that makes an annual income of \$20,000 pays the same amount of taxes as someone who makes \$1,000,000 a year? Sure, I have integrity, but money beats out integrity any day of the week in America.

This brings me to my extremely flawed political platform. I have a lot of radical ideas. I would rock the boat. Washington doesn't like people who rock the boat.

My idea for settling wars would be skee-ball tournaments held on the floor of the

UN. Iran wants to fight Israel? Set down a case of beer and a skee-ball arena and let their performance on the skee-ball table decide things: everybody wins at skee-ball. You can shoot the worst score, and you still get a ticket. With that ticket, you get to buy that rubber finger puppet or that plastic spider ring. You get the small satisfaction of victory. Your disputes are settled and everybody's happy. Nobody starts a jihad; expendable soldiers don't get thousands of pounds of nerve agents dropped on them; innocent citizens don't have to watch the opposing army march through the streets, rape the women, loot the houses, and burn down the towns and villages.

My idea for the drug problem would be to legalize them. The CIA could stop secretly flying crack into the inner cities and instead, open a corner store: Smack Mart. With legalization, the criminal culture that comes with drugs is eliminated. No more drug dealers or organized criminals gunning each other down in the streets with Soviet-made AK-47 assault rifles. People are always going to find a way to get high. I mean some people sniff model glue for Christ's sake. With legalized drugs, the government can tax the bejeezus out of them and make a little money. Everyone can decide what's good or bad to put into their bodies, and I say, it's time we start respecting each other's intelligence and choices in this country.

My idea for taxes is virtually unheard of in Washington. You only have to pay taxes for the programs that you deem worthy. As a matter of fact, I'll send out brochures. You pick from a list four things you'd be willing to pay taxes for. The only two programs I think people should be required to pay taxes for are universal health care and education. These two things benefit society more than anything else does. That way, everyone has a health plan, and everyone can read a book. The rest is up to you.

If I were president, I would be honest with the American public. I would invite protestors into my office and listen to them. I would care about what's happening to the average person. I would tell it like it is. I would invite my friends over to the White House and let them fire furniture out the window. I would respect the differences that we all share, and try to make decisions accordingly. I don't have money for a campaign, but I do have integrity, a social conscience, and a few extreme ideas. I guess that's why I'll never be president.

**Take a 1 Week 3 Credit Course This Summer!****May 4 - May 8****8:00 am - 5:00 pm**

- CA 414 Small Group Communication
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- CCS450 Senior Seminar, Who We Are: Defining identity Through Community Career
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Sound Bites

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C= Okay! This will be appreciated if you like the genre.

D= It's a possible buy if you are a fan of the group.

F= Stay away! It will soon be 99 cents at the used store.

Four Letter Word

A Nasty Piece of Work

My Grade: **B+**

Here is something that I absolutely love: a punk band with a social conscience. Four Letter Word is refreshing and they produce a CD that is good all around. The songs all have that great punk sound, but the lyrics are what did it for me on this one. Although many of the songs could be taken as revolutionary rantings, I thought they honestly and objectively reported on the way society is. They tackle big issues like racism, class wars, political corruption, and pollution. Their attitude and music are admirable, and that makes the CD worthwhile. *A Nasty Piece of Work* is a definite must for any fan of punk. --Matt Brozovich

New Bomb Turks

At Rope's End

My Grade: **C-**

This CD is probably the best release I've heard from the New Bomb Turks to date. The energy on this CD is extremely high; the songs and the band play very fast. The New Bomb Turks have been together for several years, and it sounds like their music is finally coming together. The CD does drag at times and most of their songs do sound the same, but most New Bomb Turk fans already know this. No song is really catchy and neither are any of their lyrics, however, the energy of the group keeps this one going from start to finish. --Matt Brozovich

Generations I

A Punk Look at Human Rights

My Grade: **A**

This CD is definitely one of the most superb compilations I've heard. The Assorted Jelly Beans, Pennywise, Mr. T Experience, Green Day, Lagwagon, the Vandals, DFL, Good Riddance, Red Aunts, and Pansy Division are just a few of the groups that are on this lineup. Most songs are played well and catchy; all bands sound good; and this combination provides for an entertaining listening experience. My personal favorite is a cover song of Neil Diamond's, *Coming To America*, done right by Me First and The Gimme-Gimmes. Overall, this CD and all the bands that play on it provide for one of the most entertaining compilations I've heard in a long time. --Matt Brozovich

City of Angels

Soundtrack

My Grade: **B+**

This eclectic collection of artists features such talents as Sarah McLachlan, Eric Clapton, and John Lee Hooker. The mellow mood set by this CD makes it a perfect listen for a Sunday afternoon. The artists are all well known, but the songs are not your typical banal, overplayed radio tunes. --Lexie Justice

Core Classes This Summer!**1W MAY 4-MAY 8**

CCS 450 Senior Sem., Who We Are: Defining Identity Through Community & Career
HS 445 Pre-Columbian Civilization
PS 215 U.S. National Politics

3W MAY 4-MAY 22

BL 204H Topics in Biology: Animal Behavior
BL 250H Topics in Biology: Animal Behavior Lab
EC 200 Economics: Intro to the American Economy
EN 313 Intro to Drama
GE 201 Physical Geology
GE 202 Physical Geology Lab
PL 312 Philosophy of Religion
RC 312 Philosophy of Religion

2W1 MAY 11-MAY 22

CA 210 Speech Communication
CCS 450 Senior Seminar: Economic Justice in the Market Place

4W1 MAY 11-JUNE 5

BL 204 Topics in Biology "Utah Trip"
BL 205 Topics in Biology Lab "Utah Trip"
CCS 400 Junior Seminar: Latin America in Film
SP 209A Elementary Spanish I

IN34 JUNE 1-JUNE 19

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4W2 JUNE 8-JULY 3

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One Flu Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Cormac Gleeson

A week ago, last Tuesday morning, I woke up in pain. My alarm was shrilly squeaking beside me. My back was aching from a crunching tackle I had got in rugby training the day before. My throat felt rougher than sandpaper. Think you get the picture? You're not even close. On Monday, I'd been at the peak of physical health, but by Tuesday, it was as if I had contracted some form of wasting disease. My head felt awful, the late night drinking couldn't have helped. Yet, through the numbing haze, that little voice of consciousness kept picking on me. It kept repeating: *You shouldn't have gone drinking at Bubba's last night, you shouldn't have done drinking at Bubba's last night.*

Did I mention that my throat was sore? I probably have, but I don't think the reader fully appreciates the amount of suffering I underwent that Tuesday morning. It wasn't just raw, it was positively burning, as if someone maliciously poured piping hot chili sauce into my mouth while I slept. After that jarring blow to the senses, I was more awake, but still felt like crap.

Back in my room, I threw on some clothes and tried unsuccessfully to comb my hair into something resembling neatness. Despite my best efforts, a patch of hair on the top of my head just refused to lie down. After a minute of this, I gave up and stuck on my trusty baseball cap instead. Ah, the beauty of the baseball cap, there is nothing it cannot conceal. I mean, you could have creepy-crawlies as big as tarantulas roosting up there and no one would know the difference.

So, I found my way into my cultural anthropology class more dead than alive. Hungover and sick, I think I managed only a few lines of lecture notes that morning. I'm not that hungover anymore, but I'm still as sick as a dog. My throat hurts. I'm so weak right now that I could have an arm-wrestling match with an eight-year-old and lose. It is all I can do to hit the letters on the keyboard in front of me as I write about my miserable

condition. Such is my tireless work ethic, my utter dedication to the Highlander newspaper and all that it aspires to be as a forum for student opinion, a powerful vehicle for change. (Deryk, Nicole: Naturally, I will expect the usual fee for mouthing off all this propaganda, remember it's post-box 102).

The thing is being sick was a quite a lot of fun when you were a kid. The parents fussed over you (at least mine did) and I was in a perfect position to milk their sympathy as far as it was worth. That was pretty cool, but missing school was the jackpot. I would lie in bed groaning softly under the pretence of being terminally ill, but as soon as I heard the car pull out the driveway, a remarkable transformation took place. Lazurus-like, I leapt from the bed, dashed eagerly out to the kitchen, and stuck on a video. Those were the days.

But that kind of carrying on doesn't cut much ice once you become an ADULT. Suddenly, one has responsibilities to live up to. It finally dawned on me that dosing off in class had consequences, usually in the form of screwing up on exams at the end of the year. Now I'm a good citizen, I feel angry when I miss school or work as a result of sickness. What has become of the con-artist that I once knew and loved?

At least I don't have a runny nose. Those are really bad. You can't talk or read or mow the lawn without liquidy snot dribbling down your nose. Thanks to the dryness of the Denver climate, it's highly unlikely I'll ever get one of those. Anyway, I think I've griped enough for one day. Signing-out: sick.

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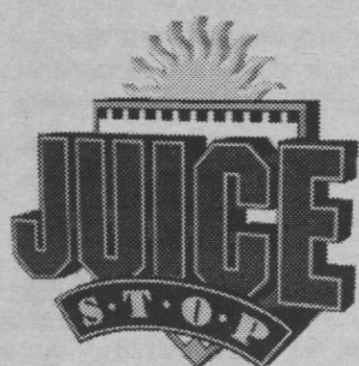
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